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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Finally! We can see light at the end of the tunnel



Mrs. Rupali Maheshwari

Advent of New Year 2021, brought in hopes of a Healthier World. With the COVID Vaccination drive speeding up around the world, dream of a COVID free world started changing into a reality. Vaccination process kick-started in our country from 16th January, 2021 and is going ahead at a commendable speed. We believe that life will be normal soon- with children back to school (our Pathshala Kids back at Pathshala), offices, businesses and everything else running smoothly without any fear.

In our last edition, we talked about the various challenges faced by Pathshala due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We also talked about how the undeterred commitment of volunteers enabled us to begin online classes when the physical classes became a distant possibility and how this noble cause won support from HPCL Employees in way of help through crowd funding for gadgets.

We are glad to inform our readers and well-wishers that scholarships in the form of admission fees was given to Ms. Ragini Jaiswal (Our class X topper) - Rs. 10,000 for getting admission in K J Somaiyya

College and to Master Abdul Ansari - Rs. 10,000 and (interest free education loan of Rs. 6000) for taking admission in Rizvi College of Arts, Science and Commerce. This amount was paid out of the scholarship amount of Rs. 50,000 donated to Pathshala by Mrs. Anuradha Murali Krishna (w/o of Mr. V. V. Murali Krishna). Our entire team would like to thank her for helping in laying the foundation stone for the bright future of these two children.

In this edition, we take you to a journey of Online Classes and how our volunteer's team overcame various operational challenges to ensure that children are able to attend online classes.

Though we had provided new tablets to 12 students along with second hand mobiles, laptops and ipads to our needy students, there were still many cases of siblings having to share the gadget for classes at the same time. In case of clashes, it was generally the younger siblings who had to compromise. Our class mentors took it upon themselves to schedule the classes adjusting school's online class timings of students, availability of gadgets among all the children of family as well as availability

of volunteer teachers. Kuddos to them!!

These kids never had access to laptops, tablets or ipads and therefore, the devices given to them developed faults due to incorrect handling/usage even after proper guidance by our team. The task of getting them repaired was also with the volunteers and they had to spare extra time every time a student turned up with faulty device. The other impact of this was that the student was unable to attend online classes on various occasions till their device gets repaired.

Our cover story- "Learning Never Stops even if the World does", talks about the changing landscape of education system around the world so as to adopt to COVID-19 pandemic, benefits of the paradigm shift as it enabled educational system to expand its reach especially in India. The cover story also talks about how this blessing in disguise enabled Pathshala to start its expansion process.

Lady volunteers of Pathshala are its pillars of strength. They have shown that if you have the right intentions, nothing is impossible. In our Chit Chat with Volunteers section, we have interviewed two such lady volunteers who have lived upto the cause of Pathshala. Mrs. Shipra Gupta- who is teaching in Pathshala juggling with managing her house, her elder daughter studies and her 4 year old son. The other Ms. Ria Sapra- also our torch bearer for young leaders never let her own engineering studies come in way of fulfilling her commitment to Pathshala. We feel blessed to have such inspirational volunteers at Pathshala who ensure that the needy kids get a fair chance at life.

When almost everything is being done online today, it is essential to know what

is useful and what is harmful for us. In our Volunteers blog column, Mrs. Revathi, has very well underscored that need through her blog "Wariness of Social Media". One of our budding young volunteer Ms. Firdaus Patthawala, talks about the "Impact of Pathshala on her and her family" through her blog. "Great things never come from comfort zones; we have to push ourselves to achieve the Goals"- Very well said and explained by Mrs. K L Umabala in her blog "Silver Lining to Beam of Light", where she talks about how Pathshala has grown over the last 3 years providing quality educational support to more than 200 students.

We owe our success to those kids who battle all odds in their daily life to come to Pathshala in their quest for a better and bright future. They form the SOUL of Pathshala. In this edition of Pathshala Times, we have introduced a new section called "Chit-Chat with Students". Our idea is to capture their feelings for Pathshala, their expectations from Pathshala and most important their love and respect for their teachers.

This edition of Pathshala also gives you a sneak peak into the dreams and aspirations of our two bright and meritorious students - Ms. Khushi Mahade of Class XI and Ms. Harshali Gaikwad of Class X in our "Sapno ki Potli" section. We wish that all their dreams come true!

In the present academic year, only online classes were conducted from classes VIII to XI. Since, it was a first for us, our Class VIII mentor, Mrs. Lona Pandey conducted an online survey amongst our students to gauge the acceptability of online classes as well as the challenges faced. A detailed analysis of the same is covered in the Online Survey section.

Pathshala completed its 3 years of fulfilling journey on 9th December, 2020. With Covid restrictions in place, Foundation Day was also celebrated online like Annual Day Celebrations in July 2020. The event saw an active participation from students and mentors. The online celebration that was held on 20th December, 2020 was graced by Director - HR, Dr. Pushp Kumar Joshi along with ED- HR Shri Abhishek Datta; ED-Projects & Pipelines, Shri J. S. Prasad, ED-IS, Shri Rajiv Chandra, CGM-Employee Relations, Shri K. S. Shetty and other Senior Officials from HPCL who cheered all the individuals involved. This time few activities like Drawing Competition, GK Quiz Competition were carried out during the Foundation Week. Do read our column on ONLINE FOUNDAION DAY CELEBRATION OF HP PATHSHALA curated for you by our team.

Encouraged by the response for Online GK quiz held during Foundation Week, we conducted guiz based on Republic of India on Republic Day. The children were provided a compilation of facts and diversity of Indian culture, its achievements, its diversity, its constitution and many more things - the various reasons that shape the Republic of India. The Quiz was conducted in 2 rounds- Elimination round on 26th January, 2021 and Grand Finale on 31st January, 2021. The quiz was initially slotted for Pathshala students from Classes VIII to XII. However, during the visit of our volunteers to Vinay High School (school where a good number of children of nearby slums go to) to create awareness of Pathshala, the school principal volunteered to send her school children also for this Quiz. The material was then provided to this school kids also. We had an overwhelming response with 62 kids participating in Round 1 comprising

of both Pathshala and Vinay High School students. What was more heartening was that children had studied the material very well which had more than 100 questions. The material was specifically prepared in English for students of all medium in order to make them more conversant with the English language. Of the 8 Finalists, winner and runner-up were awarded with Globes and rest 6 with Atlas Book by Mrs. Sunita Joshi who is one of our highly committed volunteer teacher.

In line with our Vision for catering to the educational needs of needy students, our Way Forward section, talks about the three areas that have been segregated in order to stretch our wings pan India. The section about how a mix of Online and Offline classes will enable us to cater to the needs of children pan India as well as enrol volunteers from anywhere in the country. The awareness sessions for the same have already been started with special focus on pulling in our younger generation. It is after all the youth that holds the key to the future.

In the end, we would like to thank all our readers of PATHSHALA Times for their continued encouragement and support to our entire team. Hope you all will love this edition and will continue to give us your valuable feedback.

STAY HEALTHY, STAY SAFE AND DON'T FORGET TO WEAR YOUR MASK!!!!

Happy Reading!

Rupali Maheshwari



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COVER STORY



Learning Never Stops even if the World does

We wake up our children the usual way, watch them snuggling in their bedsheets the usual way, get them ready for school the usual way but then something unusual happens, the school van doesn't arrive to pick them up for school. They dress



Mr. Siddhartha Dua

up and switch on their laptops which is the new school now. School benches have been replaced by study tables and books with e-books but one thing has remained constant, it is the presence of a teacher, or we can call, the virtual teacher.

We as kids always thought, no matter how much technology advances but at least going to school would remain the same, Alas! Times have changed and going to school has acquired the new definition, it is schooling from home. The education sector in India is the sector in which maximum experiments take place like the introduction of CCE, change of syllabus with the change of Government, a new pattern of exams, etc. and it is the

teachers and the students who have to bear the brunt of all these experiments. As such, there are many crests and troughs in the career of teachers; COVID 19 pandemic has further exacerbated their problem. This pandemic has given

a whole new dimension to the learning experience but our humble teachers have risen to the occasion. It is not as if there are no challenges, there are challenges galore, like internet connectivity issues, children and teachers don't have desktops, many are not conversant with the latest technologies, teachers are not trained to use all the modern teaching aids.

Then in some schools, especially Government schools and schools in a small town where the real Bharat resides, teachers still teach on blackboards using chalk and duster and from there they migrated to PowerPoint slides, Microsoft teams, and Zoom. It was nothing short of a miracle but most of the teachers have

COVER STORY

taken to it as fish takes to water. As we covered in our last issue of Pathshala Times, our Pathshala has transformed into e-Pathshala. Our volunteers also adopted all the modern technological aids and ensured learning continued for the students. The best part of our volunteer teachers is their passion for teaching and willingness to go the extra mile to help our students.

There are some obvious limitations to online learning, children can no longer socialize, play outdoor games, visit the beautiful campus of HP Nagar East and West, indulge in physical activities, or chill out with their friends and for some less privileged ones it means not getting their daily dose of nutrition as midday meals were stopped in some schools but if we look at the overall scenario and the scale of a deadly pandemic, the benefits of e-learning far outweigh the limitations. This pandemic expedited the adoption of online learning and what is possible in 'Online Mode'. Some of the advantages of online learning are:

1. Quality Content:

Some of the best teachers are taking online classes and children from even the remotest corners of the world can access the quality education which was once considered a luxury.

2 Cost-Effectiveness:

Online classes are much cheaper compared to the exorbitant amount of money parents

have to shell out to hire tutors for their children

3. Convenience:

Children with special needs find it difficult to go to school because of their physical disabilities, for them sitting at home and learning from the comfortable confines of their homes is much easier than undertaking a tortuous school journey every day.

4. Girl Education:

Some parents especially in rural areas are reluctant to send their girl child to school after they attain puberty for lack of proper toilets in a school; the importance of e-learning cannot be overstated for these girls. It is a Godsend opportunity for girls in rural and hamlet towns of our country.

5. Missing of School due to sickness or during menstruation:

Children can study comfortably from the



COVER STORY

confines of your home without having to endure the vagaries of weather or sickness.

6. Coaching by Parents:

It is said that parents are child first teachers and with the advent of technology and the deluge of online videos, parents can help their children in understanding the concepts in a much better way.

7. A big boost to creativity:

One of the most fascinating benefits of this pandemic is the way children have taken to technology. Youtube, Instagram and Facebook have provided children the platform to showcase their skills to the world.

This pandemic has thrown at us some unprecedented challenges while it may seem like a cliché, that every crisis is an opportunity, and we at HP Pathshala, have found an exciting opportunity in this crisis to take our mission forward, to reach as many children as we possibly can with our e-Pathshala initiative which otherwise would not have been possible. We were also able to conduct a session by Bombay Natural History Society, India's biggest NGO which is involved in research activities and observations on natural history and displaying rare specimens. We also had a session by Principal of Vinay High School, Chembur who gave students of Class X few tips on how to succeed in Class X exams.

Enthused by the response to our e-Pathshala program, we approached Vinay High School seeking new enrollments for the ongoing academic session for we do not require any additional space as classes are conducted thru online mode only. We were also getting a lot of requests from various 11th standard commerce students to organize classes for them. It was made possible as we found new volunteer teachers who could teach from various parts of Mumbai and thus commenced the classes for 11th standard commerce students in January 2021. With an intention to benefit more needy students, we released our first ever Pan Maharashtra circular inviting volunteers and students to join our Online classes.

Apart from Mumbai based volunteers interest was also shown by some volunteers based out of Nagpur and Secunderabad. We conducted first-ever 'Career Counselling session' by experts in January 2021. These experts addressed the students from Ahmedabad and Bangalore and also informed them about career progression in BPOs in India.

We have given wings to our children, it is time for them to flap their wings and soar high. We, as their teachers and mentors marvel in their success as they earn fame for themselves and transform their lives. Our only aim is to see them fly high and touch the sky!!

We have proved to the world in this pandemic that learning never stops even if the world does.

Pathshala Online class survey



Since the COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the normal lifestyle of people across the globe, the virtual world has come to the rescue. Like many institutions, Pathshala also shifted its base to virtual platforms to conduct classes online from usual face to face



Ms. Lona Pandey

classes. Accordingly, we at Pathshala are trying our best to assist each other and students to use online teaching apps and platforms to the optimum level. Upskilling teachers, organising counselling sessions and motivating parents and students are some of the important measures taken by Pathshala in the recent past. After conducting online classes for a few months, we decided to conduct a survey to gauge its efficacy among our students. A google form with relevant questions was prepared and students answered them. The outcome of the survey is very positive. It proves how our students are ready to embrace the new change and learn things online.

40% of students feel excellent about online

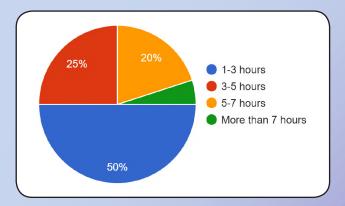
classes while 25% feel good about it.

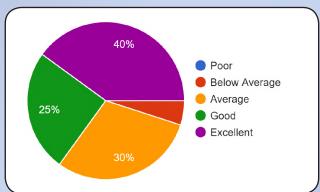
85% students have access to device for online class.

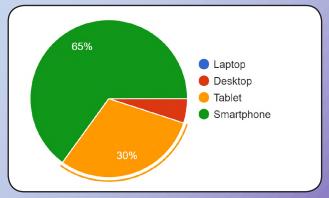
65% students attend online class using smartphones, 30% use tablet and rest 5% use desktops.

On an average 50% students spend 1 to 3 hours attending online class. 25% spend 3 to 5 hours, 30% spend 5 to 7 hours and rest 5% spend more than 7 hours.

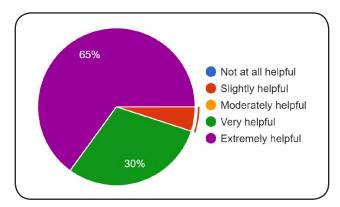
45% students find online class very effective whereas 15% find it extremely effective. 20% find it moderately effective, 10% slightly effective and 10% not effective.







65% students feel that Pathshala has been extremely helpful in offering resources to study from home. 30% feel its very helpful and rest slightly helpful.



Most of the students feel that attending online classes has been very stressful during this pandemic. Sudden transition from physical class to online class, learning through online apps, meeting the teachers and classmates virtually, being confined to their homes, fear of pandemic, etc. was daunting.

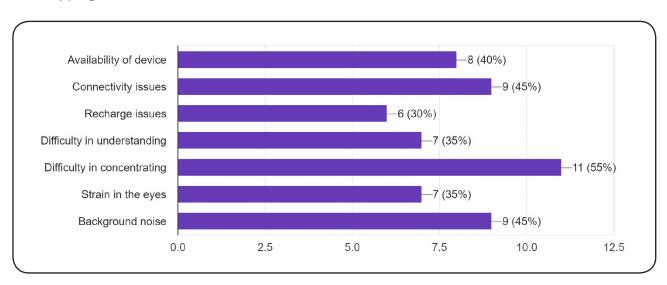
40% students feel that they could very well manage their time while attending online classes while 5% could do extremely well, rest could manage moderately well. Pathshala ensures that students are able to attend their online school and Pathshala classes comfortably without any overlapping.

60% students enjoy online class while 5% students enjoy off line classes more.

65% students feel that Pathshala teachers are extremely helpful during online classes and rest 35% feel they are very helpful.

The obstacles faced by students during online classes are: Connectivity and recharge issues, background noise, strain in eyes, difficulty in concentrating and understanding for too long, non-availability of device as it is shared among the siblings and parents. So regular students are given recharge money every month from Pathshala to ensure seamless connectivity. To cut off background noise some students were given earphones.

Students have very bravely adjusted to the new normal. They not only attend online classes but give their tests online, participate in competitions and functions online. Although they are sincerely attending online classes still 80% will prefer offline class if given a choice. After all they are young bubbly boys and girls who miss going to school, sharing food and talking to friends, playing in the playground and Pathshala.



VOLUNTEERS' CORNER





Social media is a way of connecting people and a medium for sharing ideas. It has different forms like blogs, forums, social networks etc. These platforms are being used to interact with others, to share views, to gather new ideas and concepts. Today,

everyone, all over the web, is managing multiple profiles on various social media platforms.

However, it is similar to opening the front door of your house. While we trust many who may come through it, it is hard to control those who simply walk in and bring all sorts of nuisance with them.

To avoid any bad outcomes, here are a few key pointers to be kept in mind while handling social media accounts.

Always read the privacy settings and understand what you are agreeing to upon setting up an account. You should



Ms. Revathi

know what you want to do and what you want to share through social media as your information may no longer remain private. Only share your information with trusted people and do not accept friend requests or personal information requests from

anyone you do not know personally. Never post personal information, like phone number, address or full name on social media as these minute details can be used by a predator to understand you, your personality, preferences and habits. Avoid posting inappropriate photos. Avoid being offensive while posting messages just because somebody didn't agree with your viewpoint. Don't share messages which may raise controversy. Fake news often goes viral: even if a message is shared multiple times, it still may not be true. Hence, don't forward a message because the sender is urging you to do so and verify it with other

VOLUNTEERS' BLOGS

sources before sharing it further.

Suggestion for students:

Use social media with utmost care and for gaining knowledge rather than spending time on non-productive content. Students can use student forum like educations.com for guidance. Below mentioned are a few useful social networks that can be explored.

Some Useful Free Social Networks:



Edu blogs:

Encourages students to express and to maintain digital portfolios with easy-to-use blog creator. Edublogs is a fantastic platform that aids a teacher by providing consistent opportunities for creation and reflection. (For Grades 3 to 12)



Engages online community for relevant and hands-on science fieldwork. Project Noah is a free platform that provides opportunity for students to take part in biodiversity research with the support of a knowledgeable and global community. (For Grades 4 to 12)





Youth Voices:

This vibrant online community hosts authentic blogs written by students. It also encourages students to write, to collaborate, and to communicate amongst themselves making it a healthy space for them to express themselves. (For Grades 7 to 12)



The platform helps kids in writing, publishing and reviewing their work through its valuable network. Teens will find a wealth of information and many opportunities to boost their interest in writing and the creative arts. (For Grades 8 to 12)

my experiment

This platform provides collaborative scientific network for advanced Higher Secondary students. While not for everyone, this resource can be useful for advanced students conducting their own scientific research. (For Grades 11 & 12)

Students can make use of these educational platforms for their growth and development and thrive through social media.

Impact of Pathshala on Me and My Family

"Irrespective of race, creed, and gender, education makes it possible for people to stand out as equal with all the other persons from different walks of life"

HP Pathshala is a small initiative taken to reach out to children of humble background and to steptowards education with a child centred approach. HP Pathshala gave me an opportunity to connect with young and wonderful kids by imparting some quality

education and by sharing basic values of life. Pathshala has motivated me to be a confident and humble person and to face problems in life with a smile just as these kids do. Teaching in Pathshala keeps me excited, rejuvenated and youthful. Pathshala reinforces the belief in me and my family that learning is a never- ending process and motivates us to be a better human being each and every day.





HP Pathshala is for needy students of the society. It visualizes the future needs and assists in building young generations of our nation. Here, we believe, education is not only about what to teach, but also about how to think.



Mrs. K L Uma Bala

In last 3 years of Pathshala, we have taught more than 200 kids. Starting from one room class with four volunteers, we now we have 10 rooms including both HPNE and HPNW with more than 25 active volunteers.

After lockdown had struck our country, continuation of studies was a big question mark in everyone's mind. Then, the Idea of online teaching, through selected online platforms, popped up. Surprisingly, we got a big positive response from our students despite limited mobile/internet facilities available with them. I was impressed to see their quick response and easy adjustment

to the new normal. Within a week, Pathshala embarked on a new journey of online teaching and education with online classes beginning in May 2020. We faced many challenges while traversing this journey like availability

devices, network connectivity, limited data recharge by students, limitation of time and number of participants on the digital online platforms etc. To help us, HP family and HP Shakti Ladies Club came forward by providing crowd sourced donations. In memory of her mother, Mrs. Y Anuradha donated Rs.50000 and pledged Rs.20,000 every year for the Pathshala initiative. Numerous employees and family members spontaneously responded positively by making donations. This helped us to overcome the gadget issues.

Additionally, there were some practical difficulties for students in allocating time

VOLUNTEERS' BLOGS

for studies due to the pressure of domestic household chores, absence of a quiet place to study in homes (due to densely populated houses) & reluctance of participation in online lectures. To encourage and assure students, we interacted with the parents through online Parent Teachers Meeting and stressed on importance of continuity in studies. Parents supported the initiative and appreciated the help. Small donations to the desperate families also brought tremendous goodwill. Regular counselling sessions by teachers helped students maintain requisite discipline.

Online Classes, though started as a challenge, later transformed into a beam of light transcending hope to other locations. The initiative also pulled in likeminded volunteers as it removed the barrier of travel and time. All, including HPCL management, welcomed the idea. We started going to nearby schools with this new online concept of Pathshala and explained the advantages in detail. We conducted interactive meetings and conducted survey with HP Colony contract workers like housekeeping, security etc., to understand their children's education needs. We advised them to take advantage of this facility for betterment of their own children and to reach out to other children residing nearby.

With this experience, a few interested volunteers started teaming up to address

employees at various locations. A circular was released to invite new volunteers and employees interested in this initiative of building future. The interested employees formed groups to spread the HP Pathshala ideology of making education accessible to everyone, even in the interiors of rural India. HP Pathshala program is now expanding across Maharashtra with HPNE Mumbai being its core team and will then reach out to PAN India.One-step at a time, with intense perseverance, we will make this long journey possible.

We have also conducted an Orientation session of our first batch of new volunteers. We, now, extend our invitation to each one of you reading this, to be a part of this movement which we have titled as "Education for all". As volunteers in Pathshala, each one of us work with passion and dedication towards students. We work with compassion, commitment and feel it is our responsibility towards society. Smiles on the faces of young kids and the satisfaction of contributing to the society are our achievements.

A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops

CHIT CHAT WITH VOLUNTEERS





Ms. Aditi Agarawal

Chit Chat with Volunteers

Here we are introducing one of the youngest volunteer of Pathshala - Ria Rakesh Sapra(RS), she is herself in college and is been with Pathshala since beginning and is continuing to contribute by taking online classes.

AA: Hi Ria, tell me about your journey of teaching in Pathshala from physical classrooms to taking online classes?

RS: I enjoy teaching students, be it online or offline. I feel, exchange of knowledge is to and fro among teacher and student. Both offline and online teaching have their own advantages. This pandemic has taught us to face every situation. So, just like offline teaching, online teaching has been a different experience on its own.

AA: Have you accompanied kids in any outings (like Planetarium, picnic). How was your experience?

RS: Yes, I have Ms. Ria Rakesh Sapra accompanied them

almost everywhere. Students always insist me and Rohan to join them and have fun along with learning. In-fact, we also enjoy their company.

AA. You teach students English, other than academics you have prepared students for drama, singing and dancing. What change do you see in them after such activities?

RS: Apart from academics, I am fortunate to be of some help for shaping young minds in extra-curricular activities thus, helping them in overall development. The first ever stage performance of kids was a skit on the topic of idea behind starting Pathshala, after the skit, the students developed self-confidence and overcame their stage fear in front of a big audience.

CHIT CHAT WITH VOLUNTEERS

Also, I myself enjoy singing and dancing, so preparing them for these activities was fun. The kids were good at it and it is a memorable experience.

AA: I am sure, in each class of Pathshala something special happens, any incident or particular experience you will like to share which you recall and you still cherish.

RS: Pathshala has itself been a special experience so far. Students love the way I teach and I remember once they that like to become like me so as to teach and share knowledge. It really touched me and I too added "remember not to break the chain further". I feel blessed to have made a strong impression on young and lovely minds and this is the best moment that I will cherish forever. We have a special

bond with kids and they share many things with me too.

AA: How has Pathshala contributed in your own growth and difference it has made in your life after almost 3 years being part of Pathshala?

RS: Pathshala has helped me in overall growth in many ways by increasing my confidence. I have engaged myself in a very good initiative and I feel happy about utilizing my time in a very efficient manner.

AA: What message you will like to give to other young volunteers, who want to join Pathshala?

RS: I feel youngsters can connect really well with the kids and can motivate them in a way that no other can. Therefore, youngsters must come forward and experience it for themselves.

Shipra Ma'am is one of the most adored volunteer by fellow volunteers and students alike.

AA: Hello, it is so good to speak to you after so long, tell me about how you were introduced to the concept of Pathshala and what were your thoughts about it?

SG: My husband, Yogesh introduced me and I always wanted to be a part of such initiative but wasn't sure as my son was just one year old so I was in dilemma to commit or not.

However, once coincidentally during

the summer vacation, there was no teacher available and students were waiting in class. So, I went as a proxy teacher and once I



Ms. Shipra Gupta

went, my hesitation opened up.

AA: So, its your journey from proxy teacher to permanent teacher.

SG: Yes, then I started calling students

CHIT CHAT WITH VOLUNTEERS

at home after my son was asleep. Until one year I took classes at home for Pathshala students.

AA: Do you have any prior teaching experience?

SG: Oh Yes, I have taught to students in school and coaching centre in Panipat and Jamnagar.

AA: What will like to say about Pathshala students, what is different about them?

SG: Like in any other school, Pathshala has a mix of students; few are sharper than others are. However, what is common in all the students of Pathshala is their more acceptance about doing all kinds of work and learning multi-dimensional things. They are innocent without ego. They are more independent, more tough and with more bearing capacity. They attend 4 hours class at a stretch on weekends without complaining instead sometimes even motivating us to teach more.

AA: Any best/worst incident you will like to share.

SG: So many things happen each day in class. At the beginning of class, I always talk to my students and try to connect life events with subject topics. Since I teach science, I have more things to associate with. During such session, students often share and ask some questions that are amusing. Moreover, after the class I feel highly positive and in high spirits.

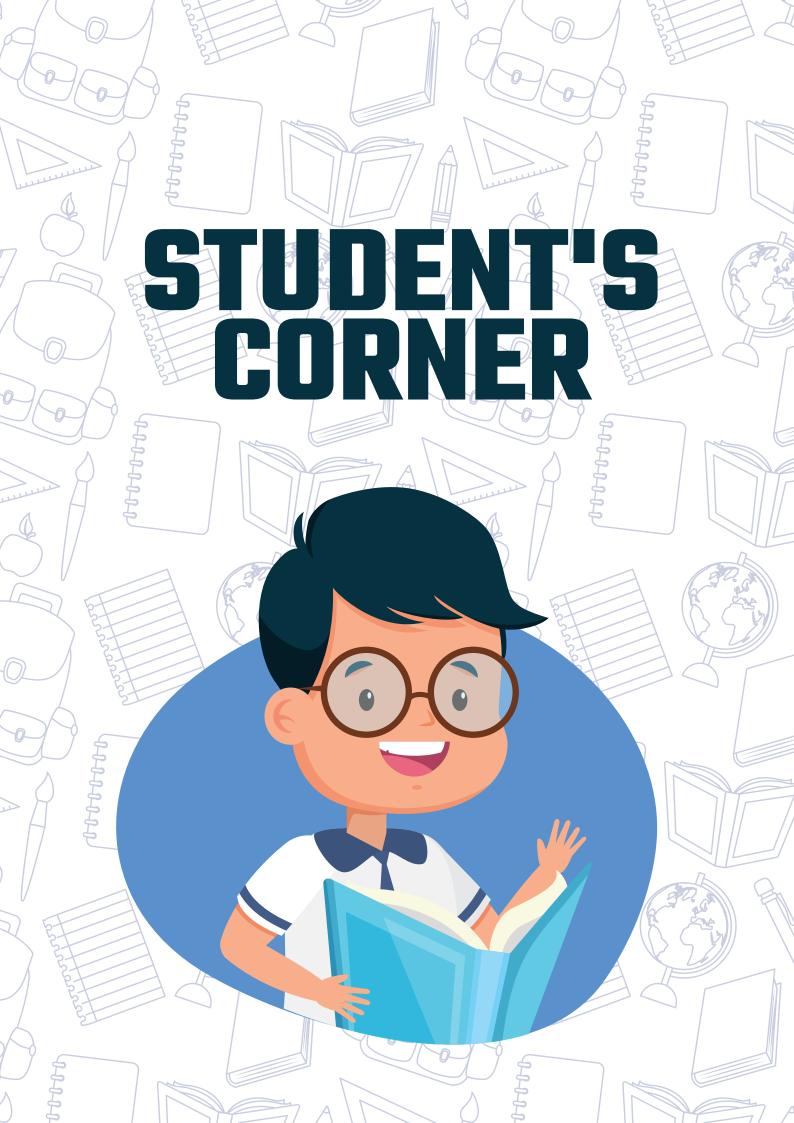
AA: Which is better - Online education or Classroom education?

SG: Both have its pros and cons. The good thing about online education is it saves a lot a time for both students and teacher. especially students. While in classroom education we can ensure attentiveness of students, do certain activities to raise their interest bring back there focus if they get distracted, which is very difficult in online education. Students who are selffocused benefit from online education because they don't need to be pushed but other than that classroom education is better. The issues of internet, band width, no electricity and charging of devices are other issues faced by students in online classes.

AA: If asked about your dream pattern of education system, what it would be like?

SG: I think Vocational education is equally important which we do not have right now. Also, ensuring students learn life skills, understanding no work is gender biased. For example, in some schools in Japan, kids are asked to clean their classroom, which teaches them respect, responsibility and emphasizes equality.

I often tell kids that kitchen is just like Chemistry lab where you can practically learn things. When kids associate and learn life skills they are more equipped for life challenges. School should tell children about Indian Culture and teach Vedic teachings. Therefore, teaching Self-Management, Social-Management and Emotional-management.





सपनों की पोटली



Ms. Pranjal Agarwal

Khushi Santosh <u>Mahade</u> – XIth

Khushi has always been interested in studies. Living in a slum near HPCL Colony, Khushi has, since birth, observed HPCL Officers working seamlessly on laptops and mobiles. The significance of technology in day-to-day lives and its impact on the lifestyle of people did not remain a secret to her for very long. On being asked what she would like to become in future, she always responds with a beaming smile "A Software Engineer". She then explains excitedly the role and scope of being a Software Engineer in today's world. She believes that in order to move hand-in-hand with the changing world, one should learn and progress with technology. She plans to use these skills to help the needy of the society. She believes that the scope and growth of a software engineer is quite vast.

At a young age of 17, she has figured out her entire life plan. She says emphatically, "I will first complete XIth and XIIth in Science, then attempt Entrance Test and enroll in Swami Vivekanand College". She plans to get good scores in her XIIth as it will be the deciding factor of getting admissions.

Khushi also wants to uplift her skills to benefit the society. She wants to achieve great heights to provide her family the luxuries of life. She wants to help her parents visit places around the world and get a more comfortable life.

Apart from studies, Khushi is very good in Drawing. Covering the back pages of her notebook with beautiful sketches, Khushi loves to translate her imaginations on paper. She wants to learn drawing professionally and practice Art.

Speaking about the importance of HP Pathshala in her life, Khushi says, "HP Pathshala has provided me a nudge to work harder. I have now got the direction and will achieve my dreams".





Harshali Kailash Gaikwad - Xth

A doting daughter of her parents, Harshali has always been a polite child. With a soft voice and sparkling eyes, she has been the most loved member of her family. Her siblings have always encouraged her in pursuing studies. She is currently in Class Xth working hard to secure good marks in Board Exams.

Harshali, being an avid reader, is always on the lookout for books. "I prefer offline learning" – she says shyly. Though she has switched to online learning for taking lectures due to Covid, one can always spot her sitting in a corner with her favorite Biology book in leisure time. She wants to read every book ever written. She wants to open a library to provide free books for the public and instill a culture of learning among the society. She also wants to distribute books to schools to help students in their studies. Though Harshali has become a tech savvy while attending lectures and doing research through tablet she got from HP Pathshala, she prefers to keep a physical copy of notes for reference.

Since time known, Harshali has always dreamt of becoming a Surgeon. With an aim to help the needy ones and to become an expert in the field, Harshali is quite confident in her career choice.

By being a surgeon, Harshali wants to give back to the Society. She wants to achieve greatness by providing solutions to the diseases that are widespread today. She wants to aide community in getting cheaper medical facilities and better nutrition. She wants to uplift her family. She wants to help her parents in getting better lifestyle and provide them a comfortable and stress-free life.

She speaks at length about the role of HP Pathshala in her life. "I have always been an average student in my class, with HP Pathshala, I now rank amongst the toppers". With improved scores, Harshali seems to focus more on her studies. She appreciates the help extended by HP Pathshala and wants to reciprocate it by serving the society.

STUDENTS CORNER





Chit-Chat with Students



Ms. Aditi Agarawal

Spending the evening with students just after office, seeing their bright smiles

lightens the office weariness. Students looked up to me, with excitement asking me what is new going to happen today. Here, is the excerpt of chit-chat with students of Pathshala.

Yash and Sohali are students of Vinay High School studying in 8th standard, Himanshu studies in Janta Welfare English High School in 9th standard while Priya and Supriya are students of 9th standard.

AA: Tell me about your first class in Pathshala?

Priya: I joined Pathshala on Yoga Diwas, there were many students, which made me scared, though I feel comfortable now.

Himanshu: I remember getting lost on the paths of HPNE and would strictly follow the guard who used to accompany us.

Sohali: Lona Ma'am took our class on the first day and she explained us so well that i was sure that I should continue coming here.

Supriya: I too recall, there were many

kids, all in different classes but we sat together and then teachers came and broke us into groups.

Yash: (timidly) I was scared in the beginning seeing so many students but now I enjoy my classes.

AA: Have you made any friends here?

All: Yes, many!

AA: Tell me about your favorite subject.

Yash: I like physics, especially Astrophysics studying about stars.

Sohali: Maths!!

Supriya and Himanshu: Biology for sure.

Priya: English, I like to read literature.

AA: Any life lessons that you have learnt from your teachers in Pathshala..

Supriya(exclaims): Reuse of Plastic! I have communicated this to my parents also, now we do not use plastic bags at home, we have stitched cloth bags and we use it for all our purposes.

Sohali: Teacher once told me that I should make a name for myself by studying with dedication. I recall this to myself everyday and give my 100%

STUDENTS CORNER

Priya: I learnt to save water hence I always close any tap that I see water running.

Himanshu: Save electricity, whenever we leave class, teachers reminded us to switch off the lights.

AA: What difference you find in your school class and class in Pathshala?

All: Here we are taught concepts, especially English Grammar. We could not apprehend English in school, but once teacher explained us step by step in Pathshala giving examples we were able to understand it. Now we are able to talk in English.

AA: Which was the first speech in English you gave in front of the class?

Sohali: I spoke on 'My best friend'

Supriya: I spoke on 'Cleanliness'

Himanshu: When I participated in play - Merchant of Venice.

Priya: I spoke in 'Importance of Education'

AA: What will you like to do for Pathshala once you are all grown-up?

Himanshu: We will introduce Pathshala to more kids and bring them here, so they also get an opportunity to learn.

Yash, Supriya and Priya: We will also like to teach in Pathshala along with our work.

Sohali: I will teach them dance and singing. (Smiles)

AA: Do you have a dream that you want to fulfill?

Yash: I want to do Scuba Diving once in my life.

Priya: I want to sit in Aeroplane once and I want to learn to do doubling on a cycle (laughs)

Supriya and Himanshu: I want to travel to Switzerland along with family.

Sohali: I also want to travel the whole world and see different places.



Foundation Day

Celebrations

at HP Pathshala

The hard work of our volunteers at HP Pathshala has been constantly blessed with the dedicated efforts from our students and as a result we completed a fulfilling journey of three years on 09th December, 2020. From



Ms. Aneesha Mohanty

our humble beginning, starting with weekly volunteering programs by few HP colony residents to teach children of househelps, security guards, support staff and other such children of nearby slums... today, HP Pathshala has transformed into full-fledged classroom teaching. The current pandemic conditions too could not deter the spirits of the students and the volunteers; which resulted in the entire ecosystem adapting to digital modes of learning.

To celebrate the journey of HP Pathshala, the Foundation Day was celebrated with much enthusiasm and active participation from class mentors, volunteers and students. The power-packed and engaging celebration

included various competitions and activities like Drawing, Poem Recitation, Video Making, General Awareness Quiz and Mock Parliament.

It was held virtually on 20th December, 2020. The occassion was graced by Director - HR, Dr. Pushp Kumar Joshi along with ED- HR Shri Abhishek Datta; ED-Projects & Pipelines, Shri J. S. Prasad, ED-IS, Shri Rajiv Chandra, CGM-Employee Relations, Shri K. S. Shetty and other Senior HPCL Officials. They applauded the efforts of all the individuals involved.

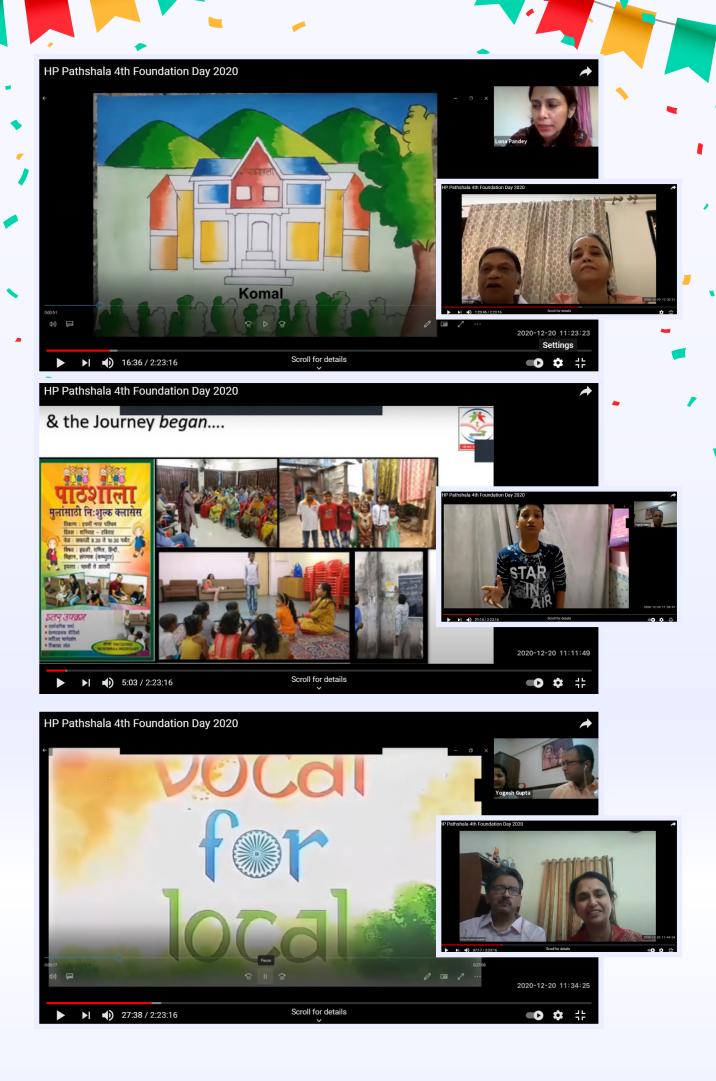
The virtual ceremony commenced with the blessing of the divinity, followed by the best entries of the Drawing Competition held on the themes 'Life During Lockdown', 'COVID-19 Heroes', 'Life After COVID-19 Vaccine' and 'Paint the World of your Choice', being showcased. Our students painted their imagination on paper and happily shared their experience along with their class mentor. After the treat to the eyes with the drawing activity, a beautiful poetry was recited by our student that left the audience mesmerized with its melody.

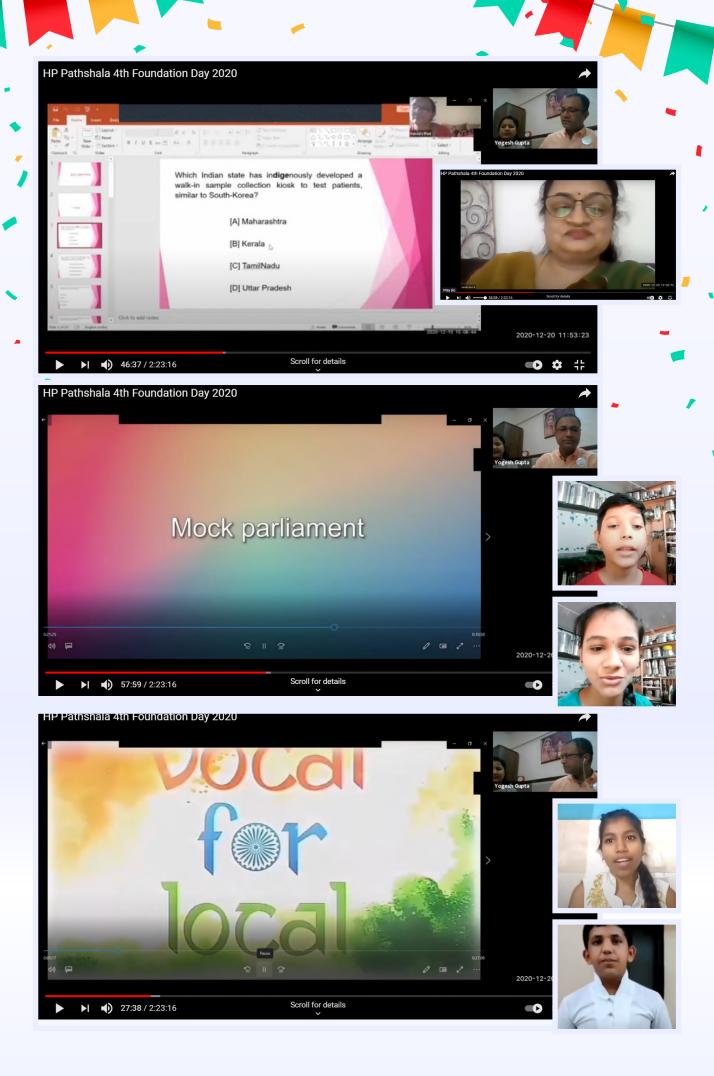
In response to the clarion call given by our Hon'ble Prime Minister to be 'Vocal for Local', the students of HP Pathshala enacted a skit through video that left the audience wondering how children of such young age execute a video so flawlessly. We are proud that our student took the initiative on their own and even wrote the script, shot the videos and edited the movie with little help. The video was highly appreciated by Director - HR for its execution and has been hosted on HCPL's official social media handles.

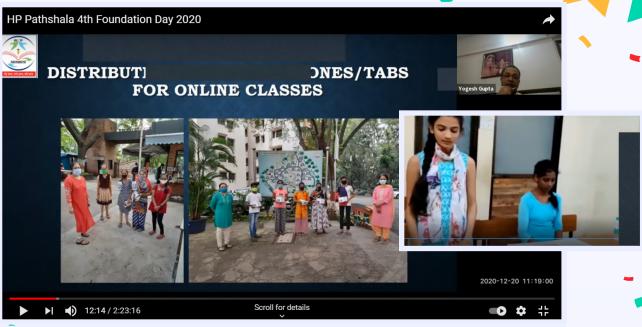
Every year we do something unique to heighten the interest of the students. This year, a Quiz was conducted by one of our class mentors and showcased their grip on general knowledge and current affairs. The quiz was followed by a Mock Parliament by the students that aimed to showcase the functioning of the Parliament. Skit on a Mock Parliament was chosen as it was a 🎤 novel idea which also gave the students an insight on the decision-making process in our country and even fueled their dreams. All the activities were followed by experience sharing by the class mentors and the students involved that gave an insight into the execution of each activity.

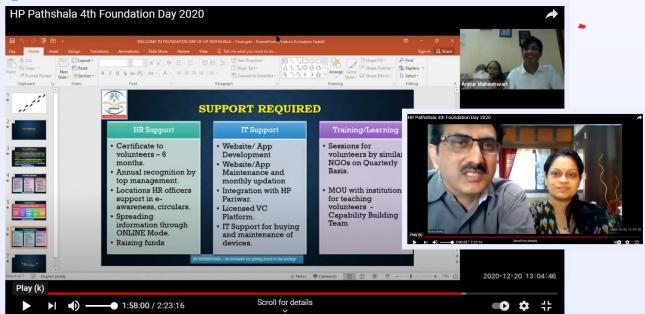
On a concluding note, Director - HR, appreciated the selfless efforts of all volunteers in providing quality education and values to the children. He also appreciated the various initiatives undertaken and motivated HP Pathshala to be registered as an Association Trust, while subsequently focusing on the 5-year plan ahead.

Let's continue giving our best to forge a bright future for Pathshala children.



















HP PATHSHALA THE WAY FORWARD

"No subject is of greater importance than that of education. It is the men and women in a country that make and build a nation and it is education that is supposed to build those men and women."

- Jawaharlal Nehru November 28, 1957



Mr. Yogesh Gupta

It has been 3 years since we started. It seems like yesterday, when few of the likeminded volunteers came forward with intentions of doing something for the society. A seed has

now grown into a tree with continuous support of our HP Family members and we are looking forward to sow many more such seeds now for inclusive growth of society. We have envisioned an ecosystem that imparts Quality education

to underprivileged students through collaborative efforts of individuals across the society with the use of technology.

We intend to utilize concepts of volunteerism, collaboration, crowd sourcing to create a distributed social knowledge management environment for facilitating holistic development of students from needy section of society and a sense of pride in all the volunteers and other stakeholders.



Expanding on PAN
India basis.

Building a team
of self-motivated
and committed
volunteers

Transforming
the young
generation
into socially
responsible
citizens

We have identified three Strategic themes and we aim to mobilize these themes in the form of an ecosystem to develop, expand and sustain the knowledge management framework for this social cause:

A. HP - PATHSHALA Expansion on PAN India basis

We plan to expand HP- Pathshala phase-wise into a progressive pan India platform by deploying Online as well as Offline Classes. SOPs for Offline Classes will be developed, so as to replicate same Offline model at various other locations Pan India after feasibility study.

We shall implement a provision of conducting entrance test for the students. Those who meet minimum criteria shall be enrolled for online classes and others will be given a chance through Offline classes. Based on performance, Offline Class students can upgrade to join Online classes.

Digital Library will be made available for online as well as offline classes. We also intend to launch HP- Pathshala website/

mobile based app for reaching out to needy students as well as new volunteers at any time and from anywhere.

We will be adopting frameworks for sustainable operations like Registration as a charitable trust, Deployment of Steering Committee, Getting External experts, SOPs etc. with distinct set of responsibilities for Online as well as Offline classes. Volunteers will also be empowered to identify needy children in their vicinity as well as more volunteers

B. Building a team of self-motivated and committed volunteers

We intend to have Volunteers' Selection, Volunteer's Orientation and Volunteer's development Process for Online as well as Offline Classes. Regular Volunteer's interviews and interactions with HPCL Senior management will be conducted to bring in a feel of inclusivity and collective sense of pride. Regular Certificate Training programs on teaching skills, presentation skills, virtual facilitation, use of Goggle classroometc. along with regular Mentoring

sessions by HPCL Senior Leaders shall be conducted for Volunteers.

C. Transforming the young generation into socially responsible citizens and enabling Holistic Development

We plan to deploy student's performance enablement curriculum, including interactive videos catering to different learning styles, knowledge check questions, assessments along with students' wellbeing sessions focusing on Holistic Development of students. Regular extracurricular sessions, counselling sessions, sports sessions, experts talk, health sessions etc. will be conducted for the students.

Student centric curriculum will be deployed empowering them to meet their aspirations, create the inquisitiveness in the child, sow the entrepreneurial quality and make them self-employed.

Students' development Body is also being planned for continuous improvement of Students and ensuring Holistic Development.

We intend to develop a social knowledge management framework that would act as Self-sustained learning environment to empower needy students as well as to utilize the vast pool of "dormant knowledge capital" of the senior citizens, homemakers and retired employees of our HP Family.

HP Pathshala dedicated volunteers team is working towards a better tomorrow and through the novel concept of volunteering, we would love to do more in society's interest with the support of our HP Family

- Yogesh Gupta
On behalf of Team HP Pathshala





VOLUNTEERS TEAM



Founding Members

Name:

Ankur Maheshwari

Volunteer since:

Founder





Name:

Yogesh Gupta

Volunteer since:

Founding Member

Name:

Rupali Maheshwari

Employee Name:

Ankur Maheshwari

Volunteer since:

Founding Member





Name:

Mohammad Usman J H

Khan

Volunteer since:

Founding Member

Name: Shabbir Azam Volunteer since:

Founding Member





Name:

Lona Pandey

Employee Name:

Akhil Pandey

Volunteer since:

Founding Member -

HPNE Pathshala

Name Sudhir Kumar Kashyap Volunteer since : Founding Member-HPNE Pathshala





VOLUNTEERS TEAM



CLASS MENTOR



Name: K. L. Uma Bala

Employee Name: J S Prasad

Subjects/Class taught: Biology, Class X & XI

Volunteer since : August 2018

MENTOR CLASS XI

Name: Shyam Khandelwal

Subjects/ Class taught: Accounts, Class XI

Volunteer Since: July 2019



MENTOR CLASS X & XI

MENTOR CLASS IX

Name: A. Janaki Devi

Employee Name: A.V. Krishna Murthy

Subjects/Class taught: Maths, Class IX & X

Volunteer since : September 2018

MENTOR CLASS VIII

Name: Lona Pandey

Employee Name : Akhil Pandey

Subjects/Class taught : Science and Maths, Class VIII

Volunteer since: July 2018



MENTOR CLASS VII

Name: Rama Thirunahari

Employee Name : Ashok kumar Thirunahari

Subjects/Class taught: Maths, Class V to VIII

Volunteer since: October 2018

MENTOR CLASS VI

Name: Sitalata Hansdah

Employee Name: Kumar Kushal Hansdah

Subjects/Class taught: Environmental Science, Class VI

Volunteer since: October 2018



VOLUNTEERS TEAM



CO-MENTORS

CO-MENTOR CLASS XI



Name: Nitika Srivastava

Employee Name: Sachin Shrivastava

Subjects/Class taught : Chemistry, Class X

Volunteer since: January 2020

CO-MENTORCLASS X

Name: A. Janaki Devi

Employee Name: A.V. Krishna Murthy

Subjects/Class taught: Maths, Class IX & X

Volunteer since : September 2018





CO-MENTORCLASS IX

Name: Avika Dipen Patel

Employee Name: Mr Dipen Patel

Subjects/Class taught: Chemistry, Class VIII & Biology, Class IX

Volunteer since: October 2018

CO-MENTORCLASS VIII

Name: Manjusha B. Bondare

Employee Name: Bramha N. Bondare

Subjects/Class taught: Biology, Class VIII

Volunteer since: October 2018









Name: Ankur Maheshwari

Subjects/Class taught: English, Class X

Volunteer since: December 2017

Name: Rupali Maheshwari

Employee Name: Ankur Maheshwari

Subjects/Class taught: Social Studies, Class X

Volunteer since: December 2017





Name: Ria Rakesh Sapra Employee Name: R.S. Sapra

Subjects/Class taught: English, Class X

Volunteer since: December 2017

Name: Rohan Rakesh Sapra Employee Name: R.S. Sapra

Subjects/Class taught: Maths, Class VIII

Volunteer since: December 2017





Name: Shipra Gupta

Employee Name: Yogesh Gupta

Subjects/Class taught: Chemistry, Class IX

Volunteer since: April 2018.



Name: Vineet Yadav

Subjects/Class taught: Physics, Class X

Volunteer since: May 2018.

Name: Lona Pandey

Employee Name : Akhil Pandey

Subjects/Class taught: English, Class VIII

Volunteer since: July 2018





Name: K. L. Uma Bala

Employee Name: J S Prasad

Subjects/Class taught: Biology, Class X & XI

Volunteer since : August 2018

Name: J.S. Prasad

Subjects/Class taught: Maths, Class X & XI

Volunteer since : August 2018





Name: A. Janaki Devi

Employee Name: A.V. Krishna Murthy

Subjects/Class taught: Maths, Class IX &X

Volunteer since : September 2018

Name: Narayan Kumar

Subjects/Class taught: Mathematics, Class XI

Volunteer since : October 2018





Name: Nikhil Verma

Subjects/Class taught: English, Class IX

Volunteer since : October 2018

Name: Avika Dipen Patel

Employee Name : Mr Dipen Patel

Subjects/Class taught: Chemistry, Class VIII & Biology, Class IX

Volunteer since : October 2018





Name: Manjusha B. Bondare

Employee Name: Bramha N. Bondare

Subjects/Class taught: Biology, Class VIII

Volunteer since: October 2018

Name: Seema Chandra

Employee Name: Rajiv Chandra

Subject/Class taught : English, Class VIII & IX

Volunteer since: December 2018





Name: Rajeshwari Yadati

Employee Name: Raja Shekhar Yadati Subjects/Class taught: Physics, Class VIII

Volunteer since : January 2019

Name: Abha Mawle

Employee Name: Daya Mawle

Subjects/Class taught: English Grammar, Class X

Volunteer since : February 2019





Name: P.S.Murthy

Subjects/Class taught: Physics, Class XI

Volunteer since : June 2019

Name: Shyam Khandelwal

Subjects/ Class taught: Accounts, Class XI

Volunteer Since: July 2019





Name: Vaidehi Prashant Prabhudesai

Employee Name: Prashant Madhukar Prabhudesai Subjects/Class taught: Marathi, Class X th

Volunteer since : July 2019

Name: H. Padmanabhan

Subjects/ Class taught: Maths, Class IX

Volunteer Since: July 2019





Name: Sunita Joshi

Employee Name: Dr Pushp Kumar Joshi

Subjects/Class taught: Hindi, Class IX, X & XI

Volunteer Since: October 2019

Name: Jangala Niharika

Employee Name: Jangala Sanakara Rao

Subjects/Class taught: Physics, Class VIII, IX & X

Volunteer since: October 2019





Name: Aishwarya Batra

Employee Name : Subodh Batra

Subjects/Class taught: Maths, Class VIII

Volunteer since: December 2019

Name: Nitika Srivastava

Employee Name: Sachin Shrivastava

Subjects/Class taught: Chemistry, Class X

Volunteer since : January 2020





Name: Seema Rakesh Sapra Employee Name: R. S. Sapra

Subjects/Class taught: Maths, Class IX

Volunteer since : June 2020

Volunteer's Name : Sankalp Tripathi Subjects/Class taught : Maths, Class XI

Volunteer since : July 2020





Name: P Revathi

Employee Name : P Haribabu

Subjects/ Class taught: Information Technology, Class XI

Volunteer Since: October 2020

Name: Rajendrra Niraanjan

Subjects/Class taught: Maths, Class XI

Volunteer since : January 2021





Name: Amit Kumar

Subjects/Class taught: Book Keeping / Accountancy, Class XI

Volunteer since : January 2021

Name: Adithi Reddy

Employee Name: A 5 Reddy

Subjects/Class taught : Computers, Class VIII, IX & X

Volunteer Since: January 2021





Name: Surendra Singh

Subjects/Class taught: Maths, Class XI & XII

Volunteer since : January 2021

Name: Sandeep Rondla

Subjects/Class taught: Physics, Class XI

Volunteer since : February 2021





Name: Bikash Kumar Ram

Subjects/Class taught: Organisation of Commerce and

Management, Class XI (Commerce)

Volunteer since : February 2021

Name: Manish Kishor Waykole

Subjects/Class taught: Physics, Class XII

Volunteer since : February 2021



