



RITINJALI

The Newsletter | June 2009

Second Chance School



The school going boys have had an extended summer break with schools reopening late due to the heat wave. They made good use of the time by completing their holiday homework.

The results of NIOS Class X exams were declared. Kundan Jha successfully cleared all the papers. Shyam and Abbas have to clear two more papers in order to get the Class X pass certificate and their exam fees have been paid up. Dinesh is preparing for his final exam at ITI to be held at the end of July.

Subodh and Kundan are to be enrolled for the Class XII exam under NIOS.

The SCS boys have enrolled for a 6-month computer course from the beginning of July. The syllabus has been specially drafted by the computer teacher to include the latest software such as Dream Weaver, Photoshop and Web Designing. The aim of these classes, that are to be held thrice a week, is to make the boys capable of managing the Ritinjali website and to provide a means to earn a livelihood. The knowledge of the latest software is certain to stand them in good stead.

All the SCS boys participated in a painting competition that was held recently. Dinesh secured the 3rd prize.

Pradeep who was working at a Cyber Café is doing very well and manages the Café on his own. He has enrolled for the Certificate Course in Computer Applications of the NIOS.

Ali and Faisal, the boys from Afghanistan are highly appreciated for their services in their respective work places and are able to provide for their family out of their own incomes. They have also made sure their younger sister goes to school.

Manoj Kumar tutor pupils for the Class X exam at a centre in Chattarpur. He now teaches Suraj Kumar, an SCS boy who is enrolled in Class X at an NDMC school. The teacher who conducts the evening classes has decided to introduce yoga classes for the boys after the academic regime.

The t-shirts donated by Mr. Vikram Seth were distributed to all the SCS boys.

Kusumpur Pahari

The academic lessons in English, Hindi and Math for the students at the 3 learning centres continued uninterrupted, the heat notwithstanding. *The cooler provided by Mr.*



Aggarwal, a very generous donor and a well wisher of the Kusumpur Centre was a blessing and helped the students focus on their lessons without feeling incredibly sapped of their energy due to the extreme heat. The children also enjoyed the cakes and cookies that were sent from the Mahipalpur office.

Rohini, a volunteer who is from Australia, came in regularly during the month to conduct English Conversation classes and was a great help and a motivating presence to the teachers at the learning centres. Bhavik Singh came in twice to take the Computer classes.

Ten children who appeared for an admission test in a Government School in Vasant Kunj successfully cleared the test and were admitted to classes VI, VII and VIII.

The M.C.D organized a summer camp for out of school children between the ages of 5 and 11 years in the M.C.D schools. This was under the aegis of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan or Universalization of Elementary Education. After the completion of the camp, all the children attending it were to be given admission to the classes they were eligible for. 30 children from the Kusumpur Pahari Centre attended the camp at the M.C.D School in

Vasant Vihar. The teachers regularly visited the school to get feedback on the performance of the children.

Vocational Centre 1

Cutting and Tailoring

The students were taught to draft, cut and stitch umbrella cut suits, salwar suits, frocks and blouses.

Beauty Culture

The students were given demonstrations in different kinds of hairstyles and in different designs of Mehandi. They were also given practice in threading, manicure, pedicure and facial.

The teachers and staff of Kusumpur Pahari bade farewell to Anju Bala and Rashmi Choudhary who were the vocational teachers of Centre 1 and 2 respectively. Suman Yadav has been appointed as the new teacher for the two centres.

Nathupur Pahari



A mobilization drive to enroll more children from the Nathupur village at the learning centre was undertaken four times during the month and the parents were requested to send the children to the centre regularly. *The teachers, Reena and Hema, have been able to enroll about 45 children after this effort.*

During the month, the attendance of the children at the centre was low due to the searing heat and also because most of the students had gone to the village for the summer vacation.

Quite a few of the new students were not too interested in academic lessons and were not able to read and write. However, the persistent and persuasive efforts of the teachers are bearing fruit and gradually the students are getting increasingly involved in the learning process.

Rhymes and pictures have helped to hold the children's interest and even those who take longer to learn their lessons have benefited from the recitation and story telling technique.

Mrs. Dhar visited the centre and distributed durries and spoke to the children about cleanliness and personal hygiene and important values like Honesty and Respect.

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

Cutting and Tailoring



This course is gaining rapidly in popularity owing to the earning capacity of the students who master the art and pass out of this course successfully.

25 students have been admitted to the present NIOS batch and the Private batch continues to grow in size, with the number going up to 10.

Classes were held all through the month and the weak students were given extra classes.

Two students of the 7th batch are potential teachers and they were able to take classes very competently when the regular teacher went on leave.

Suman Yadav, who topped the 3rd batch, conducts the cutting and tailoring classes at the Vocational Centres at Kusumpur Pahari.

Sunita, who was very reluctantly enrolled for the course by her overly conservative mother, has completed the course successfully. She now tailors clothes and earns about Rs. 3000/- per month much to her parents' joy.

Another student of the 3-month course, Shikha, who underwent the course in the interim period between the Board Exam of Class X and the commencement of Class XI, now tailors all the clothes for her family.

The results of the 7th batch have been declared and Radhika has topped the batch with 94.25%.

Owing to the large number of students and only a few machines, the students of the new batch have been asked to come in for classes only thrice a week. The students of the 8th batch who have exams looming ahead of them will have classes everyday so that the regular practice will help them produce good results.

Computers



The results of the 7th batch have been declared and all the students of this batch have successfully cleared the exam with very good marks. Congratulations and kudos to the teachers and the students for an excellent performance.

Classes for the 8th batch are on in full swing. The students have been introduced to the history and development of the C language and taught to make decisions in C. Tests

and practical sessions were conducted on relevant topics.

Drishti



An end line survey of the students was conducted. These were the same students who were interviewed when they were in Class VII two years ago in Jhalawar before our intervention began with Ritinjali's Life Skills programme. This is to analyze the impact that life skills have had on them.

Seven girls and six boys were selected for the purpose of canvassing about the interview schedule in all the schools spread over four administrative blocks of the district. CSER and Ritinjali collaborated to provide 5 days of training to these 13 researchers. These young researchers were not only imparted with the tools and techniques of research but were made to go through the Life Skills Book of Classes VII and VIII.

16 schools out of the 30 have been covered by the survey thus far and the process is under progress with the rest of the schools too.

Naari Niketan

The inmates at Naari Niketan were taught how to use a sewing machine and repair the machines too. They also learned to draft, cut and stitch suits, chemises and frocks and

use old cloth to repair and improve the fitting of new suits and to make socks too. They were given practice in Croquet and embroidery with special emphasis to the Appliqué stitch and the French stitch.

Apart from vocational skills, the inmates were given lessons in English and Hindi to equip them with basic literacy and numerical ability. Games were organized to improve their fitness and they were counseled through the medium of story telling.

The Ritinjali volunteers who visited the Centre provided the inmates with toothpaste, powder and biscuits.

THANK YOU

For well over 14 years Ritinjali has been quietly going about building lives. Over the last 14 years, Ritinjali has been involved in a series of projects - from setting up a library and counseling centre in Tihar Jail to providing education to children living in slums of Kusumpur Pahari (Vasant Vihar), Nathupur Pahari (Gurgaon), INA night school (INA market), Second Chance School (Mahipalpur) and many others. Needless to add, building lives requires not only courage but also funds to run these projects. In the past years many members, well-wishers and many noble corporates continuously supported Ritinjali in all its ventures. We hope that we get the same support in the future as well. Let Us Together "Bring Hope Where There Is None". A special Thank you to the following people who contributed towards the Growth of Ritinjali -:

1. A special thank you to our following members for contributing through there subscriptions which gives us an impetus at the beginning of the year for the Ritinjali's projects:-
 - Mrs. and Mr. Atul Bakshi
 - Mrs. Neera Chandiram
 - Mrs. and Mr. Sekhar Malhotra
 - Mr. Vikram Kapoor
 - Mrs. Rakhi Soni
 - Mr. And Mrs. Rukmani Bakht
 - Mrs. and Mr. Vohra
 - Mrs. Benu Khanna
 - Mr. Arjun Thakran
 - Retd. Maj.Gen Kale
2. A special Thank You to Mrs. Dipika Nanjappa our Member who has sponsored the Certificate in computer application course of a girl in the Local community of Mahipalpur.
3. A special Thank you to Janet and Gary Resnick our well-wishers for contributing to Ritinjali.

4. A special Thank you to Mr. Aggarwal for contributing a cooler to our Kusumpur Pahari learning centre.
5. A special Thank you to Ms. Poonam Tandon a volunteer and a well-wisher of Ritinjali for contributing food for the kids of Our Nathupur centre.
6. A special Thank you to all the employees of American express who have been supporting the projects of Ritinjali especially Nathupur Pahari.
7. A special Thank you to Bhavik and Rohini for Volunteering and contributing there efforts at Kusumpur Pahari.
8. A special Thank you to Mr. Vikram Seth for donating T-shirts for the Second Chance and the Night school boys.

Contact Us

At Ritinjali we are doing our best but we can do better with your help. Ritinjali is always looking for helping hands to create a world where everybody gets equal opportunities. If you wish to spare some of your valuable time in teaching someone some valuable lessons in life. For any details or queries, please contact:

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Ritinjali welcomes contributions and volunteers for its cause. All donations will be exempt from Income tax u/s 80G