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Community Update

Munirka

Praiseworthy Performance by Panraj

Here is a success story that makes one salute this torntide boy with pride. Let us acknowledge and appreciate VIDYA's student Panraj who has been attending the remedial education classes in Model Nehru Camp, Munirka since 2002. His performance in X standard in 2010-11 makes him very special not only to VIDYA but also to the country as he belongs to the first batch that completed XII under the new scheme of Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation (CCE).

We reproduce excerpts from the recent letter of appreciation from some other than Kapil Sibal, Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development, Communications and Information Technology, Government of India:

"You have not only made your parents, but the entire country proud and I can say with certainty that the future of India is safe because of bright spirits like you.

... and you never ever think of leaving your studies even if your parents are unable to afford your fee. In that situation, please do not hesitate to write to me.

...always remember your roots. I wish you success to standard XI and a joyful, prosperous 2012. God Bless". - Kapil Sibal
Panraj is now in XI standard with Maths and Commerce as his main subjects. Well done!

Abhishek's Attractive Art

One more exemplary example of VIDYA's impact of educational interventions. Abhishek's paintings adorn the walls of his class in the slums and they are so eye catching that one pauses and asks, who has done them? Colorful, attractive, expressions of creative energy. Abhishek is in IX standard and attending the remedial education classes in Model Nehru Camp, Munirka since 2004.

This gifted boy has been awarded time and again for spot painting, drawing, posters and cards, carving on chalk, clay modeling, rangoli making....his talent is truly amazing.



Pappankalan

Power to Pappankalan

Kid Powered Media Club

The year 2012 has taken off with a brand new programme for a group of 15 young women of Pappankalan community. The support comes from the Canadian NGO "Give a Hand", Daniel Lalonde, President of Give a Hand has brought in the NGO "Kid Powered Media" with the support of group of sponsors from Canada. This media teaches the young women to write, produce, act in socially relevant educational films. We are looking forward to the first film produced and enacted by this dynamic young group of women starting to go. We may meet soon in a cinema hall near you!

Teachers Exchange

Together we make a difference. The new meeting sessions between Pappankalan and Bal Vihar teachers have enriched the teaching techniques. Too often in the past, the teachers of Pappankalan did not have a chance to participate in the training and through this new meeting of minds, they can now share the experiences and learn more about the art of teaching.

With Love from Canada

Recently, the children of Pappankalan remedial classes received a large decorated parcel sent by their new friends from Canada. The large parcel contained drawings made specially for each child of the programme. In return, the children of Pappankalan also created and sent back beautiful watercolour paintings to their friends studying in a school in Montreal, Canada. A small film has captured this beautiful give and take of colours in their lives with tons of grateful smiling faces!

The Lotus Blooms

The Lotus Club now blooms every Saturday in Pappankalan giving opportunities to children and youth to attend classes in dance, music and yoga. For this project, thanks to an international exchange with the children of Brazil, there is now a new logo for the Lotus Club project. Through workshops, the children of Arts are flourishing in Salvador da Bahia, Brazil have given the gift of logo to their friends in India.



The prior winning logo



Andre did it!

Andre Camelo with his teacher Salimou Camargo and director of the project Art in Bapananga, Vera Coelho

Give a Hand organization in Canada selected the winning logo. Further the children of Pappankalan selected a mascot for their new Lotus Club. Welcome Thunderbolt the Croco, the crocodile mascot named through a contest won by Sona!

NGO India 2012

Fostering Alliances

To encourage collaboration and networking between India's corporate social responsibility (CSR) groups and NGOs, the exhibition organizer USFJ India launched NGO India 2012 at Epitome Gurgaon from March 16 to 18, 2012. The event hosted stalls from over 150 NGOs and foundations.

For the first time in India UBM facilitated an event bringing NGOs and donors on the same platform. The forum included knowledge sharing, exploring funding avenues and an opportunities for matching potential donors and recipients. From showcasing their work to voicing their views NGO India 2012 is definitely an attempt to make a difference to those in the business of making a difference. VIDYA's presence too hopes to make a difference.



VIDYA's new Friday Mahesh with consultant Sarita Shahi at the stall

Fundraising Workshop

A corporate proposal writing workshop organized by South Asian Fund Raising Group was held on March 14 at YMCA, New Delhi. It was an interactive workshop where VIDYA was represented by Pallavi Chandra.

The workshop was well attended by participants from the NGO and corporate sector. The participants learnt each step of the proposal writing process, Do's and Don'ts and creating the final proposal. There was a lively interaction between the speakers and the participants.

School Roundup

The VIDYA School, Gurgaon

- Nursery admissions are over and 25 students have been selected.
- March 2, Kathy Cassidy, Eric and Greig, Heads of GE Treasury visited the school. Kathy interacted briefly with Bridge Course students and played a singing.

March 5, Rupendra Singh, Chairman of KPMG Foundation visited the school and met the principal, Manvika Roy. She thanked KPMG for support provided for sports equipments. Mr. Singh noticed the very old and archaic computers and mentioned helping to upgrade the systems. He also extended support for Teach India programme. A 4G' water bus will arrive soon.



Thanks Mr. Singh for your support

- A meeting with the community women was organized for running the school kitchen through Self Help Groups and cooperatives. Mrs from Jubilee Life Sciences was present and a follow up meeting was held on March 19 wherein women prepared the food and technicians from Miskin Enterprises demonstrated the kitchen equipments.
- March 10, A health camp in partnership with Neelkamal hospital was organized for the parents of primary students.
- March 20, The annual sports day was celebrated with fun and frolic. Rupendra Singh, Chairman of KPMG Foundation was the chief guest. Almost 200 students participated applauded and cheered by proud parents and teachers. The sports day was followed by the Parents' Teacher Meeting.

Bal Vihar, New Delhi

March was a busy month for the staff members engrossed with the declaration of the annual results, new admission and new session. Shifting of the entire centre was the major challenge. The new session started on March 20.

- A workshop on six thinking hats was held on March 16 by Mrs. Abhishek where she discussed the Island Debco perspective in thinking to overcome confusion in multi tasking day to day life.

VIDYA Mumbai

Self Help is Best Help

The women empowered by VIDYA are now ready to empower more and fulfil their dreams independently VIDYA Aahar is poised to obtain the status of an independent self-help group, called "Aahar Mahila Sachet Gat".

This has been formed under the guidance and approval of Brihan Mumbai Corporation (BMC). Aahar Mahila Sachet Group will have as its members not only erstwhile employees of VIDYA Aahar but also a few other women volunteers. The erstwhile catering activity of Vidya Aahar will be carried out by a wing of this group, called as Aahar Mahila Samaj Sanstha.



Member VIDYA Sona

VIDYA Bangalore

- VIDYA Shreshthya Year students continued to show interest in the program even during the last month of the academic year 2011-2012. A summer camp is due in April for the standards VIII and IX students and vocational training in computers for the present X students.

The main focus was on training the students for their final exam in English and also revising. Most of the students could write well with minimum mistakes. The improvement in the writing skills is truly amazing.

- The highlight of this month's curriculum was to revise topics covered in the last quarter. In addition to this they were taught basics in photoshop.

In March, life skills were the crux of encouraging the students to take the examination in a positive way and how to prepare themselves for the exams. Anil, Head of Language, Asia Pacific World School, Bangalore gave examination tips to the students. The students were highly motivated through his talk. Archana and Gokul from Red Compass distributed the prizes to the two best teams in skill competition based on different careers.



Previous tips from Anil

- The students of Gottipere School under the guidance of Meena, the art teacher participated in the art exhibition held at Old Fort Government High School. On display was an array of art & crafts.

Feedback

"You made me feel so special". Thank you VIDYA Varta... Daniel Lalonde
"Maza aa gaya" (It was enjoyable)... Rashmi Mishra