

February is generally a pleasant month as we welcome Vasant after severe cold. But this February came with a shock to the entire Nation as major terror attack occured at Pulwama. All the units of Shiksha Sopan observed Saraswati pooja on vasant panchmi on 9-10th Feb and the shradhanjali meetings with the determination of going ahead. All center conducted their regular and special programs.

Pulwama Attack

14th February was very sad day for India when terrorist succeeded in attacking on CRPF convoy and we lost 40 jawans. The entire nation was in grief and so all the Sopan volunteers and children spontaneously SHRADHANJALY meetings were conducted at the centers and the children were told about the sacrifices of our security personals.

Sopan Ashram Evening Center (SAEC)

After the regular evening session at SAEC on 15th February, all volunteers and children observed 2 minutes silence and paid homage to the Jawans martyred. On 24th February, 30 children and 50 volunteers carried out a candle march from SAEC to Chakratanpur and Nav Srijan school and back to Ashram. They had placards having various kinds of slogans expressing their feelings with the Nation. Some of the IITK students volunteers did not wear even shoes in whole of the rally. One of the volunteer Sumit ji made a painting on black day.



Anaupcharik At Shiksha Sopan Shikshan Kendra, Barasirohi Evening Sopan library two Center and minutes silence was observed in the memory of these soldier who laid their lives for the integrity of India. Senior volunteers educated the children about the dangers faced by our country and the role of security personals to ensure safety of the Nation.



Basant Panchami

At Sopan Library, Vasant Panchami was celebrated on 10th February. All the members recited Sarswati Vandana in rhythm. Senior members Mona ji, Shuklavati Ji, Shipra ji, Jaully ji and Raksha ji told about the importance of Vansant Panchami one by one. Children also delivered small speeches on vasant panchami. A girl child Omshree told about vasant panchami both in Hindi and English. Children did poetry recitation and dances too. The programme was concluded with Vande-Matram.

At SAEC Saraswati pooja was started with lamp lighting by the chief guest Shree Suraj Bhiya. IIT student Mr. Ashwani ji told the children about the importance of this day and the background of this celebration.

At SASK vasant panchami was celebrated with great enthusiasm on 10th February. Our senior volunteer Ms Namrata das ji recited a sanskrit sloka praying the Goddess Saraswati. Seema ji told the children that this function marks respect for wisdom and intellect. Goddess Saraswati is supposed to represent these qualities in human. All of them prayed for development of wisdom in their lives.



At Barasirohi Evening Center the Kshma ji described in detail about vasant panchami which marks the beginning of the most pleasant season of Vasant.

Mere Jeevan Me Vigyan

Shiksha Sopan is working on a project "LOK VIGYAN" in collaboration with National Academy of Sciences India, Prayagraj. One of the components of this project is to make people feel that science is embedded in their regular life activities. Under this project Shiksha Sopan conducted a porgramme "Mere Jeevan Me Vigyan" on 17 February at Sopan Ashram. About 100 persons from Shiksha Sopan centers, IIT Kanpur community and from Kanpur city attended the programme.

After an initial talk by Dr. H. C. Verma they were divided in four groups and each group was shown the Science Gallery setup by Shiksha Sopan under its DOSTI project. Each group was assigned an instructor who monitored the

smooth viewing of all the sections in the gallery. Each sections had one instructor who showed the experiments and also explained the science behind it. The experiments were designed to emphasize that Science does not mean only sophisticated experiments and elite talks, rather science is present in all walk of life. Lunch was offered to all the participants of the programme.



Every one enjoyed the different kinds of experiments in science. SASK coordinator Seema ji expressed her happiness by saying that once entered she did not feel like coming out of the gallery. Similar expressions were given by other Sopan workers.

Other activities

Sopan Ashram Evening Center (SAEC)

Farewell of Reena Ji: Reena ji had been associated with SAEC from the very inception of the center. She had been a very dedicated worker and was specially very effective in nurturing the tiny tots. As she got married she had to leave the home and SAEC as a regular instructor. A farewell was arranged for her on 2nd February. Children made gifts like greeting cards, photo frames for Reena ji. Alok and Prateek wrote poems praising Reena ji and recited in the function.



IIT volunteer Amit ji also recited self composed poem for Reena ji. Another IIT student Sumit ji made of sketch of Reena during the function itself and gifted it to her.

Farewell of Abhishek Das Ji: Abhishek das was the coordinator of SAEC from July 2018, and initiated several new initiatives at the center. A center magazine SAMVAD totally managed by children, came out because of his vision. He only motivated children to write poems and several of them are now writing very good poems. He had excellent coordination with other volunteers coming from IIT and otherwise. Children gifted him self made Photo frame and recited poems in his honor. IIT volunteers also spoke very high about him and talked about different facet of his personality.

Sopan Anaupcharik Shikshan Kendra (SASK)

Quiz competition : Coordination with other schools in the locality has been an important aspect of Shiksha Sopan. Swami Vivekanand Vidyalaya, Lodhar conducted a quiz competition for many schools in this locality and chose the venue to be SASK. At class 6 level SASK student Muskan won the first prize. Sonam of SASK too bagged first position in class 8th group.

Bright student: Sonam is our very sincere student, always ready to learn new things. Apart from the studies she takes part in dance events, poetry recitation and anchoring at different occasions at SASK. She also prepared for Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya and appeared in admission test on 2nd February. She was also selected in the first round of Dr. VNK Merit Scholarship test at class 8th level. First position in quiz competition was a very natural for her.







Barasirohi Evening Center (BEC)

Farewell of class 10th and 12th students: The students of class 10th and 12th were to appear in the board examinations since February 7. A special farewell was arranged for these students on 5th February named as "Ashirwad Samaroh". All the students were given material related to examination such as a bag, pen, pencil, eraser etc. M.Tech student Rahul ji and center volunteer Pushpendra ji and Anup Ashtana ji provided important tips regarding examination.



About cloth manufacturing: Mohit Agnihotry ji works in a textile company and had been a very sincere student and then volunteer at BEC before joining the job. He visited the center on 7th February and addressed all the students from class 5th to 11th. He told the entire procedure of making cloths from the threads and showed some related videos. Children asked several questions regarding spinning and weaving.

Surya Namaskar: A special session on Surya Namaskar yoga, and Gayatri mantra was given by Phd student Mr. Rohit gupta ji. All the children from 2nd to 9th did surya namaskar with Rohit ji and chanted the mantras. Rohit ji also gave the important information related to health care.



Dr. VNK Merit Shcolarship: Sloke shukla, a student of class 8th at BEC qualified for first round of Dr. VNK Merit Scholarship. He was congratulated by all volunteers and others students.

International Hindi Day: International Hindi Day was celebrated on 21st February at BEC. Our resource person Mr. Dhananjay ji and Rohit Gupta ji talked about the recognition of Hindi at International level. They also recited self composed poems in the function. It was decided to use only Hindi for the entire two hour duration of the center that day.

Sopan Library

Good performance by a library member: Two students Archana and Manno who are members of Sopan library are studying in polytechnic. They had done fairly well in their term examinations scoring 70% and 75% respectively.

DOSTI

Shiksha Sopan has established a Science Gallery at Sopan Ashram under the project Development Of Science Tourism Initiative (DOSTI). The gallery is open to any group of students or other sections of the society. The gallery is divided in four parts, Instrumentation, measurements, light, and outdoors. 30 students of class 5th to 8th and four of their teachers visited this science gallery on 2nd February. All of them were welcomed by our team and collectively told about the structure of the programme.

The students were divided in groups and our resource persons Mr. Amit Kumar Bajpai, Mr. Ranjit Kumar and Mr. Vijay Kushwaha showed them the experiments in each section and explained the science behind in detail. The students together with the teachers were very happy to see this kind of gallery perhaps it was the first experience of this kind for them. Class 5 students were particularly excited and had many-many questions. They wanted to know everything about it. In the second phase of the program, all the participants were made to sit in a hall and Mr. Abhishek Tiwari and Mr. Vijay demonstrated them small but effective interesting experiments. Through the experiments lot of science was explained. The whole atmosphere was filled with curiosity and surprise.



अंधकार को क्यों धिक्कारें, अच्छा है एक दीप जलायें

Other Informations

Web site : For more details please visit www.shiksha-sopan.org

How to donate: Shiksha Sopan

(a) You can pay through credit/debit card by going to www.godparents.in, clicking "support a child" from the left top panel, selecting Shiksha Sopan from the "caretaking NGO" list at the bottom left of the page and then selecting a child from the list. Click on "Be my Godparent" below the photograph.

(b) You can write cheques/draft for donations in the name of "Shiksha Sopan" payble at Kanpur and send to the address given below.

(c) Online transfer can be made in State Bank of India, IITKanpur branch. Account No. **10426002488**, Account name "Shiksha Sopan", IFSC code **SBIN0001161**

(*d*). People in US can use the link **http://www.iitk.ac.in/dora/donation/PayPal/** and Choose Shiksha Sopan Charitable Contribution to donate through IIT Kanpur foundation using credit cards. All donations are 100% tax deductible in the United States. IIT Kanpur Foundation (Tax ID: 94-3370645) is Tax Exempt under 501(c)(3) classification of IRS.

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