

Dear Donor,

Moving ahead and learning to live the 'NEW NORMAL', we, at SOS Children's Villages of India, have come a long way with utmost safety and innovative ideas to keep our children engaged with learning. In September, children and mothers celebrated various occasions such as International Literacy Day, Poshan Maah, etc. In fact, several other development and awareness activities were organised to keep the children motivated. Below are few activities that took place during the month.

Happy reading!



Youth attend UNESCO webinar on International Literacy Day



The power to change the future lies in the hands of our present – the youth! We are grateful that this #ILD2020, UNESCO gave our youth the exciting opportunity to participate in its #LiteracyDay global webinar. The discussion was aimed towards educating the participants on effective methods of learning in the #COVID19 era. A key point of discussion was around the formulation and execution of policies that can support educators and learning in the 'new normal'. We are proud to support them on this mission to close these gaps and build a brighter and more resilient future.

Children have a basket of fun at SOS Children's Village Thrissur

On September 4, SOS Village Thrissur organised a basketball match between two teams from amongst the children who practiced regularly. Both teams, Blasters and Real Fighters, displayed great skills on the court much to the enjoyment of the audience. Eventually, team Blasters won the game in a nail-biting finish. This was followed by another match between Blasters, the winning children's team, on one side and SOS coworkers (team Masters) on the other. The skill and stamina of the children amazed the staff on the court.



Angel lives up to her name: donates her cash prize to a noble initiative



The top Malayalam TV channel of Kerala was organising a quiz show Udan Panam during Onam and Angel, a young girl from our SOS Village in Kerala, did not pass up the opportunity to be a part of it. The entire experience, right from applying for the show by recording a video to winning a cash prize of INR 75,000, has been a very exciting journey and a joyful time for Angel. It was a privilege to be given the opportunity to test myself against the very best in the show," says Angel modestly. We are especially proud of her not only for her achievements but also for her generosity. Angel decided to donate her cash prize for the education of her younger SOS siblings!

Bal Panchayat members building a better world brick by brick

Young members of the Param Mitra Bal Panchayat in our Family

Strengthening Programme put their 'best out of waste' skills to use and constructed two park benches in their community! The 210 bricks that were used to construct the benches were all made of empty plastic bottles, food and candy wrappers, and other plastic waste. We are proud of the youngsters for giving back to their community in such innovative ways and using their time to the fullest during this lockdown.



Boys from SOS Village Bengaluru give fillip to 'Fit India' movement



Six boys from SOS Children's Village Bengaluru joined several other youth from the city to participate in a Cycle Hexathon. The event was organised by Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), Karnataka under the aegis of Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports' Fit India initiative. The boys also received participation certificates from the Director of NYKS.

SOS India raises nutrition awareness as part of 'Poshan Maah 2020'

SOS India, in collaboration with Department of Women & Child Development, organised an awareness programme on 'Poshan aur Swastha Jeevan Shaili' for our beneficiaries at one of our community outreach programme locations in Delhi. An expert from the department shared her knowledge on how to prepare nutritious meals with available items at home. She also explained the importance of balanced and nutritious food during the ongoing pandemic.



NIMHANS specialist talks to children on emotional wellbeing



At SOS India, we understand the significance of emotional wellbeing of our children. Besides SOS Mothers being available emotionally for children, counsellors are at hand to help them with stress and anger management. Dr. Sanjeev from NIMHANS was invited to SOS Village Bengaluru to deliver a talk on 'Suicidal Thoughts and Prevention' among children. The event ended with a candle light vigil to support people living with depression.

Environment Sustainability: Tree plantation drive at FSP Shillong

The Family Strengthening team from SOS Village Shillong organised a seminar on Environmental Sustainability for children of Bal Panchayat and members of a Self Help Group. The seminar was conducted by environmental scientists from Botanical Survey of India, who impressed upon the 21 attendees the importance of trees and their preservation to the region's ecosystem. Social distancing measures were strictly adhered to at the event.



**A little can change a lot. Do your part to help them
out during these trying times.**

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