

XPRESSIONS

ACADEMY FOR SEVERE HANDICAPS AND AUTISM

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A BUSY MONTH!

September has been an eventful month. We had our Annual Sports Meet on the 8th September supported by Oracle and Rotary Bangalore West. We also had trainers from Wolf Trap Institute, USA conduct sessions on learning through arts for five days for the children and the teachers. We are thankful to the Gupta Family Foundation for sponsoring this training. We are also very happy to announce that Education World India School Rankings gave us the 1st place among special schools in India for 2019-20. We thank all the families, staff, donors, supporters and friends for their support.

ACTIVITIES AT SCHOOL

EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM

The early intervention program has 25 children and mothers. The mothers are working with their children based on the therapists' guidance. The children are being trained in dance by Mr. Kiran to improve their motor skills and coordination. The children also practiced for the sports day through many activities such as bowling, transferring balls using tongs etc. In the classroom, the activities included blow painting, matching and sorting, learning to follow 3 step directions and building social skills such as greeting.

Supported by Deloitte & United Way, Bengaluru



ACADEMICS & IN THE CLASSROOM

The older children are learning copying from a book and some of them are learning how to match a word with its picture.

The younger children are learning how to write alphabets and some of them are learning the basic strokes such as standing, sleeping lines, curved lines and slanting lines.



BUILDING SOCIAL SKILLS

As part of developing social skills in the children, Vinayaka's classmates and his teachers visited his house on the 26th September. Vinayaka's parents provided lunch for everyone and the children got to experience a new environment and meet other people.



Supported by Heart and Hand for the Handicapped, USA

ART AND PAINTING

Our art teacher Mrs. Bharathi Vittal Rao is teaching varied painting techniques and methods to the children. The methods vary depending on the skills and abilities of the child.



SPLASH ART COMPETITION

Concern India Foundation organised Splash - a sit and draw activity for specially abled children on the 20th September at Bal Bhavan. Venkat Srinidhi from ASHA got the 3rd prize.



ANNUAL SPORTS MEET

ASHA celebrated its Annual Sports Meet on the 8th September supported by Oracle Volunteers and Rotary Bangalore West. The event was held at the Vidya Vardhaka School Grounds, Rajajinagar. The chief guests for the event were Mr. Hariharan Srinivasan, Software Development Manager, Oracle, Ms. Sarah Boone, Global Autism Project, USA and Mr. Balachandra M.N., President, Rotary Bangalore West. The event began with the march past, chief guests' speech before moving on to the children's activities. The event ended with volunteer games for all the volunteers from Oracle and snacks for all the children.



VOLUNTEERING & CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

VISIT TO BANNERGHATTA NATIONAL PARK

Sixty children and their teachers visited Bannerghatta National Park accompanied by our volunteers on the 6th of September. The activities were meticulously arranged by the volunteers and snacks were arranged. The outing was a fun and interesting experience as the children got to see animals apart from in picture books.



PARENT TRAINING WORKSHOPS

Supported by United
Healthcare

YOGA FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

Mrs. Sudeepta Pramod Shanbhag conducted a workshop for parents on 26th September on Yoga for Children with Special Needs. The workshop included theory on the effects of yoga and was followed by a practical demonstration and hands on session where the parents tried some yoga poses for the benefit of the children.



SELF EMPLOYMENT AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT

Disha - Department of Skill Development, Entrepreneurship and Livelihood conducted an orientation program on outreach and motivation training program to the parents. The session focussed on providing information about self employment, various schemes of skill development and other self employment schemes and bank loan schemes. The session was conducted on 23rd September.



WOLFTRAP ART INTERVENTION

Supported by Gupta Family Foundation, USA

Ms. Valerie Carroll and Ms. Jennifer Edelen from The Wolf Trap Institute visited ASHA from 16th to 20th September to conduct art based sessions for all the students and teachers. Wolf Trap is a non profit organization in the USA that believes including arts in the school curriculum can create joyful, active learning experiences that engage children in ways that can increase academic and social-emotional development. The children from all classrooms attended one session on each of these days and enjoyed it very much. The sessions were structured with a welcome song, physical and vocal warm up exercises, the main activity and a closing activity using a variety of props. The teachers and parents observed many changes in the children including improved emotional expression, attention and expression of language.



Ms. Valerie and Ms. Jennifer also conducted two workshops for the teachers and parents on the effects of art as an intervention and how art can be used as a form of teaching in the classrooms.



BEHAVIOURAL SKILLS TRAINING

Ms. Sarah Boone from the Global Autism Project visited ASHA on 14th September to conduct a workshop on behavioural skills training for teachers.



RECOGNITION

A proud moment for ASHA!

We were given the 1st place among special education schools in India by Education World India School Rankings 2019-20. We are very grateful to all the families, staff, donors, supporters, volunteers, friends and family who have stood with us over the last two and a half decades to bring out the best in us. The award ceremony was on the 28th September in Delhi where Mrs. Jayashree Ramesh, Director, ASHA received the award.



We thank the Government of Karnataka, Corporates, philanthropic partners, volunteers and friends for supporting our work.



Academy for Severe Handicaps and Autism

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