

Muni Seva Ashram Newsletter July 2018



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SUNRISE CSP INDIA PVT. LTD.

Environmental Sustainability

Deepak Gadhia and Pranav Gadhia recently visited Australia and had fruitful meetings and interactions with Sunrise CSP Australia team and the team of Australian National University (ANU). Sunrise CSP India Pvt. Ltd., with Deepak Gadhia as Chairman, has been established as a section 25 company in India, with 94% shares of Sunrise CSP Australia and 6% shares of MSA Renewtech Foundation, the profits of which will help fund projects of Muni Seva Ashram.



CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOCIETY

Muni Seva Charitable Foundation (MSCF)

The final counting of the donations collected during and as a result of the fundraising events organized in the U.S. and Canada is finally complete. We would like acknowledge the contribution made by everyone for making the events successful and for helping raise \$550,000 for the underprivileged served by Muni Seva Ashram. Thank you so much dear well-wishers!

ANOTHER FEATHER OF GOODWILL AND FAME

Kailash Cancer Hospital and Research Centre

An article about Kailash Cancer Hospital and Research Center, written by Jayrajsingh Rathod, was published in a daily newspaper of Rajkot named 'Phulchhab' dated 23rd July 2018 on page number 8. Jayrajsingh Rathod is the son of our patient Shri Dineshbhai Rathod of Surendranagar. Dineshbhai was operated on by Dr Rajesh Kantharia for cancer on 4th July 2017 and was discharged after intensive care and guidance on 14th July 2017. Although he was in possession of the MA (Mukhyamantri Amrutam) card of MA Yojana, initiated by the Government of Gujarat, a subsidy for healthcare started for people below poverty line, Dineshbhai did not utilise the card and preferred to pay for his treatment. Such an effort towards saving the government subsidy for the more needy people is highly appreciated. We would also like to thank Jayrajsingh for writing and publishing a beautiful article and kind words for us and the activity we do here.



VACCINATION

Schools of MSA

On 17th July, a Measles vaccination camp was organised for the students (up to the age of 15) of Eklavya Residential Model School and Swami Vivekananda Secondary and Higher Secondary School. About 350 students were vaccinated.

A similar camp was organized for the students of the Sharda Mandir Primary School, where all the students were vaccinated against Measles.

WINNERS!

Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS)

At the district level art competition, 'Kala Mahakumbh', the students of EMRS won the following prizes:

- In the instrumental music (Keyboard) category, Parth Rathva won the first prize and has been qualified for the Zonal level
- In the instrumental music (Harmonium) category, Ramchandra and Jitendra won the first and the second prize respectively
- In the instrumental music (Tabla) category, Piyush won the first prize and has been qualified for the Zonal level
- In the Lok Nritya (Folk Dance) category, Timli - performed by EMRS students got first place
- In singing, Janki procured first place and has been qualified for the district level
- Of the three students of EMRS who participated, Raksha Rathva stood first and qualified for the final round in inter-school Elocution Competition at N. G. Shah High School, Waghodia.

INSPECTION!

School of Nursing

The representatives of Gujarat Nursing Council (a representative branch of central body, Indian Nursing Council) conducted an inspection on 24th and 25th May in the School of nursing, Muni Seva Ashram. In July, they responded with the approval of all the seats that were proposed and suggestions for minor improvements that have been fulfilled.

A LESSON FOR A LIFETIME

Sharda Mandir Primary School

'Real Richness resides in the Heart', a Zen folk tale about faith, honesty, worship and humanity was delightedly shared by Preeti Macwan from Samvitti organisation with young girls of Sharda Mandir Primary School. This story that reached Preeti in an oral tradition and she found it quite sapient and was eager to share. After the story was over, the kids learnt some valuable lessons and were actively participated in the session.

This story helped participants understand that honesty is more important than materialistic things. They realised that any contribution no matter how small proves-out to be significant at the end. They also identified that it's not only flowers, money and food that is required to worship God, but rather a pure heart and soul. Selflessness towards any cause leads to greater joy and contentment. The participants were given a sheet of paper with pre-drawn outline of a face by the narrator and were asked to fill-up the face with expressions of positive emotions. It was pleasantly elating to see the participants joyfully pouring-in their connect to happiness by sketching hair, eyes, nose and smiles to the faces. Towards the end the whole story was enacted by the participants.



SMART TEACHERS FOR SMART CLASSES!

Sharda Mandir Primary School

Schoollens organisation conducted a meeting on 17th July at the school with the trainers and teachers and is now helping the teachers for conducting their classes with the help of digitised content. To make the teachers technology savvy and develop new skills in the learning process, five new Acer laptops were provided to the teachers.

WELCOMING THE NEW HEAD!

School of Nursing

The School of Nursing, Muni Seva Ashram, welcomed Ms. Vishnupriya Kannan, the new principal on 29th July 2018, a PhD scholar who holds a masters degree in nursing and has had 15 years of teaching experience.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Parivar Mandir

Siddhi turned 12 on 7th July! To celebrate her birthday, she was given chocolates which she distributed amongst her classmates in school. In the evening, the children of Parivar Mandir celebrated her birthday by playing hide and seek, musical chairs, passing the parcel, etc.

A BEAUTIFUL EFFORT

Kailash Cancer Hospital and Research Centre

With the hope of getting low-cost treatment for breast cancer, a lady, belonging to a family with primary occupation of agriculture, from Ratlam, Madhya Pradesh, came to Kailash Cancer Hospital and Research Centre in 2015. With the minimum amount of funds she had, she had to choose between getting her treatment done or marrying her daughter. Since she did not belong to Gujarat, she could not take the benefit of Mukhyamantri Amrutam Yojana, but with the support of the social workers from the hospital, she could apply to the financial support provided to cancer patients by the Indian Cancer Society (ICS). Even after approval of the support from ICS, she was terrified of the side effects of Chemotherapy and Radiotherapy, but with proper counselling by social workers and doctors and after listening to success stories from other patients, she went through the treatment and completed it in 2016. After the treatment, she is going through the Hormonal Therapy (for 5 years after treatment). On her recent visit to the hospital for her session, she informed us that she was doing well and had her daughter married off as well. Her story is an encouragement to us to carry on the work we are doing, and help change the lives of many such common people with unique stories, and bring a smile in their lives.

PLAY TIME!

Vocational Training Centre

The Vocational Training Centre focuses on all-round development of its students. Sundays are thus spent in some or the other new activity. In July, the students were taken to the playground of the Sharda Mandir Primary School to play Kho-Kho and Kabaddi.

GAURI VRAT

Swami Vivekananda Higher Secondary School

Most young girls of Swami Vivekananda Higher Secondary School observed 'Gauri Vrat', a five day fast in the month of July. They were supported by the school with special food and meals for the fast. A Mehendi (Henna) competition was also held on 24th July for the girls, as putting on mehendi is a part of the traditions revolving around the fast.

GIFT MATCHING!

Muni Seva Charitable Foundation (MSCF)

Muni Seva Charitable Foundation (MSCF) has been registered with the GE Foundation's Matching Gifts Program, Cisco Systems Matching Gifts and PayPal Giving Fund as a charitable organization. These are gift matching programs of organizations wherein donations/gifts from their current or ex-employees to the causes they support are matched by the organization to encourage their employees to support such social causes. It would be wonderful if all our well-wishers eligible to participate in these programs can take benefit of such opportunities. It would be appreciable if our well-wishers who are employees of other organizations with similar programs would intimate us and help get Muni Seva Ashram/Muni Seva Charitable Foundation registered for those programs so that both the well-wisher and Muni Seva Ashram can get benefitted.

PREPARATIONS

Bhagini Mandir

The entire Muni Seva Ashram family celebrates 15th August, India's Independence Day. For this celebration, the members of the Bhagini Mandir planned to perform a dance. Along with their various routine activities such as sewing, knitting, embroidery, making decorations, painting, etc., the women were trained and they practised the dance they had to perform. Remembering the lines and the steps, understanding which step to perform when, and doing it isn't a very easy task for these women and so the preparations begin well in advance.

HANDWRITING COMPETITION

Parivar Mandir

Later in the month, a handwriting competition was organised and the girls participated enthusiastically. They were given ranks from A to D and some of them were encouraged to improve their handwriting.

HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT

Sharda Mandir Primary School

A series of competitions was organised for the students of the Sharda Mandir Primary School in the month of July.

1. 7th July - Handwriting Competition: Won by students of the Chhatrapati Shivaji House
2. 14th July - Varsha Geet Competition: Won by students of the Maharana Pratap House
3. 21st July - Gardening and Mehendi (Henna) Competitions: Won by students of the Maharana Pratap House
4. 28th July - Kaun Banega Gyanpati (General Knowledge Competition): Tie amongst all four houses

GURUPOORNIMA

Bal Mandir

Gurupoornima on 27th July, was a special day for all the toddlers as they were taken for a visit to the Kailash Cancer Hospital and Research Centre where they were told the story of Anuben, her inspiration and her guru, Muni Maharaj and the history of the Ashram in front of Muni Maharaj's statue. The children were given a feast on that special day, sponsored by Shrimati Dakshaben Vaidhya, Shri Mulchandbhai Parekh and our trustee Shri Udaybhai Dalal, which was thoroughly enjoyed by them.



WIN-WIN!

Vanprastha Mandir and Vocational Training Centre

To support the elderly participate and become active and to train the students of the Vocational Training Centre (VTC), Hemant Patel, the CEO of VTC initiated a program wherein the students of VTC would spend an hour with the elderly of the Vanprastha Mandir. This initiative was started with the purpose of training VTC students in elderly care (especially for those opting for the Home Health Aid Course) and for supporting the elderly by helping them in regular tasks for their physical health (taking medicines, measuring blood pressure or temperature, visiting the doctor, etc.) and motivating them to become more active by singing Bhajans, doing simple yoga and pranayam, sharing stories and making bonds.

