NEWSLETTER OF VIDYA
BANGALORE
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VIDYA MALI FOUNDATION

The Bhagini Programme

We are nearing the fag end of a calendar year, with just the Christmas month away, and we move ahead with memories to cherish, experiences to carry and a positive approach to behold the future. We are not only introspecting on the achievements and challenges that made the month a memorable one but are also proud of the success of our students & programmes; the fruits borne due to the inclusive efforts of all concerned.

Speaking of memories, our heart goes out to Mrs. Rekha Rao, Mali Foundation and Semikron for offering us the infrastructure to run our programmes.

Our deepest regards to Societe Generale, AIG, Synergy, Broadcom & LDSG for all their efforts and partnership in our mission.

ACADEMIC COURSES: Spoken English, Computer Literacy, NIOS & NTT:

Students of Spoken English course pursuing different levels are engaging in active conversation with peers and others to shun their fears and shed their inhibitions. This is certainly a welcome sign as communicating in English is the key to the doors of employment. Computer students are gearing up for their exams which are scheduled in the 3rd week of December. VIDYA NIOS students are getting into the active work mode as they are diligently preparing their assignments for the chosen subjects. Books and Id cards were received to put them on the study plane. VIDYA NTT is picking momentum towards making teachers out of students.

VOCATIONAL COURSES: VIDYA Vividha, Vastra Varna, Vahaan & Aahar:

VIDYA looks forward to create entrepreneurs and make students employable after they complete the academic and Vocational courses.

A picturesque portrait from the Varli world by Madhavi of VIDYA Vividha

A few cooking demo sessions were held to showcase benefits of the Aahar course to students. The Alumni of Aahaar is kept busy, supplying healthy snacks to students of Samridhdhi Trust on a regular basis. The vision of VIDYA Aahaar in action....
An intro to Sociocracy

Sociocracy, a relatively new terminology akin to democracy was detailed with ease to the participants by Mrs. Rekha Srinivasan at a workshop held at VIDYA Mali foundation. Sociocracy aims at bringing democracy in an organization via feedbacks from all stakeholders, holding discussions, handling objections and arriving at a solution. In short, analyzing the problem to get access to the solution.

Building new relationships

It is certainly the beginning of a new relationship between VIDYA and Karnataka Kayastha Sabha, a social organization working for the cause of women empowerment. The interaction hosted at VIDYA Bhagini strengthened the bond as KKS pledged to fund the training of 7 students for the Computer Tally course in the academic year 2017-18.

A new relationship with hotel Marriott is slowly blooming, heralding a promising future. Their representatives visited VIDYA Mali; they met & interacted with the students, had a business level meeting with the VIDYA team and gained a good know how of the workings of our programmes. This relationship will evolve into a business relationship as we will suffice their corporate gifting orders and our students will be absorbed into their employee force. They will support us through their CSR policies as well.
The meeting was followed by their CSR activity – a session on career guidance & a cooking demo by their five star chef- at the centre.

Impressed and motivated, the excited students expressed their willingness to join the hotel industry and are visiting their hotel to get a firsthand knowledge on careers. This will be a second entry in the hotel industry by our students, after getting jobs in Lemon Tree hotel two years back.

Another opportunity to put up a stall at Societe Generale premises, another warm reception from the SG employees, and yet another exposure and learning experience for the students and the VIDYA team.

The participant VIDYA students had a good opportunity to enhance their learnt skills by giving a brief on VIDYA to the unaware. They accepted appreciation for the products with grace, understood the requirements of the clients and handled the customers with ease together with making decent sales. Savithri and Savitha, our trainers had a lesson to learn - to have variety in terms of design and price. A curious and eager customer also inquired about our next stall at the venue. A happy and satisfied VIDYA team returned home with loads of smiles and even more loads of work to be ready for the upcoming stalls.
The privileged take privilege in making optimal use of the available resources. **Yoga**, the ageless fitness mantra is practiced by Yogis for a streamlined mind, body and soul. VIDYA beneficiaries are gifted with yoga classes by the esteemed yoga practioners, **Total Yoga** on Thursdays. To enhance their knowledge of yoga and to encourage them to practice yoga and avail its benefits, an orientation was held at our VIDYA Bhagini centre.

Manpreet, a trainer from Total Yoga and Sunita Menon, our centre head are seen interacting with the students.

**Student of the Month:**

**Brundha Rani**, our student has successfully fetched a job as teacher at Prestige Shantiniketan; a drastic shift in her attitude, thanks to our counseling. She has arrived at a decision to be open to take up opportunities and step ahead in her life. We appreciate her conviction towards her passion and dream which has made her the person she is now.
THE BEYOND SCHOOL PROGRAMME – Bangalore East

The six Government Schools in Nellorepura, Vimanapura, Vibhutipura, Avalahalli and Thubarahalli, where the programme is being sponsored by Broadcom and AIG are doing extremely well. The levels of learning in students have raised a great deal with the passionate interventions of the VIDYA Volunteer teachers. The school staff has realized the importance of interactive logic based teaching instead of rote learning. They now look forward to the lessons being imparted by VIDYA and are full of praise for the efforts being put by them to train children in HOTS.
VIDYA SOUTH BENGALURU

The Bhagini program

So much has happened in the last month. The learnings from the events are learnings that each student will treasure, as it gave them hands on experience of doing it themselves.

English—Most of our students have completed the Basic Spoken English course and we have started the Advanced Spoken English Course, which will strengthen the reading and writing skills of the students.

Computers—The NIIT students are preparing for their examinations, the new students are completing their fundamentals, while the others becoming proficient in the use of Power Point and are making beautiful presentations on “myself and my family”.

Vastra—10 students have completed their Singer diploma. These students are now completing an order of making 60 gather frocks for the girls of Sahasra Deepika.
**Vividha** - After the grand success of the stalls during Diwali, students are motivated to learn new products and are now taking the initiative to participate in more exhibitions in the neighborhood, Classic Orchards layout.

**VAHAN** – Two students from South Bangalore have started their driving classes with Bimal Driving School.
Beyond School Program

Our 10th grade students at Champakadhama and Puttenhalli are now gearing themselves towards the approaching preparatory exams.

Students at the three schools enjoyed Childrens Day with so many goodies given to them by VIDYA. They participated whole heartedly in the celebrations; painting competitions, speeches & games were the order of the day. The Arekere School is thankful to VIDYA for the donation of a Mike Set which they are now using regularly.

Scholarship/ Buddy Program:

UG students have completed their online internal examination and will now be writing their final semester exams. An interactive session with the students following the principles of Sociocracy was arranged bringing the students closer to the ideologies followed at VIDYA. Rekha & Dr. Deepa facilitated the session. Visits to Loyola PU and degree college, SSMRV, Vijaya and BES were made this month. The attendance, class performance and overall behaviour of the students are showing remarkable improvement.
Scholarship students at Loyola have made us proud by winning medals and prizes in the sports day conducted at the college. Three of our scholarship students were selected for the NCC camp organised by the college.

With the help of AIG & Food Bank, students will now get a tasty lunch every Sunday.

The presentation at AIG office was successful and the donors were happy with the progress of the scholarship team. As we are nearing the close of the year, we are excited and looking forward to the Shankar Mahadevan event.