

रोवेपुत्र वीर्ती



Monthly Newsletter of VIDYA
Delhi NCR • Mumbai • Bangalore



Individually we are one drop, together we are an ocean!
Educated girls are Champions of Change

Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao

There is a lot of talk on saving the girl child and educating her. How about educating boys to deal with girls? Educating for instance, to respect women. The focus of VIDYA has always been on educating and empowering the girl child and it is well known that

'If you educate a man you educate an individual. If you educate a woman, you educate a NATION'

VIDYA has reached the 30th milestone and there are miles to go...

School Watch

The VIDYA School, Gurgaon

It is a school where socially challenged children are groomed to dream big and achieve those dreams...

Ravishing Relans- Sharmas

The family of Radhika and Ajay Relan paid a goodwill visit to the school. The newlyweds-son and daughter in law-planted saplings along with other members of family. Their warmth and grace touched the hearts as they mingled with the students, played football, sang, danced and relished a hearty meal..



Thank you Relans and the Sharma Family for being such staunch supporters of VIDYA, your gifts are highly appreciated.

Youthreach



Reaching out

Many American volunteers reached the school through Youthreach from Vesper (www.vesperatelier.org). They were here to install a sculpture of VIDYA logo. In two days that they were here, they interacted with the senior students starting with exploring the meaning of VIDYA logo. Later an element of sound was incorporated in each alphabet making students aware how it sounded! Various drawings and discussions helped in identifying important cultural and human conditions to be incorporated while creating a logo.



Learning to Create a Logo

Spring Again

Spring is in the air and as new blooms appear, new beginnings are made and students bow to Ma Saraswati- the goddess of knowledge. Saraswati represents an ever flowing stream of an ever engaged mind and creativity flowing like a river of education, music, dance... *Basant panchmi* is a day when VIDYA Schools all over ask for blessings from the goddess.

Jai Hind



Singing along with Kiran Lakhera- Music Teacher

Republic Day celebrations were held with great pomp and enthusiasm in the school. The entire school fraternity attended the flag hoisting followed by national anthem. There was verve, vigour and vitality as students related what Republic means. Zal Daver-Education Consultant enlightened the students about the values of democracy and Constitution of India.

Bal Vihar, Delhi

Bal Vihar School is the flagship project of VIDYA's education programme, the very first step...

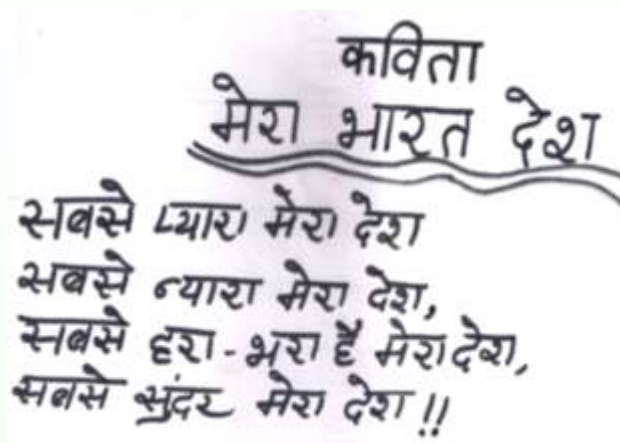
Celebrations All Along

Lohri, Makar Sankranti, Basant Panchmi and finally Republic Day, there were celebrations all along. After the winter break, this was a warm welcome extended to the New Year.

It was cold and dripping yet the students turned up to salute the national flag on Republic Day. A cultural programme was presented in the Panchsheel Club highly appreciated by the members.



Mera Desh Mahaan!



A Young Student Expresses Patriotism

Elected Leaders

What a wonderful way to explain democracy! The young primary students elected their own leaders-head boy and head girl by voting. The winning candidates are Kumkum and Rajnish of standard IV.



Congratulations

You Reap...

You Reap what you sow, was the focus of a play presented by standard IV students emphasizing compassion, love and care. This play was the highlight of the special assembly of the month.

The school is back to its regular activities including parent teacher meeting and remedial classes.

Special thanks to Harleen Ahluwalia for helping in remedial education.

Community Empowerment, Delhi

Munirka, Pappankalan, Okhla, Bridge Course- Okhla and Sainik Farms, IIT Projects

The community empowerment programmes are conducted in various slums of Delhi.

Across all community centres, many events marking salutations to the Constitution of India on Republic Day were organized. Each centre had its own unique way expression. The spring festivals like *Lohri* and *Basant Panchmi* had their own flavor with rituals of bonfire and bonhomie announcing the end of winter. Such celebrations strengthen the social networking in the community.



Celebrating Spring

In Munirka, there were 14 volunteers from China and America enthralling the children with their innovative and creative ideas. Thanks to Cross Cultural Solutions.



Welcome Volunteers

In Bridge Courses Sainik Farms and Okhla, the highlight of the month was the completion of the documentary of Adobe Youth Voices and submission to American India Foundation.

Besides regular classes, Price Water Coopers mentoring class focused on *Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao* which is the current passion in India.



Popcorn and Peanuts around the Bonfire on Lohri

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) centre reopened after winter break on January 12. Regular classes started for Open School students and adults along with Republic Day Celebrations which included essay writing. The subjects were Clean India, *Gandhi ji*, *Swami Vivekananda* etc.

The Okhla centre reverberated with many *Jai Ho* moments. Be it a health camp or a visit by Team Tata Capital and ofcourse Republic Day which included a plethora of activities. The whole community worked for long hours to create a spectacular presentation with local leaders gracing the occasion. This national festival was a memorable occasion. The staff, students and community participated and contributed to make this event a great success.



Team Tata Capital visited the centre on January 23. They blessed the centre with gifts for physical and mental fitness. VIDYA is grateful to Tata Capital and Ivolunteer for coordinating this visit. The students are enjoying every bit and every moment of playing and learning with their gifts.



Thank you for Gifts, Tata Capital

A Health Camp was conducted in partnership with Empowerment for Rehabilitation Academic & Health (EFRAH) promoting general health, hygiene and sanitation.



Thank you EFRAH

VIDYA Mumbai

After jingling all the way for Christmas last month, it is now time for Happy New Year and new resolutions.

Bhavishya Yaan

Being Socially Responsible. The high school students of Byculla centre conducted role plays on 'say no to drugs' and 'don't kill the girl child'. They scripted, directed and enacted the roles highlighting that everyone has right to live with dignity. It was a light hearted way to focus on serious socially relevant issues.

Spell-a-thon. It was a Spelling Bee competition for students from all eight centres. Surprisingly, the students not only knew the spellings, but also explained the meanings of the words thrown at them. It was a first and a brave attempt. The competition was hosted by Amit Banage and judged by Minal Shah, Manisha Ahuja and Uday Mane. The winners pocketed English pocket dictionaries and story books sponsored by Siya Khemlani.

The Winners

STD

1st PRIZE

2nd PRIZE

6th

Pooja Gujar (Colaba)

Sanika Patil (NMJ)

7th

Prasangi Rapaka (Banganga)

Indrayani Parande (Colaba)

8th

Jyothi Kamle (G K Marg)

Akilesh Gupta (Worli)

9th

Ashish Sharma (Worli)

Shradha Barbar (NMJ)



Crackling Cricket. The students from Colaba, Byculla and NMJ centres were at the Cricket Club of India to watch a Celebrity Cricket League match. They were among celebrities like movie stars Varun Dhawan, Ritesh Deshmukh, Ashish Chaudhary, Anil Kapoor, Sonam Kapoor and thrilled to see their favourite stars so close. Mumbai Heroes won the match defeating the Veer Marathi team.



Three Cheers for Mumbai Heroes!

Saluting Men in Uniform. Senior students from Colaba centre visited the Cuffe Parade Police Station. The purpose of the visit was to get sensitized to the hardships and sacrifices made by the police. They safeguard our lives and properties. The students went around the police station learning the various aspects of police functioning. The students were grateful to these men in uniform.



Thank you Sir

Book Browsing. The Ghatla centre students along with teachers and volunteers visited a grand book exhibition at Dayanand Vedic High School. The objective of this exposure was to familiarize the children with the world of books and inculcate reading habits. It was an enjoyable trip as the children went around book browsing and purchased the ones they liked.

Congratulations



Nisha Patil and Ashwini Landge from the Vile Parle centre won the inter school hand writing competition and both of them were awarded gold medals.

Beyond School

Welcome 2015. Atlast the teachers got the new year calenders. Just as the last session of the year was full of fun, the new year is equally challenging.

Banking on Banks.
Gautam Nagar and Phule Nagar visited the Saraswat Bank at Powai and learnt the details of banking. They were also made aware of importance of savings.



Banking Beyond School

Rights and Duties. As a part of Community Initiative Cell and Beyond School Initiative, the third instalment for the parents highlighted rationing. This initiative was conducted by the Rationing Department Resource People. They explained the rights of people regarding ration, consumers' complaints forum and how to lodge a complaint. It was a great interactive learning for 65 parents.

Bharat Darshan. It was a unique Republic Day celebration when VIDYA Mumbai organised a *Bharat Darshan* across all centres at Powai. Each centre selected two or three states of India represented by the students. The culture, customs, religions, languages, music, food, etc. were brought forth. The children presented self created bookmarks and thank you cards to the visitors and shared much more information.



I Love my India

National School of Open Schooling

Discovering Dreams. D-Festum- The festival started with the bang. The first session was on career guidance. The expert guests were Dr. Deepa-a physiotherapist, Vinod Mathur-VIDYA volunteer and Chandrakant Raikar-a dancer and owner of dance academy. The session was to mimic a chat show relating to careers. The enlightening session was moderated by Swapnalee-Beyond School Programme Manager followed by experience sharing by open school students. The main takeaways of the session were-

If you do what you love, you don't need to work

Grab opportunities

Have a plan but be flexible

Give back to society in any way you can



Gems of Career Guidance by Vinod Mathur

Celebrating Differences. The second part of D-Festum was a talk on diversity curated and led by Jayashree Murali.

This session was team work in the true sense – the teachers helped Jayashree in both curating and conducting parts of the session. It was a huge learning experience for the teachers. Putting together such a session involves a lot of research and planning. And the teachers really enjoyed it.



Spelling out Diversity

Computer Learning Resource Centre

Right from Scratch. The team members across all centres attended a teachers' upgradation session conducted by Mehala Nagarajah- Programme Manager, IT. The objective was to plan the Technology Fair due in February and train the members on Scratch which is a programming language helping to create interactive stories, animations, games, music, art etc. Implementation of the new technique was discussed.

Run to Read

Standard Charted Mumbai Marathon. As is the convention at VIDYA Mumbai, this year also witnessed extensive planning and active participation for the Standard Chartered Mumbai Marathon 2015. It was a culmination of enthusiasm, excitement, hard work, dedication and passion. The preparation for the event had begun much ahead of the Marathon, about eight months ago, right from reaching to donors, selling the bibs, picking and disbursing bibs and goodie bags, raising pledges, nominating the VIDYA contingent for the run, preparing placards and getting t-shirts printed to proudly proclaim VIDYA's 30th year. Everyone involved was enthusiastic and ecstatic about it!

The theme for the Mumbai Marathon endorsed by VIDYA this year was 'Run to Read'. Students and staff had prepared a big book of a poem written by Jayshree Murali titled 'Lets Run to Read'. Placards portraying thoughts on 'reading' depicted through Warli (courtesy – our overseas volunteer Maria) and quotes by VIDYA stakeholders on the impact of VIDYA were prepared. The Chief Minister of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis cheered the participants.

VIDYA is thankful to veteran Marathoner Pradeep Deshpande, who ran in support of VIDYA for the 5th time in a row. Our sincere thanks to G.P.Rao, Air India, Anshuman Gupta, Chirag Pathak, ICICI Pru AMC, L&T Finance, Capita and Tejas Gupta, Jayshree



*“I ran for the first time and finished the Dream Run under one hour. Very proud of myself “
– Pooja Dubey (VIDYA Youth)*



Murali, Rajanikant Doshi, Namrata Bhosale, Vaishali Doshi, Shweta Bangera, Aarti Patil, Meghana Jadhav, Preeti Nair, Fiona Fernandes and Vinita Ramchandani for their support through Corporate Challenge and Individual Bibs.

Monica Rest in Peace



VIDYA's beloved Monica, Treasurer and former Chairperson of Women's India Association, UK (WIA) passed away peacefully on January 24. Heartfelt condolences to her family and friends. WIA and Monica have supported helped VIDYA to blossom and excel. We'll miss her charming presence and her thoughtful vision.

VIDYA Bangalore

Bhavishya Yaan

Gottigere Primary and High School

Welcome New Year. All academic and curricular activities have swung into action after the short winter break. Beyond studies, children have been busy with Republic Day preparations. They learnt the meanings of weighty words like Sovereignty, Constitution, Republic, Secular...

VIDYA celebrates 30 Years in 2015! The year has been planned with monthly activities and events from February to commemorate the grand anniversary and the multitudes of children

Who have been helped



Cheers for 2015!

We the Women

Impeccable women power on Rajpath on January 26- Republic Day, has set a new benchmark for gender equality. For the first time all women contingents from the armed forces shook the stereotyped image of women. It was an impressive rare spectacle in line with this year's theme, '*Nari Shakti*'



Educate • Encourage • Enlighten

New Education Policy of India was launched on January 26, 2015.
visit www.mygov.in

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