

Educational Support Enables Underprivileged Children to Blossom



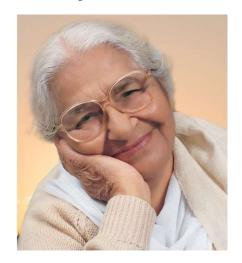
Class 6 Masters a New Skill - Calendar Making

Arpana's Community Welfare Centre Activities Vasant Vihar, New Delhi 2022

Under the Auspices of Arpana Trust

Headquarters: Madhuban, Karnal, Haryana, INDIA

Our Founder and Inspiration - Param Pujya Ma



Param Pujya Ma explained that all people are the Lord's children. Thus, Arpana members felt the need to assist those who are disadvantaged.

Since education, including teaching the humane values, is one of the most important means to have a better life, Arpana's Rejoice Centre in Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, set up tuition classes for poverty stricken children (for those who want to fulfill their dreams).

With Param Pujya Ma's blessings, hundreds of children from underprivileged families in the area, are being given the opportunity to transform their future prospects.

"The Lord comes to give and teach the art of giving; to serve and teach the art of serving. He transforms ignorance into transcendental beauty."

Param Pujya Ma

Brief History of the Organisation

Arpana Trust is a registered charitable, not-for-profit organisation, headquartered in Madhuban, Karnal (Haryana). It is a non-sectarian organisation, whose spiritual foundation inspires members to translate the eternal values into everyday living.

Thus, Arpana has a beautiful series of health, development and education programs for the underprivileged, spread over the states of Haryana, Himachal and Delhi and is recognized at the state, national and international levels.

Executive Summary

Gyan Arambh, at Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, provides educational support for children from underprivileged families – with a clear vision and mission to fill the inadequacies in their situations and lead them towards a better life.

The onslaught of Covid-19, this year too, resulted in long closures of schools which, besides hampering learning, took a toll on the mental and physical health of the children.

At Gyan Arambh, we have made an effort to decrease the achievement gaps, compared to more privileged students, by developing a Bridge Curriculum that is focused on the fundamentals of literacy and numeracy.

Speaking in English is encouraged here. Moreover, the committed team of educators used methods like audio and video formats for virtual learning to spread the material via WhatsApp groups to help students.



Children receive Mini Meal Boxes on Holi

Be Educated, Be Empowered!

The COVID-19 dilemma compelled educational systems around the world to develop substitutes for face-to-face interaction and instruction for students according to online and offline schedules.

Gyan Arambh also developed solutions, while keeping in mind the need to understand the potential of impoverished children.

The little ones enjoy Children's Day with Mrs. Meenakshi Mathur, Director Gyan Arambh



Gyan Arambh started the session from first of July 2021 which began with the introduction of our academic year. In accordance with government directives, we had online classes from April to July 2021 and again in January 2022.

• Fortunately, most of our students this year had access to smart phones, but there were some problems because of occasional connectivity issues.



Offline (Contact) Classes

- Both teachers and students were better prepared this year with digital learning aids and WhatsApp and Zoom meetings.
- Periodic zoom meetings were held with the Director, Subject-in-Charges and Teachers for planning and evaluation.
- The highlight this year was the successful holding of 91 days of contact classes at the Center. These classes helped us to connect to our students both mentally and emotionally.

Basic Strategy Adopted for Transaction of Monthly Curriculum



- Lesson plans and worksheets were compiled for students on their academic subjects.
- 2. Then a meeting was arranged to discuss the core points of the subject, approved by the subject's coordinator.
- 3. Next was scheduling the timetable on the basis of the comfort zone of the students.
- 4. Teachers disseminated the information to the students via WhatsApp groups.

After the training, our mentors prepared some evaluation tests at the end of every month based on the syllabus that was covered. However, for some weak students, there were some separate assignment sheets.

MONTH-WISE CURRICULUM TEACHING

During the academic year 2021-22, our teachers covered the syllabus and **revisited all topics** which some students found difficult to understand. There were some special sessions scheduled for our senior classes.

In online classes, there was a marked improvement in the student responses.

Storytelling and Playtime for Class 3



- Throughout the months of May and June, following the end of classes, we engaged our students in semi-academic activities like games and fireless cookery. Students were also involved in activities like puzzles, collage-making, thumb paints and Warli paintings.
- The aim of these events was to find talent among the children. When playing games, pupils were informed of the rules and winners from each class were declared.
- 8th & 9th grade students were required to present an encouraging and inspiring video.

Parameters to Be Observed for Assessment

Arpana arranged Readiness Program for teachers in which the following points were discussed:

- 1. Students' follow-up work from April through June will be evaluated by teachers.
- 2. Responses from students in contact classes held in February and March 2022.
- 3. For students who live outside of the station or in the village, whether the child was speaking in English or not, and the causes to be determined.
- 4. A list was given to our support staff, so they could do home visits.

OFFLINE CLASSES

Offline Classes were held all through August till Dec and then resumed in Feb and March. The students were called twice a week for three one-hour periods each, for these classes.

In each hour, 40 minutes of class work and 20 minutes of remedial work were done. Emphasis was given to students requiring assistance.

A Father's Plea



When Lakshay was habitually late to Gyan Arambh classes, it was decided to drop him from the program, but his father, Mr. Shravan, pleaded for him to stay.

"Lakshay learned a lot from Gyan Arambh. He didn't even know anything before, but now he's much more familiar with many things like poems, and sounds. I am pleased to see his improvement – I mean, he was only average before. Since COVID arrived we couldn't pay him the attention he needed because we didn't have any mobile phone and a computer was unaffordable for us. My wife taught him as much as she could, but she is barely educated. I was so concerned for Lakshay, I plead with you to please support Lakshay in his studies."

Arpana was happy to learn of the boy's interest in studies and acceded to Lakshay's father's request.

ACQUIRING KNOWLEDGE



Tutoring Class 9 for Exams



Water Filter- Class 7

We have provided our teachers with specialized training so they can explore various teaching strategies to improve the skills of the students. Our staff arranged some interesting activities like-Pin Hole Cameras, Water filter and many more.



Pin Hole Cameras



Students take interest in science experiment

Siddharth



Siddharth and his family were forced to go to their village due to the Covid-19 Pandemic for almost two years, but he never gave up learning.

Siddharth is a very diligent and earnest student of Gyan Arambh in class 8. With tons of potential, he also has the right attitude towards learning. He successfully adapted to online learning modalities and was very regular in sending his work to his teachers from his village. He also kept himself ahead by using the YouTube content related to chapters.

All of us wish him success and good luck for a wonderful future.

CELEBRATIONS



Story Telling on Holi



Poster Making On World Water Day



Story Telling on Christmas



Applying Chandan Tikaa On Holi

The Commemorations of Republic Day, Holi, Independence Day, Diwali, and Christmas, were celebrated as the lockdown was eased.

Children enjoyed snacks and sweets, games, songs, dancing, story-telling, and other activities related to the Festivals.



Celebration on Independence
Day



Celebrations Toran Making for Diwali



Games & Dancing on Children's Day



Earth Day - Class 8

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

We continue to get support from our patrons who generously donate for the educational requirements and the wellbeing of our students.

- Mrs. Geetika Bahl gave woolen socks for the children in winter.
- Mrs. Sameena Arif and Mrs. Geetika Bahl gave school bags to all the children.
- Mr. Abhinav Mathur gave the children pullover sweaters.
- Mr. A.S. Tatari, a renowned and respective media personality, donated Rs. 10,000.
- Mr. Sandeep Bharat Rangari donated Rs. 10,000 towards our educational needs.
- Mrs. Mona Sharma, a volunteer at our center, distributed the traditional Gujiya.
- Mr. Sanjay Dutta, Mona Sharma's brother, distributed mini-meal boxes to the entire staff and students on the occasion of Holi.

ARTS & CRAFTS



Warli Painting – Vandana Rawat



Best Out of Waste



Budding Artist - Class 8 Vandana Rawat



Poster of Hanuman Ji in the shape of the Swastika



Flameless Cooking

Arts and Craft activities:

- Best Out Of Waste
- Budding Artist
- Diya Making
- Bag Making

Art and craft activities give children a sense of achievement and pride in their work.

This builds confidence and enhances their talent.



Diwali - Diya Making



Story Telling and Play- Class 3



Bag Making

Lessons Learnt from the COVID-19 Pandemic

- 1. Appreciation for schools in society.
- 2. Parents gratitude for teachers' skills and their invaluable role in student well-being
- 3. Importance of education in all of life.
- 4. Adopting a flexible curriculum for teaching in-person online.
- 5. Using many IT devices by skilled teachers.

Especially, the pandemic taught us resilience, gratitude and, adoption of new technologies into the education ecosystem worldwide.



SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENTS DURING THESE CONTACT CLASSES

- Teachers helped students to develop reading and comprehension skills among students.
- Short easy exercises encouraged the reading campaign endorsed by Delhi Government.
- Science experiments were performed in classes 6 to 9 for hands-on experience.
- Teacher helped students with school projects.
- Classes 1-5 had support teachers in English to help them narrow the learning gaps.
- Emphasis on good handwriting.
- Students' attendance had improved tremendously since the schools re-opened.





ROSHAN

Roshan, Class 4, tells us, "I study Hindi, English, and Maths here at Gyan Arambh. I have improved a lot. I have started reading and can calculate better. We also learn arts and crafts and computers.

"I come to Arpana Trust after my regular school. Here we are taught a lot so I do not want to miss any classes. I do not get a chance to ask my questions to madam in school as there are so many other children. But here I can ask madam questions and she explains and it is all clear."

With Deep Gratitude to all our Friends & Supporters...

Your warm generosity and support is enabling Underprivileged children to progress Towards achieving their dreams

Add Your Support to Empower Vulnerable Children to Reach for Their Dreams!

<u>Indian Donations</u>: Arpana Trust is approved under section 80G of the Income Tax Act, 1961, giving 50% tax relief for donors in India.

- 1. Online Donation (Indians only) please click here: eazypay | Search, View and Pay your bills | ICICI Bank Ltd.
- 2. Donation through Direct Bank Remittance (Indians only): To: Bank of India, Karnal (IFSC Code: BKID0006750)
- 3. Bank Account Name Arpana Research & Charities Trust; Bank Account No. 675010100100014
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Payment Gateway Link: Arpana Trust

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- 3. Donation through Direct Bank Remittance: To: State Bank of India, 11 Sansad Marg, New Delhi 110001;(Swift ID: SBININBB104); Branch Code: 00691; IFSC: SBIN0000691; Bank Account Name Arpana Trust; Account No. 40193018145

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