

Every child has the Right to Education

Newsletter July 2015, 27th Edition

We welcome back all our students for another year of learning and fun. The declaration of the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) and the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) results brought along with it euphoria and a reason to celebrate. Students from the Aseema Bal Shaikshanik Kendra, Igatpuri studying in Level A and Level B of the NIOS Board passed with a pass percentage of 100%. Our fifth batch of SSC students successfully passed out with a pass percentage of 97%. Inspired by the success of their seniors, our secondary students started school one week early. They started the new academic year with a tree plantation drive in school supported by Tata International. They are looking forward to having an amazing year, fully aware of the challenges that lie ahead.

Here's a glimpse of the various summer activities that unfolded...



We welcomed the summer with the Pre-Primary teachers organising a lovely fun-fair for the children. Classrooms were decorated to reflect the ambience of the fun-fair. The fair saw the children engrossed in different art activities and games. The children also made some mouth watering delicacies loved by all. To bid goodbye to the Pre-first children and wish them luck on their foray into Lower

Primary, the teachers took them on a field trip to Taraporewala Aquarium followed by treating them to their favourite Chinese food.

Once again, our children got a chance to interact with some of their favourite cricketers and spend some memorable moments at the IPL Players Interaction Event prior to the Mumbai Indians match. They performed Maharashtra's very own folk dance – lezim to boost the morale of the players. They were also invited to cheer for their favourite Mumbai Indians team at the IPL match at Wankhede Stadium.

To beat the post-exam blues, the Dosi Vakeel Summer Camp was conducted for the students in April. It saw enthusiastic participation from about 177 students. Different activities were conducted which targeted at



strengthening their academic fundamentals and broadening their horizons. Activities ranging from Art, Music, Sports, Dance, Cooking, Work Experience and Pottery workshops were conducted. The students participated in a Vintage theme-based Fancy Dress, where they had to innovate and use their creativity to make costumes with paper. The summer camp concluded with the students organising and participating in a Talent Show.



This summer, the children learnt the history of Bandra through a Heritage Walk. They visited the fishing village of Chimbai, St. Andrew's Church, St. Peter's Church, Mount Mary Church and the Fort at Bandra Bandstand. The students also went for a nature trail to the Maharashtra Nature Park at Mahim. They learnt about the ecology of the forest and nature conservation.

Our Community Workers conducted an end of term meeting for the members of the School Management Committee (SMC) and the parents. It was to appreciate the SMC's efforts during their two-year term in the smooth functioning of the school. The meeting was also held to motivate parents to join the SMC. Capacity building sessions are conducted regularly for the parents and SMC members. This year, the SMC helped our Social Workers by monitoring students' attendance, checking the quality of food and accompanying the children on field trips. The SMC acknowledged Aseema's initiative of empowering them and looked forward to having a more active role in school activities.



Proposed Education Centre for Tribal Children, Igatpuri

We have commenced construction of the Primary and Secondary Sections of our Education Centre for Tribal Children at Igatpuri. On completion of the project, the Centre will offer holistic learning to children from 2.5 to 18 years of age and reach out to about 500 children annually. Do write to donors@aseema.org for information on budgets, possible collaborations and branding opportunities for this project.



"Write it down. Written goals have a way of transforming wishes into wants; cant's into cans; dreams into plans; and plans into reality. Don't just think it - ink it!" – This has been Sunitha Gaddam's motto since she started preparing for her SSC Exams in 2009. Her first dream became a reality when she scored 89% at the SSC Board Exams. Her persistence and determination led to another victory, a score of 74% at the HSC Board Exams. She continued her dream by enrolling for the Bachelor of Management Studies (BMS) programme at the Kishinchand Chellaram College. To a girl, born and brought up in Bandra Reclamation the journey to town was

challenging in many ways. Whether fighting to solve Mathematics or hunting down a computer to complete a project, Sunitha stuck on. We are proud to share that Sunitha has just won an internship with Wipro Technologies, Bangalore. We wish her the very best in all that she does.

All this would not have been possible without the unwavering support we receive from each of you. We take this opportunity to thank you all for sharing our unshakeable belief in the importance of education. A special note of thanks to Albert David Limited, American School of Bombay, Amole Gupte, Anthony Sleight, Aon Services India Pvt. Ltd., Asha for Education (SF Chapter), Astha Laboratories Pvt. Ltd., Austin2India, Bandra Buzz, Bansuri Foundation, Being Human – the Salman Khan Foundation, BNP Paribas Foundation, BNP Paribas India Holding Pvt. Ltd., BNP Paribas India Solutions, BNP Paribas India, Bombay Gymkhana, Centre for Environmental Research and Education, Cravatex Ltd, Credit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank (India Branch), Crescent Moon, Edelweiss Broking Ltd., ETP International Pvt. Ltd., Foundation De France, G.E., Gillanders Arbuthnot & Co Ltd., Global Conference Organisers (GCO), Goodlass Nerolac Paints Charitable Trust, Gulf Polymers, HDFC Standard Life Insurance Corporation, Hop n Bop, Inam Rahman & Family, Indian American Education Foundation, J.B. Petit School, Jasudbhen M.L. School, K.C. Mahindra Education Trust, Kapstone Construction Pvt. Ltd., Keystone Realtors Pvt. Ltd., Kherwadi Social Welfare Association, Khubi Writer, Kids Club - Khar, Laqshya Event IP Pvt. Ltd., Late Dosi Vakeel, Learning Disability Clinic - Lokmaniya Tikal Municipal General Hospital, L'Infini Performing Arts Academy, Logixal Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Long Island Volunteer Center, Mary & Peter Ashton, Meenaz & Moe Kassam, Moet Hennessy India Pvt. Ltd, Mrityunjay & Vinayak Sethi, Navroz Seervai, Nivea India Private Ltd., Prisca Centre, Promise to Act for Children Today (PACT), Radiant Corporation Pvt. Ltd., Raftaar Logistics I Private Ltd., Rani Poddar, Reliance Foundation, Saint Gobain India Foundation, Sajitha Lukose, Sandor Medicaids Pvt. Ltd., Seth Jeevanji Jamasji Mistry's Surat Adarian Fund, Shree Mahalaxmi Temple Charities, Shyama Kulkarni, Smita Bhatkar, Srinivasan Kulathu Iyer, Systems Plus Pvt. Ltd., Taj Lands End, Tarun Shetty, Tata International, Tech Mahindra Foundation, The Foundation, The Imperial Club, The Lil Flea, The Vidya Trust, The Whittaker Library Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Thomas Cook India, Titan Company (BKC Branch), United Way of Mumbai, Viacom 18 Media Pvt. Ltd. and Wipro Cares Trust.