Greetings from the Apna Skool family. Once again, we are presenting our quarterly newsletter chronicling the events of the Apna Skool from September 2019 to December 2019. 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 2019:

Teacher’s Day Celebration.

On 5th September, teachers’ day was celebrated at Apna Skool centers to honor of all teachers. On this, we remembered and talked about Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan and his works. Students wrote poems to honor all the class teachers.

Apna Skool Library in Bihar:

This year we have started a library in Hanumangadi village in Nawada (Bihar) to create interest in reading books in school’s students as well as people from the villages. Apna Skool students will take care of the library. Initially, we have started the library with two hundred different books, which include storybooks, science books, social science books, freedom fighter books, inspirational books.
Labour Registration Camp in Apna Skool Chiraiya (Nawada District Bihar):

Apna Skool team, with coordination of Labour office Nawada (Government officials), organized a Labour registration camp on 17th September 2019, in Chiraiya village, Nawada (Bihar), 200 workers were registered in this camp.

Biannual conference of Vibha Foundation: “Pragati 2019”

Murari Kumar and Raju Gaur attended Vibha Foundation’s biannual conference Pragati 2019 held at hotel Sarovaram, Kochin, during Sept 27, 2019, to Sept 30, 2019. 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 Monish Kaushik on various topics, like Education, Working with government, Design Thinking, Proposal writing etc. which are very crucial for NGOs.
OCTOBER 2019:

Apna Skool participation in Vanya Praani Saptah (Wildlife week) 2019 (1st to 7th October):

Kanpur Zoo organizes Vanya Praani Saptah’19, Various inter-school competitions were organized, in which students of around 28 schools (1700 students) participated. Children of migrant workers from the Apna Skool Education center also participated in the competition. Once again Apna Skool performed exceptionally.

- **Rangoli (Senior group):** Anjali Saxena and Soni (class 9th) from Apna skool Dhamikheda won first prize. Hema and Yashasvi (class 11th) Apna Skool Tatiyaganj won second prize.
- **Group Song (Junior Group):** Ranjani, Kamin, Mali (Class 8th) and Pooja (class 6th) from Apna Skool Tatiyaganj won a Consolation prize.
- **Group Dance:** Pooja, Ranjani, Kamin, Mali, Ashok, Madhusudhan, Rohit, Anjani, Jyoti, Pradeep, Pankaj, Hema won a special prize.

Celebration of 150th anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi:

Apna Skool conducted an awareness program about the environment, hygiene, and literacy in Nandeshwar village near Chaubeypur, Kanpur.

- For creating awareness, we had shown a video on 25th, 27th, and 29th September about Environment, hygiene, de-addiction (Nasha Mukti) and cleanliness.
- On 30th September, the Apna Skool team with students and people from the Nandeshwar village also participated in the cleanliness drive of the village with full eagerness.
- On 2nd October, Gandhi Jayanti, Apna Skool team and Apna Ghar students along with some Students of IIT Kanpur and people from the village, participated in the march with the slogan of Mahatma Gandhi’s life. Apna Skool students performed a Nukkad-Natak.
“Mohaniya se Mahatma” and a play on ‘Champaran Ka Satyagrah (Bihar) related to labor/workers.

- Apna Ghar students delivered poems and speech on the life of Mahatma Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri and Binobha Bhave.
- After the completion of cultural activities, the team did a plantation drive in the village.

For the betterment of spreading proper awareness, the Apna Skool team will do different activities at a time to time in this village so that we can achieve better literacy, and people get benefitted from all aspects of awareness.

Have a look at coverage of the event. [https://youtu.be/FYrYcsI_NCk](https://youtu.be/FYrYcsI_NCk)

**Participation in the Annual function of PRAYAS (2nd October):**

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

Apna Skool kids performed on qawwali and a play on called "Ishwar Ek Hai."
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 Madhusudan –class 7 (Apna skool) got the third position in the race competition.

Apna Skool Stall In Antaragni (Cultural festival, IIT Kanpur)
Antaragni is a cultural festival that is held annually in the 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 toys, embroidered cushion covers, terracotta sculptures, bags, Greeting Cards, Friendship bands, Doormat, tapestry Wall hanging, Letter Hanger, Handkerchief and Dupatta as (tie and dye coloring done by the children and their teachers).

Apna Skool Students in Kyu-Kyu column (Chakmak Bal Vigyan Patrika, Eklavya Publication):

**********
यह बिल्कुल उस तरह है जैसे एक गर्म बस्तन पर ठण्डा पानी हलाने से ऊर्जा विकसित है और आवाज भी आती है।
जेठा कुमारी, पौधवर्षी, अपजा उपाल, पैठा नवादा, विहार

Apna Skool Newsletter Sept- Dec 2019
Distribution of Uniform and Stationery
As the new session of Apna Skool has started in the 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 stationery material to kids like slates, pencils, and rubber, etc. This is the right time for the distribution of such material among kids because this is the time when all the workers with their family return to the brick kilns.

Children’s Day Celebration (November 14)
14th November was celebrated as children’s day on all the Apna Skool centers. Teachers told kids about the biography of Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru. Sports and drawing competition- Kabaddi, Football, Art & painting, Frog Race, 100-meter, 200-meter, and 800-meter race were organized.
Science and Social Science Mela (Science Exhibition) (November 23-24):
A science exhibition was organized by Swami Vivekananda Vidyalaya (SVV), Lodhar, Kanpur, on 23-24 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 allowed kids to present themselves to others. Teachers were a great help for them to do that. Apna Skool kids exhibit the following science experiments:

- Moner printer machine and ATM, Biogas plant, Water cycle model, Ropeway model, Irrigation model using solar energy, Respiratory system and working model of a kidney, Room Heater.

Portable tent for the classroom at brick kilns:
We upgraded one of the brick kiln sites (Apna Skool Samrat center) by a customized tent that we are using as portable classrooms 30 students are studying in this classroom. In the session 2019-2020, we have planned to set up three more such portable tent classrooms for Apna Skool at different brick-kilns. The Tents, as movable class room for Apna Skool (as well as augmentation of our collection of Library Books) has been possible through a generous grant we received from Triveni Trust, Allahabad. The interior illustration has been designed and executed by Sanchayan Ghosh, Santiniketan.
Visitor of the month:

1. Swami Sarvottamanada.

Swami Sarvottamananda, during his former phase as Shrish Jadav at IIT UG and PG student (he graduated with a Ph.D. from IITK), was a founder member of Apna Skool initiative. Currently, he is the monastic faculty of the Department of Computer Science School of the Mathematical Sciences, Ramakrishna Mission Vivekananda University. He visited Apna Skool Tatiyaganj center and Apna Kendra interacted with both students and teachers. Students at Apna Kendra played musical instruments and sang a song for him.

2. Dr. Mahendra of Mumbai university and Dr. Malini(Mumbai Hospital).

Dr. Mahendra is a Mathematics professor at Mumbai University and his wife Dr. Malini both visited Apna Skool Tatiyaganj and interacted with teacher and students at the center. Students displayed money-printing machine and performed on different activities.

DECEMBER 2019

A celebration of 109th Birth Anniversary of Shri R. Venkataraman (December 04)

4th December 2019, the 109th birth anniversary of late Shri R. Venkataraman Ji was celebrated. In the prayer meeting, teachers talked about himm. Flowers were offered and candles and incense were lit. A program of Quiz was organized in Apna Ghar. Fruits were distributed to all children.

Gaon Connection live coverage of Apna Skool.

Please go through the link for the video

https://www.facebook.com/GaonConnection/videos/2742881735750277/

Gaon Connection blog on Apna Skool

Christmas Day Celebration (December 25)
Kids were told the importance of the day that the Christian prophet Jesus is believed born on this day. Kids and teachers together decorated the Christmas tree with balloons, toffies, balls, flowers, candles, etc. kids were thrilled 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 Maharajpur center. The kids cut the cake and celebrated the day as the joint birthday of all of them.

Health Camp 21st December:
Health camps are being organized with government hospitals at all the centers of Apna Skool for a health checkup and health and hygiene awareness. 135 students of Apna Skool Tatiyaganj and 21 students of Apna Ghar, 5 female and 13 males of the brick kilns workers were checked by the doctor and medicine was given to them. Albendazole, Iron and vitamins were given.

Visitor of the Month:
Michael and Nikola from Belgium (MALA Foundation)
Michael and Nikola visited Apna Skool Tatiyaganj center, interacted with both students and teachers. Students performed several activities before him, recited poems, and danced with them. Students asked about Belgium.
Untimely Demise of Dharmendra Kumar (Dharma) a close member of Apna Skool.

Dharmendra Kumar (Dharma) was a differently-abled, speech and hearing impaired person, he passed away on 3rd January 2020. He was closely associated with Apna Skool. He had painting skills, and computer knowledge and used to make education material (number card, letter card etc.) for Apna Skool. May his soul rest in peace.

Success Story

Journey from Apna Skool to Program officer.

If there is a passion in the heart to be a successful, you can do anything to succeed in life.

These words are going almost true by Mukesh. It is often the struggles in the path that makes Mukesh, the worthy of the success. For Mukesh, the struggle is not just about the difficult chapters in his books. Mukesh, a student from economically challenged family, is now conquering all the impediments of life to achieve pinnacles of success. He belongs to a poverty-stricken family where his parent is used to imbricate in the process of scooping out the roasted bricks from the kilns and transporting them. He completed his basic education from Apna Skool Tatiyaganj, Kanpur. With the supports of Apna Skool, Apna Ghar and his full gesticulation, hard-work and with a great strenuous towards study by following a strict regime of early-to-bed and early-to-rise, he got admission for MA (in Education) program in a renowned university named as Azim Premji University, Bangalore where he started a new journey of life. After completing his study at APU, he got placement in Kapadvanj Kelavani Mandal (KKM Trust), Gujarat, where he is working as Program Officer. Being a program officer, his responsibilities primarily focus on facilitating Remedial Education for secondary students, innovating classroom teaching and learning processes revitalizing parent’s active engagement in their child's education and school processes. He is working hard day by day with full dedication, tenacity and endurance so that he can breaks away the vicious cycle of brick kilns.
Janhavi

The decision takes the plunge of Destiny.

If you are encouraged to work hard to achieve something in life, then poverty cannot stop the path of moving forward. It is often the struggles in the path that is making Janhavi, the worthy of success. Janhavi, a student from the poverty-stricken family, is now surmounting all the impediments of life to instate the peak of success. She lives with her parents in a small shanty along with five siblings. Her parent is used to imbricate in the process of scooping out the roasted bricks from the kilns and transporting them by which they earn a little money to superintend the family. She is a bright student of Apna Skool. She completed her primary schooling up to fifth standard in Apna Skool. With the supports of Apna Skool, she did hard work with full dedication and efforts towards the study and she scored 77.33 % with first division in her 10th standard exam in UP board. Now she is receiving SOS scholarship from Dr. Ashok Gupta for further studies. She did not stop her step here. With a tremendous strenuous and effort, she got admission in 11th standard in a renowned college named as Ram Janki Inter College, Kanpur. Following a strict regime of sincerity, Janhavi is studying with a great passion and wants to achieve what most of us would deem impossible. She is doing her best to achieve success in all aspects of life so that she would be able to break away the roguish chain of brick kilns that workers face.

Kids 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 students.
NUTRITION INITIATIVE

A hot mid-day meal for all children at many Apna Skool centers. Now that we have our premises, we will attempt to prepare hot meals centrally and deliver them to all neighboring centers. We want to use eco-friendly processes, such as Solar cooking, if feasible.
## Functioning Centers of Apna Skool (September 2019 - December 2019)

<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>1</td>
<td>Tatiyaganj -1 Apna Skool (S.P, K-2, K-3, J M, A1, Vishnu, Rama, Vibhu)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>UP</td>
<td>(1) Sudha (2) Nirmala (3) Ranjana (4) Richa (1) Arvind (2) Urmila</td>
<td>10:00 - 4:00</td>
<td>Sep: 39, Oct: 45, Nov: 119, Dec: 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Primary School Dhamna (Rama+ Deepak Brick Kiln)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>UP</td>
<td>(1) Mithlesh (2) Vikas</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Sep: 20, Oct: 22, Nov: 55, Dec: 61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Primary School Atwa (Modi B K)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>UP</td>
<td>(1) Sachi</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Sep: 33, Oct: 41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Indra - 2 Apna Skool (Indra-I, Indra-III, 993, 995 Brick Kiln)</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>UP</td>
<td>(1) Priyanka (2) Sadhana</td>
<td>10:00 - 4:00</td>
<td>Sep: 50, Oct: 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Murari Apna Skool</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>UP</td>
<td>(1) Manju Bala</td>
<td>10:00 - 4:00</td>
<td>Sep: 34, Oct: 34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Loha Apna Skool</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>UP</td>
<td>(1) Shyam Babu (2) Priyanka Pal</td>
<td>10:00 - 4:00</td>
<td>Sep: 40, Oct: 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Samrat Apna Skool</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>UP</td>
<td>(1) Pradeep (2) Raksha (1) Anantjeet (2) Hardas Srivastav</td>
<td>10:00 - 4:00</td>
<td>Sep: 58, Oct: 77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>R.S Apna Skool</td>
<td>Kanpur</td>
<td>UP</td>
<td>(1) Preeti</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Sep: 60, Oct: 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9*</td>
<td>Vidokhar Apna Skool (Murari + Badhawan B-K)</td>
<td>Hamirpur</td>
<td>BIHAR</td>
<td>(1) Preeti</td>
<td>2:00 - 5:00</td>
<td>Sep: 16, Oct: 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10*</td>
<td>Hajipur Apna Skool (Indra-II, Indra-I, Indra-III, Mera B.K)</td>
<td>Hajipur</td>
<td>BIHAR</td>
<td>(1) Pradeep Yadav (2) Raushan Kumar</td>
<td>9:30 - 3:00</td>
<td>Sep: 41, Oct: 41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11*</td>
<td>Paur Apna Skool (Rama, Deepak, Loha,)</td>
<td>Hajipur</td>
<td>BIHAR</td>
<td>(1) Pradeep Yadav (2) Raushan Kumar</td>
<td>3:30 - 5:30</td>
<td>Sep: 48, Oct: 48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12*</td>
<td>Gambhirpur Apna Skool (Loha B.K)</td>
<td>Hajipur</td>
<td>BIHAR</td>
<td>(1) Shyam Babu</td>
<td>7:00 - 9:00</td>
<td>Sep: 25, Oct: 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13*</td>
<td>Chiraiya Apna Skool (Primary School Chiraiya)</td>
<td>Hajipur</td>
<td>BIHAR</td>
<td>(1) Shyam Babu</td>
<td>9:00 - 3:00</td>
<td>Sep: 39, Oct: 39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14*</td>
<td>Chiraiya Apna Skool (Loha B. K)</td>
<td>Chiraiya</td>
<td>BIHAR</td>
<td>(1) Shyam Babu</td>
<td>3:30 - 5:30</td>
<td>Sep: 21, Oct: 21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Musical Teachers:** O.P Tripathi  
**Vocational Teachers:** Nazma Khan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S.N</th>
<th>Name of Centre</th>
<th>District</th>
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<th>Centre Timing</th>
<th>Student enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15*</td>
<td>Students Studying in other Schools who are supported by Apna Skool</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>51, 51, 51, 51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Number of Students:** 300, 308, 500, 561

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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
- Triveni Trust, Prayagraj - Allahabad
- Owners of a few brick kilns, Kanpur: (in kind)
- Many individual donors

**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
Office and General Co-ordinators: Sangeeta Verma, Murari Kumar,
Academico-ordinator: Amit Kumar
Transport and Accounts Co-ordinator: Manoj Shukla
Transport Assistant: Kripa Shankar Shukla
Health Mentor: 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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