**Apna Ghar (Ek Kadam Project) Site Visit, 2015**

Kriti Kohli, Snetu’s (fellowship steward) friend visited Apna Ghar on November 14, 2015. She spent about three hours and spoke to the children living there, the managing staff as well as the Asha Fellow – Mahesh Pandey.

Kriti’s visit was very pleasant and everyone at the place was very welcoming. Based on Kriti’s observations:

* They doing pretty well at Apna Ghar.
* Mahesh ji are doing a great job managing the home.
* The children have very good values and it was heart touching to see kids from such a background were so well behaved and trained.
* The children are being brought up very well. They are disciplined and good to talk to.
* Not just academically, but they are being shaped for an overall living.
* Some of the younger kids were able to speak a little English.
* Some of the kids have been living there for ages. There were even 3-4 kids who are in class 11-12th and living there since 2006.
* About 3-4 other kids passed out and are doing their undergraduate studies in various universities in Lucknow, Kanpur and Bundelkhand, etc.
* In general the kids were very bright and well mannered. Their rooms were neat and tidy.
* The place is very well maintained. Common areas were neat and clean.
* Mahesh ji is doing a fabulous job and the project should be supported more.
* Mala India Foundation has decreased their funding by 25% this year.

Several photos were taken during the site visit, as shown below:









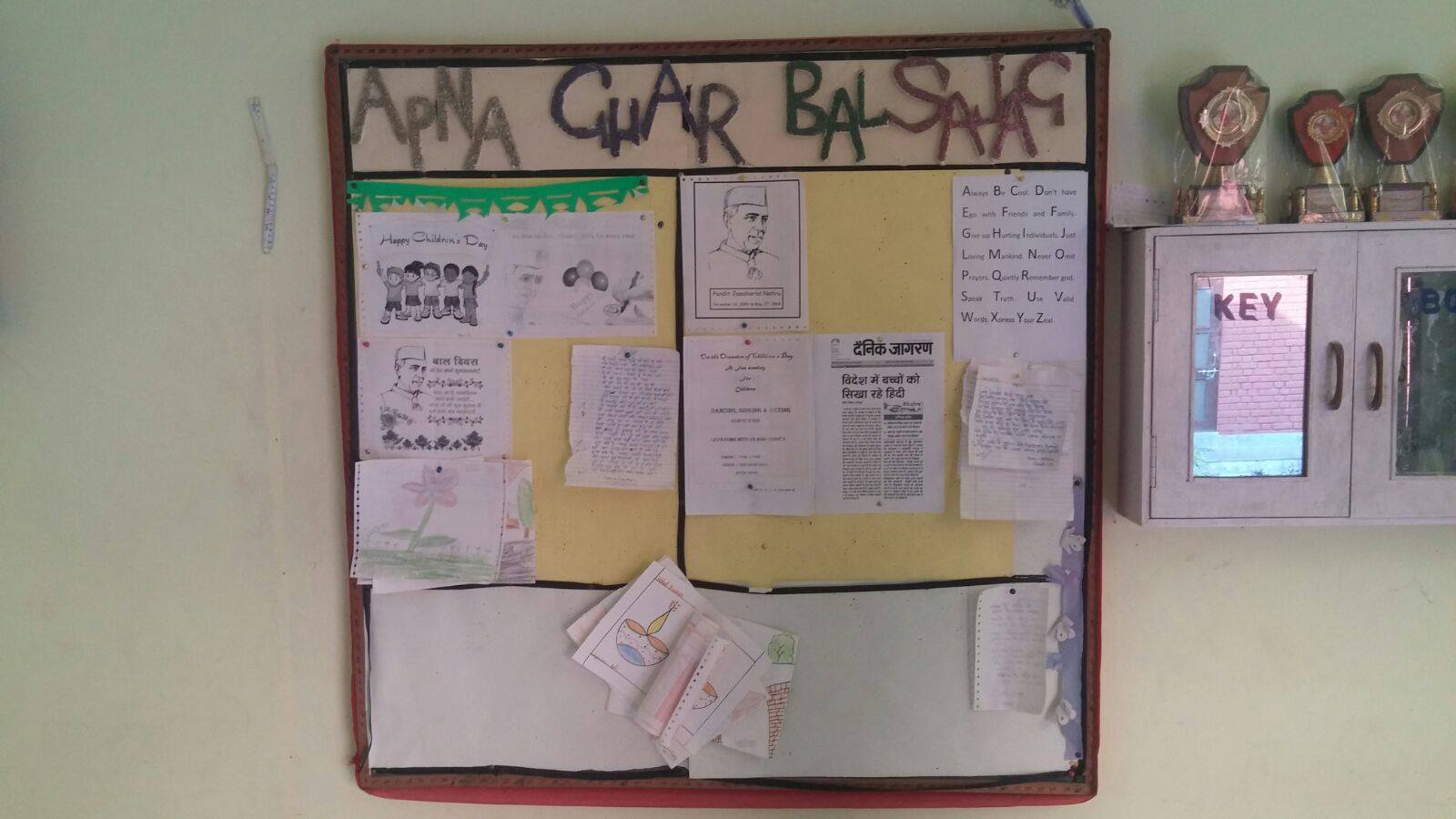




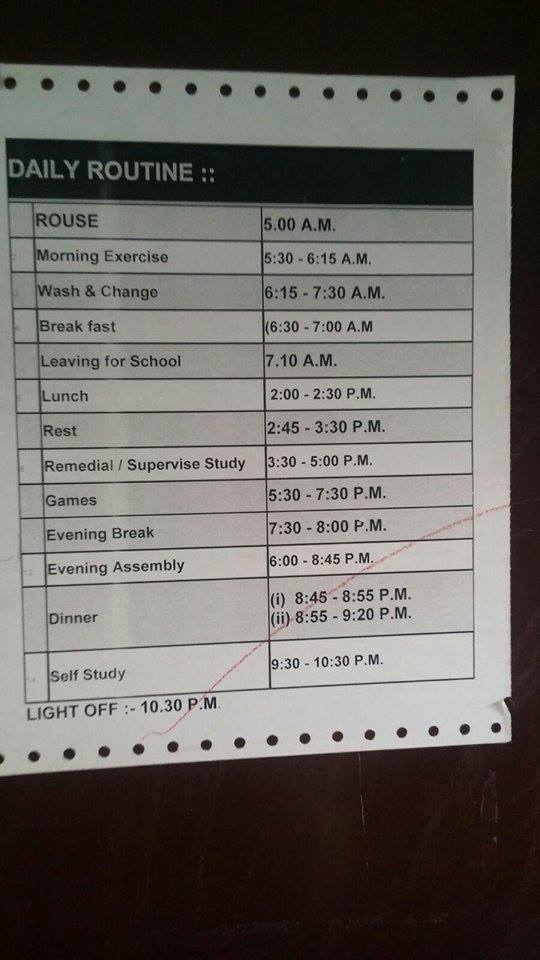












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