

# **Flying Birds**

# **Annual Report 2023**



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#### Classroom activities

Education is critical to the economic prosperity of every economy. With increased urbanization, there has been significant growth in urban slums. The Flying Birds community also falls into this category, where the residents are mostly laborers engaged in construction work in and around the HIHT campus. The majority of the people are poor and unskilled or semi-skilled workers, who are unable to afford a respectable level of living. Both parents engaged in labour work, there is no one to take care of the children at home. There are concerns for their security.

Flying Birds School provided a safe space for these children to spend their days, as well as access to education, food, health services etc. This year 108, children attended Flying Birds. Out of these, 61 children got enrolled in government school for further education. Teaching classes were held daily with children starting with the basics. Some children made very good progress while other just started to read and write. More attention was given on these children. The children recited poems, learned names of body parts and general knowledge questions.

The children were engaged in sports, games, exercise and yoga. Craft activities were conducted with them.

Every Tuesday, educational films were shown to the children. Children enjoyed the activity very much and also familiarized themselves with the computer.















# Stationery distribution

Stationery was distributed to the children. They received notebooks, registers, fountain pens, pencils, sharpeners, erasers, paints, drawing folders, etc. The children were very happy when they received the stationery.



#### **Nutrition support**

Most of the children belong to this community don't eat in the afternoons as their parents are away at work, so most of the children eat maximum 2 meals a day. Flying Birds understood the importance of food for this age group and provided fresh food during lunch time to all the children. The milk was also served in morning hours of the school. Each child got 1 glass of milk per day. These initiatives started at Flying Birds ensured that the children get all the nutrients they need for their overall development. Fruits and other nutritious food available at local level were also served during various events/festivals held in the school.





#### **Health Assessment**

Over the course of a year, the medical team consisting of a doctor, pharmacist and nurse conducted comprehensive health check-ups for the children attending flying bird School and their parents. This initiative aimed at not only addressing immediate health concerns but also fostering a culture of well-being within the Flying Birds community. The health assessments were designed to be thorough, growth monitoring and detailed physical examinations for both children and parents. During these camps, counselling and health education sessions were also done on nutrition, hand washing practices, hygiene, etc.



For the severely malnourished children, we implemented a holistic approach. They were provided with multivitamin syrup and deworming drugs to ensure essential nutrient supplementation. Additionally, we conducted counselling sessions with parents to educate them about proper diet and nutrition for their children. This holistic intervention was not a one-time effort; instead, it was followed up quarterly to monitor progress and provide continued support. After implementing our holistic approach,



the severely malnourished children have shown significant improvement and recovery.

Pregnant and lactating women also sought consultation during these camps. Thorough assessments including height, weight, blood pressure, blood sugar, and haemoglobin levels were done of 6 such women. They were oriented regarding diet and nutrition, signs of high risk pregnancy, symptoms and complication of Postpartum hemorrhage and Pre-eclampsia, delivery preparedness and family planning methods. Essential supplements like iron, folic acid, and calcium were also provided to support their health. During

the year 232 children and their parents were benefitted from the camps.

The health check-up initiative has not only identified health concerns but also allowed for targeted interventions leading to positive outcomes. The collaborative efforts between the medical team, parents, and school staff continued to ensure the well-being of the children at Flying bird School. Addressing challenges such as hygiene issues contributed to a healthier and more conducive learning.



#### **Extracurricular activities**

During the year various extracurricular activities were organized in Flying Birds from time to time. Engaging in extracurricular activities plays a pivotal role in the holistic development of school children. These activities, apart from the traditional academics, encompass a diverse range of opportunities that nurture various skills and qualities. Participation in sports, arts, music, debate, and community service not only enhances physical fitness and creative expression but also fosters teamwork, leadership, and time management skills. Extracurricular activities provide a



platform for students to discover and hone their talents, building self-confidence and a sense of accomplishment.

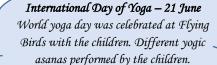
Children celebrated the days of national importance like Republic Day, Independence Day, National Youth Day, World Environment Day etc. The children were also engaged in the celebration of traditional festivals like Diwali, Holi etc. Moreover, these activities contribute to a well-rounded education by encouraging critical thinking, problem-solving, and social interaction. Beyond the

classroom, students learn valuable life lessons and develop a passion for lifelong learning. Schools that offer a rich array of extracurricular options create an environment that promotes not only academic excellence but also the overall well-being and personal growth of their students.



SN	Day	Date
1.	National Youth Day	12 January
2.	Holi	3 March
3.	Republic Day	26 January
4.	World Environment Day	5 June
5.	International Day of Yoga	21 June
6.	Independence Day	15 August
7.	Deepawali	11 November
8.	Children's Day	14 November









#### **Birthday celebration**

Birthday celebration is one of the activities that children eagerly await. The 15th of every month is the day when children born in that month celebrate their birthday. On this occasion, a cake is cut and the children dance and sing and have a lot of fun. Children enjoyed this activity very much.



## **Bella Tailoring**

Bella tailoring was started with an aim to provided skills to the women and girls of Flying Birds community. After successfully completing the course, many women and girls are working at their homes and making a livelihood out of it. Three trainees Pooja, Kajal and Mamta from Flying Birds community have also completed the 6 month Bella Tailoring course and have started tailoring work at their homes and contributing to the family's income.





### **Flying Birds Compound**

A clean and green school compound plays an important role in children's growth and development which also improves quality of learning. Flying Birds also maintains the same and always strive for having an ecofriendly campus. To inculcate a sense of ownership among children and sensitizing them regarding environment conservation, they are engaged in maintaining the compound of Flying Birds.







# Way forward

Flying Birds is an initiative to elevate foundational education and learning of the children of migrant workers with addressing their other needs such as food and health. Parental perception about education and poverty were seen to be the major constraints. We need to engage parents and the community to create a supportive and inclusive learning environment. Support for children for higher education also needed. Access to technology and educational resources are also the need of the hour.