



VOICE OF VIDYA

BANGALORE
OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2020



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INTRODUCTION

From time immemorial human life prevailed primarily due to its indelible spirit and invincible will to survive and excel. No pandemic can crush the human spirit embracing the firing intent to live, blazing in positivity, flames engulfing all that barricading hopes and its undying spirit.

On that note, presenting the bi-monthly VIDYA Bangalore newsletter with sparklers of hope, light of wisdom and victory.....

Life is all about hope & positivity and festivities & celebrations are a reminder and living proof of man's survival amidst odds.

JOY OF GIVING

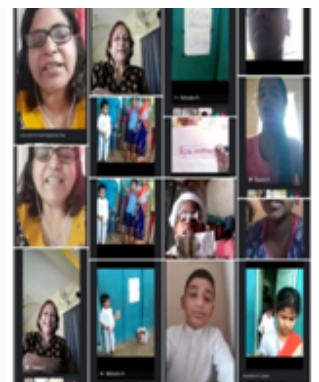


The teachers of VIDYA organized a food distribution drive on the occasion of 'Joy of Giving', reaching out to the needy in the slum communities, to the homeless, to the BBMP workers, and the daily wage laborers.

The teachers also put together a program for the little children at an orphanage. They spent time with the children and engaged them in storytelling, games, and music. Generous donations of groceries, snacks, masks, footwear, and innerwear were made for all the beautiful kids.

GANDHI JAYANTI

Like other important events, this year, "Gandhi Jayanti" was celebrated online and the students showcased their creativity by dressing up as Gandhiji, by improvising and using household items as props. They also showcased their beautiful drawings, sang songs and gave heartfelt speeches on the occasion.



DUSSEHRA



The victory of good over evil has time and again been reinforced in different dimensions and personifications. Lately, the world has been going through another phase of pervasive evil and we stand united and brave against it, hoping for another victory, fighting it with all our might. With this thought, VIDYA celebrated Dusshera and Ayudh Pooja in a low-key ceremony, abiding by the present norms of social distancing and high regards to the safety of all concerned.

INAUGURATION OF VIDYA CoE

VIDYA's newest venture – Centre of Excellence [CoE] at Whitefield was inaugurated following all protocols of wearing masks, sanitizing, and maintaining a physical distance. Excitement and happiness filled the air with the presence of many enrolled beneficiaries eager to start their new journey with VIDYA.

Together we sang 'Hum Honge kaamyab', expressing what the entire VIDYA team believes in and wants others to do so too.



KANNADA RAJYOTSAVA



Kannada Rajyotsava was celebrated online. The students dressed up in their festive clothes, sang songs, gave speeches and danced to the tunes of famous Kannada songs.



DIWALI AND CHILDREN'S DAY

Adding some flavors to the festivities...

VIDYA with the generous support of well-wishers brought light in the lives of its beneficiaries on the advent of the 'festival of lights.' The distribution of gift hampers consisting of a thoughtful collection of festival goodies made the day for the students.

The dual festivities - Children's Day and Diwali - doubled the delight of the children from VIDYA Beyond School Programmes. The hues of Diwali entwined into criss-cross patterns in their coloring worksheets. Although delighted and enthusiastic, the low key online and physical celebration was in stark contrast with the celebrations in the yesteryears. The children showcased their Diwali themed paintings, beautifully painted diyas, and colorful rangolis. Dressed up in their traditional finery, the students sang songs and ushered in the festivities.



In some schools, children were called into small groups and given cakes, chocolates, and fruit drinks.



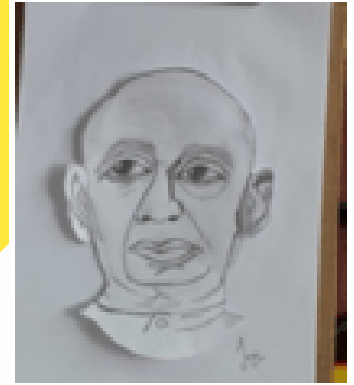
The VIDYA alumni & SHG Vanithe executed orders for Diwali snacks & Masks. The tastefully decorated hampers were a big success.



NATIONAL UNITY DAY

National Unity Day was celebrated by the students commemorating the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel. Children also dressed up in traditional dresses from various parts of the country to highlight the concept of "Unity in Diversity"

Some students chose to use their palms and fingers as a canvas to depict their dream of a United India. Covid-19 did manage to shut schools down but definitely not the spirit of expression through art.



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

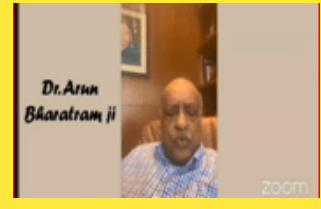
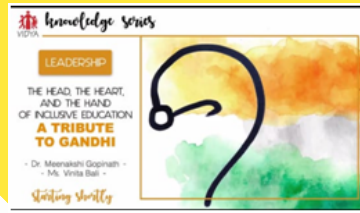
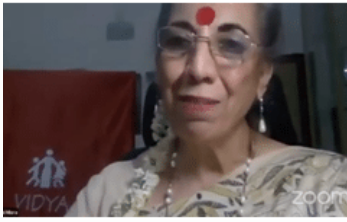


This year the World Mental Health Day comes at a time when our daily lives have changed considerably as a result of the pandemic. Workers, students, businesses are feeling anxious and worried about their future. In light of the current situation, psychosocial and mental health support are of utmost importance.

VIDYA Counsellors addressed the students to make them aware of the Nature of Mental Health. They stressed on being able to Identify symptoms, staying positive in a negative situation, reinventing oneself to be able to take a larger view, being grateful & getting out of Suicidal tendencies.



" MY LIFE IS MY MESSAGE!"



The VIDYA webinar "The Head, The Heart and The Hand of Inclusive Education: A Tribute to Gandhiji," essayed how Gandhi's ideology stood the test of time and should be adopted for better living conditions. Sumitiraji, the granddaughter of Gandhi, Ms. Vinita Bali, Dr. Meenakshi Gopinath, and Mr. Ankit narrated anecdotes and messages from Gandhi's life that reflected the supreme traits of the great leader.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G9-0zyYcs4U>

CHANGING LIVES OF THE POOREST OF POOR THROUGH EDUCATION

In the "Wheels Webinar series" "Changing Lives of the Poorest of Poor Through Education," our Founder and President Mrs. Rashmi Misra displayed the thirty eight year old journey of VIDYA.

She presented the picture of scores of beneficiaries who have benefitted from the programmes in various capacities across 78 projects in Delhi, Gurugram, Mumbai, Bangalore and Pune.

She also highlighted how ethos and values are an integral part of VIDYA; the remarkable team that owns the programmes are the authors of its success. VIDYA teaching methodology being in line with NEP is the very reason behind the great reach of the programmes and the cause for transforming lives.



WEBINAR ON WISE APP BY MUDITA FOUNDATION

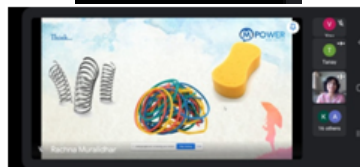
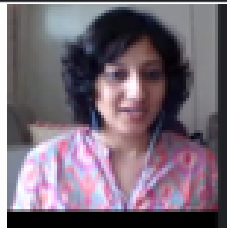


Training sessions by Mudita foundation are being held every week for teachers on usage of the WISE app which is beneficial for them to take online sessions.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=St1wikbCGgg>

WEBINAR ON MENTAL HEALTH, RESILIENCE AND MINDFULNESS

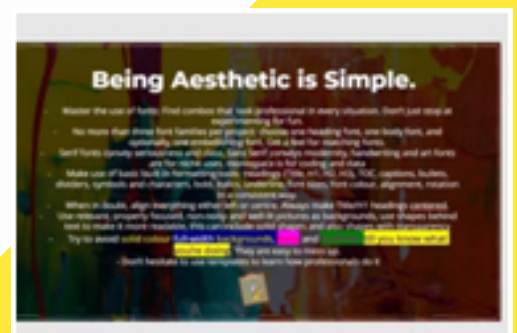
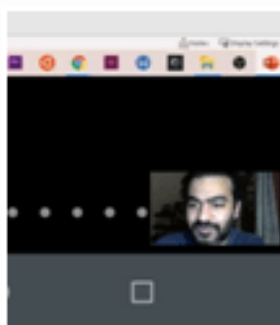
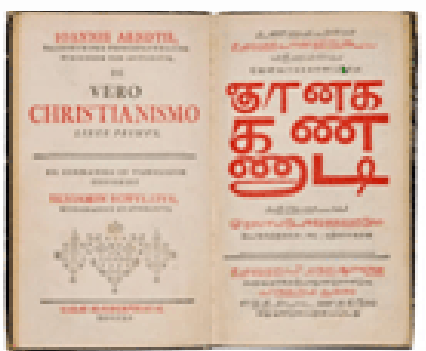
In line with our mission to offer holistic education for our beneficiaries, physical and mental health has always been an integral feature of our curriculum. As a sequel to our campaign on creating awareness about mental illness on World Mental Health Day,



a series of sessions were held for the women beneficiaries of VIDYA. The interactive sessions brought clarity to the attendees on the significance and aspects of mental health. There are many more such sessions in the offing.

A CREATIVE WAY TO WIDEN THE HORIZONS...

The VIDYA webmaster Varun took the team on a guided tour of the available apps and delved into the intricacies of making posters, ppt.... lighting the spark, and drawing the first lines to the new world of designs.



WORKSHOPS

Rich is the one, who handles resources wisely and appropriately....

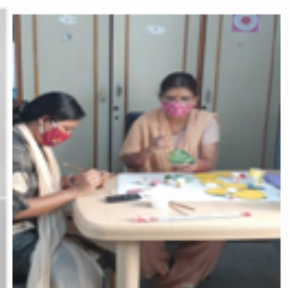
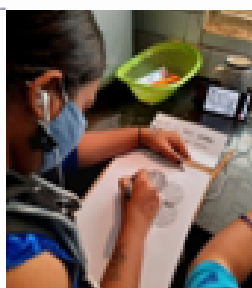
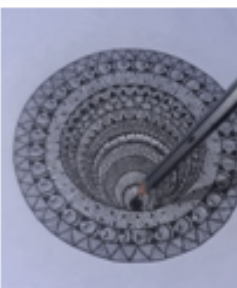
Keeping in mind the need to educate our beneficiaries on spending and saving intelligently, a session on Financial literacy clubbed with Digital literacy was held by VIDYA Coordinator Monika for the women of VIDYA Capacity Building Programme.

The last mile knowledge is sure to empower the budding entrepreneurs in their empowering journey ...



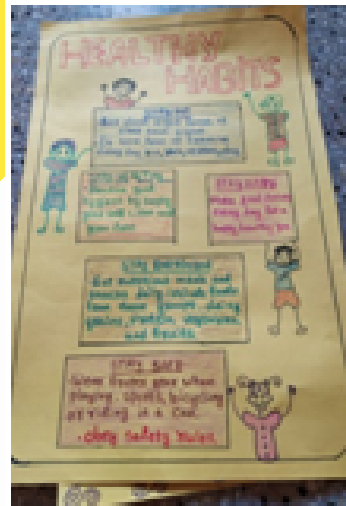
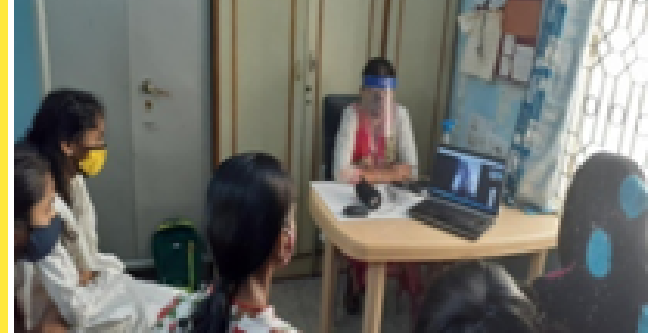
A cooking workshop was held for women beneficiaries on South Indian Masalas. Students learnt to make Peanut chutney powder, Bisibelebath powder, Rasam powder, Sambhar powder, Flax seed chutney powder.

VIDYA teachers attended a 5-day workshop on Mandala art- They learnt from basics to then advanced forms of this 3D art. A workshop on Clay Leaf Art was conducted by Bandana Agarwal from VIDYA Delhi; the participants learnt to make Clay Puja Thalies and Flowers.

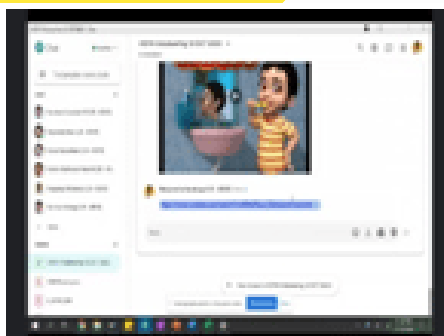


LIFESKILLS

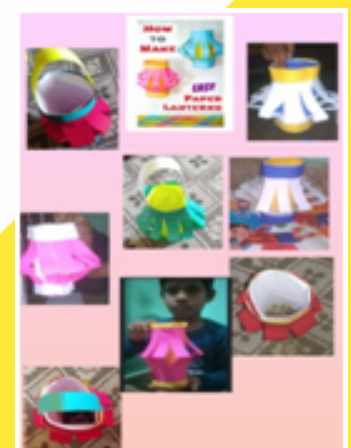
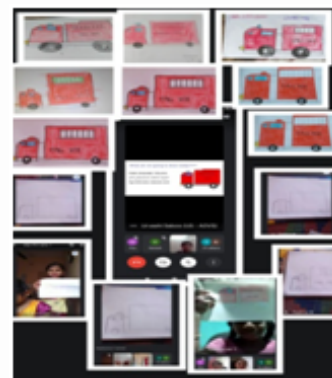
A virtual Life skill session on The Attitude Of Gratitude was conducted for students which gave the message that in these stressful times the only way to stay positive is to shift one's focus to all the things that we are thankful for. A very useful session on Self Care was conducted by Mpower - an Aditya Birla Initiative.



Students of VIDYA Beyond School Programme attended two sessions on the topic "Health and Hygiene" in which they learnt more about the Do's and Don'ts of COVID-19. They watched PPTs and animated videos on how to maintain basic hygiene. The volunteers also conducted a DIY mask making activity.



Two online sessions on the topic "Fire Safety" were also held for them. They watched PPTs and videos on how to escape to safety during a fire incident, how to safely burst the crackers and how to prevent fire incidents. The volunteers also conducted a DIY Diwali lantern activity and guided the students on how to draw a fire truck. The students loved the animated videos highlighting the topic "Fire Safety".



ONLINE & OFFLINE CLASSES

In these challenging times, teaching students from underprivileged backgrounds who don't have access to WIFI connection is an uphill task, but as usual, VIDYA never gives up! Teaching goes on for these young ones through what's app. Lessons & worksheets are posted by the teachers and the children complete their practice lessons and post them back to them for review. It is very satisfying to see that the children are quite abreast with their grade level learning without a huge gap.



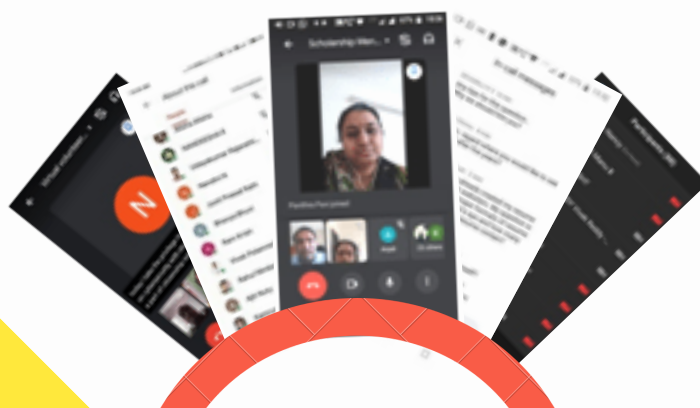
Together with online classes, students are being called for classes to the centres as well. All safety norms are being followed.



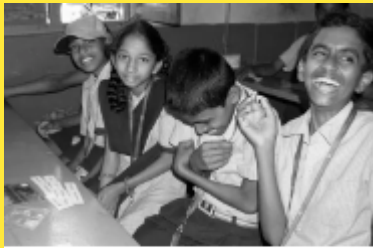
VIDYA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

The month of October and November has been very fulfilling with weekly mentoring sessions from Societe Generale. The prestigious six month Women in leadership mentoring program of SG will give the students an all-round job readiness.

The online classes from the college and VIDYA teachers are continuing for the students. With support from individual donors, VIDYA has provided laptops, smartphones, and tabs to students for accessing their online classes



ACHIEVEMENTS



VIDYA's Beyond School Programme Is prepping government school kids with nex...
Rashmi Misra, Founder of VIDYA, an NGO that has a pan-India presence, tells us about one of their popular programmes that trains students in Computer...

Our Founder's article in Indian Express on 9th November 2020

'<https://www.edexlive.com/happening/2020/nov/09/vidyas-beyond-school-programme-is-prepping-the-government-school-kids-with-the-required-skills-15613.html>



DIGITAL LITERACY

Students completed their NIIT exam and received certificates.



THE BHAGINI WOMEN EMPOWERMENT PROGRAMME

Students received certificates of completion for their English, Computers, and Vastra Courses.



VIDYA CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME

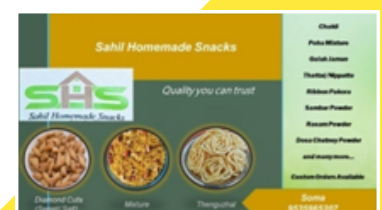
Students passed the Singer Diploma exam with Flying colours. The best students received award of sewing machines.



Scholarship Students
Anjali and Abdul got placed at **Razor pay** and **Wizzpro** respectively.



Our Aahar student
now an Entrepreneur!!
Ms. Soma das.



A brief look at our Projects

- VIDYA Beyond School Programme in 10 Government Schools
- VIDYA Scholarship Programme for Boys and girls, to pursue higher education
- VIDYA Shakti - Livelihood programme for women in the community
- Digital Empowerment Programme for children, youth & residents of the community
- VIDYA Centre of Excellence @ Dunmore House.
- VIDYA Capacity Building Programme for Women @ various locations
- VIDYA Bhagini - Women Empowerment Programme @ VIDYA Centres
- VIDYA Margam - an initiative for the alumni of VIDYA to showcase their work and earn while they learn.

Academic:

- VIDYA Communicative English- Basic , Advance & NIIT certified SEPD
- VIDYA Computer Literacy- Basic, Advance, Web design, Tally, Java
- VIDYA NIOS – X and XII

Vocational:

- VIDYA Vastra- Singer Diploma In Tailoring
- VIDYA Varna- Madura Coats certified Embroidery and Block printing course
- VIDYA Vividha- Product making in Art and Craft
- VIDYA Shringar – Beautician Course

Thanks to our partners & supporters Mali foundation, Semikron, Synergy Properties, SG, Broadcom, PWC, Nutanix, Statestreet, Total Yoga, Phoenix Market city, Law NK, KKS, StoneX and all the noble hearts that have worked for the cause and are making a big and bigger impact in the lives of our beneficiaries in their most unique ways.

THE MORE WE DO

THE MORE WE CAN DO....



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