



TOP STORY

✦ Our special needs Bal Chetna children showcase their skills.



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DCCWConnect



Diwali Greetings to you all
from the DCCW Family.

Our special needs Bal Chetna children showcase their skills

Using a new adaptation of physical therapy for our special-needs children, we uncovered their hidden talents in creating many different products! The children themselves were delighted as they made colourful gel and ice candles, gift bags and shopping bags, planters and pen stands! Their own creativity surprised them – as well as us! They felt a great sense of achievement when the item was completed and appreciated by one and all. And we were happy to have succeeded in making boring repetitive therapy into a fun activity.

Here are glimpses of some of the children in action!



This initiative was further strengthened by children of The Indian School, Delhi, who came to our Bal Chetna centres and taught our children how to make seed balls – seeds in a small mud ball which can be used for growing trees by just throwing them into mud. The seeds don't die as they are secure in their natural ingredient – wet mud. The children enjoyed themselves making these seed balls to the best of their ability.

Further, The Foundation School Children trained our special needs children in painting old used CDs and single-use plastic water bottles and converting them into pen stands, planters and small decoration items. Initially the children's painting was not very neat, but by the end of the training they learnt the skill of painting evenly, and they showed off their work very proudly!

Two goals were met simultaneously – necessary therapy and skill training of the children, which can help them in the future to earn a livelihood.



Spotlight - Rashmi



Rashmi comes from a lower middle-class family comprising five members. Her father is the only working member and he does a petty job, so his income barely meets their expenses. Rashmi always dreamt of supporting her parents financially, to ease the burden on them.

She knew that getting a proper education would play a crucial role in achieving her dreams and so put a lot of focus on her studies and fared well in school. She then got admission in Delhi University. Simultaneously she enrolled in the computer course at our Trilokpuri vocational training centre, with a clear aim of excelling in computers and get a job.

Her efforts paid off and today she is working at Nav Shakti Public School as a teacher and also handling the front desk there, earning a monthly salary of Rs 8000/-, and thus making a huge difference to her family's quality of life.

We wish her the best for her future endeavors and hope she achieves what she aspires for.

Quarterly Updates

The Rotary Young Achievers Club group members saw the garden at PALNA as an opportunity and decided to complete it with Swings – something the children enjoy. The children showcased a small dance performance for the members and enjoyed the treats given along with them.

Delhi Metro has also returned the garden space that they had taken over for metro construction almost six years ago. This was the garden



In line with the worldwide focus on mental health, DCCW organised Mental Fitness Sessions through Zaariya (a team of student volunteers who work with children to stimulate social responsibility) trying to address unspoken fears, phobias and superstitions, physical violence at home, lack of concentration, use of social media and its impact, etc. Sessions with parents were also held, to bridge the gap between them and their children on these issues. Parents were also encouraged not give in to all the demands of the children especially the smart phone, by explaining the impact of this on the child and brain development including its addiction.

A tangible result of these sessions was seen in the case of ten year old Areeba from our Supervised Homework programme, who was one of the participants. As children discussed the apps they use, Areeba turned out to be an extensive user of TikTok, much to the shock of the Zaariya team. This explained her recent lack of interest in her studies, and a growing self-absorption. There followed intensive individual and group counseling with her as well as her father – her mother is extremely unwell. This has had a very salutary effect on both Areeba and her father, and hopefully the effect will be long-term. We are truly glad that an early intervention could be made to help Areeba.



Teachers' Training, an ongoing activity at DCCW, focused on activities and learning of pre-schoolers this time around. The training was supported by YFLO through the "Dreaming Child Play School Teachers". The trainers focused on how to let children do an activity their way as it brings out their creativity and uniqueness in doing the task. It also included

making learning a fun-filled time without the traditional rote method. The group activities involved practical sessions with the children.

YFLO further decided to give our children at Trilokpuri a lovely green garden with tall trees along the boundary of the garden. A green playground is a dream come true both for the children and the instructors as it enables physical activities and games for the children and also reduces dust pollution. YFLO also held a Dental awareness camp for the children at Trilokpuri

Arpan, an NGO, did a tree plantation drive at PALNA, post Delhi Metro vacating our land. These big trees planted along our boundary will reduce pollution coming in towards PALNA from the roads all around Qudsia Bagh. The children love watering the trees and taking care of them.

Continuing their partnership with us, Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) trained our children in making craft items and toys out of jute and waste-paper and waste material. The sessions were very enjoyable and educative. Small clay items too were made by the children.

Festivals and National days celebrated with gusto at all our centres included Independence Day, Raksha Bandhan, Janamashtami, etc.



V isitors' Comments

Pari Aggarwal & family, UK

Lovely welcome as usual. Please keep up all the fantastic things you are doing. All the staff are wonderful. Good wishes to all at PALNA.

Ruby Jagpal, Pankaj Jain (at Orthopaedic Centre in Janakpuri)

It is a nice place to share and donate to children who are needy. Felt very satisfied here.

Delhi Council for Child Welfare (DCCW) is a Registered NGO (Non-Governmental Organization), established in 1952 to care for children who had been displaced during the riots that took place after the partition of India. Since its inception over 50 years ago, DCCW has grown, its services expanding and diversifying to keep pace with the changing needs of Delhi's less fortunate children. Today, DCCW provides a range of services for underprivileged children living in and around Delhi, in



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