

APNA SKOOL NEWS LETTER MARCH'17 TO JUNE'17

Greetings from Apna Skool family. Once again here is our newsletter chronicling the events of the Apna Skool from March 2017 to June 2017. It is pleasure for us to express our heartfelt gratitude to all well-wishers, donors, small and large, sponsors in the past and present, and partners in our effort to educate children of migrant workers, who represent one of the most severely underprivileged groups in India. We again reiterate that apart from the abundant love and monetary support, we look forward to your comments and suggestions. Please feel free to send your comments, particularly when you feel that we may be erring.

March 2017

EDUCATIONAL TRIP (March 2 and 9)

Around 350 kids of junior classes of all the centres of ApnaSkool were taken to Kanpur Zoo for excursion on 2nd and 9th day of the month in 2 shifts. 5 buses were employed for commuting the kids. Kids enjoyed seeing various wild animals like monkeys, hippopotamus, bera, lion, tiger, leopard, chimpanzee etc. The children loved the colourful fish of various kinds in the aquarium the most. They enjoyed the various swings in the zoo premises and had lunch at the end.

BOARD EXAMINATIONS (March 16 to April 1)

5 ApnaSkool alumni pursuing high school from mainstream schools with financial support from ApnaSkool had their board examinations. The students who appeared this year are Manvi(ApnaSkoolDhamikheda alumnus) and Rahul, Niranjana, Ajay and Amit who are ApnaSkoolTatiyaganj alumni.

NIOS ANNUAL EXAMINATION OF CLASS 3 AND 5 (March 20-26)

40 students of class 3 and 5 from various centers of ApnaSkool appeared in Level A and B examination of Open Basic Education programme on NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling). Out of 40 students, 11 appeared in Level B and the rest in Level A examination.

COMPUTER CLASSES

Computer classes for familiarising the kids with basic operations of computer were held on every Sunday of March. Students from Class 4 to Class 8 from nearby centres participated in the classes.

VACCINATION

15 children of Indra-2 centre were administered vaccines under Indradhanush programme with the help of *Asha Bahu* of the nearby village, Arti.

WOMEN'S DAY (March 8)

March 8 was observed as Women's Day at Apna Skool centres. The teachers told the kids and their parents that men and women are equal. The students of Tatiyaganj centre and their

mothers were shown Bollywood movie *Dangal* on projector. The movie is based on real life story of women wrestler Geeta and BabitaPhogat. All of the mothers were presented a hand bag each as a token of appreciation of their hard work and role they have played in sending their kids to ApnaSkools. All the kids promised that they will teach their parents and other people at the brick kilns to write their names.

HOLI MILAN (March 15)

Holi Milan was organised at all the centres of ApnaSkool. The teachers told the mythological story behind the celebration of holi and the hazards of harmful chemical colours. The kids collectively cleaned the ApnaSkool premises. They applied herbal gulal to each other and enjoyed gujhiya and sweets.



MARTYR'S DAY (March 23)

Apna Skool teachers told the kids about the significance of the day and the brief story of Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev and Rajguru. The children were made aware of their contribution in the freedom struggle. Their photographs were shown to the kids and the kids drew their pictures.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION (March 31)

The collective birthday celebration of all the kids was held on March 31. As most of the kids or their parents do not remember their actual birthdays, all the kids celebrate their birthday collectively. They all cut cake and enjoyed it thereafter.

VISITOR

Nilesh Hiremath- IIT Kanpur alumnus (March 21-26)

Nilesh Hiremath- an IIT Kanpur alumnus from Pune- visited various ApnaSkool centres and brick kilns and taught the kids and their parents to make smokeless rocket stove. Firstly, the video of the construction and functioning of the stove was shown and then the stove was made. Tea and meal was prepared on the stove to demonstrate its working.

Nilesh also helped prepare site for making a eco-friendly wooden classroom for ApnaSkool.



APRIL 2017

NEW EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS IN MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS BEGINS

New session in mainstream schools started from April 1. Around 41 alumni of ApnaSkool are attending various mainstream schools for post-primary education. Their admissions, stationery, uniform etc was provided for by ApnaSkool. Rahul, Amit, Ajay, Niranjana and Manvi appeared in Class 10 examination of UP Board .They will be admitted to the next class once their result is announced.

Students in Mainstream Schools In Year 017-18	
Class	Total No. of Students
12	4
9	7
8	2
7	10
6	11
5	1
4	3
1	2
PG	1
Total	41

Dr VN KULKARNI SCHOLARSHIP EXAM (APRIL 2)

SikshaSopan IIT Kanpur organised Dr VN Kulkarni Scholarship written exam on April 2 for the students of Class 5 and 8. Students of Class 5 from Tatiyaganj centre and the ApnaSkool alumni studying in Swami Vivekanand VidyalayaLodhar, Anjali, Alka, Saloni, Roli, Ranu, and Hema studying in Class 8 at Adarsh Inter College Tatiyaganj appeared in the exam. Roli qualified the written exam for the said scholarship.

(41 Higher Education : 2017-18)				
Students studying in other schools Supported by:ApnaSkool				
Name of Student	Class	Total No. of	Name of Centre	Name of School
1- Mansi	12	1		
1-Alka 2-Roli 3- Saloni 4- Anjali 5- Ranu	9	5		
1- Kunal	8	1		SVV Lodhar,Mandhana,Kanpur
1- Hemkumar				Jawaharlal Nehru Inter College, Kalyanpur ,Kanpur.
1-Anjali 2- Soni 3-Aryaman				SVV Lodhar,Mandhana,Kanpur
1- Gudiya	6	1		Jawaharlal Nehru Inter College, Kalyanpur ,Kanpur.
1- Shalini 2- Akash	4	2		SVV Lodhar,Mandhana,Kanpur
1- Aminul	7	1		
1- Halida	5	1		
1- Romela	4	1		
1- Sobhi 2-Armeena	1	2		
1- Saddam	P.G	1		
1- Janvi	9			MaharanaPratap inter College Mandhana,Kanpur
1- Hema	9			
1- Pankaj 2- Anjani 3-Rani 4- Arjun 5- Sangeeta	7	5		
1- Rohit 2- Indu 3-Kamini 4- Ranjani 5-Malti 6- Pradeep 7- Jyoti				
1- Pooja 2- Poonam 3- Karan				Jawaharlal Nehru Inter College, Kalyanpur ,Kanpur.

1- Sonu	12	1	LodharApnaSkool(B.K	Gandhi Ji Vidhalay Maudaha ,Hameerpur
1- Manish			Avon ApnaSkool (B.K)	
1- Akash			Tatiyaganj Apna Skool	
1- Neetu	9	1	MurariApnaSkool	Roti Ram ShikshanSansthan, Igotha,Hameerpur.

WINNERS OF 'RAMAYAN KO JANE' COMPETITION

Ramayanko Jane competition was organized by NSS IIT Kanpur and ShikshaSopan IIT Kanpur on April 8th and 9th. Sangeeta- alumna of DhamikhedaApnaSkool- secured 1st place in *Ramayana Lekhan* competition. Anjali of Class 6- alumna of Dhamikheda Apna Skool- secured 1st place in Quiz and 2nd place in *chaupai* (couplet) recitation.



COLLAGE MAKING WORKSHOP (April 8)

Pradeep bhaiya from Tamil Nadu taught collage making to the children at ApnaSkoolTatiyaganj. The children thoroughly enjoyed the process of creating different shapes by pasting pieces of coloured papers and magazine on chart paper.



ECO-FRIENDLY CLASSROOM

A wooden eco-friendly classroom which can be dismantled, moved and reassembled was erected serving 25+ children. It will be used by ApnaSkool for classes in the day time and as library in the evening.



ANNUAL FUNCTION

It is our annual event in which kids from all the centres assemble at a place and give cultural performances before a large assemblage of people comprising their parents, teachers and well-wishers of ApnaSkool. ApnaSkool has two annual functions one each for Chaubeypur and Maharajpur region as the two regions are far apart and assembling everyone at one place is logistically difficult and more expensive.

23rd April

On this day, Annual Function was organized at our Tatiyaganj centres for the centres of Chaubeypur region. Children from Jaiswal Brick Kiln, Maghanipur, Dedupur, Nathupur, Tatiyaganj(which has kids from Saran, Kalra-1, 2 and 3, SP, Jayswal, Ashok, Samrat, Rama-Vishnu brick kilns), Gangaganj and Murari centres participated in this event. PRAYAS IIT Kanpur and kids from ApnaGhar also gave performances of dance and drama. The gathering thoroughly enjoyed the performances and applauded the kids. Dinner was served to all at the end of the event. Although the function was interrupted by sudden rain, the kids enthusiastically managed and took the event to successful completion.

All the teachers of ApnaSkool were felicitated at the end of the event.



28th April

The Maharajpur area centres had their Annual Function at Indra-2 centre in Sarsaul. The kids from all the surrounding centres assembled here and gave stunning performances of songs, dance and dramatics. Dinner was served to all the performers as well as the audience.



OTHER EVENTS:

Ambedkar Jayanti was observed at Apna Skool centres on April 14th and World Earth Day was observed on April 22nd.

VISITOR:

Pradeep Gothoskar (Pune) (April 3-4)

Pradeep Gothoskar, social activist from Pune visited Apna Skool Tatiyaganj and taught the kids to make collage. He also saw the smokeless earthen stove made by Neeleshji during his visit last month and discussed about it with the kids. He also conducted a workshop for the teachers in which various pedagogical and class managements techniques were discussed with the teachers.

MAY 2017

LABOUR DAY (May 1)

Workers from 12 brick kilns assembled at ApnaSkoolTatiyaganj to observe May Day. Vijayadidi and Praveen Saxenaji told the workers about labour rights. They told them about the minimum wage law. The teachers told the children and their parents about various labour laws and rights at their respective centres. The workers were made aware of the disadvantages that they have to bear when they take heavy loans from the contractors. They were encouraged to avoid this and work for wages in cash to avoid exploitation.

ANNUAL EXAMINATION (May 8-16)

Annual examinations were conducted at all the centres of ApnaSkool for the students of Class 1,2 and 4.

SELECTION EXAM FOR APNA GHAR HOSTEL

On the basis of a written exam conducted by Apna Ghar team, following 4 students of ApnaSkool were selected for admission as new members of the Apna Ghar hostel.

1. Niranjan : Class 1
2. Amit : Class 3
3. Pankaj : Class 1
4. Sani : Class 2



DISTRIBUTION OF REPORT CARDS (MAY 20-30)

Report cards of the annual examination were distributed to the kids on all the centres of APnaSkool from May 20 to 30. The parents of the kids also attended the programme. The event kicked off with prayer by the students. Then Vijayadidi applied tilak to each of the students and gave the report cards to the parents. Sweets were also distributed. The pride on the faces of the parents could easily be seen.

All the kids were gifted one story book each and the younger kids were presented a Ludo as gift. The occasion was also used as an opportunity to make the parents aware of the benefits of bank accounts. The parents were also encouraged to send the children to schools even when they return to their native villages.



VISITORS

Mrs Beena Agrawal (Principal), Mrs Anjali and Poonam (Teachers) from Jingle Bell School Faizabad- May 19

3 people from Jingle Bell School, Faizabad visited Murai and Tatiyaganj centres of APnaSkool. The children welcomed them with hand-made papers caps. The kids presented songs, poems and drama before them. They also demonstrated various science experiments and yoga. The visitors saw the APnaSkool curriculum and teaching aids.



JUNE 2017

Dharna and March from Shikshak Park to DM Office (01 June 2017)

Various group came together on June 01 at Shikshak Park near Naveen Market Kanpur to hold a *dharna* to reiterate the demand of common education to all irrespective of their income and social class. The issue of non-compliance of some top private schools of Kanpur to RTE in terms of defiance of compulsory 25% quota to economically weaker section (EWS). A procession then went up to the district magistrate's office where the demands were submitted in writing.



"चाहे अमीर की हो या गरीब की संतान, सबकी शिक्षा एक समान"

—डॉ. रम मनोहर लोहिया

1 जून 2017 को शिक्षक पार्क, नवीन मार्केट, कानपुर में सुबह 10:00 बजे से धरना प्रदर्शन

- समान शिक्षा प्रणाली लागू करो ताकि प्रत्येक बच्चे को एक जैसी गुणवत्ता वाली शिक्षा मिल सके।
- इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय के न्यायमूर्ति सुधीर अग्रवाल के 18 अगस्त 2015 के आदेश कि सभी सरकारी तनख्वाह पाने वालों के बच्चे अनिवार्य रूप से सरकारी विद्यालयों में पढ़ें को लागू करो जिसके बिना सरकारी विद्यालयों की स्थिति सुधर नहीं सकती और गरीब के बच्चे को अच्छी शिक्षा नहीं मिल पा रही।
- निजी विद्यालयों का राष्ट्रीयकरण करो या कम से कम उनके प्रशासनिक हिस्से का सरकारीकरण हो और उनके कार्यालय में बेसिक शिक्षा अधिकारी या जिला विद्यालय निरीक्षक का अधिकारी यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए बैठे कि सरकारी नियम कानूनों का पालन हो।
- शिक्षा के अधिकार अधिनियम 2009 का अनुपालन सुनिश्चित कराने हेतु एक शिक्षा आयोग का गठन किया जाए। निजी विद्यालयों द्वारा लिए जाने वाले शुल्क पर अंकुश लगे।
- शिक्षा के अधिकार अधिनियम 2009 के तहत जो विद्यालय सरकार के नियम कानून मानने को तैयार नहीं हैं, जैसे कि 25 प्रतिशत अल्पमत व दुर्बल वर्ग के बच्चों के दाखिले के आदेश का न मानने पर, उनकी मान्यता रद्द की जाए।

अपना स्कूल (जागृति बाल विकास समिति), अपना घर (आशा ट्रस्ट), प्रयास (आई.आई.टी कानपुर), रेड बर्ड्स स्कूल, ईट मटलों से मजदूर सचि

सम्पर्क : बी.एन.शर्मा 9125391747, महेश 9838546900, संदीप पाण्डेय 0522 2347367, विजया दीदी 8756750479

हम सभी का आह्वान करते हैं कि हमारे समान शिक्षा को लागू कराने के अभियान का हिस्सा बन भारत में सही अर्थों में लोकतंत्र के सपने साकार करने के संघर्ष में साथ आइए।

Result of 10th class (09 June '17)

UP Board 10th class result has announced on 09 June '17 and four children from Apna Skool have passed the examination. All of them are the children of brick kiln workers and first generation learners.

S.N	Name	Total Marks	Percentage
1	Rahul	400/600	66%
2	Amit	352/600	58.66 %
3	Ajay	344/600	57.33 %
4	Niranjan	334/600	55.66 %

Mukesh- Apna Skool alumnus- selected in MA Education programme of Azim Premji University

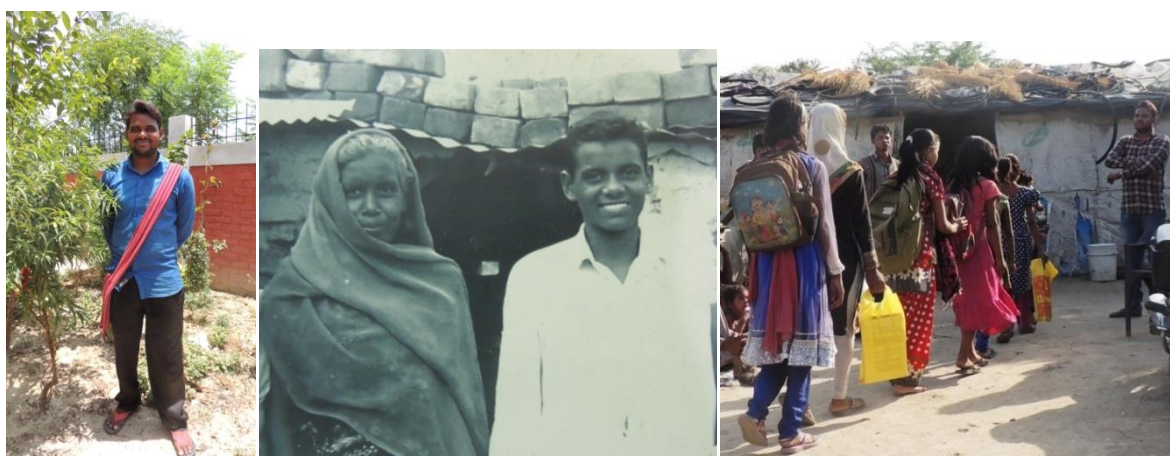
MUKESH- My journey from Apna Skool to Azim Premji University

I, like my fellow villagers from Ranchi, used to migrate seasonally along with his parents to brick kilns of Kanpur, UP for livelihood. My family used to engage in the process of taking out the baked bricks from the kilns and transporting them. While our stay in Kalra 1 brick kiln in Tatiyaganj area of Kanpur, I was enrolled in Apna Skool, a network of education centres for the children of migrant workers in brick kilns in Kanpur. Charmed by their innovative methods of learning, I attended the Apna skool education centre there when I got free from assisting my parents in their work. Completing my studies in Apna Skool till Class 4, I got selected in the first batch of kids in Apna Ghar, a residential hostel where the kids stay year-long so that

their studies go on un-interrupted while their parents migrate back to their native place. Along with studies, I used to participate in dramatics and writing poems.

I completed my education till Class 12 while staying in Apna Ghar from 2006 to 2014, and then enrolled myself for graduation. I was taken by Apna Kendra- supported by RV Foundation- to allow me to focus on my studies along with preparation for Azim Premji University. I also worked as a teacher in Apna Skool during my graduation, teaching kids like myself for whom education was the only tool to break away from the vicious cycle of brick-kilns.

I applied for MA (Education) programme of Azim Premji University and cleared the written exam held on January 22, 2017. Then I appeared for the interview at Patna on March 03 and got selected in that too. Now I will be joining the Bangaluru campus this(June) month for a new journey.



Apna Skool stall in Ashoka University, Haryana (2nd June 2017)

Apna Skool stall was arranged in Ashoka University, Haryana from June 2nd June. Apna Skool kids with the help of teachers made terracotta sculptures, embroidered cushion covers, handkerchief, letter hanger, tapestry wall hangings and friendship band.

The vocational training activities of Apna Skool are being supported by Apna Kendra





Apna Skool Seasonal Hostel (June to October)

- Like previous year, 7 girls studying in different classes at various mainstream schools from different centres of Apna Skool were put in Apna Kendra centre where they stayed from June to October. Their parents have left them on our request to continue their study in Kanpur. These kids are provided with proper infrastructure to live in Apna Kendra. To take care of these kids a warden (an experienced teacher of Apna Skool named Urmila Verma) was also appointed.
- 2 boys named Madhusudan and Ashok are living at the house of our coordinator Laxmikant Shukla under the seasonal hostel programme.



Apna Skool's Intervention Rescues Bonded Labourers

Article on 'Apna Skool' in Lokmat (22/06/2017)

There is an article on 'Apna Skool' in Lokmat, Lucknow edition of June. 22, 2017. Please click the link.

<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/...>



FUNCTIONING CENTRES OF "APNA SKOOL" (MAR.17 - JUN.17)

				Student enrollment			
				Mar .	Apr .	May	June
1	Tatiyaganj -1 Apna Skool (Kalra-2 , Saran, S.P, Jaiswal ,Ashok ,Samrat,Kalra-3,Vishnu Brick Kiln)	(1)Sanyogita (2)Pradeep (3)Nirmala					
2	Taiyaganj- 2 Apna Skool (Kalra-2 ,Kalra-3, Saran, S.P, Vishnu ,Avon Ashok,Samrat,Vishnu,Bajaj,Jaiswal Brick Kiln)	(1) Urmila (2) Chandan					
3	Primary School Shahpur (Jaiswal Manpur Brick Kiln)	(1)Ranjana Gupta	8:00 - 1:00	24	24	22	22
4	Primary School Meghanipurva (Saran)	(1) Raksha Bajpai	8:00 - 1:30	27	27	25	23
5	Primary School Nathupur (Mera + Bajaj+ Ankit Brick Kiln)	(1)Umashankar	8:00 - 1:00	21	21	21	18
6	Primary School Dedupur (Vishnu Brick Kiln)	(1) Dharmesh	8:00 - 1:00	29	29	28	27
7	Primary School Tikra (Murari Brick Kiln)	(1) Manju Bala	7:00-12:30	39	40	42	42
8	Primary School Naseniya (Khalsa +Badhawan +Murari Brick Kiln)	(1) Najma Khan	7:00-12:30	34	36	36	30
9	Panki ApnaSkool(ConstructionSite)	(1)Laxmi	10:00-12:00	23	Closed		
10	Gangaganj Apna Skool(slum - Rag Pickers)	(1)Mukesh	4:00 - 6:00	10	10	6	6
11	Primary School Bhisar (Jain+ Jai Durge Brick Kiln)	(1) Hardas Srivastav	10:00 -3:00	26	26	Closed	
12	Indra-II Apna Skool(Brick Kiln) (Indra-II ,Indra -III ,993, 995 Brick Kiln	(1) Shyambabu (2)Sachi	7:30 -12:30	63	65	65	62
13	Primary School Atwa (Rama+Modi Brick Kiln)	(1) Ruchi	7:30 -12:30	40	40	40	33
14	Primary School Dhamna (Rama+Deepak Brick Kiln)	(1) Mithlesh	7:30 -12:30	32	32	32	30
15	Gulab Khera Apna Skool (993 Brick Kiln)	(1) Sadhana Kashyap	8:00- 10:30	17	18	18	18
16	Primar School Fattehpur(991 B.K)	(1) BN Sharma	7:00 - 2:30	20	20	20	20
	Students Studying in other Schools who are supported by Apna Skool			30	30	41	41
Total Number of Students				542	525	501	477