Greetings from Apna Skool family. Once again here is the next issue of Newsletter chronicling the events of the Apna Skool in the third quarter 2017-18. 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.

OCTOBER

Children from Apna Skool - winner of inter-School competition

ApnaSkool participation in Vanya PraaniSaptah' 2017 (1st to 7th Oct.)

Vanya Praani Saptah’17 was celebrated in Zoological Park, Kanpur. Various inter-school competitions were organized, in which students of around 45 schools(2000 students) participated. It was held on 3rd, 4th,6thoct 2017. Children of migrant workers from Apna Skool Education centre competed in the competition. Details related to the result of Apna Skool Kids is given below:

- Ashok (5th) won third prize in "Guitar playing" (Sub junior group)-Apna Skool Tatiyaganj.
- Madhusudan (5th) won Second prize in "Essay" (Sub junior group)- Apna Skool Tatiyaganj
- Sangeeta (7th), Indu, Ranjani, Kamini&Malti (6th) won Third prize in "Group Song – Geet suhana Gaye Paryavaran...."(Junior group)- Apna Skool Tatiyaganj
- Alka and Roli (9th) won Second prize in "Rangoli" (Senior group) – Apna Skool Dhamikheda
2nd October Celebration on centres

2nd October is celebrated as birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri. Various types of activities were conducted in centres. Some of these activities are mentioned below:

- Teachers inspired kids by telling kids biography of Gandhi ji and Shastriji.
- Bhajans like “Raghu pati raghav raja ram”, “Vaishnav Jan To, Tene Kahiye Je ....” were sung by kids as well as teachers.
- Kids offered flower to the photo of Gandhi ji and Shastriji.
- Movie was screened on the life of Mahatma Gandhi and kids shouted slogans related to the movements, Gandhi ji was involved in.

Biannual conference of Vibha Foundation: “Pragati 2017”

Sangeeta Verma co-ordinator, Ratnakar and Damini Shukla attended Vibha Foundation's biannual conference Pragati 2017 held at hotel Indeco, Mamallapuram during Oct 08, 2017 to Oct 09, 2017. The conference brings all the partner NGOs of Vibha on a common platform where they interact and learn from each other. The conference had various talks by eminent personalities like Sonam Wangchuk on various topics which are very crucial for NGOs like Child Sexual Abuse, Design Thinking, Proposal writing etc.
**Participation in the Annual function of PRAYAS(8th October)**

**Venue:** L7 lecture hall of IIT KANPUR  
**Time:** 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm  

PRAYAS, it is an endeavor of IIT Kanpur students which is primarily involved in the education of underprivileged kids in and around IIT Campus. It has been working towards education of underprivileged children in and around IIT Kanpur campus. Like previous years, this year too ApnaSkool was a part of the celebration.

Apna Skool children performed Ganesh Vandana, patriotic song and dance.

- **Ganesh Vandana** (*Ekdantaya ............*) - Malti, Indu, Anjani, Kamini, Ranjani, Sangeeta, Hema – Apna Skool Tatiyaganj  
- **Dance** (*Bolo harhar...........*) - Ashok, Madhusudan, Rohit, Pankaj, Pradeep, Jyoti, Juli, Prabha and Nandini – Apna Skool Tatiyaganj  
- **Song** (*Jaise nakshaton mein suraj vaise deshon desh....*)- Malti, Indu, Anjani, Kamini, Ranjani, Sangeeta, Hema – Apna Skool Tatiyaganj.
The girl of Apna Skool showed her talent at Sree Sree Sarbojanin kali Pooja at IITK (18/10/2017)

Sangeeta of her Apnaskool got the third position in the song competition (Junior group) in kali Pooja which took place at IITK. She performed a Bhojpuri song - ‘laagi la laagi la, moiya ki bindiya badi neek laagi la’.

Deepawali Celebration (19 Oct. 2017)

Diwali festival was celebrated on centers on 29th October. Teachers told kids about the festival, why it is celebrated and how it is celebrated. Kids were also told inspirational stories. On occasion of Diwali, Laiya, Khilona, Gatta, Banana and Sweets were redistributed among kids.

Apna Skool Stall In Antaragni (Cultural festival, IIT Kanpur)

Antaragni is a cultural festival which is held annually in Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (IITK). It is an Inter-college festival in which students from colleges of all over India participate in events related to dance, drama etc. ApnaSkool used the occasion of the IIT Kanpur Cultural Festival Antaragni from 26 October to 29October, to set up a stall to display materials and charts about Apna Skool. Children made a brisk sale of Stuffed toy, embroidered cushion covers, terracotta sculptures, bags, Greeting Cards, Friendship bands, Doormat, tapestry Wall hanging, Letter Hanger, Handkerchief and Dupattas (tie and dye colouring done by the children and their teachers).
Rashtriya Ekta Diwas Celebration (31 Oct. 2017)

All the children of Apna Skool observed Rashtriya Ekta Diwas and created a photograph of Sardar Patel and wrote about him.

NOVEMBER

Distribution of Uniform and Stationery

In all centres of APNA SKOOL uniforms were distributed. It is winter season so sweaters and scarfs were also distributed to kids. We also distributed stationary material to kids like slates, pencils and rubber etc. This is the right time for distribution of such material among kids because this is the time when almost every kid is present in centres which have returned from his native place.
Deep Ranjini Rai’s Visit (November 11)
Deep Ranjini Rai from Vibha Foundation- a funding partner of Apna Skool- visited Apna Skool on November 11 as part of annual project monitoring. She met and interacted with the inmates of Seasonal Girls hostel at Apna Kendra and Prayas, IIT Kanpur volunteers Mukund Mittal, Vivek Prince and Manish. She also saw the articles prepared under the sewing and stitching program of Vocational Training initiative of Apna Kendra. The kids gifted hand-made card, handkerchief and bag to Deep.

Children’s Day Celebration (November 14)
14th November was celebrated as children’s day on centres. Teachers told kids about the biography of Pt. Javahar Lal Nehru. After that garland was devoted to the photo of Nehru ji. Kids draw the figure of Nehru Ji on papers. On some centres, some science experiments were done and games were also arranged in which kho-kho, rope skipping were main.

Science Exhibition (November 18-19)
On 18th and 19th November 2017, a science exhibition was organized by Swami Vivekanand Vidyalay (SVV), Lodhar, Kanpur. APNA SKOOL kids from all centres also presented models and charts related to science and geography. People from IIT Kanpur, Many nearby schools and community came to see the exhibition. This event gave kids an opportunity to present themselves to others. Teachers were great help for them to do that.
Workshop and Survey by Young India Fellows (November 20-24)

3 Young India fellows- Ishika Seal, Shivangi Singh and Anindya Pandey- from Ashoka University, Sonipat visited Apna Skool during November. This visit was a part of the Experiential Learning Module of their fellowship program and was mentored and financially supported by Ms Ananya Tiwari, an ex- Young India fellow. They conducted a few workshop for girls from Dhamikheda centre focused on assessing and inculcating positive psychological traits in the girls. The theme of the workshops were Goal Setting, Resilience among others. They also conducted a survey at various brick kilns where Apna Skools run to understand the background, pattern and other aspects of migration among the brick kiln workers.

Celebration of Guru Nanak’s Birthday (November 25)

This day was celebrated as Guru Nanak birth anniversary. Kids were told that he was founder of Sikhism and one of the Sikh Gurus. Teachers told kids about Sikh religion’s traditions.

DECEMBER

Celebration of 107th Birthday of Shri R. Venkataraman (December 04)

4th December 2017, the 107th birth anniversary of late Shri R.venkataraman ji was celebrated. All in the prayer meeting were told about them. Wreaths were lit by burning candle and incense. Together with all the children, this is the flowering of the children. We also sang the group song. Rohit student of class 6, will play the melody violin. Apples and bananas were distributed to all of children.
(Article on ‘Apna Skool’ in Amar Ujala (December 09)

Article on 'Apna Skool' in Amar Ujala (09/12/2017) There is an article on 'Apna Skool' in Amar Ujala, Kanpur edition of Dec. 09, 2017. Please have a look.

Workers’ Registration Camp (December 23, 2017-January 4, 2018)

The workers registration is part of the state government program which has to be done for all the workers and entails various benefits to the workers but is overlooked by the concerned department esp for the migrant workers. Jagriti has not only initiated but persuaded the Labour dept. to get it done for the brick kilns where Apna Skools are run. So far 344 workers have been registered under this drive.

Christmas Day Celebration (December 25)

Kids were told the importance of the day that the Christian prophet Jesus was born on this day. Kids and teachers together decorated the Christmas tree with balloons, toffies, balls, flowers, candles etc. kids were very happy as they danced, they sang poems, songs etc. in the end, chocolates and toffies were distributed to the kids. Vijaya didi celebrated the day with the kids of Murari centre. The kids cut the cake and celebrated the day as common birthday of all of them.
**Solar Lantern Distribution (December 26)**

Solar lantern Distribution (26 Dec.) (Manish, Akhil, Bheem, Dev, Mega etc. - student in IIT Kanpur) Manish Bhaiya, a PhD student in IIT Kanpur has donated us 25 solar lamps to the kids of Apna Skool. 'Oorja Solar', a company dealing in Solar lamps had provided him with these lamps at Rs. 870, which were originally priced at Rs. 1950 (At Amazon) thus, giving us the lamps at no profit-no loss price. We have also bought 15 additional lamps from them through Apna Skool funds, noting the cost effectiveness of the lamps. Thus, we wanted to thank the company for the help they provided us by giving the lamps at a cheaper rate.

These solar lantern will help the underprivileged children to study during night. These children belong to the families of migrant labors, who live in temporary houses without electricity. Solar lantern will also be helpful for these families in their domestic works such as cooking food during night.

**Visitors -
Prof Ranjani Ramchandran Visit (December 25)**

Prof. Ranjani Ramchandran Didi (Visva Bharati – West Bengal) visited Apna Skool centres. He distributed cake among kids. Kids presented many activities before her.
Saibal Dutta’s Visit (December 29)
Shaibal Dutta bhaiya from Asha for Education – Silicon Valley chapter visited Apna Skool centres Indra 2 and Tatiyaganj as part of annual project monitoring visit. He spent time with the children observing the working of centres, teaching methods of Apna Skool and distributed chocolates among the kids.

Success Stories

Sangeeta Sahu

Sangeeta started her primary schooling at Apna SKool, Dhamikheda in 2007. His parents who are native of Chhatisgarh stayed in Kanpur for most of the time of the year, working at various construction sites for livelihood. After graduating from Apna Skool, she joined Swami Vivekanad Vidyalaya, Lodhar and stood first in her class in the very first year at that school. A sharp girl, she is very active in
co-curricular activities like dancing, singing and debating as well.

She was first runner-up in Inter-school debate held at Kanpur Zoo during ‘Vanya Prani Saptaah’ in 2016. She secured first position in ‘Ramayan Ko Jane’ competition- an inter-school competition organized by Shiksha Sopan, IIT Kanpur. She has been an active participant in intra-school competitions and events as well. She loves challenges and recently learnt riding a geared-motorbike too.

This year her parents decided to move back to their native village, compelling her to discontinue her studies. Despite various difficulties that she faced, she got her enrolled in Vandhana Public School near her village and is studying there in Class 9 without any financial support from others so far. Girls like her a true inspiration for other Apna Skool girls, and gives us a satisfaction that the seed of education sowed by Apna Skool has now become a plant and can grow and flourish on its own.

**Manish Kumar**

18 years old Manish belongs to Jalaun district of UP, India. Moving with his four siblings and parents seasonally between his village and brick kilns of Kanpur, he finished his primary schooling at Apna Skool. He exhibited keen interest in studies as well as other co-curricular activities of Apna Skool. To help him pursue education further and to mitigate the problem of discontinuity due to seasonal migration, his stay was arranged in Kanpur and with financial assistance from Apna Skool and from Vijaya didi, he continued his studies and passed High School examinations in 2016.

When the brick kilns started functioning after monsoons, his parents used to come back to Kanpur, he stayed with them at the brick kiln, helped them in their work and taught the other kids in his free time.

This year his parents went to a different brick kiln which is far from the school in which he is enrolled in Class 12. Such was his zeal for studies that he chose to stay alone at a different brick kiln, giving tuitions to the kids there with Apna Skool’s help and will be appearing in Intermediate examinations of UP Board.
## Functioning Centres of "Apna Skool" (Oct. 17 to Dec.'17)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.N</th>
<th>Name of Centre</th>
<th>Distric t</th>
<th>Name of Teacher</th>
<th>Centre Timing</th>
<th>Student enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tatiyaganj -1 Apna Skool</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Sanyogita (2) Jiirmaala (3) Pradeep Yadav</td>
<td>10:00 - 4:00</td>
<td>Oct: 78 Nov: 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Taiyaganj- 2 Apna Skool</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Chandan (2) Urmila</td>
<td></td>
<td>Nov: 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Primary School Dhamna (Rama+Deepak Brick Kiln)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Mithlesh (2) Urmila</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Oct: 19 Nov: 27 Dec: 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Omini Apna Skool (Quality education)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Shyambabu</td>
<td>11:00 - 3:30</td>
<td>Oct: 9 Nov: 37 Dec: 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Primary School Atwa (Rama+Modi Brick Kiln)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Ruchi Yadav</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Oct: 30  Nov: 42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Indra -2 Apna Skool (Indra-II,Indra -III,993, 995BK)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Priyanka (2) Sachit (3) Sadhana</td>
<td>10:00 - 3:30</td>
<td>Oct: 75 Nov: 106 Dec: 106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Primary School Tikra (Murari B.K)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Manju Bala</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Oct: 10 Nov: 35 Dec: 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Primary School Naseniya (Khalsa +Badhawan +Murari Brick Kiln)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Najma Khan</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Oct: 16 Nov: 29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Primary School Shahpur (Jaiswal Manpur Brick Kiln)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Ranjana</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Oct: 27 Nov: 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Primary School Meghanipurva (Saran,Jaiswal +Balaji)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Raksha Vajpai</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Oct: 23 Nov: 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Primary School Dedupur (Vishnu Brick Kiln)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Sudha Gupta</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Oct: 40 Nov: 27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gulab Khera Apna Skool (993 Brick Kiln)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Sweta Yadav</td>
<td>11:00 - 1:00</td>
<td>Oct: 25 Nov: 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>R.S Apna Skool (991, Indra 1,R.S Brick kiln)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Shobha Yadav</td>
<td>11:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Oct: 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>KBF Apna Skool Manjhavan (B.K.)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Ayush</td>
<td>12:30 - 2:30</td>
<td>Oct: 36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Ankit Apna Skool ((Ankit B.Kiln)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>(1) Manish</td>
<td>3:00 - 5:30</td>
<td>Oct: 14 Nov: 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Kamahariya Apna Skool(Murari + Badhawan Brick Kiln)</td>
<td>Hamirpur</td>
<td>(1) Najma Khan</td>
<td>1:30 - 6:00</td>
<td>Oct: 40 Nov: Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>Gulani Math Apna Skool (Saran+k-2+k-3+Jaiswal B. Kiln)</td>
<td>Nawada</td>
<td>(1) Pradeep Yadav</td>
<td>9:00 - 2:45</td>
<td>Oct: 25 Nov: 15 Dec: Closed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Hanuman Gari Apna Skool (Saran+k-2+k-3 +Jaiswal B.Kiln)</td>
<td>Nawada</td>
<td>(1) Pradeep Yadav</td>
<td>1:00 - 5:30</td>
<td>Oct: 25 Nov: 13 Dec: Closed</td>
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Students Studying in other Schools who are supported by Apna Skool

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
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<tr>
<td>45</td>
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**Total Number of Students** | **196** | **500** | **624**