

To all our readers, **Welcome** back !

It's been a few months since the inaugural issue of Baatcheeet came out. A lot has happened since then and you're about to share all the excitement with us.

Teachers Day, 2009

This event has gone down in history as the first time that parents got together to put up an independent show on Teachers' Day. Many plans were made, schedules chalked out and rehearsals undertaken secretly. Teachers were welcomed in traditional Indian style with aarti, tikka and a showering of rose petals. The children of NBS conducted a special assembly thanking the teachers for their hard work and commitment and shared some lighter moments with them as well. Parents performed a play and sang songs appropriate for each teacher while giving away personalized gifts.



Party time continued for the teachers as they **PASSED THE PARCEL** and enjoyed performing tasks mentioned on the slips. It brought back childhood memories for many... After a scrumptious lunch at Nirula's, the teachers went to the **COLOUR FACTORY** and showed off their artistic talent. A 'Time Out' for the teachers indeed!!

Saath-Saath was another exciting new initiative that began this term. As a part of this programme, the children work in multi-age groups and thus learn from and reap the benefits of such grouping. The two aspects of Saath Saath which the children are involved in are the Green School initiative and the Social Outreach programme.

Some of the events which were part of the Saath-Saath initiative included :

‘Gratitude Day’ – Celebrated on May 1st; a day when the children and staff expressed their gratitude to all the helpers for their continuous support and assistance. During the special assembly, the children of class V sang a song for them and all the ‘didis’ and ‘bhaiyas’ were asked to say a few words on the role they played in school. Children of primary classes made ‘nimbu paani’ for them, distributed bananas and appreciated their contribution in our lives with a thunderous round of applause.



‘Endangered Species Week’ was celebrated in school from 7th to 11th September 2009 as an initiative of **Nirmal Vasudha**. During this week, the children were involved in various activities which centred around this theme. They made power point presentations, planned fact sheets, saw movies on endangered animals and also had inter-house quizzes. The school was abuzz with ‘animal talk’ as the NBS community planned, discussed, shared ideas and all pledged to do their bit to protect endangered animals.



Nirmal Sahyog invited 37 children of the **NGO Deepalaya** along with their teachers for an interactive fun-filled day at NBS. The objective was to share, care for and learn from each other in every possible way.

Children of NBS made the day special for their new friends from Deepalaya by presenting rhymes and songs for them while the Deepalaya children expressed themselves through dance and music that had everyone spell bound. This wonderful performance was followed by group games and much fun in the art room as the children created masterpieces with jute, pieces of cloth, buttons and other odds and ends. The little 'creators' created designs that were simple yet interesting. With promises to meet again soon, goodbyes were exchanged, and all sat back thinking and reflecting on satisfying moments and cherished memories of the day.

Nirmal Pragati - our Educator's Resource Centre encourages teachers, educational administrators and other staff to continually update their skills through seminars, films, lectures and discussions on the one hand, and parent interaction and feedback on the other.

In our endeavour to 'Explore New Horizons', the teachers viewed the thought provoking movie 'Good Will Hunting' that brought out the true meaning of education and depicted the relationship between an educator and a student.

As a part of continuously upgrading skills and sharing information with one another, teachers



were also encouraged to share their passions and make presentations as a part of the 'Pursue Your Passions' programme. Some of the presentations were on topics as diverse as :

- Reiki : This presentation left the entire staff spiritually inclined as they dwelled on the chakras present in our body which control our thoughts as well as our actions. Ways to generate positive energy and discard negativity were shared and the entire staff felt relaxed and de-stressed after the session.
- Marine life : This presentation took the staff to the depths of the water kingdom and made us realize the impact of a good visual presentation in making any subject interesting.
- Health and fitness: The importance of physical exercise in our daily life, alternate methods of keeping fit and choosing convenient ways of exercising was explained in this session.

Special Moments

Experiencing the joy of sharing and giving

As a community school, we have always believed in doing things differently. Thus, along with spreading a message of warmth, sparkle and good cheer on the occasion of Diwali, the students and staff decided to share their moments of joy and happiness with the 'Children of the World', an NGO looking after abandoned children.



Parents and teachers contributed whole-heartedly and donated various food and gift items to the NGO. It was heartwarming to note that children used their pocket money to buy and share books and toys with their friends at 'Children of the World'.

Who can ever lose hope and faith in humanity as long as our children continue in their endeavour to build a sensitive and caring community.

The children did not forget their commitment to save the environment as, during the

festivities of Diwali, they shared their thoughts and concerns on pollution, child labour and global warming within the school and its neighbouring societies and encouraged all to "Say No to Crackers and Yes to Life".

Honouring our Grandparents – a Nirmal Chhaya initiative...

Grandparents are our heritage and essential members of our families and community. They hold a special place in our hearts and lives and we can't begin to imagine what the world would be without them. Yet, busy with our lives and schedules, we often forget to thank them for all that they do for us. That is the reason why 31st October 2009 was planned as a



special day by the Nirmal Chhaya team to honour and thank our Grandparents for all that they mean to us. It gave the children and parents an opportunity to spend time with them, have fun and also make them feel special.

The morning started with fun, food and games. All activities involved the cooperative participation of grandparents and grandchildren, and the parents insisted on not being left behind. There were mazes, puzzles, puppet shows, music and dance.

Grandparents decorated calendars for the year 2010 with their grandchildren and took them home. In the food stall, they decorated muffins with gems and chocolates and ate them with great enjoyment. Popcorn and candy floss was liberally distributed and the vending machines fascinated one and all. The high point of the afternoon seemed to be 'Getting Caught' by the camera as they 'flew high' or 'sailed through' at NBS.

When it was time for lunch, three generations sat together, reflected upon and smiled at cherished memories of the past and memorable moments of the present.

Inter-School Events



The **Girls Sub Junior Zonal Basketball Tournament** (under 14 years) was held on 6th October at St. Mary's School, Dwarka. Nine of our children from classes IV to VII participated in the zonal event.

The team played very well. Their coordination, attitude and overall performance was good and they showed good team spirit. It is worth mentioning here and noting that the NBS girls team was pitched against children of classes VII and VIII of other schools. Well, size does matter at times and age was against them, but the team played their best and lost only by three baskets. All present cheered loudly for our young team players as they dribbled, manoeuvred and raced from one end of the court to another. Lets hear three cheers for the NBS Girls Basketball team!!!

The **Boys Sub Junior Zonal Basketball Tournament** (under 14 years) was held on 19th October 2009 at Jindal School, Dwarka. Seven children from classes V, VI and VII participated in the event.



The NBS Boys Basketball team played against the Indraprastha School and won by two baskets, thereby moving on to the Quarter final round. Here the NBS team competed against the class VII and VIII children of ITL School, Dwarka. They showed good team work and coordination and put in their best. Although it was their first match ever, they finally lost by a very small margin of only two

baskets. Well done boys!!! We're proud of you and are confident that you'll only fly higher.

Children's Day

On the occasion of Children's Day, celebrating the boundless wonder and unique creativity of children, the Nirmal Bhartia School organised a fest **"Young at Art"**. It was a day full of music, mudras, melody, masti, memories and more... the aim being to introduce children to the myriad different forms of performing and visual arts, and inspire their creative spirit to encourage an appreciation of the grace, discipline and beauty that the arts bring to our lives.



Sh. Shamshad Hussain, son of the well known painter Sh. M. F. Hussain lit the lamp and inaugurated the function, after which he conducted the Art Workshop, "Scribbles" for the young artists from various schools, teachers and parents. As a part of "Strokes" – the Art competition, Sh. Shamshad Hussain judged the drawings and finally shared invaluable learning experiences from his life.

The art workshop was a great beginning to Young at Art, the Children's Festival at the Nirmal Bhartia School. The school itself looked like a work of art with all the decorations, the colourful scrolls and the painted walls of each room which added a riot of colour and creativity.

Organized in association with "Bookaroo", a Charitable Trust, committed to bringing children and books together, the function continued with "Snippets", a book reading workshop conducted by Samina Mishra, great grand daughter of Dr. Zakir Hussain. She enthralled the children with her renditions of "The Poorie that Got Away" and "Chicken on the Run".



In keeping with the school's emphasis on reading, there was an exhibition and sale of children's books that beckoned one and all.

Fun activities like joining the dots, mazes, building up with shapes, what comes next, smell and tell and pin the rose on Chacha Nehru had been planned for pre-schoolers. In true NBS style, learning and fun went hand in hand and equal excitement was visible amongst parents and children alike.

“Young at Art” went a STEP ahead as renowned classical Bharatnatyam and Odissi dancer Dr. Sonal Mansingh, addressed the young students and judged the inter-school competition “Steps”.

All schools participated with great enthusiasm and the dance room resonated with folk tunes and the harmonious rhythmic footwork of the dancers.

Children’s theatre is universal in appeal, and reaches out to ‘the child’ in all of us. Dr. Ashish Ghosh, with his team of puppeteers and mime artists presented a play called “Chhutti” in which four different stories were portrayed in four different ways.

The performance began with a puppet show followed by an animal story in the form of a song from the Gond folk tales of Chhattisgarh.

The third story saw a character dressed as Prof. Hoshiar telling the story of his faraway travels in the form of “Pattkatha” or picture stories. This was a representation of the folk traditions of East Bengal.

Lastly, Ms. Ghosh performed a captivating drama dressed half as an old woman and half as a witch with dual make-up to depict both characters. This is known as the “Bahrupiya” form of theatre presentation.

The workshop concluded with an interactive session and all were left mesmerized by this thought provoking experience.

Having spent an entire day exploring and experiencing different art forms, however, it seemed the fun had only just begun as the evening proceeded with ‘Strings’, the inter-school



rock fest wherein bands of different schools enthralled one and all with their performances.

“Himalayan Harmony” – a band formed by the NBS western music teacher, Mr. Vivek Chhetri played their own composition and captivated the audience while five year old

Ishaan, the youngest member of the band performed the Final Countdown and the Love Theme to a standing ovation.

After this came the Grand Finale with “Groove Adda” playing melodious numbers and ensuring all did nothing else but stand up and move to the beat of the music.

The day finally came to an end with hopes, dreams and aspirations at an all time high as all rejoiced and celebrated together in the true spirit of community at the Nirmal Bhartia School.



Finally, we're happy to announce the formation of the **Parent School Association** - to foster healthy, open reflections and communication within the school community, to encourage parental involvement in school life and to promote parent-school partnerships, a Parent School Association has been formed. The list of parent representatives for each class is detailed below. Please contact them if you wish to share your suggestions / thoughts with the school team

Name of Parent	Child's name	Class & Section
1. Ms. Madhurima Mathur	Nayanika Mathur	Ankur Bahaar
2. Ms. Padma Anand	Prajwal Anand	Ankur Basant
3. Ms. Sanchita Sheel	Anupriya Sheel	Pallav Basant
4. Mr. Shajee C.P.Nambiar	Ajay Nambiar	Pallav Bahaar
5. Dr. K. Karthikeyen	K. Vamsi	I Basant
6. Mr. Sandeep Bahl	Hansika Bahl	I Bahaar
7. Ms. Chetna Aggarwal	Shekhar A Aggarwal	II
8. Ms. Vineeta Chhillar	Chahat Chhillar	III
9. Ms. Shalini Chakravarty	Sanchali Chakravarty	IV
10. Ms. Bharti Godbole	Divya Godbole	V
11. Ms. Sangeeta Shakya	Sachin Shakya	VI
12. Ms. Neelam Tripathi	Nikhil Tripathi	VII



This is your News DESK

signing off for now... See you in the new year !