

RISE Update | April 2019 | Earth Day

RISE

Remedial Innovation in School Education



Teach your children to appreciate the planet.

Bring home a seedling and help them plant it.

Teach your children to conserve the trees.

Going paperless these days is a breeze.

Teach your children to respect the earth.

Recycle throw-aways into something of worth.

Teach your children to care for God's creatures.

Set up a birdbath, a feeder, and other features.

Teach your children we're in this together.

We must try to help our planet last forever.



EARTH
HOUR



Health Day at RISE



*"A healthy body is a guest-chamber for the soul; a sick body is a prison."
- Francis Bacon*

Universal health coverage is World Health Organization's number one goal. Key to achieving it is ensuring that everyone can obtain the care they need, when they need it, right in the heart of the community. Progress is being made in countries in all regions of the world but millions of people still have no access at all to health care. Millions more are forced to choose between health care and other daily expenses such as food, clothing and even a home. This is why World Health Organization (WHO) is focus on health coverage on **World Health Day**, on 7 April. Thus, April 7 of each year marks the celebration of World Health Day. From its inception at the First Health Assembly in 1948 and since taking effect in 1950, the celebration has aimed to create awareness of a specific health theme to highlight a priority area of concern for the World Health Organization. Since its establishment it has addressed serious health issues including chickenpox, polio, smallpox, TB, leprosy and etc. from various developing countries. It has played a significant role aiming to make the world a healthy world. Each year, the WHO chooses a specific health related theme for World Health Day. That theme is focused on in media campaigns all year long, but the highlight of it all will be on 7th April.

The event calls for steps to be taken so that people are not forced to choose between good health and other life necessities. Keeping in mind such an initiative by WHO, RISE programs also not only helps in providing education to the children of the underprivileged family, but also works in addressing the issues faced by the community like health, social well-being, inequality etc. In this event the children were provided with refreshments like biscuit, juice etc. so as many families can't afford proper full day meals.

Dr Brijendra Singh, Government doctor from AAP Mohalla clinic, very generously attended to all 500 children, conducted their healthy

check up, gave away free medicines and even agreed to conduct awareness workshop for mothers of these children. The whole session was very impactful and parents took enough information on how to feed, raise and take care of their children. Many of them were vaccinated against Hepatitis B, C and TT for free of cost. The vaccination camp was sub-organized for all the students of RISE as the students come from a section of the society who cannot enjoy the privilege of expensive medical services. Children got themselves treated and vaccine. Free medicines, necessary medical advice and precautionary measures have been provided to the students and the doctor advised the children to follow up. Doctor talked about a few basic things that helps in ensuring good health were: healthy eating habits, proper timely sleep, regular routine for exercise, ample drinking of water, safe urinary habits, daily washing habits, etc. He even informed to all those community people who at present consume medicines for high blood pressure or any other disease should focus on how to get rid of them through natural work and natural deeds for healthy life.

The day ended off with a key message of this day was that all the people in good health are a valuable resource and should be valued. The community members were really happy with the initiatives taken by the AROH Foundation.



Celebration of Baisakhi



India is well known all over the world as a country of cultural and traditional festivals as it has many cultures and religions. One of the known festivals of India is **Baisakhi**, celebrated with lot of joy and enthusiasm in the northern state of Punjab and Haryana. Baisakhi is a spring harvest festival for Sikhs and Hindus and usually celebrated on April 13th or 14th every year.

RISE knows that the festival of Baisakhi is such an auspicious occasion to feel the festive vibes in the atmosphere as it has become invigorating, bright and warm already. Therefore, going by the mood of this festive season, RISE centres reverberated with enthusiasm during the Baisakhi celebrations to justify the importance the festival holds in two major religious groups, Hindus and Sikhs. The celebrations at RISE culminated with a cultural presentation by the students where a special assembly was organized to provide the students a platform to showcase their talent. Students took part in various activities to mark the occasion and threw light on the importance of Baisakhi through a speech in English and Punjabi. They also talked about the festival through poems, write-ups and songs and

staged a play in which a Mela scene was set up to give them a glimpse of rich culture and traditions of Punjab. A theme-based drawing competition was organized for all the students where they were asked to draw anything they had learned about Baisakhi, how it is celebrated, its importance, and its joy. The best drawing was awarded with a prize. The attraction of the function was a competition for the titles 'Singh is King' and 'Kaur Di Taur' in various categories from all the centres. Moreover the children dressed in colourful typical folk attires, ornaments and accessories danced to the tunes of bhangra and Punjabi

folk music which added to the excitement as they enthralled the audience with melodious folk songs and foot-tapping bhangra performance. The dance session was followed by kirtan singing, where the educators taught the students some of the religious songs and bhajans that people sing on this day of Baisakhi. Students were then provided with a small treat by AROH Foundation, which had juice, sweets, chikki as a part of the Baisakhi celebration. This is how RISE celebrated the event as the motive behind the celebration was to apprise the children of their rich culture and heritage.



Introducing to their Best Friend... Books !



"Today a reader, tomorrow a leader" – Margaret Fuller

The habit of reading a book is one of the best habits a person can inculcate. To inculcate the habit of reading & writing books on 23rd of April the world celebrates the **World Book Day** as it is the most important event organized annually by the UNESCO in order to promote the reading, publishing and copyright among the public worldwide. This day is a celebration of authors, illustrators, books and most importantly reading. The World Book Day aims to encourage children to the pleasures of books and reading. The reason for choosing this particular date is interesting. The 23rd of April is a symbolic date for world literature because it is the date of death for many great authors and poets such as William Shakespeare, Miguel de Cervantes, William Wordsworth and many others which makes this day exceptional.

On this very remarkable day, AROH Foundation helps and contributes towards the society and have been working at the sheer grass root levels to extend education to underprivileged children in India. AROH Foundation's run RISE centres acts as epicentres of learning's in the dwellings in and around Delhi. With its main objective of learning's, celebrations like World Book Day are something which could not be

skipped. The day was celebrated with enthusiasm, pride and vigour across all the RISE centres in and out of Delhi. The day started off with all the children gathered to participate in paired reading. There were several activities throughout the day. The children were put in to small groups and asked to create a new story together, which involved their book characters. There were some very creative stories which had been invented too. The children took part in various fun and creative reading and writing opportunities to really promote a love of books and of reading not just for pleasure but also for a purpose. Children read not only with their classmates but with children in different classes. They were given an opportunity to share and read various books. The educators also read and shared their favourite



children's books.

Across all the RISE centers we all read together. RISE educators emphasized and educated the children about significance and importance of reading books. They even educated the children about the great authors, writers and poets, their writings and contribution they had in world literature. Moreover, books were distributed among the children to inculcate the habit of reading inside them which filled them with more enthusiasm and happiness. In RISE the annual World Book Day is celebrated to ignite imaginations and help students gain a lifelong passion for reading. "There was lots going on around RISE centers to inspire our students and ignite a lifelong love of books and reading. It was a very enjoyable day" said the parents.



Combating Deadly Threats ... World Malaria Day



"Don't give them the chance – Mosquitoes Mean Malaria!"

On **World Malaria Day 2019**, the World Health Organization (WHO), is calling on countries and their development partners to urgently improve access to these life-saving prevention tools. World Malaria day is observed every year on April 25th, to create awareness regarding malaria. This year, the theme is "End malaria for good" which paints the vision of a malaria free world. Adopted by the World Health Assembly, the strategy aims to dramatically lower the global malaria burden over the next 15 years. On a global scale, one child dies from malaria every two minutes. Nearly 95% of India lives in Malaria Endemic Areas. Malaria is a leading cause of death not only in India but worldwide and thus, the disease is a great drain on many national economies. Focusing on the issue RISE students and educators of all the centres organized a one-kilometre Malaria Awareness Rally on 25th April, 2019 on the occasion of World Malaria Day 2019, to raise public awareness about malaria prevention in an effort to end the disease in the Sangam Vihar for good. AROH Foundation carried massive anti-malaria campaigns in Sangam Vihar, with children as an integral part of the campaign. In this campaign



community members were informed about the common medicines they can take for other ailments like joint pain, headache etc. and how malaria is different from these issues, so that members won't take strong malarial medicine due to wrong diagnosis of common health problems which can prove to be fatal to their health. The purpose of the campaign was to spread awareness against the fatal disease of malaria and aware about the causes and symptoms of malaria and made them acquainted with the preventive measures for the same. Around 200 students from RISE centres had taken part in the Rally. During the rally, the local people were also taught about mosquito breeding places with live examples and steps were taken to drain them out. Students

had made placards conveying important messages for malaria control, all by themselves.

To contribute further to the campaign, RISE team also distributed mosquito nets to pregnant women in the community as malaria can increase the risk for adverse pregnancy outcomes, including prematurity, miscarriage, and stillbirth. Also, the team shared the necessary information with regard to malaria and advised people to take special care of their health and follow proper steps in case of any symptoms.

Doing their bit for Mother Earth



April 22 Earth Day, founded by Senator Gaylord Nelson, was first organized in 1970 to promote ecology and respect for life on the planet as well as to encourage awareness of the growing problems of air, water and soil pollution and for conserving our natural resources. This year the theme for Earth Day is "Protect Our Species". On this day, the resolution was adopted to reaffirm the agenda of sustainable development and also to acknowledge the role of earth as a mother, who sustains and nurtures all the species, including humans, animals and plants. One of the big examples of it is the depletion of the Ozone layer which

prevents us from the ultra violet rays of the sun. Another big problem of the environment is death of rivers by getting mixed with the industrial toxic materials which leads to the global warming. Increasing industrialization on daily basis leads to deforestation which ultimately leads to the rise in Earth temperature. Plastic bags productions are increasing day by day which is very shameful condition for us as these materials are non-degradable. These are the life ending dangers on the earth forever which can be lessens through the small steps such as new trees plantation, inhibiting the deforestation, limiting the vehicles use to reduce air

pollution, enhancing the energy conservation through reducing the unnecessary use of electricity. Such small steps become a big step if taken care by the people worldwide together.

On this day, the children of RISE zealously dived into the day with each class conducting varied activities to help the children know and empathize with our planet better. Some creative craft and colouring exercises apart, the children were shown an audio-visual and also sang songs about the importance of Earth Day. To mark Earth Day and emphasize upon the need to save trees, children of RISE started with a Tree Plantation Drive for which they brought saplings and seeds to plant in the parks and gardens to contribute in the mission of making the Mother earth green. The aim was to sensitize the students about how valuable trees are. Through this awareness drive the children are to be engaged in maintaining the tree saplings through the year. This will ensure that every student is an environmental and climate literate citizen, ready to take action and be a voice for change. Following this event, a special assembly was conducted by RISE students describing the importance of the day and that of tree planting through a skit and an especially composed song "**vrikshalagao, pedbachao**" on the occasion. A week long cleanliness drive ensured that



the students neatly turned out their classrooms. Children also participated in creative activities like slogan writing, card making, poster making and poem writing displaying their artistic and linguistic skills while showcasing their awareness about conserving natural resources. Children also communicated few lines and slogans conveying the message of keeping surroundings clean and in turn taking care of the Mother Earth to all the community members. Students and educators took pledge during the occasion. Educators in their addresses reminded children and people of their responsibilities towards Mother Earth and administered a pledge to protect and save our fast depleting natural resources. Educators also appreciated the efforts of young children and added that we are fortunate to have born on Earth and we should join our hands together to



save our mother Earth from the increasing environmental degradation and exhorted everybody to save flora and fauna, soil and water from the unhealthy man made practices growing industrialization and urbanization. The celebration concluded with the National Anthem and the belief that the students would respect their natural inheritance and be good caretaker of their planet. The extensive events organized went a long way in introducing and orienting the young minds to develop a continuing compassion for Mother Earth and thus making a difference.

Lata .. pride of RISE

Lata, 39 years, has been a very dynamic educator of RISE since long-time. She hails from Kotdwar in Uttarakhand, has a daughter and her husband, Mr Yogendra Bisht works as an Accountant in a private firm. They all live in a joint family of 8 members in which only two people work because of which it was difficult to spend in the house. But after having children, she was, like most of the women in India, was restricted only to household chores. But she always felt that her education and life was going in vain. Thinking for a good change she started searching for a job to do near her community and one day she received a notice of a vacant post of a teacher from any of RISE's children. When she applied for the post of teacher in RISE, she was instantly chosen after looking at her enthusiasm. She now is a working and independent woman and not even compromising with her family responsibility as her office is just next to her home. So now in that large family, her income serves a lot towards living and education of her kids. She has built a trusting and interactive rapport in the community and parents have full faith in Lata that she would lead her children towards a brighter future. She often extends her classes beyond working hours for children who require more attention. In all contentment



Lata says, "RISE has given me an opportunity to stand and work. It has helped me to develop my own identity. And I feel content to teach these needy children along with taking care of my own children and family easily. After joining RISE, I do not only teach the children, but I've also taught myself too and many positive changes have occurred within me as well. The change is so good that I am very confident of talking to the person in front of me today."

Mohini .. taking one step at a time

Mohini never thought that she would turn up as a regular school-goer as she never had the inclination to study. She used to loiter around the community from dawn to dusk once her parents move out for their daily work. She never knew how powerful the education is. Ms Guddi - Educator of the nearby RISE centre would convince her every day to join the centre and to study but she always refused and would run away. Mohini would stand at the entrance of the centre but never wished to enter the classroom for studies. To develop the interest of education in her, educator Guddi would organize small games with her centre's beneficiaries. Seeing them enjoying the education Mohini developed a bit of interest and would crawl inside the centre to watch them. Little push on daily basis made her realize that education is not a big burden and she started developing interest.

Seeing her transformation, Guddi approached Mohini's parents to share the information about the programme RISE and to get their consent. On listening, her parents could not believe their ears. They told the educator that they tried their level best to convince their daughter to take up education but she never listened and always excluded herself from going to school. They were more excited on knowing that Mohini has developed an inclination for education and admired the educator for bringing sense in Mohini. They immediately agreed and registered her at the centre. On completing her basic non formal education at the centre, she has been mainstreamed at the MCD School now. Since then she has been regular at her school and this academic session she would be making into class -4, an achievement that never thought would happen. Her parents were happy to see her pack her bags to school every day and they thanked the collaboration of AICL & AROH for transforming their daughter's life.



Agriculture Insurance Company of India Limited (AIC) was incorporated under the Indian Companies Act 1956 on 20th December, 2002 with an authorized share capital of INR 15 billion and paid up capital of INR 2 billion. AIC commenced business from 1st April, 2003. AIC has taken over the implementation of National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) which, until FY 2002-03 was implemented by General Insurance Corporation of India. In addition, AIC also transacts other insurance businesses directly or indirectly concerning agriculture and its allied activities. AIC also works towards upliftment of marginalized sections of the society. Project RISE is CSR initiative of AIC which aims to provide better educational opportunities to underprivileged children.



AROH Foundation is a leading national-level NGO, strengthening government programmes and CSR initiatives of several corporates and PSEs by providing total integrated solutions - consulting, planning and implementing - for sustainable, inclusive development and growth of the needy and marginalised communities in several states of India for the past 12 years. AROH is an ISO 9001:2008 Certified organization, registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860.

RISE is a pioneering initiative designed by AROH Foundation, which recognizes the nation's concern of improvement of learning outcomes and universalisation of elementary education as of paramount importance, and strives to bring the deprived and marginalized or educationally backward children in backward villages and slums under the safety net of education through an innovative approach and Project-Based Learning Methodology.