

Threat to Earthlings, not to the Earth

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“Every Cloud has a silver lining..”

We all are familiar with above old saying but it's difficult to relate to during turbulent times in our life.

Covid-19 pandemic is one such cloud that has been hovering over the entire world for sometimes now. It has caught everything off-guard and altered our every perception of 'how the life is'. It has taught us the value of all those things in life that we had always taken for granted- even a routine cup of tea at the 'tapri' has become a distant reality.

The pandemic has made our life vulnerable, with even the mightiest are falling prey to this tiny invisible virus. Some of us couldn't even attend to the last rites of our near and dear ones due to lockdown or due to the fear of the disease. A number of people not only lost their jobs but also witnessed their dreams getting shattered due to the uncertainties associated with 'Journey called Life'.

We have already read and watched a lot about the phobia associated with Covid-19. But, as it is said that "SHOW MUST GO

ON", it is very necessary to rise again like a phoenix from the ashes. We all learnt to cook, do the daily household chores, attend office via 'WFH' and manage kids entire day at home. The new generation also learnt the importance of "Saving for needy times".

Our team Pathshala had toiled for hard two years from mobilizing students & volunteers to serve its purpose of providing quality coaching to children of under privileged section of our society. All the efforts to grow and sustain, came to a standstill with the pandemic necessitating suspending the classes from 13th March, 2020. Besides, battling the impact of pandemic in our personal and professional lives, the leaders of Team HP Pathshala were also concerned about the future of the initiative. With physical classes seeming a distant reality, sustaining HP Pathshala became a big question.

When it comes to sustaining any business/venture/initiative, the most important question faced by the team is 'why do we exist?' If this question is clear and

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

ingrained deep in the mind of every team member then it is less challenging for the leaders to sail through in turbulent times. We have always been lucky to have such motivated leaders and committed team to further our cause.

We bring this edition of Pathshala to you, which will showcase how HP Pathshala has lived up to the popular saying- "When the going gets tough, the tough gets going!". Our cover story takes you through the topsy-turvy journey of how Pathshala sustained in these turbulent times by overcoming various challenges faced by it leading to the birth of E-Pathshala.

As the youngsters say today, "GOING ONLINE IS THE IN THING", E-Pathshala was also intended for the same. But, the major issue for us was the digital divide. We tried to overcome it by recharging data packs for our Pathshala students but the bigger problem was the lack of smartphones availability to these kids. Though the mentors were agreeable to provide smartphones to needy kids, availability of significant amount of funds was a BIG QUESTION MARK. Our HP Family came to our help once again just akin to how they helped us in setting up of HP Pathshala library for these kids. Our team came out with an emailer for raising funds from HP Employees of Mumbai region for the said purpose. Like a dream coming true, our HP Family responded to

our faith in them and we were able to raise Rs.1.4 lakhs within 24 hours. This enabled us to purchase smartphones/tablets for 16 needy kids so that they can continue their online classes without any break. No words can be enough to thank our HP Pariwar for their generosity.

We would also like to thank Shakti Club for donating Rs. 20,000/- for digitalisation of HP PATHSHALA

There is NO SHORTCUT to HARDWORK. This was proved by our Class X children who under the guidance of our Pathshala teachers passed class X with flying colors. Our Pathshala class topper- Ms. Ragini Jaiswal scored 81.60% marks, surpassing the toppers of the last two years of HP Pathshala, followed by Ms. Prachi Kamble (72.60%) and Master Abdul Ansari (70.60%) making us really proud. We felt exuberant just like the results of our own kids have been declared.

Just like any other children, our Pathshala kids have many dreams for themselves, their families and even for the upliftment of their society. We have tried to capture a glimpse of the same in our section called "Sapno ki potli". We wish that all their dreams come true! To help them, take the next step towards their dreams, we wanted to ensure that at least our toppers get admissions into good college in Class XI. With their parents, struggling to

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

make a living amid the pandemic, fees was a hurdle. As said before, our HP Pariwar has always been a saviour; Mrs. Anuradha Murali Krishna (w/o of Mr. V.V.Murali Krishna) offered to donate Rs. 50,000/ as scholarship to Pathshala toppers in the memory of her mother who was herself a teacher and left for the heavenly abode in Aug 2020. What more, she even promised to donate Rs. 20,000/- every year to HP Pathshala toppers. Our Philanthropic column shares her story on what has always inspired her to help others so that their dreams can be realized.

Celebration of Annual day at HP Pathshala had always been a much-awaited occasion for the students to showcase their talents - an opportunity which they don't get otherwise to boost their confidence and self-esteem. We were soon approaching 2 years of Pathshala in HP Nagar East on 7th July, 2020 but unfortunately we were likely to miss this occasion to celebrate this time.

When the entire world can go online, why can't annual day celebrations? Our team took it as a challenge and planned ONLINE celebration of PATHSHALA. Students' enthusiasm and learning was the building block for this event. Various science and maths experiments along with elocution was organised. One of our volunteer took this celebration to different level when she directed an online skit - which was an

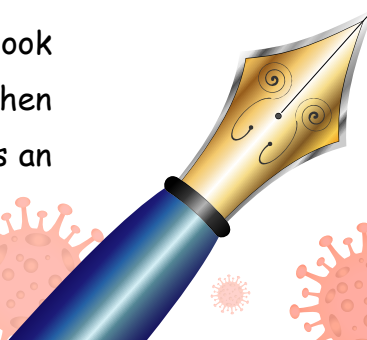
amalgamation of scenes shot by students from their homes (even from different towns and villages) amid lockdown. The presence of entire top management of HPCL to encourage and bless the team was the icing on the cake. Our ONLINE celebration became the first ONLINE celebration of HPCL and it was much appreciated by our top management. Do read our column on ONLINE CELEBRATION OF HP PATHSHALA curated for you by our team.

Prior to COVID-19, The NEXT STEP for HP Pathshala until March 2020 was to chalk out modalities for taking it to other HP colonies, outside Mumbai. E-Pathshala opened a new path for us to take it to other cities without geographical barriers. We can now mobilize students as well as teachers from any part of the country and build on our dream of providing quality education to children of under privileged section of our society.... AMEN!!!

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.

Happy Reading!

- Rupali Maheshwari



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Birth of E-PATHSHALA

"The entire WORLD coming to a standstill" was an illusion we had always watched with our eyes on our television or theatres in a high-octane drama filled Hollywood sci-fi movies. We had never imagined that one day it would turn into a stark reality. COVID-19, which raged into a full-fledged Tsunami on human life and economies across the world, changed everything we knew about our way of life.

The pace with which the disease was spreading, was astonishing. It left governments around the world with no alternative but to enforce complete lockdown in their countries in a bid to save their citizens from a pandemic, which had no available cure. A complete lockdown meant everybody under four walls of home, no offices, no markets, no outings, ; it also meant NO SCHOOLS and sadly NO PATHSHALA also.....

News of Covid-19 was already flooding the communication channels since late February. Consequently, we paused our Pathshala classes from 13th March, 2020

to ensure the safety of our Pathshala teachers as well as students. Since it was examination time, doubts were being cleared by teachers over phone. However, we were expecting that classes will resume soon.

Alas! We didn't know that we are going to witness the first nationwide lockdown of our lifetime. On March 24th, 2020, when the lockdown was announced by our Honorable PM, no one had imagined that it will stay for so long. The sudden lockdown was a testing time for all the students especially class X students amid uncertainty of fate of remaining exams.

Being among the most vulnerable lot to get infected, kids needed greater protection and hence, expectation of schools opening up any time soon became bleak. Online Classes gathered pace as private schools started experimenting with the same. Our mentors soon realized that it will not be possible to start our PATHSHALA classes in





Online PTM

near future. Maybe NOT AT ALL in this academic year....

Our mentors were faced with a volley of questions. What will be the fate of our students who depend on us? How will we complete the Class X syllabus? How the learning in Pathshala will continue? How to sustain Pathshala which took two years of incessant efforts?

We had been witnessing online classes for our employees' kids by their schools. After discussions amongst mentors, it was finally concluded that ONLINE PATHSHALA CLASSES is the only way forward. The next step was to work on the modalities for carrying the intent forward. We knew that there will be teething issues but we had not imagined their size... lots of learnings were awaiting our team in form of various challenges....

Considering the importance of board exams we decided to commence Class X first. For the same our class X mentors (Mrs. Uma Prasad and Mrs. A. Janaki Devi) contacted the class X students to know whether they can attend such classes?

As can be easily understood, the biggest hurdle for Pathshala Kids to attend online classes was to GET ONLINE...

As students in Pathshala are from the unprivileged part of our society, most of them did not have smartphones (even the basic smartphones) to attend online classes. In some cases, the family had one smartphone, which couldn't be made available exclusively for the kid to attend online classes. Also, recharging data packs for online classes regularly was not a priority for a family that was struggling to make both the ends meet, when their earnings had almost vanished due to lockdown. Further, they had very little exposure about handling of technology.

The only positive in the scenario was their intent to attend the Online Classes. So, our team took it upon us to 'MAKE IT POSSIBLE'. A new dimension was thus added to HP PATHSHALA, courtesy COVID-19 and finally Online Classes commenced for Class X in April 2020. Online classes were subsequently rolled out for Class IX (under mentorship of

COVER STORY

Mrs. A. Janaki Devi) in May 2020 and then for Class 8th (under mentorship of Mrs. Lona Pandey) in June 2020.

Adapting to technology was equally challenging for our volunteers as we all were attuned for physical classes only. To make a new beginning, our senior most volunteer, Mr. J.S. Prasad, lead from the front. Not only he commenced classes through 'zoom' app but also bought a monthly subscription to address the issue of auto-logout after 30-40 minutes. Once Class X team started adapting to the technology we started searching for other web conferencing tools as well as Online teaching aids to augment our effectiveness.

As the saying goes "God help those who help themselves". One of our ex-volunteer Mrs. Resmy Sibbi, gave us an opportunity to learn Google Meet and Google Classroom virtually through her college (Pillai Institute). Our team capitalized this opportunity and we commenced using Google Classroom for posting assignments, notes and taking even Online Google quiz. One of our teachers (Mrs. Nitika Srivasatava) took charge and taught students as well as teachers on how to use these apps. The kids also responded well to our efforts; they learnt quickly



Mobile Distribution

and adjusted themselves to use whatever devices they had to attend the classes.

In order to ensure that none of our students miss their classes due to lack of sufficient data packs, some Pathshala volunteers, silently recharged their phones. We, then incentivized the students that they will get money for data recharge from Pathshala every month, if they attend more than 50% classes each month.

Despite all the efforts, students were unable to attend the classes regularly. To address this issue, an Online PTM (Parents Teachers Meet) was organized on... to make parents understand the importance of attending online classes regularly and understand the hassles faced by them. To our surprise around 15 parents joined Online PTM from different parts of the country (since a number of families had returned to their home town/villages). The success of this first ever Online

The new normal in Education system
CREATE VIRTUAL CLASSROOM
An Online Workshop conducted by:
H.P. Pathshala

Nitika Srivasatava
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What will you learn?

Google forms, google quiz Create, edit, share, certify. My test, short and long answers, surveys, automatic grading of assignments.	Google Classroom virtual classroom, share notices, study materials, online lecture meeting link, share other links, give assignments, grade.	Google Meet Take your Lectures online
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Date : 26th July 2020 **Time: 11:00am to 12:30 pm**
For registration click the following link :
<https://forms.gle/qm3BWzFCoidzIw8z>

Contact : nitika.s.somajiva.edu

In-House Training on Google Classroom



PTM reflected faith of the parents and the students in Team Pathshala. It came to light that students and parents were equally eager like us but availability of smartphones was the major roadblock. Sometimes, the same device had to be shared between siblings at the same time or the parents needed to carry their phones to work. In some cases the family had only basic phone at their disposal.

We started discussions with various organizations that provide smartphones/tablets with loaded content for educational purposes. We had decided to purchase smartphones on returnable basis for needy students. Assessment of number of devices was made to estimate the funds requirement. The amount of funds required was significant and we didn't have that much collection with us. Our Pathshala mentor, Mr. K. S. Shetty, suggested to adopt the route of crowd funding like we did for setting up HP Pathshala Library. We came out with a humble request for this cause to our HPCL employees of Mumbai region. We got an overwhelming response and raised Rs.1.4 lakhs in 24 hours only, which helped us to buy 16 devices, to support our E-Pathshala.

As life is full of surprises so is our Pathshala. Once we all started adopting to the 'New Normal' students again started dropping. We were unable to fathom the reasons for this sudden drop of strength in each class. Our class mentors took it head-on and spoke to all the students. It came to light that their respective schools



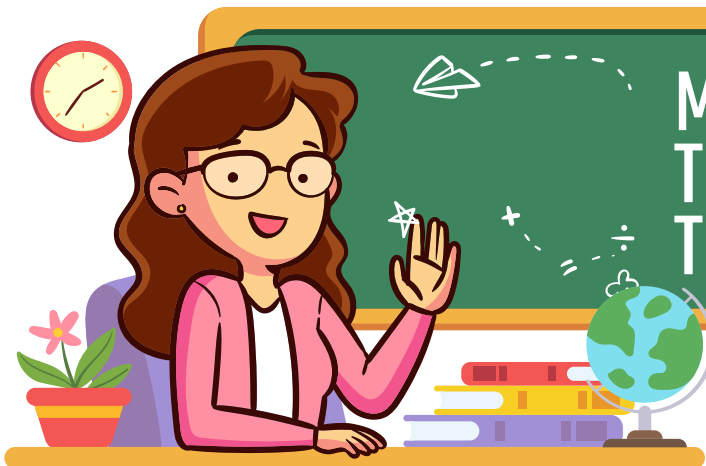
Appreciation to Class X Topper - New Mobile Distribution

had also started Online classes now. As Pathshala students go to different schools hence, they had different online school timings, making it difficult for them to attend Pathshala classes. Accommodating each student as per his/her school timetable, our class mentors fought weekly struggle to prepare a weekly timetable convenient for students as well as for volunteers. But, it's heartening to see that no one is giving up despite all the challenges and we recently even conducted our FIRST ONLINE UNIT TESTS for Class X students.

All this could not have been possible without the undeterred commitment of our Volunteer teachers. Managing personal life amid challenges posed by COVID-19 mainly for our women volunteers viz. Nil domestic help, children attending online classes at home, 'WFH' for husband and then taking Online classes in Pathshala was not less than a herculean task. Their dedication and purpose to support our Pathshala students helped them to overcome these challenges and uphold the vision and mission of HP Pathshala.

**"Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember.
Involve me and I learn."**

- Benjamin Franklin



MY G FACTORS: THE JOURNEY UNFOLDED THROUGH AMMA



Mrs. Anuradha Murali Krishna
W/o. V.V. Murali Krishna

It is the inspiration or the intuition or may be AMMA's passion and dedication I have observed towards teaching the whole long of about 25yrs of service as a teacher initially in mini private schools and then later on in high schools. She made her presence and repute felt as a best teacher and awarded for the same (by state education secretary) in one of the last schools she served 13yrs as a primary level teacher wherein the stepping stones of a kid are made firm through abundant care and attention that nurtured through the growing years. Many a times I found AMMA to be my role model be it in domestic front or through her mighty care towards Teaching as well attending her family needs by extending her hand to her better-half (my father) in catering to her 2 kid's small or pretty necessities as well hers without depending on anyone. She was always sincere and very caring



Amma

while attending to the under-privileged kids who used to come home for tuitions after her school hours. The amount of energy and time spent tirelessly towards them was always fruitful in securing good grades from the average and below normal academics.

MY ASSET IS MY AMMA THROUGH WHOM I REALIZED MY G FACTORS.

Knowingly or unknowingly I felt I am indebted to the people around me in some or the other way while trying to recollect the fair and unfair things associated with them. Often our necessities drive us crazily looking around for people to get helped. And such were the situations I started looking into the hourglass of emotions and circumstances necessitating me to look forward towards the people around me who were helpful mostly at the domestic end and baby-sitting. A small GESTURE is what builds a comfortable zone between people for an everlasting bond within and outside our very own families. That feeling of emotion was felt as the unfolding of my 1st G (Gesture of GRATITUDE).

A daughter or a son when gets married

PHILANTHROPIC COLUMN

comes the offer of added blessed bounties in the form of extended families and grand-children. My mother was with me throughout my child bearing and initial rearing phase (because of twins) providing her full attention as long as she could and joined her family back. And it was then I could realize and started missing her vivid activities of tremendous nurturing phase when we employed 2 teenaged girls (and their 2 sisters) as baby sitters who looked after the kids very nicely in shifts while pursuing their studies. In spite of attending college, completing their household chores, necessity for money to at-least pay their fees drove them to attend my kids. I used to feel sorry for their state and allowed them to get their books and study while kids were asleep. In one corner of my heart I felt an urge to help in some or the other way. And that was the time for our transfer and an opportunity to help poured in my mind. So here came the 1st G: GRATITUDE for the favor we received from them and gave each of the 5 girls 2gm gold as a token of love (that can be used in their marriage instead of money). Often Necessity creates opportunities to explore. One of the girls accompanied us while moving to the new place had stayed with us for about a month till I got some help. One big thing in her life then was, she was one of the two girls of a family exclusively sent outside the town with someone for the first time and we didn't hesitate either to travel by flight taking her along. The true help was felt at the new place and not the least I didn't forget her till date and kept enquiring her mother. While dropping her back home my husband handed over a sum

of 10k to her parents wholeheartedly as a mark of GRATITUDE.

As life moved on with age, health issues cropped up with added responsibilities. Attitude towards understanding people and circumstances and surroundings took shape along with ups and downs and AMMA's sudden ill-health about 12yrs ago leading to coma and then bed ridden for about 1 year or so leaving a large impact on us (though physically present we missed her largely in our routine aspects). But by God's grace post her sufficient recovery things moved fast. Like a child's developing milestones play a major role in every family, I observed that it's often the under-privileged deprived of what the middle class or upper class are enjoying be it the basic necessities or well being and /or the education of the child. We developed the idea of providing little monetary help for the 1st quarter of the academic year of the kids (4 to 5 kids usually). From then on i made it a habit of helping them in paying fees and stationary requirements. We started providing stationary items for almost the entire year to the all the kids of my domestic helpers initially irrespective of the number of kids they were having. Gradually 2nd G: GENEROSITY started unfolding. During the devastating calamity of Uttarakhand flashfloods in 2013 through



PHILANTHROPIC COLUMN

GOONJ (an NPO) we voluntarily helped the needy in the form of General medicines that year apart from other things given away almost every year without hesitation. Felt a strong feeling of immense satisfaction that I am able to lend my hand in social causes too. Age definitely matters when mind and conscience matters. Feelings of compassion, caring, and helping matters more instead of material attachments. LIVE and LET LIVE (to which I held on since some years) has shown a true meaning to menow. A major transition occurred with the untimely demise of my AMMA recently on 4th august 2020 as I felt a void was created in my life with no means of emotional and a physical figure as a support. My thoughts wandered and struck me so hard in reminding me to do something selflessly in AMMA's memory that can be remarked forever.... the only feeling of her dedication and passion towards TEACHING (a prevalent connect). Seeing my helpless anxious situation, my husband who always eased my heart and mind with his simple and generous attitude towards people by helping monetarily too without much thinking suggested a donation to a known forum in our vicinity in my AMMA's memory.

That is where an opportunity to fund 50k towards HP Pathshala group was sought and contacted Mr. Ankur Maheshwari for further proceedings. My idea took shape ahead for the

connectivity of AMMA forever with the underprivileged kids, their education as a good cause.

My last 3rd G: GENUINITY took shape and I with my husband's consent decided to monetarily help 2 kids a boy and a girl of academic excellence every year throughout my life where-ever I be to commemorate my AMMA's birthday falling on 19th JUNE of every year with a scholarship of 10k each in AMMA's name , thru which I can stay connected towards my AMMA'S passion as well doing my bit of help to the underprivileged kids from our neighborhood (the helpers in our society) who also have the potential of studies but lacking financial support. I strongly feel that this would definitely help those kids for their studies effectively in the formative years of pursuing their career and livelihood.

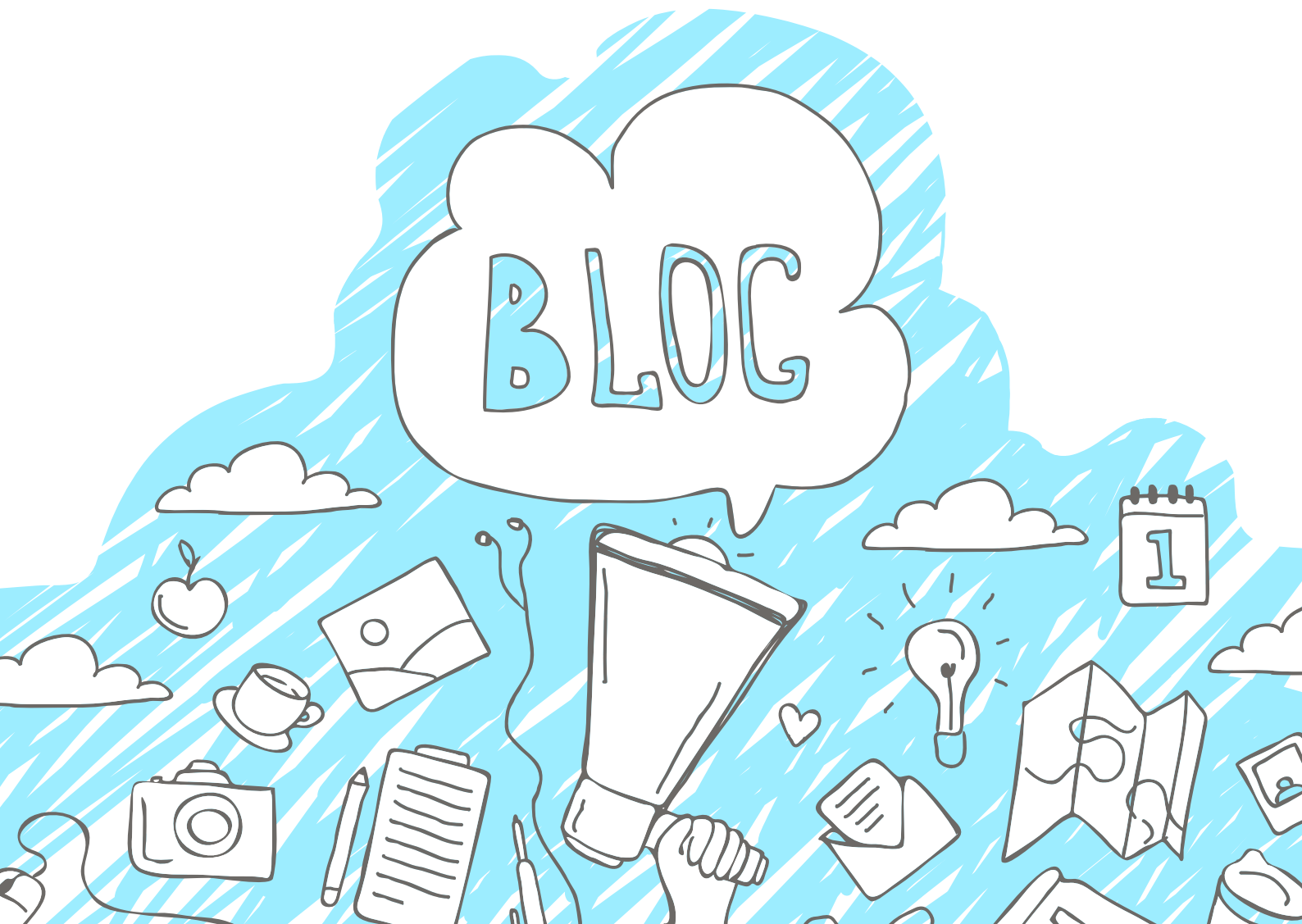
My sincere thanks to the entire HP Pathshala group in supporting my/our idea of sponsoring a scholarship and giving me a humble feeling of satisfaction from within.

May be if GOD permits with this idea of inspiration i intend to start a TRUST or FOUNDATION in my AMMA's name one day.

Thankyou once again for bearing to listen to my lengthy unfolding G factors ... GESTURE of GRATITUDE with GENEROSITY and GENUINITY.



VOLUNTEER'S CORNER



Volunteers Blogs

Opportunities and Challenges of digital learning during COVID-19 Pandemic

From this article I want to draw your attention towards education system in India. Every system has its own pro's and con's. Let's consider the current transition phase due to COVID-19 pandemic, where we all are in need to adapt to the digital platform.



Avika Dipen Patel

We all know, what students are going through. Think for a while and give a thought that whether all students get justice? To connect with the digital world we need to have smart devices. There is no change in elite wards' life but children of weaker sections of society are struggling beyond most of our imagination to get a hassle free access to digital learning.

Their parents are trying hard to deal with the grim situation- negligible source of income to meet both ends due to lockdown and need of smart phones for education of their children. Their family as a whole has single smart phone and all their children need to depend on it only for their studies. Sometimes situation arises that time of classes among siblings being discord.

To ensure that its students do not lag behind during these testing times, HP Pathshala team has come forward and took an appreciable step of raising funds through crowd funding and distributed smart phones to needy ones. The team is also trying to collaborate with certain distributors who

can provide smart gadgets specifically for education purpose to meet the long term needs of our students. Adapting to the new normal is a challenge for everyone, but on the other side it also emerges as an opportunity for both teachers and students. Teachers of Team

HP Pathshala have promptly adapted the e-learning platform and trying to serve their best, so students get worth out of it.

In last I want to conclude that, we are in an evolution phase of online learning. We as educator will have to take responsibility to provide adequate training and resources to needy ones regarding digital platform which is now an integral part of education system for better and hassle free learning of young minds. So if in future also, some crisis situation like this arises, students are able to handle it with comfort.

- Avika Dipen Patel



“ Life of teacher begins the day you realize that you are always a LEARNER ”

Volunteers Blogs

VIRTUAL VS REALITY

Pathashala is a Happy Place. Cheerful and energetic students keen to learn. Enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers more than willing to educate. Every evening a serpentine queue of young and bubbly students can be seen on the lanes of the HP Nagar. Chit chatting, laughing, singing and enjoying the beautiful and well-manicured gardens. Not only the classes but the swings and swimming pool are quite inviting to them. The volunteers meet each other, catch up, discuss strategies to improve the knowledge level of students apart from taking classes and interacting with the zealous lot. One day Covid 19, the pandemic, pressed the PAUSE button and everything became quiet. But even that could not deter the spirits of Pathashala and classes changed from brick n mortar to online format. The classes, meetings, trainings, webinars, competitions and even the Annual Day celebration are being held online. But I miss the Personal Touch.



Lona Pandey

face the students and build trust. She can easily satiate the desire of students to learn. Patience is the second most desirable quality. Every child yearns to be heard and understood. It is very much required to deal with a diverse class of inquisitive, day dreamers, slow learners and restless souls. Discipline is necessary to keep the class in order. It teaches value of time and prepares for future life. A little humour works wonder in the class. It breaks the monotony, lightens the atmosphere and re-energises the students. Last but surely not the least is the art of appreciation. Praising even the tiniest effort made by a student motivates him. It gives students enough reason to be happy and perform better. Punishment on the other hand breaks the spirit. The student might be forced to perform in fear but he will not put his heart in it.

Influence, not just teach
Lead, not just preach
Listen, not just speak
Praise, not punish

- Lona Pandey

TEACHER'S DAY

Every year, on Teachers day, I reminisce about my teachers. Right from my school teachers to college professors. I have very fond memories of many of them. But due to their distinct qualities a few of them have left an indelible mark on my life. They not only educated but helped their students to become better human beings. The first and the foremost and also the most important quality of a successful teacher is her immense knowledge base. It gives her confidence to



“ Only those who have learned the power of sincere and selfless contribution experience life's deepest joy: true fulfilment. ”

Taken from Mumbai Mirror newspaper,

Environment and Ecosystems

Not every land is wasteland

We are the part of environment and not the ruler of environment. Environment has created us and it's our responsibility to protect it. Continuously increasing population and human desires has made many disasters and now beautiful forests have turned up to the concrete jungles. We get everything from nature whether it's our physical need or biological need.

Current scenario seems like we are thinking of only physical things which can be made



Nitika Srivastava

and not about them which, if get demolished no one will be able to make. We live on only 1/3 part of earth, land. The land gives us homes, shelter and not only us but flora and fauna are also entitled to live with us. For our accommodation we are disturbing their life and existence. Whenever we leave a land without performing any action, does it become waste? Of course not! Even a barren land or desert is also useful. The untouched land develops its own life, its own ecosystem. We



can see land mosses and weeds.

Whenever, you get time from busy lives, just take a walk to a garden or any land near you. When you will turn a stone you will find some worms or insects, small plants, weeds. Don't they have right to survive? Whenever we use a land for construction, we blindly perform actions and ruin a well developed ecosystem. So we should not think that any land is waste land.

Our environment is made up of beautiful rich forests which are rich in flora and fauna. If we will use them for our use or accommodation, where will the animals and plants live? When we talk about forest, the law (forest conservation act) says the 10 KM radius area outside forest is known as buffer zone, which is Eco sensitive zone but human tendency to manipulate laws and rules does not satisfy and they set foot in that area also. Which resulted straying wild animals in residential areas. We have environment protection Act

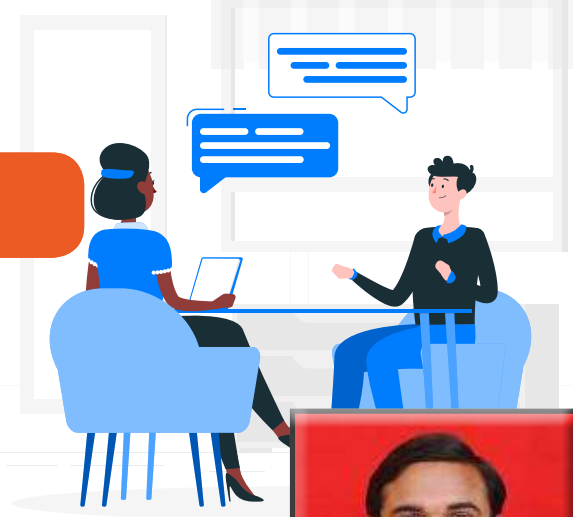
which was proposed first time after Bhopal gas tragedy in 1986 in India and now government has given us the facility of green courts in 2010 to file any case against violation of environmental laws.

But why do we need such strict laws but it should be the duty of every citizen to protect our mother nature. The measures we should take is not to disturb the natural beautiful places like- whenever we visit to Ladakh or other hill stations we just go and produce a lot of garbage there. This contribution will harm its beauty and soon it will also become barren. So we should try keep with us only the biodegradable things and to reduce the problem of garbage, we can carry our garbage back from the city. It's we, who are going to decide our future and also of coming generations. It's better to become aware now.

**-Nitika Srivastava
(nitika.s@somaiya.edu)**



Chit Chat with Volunteers



In this edition we bring forward another volunteer whom I spoke just a day after celebrating teachers day. He shared his experience of attaining bigger happiness and satisfaction after becoming part of Pathshala. Vineet Yadav is our first volunteer who started Pathshala for 10th Standard.

AA: Wishing you a very Happy Teacher's Day Sir!

VY: Happy Teacher's Day to you too Aditi!

AA: So will begin with, what inspired you to join Pathshala?

VY: I will like to share with you, as I play Badminton in HP Nagar West club on Sundays quite a few number of times, I noticed small children are coming to club house and they were not kids from our colony. Finally one day, while I was waiting for my badminton partner I asked one of the kid what are they doing here. She answered with a smile on her face, we are here for our Pathshala classes. I was surprised and happy, and spoke to the founder Ankur about it. He explained me the whole concept. I just said what I can do and be a part of Pathshala.

AA: That is how journey began, is it..?

VY: Absolutely, I started the 10th Standard classes with Maths and occasionally taking science classes too. One another happened personally in my life which allowed to dedicate more time to Pathshala.

My wife had moved to another city for higher studies so I had a little more than usual and Pathshala filled that little space

as well as gave me an opportunity to give back to the society.

The image of my teachers, the happiness on their faces is always what I wanted for myself too.



Vineet Yadav

AA: Volunteering somewhere is new for you or you have done it before?

VY: Ohh... this is my first time, I never got this opportunity before. Though I have taught before, during my engineering days, for some extra pocket money. (smiles)

AA: What is special this Teacher's Day, any experience you want to share?

VY: This year it was special, I wished one of my school teacher, the one I did not like much those days but now value her teachings the most. She used to teach us History and Geography, the subjects I did not like but later when I started preparing for civil services I understood the importance of those subjects. It often happens we value the lessons taught by our teachers only later in life.

AA: The times have changed and we are having online classes these days, what do you think about them? Offline

Chit Chat with Volunteers

Vs. Online classes..

VY: I feel both have their advantages and disadvantages. Last meeting we had in HPMDI - Nigdi, we planned for taking pathshala to other cities and online classes have the potential to reach more students all over India. Few years back, we could not even think about conducting online classes for such section of society but times have changed, wifi, smart phones are like bare minimums. A lot of support from HP families also made this possible.

When we began online classes for the first time, we were apprehensive about it but now they are regular and no less than offline classes, we conduct class tests on

Google Classroom and students are able to understand and relate.

AA: Message you want to give to new volunteers?

VY: I will just like to say, volunteering gave me, which I cannot be explain in words. Just to share an example, at the end of first year, once we got the 10th results and children came to see me with smiling faces all passed and that too in a year where the Maharashtra Board were less than 50%, the ecstasy we feel and satisfaction we get is price less..to experience that happiness there is no other way but to give back to society by being a part of Pathshala.

Sameeksha Jain with Aditi

A formal, informal interaction with one of the few volunteers who have been with us since beginning of Pathshala in HPNW.

AA: You are part of Pathshala since Nov 2017, what inspired you to join Pathshala?

SJ: I always had passion for teaching. Even when I was in school and college I used to take tuitions, I also taught in a coaching institution in Nagpur during my college days.

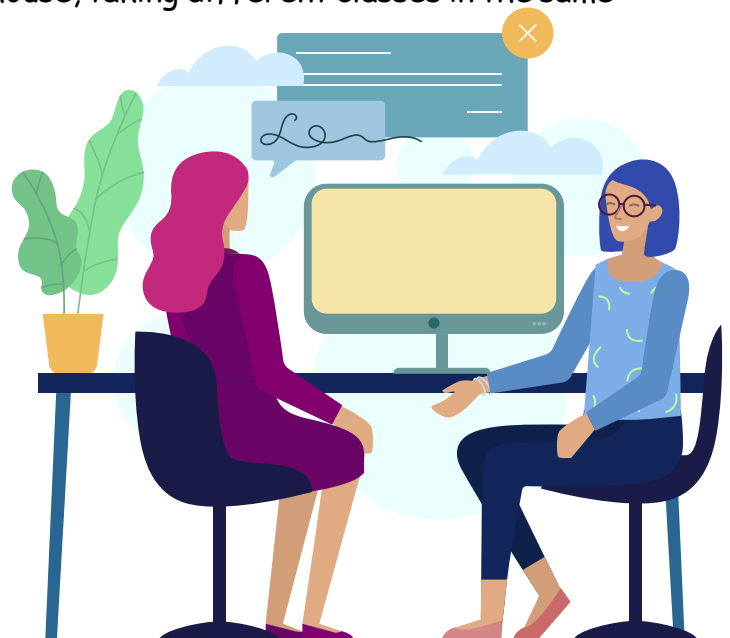
When Ankur told me about Pathshala, I was more than happy to start again because it gave me a chance to use my potential of teaching and do something good at the same time. I strongly feel that, until now I have only taken from society and now it is an opportunity to give back.



Sameeksha Jain

AA: Do you remember the first class you took in Pathshala?

SJ: Yes, quite vividly. I had one kid sitting in my lap and I was teaching students along with Ankur, Shabeer, Sudhir and few more teachers, all sitting on sofa in HPNW club house, taking different classes in the same



Chit Chat with Volunteers

room. Though it was little unorganized but the strong intention to teach and do something for the young kids kept us going.

AA: Have you volunteered anywhere else before?

SJ: Yeah, infact I am currently part of Chembur Welfare Brigade and Green Mumbaikar group where we engage in terrace farming. Sometime back, we visited schools sharing how to do make manure etc.

AA: What is the one major difference that you find in teaching your own kids and teaching in Pathsshala?

SJ: There is no major difference, I teach them with same dedication as I teach my own kids. However, yes of course, there is difference in handling the children. I can be more stern and strict with my own kids but I cannot scold, shout or say something to Pathshala students, because they are less receptive at times and we need to be more careful and tactful in dealing with them.

AA: Do you think Pathshala has brought any change in you?

SJ: No, I am still the same person.

AA: Any one incident that you recall which brings smile to your face?

SJ: Well as I said, I am more of a strict teacher hence there are rarely any jokes in my class. Though once I heard another co-volunteer during her class was scolding a student saying "Do it otherwise I will tell Sameeksha Madam". (smiles)

AA: ohh, it sounds like "Gabbar aa jayega".

SJ: Yes, totally. (smiles)

AA: What changes do you see in colony since Pathshala was established in colony?

SJ: One change that I see in kids of our colony is they now understand the privileges that they have. It has inculcated in them greater sense of responsibility and gratitude for what they have.

AA: What should one possess to become a volunteer in Pathshala?

SJ: They should have empathy and passion towards teaching that is all.

AA: How can we take Pathshala to other societies and other cities?

SJ: When we started our classes in HPNE and HPNW, both began with one room occupied for 2 hours for all the students together, now which has grown to a full 3-4 room Pathshala. All of it was possible because of things like dedicated volunteers, HPCL's interest in taking it to next level and lastly and most importantly supportive infrastructure in the colony. Hence, when we plan to take it to other cities, we need all the three things and it will be a success.

AA: Any message you want to give to students on the occasion of Teacher's Day.

SJ: There is this one quote, which I really like, and feel that each student should remember it.

"A person is successful if he can lay a firm foundation with the bricks that others throw at him."

Chit Chat with Volunteers

1. What inspired you to join Pathshala?

When I was thinking of doing something good for society, I felt that Pathshala is the best opportunity to fulfill my wish.

2. Will you like to share the experience of the class you taught to Pathshala students?

After attending regular classes for Pathshala, I observed the improvement in the students in their way of approach and outlook in their studies as well as personality.

3. Is there a difference in approach while teaching in Pathshala when compared with other kids?

This is the first time I am teaching a group of students, so I don't have any idea to compare it with other kids.

4. What is the best part of Pathshala students?



A. Janaki Devi

They are good at adopting new technologies whenever it's required in a short period.

5. What do you think about online classes vis a vis traditional teaching... are they better?

Both are good, adaptability only makes the difference. Because of network problems and the availability of required gadgets are causing issues for students from attending the classes.

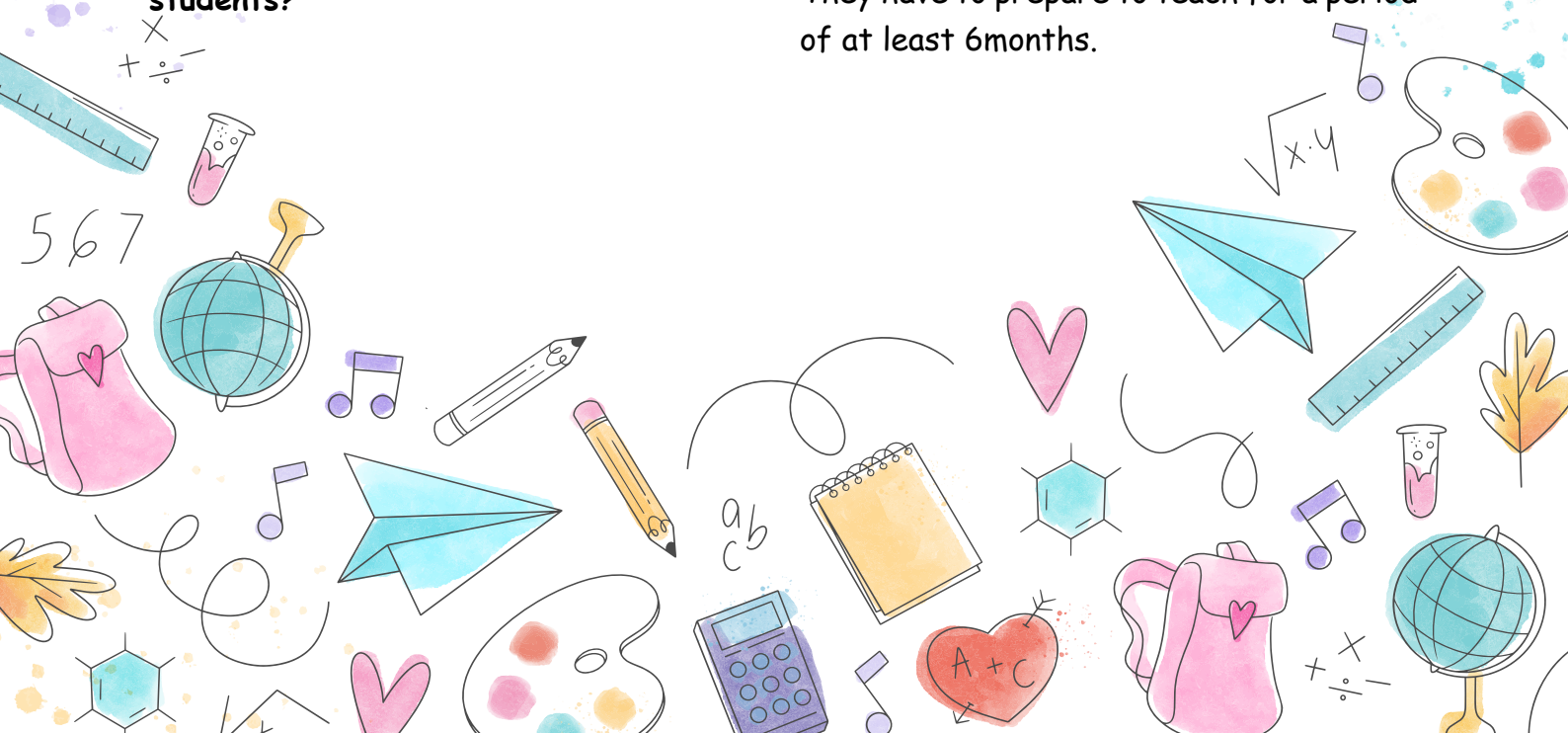
If they are provided the required necessities, they will do their best.

6. Any message you will like to give to our students and upcoming volunteers.

Students have to attend the classes other activities regularly to get the maximum benefit.

Upcoming volunteers should have responsibility and commitment.

They have to prepare to teach for a period of at least 6 months.



Chit Chat with Volunteers

Q1. What inspired you to join Pathshala?

A1. Many less privileged children, like those who come to Pathshala, have good talent and are very sharp and practical. They just need guidance and opportunity to blossom and do wonders. So when team Pathshala was looking for volunteers in HPNE, I was keen to make use of this chance. But when my friend Resmy, the then mentor of class 6, asked me to join, I was hesitant, as I had no teaching experience. My husband encouraged me to give it a try. So, I went to class 6 to teach Maths for a day, and this relation with Pathshala continued for two years!



Jyothi Suresh

Q2. How was your experience while teaching in Pathshala,?

A2. Teaching at Pathshala was a challenge. My class in Pathshala consisted of students from different mediums - Hindi, English, Semi English, Marathi and Telugu. Also, their abilities ranged from those quickly grasping the subject to those struggling with basic numbers and alphabets. Dividing time within this wide spectrum to teach each student appropriately was very difficult. In fact, this difference in the range of children was actually the biggest challenge for me.

Q3. What is the difference in approach to teach kids of Pathshala?

A3. In the last 2 years, I taught both the classes 5th & 6th. The attempt was to give individual attention to kids, and

to help them understand the concepts than to be bound only by the syllabus like in a normal school. We wanted Pathshala to be different. Even the text books of English subject for different Mediums were different. These children had their basic education in schools that had very limited facilities

and hence it was necessary to strengthen their basics before anything appropriate as per their standard could be taught to them. So, we tried to group the children who could read and write and do basic math in line with their syllabus. For others we focused on strengthening their basics.

Q4. What is best part of Pathshala students?

A4. They are very loving and affectionate kids with positive attitude. They are naughty as all children are, and also very practical in their approach to various issues and finding solutions. They enjoy extracurricular activities like craft, dancing, drama, drawing, music and sports.

Q5. Any message you want to give to fellow volunteers?

A5. I feel everyone should volunteer at least once and experience teaching these children. While the children learn, we the volunteers too have our own learnings every day from children and it is very satisfying, emotionally. This is a chance to empower the less privileged children to think big and reach their goal.



STUDENT'S CORNER

BY
DASHRATH GADEKAR



एचपी पाठशाला हमारे 10वीं के विद्यार्थियों का प्रदर्शन

हमें यह बताते हुए खुशी हो रही है कि हाल ही में घोषित दसवीं कक्षा के परिणामों में, हमारे एचपी पाठशाला के विद्यार्थियों ने बहुत अच्छा प्रदर्शन किया है। हमने लगातार दूसरे वर्ष केवल 100% उत्तीर्ण होने का परिणाम ही प्राप्त नहीं किया है, बल्कि हमारे शीर्ष 3 विद्यार्थियों ने 70% से अधिक अंक प्राप्त किए हैं।



रागिनी जायस्वार राधेश्याम
81.60%



प्राची कांबले अरविंद
72.60%



अंसारी अब्दुल रहीम मोहम्मद अख्तर
70.60%

दसवीं कक्षा की परीक्षा में सात और विद्यार्थी उपस्थित हुए जिनका विवरण नीचे दिया गया है :

क्रम सं	विद्यार्थी का नाम	प्रतिशत	पिता का नाम	दैनिक/सप्ताहांत छात्र
1	सुष्मिता विजय कोली	67.00%	श्री विजय कोली	सप्ताहांत विद्यार्थी
2	ज्योति कुमारी सिंह	64.00%	श्री बालेश्वर सिंह	दैनिक विद्यार्थी
3	प्रियांका अरुण शेंगडे	60.40%	श्री अरुण शेंगडे	सप्ताहांत विद्यार्थी
4	शेख फैजान मोहम्मद हारुन	60.00%	श्री मोहम्मद हारुन	दैनिक विद्यार्थी
5	स्नेहा गोरख पोटे	49.20%	श्री गोरख पोटे	सप्ताहांत विद्यार्थी
6	रेणुका रविकांत उमाशेट्टे	47.40%	श्री रविकांत उमाशेट्टे	सप्ताहांत विद्यार्थी
7	आरती अनिल शेलार	लागू नहीं *	श्री अनिल शेलार	दैनिक विद्यार्थी



सपनों की पोदली



मुझे बड़े होकर इंजीनियर बनना है। पढ़ाई में तो सब अच्छा चल रहा है पर 11वीं कक्षा में नाम लिखाने और फीस की चिंता है। कहीं ज़्यादा पैसे ना लगे।

मुझे अपने माता-पिता का नाम ऊंचा करना है तथा उन्हें सम्मान मिलें यह मेरा सपना है। उन्हें बहुत खुशी देना चाहती हूँ और जो सम्मान आज तक उन्हें नहीं मिला वो दिलाना चाहती हूँ और एक खुद का घर बनाना चाहती हूँ, जहां उनके साथ अच्छे से रह सकूँ।



रागिनी जायस्वार
कक्षा 10वीं उत्तीर्ण

मुझे गरीब बच्चों की मदद करना है ताकि वे पढ़ सकें और सिर्फ पैसे की कमी की वजह से कोई पीछे ना रह जाएँ। मैं कुछ ऐसा काम करूँ जिससे देश का नाम रौशन हो। मैं देश के गरीब लोगों की मदद करना चाहती हूँ। मैं चाहे कुछ भी बनूँ एक अच्छी इंसान जरूर बनना चाहती हूँ जो दूसरों की सहायता करें।

मेरे सपना है कि मेरे पास ढेर सारे अच्छे अच्छे कपड़े हो और मैं एक बार अपने देश का हर एक कोना घूमना चाहती हूँ। देश भर घूम कर देखना चाहती हूँ कि अलग अलग जगह कैसे कैसे लोग हैं, कौन-कौन सा खाना खाया जाता है, कैसे कैसे त्योहार मनाए जाते हैं, कौन-कौन सी भाषाएँ बोली जाती हैं, कैसी-कैसी वेशभूषाएँ हैं। खासकर मुझे अलग-अलग जगहों के डांस देखना और सीखना है। मुझे डांस करना बहुत पसंद है और मैं कॉलेज की प्रतियोगिताओं में भाग लेकर आगे जाना चाहती हूँ और एक डांस क्लास खोलना चाहती हूँ। मैं अपने मम्मी पापा के साथ एक बार अमेरिका भी घूमना चाहती हूँ। मैं एक बार एरोप्लेन में बैठना चाहती हूँ। अपने परिवार के साथ शान से रहना चाहती हूँ।

मैं चाहती हूँ कि सबके मन के अंदर के मनमुटाव को दूर करके एक अलग दुनिया बनाऊँ, जिसमें सब प्यार से रहे। कोई मारपीट नहीं, कोई झगड़ा नहीं, एकदम शांति से सब मिलजुलकर रहे। मैं सारी परेशानी को अपनी पढ़ाई से दूर करना चाहती हूँ। देश के कानून को सुधारना चाहती हूँ। मैं इतना अच्छा काम करना चाहती हूँ कि मेरे कारण मेरे समाज का नाम ऊंचा हो।

मुझे पढ़ाई में मदद करके मेरे हौसले को बढ़ाके और हर परेशानी से निकालने में एचपी पाठशाला ने बहुत मदद की है। मैं एचपी पाठशाला की बहुत आभारी हूँ।



सपनों की पोटली



अब्दुल अंसारी
कक्षा 10वीं उत्तीर्ण

मेरा नाम अब्दुल अंसारी है। मैंने इस वर्ष 10वीं कक्षा पास की है। एचपी पाठशाला की मदद से मैं 10वीं में अच्छा स्कोर कर पाया। अब मैं एफ़वाईजेसी में प्रवेश लेने वाला हूँ। मेरे घर में 9 लोग रहते हैं। हम 2 भाई और 4 बहन हैं और मम्मी-पापा और दादी है। मेरे अब्बू ड्राईवर है। वें घर का खर्च और हम सब की पढ़ाई का खर्च उठाते हैं। मैं और मेरे भाई बहन सरकारी स्कूल में पढ़ते हैं। फिलहाल हमारी स्थिति कोविड और लॉकडाउन की वजह से बहुत खराब है। मेरे अब्बू कमाते थे, लॉकडाउन की वजह से वो जॉबलेस हो गए है। 5 महीनों से अब्बू अपनी सेविंग से घर चला रहे है। आशा है कि अब्बू का काम शुरू हो जाये, ताकि वें हम सब की कॉलेज की फीस दे सके और हमारी पढ़ाई में कोई मुश्किल ना आए।

मैं बड़े होकर इंडियन आर्मी जॉइन करना चाहता हूँ। अगर किसी वजह से मैं इंडियन आर्मी जॉइन नहीं कर पाया तो कम्प्युटर इंजीनियरिंग करना चाहता हूँ। मेरे बहुत सारे सपने हैं, मगर पैसों की समस्याओं की वजह से मैं उन्हें अभी पूरा नहीं कर सकता। लेकिन कभी ना कभी मैं इन्हें जरूर पूरा करूंगा। मैं डॉ. ए पी जे अब्दुल कलाम की तरह कुछ नया करना चाहता हूँ। उनकी कहानी पढ़के बहुत प्रेरणा मिलती है। मैं उन्हीं से प्रेरित हुआ हूँ। मुझे बहुत अच्छा लगता है कि मेरा भी नाम अब्दुल है। मैं स्पेस में जाना चाहता हूँ और सारे ग्रहों को करीब से देखना चाहता हूँ।

मैं अपने घर वालों के लिए बहुत कुछ करना चाहता हूँ, मगर जब मैं अपने सपनों को देखता हूँ तो मैं कुछ और सोचता हूँ और जब मैं घर की स्थिति को देखता हूँ तो दिल करता है की जल्द से जल्द पैसे कमाऊँ और अपने घर की स्थिति को बेहतर करूँ। मुझे बहुत सी गतिविधियां करने का शौक है। मुझे इंग्लिश की पुस्तकें पढ़ना, नई भाषाएँ सीखना और कुछ नया बनाने में बहुत मज़ा आता है। मैं अपनी पढ़ाई के साथ-साथ इन सबको आगे लेकर जाना चाहता हूँ और भविष्य में मैं एक लाइब्ररी भी खोलना चाहता हूँ। मैं अपनी दुनिया को बहुत अच्छा बनाना चाहता हूँ, जिसमें सब मिल जुलकर रहे, हमेशा खुश रहे। ऐसा करने के लिए मुझे पावर में रहना होगा। इसलिए मेरे अब्बू चाहते हैं कि मैं यूपीएससी का एक्जाम दूँ और आईपीएस/आईएएस बनूँ।

मैंने अभी 11वीं में गया हूँ। एचपी पाठशाला ने मेरी बहुत सहायता की है और मेरे सपनों को पंख दिए है। पाठशाला के सहयोग से मैं आगे बहुत कुछ कर सकता हूँ। लॉकडाउन की वजह से ऑनलाइन क्लासेस चालू है और मेरे पास कोई लर्निंग डिवाइस नहीं थी, मैंने अपनी समस्या पाठशाला को बताई तो पाठशाला की तरफ से मुझे एक लर्निंग डिवाइस प्रदान किया गया जिसकी वजह से आज मैं ऑनलाइन क्लासेस कर रहा हूँ। हमारे पास ट्यूशन और कोचिंग करने के लिए पैसे नहीं है, मगर पाठशाला में हमें निशुल्क पढ़ाते है और पढ़ाई से संबंधित पूरी सहायता करते है। कॉलेज के एडमिशन में भी पाठशाला पूरा सपोर्ट कर रही है। थैंक यू सो मच एचपी पाठशाला।



नेक जो राह है, उस राह चलाना मुझको...

ईमानदारी, परोपकार, विनम्रता, सम्मान भावना, निष्पक्षता, सच्चाई, अहिंसा, कर्तव्यनिष्ठा और ऐसे ही कई मूल्य हमें एक अच्छा इंसान बनाने की दिशा में लेकर जाते हैं। हमें नेकी की राह पर ले जाते हैं। एचपी पाठशाला ने अपने विद्यार्थियों में नैतिक मूल्यों को और प्रगाढ़ करने के लिए एक नई शुरुआत की। इस शुरुआत के तहत हमारे सभी विद्यार्थियों को नैतिक मूल्यों की शिक्षा दी गई। इस नवोन्मेषी पहल के अंतर्गत हमारे टीम के सदस्य दशरथ गढ़ेकर द्वारा विभिन्न तरीकों से विद्यार्थियों को एक अच्छे इंसान के गुणों के बारे में बताया गया। कहानी, कविता, उदाहरणों और अनुभवों के माध्यम से सभी को अच्छे विचारों और अच्छी आदतों को अपनाने की सीख दी गई। ये देखना अत्यंत सुखद था कि बच्चों से इन आदतों के बारे में पूछे जाने पर आगे होकर उन्होंने बहुत अच्छे से इनके बारे में अपने विचार व्यक्त किए। कक्षा के बाद सभी बच्चों को अपने जीवन में उतारने के लिए कुछ प्रैक्टिकल बातें बताई गईं और उन्हें सामाजिक स्तर पर इनका प्रयोग कर अपने अनुभव लिखने के लिए कहा गया। सभी विद्यार्थियों के अनुभव अत्यंत चमत्कारिक, सुखद और भावविभोर कर देने वाले थे।

प्रस्तुत हैं उनमें से चुनिन्दा अनुभव:

यश (कक्षा 8वीं) :

मुझसे मेरे एक दोस्त ने सहायता मांगी तो मैंने उसे मोबाइल पर हिन्दी व्याकरण का चैप्टर भेजा। उसने मुझे थैंक यू बोला। मुझे उसकी सहायता करके बहुत अच्छा लगा। किसी की भी सहायता करने पर दिल में बहुत अच्छा लगता है। मैं अपने सभी दोस्तों, पड़ोसी बच्चों से अब बहुत अच्छे से बात करता हूँ और किसी से लड़ाई नहीं करता हूँ। कक्षा में टीचर ने मुझे कहा था कि मम्मी-पापा के पास बैठकर उनको एक बार थैंक यू बोलना कि वो मेरे लिए कितनी मेहनत करते हैं। मैं उनके सामने बैठकर तो ऐसा नहीं बोल पाया लेकिन दिल में मैंने ये सब ज़रूर सोचा और सच में मुझे बहुत ही ज़्यादा अच्छा महसूस हुआ और ये एहसास हुआ कि मैं हमारे लिए कितना कुछ करते हैं। कई बार बिना बोले भी हम बहुत कुछ कह सकते हैं। मैंने प्रण लिया है कि मैं जीवन भर उनकी सेवा करूँगा और उन्हें दुनिया के सारे सुख दूँगा। टीचर ने सिखाया था कि रोज बैठकर 15 मिनट खुद से आँख बंद करके बात करना है और खुद से पुछना है कि मैंने क्या अच्छा और क्या बुरा किया। मैंने ऐसी कोशिश की करने की। मन में ढेर सारे विचार घुमड़ते हैं जब हम आँखें बंद करके बैठते हैं तो, मैं धीरे-धीरे करके और अच्छे से इसका अभ्यास करूँगा।

प्रिया जयसवाल (कक्षा 10वीं):

जब मैंने ये क्लास अटेंड कि तो मुझे बहुत मज़ा आया। ये सब बातें हम रोज सोचते रहते हैं। जब भी कोई कुछ बुरा काम करता या हमारे साथ कोई बुरा करता है तो हम सोचते हैं कि ये कितना बुरा आदमी है। लेकिन टीचर ने बताया कि दुनिया को सुधारने की शुरुआत हमें स्वयं से करनी चाहिए। हम केवल एक ही व्यक्ति के बारे में सारी सच्चाई जानते हैं, और वो व्यक्ति



हम स्वयं है। केवल और केवल हमारे विचारों पर ही हमारा पूरा कंट्रोल है। पहले तो मुझे लगता था कि मैं एक अच्छी इंसान हूँ, लेकिन जब टीचर ने बोला कि रोज सोने से पहले 15 मिनट आँख बंद करके खुद से बात करना और पूछना कि मुझमें क्या क्या बुराई या कमी है, तब फिर सोचना कि मैं कैसी इंसान हूँ और क्या सुधारना है। मैंने ऐसा किया तो पता चला कि मैं बहुत ईमानदार हूँ, कभी गलत काम नहीं करती हूँ। लेकिन सच्चाई की थोड़ी कमी है मुझमें। कभी-कभी झूठ बोल देती हूँ। ये आदत मुझे ठीक करनी है जल्दी ही। मुझे दूसरों का सम्मान करने में भी थोड़ी कठिनाई आती है क्योंकि मुझे किसी की बातें सहन नहीं होती और बहुत जल्दी गुस्सा आ जाता है। और गुस्से के कारण फिर मैं किसी का भी सम्मान कैसे करूँगी। ये मुझमें बहुत बड़ी कमी है, धीरे-धीरे करके मुझे इसे दूर करना है। लेकिन साथ ही साथ सामने वालों को भी समझाऊँगी कि गुस्सा ना दिलाये कोई मुझे। कल मैंने बैठकर अपने मम्मी पापा से कहा कि आप लोग हमारे लिए इतनी मेहनत करते हैं तो मैं आपको थैंक यू बोलना चाहती हूँ। पहले तो उनको समझ नहीं आया कुछ लेकिन फिर बोले कि हमारी बेटी अब बड़ी हो गई है लगता है। उनको बहुत ही अच्छा लगा। और ऐसा कहकर मुझे भी अंदर से बहुत अच्छा अनुभव हुआ। थैंक यू एक छोटा सा शब्द कितनी ताकत रखता है। क्लास के बाद से मुझमें एक और चीज़ आई है, मैं अब बिना कोई अपेक्षा के दूसरों की मदद करने की सोचती हूँ। बदले में वो मेरी मदद करें या ना करें, यदि मैं उसकी मदद कर सकती हूँ तो मैं जरूर करूँगी। टीचर ने कहा था - नेकी कर दरिया में डाल और किसी की मदद ऐसे करो कि एक हाथ से करो तो दूसरे हाथ को भी पता ना चले।

स्नेहा (कक्षा 8वीं) :

नैतिक शिक्षा की कक्षा में आके मुझे बहुत अच्छा लगा। क्लास में जब जब भी टीचर ने प्रश्न किए सबसे पहले मैंने ही सारे जवाब दिये। सबसे अच्छा लगा कि सर ने पहले हम सभी से हमारे बारे में पूछा। सर ने हमको एक कहानी सुनाई जिसमें उन्होंने बताया कि किसी भी मुश्किल परिस्थिति में थोड़ा सा झुक जाने से कैसे वो टल जाती है और हम फिर से मजबूत हो जाते हैं। उन्होंने बांस के पौधे का उदाहरण दिया कि जब तेज हवा चलती है बांस का पेड़ पूरा दोनों तरफ झुक जाता है लेकिन टूटता नहीं है और जब हवा बंद हो जाती है तो वापिस अपनी जगह जैसे का वैसा खड़ा हो जाता है। उन्होंने एक कविता भी सुनाई थी कि घमंडी और अड़ियल पेड़ों को आँधी कुचल देती है और वही वाली डाली बचती है जो लचक जाती है। इससे उन्होंने हमें ये सिखाया कि हमें अपने व्यवहार में विनम्रता रखना चाहिए। उन्होंने बताया था कि जो डाली झुक

जाती है उसी के फल खाने का मौका लोगों को मिलता है। मैंने रात को सोने से पहले 15 मिनट आँख बंद करके बैठना और सोचना शुरू किया है। खुद से बात करने का कोशिश करती हूँ। बहुत मज़ा आता है एकदम। समझ में आता है कि दिन भर में मैंने क्या क्या कैसे कैसे किया। क्या अच्छा था और क्या सही नहीं था। मैं बहुत ज़्यादा बातें करती हूँ, तो कभी कभी फिर कुछ भी बोल देती हूँ। अभी मैंने सोचा है कि कुछ भी बोलने से पहले हमेशा 2 मिनट रुक के पहले सोचूँगी। टीचर ने गांधी जी का एक विचार भी बताया था कि जब भी किसी दुविधा में हो तो क्या सोचना चाहिए। मैं अब हमेशा वैसे ही सोचती हूँ। कभी-कभी दोस्तों से लड़ाई हो जाती है छोटी मोटी पर हम ऐसे हमेशा नहीं लड़ते हैं। टीचर ने बताया था कि आजकल देश में बहुत लोग आपस में लड़ रहे हैं, दंगे फसाद कर रहे हैं। इन लोगों में नैतिक मूल्य खत्म हो गए हैं। इसलिए हमें बचपन से ही अच्छी आदतों और विचारों को विकसित करना होगा तभी हम एक अच्छे इंसान बन पाएंगे और माँ-बाप और देश का नाम रौशन कर पाएंगे। मुझे तो खुद से बात करने वाली चीज़ सबसे अच्छी लगी, बहुत ही ज़्यादा मज़ा आता है उसमें, एक तरफ से एक आवाज़, दूसरी तरफ से दूसरी आवाज़। दोनों अपनी ही। सर ने बोला था कि दिल और दिमाग अलग-अलग नहीं होते, दिमाग में ही कहीं दिल भी होता है। फिर बोले कि दिल होता है और वो हमेशा अच्छी चीज़े करने को ही बोलता है। उन्होंने कहा था कि जब हार जाओ कभी जीवन में तो उसे दिल में मत उतरने देना वरना फिर हम टूट जाते हैं। और जब जीतो तो उसे दिमाग में मत चढ़ने देना वरना फिर हम घमंडी हो जाते हैं और ये बुरी बात है।



ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION



A Tale of Digital Connectedness

The onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the resultant lockdown impacted the lives of millions across the country. As most of the students of HP Pathshala belong to families who migrated to Mumbai; it made more sense to their parents to return to their hometowns during the lockdown. Despite all odds and physical distance, nothing deterred the spirits of the teachers or students and they gradually adapted to the e-modes of learning.

With the teaching and learning process on track, the Pathshala team thought why couldn't they organise the Annual Day Celebrations online! The resources, however limited, were in place, the students and teachers were familiarised with digital platforms and after all "All work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy"! And in a jiffy, the magicians at Pathshala got into work and decided on workable activities and a date for the first-ever online celebrations.

D-DAY:

The pressure had been mounting on team Pathshala. They were taking a risk that few had dared to. After a thorough check of systems and cheered on by the enthusiastic online participation of both Pathshala members and HP Family...the screen lit up and the event kickstarted with an invocation to the mighty destroyer of obstacles, Lord Ganesha.

A narrator plays the most important role of tying the sequence of things together. And in this case the lively conversations between Pathshala members - Mr. Ankur Maheshwari and Mrs. Rupali Maheshwari with their daughter Maithali kept the audience glued. Maithali would curiously ask questions that would pop-up in the minds of the viewers and Mrs. Rupali answered all of them eloquently and lead the viewers into the next phase of the program.

ONLINE ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION

HIMANSHU'S RAINCOAT

How could a skit be coordinated, enacted and recorded and a seamless result be presented virtually? Even the film industry is struggling with the concept...but could Pathshala students and their teacher and guide Mrs. Pallishree Panda pull it off?

Inspired by the short story of Mr. Amitabh Bachchan losing his black glasses and the Indian film industry helping him find it while staying at home, Mrs. Pallishree came up with the idea to create "Himanshu's Raincoat". The premise of the skit was to locate HP Pathshala student, Himanshu's raincoat; while educating and informing students and the audience about the good practices to adopt in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. The final skit is a result of 43 shortlisted videos clipped and merged together and the dedicated efforts of Pathshala students, their families and Mrs. Pallishree for over 12-15 days.

TRIP DOWN THE MEMORY LANE:

No journey is too long with the right company and HP Pathshala is testimony to it. HP Pathshala's journey of more than 2 years has been one filled with fun, laughter and lots of learning for both the students and the teachers. This eventful journey was brought out brilliantly by the nostalgic video curated that helped everyone take a trip down the memory lane.

LIFE DURING LOCKDOWN:

In the next "Life During Lockdown" segment HP Pathshala students from various grades shared their experience during the COVID-19 situation and how lives have changed in a short span.

Yash, Mohammad, Chitra and Raunak and Sohali took the opportunity to inform the attendees about the disruptions the pandemic has caused in their lives and informed them about the preventive measures to be taken to keep COVID-19 at bay.

Their words were further amplified by their teacher Mrs Lona Pandey who elucidated the struggles the students faced and the collective efforts of everyone at HP Pathshala to beat the virus. It indeed



ONLINE ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION

proves that, what doesn't break us makes us stronger!

ADAPTING TO THE NEW NORMAL:

Life for everyone around us has changed drastically in the past few months, but we at HP Pathshala have never shied away from obstacles. From experimenting with platforms to leveraging practical means to teach, learning at HP Pathshala never stopped. The live demonstration by one of teachers correlating the concepts of force, surface area and pressure in day-to-day life gave all a glimpse of the innovative teaching techniques being used. Mrs. Seema Chandra also took the opportunity to share her teaching experience, struggles and gradual success witnessed by her in this learning curve.

UNLIMITED IDEAS WITH LIMITED RESOURCES:

While the viewers moved on the next section of Science and Maths experiments conducted by students, Maithali asked the most pertinent question that was bothering all. How could the students perform the experiments without a lab or staying at home? Her questions were put to rest by Mrs. Rupali reiterating that Science is a part of our day to day lives and one doesn't need a lab to test it!

The science experiments were kick-started by Mrs. Umabala who had meticulously guided all the students in their Biology projects. HP Pathshala students Sneha and Ragini informed us about the concept of "Five Kingdom Classification" and gave an insight on viruses, which peaked everyone's interest. Later, Komal Tanisha and Preeti demonstrated the process of Germination that indirectly gave insights into the Food Chain.

As a part of the Chemistry project, Komal showed us all the importance of oxygen for combustion and performed a mindboggling feat with into resultant vacuum created. Priya on the other hand performed tests with acid and base indicators, Minakshi demonstrated application of pressure and force on movable objects and Harshali showed the functioning of a home-made air pump. Their proud teacher Mrs Nitika



Srivastava narrated her experience and lauded the spirit of the students.

The physics experiment highlighted the concept of regelation of ice by Komal under the guidance of Pathshala volunteer Mr. Vineet Yadav, who emphasised that the project was selected to spark curious minds.

Mr. J S Prasad and Mrs. Janaki Devi took the lead in the Maths experiments and helped Pathshala students Preeti to demonstrate the Parallel Lines-Alternate Interior Angle theorem, Mayur & Karthik to create "magic" with numbers with the help of algebra and Himanshu & Supriya to elucidate the Pythagoras Theorem and its applications.

To appreciate the students to continue their learning and dedicated hard work, Mr. Yogesh Gupta announced the meritorious students who were presented e-certificates.

THE HAPPY CONCLUSION:

As the event drew to an end, efforts of Team Pathshala both by students and teachers were emphasized upon by Mr. J S Prasad and had everyone associated, brim with pride.

It is always a delight to receive appreciation from our seniors and well-wishers and encouraging comments from Mrs. Shyamala Kesavan, President-HP Shakti Ladies Club renewed the dedication to work for the benefit of the society. In addition to the recognition, HP Pathshala team was also offered a generous contribution of Rs 20,000 from the Club to help procure smartphones for students.

It truly had all associated on seventh heaven! The saga of the 2nd Annual Day Celebrations concluded with the encouraging comments from our C&MD and Functional Directors and made all our efforts meaningful.



*Nothing worthwhile comes easily.
Work, continuous work and hard work, is the only
way to accomplish results that last.*

- Hamilton Holt





BEAN GERMINATION

Pythagoras Theorem

In a right angled triangle, square of its hypotenuse is equal to sum of the squares of its two side

$$(x+y)(x+y) = xy + xy + z^2$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + 2xy = 2xy + z^2$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = z^2$$

$$AB^2 + BC^2 = AC^2$$

So, in any right angled triangle square of hypotenuse is equal to sum of squares of its two side
This is known as Pythagoras theorem from the Mathematican Pythagoras, who had invented the formula.

Words That Inspire Us

As the power-packed Annual Day celebrations of HP Pathshala drew to an end, the HP Pathshala students, teachers, mentors and all participants were over the moon for the overall smooth conduction of the event and eagerly awaited the comments from our Chairman & Managing Director and Functional Directors. Their kind words not only made all the efforts worthwhile, but also encouraged all to uphold the benchmark set by HP Pathshala in the times to come.

Here are a few snippets of the words that inspire us.



Shri Mukesh Kumar Surana
Chairman & Managing Director

My day had a very joyous and fulfilling start and it was a pleasure to see all the good things that are happening around me. An initiative has the power to transform many lives, and it'll be blissful to see all these children grow up and see impact Pathshala has made in their lives.



Shri Pushp Kumar Joshi
Director-HR

I wish to thank the students for putting up such an inspiring show and also extend my wishes to the HP Pathshala team members for providing all the opportunity to witness such a wonderful celebration in such challenging times.

ONLINE ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATION



Shri Vinod S. Shenoy
Director-Refineries

When I see the word Pathshala written, I read the word "PATH" and I hope this effort shows the students right path in their lives. As the science experiments indicated the conditions required for the seeds to grow; I am happy to see the students getting the right environment for them to grow.



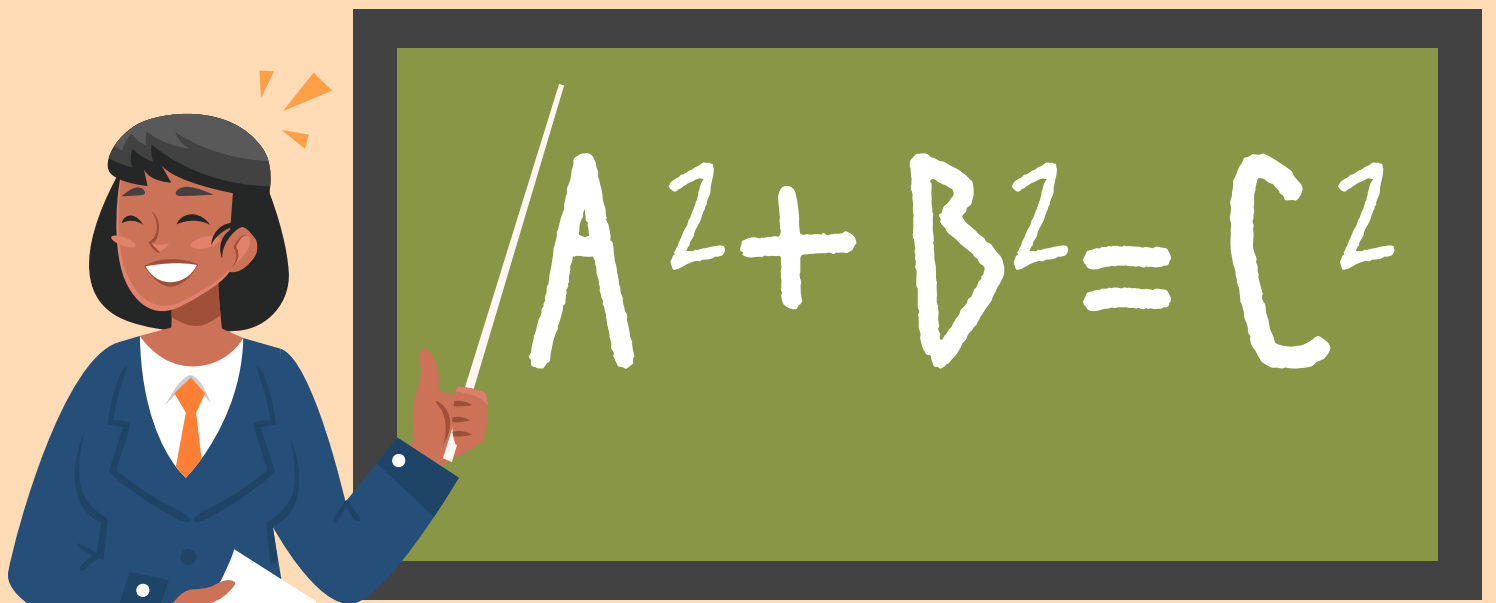
Shri R. Kesavan
Director-Finance

It has been a pleasure to be associated with the lively and engaging program organised by Team HP Pathshala. I thank everyone associated for silently doing their duty of giving back to the society.



Shri Rakesh Misri
Director-Marketing

I am very happy and proud to be a part of the 2nd Annual Day Celebration of HP Pathshala & hope that due to online mode of education, communication between students & teachers would have improved & relationships strengthened. Hats off to those associated with this initiative.



VOLUNTEERS TEAM



VOLUNTEERS TEAM



Founding Members



Name:
Ankur Maheshwari
Volunteer since:
Founder

Name :
Rupali Maheshwari
Employee Name :
Ankur Maheshwari
Volunteer since:
Founding Member



Name :
Yogesh Gupta
Volunteer since:
Founding Member

Name :
Shabbir Azam
Volunteer since:
Founding Member



Name :
Mohammad Usman J H
Khan
Volunteer since:
Founding Member

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



Name :
Lona Pandey
Employee Name :
Akhil Pandey
Volunteer since:
Founding Member -
HPNE Pathshala

VOLUNTEERS TEAM



Class Mentors



Name : K. L. Uma Bala
Employee Name: J S Prasad
Subjects/Class taught : Biology, Class X & XI
Volunteer since : August 2018

MENTOR CLASS X & XI

Name : A. Janaki Devi
Employee Name : A.V. Krishna Murthy
Subjects/Class taught : Maths, Class IX & X
Volunteer since : September 2018

MENTOR CLASS IX



Name : Lona Pandey
Employee Name : Akhil Pandey
Subjects/Class taught : Science and Maths, Class VIII
Volunteer since: July 2018

MENTOR CLASS VIII

Name: Rama Thirunahari
Employee Name : Ashok kumar Thirunahari
Subjects/Class taught : Maths, Class V to VIII
Volunteer since : October 2018

MENTOR CLASS VII



Name : Sitalata Hansdah
Employee Name : Kumar Kushal Hansdah
Subjects/Class taught : Environmental Science, Class VI
Volunteer since : October 2018

MENTOR CLASS VI

VOLUNTEERS TEAM

Online Class Team



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: October 2017.

Name : Rohan Rakesh Sapra
Employee Name : R.S. Sapra
Subjects/Class taught : Maths, Class VIII
Volunteer since: October 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

Online Class Team

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 : 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
Subjects/Class taught : Physics, Class VIII
Volunteer since : January 2019

Online Class Team



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 Xth
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 VIII, IX & X
Volunteer Since: October 2019

Name : Nitika Srivastava
Employee Name : Sachin Shrivastava
Subjects/Class taught : Chemistry, Class X
Volunteer since : January 2020



Name : Niahrika Jangala
Employee Name : Sankara Rao Jangala
Subjects/Class taught : Physics, Class IX
Volunteer since : January 2020

Online Class Team

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

TEAM MEMBERS



Aishwarya
Batra



Amit
Rathore



Anitha
George



Ashwini
Shebare



Daya Mawle



Dr. Ravindranath
Gupta



Firdaus
Patthawala



Jyothi
Suresh



Madhukar B
Ingole



Manasi
Hanumant
Teke



Pallishree
Panda



Poulami Mitra
Mondal



Pradnya
Donadkar



Prajcta
Sameer
Deshmukh



Raj
Desai



Ritu
Lavania



Sameeksha
Jain



Sharda
Turkar



Shital
Pohanekar



Suman Bhan



YVN Sarma