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Happy Holi

HAPPY HO !

VIDYA wishes all the donors, friends and well wishers a colourful fun filled Holi and may each day be like that in the future!

Dynamic Daniel

The Volunteer with a Heart that Gives and Gives...



He "Gives a Hand". And he also gives his heart and soul. Daniel Lalonde, President of 'Give a Hand', a Canadian organization is VIDYA's invaluable volunteer since 2007 and is a much loved Sirjee for Pappankalan community in Delhi.

Daniel is one of the 15 Canadian Heroes (Dustpost magazine 2007) who contributed to changing the world through volunteering. He is essentially a Costume Designer, Painter, Writer and a man with a passion for International Development be it in Bali, Brazil,

Guatemala or India, his horizons are ever expanding. He presently lives and works in Brazil on projects for young social entrepreneurs from low income communities.

In Pappankalan community of less privileged people, Daniel initiated an educational integration project for children and training programmes in sewing and embroidery for women. With the help of 'Give a Hand', Daniel's dream of putting the ever increasing groups under one roof came true in 2010. Moving on to the new venture, fondly called The Lotus Club, Daniel wants to maximise the use of this new centre. The Lotus Club will usher a novel new world full of dreams and promises offering an environment where children can develop and flourish through various fulfilled activities like sports, yoga, music, visual arts, computer literacy etc. The Club will be under the supervision of five suitable teachers.

Thank you Daniel Sir and Mary Happy Returns of your Birthday (February 23)! May your tribe increase. You are so precious to VIDYA.

Pappankalan Community, Delhi

Fun and Frolic

- The splendor of Valentine's Day on February 14 was visible as the children with their Daniel Sirjee soaked in the love and good wishes. They created beautiful cards for their friends telling them what they liked most. As they say, like somebody? Say it, Love somebody? Tell it.
- Volunteers from Lady Shri Ram College organized a fulfilled event, there was music, dance and recitations, prize distribution and party.

VIDYA Bal Vihar, Delhi

Exam Time

February is exam time with students busy preparing and revising final exams which began on February 24.

Exposure Visit

Students of V standard visited Pragati Maidan to attend an exhibition on 'Better Agriculture through Plasticiculture' where they learnt about various plasticulture applications being used in agriculture and allied sectors.

Empowerment

A workshop was held on February 11 by Maa Purnananda of Chinmaja Mission on empowering youth by the Right Way of Living.



Maa's Blessings

The VIDYA School, Gurgaon

Visits

- February 1. Students from standards VII, VIII and IX visited the Rajiv Gandhi Renewable Energy Park at Gurgaon. From solar panels and solar cells and various renewable resources of energy, the students were enlightened about the functions and advantages.
- February 2. Students from standards VIII and X visited National Cooperative Union of India complex in Delhi where America India Foundation along with ADOBE held a screening of different films made by Youth Voices Programme. A short video on corruption made by the VIDYA students was also showcased.
- February 4. Students from standards VII, IX and X visited India International Centre, Delhi where VIDYA and Child and Dreaming Child Productions briefed the children about different topics like Robotics, Film Editing, Dancing, and also demonstrated models on Science and Technology. It was an enriching experience for the children.
- February 6. Students from standards V and VI visited Pragati Maidan where they were briefed about recycling plastic.
- February 15. Students from standard IX enjoyed the movie "War Horse". This was a special treat by their class teacher as a reward for consistency in hard work.

Feedback

"We love it, your newsletter looks great, it is so regular and informative". GE Team

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Visitors

- February 17. Lannie Rosenwald visited VIDYA and was impressed by the assembly conducted by the students and the school premises.
- February 22. A team from Usha International Limited visited the school. They will soon start a dressmaking and sewing class for women as part of the Women Empowerment program. It would be a six month course and a diploma would be awarded at the end of the program.



Thanks for your support Ms. Rosenwald

Events

- February 4. A Parent Teacher Meeting was held to apprise the parents about their children's performance. The parents were also informed about the Summative Assessments II. Noted social worker Lata Kethuria also informed the parents about the upcoming health camp to be held in March.
- February 12. Ten students appeared for the second round of Science and Mathematics Olympiads at Excelisr American Public School. The children are eagerly awaiting the results.
- February 14. A special assembly was held in the school to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore. The students shared some lines on the life of the great poet and also sang a song composed by him. Students also presented a classical dance titled 'Sargam'.



A stitch is time...

Women's Own

The Women Empowerment Programme of dressmaking and sewing in the school is proceeding as per the plan. The women are now learning how to stitch more garments.

Pride of VIDYA's IIT NSS Remedial Programme Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi Congratulations Dewalton!

We are so proud that one of our boys Dewalton Douglas Paul of IIT Remedial Educational programme has been selected by the hospitality industry. He is now working on a salary of Rs. 8,600/- per month in a leading hotel of Delhi.

Paul is appearing for his XII standard under the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). He has already finished his three months training with the Indian Tourism Development Corporation sponsored by the Government of India. The training is free of cost. VIDYA invites our community young people to take advantage of this training by the Government. It is not only free but also opens many vistas of employment to our less privileged students.

NSS is the National Service Scheme.

Thanks to Campus Beyond (vocational academy) and Ministry of Tourism.

VIDYA Mumbai

Classroom Democratic Process!

Mumbai has been in the thick of municipal elections, the past few weeks and so have our children in the communities!

And so we took it forward from where they were and had a mock election in all our Beyond School Classrooms. The 'candidates' volunteered to stand and give a speech to the electorate. Older groups had manifestos in English! Logos were created - one being VIDYA mother and child and the other a book!

The promises ranged from drinking water, to playgrounds for children, community libraries, to job opportunities, to toilets for girls things that we all take for granted. The role play, the secret ballot, the counting, the cheer, the disappointment, the rights and the duties, all that constitutes our democracy, was played out and great learnings taken away for all.

VIDYA Bangalore

Bhavisya Yaan

Welcome Rekha

Rekha Srinivasan is the new coordinator for VIDYA Bhavisya Yaan. She has taken a few English classes for the students and appreciates the amazing changes made in their lives.

Revisions

- Annual exams are round the corner and the focus of the month is on revisions. Efforts are made continuously to improve spoken English and the word knowledge.
- Ms Word and Excel were revised after completing the syllabus. Powerpoint presentation and Photoshop are on the way.

Rocketing Away...

With the help of Nishi, an Origami class was held in the first week of February. Moovain Ahmed, an architect, taught the children the skills to turn and twist the simple paper to create extra ordinary objects. Children loved the rockets they made.



Young creative minds

Caring for Career

The Red Compass team continued to focus on career guidance. This month the method adopted was skill enacting based on chosen careers by the students. The students were highly imaginative and showed sensitivity. One group touchingly emphasized upon the importance of girls pursuing their careers! It was a two weeks programme and helped the students to shake away their shyness and stage fright.

Thanks to Mid Town Rotarians and other well wishers for support and motivation.