



RISE Update | March 2022| Holi Special

# RISE

Remedial Innovation in School Education

*Dipped in the hues of love, the vibrant colours, the colourful sky and a festival of oneness, HOLI has been and will always be a favourite festival for people from all squares. Holi is not just limited to colours. It is true that Holi is a Festival of Colours but in its roots, this festival celebrates the spirit of victory of good over evil. The vibrancy of colours is something that brings in a lot of positivity in our lives. Our RISE beneficiaries, constantly battles the evil of poverty. Poverty, something which is beyond our control to be born in, has the negative power of demotivating a child, from not even dream let alone trying to pursue them. AROH Foundation's efforts of fighting this evil with the goodness of RISE centres and their teachers, calls for a celebration as grand as Holi. With Holi, marking the victory of good over evil, RISE children celebrated this Holi, by painting their dreams, red, yellow and green. With sweets and colours, students through an engagement in activities over the week, were filled with motivation, to work harder, dream bigger and celebrate to the fullest. With a pledge to work harder than ever, and work towards defeating the evil in them, their society and in the world, students celebrated the festival of colours with great pride, enthusiasm and vigour such that all one could hear was laughter of joy and charades of "Happy Holi".*

*Wishing all readers a very Happy Holi !*



## Celebration of Womanhood



***“A woman is a full circle. Within her is the power to create, nurture and transform.”***

Understanding a woman is a mystery and it needs lots of perseverance and knowledge. A woman is the epitome of love, sacrifice, care and ability to nurture life. Women of the world want and deserve an equal future free from stigma, stereotypes and violence; a future that's sustainable, peaceful, with equal rights and opportunities for all. To get us there, the world needs women at every table where decisions are being made. This year, the theme for International Women's Day (8 March), *“Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world,”* celebrates the tremendous efforts by women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal future and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and highlights the gaps that remain. International Women's Day is a time to reflect on progress made, to call for change and to celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women, who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and communities. The world has made unprecedented advances, but no country has achieved gender equality. But we know that when women lead, we see positive results. Some of the most efficient and

exemplary responses to the COVID-19 pandemic were led by women. And women, especially young women, are at the forefront of diverse and inclusive movements online and on the streets for social justice, climate change and equality in all parts of the world. Yet, women under 30 are less than 1 per cent of parliamentarians worldwide. This is why, this year's International Women's Day is a rallying cry for Generation Equality, to act for an equal future for all.

*“A woman is a symbol of love, God's finest and beautiful creation”.* This is what the students of RISE expressed lovingly for their teachers, mothers & other women as they celebrated the International Women's Day with great zeal and passion on 8<sup>th</sup> of March to increase the awareness about women's rights. To address this, RISE team organized guest lectures at all the centres of RISE in Sangam Vihar & Ghevra, Mundka. *Smt Hemlata Varun Ji (Founder and President of Sudha NGO)* in RISE (Ghevra & Mundka) & *Smt Sarita Ji (Health Coach of Virtual Nutrition Center)* in RISE (Sangam Vihar) were invited to share their opinions and valuable information on International Women's Day. The program started off with welcoming of the guests and then the participation of girl students in slogan writing competition and debate competition based on “Generation Equality” in full

swing. They all spoke and shared their personal views based on the topic. Post the competitions guest lecturers made the parents aware that girl education in India is largely essential for the growth of the nation because girls can do most of the things better than the boys. Nowadays girl education is necessary and is also compulsory because girls are the future of the country. In India, girl's education is necessary as to develop socially and economically. Educated women yield a positive impact on Indian society through their contribution in professional fields like – medical, defence services, science and technology. They do good business and are also well-versed in handling their home and office. An improved economy and society are the outcome of girl's education. Educated women can also help in controlling the population of the country by marrying at the right or later age in comparison to the uneducated women. There was a discussion on the general issues people of the community have in Sangam Vihar & Mundka.

RISE educators informed that everyone men and women can pledge to take a concrete step to help achieve gender parity more quickly - whether to help women and girls achieve their ambitions, call for gender-balanced leadership, respect and value difference, develop more inclusive and





flexible cultures or root out workplace bias. Each of us can be a leader within our own spheres of influence and commit to take pragmatic actions to accelerate gender parity.

## Parents Teachers Meetings

Learning is a complex phenomenon. A child faces difficulties in learning. Child faces mental stress and several identified and unidentified challenges. Holistic development of a child depends upon the hard work of student, parent and teacher. These three stakeholders integrated effort give the best learning outcomes. Parent teacher meeting covers the distance among three stakeholders. PTM opens a communication channel. Each and every moment and movement of child determines her/his future. Thus, parent teacher meeting is an opportunity to exchange observation of a child with each other. Sharing daily experiences and observations provide a wider prospect for parents and educators to plan, prepare and execute planning for better learning outcome of a child.



We discuss and share overall personality of a child with the teacher i.e. his/her behaviour, manner, habit, attitude, learning styles, relation to self and society etc. PTM is a junction to meet the needs of child.

PTMs are a great opportunity to open two ways communication for the welfare of kid. Parent as well as teacher shares their effort on a common platform for the welfare of a child. RISE Educators have modified their way of handling the kids in RISE centres. Educators keep vigilant eyes on the mental and physical progress of the children. Parent and educators follow each other after school hours also to ensure whether their effort is going on right track or not. PTM is a platform helps parent and teacher to develop a rapport and build a strong relationship to understand and determine the need of a child. Effective collaboration between parents at home and teachers in school is the key to ensure academic success of children. Keeping this in mind, RISE has taken sincere efforts in providing the parents with opportunities to have fruitful interactions with the teachers of their children throughout the academic year, especially through Parents-Teachers Meetings (PTMs) that are usually conducted on a monthly basis. However, due to the busy work schedule, many parents often do not get enough time to visit RISE centres frequently to have one-on-one discussions with the teachers of their children. As a result, due to the lack of communication with the teachers, parents find it difficult to keep a track of their children's performance at school. This in turn makes it difficult for the parents to get involved effectively in their children's learning at home. Therefore, it was informed to parents that they should make sure that they attend all the PTMs. They were asked to understand that through PTMs they can know about their children's overall behaviour in school and the emotional relationship that they have developed over the time, with her teachers & non-teaching staff, with her classmates, junior children and with the senior children of the school.

## Holi - Celebration of vibrance through colors



According to the Hindu calendar, Holi festival is celebrated on the annual basis in the month of March in the full moon, Phalguna Purnima. This festival celebration indicates the triumph of goodness over evil power. It is the festival when people meet each other, play, laugh, forget problems and forgive each other as well as renovate their relationships. It is celebrated with an immense pleasure in the start of the summer season and end of the winter season to the last day of the full moon of the lunar month, Phalguna. It is the festival of lots of fun and frolic activities which bind people at one place. Everyone has a big smile on their face and wear new clothes to show their happiness. There are many reasons to celebrate the Holi festival every year as it is the grand celebration of colours, delicious foods, unity and love. Traditionally, it is celebrated to get success over the evil power or badness of goodness. Many Mythological significance of the Holi festival belongs to the historical legends associated with the festival. First mythological significance of the Holi celebration is the legend of Prahlad, Holika and Hiranyakashyap. After doing Tapa for long years, Hiranyakashyap was blessed by the Lord Brahma for being the powerful man on the earth. Those powers led him demanding everyone to worship him as their only God. However, his own son named Prahlad disagreed with his father's decision and always devoted to the Lord Vishnu. Such behaviour of the Prahlad made Hiranyakashyap to punish him with cruelty. However, Prahlad was amazingly saved by some natural powers all the time. Finally, he called his sister, Holika to make a plan to sit in the fire keeping her nephew in her lap as she was blessed to never be harmed with fire. After sometime when fire roared and looked dangerous her shawl flown away to wrap Prahlad. She got burned and Prahlad saved by his Lord Vishnu which defeated Hiranyakashyap. Such mythological stories and the significance of Holi festival are been taught to students of RISE across all the centres. RISE centres celebrate a 2 day long celebration of Holi, which comprises of a gamut of events ranging from drawing, to dancing, singing, acting, storytelling, along with the traditional celebration of Holika Dehen and celebration with colours. RISE educators, across all centres, started of the celebration with a movie telecast on the story of King Hiranyakashyap, his son Prahlad and his sister Holika and thus showing the legend and reason why Holi is celebrated. Students across all centres were truly amazed by the movie and enjoyed the telecast a lot. Also the students were informed that this festival acts as a relationships revitalizing and strengthening tonic which binds each other into the great emotional bonds.

On the day of Holi, students of respective RISE centres gathered together, to play the festival of colours. Keeping COVID in mind they were given natural colours, which are safe to play with. Children used red colour which is not only a red colour but it is the symbol of love and affection to each other. Really, it makes the people colourful not only from outside but it full their soul and life with multicolour. All students really enjoyed playing with the colours and with great enthusiasm celebrated the festival. They used water guns and balloons to play Holi in the open streets and parks and spend their whole day by colouring, singing, dancing, eating delicious things, hugging to each other, and lots of activities. This is how RISE students and educators celebrated Holi with immense fun and love.







# World Water Day



World Water Day, held on 22 March every year since 1993, focuses on the importance of freshwater. World Water Day celebrates water and raises awareness of the 2.2 billion people living without access to safe water. It is about taking action to tackle the global water crisis. A core focus of World Water Day is to support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 6: water and sanitation for all by 2030. Today, water is under extreme threat from a growing population, increasing demands of agriculture and industry, and the worsening impacts of climate change. As societies balance the demands on water resources, many people's interests are not being taken into account. This year's theme World Water Day is about what water means to people, its true value and how we can better protect this vital resource. The value of water is about much more than its price – water has enormous and complex value for our households, culture, health, education, economics and the integrity of our natural environment. If we overlook any of these values, we risk mismanaging this finite, irreplaceable resource.

On this World Water Day, and any other day, we at RISE ask everyone to remember to wash their hands regularly with water and soap or with an alcohol-based hand gel. This #WorldWaterDay, our children of RISE decided to show their best hand hygiene moments to fight #COVID19 using hashtags like #SafeHands on #WorldWaterDay. They went into the communities keeping in mind their social distancing from people and informed the people about the importance of water saying that Water is one of the precious and indispensable resources and it is the responsibility of each one of us to use it judiciously.

On World Water Day, RISE children educated everyone by which they can conserve water. Some of the water conservation ways were like: While bathing, use a bucket instead of shower

- Store rainwater, purify and use it
- Do not keep the tap turned on while brushing teeth, shaving
- Wash vegetables in a bowl of water instead of running the faucet
- Wash only full loads in your washing machine to reduce water consumption.

The whole purpose to celebrate this world water day was to remind that we should follow the guidelines to save water for us and for our future generations. RISE children supported catalysing conversations about water, by interacting with the community people and engaging in digital & personal discussions through #Water2me and #WorldWaterDay.





## Bringing back our State Bird "Sparrows"





## Rishabh



As a little boy, Rishabh, 9 yrs, lived next door to RISE centre and wanted to follow the children he saw on their way to class. His parents, less convinced that Rishabh needed education, had to be persuaded. Rishabh comes from a family of nine in the village of Uttar Pradesh, where most men are farmers while the women weave. Rishabh wasn't allowed to study there and they moved to Delhi after sometime. Here in Delhi, after so many attempts he was able to get admission in the government school of Delhi. As soon as he took admission, school closed down due to COVID-19 and, by the time, he was way behind. Our Educator Farhin, found Rishabh from one of her students and decided to help him out. Farhin counselled Rishabh and devoted her time to Rishabh to help him cope-up with the studies. Rishabh, in few months has learnt to add and subtract going to the market with his mother, and to

calculate while they were sewing. He is dedicated to helping other students & his siblings to follow the same path to education.

*"I feel very lucky to go to school every day as my mother did not get that chance but I've got the one. I don't know what the future has in store for me but this is my second chance and I don't want to waste it."* Rishabh says.



**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.