



# Srotoshwini Trust

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2; JANUARY - MARCH 2020

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



We look forward to hearing from you...

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FEATURED EVENTS

UDHAM 2020



# ANNUAL FOLK CARNIVAL

Our annual programme that we stage every year in March, is our biggest production where all our initiatives come together to showcase the talent and expose our children to planning & execution of an event attended by 100s of people. This year, since we had the luxury of space at the hostel premises, we decided to not only stage "a" performance but organize a carnival rooted in the rich folk culture of our different states on March 15 in Lasundra.

The states of Gujarat, Punjab, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Assam & West Bengal were represented in this event. The food, music, dance & art form of each state was showcased in each of the stalls. Each of the stalls were also uniquely decorated representing the states. Everything from decoration of our premises, stall decorations, dance performances & assistance at food stalls had participation from our children. The Art cart sold products handmade by our Pathshala & Pathbhavan children at the event. Churni also had it's own stall and sold apparel and home goods made by the Churni Ladies, mothers of our children.



# THE PREPARATION

The success of an event truly depends on the preparation. The more time and effort that goes into the planning & preparation of every detail, the more effortless it looks on the final day. Our team puts their heart and soul into preparation and settles for nothing but perfection.

Design of the entire event - scheduling of the acts, decoration of the premises, design of the stalls, the dances including music, food preparation and distribution, handmade products made for selling, fund collection, making the props, arranging for logistics - waste management, lighting, seating, audience flow etc etc etc. was done in-house by our children and the teachers/volunteers.

Our costs are kept to a minimum. Most props are made by the children and they are made responsible to manage every department of the event. Its an unparalleled learning experience for our children that the teachers are conscious of. The responsibilities are distributed to develop different aspects of our children's personality based on age and interest.



# ANNUAL SPORTS DAY

Like every event - planning, preparation & execution has always been our priority and motto. Pathshala & Pathbhavan children & Churni ladies celebrated our Annual Sports Day together on January 19, 2020 in Lasundra. There were sports drill competitions, races for children, Churni ladies and teachers. Races included obstacle races, relay races for all ages, balancing races and sprints. Prizes were distributed to all winners. The winning house was Bhadar. Preparation of the tracks and venue including decoration, guest services, efficient management of the races and drills were all managed by children with able guidance from our mentors and hostel mothers.



# PATHSHALA HOSTEL

Other than organizing two big events of 2020 in the first three months of the year, the children and hostel mothers were busy with many other activities, notably:

- Election of the student council
- Sports Day at Navrachana School: Dinesh & Govind from the hostel won medals for winning races
- Picnic: A quick trip to a scenic spot close by with food, fun & games
- Celebrating Uttarayan
- Inter-house competitions: Singing & Canvas painting
- Cutting Chai: Continuing to run our on-campus tea shop every Sunday for visitors, teachers and children. The children also added bhajiya to the menu that became a big hit.
- Provided guidance to SHar to start a footpath mobile school at Fatehgunj, Vadodara
- Kitchen Garden: Preparing beds, planting and harvesting our kitchen garden vegetables.
- Skill development center - continued stress on learning by doing-by-age and grade.
- Drawing Mela on January 1 to start the year off creatively.



# PATHBHAVAN

The Pathbhavan team were extremely busy with planning and preparation of the Sports day and Udhham events. They still managed to organize many other activities:

- Know Plastic No Plastic workshop: Education on different types of plastics and their ill effects. Children were given alternative options to use.
- Bag painting workshop
- Student Committee selection
- Monthly Prize winners for regularity, punctuality, sensitivity, commitment, proactive nature and handholding
- Special classes for 10th standard students
- Karishma Rajput won second prize in essay writing competition at MTI College
- Raj Gaekwad, a student of Pathbhavan completed his CNC diploma course and got a job at a private firm in GIDC
- Uttarayan celebrations
- Holi celebrations
- Hindi Vagmati Pratyogita



# CHURNI

Churni's focus has not only been to sell its products at the store and at exhibition but improve quality by getting our ladies trained under the supervision of industry experts.

- New spring collection of Cotton Sarees launched
- Exhibited at Farmer's market hosted by Upaj with vegetable bags and pouches
- Exhibited products at FARMER'S NEST, an exhibition meant for organic products by local farmers at Shakti greens party plot. It was organised by WHITE PAGE, Baroda.
- Tied up with Textile department, MSU, Baroda for a series of workshops where nine CHURNI ladies and five of our Pathshala girls went through a process of learning tie and dye, embroidery, block printing etc.
- Exhibition at Trisha Art Gallery
- Movie outing with our Churni Ladies
- Ms. Anjali Kambe and Ms. Shilpa Kulkarni conducted a workshop at CHURNI. The topic was how to make a good quilt or godhri through some mathematical techniques.
- Image Management Professional Association' came forward to train our CHURNI women and PATHBHAVAN parents in respect to dress code, cleanliness, courtesy and many more tips to improve life skill and apply in professional life too.
- Our Lasundra Ladies were trained in cutting & stitching by Sumitra ben, 3 days a week.
- Celebrated 3rd anniversary for our Churni Store opening



# STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

In this section we will feature two heartwarming stories from our children's community to highlight the positive effects of an education that focuses on all round development

The Student Council of Pathshala Hostel was elected with Jyoti as the President and Pavni, as secretary. The responsibility of the council is to self-govern every aspect of the functioning of the hostel. It empowers them to make their own decisions. The hostel-mothers would act as guides and mentors and aid them in the decision making. The council has done a remarkable job in not only managing day to day activities but also have played a big part in staging our annual events. In our experience, we have found that giving responsibility most times teaches much more than just a classroom lesson.



Six children of Pathbhavan from standard VII to IX worked enthusiastically with commitment for the whole month to learn and create artifacts to be displayed and sold in Udham. The effort was self-driven to creatively innovate. The artifacts were home decorative pieces like show pieces, vases, keychains, key holders, small toys etc. The children are Deepak, Sejal, Shilpi, Amit, Priya and Priyanka Tiwari. Most of the products were a huge hit and were sold out at the event.



# COVID COMMOTION



The new normal has forced a dichotomy in our parenting style and we hear ourselves say many of these things -

Hold your sneeze  
Don't touch your eyes  
Stay away from your nose  
Ding dong...drink water  
Wash your hands

Study properly  
Be creative  
Don't complain  
Plus be grateful  
Ding dong...drink water  
Wash your hands

Do your chores  
Take responsibility  
Entertain yourself  
Don't seek attention  
Ding dong...drink water  
Wash your hands

Eat quickly  
But don't gorge  
Chew properly  
Yet not very slowly  
Ding dong...drink water  
Wash your hands

Play outside  
Not in the sun of course  
Don't scream  
Be quiet  
But not whisper either  
Ding dong...drink water  
Wash your hands

Stay clean  
Stay away  
Stay in  
Stay Safe  
Ding dong...drink water  
Wash your hands

Multiply the above by 60; number of children at the hostel

The result: a group of hostel mothers with thinning and greying hairlines, yet with bright heart-warming smiles!

Keeping 60 children creatively engaged without losing their mind is a super power! We bow down in absolute awe and respect!!



Bell to remind children to drink water every hour ...





Pathbhavan declared holiday following announcement of the government directive of the lockdown, after giving basic training of social distancing and self protection with mask and cleanliness. During the lockdown period, children are monitored over phone by mentors. They are encouraged to pen down Corona experience, practice tables, handwriting, basic maths and vocabulary.



Three of our children deserve special mention:

- Arvind Gupta taught mathematics to the local kids.
- Deepak Mahoto lended his hand to his family to sell vegetables and earn daily expenses.
- Priyanka Tiwari took small initiatives to maintain the logistics and beautification of Pathbhavan premise.



While our Churni store was closed and Churni sales were stopped due to the lockdown, the mentors came up with the idea of making cotton masks so that the Churni ladies could be engaged and still earn a livelihood that would help them & their households.



# OUR LOCATIONS

## PATHSHALA HOSTEL

Lasundra, Gujarat 391775, India  
+919714028704



## PATHBHAVAN

C/40 Jay Yogeshwar Nagar Society,  
Opposite Jalaram Temple,  
Near Sama Bus Stand  
Vadodara, Gujarat 390024  
+919998950531



## CHURNI STORE

#5 Saral Prakash building,  
Near Chanakyapuri Circle,  
New Sama, Vadodara,  
Gujarat, India 390008  
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