



REACH

Empowering Girls Through Education
by The Visram Foundation

DECEMBER 2015 Issue



Dear Donors, Sponsors and Friends,

It's that wonderful time of the year once again! Winter has tiptoed in with lots of festivals and celebrations. It's been six months since the Institute reopened in June for the Academic year 2015-16. We once again welcome our donors & sponsors to enjoy reading our December Newsletter with greetings and happiness for the upcoming Christmas and New year!

REACH Institute is constantly making efforts for the upliftment, education and betterment of girls with the blessings and support of our donors & well-wishers.

Every year, we welcome new admissions. This year we enrolled 19 girls which makes a total of 91 girls from different faiths and backgrounds. For the new enrolments this year, we gave preference to the girls who really needed help and support and who come from economically and financially disadvantaged background.

In this Academic year 2015-16, we sought admissions for 13 girls at the Don Bosco Junior College in grade XI. Three girls are in the Science and ten girls in the Commerce program.

We are proud to report that we have secured 23 new admissions at the Nirmala Convent School, a reputed convent school in Pune. The Principal and staff members are very affectionate towards our children.

In addition to Mr. Moaiz Vyankani, we welcome Mr. Hanif Somji as our new member. We also welcome Ms. Amita Deshmukh on our Advisory Board. Ms. Deshmukh was the Principal of City International School and has a rich experience of managing students and staff. Our Management team consists of highly qualified members who have innovative ideas and are constantly working for the betterment and benefit of the children as well as the Institute!

At the same time, we would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution of Mrs. Shubhra Gaikwad, our Public Relations and Liaison Officer who is no longer with our Institute. Her hard work and dedication will always be remembered and we wish her the best in the future.

We would like to also thank our Trustee Rashid Parekh and wife Loris who have been strong pillars of our foundation for a number of years. Rashid will be very much involved in visiting the Institute but he will not be involved in a trustee capacity as he has in the past, due to other commitments.

All these achievements and progress are the results of your support, cooperation and blessings, for which we are thankful to you.

We Wish you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year with lots of **LOVE and MERRIMENT!**

*Muunalini Nelge
Administrator*



Surging ahead in the quest for Academic Excellence !

Shivani Lalani scored 93% in her recent exams and made us proud. She came first in the Commerce section!!

Alisha Thobhani and Denisha Hajiyani of the Science program scored 88%. They were the highest in their class. In the Commerce program Alisha Lalani scored 79% and was the highest in her class whilst the rest have scored above 75%. They all were appreciated by their respective teachers and the Principal.

Celebrations of National & Cultural Events

15th August- India's Independence Day was celebrated at the Institute. The National Flag was hoisted and children sang patriotic songs.

23rd August - Parents Day was celebrated at the Institute. All the parents attended the meeting addressed by the Trustee.

5th September - Teachers' Day was celebrated at the Institute. The entire programme was organized by the girls independently and in a disciplined manner; they gifted beautiful cards and roses to the teachers and staff.

17th October – Navratri Garba Raas was celebrated at the Institute and the girls enjoyed playing Garba, the favourite musical dance celebrated in Gujarat.

Enriching Lives Through Participation In Various Spheres

Shivani Lalani of Don Bosco Junior College was selected for the Inter-College "Chefs' Competition" from her College. This competition was held at the Indian Institute of Hotel Management, Vimannagar. She was thrilled to participate in this event and received a "participation certificate".

Nazmeen Lalani of grade IX studying at the Pune International School, won a certificate of participation in the City Level Bourn vita Quiz Contest 2015.



The MSFV Memorial Foundation

New Library at the Institute

We are in the process of building a library at the Institute based on the announcement and guidelines from Mrs. Nazira Jamani from Canada who visited the Institute recently. She had attended a leadership course in California where she had to talk about her passion. She mentioned about her visits to REACH Institute and our girls. Her quest was to build a library in the Institute for the benefit of the girls. Nazira and her friends were kind enough to raise funds to buy books for the library which is currently under construction. She plans to set a fully equipped Library where the girls can spend time to read. Required furniture, fixtures and books have already been procured and the Library is expected to be inaugurated in February 2016.

Beneficial Activities/ Events in the Institute

A Blood check-up camp was organized by the Local Health Board. We had taken all our girls for Blood Test at NM Medical, a well-equipped Diagnostic Testing centre.

Counselling Activities

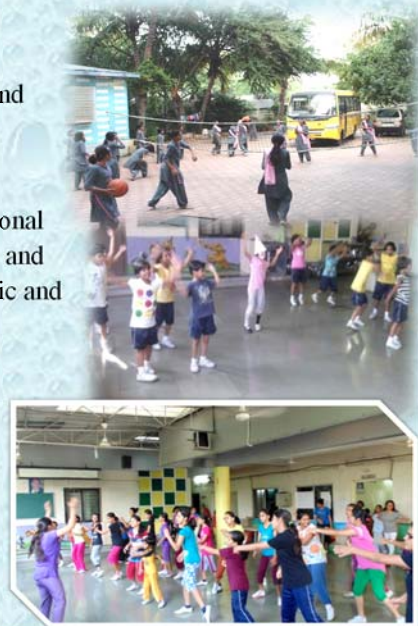
A one-hour session on Technical memory enhancement was carried out by Ms. Sadaf Khan at the Institute which was followed by a meditation session. Adolescence counseling was also conducted and various issues were addressed by our Counsellor Ms. Sukanya Biswas.

A push for physical & mental well-being through In-house Sports Activities

The Institute has started Zumba Fitness exercises for our girls, which is conducted by a professional choreographer who visits us once a week in the morning. The exercises include music with fast and slow rhythms, aerobics as well as resistance training. The girls are very excited to swing to the music and exercise, and even the youngest girls attend the Zumba exercise classes.

Doing their bit for their Alma Mater

Zohra Parmar and Jasmine Ajani, ex-students of our Institute pursuing their graduation from Pune, visit the Institute on a regular basis to contribute in the activities. They mentor the younger girls in Languages, Maths and Science. They are setting an excellent example for the students by assisting in with their efforts for the benefit of other girl students.



Saloni is from Kodinar in Gujarat and studies at Vidyankur School in grade VIII. She was awarded the "Certificate of Excellence" by the Times of India which was organized on the topic "Think and Learn Challenge 2015".

She also won a certificate in the Inter-School Basket Ball Match and was selected for the Regional level. She is a very quiet girl and always busy with her studies. Her parents are separated and she stays with her father. She is soft spoken and liked by her teachers very much. She always speaks in English and has now been made the Language Prefect of her class.

She is a hardworking girl and helps the other girls at the Institute, in their activities.

Saloni's ambition is to become a Cardiologist.

GIRL OF THE MONTH

Saloni Lalani



Your generous gift will keep our children's faith alive.

Dreams will become realities!

Your contribution is tax deductible and a receipt will be provided when your donations are made either in Canada or the United States (in US dollars)

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT