Continuous efforts of Vijaya Didi and Apna Skool now finally bring a smile on the faces of brick-kiln workers when they received the labour registration card. This card gives them an identity that can be used to avail various Government schemes for migrant workers.
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January 2018

1. Swami Vivekanand Jayanti

National Youth Day was celebrated at all the centers of Apna Skool on the occasion of the 155th birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. Detailed information about his life and teachings were given to the students. Teachers urged students to adopt his teachings; students took an oath to follow his path. The celebration started with pushparpan to Swami Ji. Students drew pictures and wrote Swami Ji’s quotes on walls and, also performed some cultural activities.

2. Health camp at Apna Skool Tatiyaganj

Apna Skool organized a health camp at its Tatiyaganj Centre on 16th January 2018, with the help of the doctors working at Chaubepur Health Centre. 102 children and their mothers took part in the camp. Medicines were given to them after relevant medical examination.
3. Republic day celebration:

Prabhat Pheri (Morning Rally):

Republic Day celebrations at all Apna Skool centers commenced with Prabhat Pheri (Morning March). Students collectively marched in nearby villages and brick kiln sites, bringing about awareness about current issues amongst people through songs, posters, etc. They also raised slogans about Independent India, its glories and rich history, To consolidate action against Corruption, Need for conservation of water Energy and other renewable energy resources. Many men and women from the villages joined them and participated as well.

Flag Hoisting:

After Prabhat Pheri, when students returned to centers, Flag hoisting took place. Participation of parents, some brick kiln owners and teachers at various centers of Apna Skool, was one of the highlights of the flag hoisting ceremony.

Cultural Events:

Cultural event by the students included Physical training (P.T.) exercises, songs, poems, and theatre. A large number of people including families of the students attended the event and profusely appreciated the efforts of the students. The programme concluded with the distribution of sweets and fruits.
4. Article on 'Apna Skool' in Amar Ujala (29/01/2018)

Article on 'Apna Skool' was published in Amar Ujala (My City), Kanpur edition of January 29, 2018.

http://epaper.amarujala.com/kc/my/20180129/01.html?format=img&ed_code=kc#

5. Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi-Martyrs Day (January 30th)

Mahatma Gandhi is revered as the Father of the Nation and his autobiography titled “My Experiments with Truth” is a book that every child should read. January 30th is designated as Martyrs Day when the nation pays homage to Gandhiji and a large number of people who participated during the Freedom Struggle. Students and teachers at all the centers of Apna Skool pay homage to the father of the nation on this day.
Visitors:

1. Dr. Siddharth Ramachandran, Boston University:
Dr. Siddharth Ramachandran, a professor at Boston University, US, visited Apna skool centers on 1st January 2018 and interacted with the students and teachers.

2. Rajesh Mishra (Assistant labour commissioner and Arshi Khan) visited the center.
Assistant labour commissioner, Mr. Rajesh Mishra, and Mr. Arshi Khan visited Apna Skool Tatiyaganj center on 8th January 2018. They interacted with all the students and distributed chocolates and biscuits. They also discussed with the teachers, regarding specific requirements of the students, and assured them of help.

3. Shri C.P Awasthi (Kanpur's forest officer)
Mr. C.P Awasthi, Forest officer, Kanpur, visited Apna Skool Tatiyaganj center on 27th January 2018. He was impressed with the enthusiasm of the bright students; Gayatri of class two spoke with great clarity about the daily activities of Apna Skool; Likewise, he was impressed to hear young students of class four Prabha, Harishchandra, and Sumit, speak about the global warming.
February 2018

1. **12th U.P Board Examination:**
Three ex-students of Apna Skool, appeared for the 12th class board examination held from 6th February 2018 to 12th March 2018.

Mansi (Apna Skool, Dhamikheda)
Sonu (Apna Skool, Lodhar B.K)
Manish (Apna Skool, Tatiyaganj)

2. **Educational Trip of Apna Skool:**

**Visit Kanpur Zoo (16 Feb. 2018):**
All the students of the Apna Skool Maharajpur center visited the Kanpur zoo during the month of February. 250 children with three bus went for the tour.

**Banaras Trip (25 & 28 Feb. 2018)**
All senior students of Apna Skool visited the historic city of Varanasi from 25th February to 28th February 2018. They thoroughly enjoyed the trip which included visits to Sarnath, Ganga Ghats, Banaras Hindu University.
3. Science Day:

28th February was celebrated as science day in all the centers of APNA SKOOL. Many students participated in the science day celebrations by making small science models and sharing them with their fellow students. In many centers, students were also made aware of the surrounding flora and fauna.

Visitors.

February 2018

- Dr. Ashok Gupta, Ohio University:
  Ashok Gupta, an alumnus of IIT Kanpur, visited Kanpur and had detailed discussions with the teachers of Apna Skool. He took the opportunity to know about the workings of bricks-kilns and the many problems faced by the workers. He was keen to know about the laws and schemes available for laborers in India and wished to do something to ensure that the laws are implemented to benefit the workers.

On 3rd February 2018, Dr. Gupta visited the Apna Skool center in Tatiyaganj and some other centers in Tikra. He freely interacted with the students, enquiring them about their scholastic progress. His foundation is also providing scholarships to a few students from Apna Skool.

March 2018

1. Holi Milan:

Apna Skool organized an eco-friendly Holi Milan at all the centers. While celebrating the festival of colours, the students were also made aware of the harmful effects of the chemical colours. The students collectively cleaned the Apna Skool premises. They applied herbal gulal to each other and enjoyed eating gujiya and sweets.
2. NIOS Annual Examination class 3 and class 5 (12-19 March 2018)

31 students of class 3 and 5 from various centers of Apna Skool appeared in Level A and B examination of Open Basic Education programme ; NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling). Out of 31 students, 6 appeared in Level B and the rest in Level A examination.

- Education Trip

On 19th March 2018, all children (200 children) from Chaubepur and Murari center visited Sudhanshi Ashram and Sai Darbar. Three Bus was booked for the tour.

April 2018

1. Worker’s registration camp for labour card

Due to the continuous efforts of Vijaya Didi, the entire team of Apna Skool, and the Labour office in Kanpur, registration camp for the workers of brick kilns, was held from December 23, 2017, to January 4, 2018. The registration of 344 workers and the subsequent preparation of the labour cards at various brick kilns, was possible due to the active intervention and facilitation of the Apna Skool team who personally went to the brick-kilns to help in the registration process. Apna Skool coordinators (L.K Shukla and B.N. Sharma) also facilitated in the distribution of the labour cards to workers at the respective brick kilns.

Medical Facility Scheme:

On the basis of the labour card, the registered workers can now avail the medical facility scheme under which they are eligible to receive Rs. 3000 per year.

2. Sudha Opportunity Scholarship to 10 students:

Pragati Foundation founded by Dr. Ashok Gupta, an alumnus of IIT Kanpur, supports meritorious students to continue their studies in Class 9 and beyond through the Sudha Opportunity Scholarship (SOS), constituted in the name of his wife, late Mrs. Sudha Gupta. In 2017, five girls of APNA SKOOL received the SOS scholarship which has been further continued for class 10th as well, and in 2018, five more students of Apna Skool (2 girls and 3 boys) have received the SOS scholarship, which would cover their tuition fee, books, and other educational expenses. For more information about Pragati Foundation, please visit their website. www.pragatifoundation.net
3. **Health Camp:**
The health camp was organized for the students at the Apna Skool Tatiyaganj center on 9th March 2018. This camp was organized in collaboration with the Chaubepur health center. 80 children underwent a thorough medical examination and medicines were administered accordingly.

4. **Socio-Emotional Learning Workshop:**
To understand students’ psychology, and incorporate these aspects into their teaching, a Socio-emotional Learning workshop was conducted by a Young India fellow and former volunteer of Jagriti, Ms. Ananya Tiwary and Shivangi, Ishika and Shiva from Ashoka University on 14th and 15th April 2018. The participants of the workshop included teachers from Apna Skool and Swami Vivekanand School. The workshop delved upon various issues related to the teaching-learning process such as the purpose of education, challenges faced by the schools, Sanitation problem and cleanliness issues, Safety for girls, Contribution of teachers in society, Integrating guardians, Integrating students of the class and participation of the child in the class.
5. Assimilation of some Apna skool students in the Apna Ghar residential hostel for migrant children

A total of seventeen children were enrolled in the Apna Ghar hostel, a residential facility for migrant children in Kanpur. The selection was held in consultation with the parents of the children.

6. 12th Board Examination Results:

Three Apna Skool alumni pursuing high school from mainstream schools with financial support from Apna Skool, JBVS appeared for the 12th class board examinations and passed with flying colours. Mansi (Apna Skool Dhamikheda alumnus) and Manish (Apna Skool Tatiyaganj), Sonu (Apna Skool Lodhar).

Health Programme

- Family Planning:

Family Planning, its importance, and methods of birth control had discussed with approx. 100 workers (male and female) of SP, Kalra-2 and Vibhu brick-kilns (Chaubepur Center). Condoms for male and Mala D tablets for female distributed each month to all the workers. Two women Parvati (Age-40 and kids-4) and Lalita (Age-42, kids-3) used female sterilization for birth control after going through a family planning session.
• **Vaccination:**

Vaccination and Immunization have been carried out at brick-kilns through Apna Skool, in which relevant vaccines for pregnant women and child were carried out.

- D.P.T, B.C.G, T.T, Hepatitis-B, the vaccine was administered to the workers.
- Vitamin A syrup, B complex, and multivitamin tablets have distributed to them.
- Approx. 300 children have vaccinated to relevant vaccines.

• **Dust Mask Distribution:**

550 dust mask was distributed by Apna Skool at (Vibhu, S.P, Kalra-2, Murari, Indra-2, R.S) brick-kiln, to workers, that can help them to prevent lungs problem, TB, Cough, Asthma, etc.

**Success story:**

**Vishal Gautam**, son of late Mr. Nanhaku Gautam and late Ms. Rampyari currently lives in Village Jarauli (82), Barra, Kanpur. He is the eldest among four brothers. Vishal Gautam did his primary schooling (from class 2 to class 10) from Sardar Patel Academy Inter College, Jarauli with the support of Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti. He completed his 11th and 12th class schooling from Gandhi Samarak Inter College. Currently, he is pursuing his B.Sc. with support from Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti. He lost his father at a very young age, and his mother passed away on 11th June 2016. He has an interest in the banking sector and also aspires to become an officer in the Income Tax Department of India.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.N</th>
<th>Name of Centre</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Name of Teacher</th>
<th>Centre Timing</th>
<th>Student enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sanyogita (2)</td>
<td>10:00 - 4:00</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Taiyaganj-2 Apna Skool</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Pradeep Yadav</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Primary School Dhamna (Rama+Deepak Brick Kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td>UTTAR PRADESH</td>
<td>Chandan (2) Urmila</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Omini Apna Skool (Quality education)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Mithlesh</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Primary School Atwa (Rama+Modi Brick Kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(1) Ruchi Yadav</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Indra - 2 Apna Skool (Indra-II ,Indra -III ,993, 995 Brick Kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Priyanka (2)Sachi</td>
<td>10:00 - 3:30</td>
<td>109</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Primary School Tikra (Murari Brick Kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Manju Bala</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Primary School Naseniya (Khalsa +Badhawan +Murari Brick Kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td>UTTAR PRADESH</td>
<td>Najma Khan</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Primary School Shahpur (Jaiswal Manpur Brick Kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ranjana</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>21</td>
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<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Primary School Meghanipurva (Saran,Jaiswal +Bajaj)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Raksha Vajpai</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Primary School Dedupur (Vishnu Brick Kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sudha Gupta</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gulab Khera Apna Skool (993 Brick Kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sweta Yadav</td>
<td>11:00 - 1:00</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>R.S Apna Skool (991 + Indra 1 + R.S Brick kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Shobha Yadav</td>
<td>11:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>KBF Apna SkoolManjhavan (KBF Brick Kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ayush</td>
<td>12:30 - 2:30</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Ankit Apna Skool (Ankit B.Klin)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Manish</td>
<td>3:00 - 5:30</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Kisan Nagar Apna Skool (Jai Durge Brick Kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Hardas Srivastava</td>
<td>11:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Shioham Apna Skool(997 B. Kiln)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ShyamBabu</td>
<td>12:00 - 2:30</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Students Studying in other Schools who are supported by Apna Skool</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total Number of Students</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>700</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Students going to mainstream schools with support from Apna Skool**

(45 students studying in mainstream school supported by Apna Skool for 2018-19 session)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Student</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Total No. of Students</th>
<th>Name of School</th>
<th>Name of Centre</th>
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<tr>
<td>Amit, Rahul, Ajay</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>BPMG Inter College, Madhana, Kanpur</td>
<td>Dhamikheda Apna Skool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hema</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Adarsh Inter College, Tatiyagan, Kanpur</td>
<td>Tatiyaganj Apna Skool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janvi</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Maharana Pratap Inter College, Mandhana, Kanpur</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alka, Roli, Saloni, Ranu, Anjali</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Jawaharlal Nehru Inter College, Kalyanpur, Kanpur</td>
<td>Dhamikheda Apna Skool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kunal</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Roti Ram Shikshan Sansthan, Igotha, Hameerpur</td>
<td>Murari Apna Skool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neetu</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Adarsh Inter College, Tatiyagan, Kanpur</td>
<td>Tatiyaganj Apna Skool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hemkumar</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jawaharlal Nehru Inter College, Kalyanpur, Kanpur</td>
<td>Dhamikheda Apna Skool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anjali, Soni, Aryaman</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jawaharlal Nehru Inter College, Kalyanpur, Kanpur</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gudiya</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Jawaharlal Nehru Inter College, Kalyanpur, Kanpur</td>
<td>Dhamikheda Apna Skool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shalini</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>SVV Lodhar, Mandhana, Kanpur</td>
<td>Gangaganj Apna Skool</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aminul</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>SVV Lodhar, Mandhana, Kanpur</td>
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<tr>
<td>Halida</td>
<td>6</td>
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<td>Romela</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sobhi, Armeena</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saddam</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pankaj, Anjani, Rani Arjun, Sangeeta</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>Adarsh Inter College, Tatiyagan, Kanpur</td>
<td>Tatiyaganj Apna Skool</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rohit, Indu, Kamini, Ranjani, Malti, Pradeep, Jyoti</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ashok, Madhusudan Rani, Pooja, Deepak Shankar</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Pooja, Poonam, Karan</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jawaharlal Nehru Inter College, Kalyanpur, Kanpur</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**total 45**
**Funding Sources:**

- ASHA for Education, Silicon Valley
- Vibha foundation
- Association for India's Development (AID), Portland
- Mala Foundation, Belgium
- R.V. foundation
- Owners of brick kilns, Kanpur: Although the support from brick kiln owners is minimal, some of the centers are getting a little assistance.
- Many individual donors (Kanpur, Bangalore, Jaipur, Kolkata, New Delhi, U.S.)

**Volunteers**

- Prayas, a volunteer group, Students of IIT Kanpur

**Important Links:**

- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJhOEa4moNA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJhOEa4moNA) A short film on Apna Skools (courtesy Sahara TV)
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCIEgMqdsX0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WCIEgMqdsX0) Annual Day function and opinion of parents
- Webpage: [https://sites.google.com/site/apnaskools/](https://sites.google.com/site/apnaskools/)
- Facebook page: [https://www.facebook.com/apnaskool](https://www.facebook.com/apnaskool)

**Apna Skool Organizational Structure**

Principal Co-ordinators: Ms. Vijaya Ramachandran, Shivam Tripathi
Sub Co-ordinators: Laxmikant Shukla, B.N. Sharma, Sangeeta Verma, Murari Kumar
Transport Co-ordinator: Manoj Shukla, Kripa Shankar Shukla
Health co-ordinator: Sunita Srivastava
Number of teachers currently employed: 22
Teacher-Student Ratio: 1:25

**Contact Information:**
For making your donations, please write a cheque in favor of or alternatively fund transfer into its Union Bank of India SB A/C 537202010003642 (for Indian donations) and 537202010004866 (for foreign donations) and intimate us for providing you a receipt that will enable you to claim income tax deduction u/s 80G.

Vijaya Ramachandran
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Tel: +91 9415307196, +91 740890099

Shivam Tripathi
Email: shiva@iitk.ac.in
Tel: +91 9005663618

Newsletter compiled by

**Murari Kumar and Sangeeta Verma**
and the Apna Skool Team