

XPRESSIONS

ACADEMY FOR SEVERE HANDICAPS AND AUTISM

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The month of October was busy for our students with the seniors preparing for their exams and the younger children including early intervention moving on to doing more complex activities. The SkillCorps volunteers from Global Autism Project arrived in the second week and helped us with many things and conducted workshops for parents and teachers. We also trained teachers from Manasa Special School, Udupi on autism and how to accommodate them in their school. And we ended the month with Diwali celebrations!

ACTIVITIES AT SCHOOL

EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM

The early intervention program at the training centre in Mahalaxmi Layout has 23 children and mothers. The mothers are working with their children based on the therapists' guidance. In the classroom, the activities included matching, sorting and learning the alphabet and numbers. The teachers are also teaching self help skills such as washing hands and face. Gross motor activities include dance, walking on coloured footprints to understand the concept of left and right.

Supported by Deloitte & United Way, Bengaluru



ACADEMICS & IN THE CLASSROOM

The younger children are learning the alphabets by matching. The older children are moving on to functional academics and learning social stories to understand how to be in social situations. The older classes are also preparing for the exams to be held in the first week of November.



BUILDING GROSS MOTOR SKILLS & IMPROVING FITNESS

The children from all classes are undergoing sports training to improve skills such as catching, kicking and throwing a ball. Sports also helps build agility and stamina. The children enjoy the sports session and look forward to it.



PRE VOCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Pre-vocational activities are begun early to help the child become independent by the time he/she becomes an adult. Cooking and activities like filling, measuring are taught to the children.



ART AND KALAANGANA 2019

The children are getting ready to participate in Kalaangana 2019 - an interschool talents festival for children with special needs conducted by Information and Resource Centre, Bangalore. The event is from 19th to 21st November.

Our children will be performing in many art events such as painting, dance and singing among other competitions.



SARASWATHI POOJA

The whole team of ASHA conducted Sarswathi pooja on the 1st October at ASHA and the Early Intervention Centre at Mahalaxmi Layout. All the students, parents, and teachers gathered at the school premises and celebrated the day with great enthusiasm with the blessings of Goddess Saraswathi.



TRAINING

STAFF DEPUTATION FROM MANASA SPECIAL SCHOOL, UDUPI

Four special educators from Manasa Special School, Udupi visited our organization to understand more about autism.

Manasa caters to individuals with intellectual disability and is seeking to provide services to individuals with autism.

The educators visited all the classes and were trained by teachers and therapists of ASHA on various topics such as assessments, early intervention, improving language and communication, behaviour management and vocational activities.

The educators were with us from 21st to 26th October.



TEACHER TRAINING WORKSHOP

WORKSHOP ON PREFERENCE ASSESSMENT

The SkillCorps volunteers from the Global Autism Project, USA conducted a workshop on preference assessment on 19th October. The workshop was meant for the teachers including therapists from the early intervention centre. The workshop helped understand what items or can be used to motivate the child to develop skills. These items can be things that the child likes. The workshop was helpful for all teachers.



PARENT TRAINING WORKSHOP

Supported by United Healthcare

FUNDAMENTALS OF BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT

The SkillCorps volunteers from the Global Autism Project, USA and Ms. Anupama, the behaviour therapist at ASHA conducted a workshop for parents on the Fundamentals of Behaviour Management on the 24th. The workshop helped parents understand the nature of behaviour and how to manage behaviour problems. The parents had many questions about some behaviour problems and was addressed by the resource persons.



GLOBAL AUTISM PROJECT



AUTISM KNOWS NO BORDERS;
FORTUNATELY NEITHER DO WE.®

Eleven SkillCorps volunteers from Global Autism Project, USA visited ASHA from the 14th to 24th October. The group was composed of speech therapists and applied behaviour analysis therapists and helped us with many teaching and behaviour management processes. They helped the teachers in building and improving expressive communication.

The visit also helped in simplifying data collection related to communication where teachers need to record videos and maintain a physical copy of number of prompts etc.

The volunteers also conducted workshops for parents and teachers. The teachers workshop was on preference assessment to understand what motivates each child and how to use it to teach skills. This workshop was on the 19th October. The parents workshop was on the fundamentals of behaviour management on the 24th October.

The SkillCorp team also attended our Diwali get together on the 25th December and had a fun time!



CELEBRATIONS

We celebrated Diwali with a get together on the evening of 25th October at the Rotary Silver Jubilee Auditorium, Malleshwaram. The event was supported by Rotary Bangalore West and Innerwheel Bangalore West. The event started with high tea followed by a cultural program before ending with burning fireworks. The volunteers from Global Autism Project danced during the cultural program along with some of our teachers. The get together was fun and memorable.



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



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