

Sneak Peek

Success does not lie in 'Results' but in 'Efforts',
Being the best is not so important,
doing the best is all that "MATTERS".



AN ENLIGHTENED ENTREPRENEUR - DADAJI

People set personal goals, a few of them think of changing things, but not many of them succeed. Success comes from being passionate about what you have decided to achieve or what you are aiming for. The venerable Shri Bhavarlal Jain, better known as our beloved Dadaji, was one such man who aspired to bring about change in people by inspiring them with Gandhian ethics and values. Dadaji believed that we should understand and know ourselves and what our society expects from us. He was not only a man of words but a man of action. Every thought he shared with us during various interactions came from his deep insight gathered through his personal experience. He qualified for a high-ranking administrative job but decided to start his own business with just ₹ 7000, and the rest is history. He was a true visionary, a far-sighted man who wanted to serve his society and the nation at large.

"Aim to feed the needy rather than to be greedy". Dadaji was always helpful to the people who could not afford education for their children. In the course of time he decided to build a school. Thus, our school came into existence. He wanted to provide a holistic education aimed at creating better children and citizens for a better world. When I entered the lush green campus of Anubhuti, I was

filled with a number of ideas as to why I was here. I was then slowly taught the principles of life, which very effectively helped build my character. I thank Dadaji for what I am today, and for the values which he inculcated in me. Meeting him and talking to him were never tiring; I always eagerly waited for his next interaction as every story he shared was interesting—arousing fresh questions in our minds, which he would clear up in his next interaction.

On every Founder's Day we enjoyed his presence; it is therefore no wonder that for the past two years we have missed him. Nevertheless, I feel him within me, in fact within all of us, the trees, the air we breathe, even the way we communicate. He was part of my life. This Founder's

Day was special to me as it invoked in me a whole lot of thoughts about Dadaji, his life, and above all the creation to our wonderful school, Anubhuti.

My association with Dadaji spanning four years remind me of his most remarkable quality: Being humble.

“किसी इन्सान को रोटी
खिलाकर आप एक दिन के

लिए उस का पेट भर देंगे पर दादाजी के हिसाब से बेहतर यह होगा कि
किसी इन्सान को रोटी कमाना सिखाइये”



—Viraj Bang, Class 12

FOUNDER'S DAY - 2017

Founder's Day is arguably the most important day in the life of a school that is eagerly awaited by both students and faculty including the principal. As per the customs of Anubhuti, we celebrate Founder's Day which also resembles our gathering every year during the month of December. This year also Founder's Day was celebrated on 13 and 14 December, 2018 with great pomp and splendour. The chief guests for the event were Mr. Chittaranjan Kaul (former director-cum-administrator of Anubhuti), Mr. Anand Gupte (renowned commercial artist) and Mr. Namdeo Dhondo Mahanor (renowned Poet and Padma Shri awardee). The event was also graced by Mr. Ashok Jain, Mr. Ajit Jain, Mr. Anil Jain, and Mr. Atul Jain. This was followed by the felicitation of the ex-class 10 and 12 students who had excelled in their ICSE and ISC examination 2017 and the students who also had excelled in the Gandhi Vichar Sanskar Pariksha - 2017. The other events in the program were as follows:

ALBERT EINSTEIN AT SCHOOL

A play titled Albert Einstein at School was staged on the occasion of Founder's Day by us (class 8, 9, and 11 students). The play not only effectively depicted how Einstein hated the strict rote learning practised at school but also showed how he cleverly managed to leave the school in Munich to eventually join the Polytechnic Institute in Zurich, now known as Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich) in Switzerland. In order to get away from the school, Einstein took crucial help from a friend of his called Uri, and by using a doctor's note he finally escaped from his school in Germany.



This short play helped us learn about some lesser-known facts about Einstein, particularly his schooling and early life. It also enabled us to look at the whole process of education in a wider perspective. We are thankful to each and every one of our teachers and peers who contributed to the success of this play.

—Harsh Lalwani, Class 9

भूत का जन्म

भूत का जन्म यह नाटक हमने फाउंडर्स डे पर किया था। इसमें एक आदमी तुकाराम था वह शहर से गाँव जा रहा था। उसी रास्ते पर तुकाराम को घना जंगल लगता है। तभी तुकाराम से कुछ लोग कहते हैं कि इस जंगल में भूत है। वह डरते-डरते उस घने जंगल से जाता है और जंगल में उसे एक और आदमी मिलता है जिसका नाम समाधान होता है। दोनों की जब दोस्ती हो जाती है तो बात करते-करते दोनों बरगद के पेड़ के नीचे पहुँचते हैं। तभी तुकाराम समाधान को बिना बताये हुए लकड़ियाँ लेने चला जाता है। जब वापस आने पर उसे समाधान नहीं दिखा तो वह उसे ढूँढ़ने लगा। तभी तुकाराम मन ही मन सोचता है कि समाधान एक भूत है और डर के मारे अपने गाँव की तरफ भाग जाता है। गाँव में सबको बता देता है कि जंगल में भूत है। जब समाधान भी वापस आता है तो उसे भी तुकाराम नहीं दिखाई देता है और वह भी यही सोचता है कि तुकाराम भूत है, और वह गायब हो गया! फिर तुकाराम अपने गाँव में जाके सबको बता देता है कि जंगल में भूत है। तुकाराम के गाँव का एक आदमी जिसका नाम बंडू होता है वह सोचता है कि भूतों का नाश करने के लिए उससे ही कुछ करना पड़ेगा। वह जादुई तंत्र वाली कीलें लेके बरगद के पेड़ के पास ठोखने निकल पड़ता है। वह डर के मारे कीलों को अपनी धोती के साथ ठोक देता है। इसी तरह से उसके भी मन में भूत का जन्म होता है।

यह भूत का जन्म छोटी सी नाटिका कक्षा ८ वीं के छात्रों ने इस साल के फाउंडर्स डे पर प्रस्तुत किया था। जिसका संदेश था कि भूत-प्रेत कुछ नहीं होते हैं। यह तो बस लोगों के मन का डर है।

—सम्यक लोढ़ा, कक्षा ८ वीं



THE MERCHANT OF VENICE

The famous court scene from William Shakespeare's play *The Merchant of Venice* was staged by some talented students on the first day of Founder's Day.

It is a scene where a man named Shylock asks the court for justice for the bond signed between him and another man named Antonio, whose friend Bassanio wants to save him from this. The bond said that if Antonio was not able to pay the sum he borrowed from Shylock, he was obliged to give Shylock the same amount of flesh from his body. The suspense of the scene was that Bassanio's wife was going to be the lawyer representing Antonio as she was smart, intelligent and confident, and she succeeds in her mission.

This was very well done by the students as they were able to depict each and every character efficiently. The students learnt

from this performance a lot about Shakespearean English and the racial prejudices prevalent at that time. Thus, the play had a lot of educational value for all of us.

—Chidanand Nakade, Class 8



TWO MONOLOGUES



On Founder's Day, we had two monologues. The first monologue was of Mark Antony, which was enacted by Ronak Rathi of Grade 8th. Mark Antony was allowed to make a funeral oration at Caesar's Funeral. The condition was that he should not blame Brutus and the other conspirators for Caesar's death. Antony ultimately portrays Caesar in a positive light by cleverly praising Brutus and his men at the outset. His costume was set really good.

The second monologue was of Prince Hal, which was enacted by Aryan Modi of Grade 8th. Prince Hal was the heir to the British throne. You could not tell from his behavior that he was basically a good person. Hal was once caught in a seedy tavern in a street in London, where the prince carouses with his drinking buddies and plans a robbery. But later on, Prince Hal surprises everyone by letting everyone know a little secret. His bad behavior, he said, was just a disguise. Prince Hal's costume looked really wonderful. He was given a really decent appearance.

— Aryan Modi, Class 8



SONGS

Our music teacher Mr. Nikhil Kshirsagar and his talented musical team sang 7 different songs in various languages. The songs were as follows:

- Shiv Tandav Stotram
- Bhin Bhintichi Ughadi Shala
- Tu Budhi De
- Lal Meri (Solo by Chinmay Kalantri, Class 9)
- Hee Shardema
- Dhitang Dhitang Bole
- Payoji Maine (Solo by Nishkarsh Jain, Class 8)



A MEGA SHOW: MAHABHARATA

After a magnificent performance put on by the juniors on the first day of Founder's Day, the seniors were all set to impress their audience on the second and final day. They staged a mega play on the age-old ancient Indian epic Mahabharata. However, the novelty was that they covered the events that took place after the end of Mahayudha (the great war). The performance began with a dance presented by the boys of class 9th and 11th which showed scenes from the war. They left the audience in an awe with their perfect coordination and dramatic grace.

Then came the scene where Duryodhana is killed by Bheema. The actors also performed a brief combat. Duryodhana was wounded badly by Bheema and was on the brink of dying when surviving members of his army Ashwatthama, Kripacharya, and Kritvarma came consoling him. They told him that it was not his fault; the Pandavas killed all of their army by deceiving them. Aswathamma promises him that he will bring the heads of the Pandavas by the nightfall but instead Aswathamma killed all the upa-Pandavas (children of the Pandava brothers with Draupadi), shikandi and Dhristadhyumna and several others on the 18th night of the war. Seeing her dead sons Draupadi is devastated and starts to weep. On the other side, when Duryodhana discovers that Ashvathama has killed the sons of the Pandavas, he is filled with guilt and regrets his decision of starting the war. When confronted by the Pandavas, Ashvathama launched a Brahmashira to kill the child in Uttara's womb (only to be saved by Krishna and to be named by him as Parikshit). Krishna cursed him to be an immortal, who will be burdened with excruciating pain because of his injuries, along with blood and pus oozing out of his injuries, who will find ways to kill himself to relieve the pain but will not be able to do so, who will lose contact with humans, after removing the gem from his forehead.

The Pandavas got the blessings of Kunti, Vidura, Dhritarastra and Gandhari and ruled the kingdoms of both Hastinapur and Indraprastha together. Dhritarastra tried to kill Bheema while offering blessings, but after demolishing an iron statue, mistaking it for Bheema, he regained his senses and blessed the Pandavas.

Kunti is shattered to see all of her 100 sons vanquished in the war. She goes to the Kurukshetra and wails over

Duryodhana's dead body. Suddenly, she smells a mango and the sorrow of her sons' deaths is overpowered by hunger. She approaches the tree but the fruit is hanging too high. Being blindfolded, she cannot see what she was pulling to climb upon and eat the mango. Unaware of those things being her sons' bodies, she eats the mango sitting on them. She later realizes the fact of the matter and is remorseful of her act. She curses Krishna that all his loved ones will kill each other.

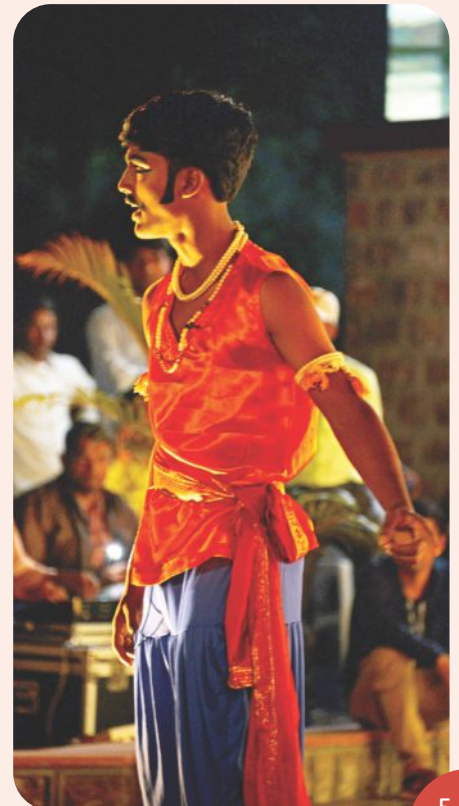
After winning the war, Yudhishtir becomes the king of Hastinapur. The Pandavas ruled the Kingdom for 36 long years. They conducted several Rajasuya and Aswamedha Yajnas and Yudhistira became a grand emperor (Chakravarty samrat) for the entire nation. They looked after Kunti, Vidura, Dhritarashtra and Gandhari with great care. Fifteen years from the beginning of their reign, these four decided to go to the forests on a voluntary exile. The Pandavas and Panchali (Draupadi) decided to ascend the Himalayas as a final yatra (a kind of penance) to reach heaven. They climbed the Himalayas and were accompanied by a dog (Lord Yama in disguise). As they climbed their way to the top, one by one they started falling and dying, and ending up in hell. Apparently, the reason for their deaths is their desires, issues and troubles caused by them and their own pride. Panchali falls first possibly because of her pride and she favoured Arjuna more among her Pandava husbands. (She had a

soft spot for him.). Sahadev and Nakul fall next possibly because they were prideful about their looks. Arjuna dies next because he was too proud of his archery skills. Bheem dies last, because many a time, during the forest exiles of the Pandavas, he was inconsiderate about food. He used to eat a lot without leaving anything for others, thereby starving them. So they used to share the food among themselves before letting him eat. Yudhistira, who did not take pride in anything (except for his pride in following moral righteousness) nor was biased towards anyone, finally reached the top of the Himalayas along with his dog. Thus, the drama ended with the message of what is the most meaningful kind of ruling: It is not ruling over others but ruling over one's own mind.

A couple of beautifully performed dances added great charm to the show. It was an enjoyable and wonderful experience for all of us.

– Shivam Agrawal, Class 11





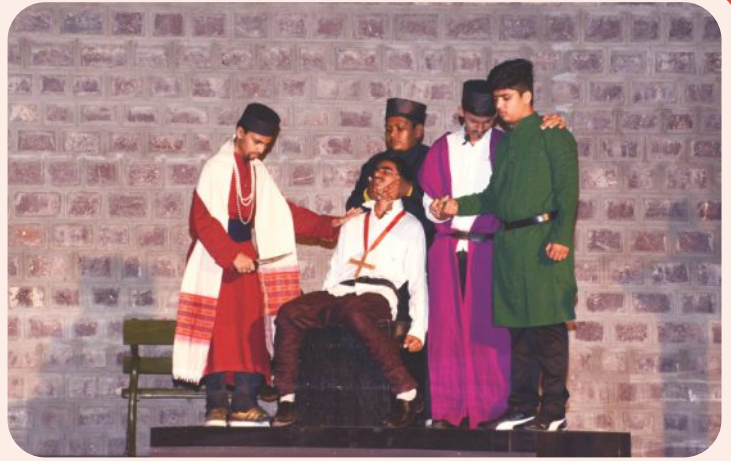
DANCES

- **Aam ke Aam honge:** To raise awareness about not throwing garbage in one's surroundings.
- **Lakshya:** To make students aware of the aims they all have to achieve in their lives.
- **Ghoomar:** To show the rich traditions and culture of India.
- **Hanikarak Bapu:** To discourage students from bringing illegal tuck into School.
- **Shiv Tandav:** A dance dedicated to Lord Shiva.
- **Dagad Dagad:** To show that every student has the capability to become a scientist.
- **Natrang Ubha:** To show a traditional dance of Maharashtra in order to spread its culture.
- **Vande Mataram:** To drive home the theme that India is a country of different religions and languages but epitomizes the concept of 'Unity in Diversity'!
- **Chidanand Rupam:** Again a dance dedicated to Lord Shiva.



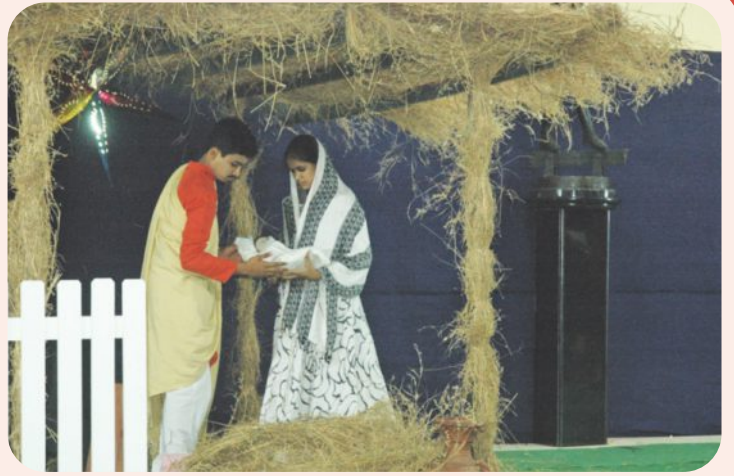


GLIMPSES OF FOUNDER'S DAY



GLIMPSES OF FOUNDER'S DAY





A MEMORABLE COMMERCIAL WEEK

As per the tradition of Anubhuti, Commerce Week is celebrated from the 29th of December to 31st of December every year. The dates were the same this year, but the content varied substantially. On the 29th of December, the students had an interaction with Mr. Anil Patkar, the manager of the Jalgaon People's Cooperative Bank in the morning. Mr. Patkar talked about personal banking along with the terms and conditions followed in the banks. He also shared some of his experiences he had in the field of banking during the past 40 years. On this delightful occasion, an attractive backdrop was also unveiled by Mr. Patkar and our Principal Mr. J.P Rao. A street play titled Nukkad was performed by class 9 students in the afternoon session. The play's aim was to make the students aware of the corruption in high places and the dishonest ways the political parties follow to win the elections. After this educative performance, a class-wise poster making competition was held. All the students put their heads and hands together to design and create artistic and marvellous posters on 'MAKE IN INDIA'. This was the end of the first day of the commerce week.



The next day a long assembly was conducted by the students of class 9, which focused on India's young entrepreneurs who have captured the hearts of the people. This was followed by a presentation on the brand 'MODI'. The afternoon session was fun-filled with Class 11 students conducting various activities such as the odd man out, advertisement identification, etc. Such unusual concepts took us by surprise. The students correlated the things to commerce and executed the concepts in an innovative way.

On the concluding day, a treasure hunt and funfair were organized by the students paving the way for a pleasant start to a magnificent New Year 2018! The main objective of this event was to give information about commerce as an academic discipline and spread the message that pursuing the study of commerce subjects would be an interesting choice for them in the future. Thanks to our teachers, Mr. Swagat Rath and Mrs. Anjali Khadrikar for their valuable support, which made the commerce week a great success!

—Pratham Vaidya, Class 11

FUNFAIR

On the 31st of December 2017, i. e. the eve of New Year, the commercial application students of class 9 and 11 organized a funfair for all the students and the teachers. The preparations for the event began days before. Every student put in their sincere effort to make the event successful. Before the funfair, the students organized a treasure hunt and made the afternoon a memorable event for all. In the evening, an entertainment show was organized. Everyone enjoyed 'Kapil Sharma Jokes' and laughed to their heart's content. That was followed by fun games such as Accuracy Bonanza, Make Blue the King, 8 UP 8 DOWN, Obstacle Race, Video games, and many more. Then came the most awaited part, the Special Dinner arranged on the Admin Lawns. WOW! All of us enjoyed the dinner after the game session. Profuse thanks to the dining hall committee for providing such a sumptuous dinner on the New Year's Eve. Prior to the New Year's Eve celebrations, the commerce week had been going on, which ended with the New Year musical bash

that was dominated by a serial competition and musical guess. Then, to our surprise, a Face-to-Face Dance was also conducted. We all bid farewell to 2017 with a lot of surprises and enthusiastic memories, which would remain unforgettable for all of us.

—Ronak Dhoot, Class 11



NEWS FLASH

Kudos to our Tabla maestros and their Guru who bagged 1st, 2nd, 3rd position in National level Tabla competition.

On 24th there was a table tennis match, our school bagged 3rd position (Samyak and Shreyansh) and Shubham Fafat has been awarded the best player of the match.

For the partial fulfillment of ICSE examinations in Hindi and English, the students of class 10 presented their speeches at the morning assemblies during the month of December.

INTERACTION WITH MR .FARHAD GIMI SIR

Farhad Gimi Sir is the designer of our school. On the occasion of Dadaji's birthday, 12 December 2017, we had an interaction with him. He talked to us about some important quotes by Dadaji. Some of the quotes were:

1. "Whatever goals we wish to fulfil, the means used to fulfil these should be as noble as the goals themselves."

It means that whatever way we are following to reach our goals should be noble and moral.

2. "We forget speeches but never forget lessons because the lessons received in life form experience."

It means that we forget the words used in a speech but we can't forget the lessons which we learn from various situations or incidents which happen in our lives.

After explaining some more quotes, he invited us to share our response to Dadaji's quotes. I liked the response which taught me: when one door closes, another opens, therefore we should never lose hope and keep working hard without giving up.

In the end, Farhad Gimi Sir impressed upon us that we should keep following the golden wisdom of Dadaji in our daily lives.



– Sanyam Baid, Class 7

A WORKSHOP WITH MS HIMANI

The most awaited day of the year is always our Founder's Day, and this year also we were eagerly waiting for it. But this year's founder's day was special as a large number activities and interactions took place along with the usual events. Ms Himani (M.B.A.) from Gujrat conducted a unique workshop on 13 December. She interacted with us talking about powerful mind techniques to unlock our minds towards happiness, peace, success, better health & wealth, relationship, career and spirituality. Her main motto was to spread happiness and how we can achieve it. To experience happiness she told us many exercises such as clapping therapy, laughing therapy, etc. During the course of the interaction, we also played many different games such as tom & jerry, beating each other's back, memory games etc. As all of us are now in the pre-teen and

teenage stage, she also taught us how to concentrate on most adverse situations, which would help us a lot in the future. She also told us how to achieve our goals and achieve excellence in our studies. These happiness sharing therapies and the way she taught us how to enhance our concentration were amazing. This session was also enjoyed by our parents. It was a remarkable interaction and will surely benefit us a lot in the future.

In the afternoon, there was yet another session conducted by Himani ma'am, but this session was exclusively for parents. In this session, she told many good things to parents which might help them with parenting. The session was appreciated and extolled by all the parents as they also enjoyed it a lot.

– Soham Milmile, Class 9



A SPECIAL ASSEMBLY

A special assembly was conducted by a local group of differently-abled people in our school on the 16th of December 2017. Eight Differently abled people came to our school for interaction with us to give a message that left a mark on our hearts. Their message was: Whatever God has given to you use it properly and to the fullest. They said that there were also people like us but didn't have some organs from birth or lost them at a certain age. We realized that some of them had achieved in their lives what many normal people are unable to. They gave us the example of Stephen Hawking, who is their ideal because he accomplished so much in his life that even we able-bodied people cannot. They said that they did have many problems but like others, they didn't cry. Instead, they always try their best to find a way to solve their problems. The group visiting our school comprised Mr Pandurang Rathod, Mr Rajendra Chauhan, Sopan, Aakash, Bhupali,

Durga, Ankita and Reena. They all were from Deepstambh Foundation in Jalgaon. This event was organized by Sachin Kulkarni and Ms Kanchan Kulkarni.

– Mrunal and Sachin, Class 7



EDUCATIONAL VISIT

On 16 December, the students of class 11th and 12th Commerce group along with Mr Sachin Kulkarni Sir had a mesmerizing educational visit to Jain Farm Fresh along with the spice plant as well as the onion dehydration plant.

When we reached there, we were introduced to Mr G. R. Chaudhari, who is head of the onion dehydration plant. He explained to us the process of dehydration of onions as well as the reasons for separating red onions and white onions. Next, we had a visit to the spice plant where Mrs Supriya told us about the grinding and packaging process.

We were introduced to Mr Mitesh Patil who is in charge of Jain Farm Fresh. He explained to us cutting, slicing, dicing and freezing of fruits. We saw the processing of banana and jackfruit. We then had an interaction with Mr Athang Jain and Mr Deshpande. Students asked them a few

questions. They told us about the product lines of Farm Fresh. Visiting these plants was a rewarding experience for all of us.

– Yamini Kabra, Class 11



AN INTERACTION WITH YASH RAJ WANI

The students of class 11 science group had an interaction with Yash Raj Wani, who is an alumnus of our school. He is currently studying at Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Bhopal (IISERB), 3rd year. During the interaction, he told us how we can get admission to that institute. He told us that through a three-stage process we can get admission. Candidates having a valid KVPY fellowship are eligible to apply for admission. Additional cut-off criteria may be applicable. Second is, Candidates in the general category securing a rank within 10000 in the Common Rank List (CRL) of JEE Advanced 2017 are eligible to apply. Candidates belonging to the reserved category (OBCNC, SC, ST, PD) should be within 10000. And the third is students who have passed (10+2) level science in 2016 or 2017 with marks equal to or above 93% in ISC will be eligible to apply.

He showed us what all activities they do and what is their schedule. He told us about the amount of competition they have in their college and that if they miss even one class, they will not be able to understand the whole chapter, and so they have to attend all classes and have to concentrate throughout the session.

We also asked him questions related to what we can do and what all materials we should have to pass IISERB. He answered them all effectively. We really had a good time interacting with him and to know that we have such good research centres in India. We learnt many new things and got to know how much competition is there in the outside world.

– Vijay Gottipatti, Class 11

INSPIRING STUDENTS TO SERVE SOCIETY AND THE COUNTRY!

Two volunteers of Desh Apnayen Sahayog Foundation visited our school on the 18th of December, 2017 and conducted a workshop based on the theme of service to society and the country. The organization is a movement that aims to build an accountable citizenry and society around three important themes: citizenship education, volunteerism and neighbourhood. The founder of this organization, Mr. Vallabh Bhanshali, is today an eminent Indian, who is the co-founder and chairman of ENAM Group. Over the years he has launched several not-for-profit social and community development initiatives, which run both long-term and short-term programmes in leading schools and colleges in order to inspire and educate the young citizens to be socially conscious and active. Desh Apnayen Sahayog Foundation encourages learning about democracy, and promotes it in action at the school, college, corporate and individual levels.

Their visiting volunteers have initiated the process to form a citizenship club in our school, and they want each and every youngster to participate in the club's activities.

The core idea of Desh Apnayen's initiatives is to foster a love for the nation amongst the youth by reigniting a sense of

pride and patriotism in them. Based on the principles of democracy such as accountability, inclusiveness and unity, they envision a fairer, safer, participative and cohesive society. Through their work, they wish to build a citizenry which possesses strong values, strength of character and leadership abilities.



Desh Apnayen's projects are focused on promoting citizenship education and civic participation in schools and colleges. These projects contribute to shaping individuals as well as institutions. Their other projects include programmes that focus on Vipassana meditation (non-sectarian), spirituality, mentoring of youth and leadership training.

There is indeed no time better suited for this work than now. India is not only the largest democracy in the world but is also blessed with the largest youth population in the world at present. The youth today is more politically aware and ready to be accountable and desirous of change in civic and social life. Our country's progress is indeed in our hands.

– *Swagat Rath, Teacher*

INTERACTION WITH A REAL FILMY HERO

It was like usual Sunday when a man made it unusual for us. The schedule was fully packed. We all were busy with the preparation of treasure hunt and then just like a new year's present we got the news that instead of the treasure hunt we were going to have a surprise from Nisha Akka. As we went to the assembly hall we got our second surprise! This was 3 Idiots on the screen! Then after the joyful 15 minutes, we were glad to see a great personality. As he walked from the rear towards the stage, everyone rushed towards him, and it was infectious. After Rao Sir's introduction, the real hero of the movie 3 Idiots, Mr Sonam Wangchuk, introduced himself and then we all had an inspiring interactive session with him. He impressed upon us that we should have a fixed aim in our lives; we should know the question before finding an answer to it. He also said, "Every problem can be solved by using simple basic knowledge". He explained his principle of Ice Stupa and how he found a solution to a huge problem by using simple high school geometry. While he was talking about his school one of my friends thought of going to that school. Even though the school is meant for failures, But it

does not let its students fail in an exam or in life. His talk also included the most interesting thing like having a gap year--in which we give time to ourselves to think about the profession we want to take. Like Sachin Tendulkar, Sonam Wangchuk was very clear about his life and his career goals and the path leading to them..

– *Parth Patidar, Class 9*



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

Christmas Eve is the evening or entire day before the Christmas Day, i.e. the 25th of December. Commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, this festival is celebrated all over the world. Christmas Day celebrations start on Christmas Eve, and is widely observed as a full or partial holiday in anticipation of the Christmas Day. Together, both the days are considered one of the most culturally significant celebrations in Christendom and Western society.

The idea of Jesus being born at night is reflected in the fact that Christmas Eve is referred to as He liege Nacht (Holy Night) in German, Nochebuna (The Good Night) in Spanish. Many other Varying Cultural traditions and experiences are also associated with Christmas Eve around the world, including the gathering of family and friends, the singing

of Christmas carols.

We also had a great Christmas Eve this year in our School—listening to the speeches on the tradition, culture and the importance of the festival, singing carols, clicking pictures. It was nice to see Principal Sir's whole family come together to sing melodious carols enthralling all present there. The students of Anubhuti also presented a classic replay of the birth of Jesus Christ and also sung few carols to celebrate the joy of Christmas. The sudden appearance of Santa Claus with his bag of sweets was no doubt a pleasant grand finale.

Rasmalai served at dinner concluded the celebrations on literally a sweet note.

—Vedant S. Agrawal, Class 11



A UNIQUE CONFERENCE: CULTIVATING COMPASSION QUOTIENT IN STUDENTS

In the last week of December, I got the opportunity to represent our school at a unique conference held in Mumbai on 23 December. Hordes of educationists, and heads of several schools and educational organizations gathered in the Hall of Harmony at Nehru Science Centre, Worli to explore how to help young students to cultivate the virtue of compassion. The discussions were largely facilitated by Mr. Nipun Mehta, the recipient of the Jefferson Award for Public Service and the U.S. President's Volunteer Service Award.

The deliberations and speeches at the conference were driven by the perception that today's dominant scholastic and pedagogic paradigms are based on optimizing intellectual quotient (IQ) rather than encouraging the virtues of empathy, kindness and compassion in students. The participants were of

the view that students should be helped to excel is collective well-being rather than competition. They should develop the urge to act in service even when it may not offer any immediate or visible reward or benefit. The conference aimed at giving the message to all stake holders in the realm of education that the most valuable commodities for the future are going to be teamwork, collaboration, and empathy.

While sharing my perception and perspective I spoke about the ethos of Anubhuti School and the emphasis we put on cultivating the right kind of values and virtues in our students.

The conference was also addressed by Ms. Shaheen Mistri, the founder of Akanksha Foundation, and CEO of Teach For India.

—Hareesh Singh, Teacher

TÊTE-À-TÊTE WITH SHRI SUNIL HATKAR

1) How did you get associated with Anubhuti?

I got recruited In Jain valley first. There I worked as a driver in the purchasing department. So I used to be out of the town for 2-3 months. About a year and a half ago, I was asked to work for Anubhuti. Since then, I have been working here.

2) What are the challenges that you face while working here at Anubhuti?

I have a lot of responsibility on my shoulders. I have to pick up and drop day boarders. Sometimes I have to stay until late at night to drop them and sometimes I have to wake up very early to pick them up. I also have to squeeze in lots of other activities in very little time, so time management is a must.

3) How has your experience been working at Anubhuti?

Though I haven't spent much time here, I am really fond of this place. I like the beautiful environment in which this school has been set up. I love to spend time with children as they keep me cheerful. I have also been able to speak a little English and I really am looking forward to learning more.



FRIENDS ARE THE FAMILY WE CHOOSE OURSELVES

Recall the worst time of your life. Now try to remember that one person who stood by you in this hour of crisis. It could either be a parent, sibling or a close friend. Chances are it was the latter. Your friend was there for you, comforting, reassuring and supportive. That's what friends are about: providing constant support, our comforting confidant and our worst critic. They are the family we choose!

Friends are people we love to spend time with. They give us company when we are lonely, support us unconditionally and accept us despite our shortcomings. They make celebrations fun, and they help us be ourselves.

Not just that, friends also help us grow at a spiritual level. Each soul is on a journey. Friends are guides who come into our lives, play their roles and move on. Don't we all have friends who we were very close to at one point, but with whom we are no longer in touch with now? They drifted away from our life when their role as guide was over. What friends do for us cannot be described in words. It is important for us to have friends but many of us find it difficult to strike up a friendship.

Don't Expect Too Much

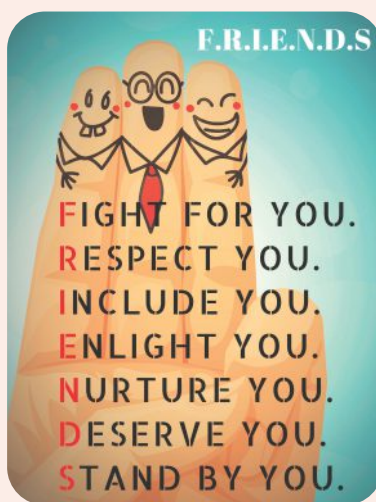
If we keep a few things in mind, it shouldn't be difficult to make friends. The first is to start a relationship with the right expectations. Don't expect too much. If you start with high hopes, the relationship is likely to flounder. For anyone to fulfil your expectations, they need to understand what is expected of them. This understanding takes time. Besides, expectations are always two-sided, so having low expectations ensures the same from others. One of the drawbacks of starting a friendship with high expectations is that at every step, you start judging the person and his actions. There is a constant dialogue going on in your mind where you are trying to judge if the person is fitting into your definition of a friend.

Stop Being Judgemental

If you are too judgemental, you might focus only on the negatives and miss out on some of the finer qualities your friends might possess. People don't necessarily have to fit

into your image of a good person. There are many other ways in which people can be good. Also, if every person in your life fits into your definition of good, chances are that all the people in your life will be alike. If you are eclectic in your views, life will shower on you an abundance of friends.

Another important aspect of friendship is understanding that we all grow and change. Since we continue to grow, we continue to evolve. Hence, it is important that you don't judge people by their past actions. Always give them another chance. See them with neutrality. That way you can start a relationship from an absolutely new perspective, like painting on a clean canvas. What you paint is then up to you.



Another golden rule is to have no pre-conceived notion about either the person or the relationship. What the relationship should involve should be determined by the experiences the two people share, and not by a fixed definition that is prevalent. The relationship could be an intense one, or it could be just a casual friendship where both people have the same idea of fun. If you don't start with a fixed notion, the freedom in the relationship helps you grow and explore.

Communication Is Important

In any relationship, and especially in friendship, it is important to communicate clearly what you are feeling. Honest communication leads to the right expectations. Always speak frankly about the way you feel. This ensures that your friend understands you for who you are and not the image that she might have created in her mind. It also ensures that there is complete acceptance and trust in the relationship.

The more acceptance there is, the easier it is to trust. Eventually trust is the basis for any strong relationship. But to develop trust you need to communicate clearly and be non-judgemental. Make sure you do your best to nurture the friendship.



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