Dear all, 

The studio has its vibration today because you all chose to return to the place after each of your visit and I am very much grateful to all of you for making this place alive. I look forward to every Friday and Saturday as much as you all do. I decided to have this place for pottery and you all helped me make it a community, no matter if you come here once or as many times you want.

Here I am noting all the guidelines that I have been repeating verbally. And I wouldn’t be able to follow them without each one of your supports.

* No one likes to start working with a dirty tool or space. So please clean the space and tools, after use once you finish working. It’s easier to do the cleaning afterward rather wasting your energy on cleaning before you start. Also, a dirty tool or board means lot of dry clay on it.
* Do the wet cleaning of space and tools, i.e., soak it in water and wipe with wet sponge or cloth. I don’t want any of us to be exposed to dry clay dust as much as we can.
* make sure you clean the wooden bat after you use. I have noticed lot of clay left on the bat which creates difficulty to the next person using it. Again, cleaning it when its wet is easier.
* As this is not a course base structure all of you work in a different level of proficiency. I would very much appreciate if all of us can build each other up than criticising. So please comment about others work only when you have something positive to talk about it.
* Please respect and be careful about others creation as much as you are about your own work. Don’t touch anyone’s work before firing in their absence or open the wrap to see their work. As the medium is clay there will be casualties but we will try to be as much careful as possible. We all know how it hurts to see your pieces broken.
* Studio timing is strictly from 11:00 am to 5.30 pm. If you reach before 11:00 am you might have to bear with a dirty studio. And if you can’t finish working by 5.30pm make sure you clean the space properly so that I don’t have to clean the studio next morning. (As much as I love clay, I don’t really enjoy cleaning the space after my work hour 😊 and definitely don’t want to wake up to an uncleaned studio).

**Guidelines to practice on wheel:**

* Slots for practicing on wheel will be 11:00 am to 2:00pm and 2:00pm to 5:00pm. You will have to choose any one half for your practice and leave the wheel for others on the other half. Use rest of your time to practice other techniques i.e., finishing your pot, making handle, surface decoration etc. (I want everyone to experience wheel even if once or twice)
* You are allowed to use only four (4) lumps of clay for throwing. So, make sure you spend enough time on each lump on each step during the process. Rushing through the whole process makes it even more difficult to learn.
* Make sure you keep 15 mins before and 15 mins after your wheel throwing practice for wedging and cleaning your wheel. And have enough time in hand to keep the pieces properly after you end your day. (Anything left behind carelessly will be kept for recycling)

**PS:** everything I wrote above is to make the space little better for everyone. And to incorporate a little bit of structure around all the freedom of making. It’s just like Clay, even though you have all the freedom to make anything out of it, unless you follow a proper structure, you can’t really build what exactly you are intending to make.

Always grateful,

Arpita