

School Update

The VIDYA School, Gurgaon

Spectacular Sports Stars

The Annual Sports Day was celebrated on March 30 appreciated and applauded by near and dear ones. Shining bright were many stars, we present a couple of them:

• Radiant Rohit



We love you Rohit!

With crisp commands, like those of an army commander, tiny Rohit was a treat to watch as he led the taekwondo team on the sports day. He was loud and clear, confident and commanding, mesmerizing as a small bundle radiating with energy. Rohit, just about 10 years old is a boy to watch as a budding leader. He is friendly, helping and well behaved showing marked improvement in academics also. He is a student of standard V. He is a great dancer and a sports person and was a star of the taekwondo demonstration. Rohit's father is a three wheeler auto driver and mother is a housewife.

• Khushboo, Fragrance All the Way



Well done Khushboo!

She bounced back, sturdy and striving, Khushboo, a student of standard VIII has survived a serious accident causing severe spinal and other injuries in March 2011. Forced to keep away from school for healing, she returned four months later and what a come back! She caught up with rest of the class and is today reaching beyond academics and participating in extra curricular activities with aplomb. Sincere and hard working, she is another star that glittered bright on the sports day. Khushboo's mother is a house maid and father works as a small time helper.

Hope this fragrance spreads far and wide!

New Session

- The School reopened on April 9 for the new session. The students were warmly welcomed to the classes followed by an orientation for the teachers.
- On April 10, a Governing Board Meeting was held spanning the school strength, progress and other community projects. The members planted trees in the school campus.
- On April 18, 32 students visited United Health Group office for the event Tazee Zameen Par and participated in various creative activities. They were duly awarded.
- On April 19, the students who participated in Adobe Youth Voice programme and English Olympiad examination were also awarded. Vishal Pradeep of standard IV scored second ranking in the state in the International English Olympiad.



The English maestro, Vistaf with Meenakshi and Raji Mirraens

- On April 23, 10 members from Leaders' Quest visited the school. Leaders' Quest is a social enterprise committed to being a catalyst for positive change by engaging, developing and inspiring leaders from all sectors of society who want to make a difference in their organisations, communities, and the wider world. Comprising members from different parts of the world, Chris Harrison, the Director led the team. Accorded a traditional welcome, the team visited the communities and interacted with volunteers, staff and students. The team said, "VIDYA children are as bright as children in any other part of the world."

Bal Vihar, Delhi

New Session, New Energy

- It is a delight to see the children settling down in their new classrooms and reaching out to new concepts and ideas. April 22 is celebrated worldwide as Earth Day and VIDYA also encourages the children to follow the nature's rules to reuse, reduce and recycle. A special assembly was held on the Earth Day to highlight the importance of saving and sustaining our Mother Earth.
- Inter House competitions were the main agenda of April. The whole school divided into four houses went green and prepared many edibles using various green leafy vegetables and fresh fruits providing nutritious diet.



Going green!

Community Roundup

Bridge Course, Okhla, Delhi

There is a healthy interaction between the students of National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and the GE mentors. 12 students visit the GE office in Gurgaon on a regular basis and are guided with love and care.



VIDYA students with their GE mentors

Bridge Course, Sainik Farm, Delhi

- Recently a teachers' workshop was conducted by Ms. Ahlawat, Principal DAW Public School.
- 10 students have registered for a short term computer course of three months organized by TMI Academy and will appear for exams in May.
- The Vocational Training Institute distributed certificates and stipends of Rs. 1,500/- each to the successful students who have attended Hunar Se Rozgar programme.
- NIOS Board examinations are being held currently.

Pappankalan, Delhi

• Thank You Sirji

Daniel, the volunteer with dynamism is discovering Indian Art and tapping the latent talent in the community. The children are being exposed to different art techniques like the tribal, traditional and contemporary to create new masterpieces.



Wari art by Amit

• Be the Change...

A visit of the Be Entrepreneur- Going to School team based in Delhi was truly enriching. Be an entrepreneur is a multimedia skills education initiative to teach children below the poverty line and inspire millions of young people to choose their livelihoods. The team came to test several new activities, books and movies. The children and women's group had the opportunities for two days to work in teams and discuss relevant ideas for their own small businesses.

• Laura's Lazeez Delicacies

Laura Gildmeester a chef and volunteer from Canada has started cooking classes at the centre. For the simple community women who do not even have access to a gas stove or an oven, having Laura teaching them international delicacies is a blessing from the heaven. It's a treat to cook and eat muffins and cookies with their recipes translated in Hindi. It's a sheer joy to learn, taste and discover new tastes of beyond the boundaries.



Laura's lip smacking dishes

• Lovely Lotus

The Lotus Club which started a while ago is now abuzz with new enthusiasm and different activities. There is yoga practice by Ashok Yadav, dance - traditional and modern by Nestu Paul and a thriving music programme in partnership with NGO Music Basti in Delhi, directed by Faith Gonsalves. The music mission is to strengthen the voices of children at risk while raising awareness of social global issues like health and education.

VIDYA welcomes Tushar Maithani, a young musician conducting these classes at the centre.

• Exciting Exchange

An exchange with school from Auxerre in France is in the pipeline. The children of remedial classes are preparing a series of drawings representing festivals of India. In exchange, the children of France will be providing similar drawings soon.

The children from K.G. and nursery are also participating in a similar exchange with the children from the NGO Edirisa in Uganda linking opportunities to develop friendships, ideas and resources. Introducing the children to each other at this early stage of cognitive development helps them to grow with a better understanding of the world they live in.

VIDYA Mumbai

Summer Camp

It was a grand finale of VIDYA Summer Camp 2012 at Powai. Friends and wellwishers turned up in huge numbers to cheer, applaud and encourage the participants. Children enjoyed the exposure at every step (Details follow in our next issue).

VIDYA Bangalore

The team at Gottigere High School is busy with its regular curriculum.