Greetings from Apna Skool family. Once again, we are presenting our quarterly newsletter chronicling the events of the Apna Skool from September 2018 to December 2018. It is a 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 under MLP (Migrant Labour Program), 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.

SEPTEMBER 2018:

Teacher’s Day Celebration.

On 5th September, teachers’ day was celebrated at Apna Skool centers in honor of all teachers. On this day garland was devoted to Dr. Sarvpalli Radhakrishnan. Kids were told about Dr. Sarvpalli Radhakrishnan and the history of this day. Kids wrote poems to honor all the teachers.

“Hindi Diwas” Celebration (14 September 2018)

National Hindi Diwas 14th September, All the children of Apna Skool were told about the Hindi day; they did calligraphy wrote poems to celebrate Hindi Diwas.

Birth Anniversary of Bhagat Singh (27th September)

On the birth anniversary of Shaheed Bhagat Singh on of the most influential revolutionaries of the Indian Independence movement, Apna Skool Tatiyaganj named one of its class as “Shaheed Bhagat Singh” group celebrated and remembered him and his contribution for the country. Kids wrote poems about Bhagat Singh based on their knowledge.
Labour Registration Camp in Apna Skool Hanuman Gadi and Mathgulni (Nawada District Bihar):

On 11th September 2018, with efforts of Vijaya Didi, the team of Apna Skool(Jagriti Bal Vikas Samiti), and the Labour office Nawada (Bihar), a labour camp was organized in Hanuman Gadi and Math Gulni, Nawada (Bihar), 80 workers were registered in this camp and one more camp was organized at Apna Skool Hajipur where about 200 workers registered.

OCTOBER 2018:

Apna Skool participation in Vanya Praani Saptah (Wildlife week) 2018 (1st to 7th October):

Kanpur Zoo organizes Vanya Praani Saptah'18, Various inter-school competitions were organized, in which students of around 45 schools (2000 students) participated. It was held in the first week of October 2018. Children of migrant workers from Apna Skool Education center participated in the competition.

Anjali Saxena and Soni (class 8) have received the third prize in Rangoli, and Anjali Saxena got the first position in skit (group) competition. Rumela (class -5th ) got the first position in drawing.
Second October Celebration on centers:

2nd October has celebrated as birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri.

Our teacher reminds all the kids to practice nonviolence by Mahatma Gandhi and also told about the simplicity of late prime minister Lal Bahadur Shastri.

All the children, teacher, and Coordinator of Apna Skool marched in Meghnipurva village (nearby village at Apna Skool Tatiyaganj) and at Hanumangarhi and Mathgulni (Nawada, Bihar) to spread awareness about cleanliness. Then our students of Tatiyaganj Apna Skool performed on a play "Ishwar Ek Hai."

Article on ‘Apna Skool’ in Hindustan newspaper

Article on ‘Apna Skool’ in Hindustan Kanpur edition of 06 October 2018. Please have a look

http://epaper.livehindustan.com/epaper/UP/Kanpur-Live/2018-10-06/43/Page-1.html?fbclid=IwAR3fbbEt_eo3uufvDjBBpHl1uR3OF223hLoAo7mbTn3dUJKvKwwZ88U
Sree Sree Sarbojanin Kalipuja Samiti IITK:

Sree Sree Sarbojanin Kalipuja Samiti IITK organizes several sports, quizzes and cultural events for school every year. Apna skool kids participate in the competition.

This year Pooja Class-6 (Apna skool) got the second position in the race, Ashok class -6 got the third position in the race and Anjani class- 8 got the third position in art and painting competition.

Participation of Apna Skool Kids in the Annual function of PRAYAS (8th October):

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

Apna Skool kids performed on a qwwali and a plays on called "Ishwar Ek Hai."
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. Apna Skool used the occasion of the IIT Kanpur Cultural Festival Antaragni from 26 October to 29 October, 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 Duppatas (tie and dye coloring done by the children and their teachers).

NOVEMBER

Distribution of Uniform and Stationery

As the new session of Apna Skool has started in last week of October and so it is the time of Uniform and stationary distribution in all centers of APNA SKOOL. It is winter time now so sweater-scarfs/cap, Shoes 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 all the workers with their family return back to the brick kilns.
Children’s Day Celebration (November 14)

14\textsuperscript{th} November was celebrated as children’s day on all the Apna Skool centers. Teachers told kids about the biography of Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru. After that garland was devoted to the photo of Nehru Ji. Kids draw the figure of Nehru Ji on papers. Sports events were organized at our centers. \textbf{R.L. Education center Tatiyaganj} also participated in the event.

Art & painting, Frog Race, 100-meter race in different categories, 100-meter balloon race were the main sports events. About 120 students participated the events.

Madhusudan Apna Skool student received a new cycle to attend his school, as his parents did not come to brick kiln this, currently he is staying with Laxmikant Shukla (Apna Skool field coordinator).
Science Exhibition (November 24-25):
A science exhibition was organized by Swami Vivekanand Vidyalaya (SVV), Lodhar, Kanpur on 24th and 25th of November. APNA SKOOL kids from all its centers also presented models and charts related to science and geography, organic farming and environmental issues. About 200 people nearby schools and community, students and professors from IIT Kanpur, came to see the exhibition. This event gave kids an opportunity to present themselves to others. Teachers were a great help for them to do that.

Apna Skool kids exhibit the following science experiments:
- Surface tension experiment, Crystallization of salt
- Presented a model of Organic farming
- Model of U.P Industries, Model of Volcano
- Air pressure experiment
- Kaun Balwan (Who is Strong)
- Toilet Bowl Cleaner and Bubble pump
- Moto boat and Experiment soda and vinegar

Visitors Judi Stow from Mala Foundation Belgium:
Judi Didi visited Apna Skool Tatiyaganj on first week of November and interacted with kids and participated in morning PT, she stayed two weeks in Kanpur visited center regularly.
**DECEMBER**

**A celebration of 108th Birthday of Shri R. Venkataraman (December 04)**

4th December 2018, the 108th birth anniversary of late Shri R. Venkataraman Ji was celebrated. In the prayer meeting, teachers 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. Fruits were distributed to all of the children.

**Parent-Teacher meetings/Discussion (21 December):**

A parent-Teaching meeting was organized at Apna Skool Tatiyaganj on 21st December to encouraged the parents to send their kids to study. About 50 workers attended the meeting, we told them about family planning, to keep small family, also encouraged them to not drink alcohol, smoking.
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 center. The kids cut the cake and celebrated the day as the common birthday of all of them.

Visitors -

- **Dr. Kavita Raman, Boston University (12 December):**
  She visited Tatiyaganj Skool on 12th of December, She interacted with kids, kids recited poems and stories and She gifted puzzle games to Skool. Kids made a gift card and gifted to her.

- **Dr. Siddharth Ramachandran, Boston University (27 December):**
  Dr. Siddharth Ramachandran visited all the Apna Skool centres during the last week of December to meet kids and renewed acquaintance with Apna Skool team. He interacted with the children the kids, motivating in many ways. He distributed chocolates among the kids. He told kids about Boston and asked them to find out Boston on map. Kids performed some activities and asked puzzles to Siddharth Bhaiya.
Other Activities in Apna Skool

Apna Skool curriculum has extracurricular activities a day in a week, which includes Bal Sabha, paintings, games, plays, storytelling etc. I include some attractive work of Apna Skool kids.
NUTRITION INITIATIVE

A hot mid day meal for all children at many Apna Skool centres. Now that we have our own premises we will attempt to prepare hot meals centrally and deliver at all neighboring centres. We would like to use eco-friendly processes, such as Solar cooking, if feasible.

Success Story

1. Hemlata Manikpuri dedicated towards her goal.

Hemlata Manikpuri (father: Nirmal Das Manikpuri, Mother: Vimla Devi Manikpuri) Apna Skool Aluminous, during her primary schooling time her parents were working at construction site IIT Kanpur campus, currently, she living with her parents in a village where there is lack of health center. She has completed her Intermediate education from Govt. H S School Chakarbhatha Mungeli (Chhatishgarh), currently she is in the second year of her B. Sc. Nursing from Scope College of Nursing. Apna Skool is financing her educational expenses.

As her village does not have any health center, so she aspires to open a clinic/health center in her village so that she can help her villager in need.
2. Anjali Saxena dreaming to become a Doctor

Anjali a brave and hardworking girl, she is the second girl child (two sisters and two brothers) in her family. She lives in Dhamikheda colony, she does not have own home. Her parents were working at a construction site where a center of Apna Skool was running; she started her primary education from Apna Skool; She is doing her schooling from Swami Vivekananda School (currently she is in 8th standard) with the help of Apna Skool. when she was in 6th standard, She lost her father due to a critical disease; Now her mother runs a tea stall, she helps her mother at the Tea shop. Her sister and brothers are also studying with the help of Apna Skool. She has participated in several activities like – embroidery, paintings, Rangoli and has won many prizes.

Conveying what Anjali thinks about being associated with Apna Skool: I am very grateful that Apna Skool has given me so much support throughout. I don’t know what would I be doing if I were not be helped by them. I aspire to be a doctor so that can save the life of people who can not afford the treatment.

Her Recent Achievements:

1. **Ramayan Ko Jane Competition:**
   Ramayana Lekhan competition, Anjali of Apna Skool Dhamikheda- secured 1st place in Quiz and 2nd place in Chaupai (couplet) recitation.
2. 1st position in Rangoli competition, in wildlife week October 2018, organized by Kanpur Zoo.
3. 1st Position in Skit group competition.
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Tatiyaganj -1 ApnaSkool</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>U.P</td>
<td>(1)Urmila (2) Anil (3) Pradeep Yadav</td>
<td>10:00-4:00</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>113</td>
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<td>Tatiyaganj-2 ApnaSkool</td>
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<td></td>
<td>(1) Sanyogita (2) Nirmala</td>
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<td>Primary School Dhamna)</td>
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<td>(1) Ruchi Yadav (2) Hardas Srivastava</td>
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<td>Primary School Atwa</td>
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<td>(1) Mithlesh</td>
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<td>10:00-4:00</td>
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<td>Primary School Meghanipurva</td>
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<td>(1) Laxmikant (1) Raksha Bajpai</td>
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<td>Vishnu Apna Skool(Vishnu+ Rama B.K)</td>
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<td>(1) Sudha</td>
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<td>(1) Raksha Bajpai</td>
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<td>Vidokhar Apna Skool (Murari+Badhawan B-K)</td>
<td>Hamirpur</td>
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<td>(1) Preeti</td>
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<td>Gulani Math Apna Skool(Kalra-3, Samrat)</td>
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<td>(1) Pradeep Yadav</td>
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<td>Hanuman Gari Apna Skool(Samrat, KBF)</td>
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<td>(1) Pradeep Yadav</td>
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<td>Hajipur Apna Skool(Indra-II,Indra-I,Indra-III,Mera B.K)</td>
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<td>Paura Apna Skool (Rama,Deepak,Modi B.K)</td>
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Students Studying in other Schools who are supported by Apna Skool

Total Number of Students

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<td>Total Number</td>
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<td>257</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>600</td>
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Funding Sources:
- ASHA for Education, Silicon Valley
- Vibha foundation
- Association for India’s Development (AID), Portland
- Mala Foundation, Belgium
- R.V. foundation
- Pragati 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=NJhOEa4moNAA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NJhOEa4moNAA) short film on Apna Skools (courtesy Sahara TV)
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WClEgMqdsX0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WClEgMqdsX0) 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.

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Newsletter compiled by Murari Kumar, Sangeeta Verma and the Apna Skool Team.