



GOPAL'S GARDEN HIGH SCHOOL

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‘Say it reader. Say the word “tale” out loud. It is such an extraordinary word isn’t it?
So small yet so full of wonder, so full of hope.’
-The Tale of Despereaux

Who doesn’t like stories? If we look back to our childhoods- all of us adults, can sincerely say with hands held over our hearts, that we grew up on a staple diet of love, discipline, simple play with friends and stories. No screens, no social media, no excessive pressures of competition and success.

Unfortunately, we ourselves have made life complicated today with our uncountable desires, demands and expectations. So, it becomes very important at times, to declutter our lives, take a day to digitally detox and go back to our basics. Stories from our past, our histories, our scriptures are not only meant to subtly impart lessons but also to entertain and enthuse us creating feelings of belongingness and pure joy. We laugh, cry happy tears, get a rush of goosebumps and get enthralled as we delve into the world of tales whilst reading, listening or remembering them. We also learn to appreciate the rich pedigree of our families and the great India culture.

Many a times even formal learning takes place more effectively via tales hence the world of education is formally exploring ‘Story Telling’ as pedagogy earnestly. The Impact of stories is a time proven experience. The unborn baby Abhimanyu learnt to break through the formation of Chakra Vyuha simply by listening to Lord Sri Krsna advise his mother Subadra when he was still in her womb.

As Gopal’s Garden celebrates its 25th anniversary next year those of us who have witnessed its growth and evolution have been engulfed in a wave of nostalgia of memories and stories of the years gone by. A deep sense of acknowledgment emerges for the contributions of so many people who have made Gopal’s Garden what it is today. Let us then pause, take a moment and instill in our youngsters the value of timeless tales. Let them develop the feeling of gratitude for the personalities and souls of the past and bygone days. Encourage them to learn from their lives and experiences -life skills that would help them navigate their lives meaningfully and impactfully today and in the future. Let us remind them that our lives are also tales edited by the Almighty’s Fingers which will hopefully inspire others.
Without Further Ado, Happy Reading!

RAJAS SARDESAI BHOSALE
Principal



“We are not human beings having a spiritual experience; we are spiritual beings having a human experience.”- A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

THE VISION BEHIND THE COVER PAGE

The theme “Timeless Tales” celebrates the beautiful memories that stay with us forever — the moments that live in our hearts, untouched by time. Each one of us carries within us many experiences that stay alive in our heart.

While designing the cover page, I could almost see those memories come alive — as if each brushstroke was bringing back all the emotions weaving a story of laughter, love, and reflection.

My design captures three precious aspects of life: a mother’s unconditional love, the joyful memories shared with friends and the importance of self-love and personal space. The time spent with our friends, with our loved ones, the moments of solitude and self-love become stories that we can narrate time and again. The images on the cover page are reminders of love, friendship and the powerful connection we have with ourselves.

Together, they form a mosaic of emotions that remind us how memories never fade — they simply become timeless tales.

INDIRA PARMAR

Class: 10 Vrindavan



From Dreams to Foundations - A Journey of Growth and Grace

Every great journey begins with a humble step. For Gopal's Garden High School, that first step was taken years ago in a modest rented flat in Siddharth Nagar, Kandivali. Those early days were filled with simple beginnings — small classrooms, limited space but hearts full of dreams, dedication, and divine purpose.

Over the years, those dreams found roots and began to grow. From those humble walls emerged countless memories — the laughter of children, the lessons learned, the values instilled, and the spirit of togetherness that defined every day.

Today, as we stand tall in our very own school building at Borivali (East), the journey feels nothing short of inspiring. With four spacious floors, well-equipped classrooms, and the infrastructure that reflects both growth and grace, Gopal's Garden High School continues to blossom.

The ongoing construction work for additional floors is a testimony that our journey is far from over — we continue to build, evolve, and grow, both in structure and in spirit.

The accompanying pictures beautifully capture this journey — one showing the early days of our rented space at Siddharth Nagar, and the other, the proud beginnings of our permanent home at Borivali. Each brick, each wall, tells a story — a Timeless Tale of faith, perseverance, and collective effort.

From a rented flat to our own home — the transformation of Gopal's Garden High School is not just about buildings; it's about memories built together, and the love and learning that continue to stand strong, year after year.

MAYURI HERKAL
Academic Consultant



"Faith is unflinching trust in something divine" - A.C Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.

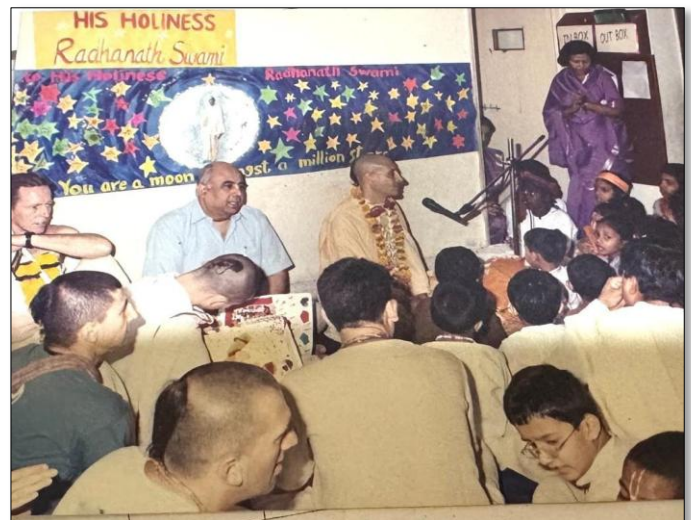
Blessings Blossom into a Legacy

Every great creation begins with a divine vision, and the story of Gopal’s Garden High School is no exception. The inspiration behind this beautiful institution is our revered spiritual master, His Holiness Radhanath Swami Maharaj, whose compassion, foresight, and unwavering dedication to spiritual education have been the guiding light of our journey.

It was through Maharaj’s divine vision that the seed of Gopal’s Garden High School was planted. The very name of our school carries a deep spiritual meaning — Gopal refers to Lord Krishna, the eternal caretaker of all souls, and His Garden symbolizes a sacred place where children bloom like fragrant flowers under His loving care. Each child in this garden is nurtured not just intellectually, but also emotionally and spiritually, reflecting the essence of Maharaj’s teachings — education rooted in values, love, and service.



From our humble beginnings in a rented flat in Siddharth Nagar, Kandivali, to the flourishing school building in Borivali East, every step of this journey bears the blessings and grace of His Holiness Radhanath Swami Maharaj. His benevolence and philanthropic spirit transformed a humble dream into a living legacy — a sanctuary where learning, character and devotion grow hand in hand.



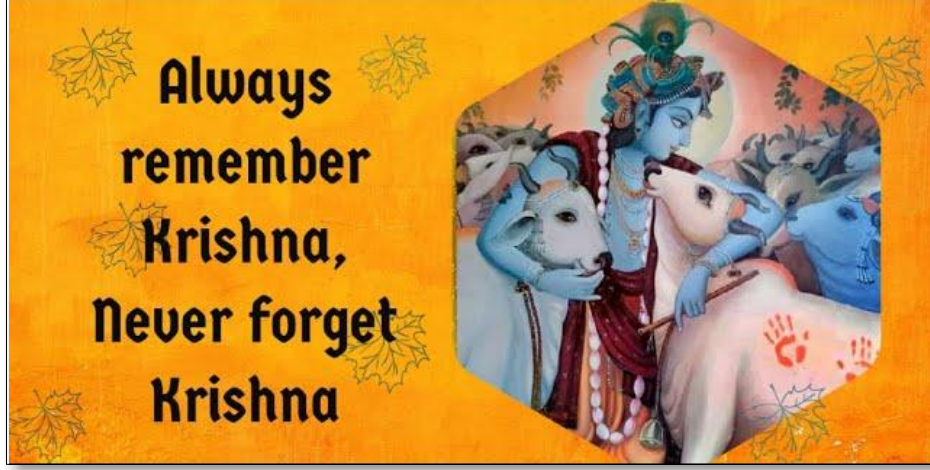
As Gopal’s Garden High School continues to expand and evolve, we carry forward Maharaj’s vision — to nurture generations of children who embody compassion, integrity, and spiritual wisdom. Truly, our school stands today as a timeless testament to the love and guidance of His Holiness Radhanath Swami Maharaj — the visionary behind this ever-blooming garden.

MAYURI HERKAL
Academic Consultant



“The best way to be happy? Try making someone else happy.”- H.G Gauranga Das

Count Your Blessings, Cherish Your Memories



‘Smartavyaḥ Satataṁ Viṣṇur’ (स्मर्तव्यः सततं विष्णुर) which means ‘Always remember Krsna!’ (Source - Chaitanya Caritamrita, Madhya Lila 22.113)

The basis of all Vedic principles, rules, regulations, rituals and duties is contained in this one sutra - Always remember Krsna!

In the foreword to the Krsna book by Srila Prabhupada, one of the greatest singers of all time- George Harrison writes, “Everybody is looking for KRṢṂA. Some don’t realize that they are, but they are.” Basically every one of us is looking for happiness and love. In fact we are all in search of unconditional love. Because that is our intrinsic nature – to be happy, to love. But we are here because we have forgotten this. We have forgotten who we eternally are and hence we are stuck here in the material world. So what is the way out?

Just like if fire is the problem, water is the solution; if darkness is the problem, light is the solution; if cold is the problem heat is the solution- if our forgetfulness is the problem, remembrance is the solution. Hence, ‘smartavyaḥ’ the Sanskrit word meaning ‘to remember’. We need to remember Krsna.

But how do we remember Krsna?

Once His Holiness Radhanath Swami Maharaj was sitting with a few of his disciples and reminiscing about the old days of ISKCON Chowpatty. He was speaking about how his disciples used to cook various items of food for him. One of his disciples, amazed at Maharaj’s memory exclaimed, “Maharaj! How do you remember all of these details from so long ago?” Maharaj looked at him, and gravely said, “I would be condemned if I don’t

remember and express gratitude for the selfless service and the countless sacrifice the devotees made for the community.”

Hence we see and learn, how important these memories are. It is very important to hold these memories in us and be grateful for what we have received. We can only properly express gratitude when we have memories of the good things we have received.

I can safely say that most of my strength to deal with the various ups and downs in life comes from these memories. Memories filled with love that we received as children and immense gratitude towards everyone who gave us these beautiful experiences and memories. When we used to study in Gopal’s Garden High School we were showered with a lot of love. But that doesn’t mean we were spoilt or pampered; but we could see that the teachers and all the staff genuinely cared for us, sincerely.

The quality of our memories, in reality determines the quality of our life. If we have good, happy memories and experiences and are grateful for them then we continue to attract that same positive energy in various aspects of our life. If, however our consciousness is filled with bad memories full of regret, anger and bad experiences we will find it very difficult to overcome them and attract positivity in our lives.

But then the question arises, how can we control what happens to us- the kind of experiences we have and the consequent kind of memories we have?

The key lies in the verse we started with. We remember Krsna with a grateful heart. If we do so then we actually have a lot to be grateful for, a lot of beautiful things to remember and keep in our consciousness as good memories. It’s a cycle; gratitude leaves us with good memories, and good memories make us feel grateful.

So I’ll leave you all on this note...

What are your good memories? Are you grateful to the Lord for them?

HRISHIKA DONTULA
Spiritual Care Department



"We cannot control the waves of life, but we can learn to surf them with faith."
- H.H Radhanath Swami Maharaj

Play, Culture and a Timeless Memory

“Timeless Tales” — the very phrase carries us back to the bygone days, wrapping us in a fragrant breeze of treasured memories that have left an everlasting imprint on our hearts. Among these golden recollections from the journey of Gopal’s Garden High School shines one truly unique and delightful tradition — the celebration of the Doll’s Marriage.



For today’s Gen Z and Alpha Generation, the idea may sound unusual — what is a doll’s marriage? At our school, it was a creative blend of fun and learning: a way to give children a deeper experience of pretend play while gently introducing them to India’s rich traditions and cultural heritage.

The celebration spanned two days. On the first day, two dolls were adorned as bride and groom, complete with traditional attire. The rituals began with a joyful Mehendi ceremony, where preschool teachers lovingly applied mehendi to the little girls’ hands. The next day was reserved for the grand wedding. One group of pre-schoolers played the role of the “groom’s family,” while another group welcomed them as the “bride’s family.” A priest conducted the rituals with traditional mantras, and the ceremony unfolded just like a real wedding. To add to the festivity, children brought along beautifully gift-wrapped empty boxes as presents for the bride and groom, and everyone enjoyed a delicious wedding feast together.

This celebration was more than just fun — it was a meaningful learning experience. It gave children a glimpse into diverse cultures, food habits and traditions, helping them value the treasures of India’s heritage that often fade in the rush of modern life.

In today’s fast-paced, technology-driven world, it is easy to drift away from our roots. At Gopal’s Garden, we believe that while children are prepared to soar high, they must also stay connected to their cultural foundation. The Doll’s Marriage is one such cherished memory — truly a Timeless Tale.

KEJAL MEHTA

Pre-Primary Coordinator



"Human life is meant for self-realization, not sense gratification."
- A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

WHEN THE SCHOOL BELL RINGS.....

The memory which I am about to share is about ‘the school bell’. The sound of the bell will always have a place in my mind. But why the school bell?

The school bell had various purposes. As the day started, the loud bell meant that we have to leave for assembly. Some of the students would rush to the assembly as they heard the bell while some took their time waiting for friends. And the latecomers would be in chaos.

During the long and sometimes boring lectures, the school bell was the most important thing for every single student. I remember that once we had a very hectic day and all of us were desperate for the bell to ring. We had been studying the subject for an hour and were few minutes away from our lunch break. The bell was like a hope for freedom. But the bell seemed to take ages to ring.



Everyone was counting down how many seconds more for the bell to ring. Finally! The bell rang much to our relief. The lunch break used to be full of friends, gossips, eating, sharing food and fun. But the lunch would get over, very quickly. The enthusiasm in each of us during the break would go down to having zero energy.

The last bell of the day, was a call for everyone to go home. For some students the bell was their most favourite bell. It meant that they finally get to go home. But for me, it meant leaving school. It was my least favourite bell. The school time has always been the favourite time of the day for me because it means being with my friends and teachers and having loads of fun while spending the time studying and being productive.

YUMI SIDHPURA

Class: 8 Lohavan



A School Day to Remember

School life is full of moments that stay with us forever. Among all my school experiences, one memory stands out as the happiest and the most cherished one. I still remember that day very clearly- the first day of my preschool.

For most of the children, the first day of the school is a dreaded day. But for me, it was like going on a new adventure, meeting new people, making good friends and learning things. I didn't cry while going to school. Although I was nervous, I was excited. At first, I was feeling awkward when all the children around me were crying and yearning for their parents- except for one child. I went and sat next to her. She was also excited about the new journey. So, she became my good friend. After sometime, all the children calmed down. The teachers were very sweet. They did not teach anything that day. We just introduced ourselves and played with toys. Then came the lunch time. My mother had packed yummy food and some juice for me to eat and share it with my friends. All my classmates sat down in a circle as instructed by the teacher and opened their tiffin. We all shared our food with each other and talked with each other. I felt the joy of being part of a group.

After lunch, we had a craft activity where we created butterflies with our handprints. I remember being proud of what I made, and the teachers appreciated everyone's efforts. As the day ended, we were given candies as souvenirs. Holding those candies in my hand, I felt like I had received a treasure from my very first school adventure.

When my mother came to pick me up, I remember smiling and going in her arms. I waved goodbye to my newly found friends and then told my mom all about my exciting day. That day was not only fun but also the beginning of a journey filled with learning, friendship and unforgettable moments. The memory still makes me smile because even today, whenever I think of that day, I can clearly recall my excitement and the smiles on everyone's faces. It remains the happiest day of my school life and I will treasure it forever.

ANANYA AGRAWAL

Class: 9 Bhadravan



Face Your Fears

(Have you ever frozen on stage? This poem explores the exact moment – when anxiety takes over and words disappear- and how one brave step forward can change everything.)

They handed me the mic,
With good luck and a smile so bright
I stood on stage, unsure but proud
While doubt within me screamed out loud

The hall was set, the lights aglow,
My heart was racing fast, not at all slow.
The script was folded in my hand,
I took the stage as I had planned

A sea of faces, eyes so wide,
My voice came strong with nervous pride
"Welcome to all," I spoke and everyone cheered,
But then my next line disappeared

The words I knew just flew away,
Like my brain just went on holiday,
My mind went blank,
My thoughts all froze
While time stood still, the tension rose

I stood quite still, not sure at all,
My hands clenched tight,
I wished I wasn't there at all
But then I saw a friendly glance
And found the strength to take a chance

My teacher gave a steady nod
That said mistakes were never odd



My friends, with gestures small but kind,
Restored the script back in my mind.

So I resumed -not word for word,
But what I said was still felt and heard.
With a steady tone and lighter heart,
Bravely, I played my unscripted part

The crowd still clapped,
The show moved on
And by the end, my fear was gone.

Now, when I see that stage in the hall
I don't recall the fumble at all
I think instead of how I stayed
And faced the fear I once obeyed.

SHRUTI BHANDARY

Class: 8 Lohavan



Echoes of the School Days

It was the very first day of school,
I had already lost my cool.
A first step into a brand new world,
Made my thoughts spin and twirled.

The environment was calm as water,
With warmth and sparkles I sought after.
I wished to say a thousand things,
But I was like a timid squirrel.
Afraid, I chose to defer all.

We lived each day in simple joy,
Embracing laughter, oh boy!
Our careless mistakes, our little cries,
Flew away beneath the open skies.



But time swiftly flowed,
And many friends joined this road.
A brand new episode soon began,
Many comrades gathered hand in hand.

Pencil transformed into sturdy pens,
Days were beautiful back then.
That period too quickly flew,
Bringing bright hopes new.

Fresh emotions began to surge,
The immature side began to diverge.
Responsibilities grew in measure,
Childhood slipped- an untold treasure.

It was time to choose different roads,
Each of us rowing our lonely boats.
I still remember the echoes of the past,
Those golden days, they went so fast.

Those little fights, so small, so tight
Filled my heart with delight.
The sweet scolding's of teacher dear,
Shaped us, year after year.

The chirping birds outside the pane,
Those days still in my heart remain.
How I wish for another chance,
To meet them all, to laugh and dance.
And if that time should come again,
I promise it will not go in vain.



HRISHANT DAVE

Class: 10 Vrindavan



From the Desk to the Podium: A Nostalgic Journey



I still remember my very first day at Gopal's Garden High School - the butterflies in my stomach, the thrill of wearing a fresh uniform and the reassuring smile of my teacher as I stepped into the class. There was nervousness, of course, but also curiosity and excitement. When my preschool teacher bent down and gently told me, "Don't worry, you'll love it here," the fear melted away. That small gesture of warmth set the tone for all the love and security I would come to feel in this school.

I can still recall the affection of all my preschool teachers, whose patience and kindness made me feel at home. My favorite was Anjali Didi. Her songs, her warm hugs, and her amazing storytelling skills still hold a special place in my heart. Even today, after so many years, she continues to extend herself to us whenever we need her, still nurturing, guiding, and encouraging us to be better versions of ourselves. Years later, when I joined the school as a pre-school teacher, my very first co-teacher turned out to be Rasasindhu Didi, who had once been my Jr. KG teacher! Life had truly come full circle.

The early days at Siddharth Nagar remain etched in my memory, the humble beginnings of what would later blossom into the vibrant "Gopal's Garden" community we know today. Our classrooms were smaller, with just enough benches to fit us all, yet there was always enough room in our hearts for each other. Recess was one of my favorite times; we eagerly exchanged lunch boxes, excited to taste dishes from our friends' homes. Even

now, whenever I remind students not to waste time chatting after meals, I get flashbacks of our own giggling sessions when teachers had to chase us back into class.

Festival celebrations and annual day rehearsals were always filled with joy. Our laughter often drowned out the practice, but those moments created friendships that still last a lifetime. I fondly remember how we would decorate classrooms, prepare for cultural events and share the thrill of performing on stage. Those experiences taught us teamwork, responsibility, and joy in togetherness.

Much of who I am today is shaped by the priceless contribution of my teachers. I will never forget the quiet reassurances, the appreciative pats, and the unwavering faith they placed in me. I especially recall Vinayak Sir during my tenth grade, when I struggled with mathematics. He not only believed in me but worked tirelessly to help me improve. He would often remind me not to worry about perfection, but to focus on trying my best. Those words gave me strength then, and they continue to guide me today.

Not long ago, one of my students, a little girl, hesitated to answer a question in class. She reminded me so much of my own shy, uncertain self. I encouraged her the way my teachers once encouraged me, and the sparkle in her eyes when she finally spoke up was priceless. That moment made me realize how deeply my teachers' legacy lives on in my own teaching.

As the years passed, I witnessed Gopal's Garden grow from a modest flat into the flourishing building we see today. Back then, our library was just a small room with a few shelves of books, and I would wait eagerly for my turn to borrow a storybook. Today, the school has a spacious library filled with thousands of books and digital resources.

I also vividly recall the thrill of visiting the A.V. room (as it was called then), where a single television was shared by all classes. Fast forward to today, when large screens in every classroom bring the world alive for every child. And yet, what amazes me most is that despite all these changes, the essence has remained unchanged. The same warmth, the same values, and the same spirit of togetherness still linger in every corridor. Life has indeed come full circle for me. On my first day as a teacher, I felt the same butterflies

I had as a child, only this time eager young faces looked up to me for guidance and inspiration. Each PTM and open house day feels like a nostalgic echo of when I once stood on the other side with my parents.

Even the corridors whisper memories, like the time our entire class was asked to step out as “punishment” for not completing an assignment. In solidarity, even those who had finished it stepped out, and that act of unity still makes me smile.

The walls of Gopal’s Garden themselves hold pieces of our memories. I remember painting them during school projects, admiring the temple hall murals being created, and now, teaching students on the very benches I once sat on. Every festival, every hallway, and every corner has a story to tell, of laughter, learning, unity, and love.



My journey with Gopal’s Garden is not just about looking back, it is also about carrying forward the legacy. As I stand in front of my students today, my deepest wish is to instill in them the same values of kindness, curiosity and resilience that my teachers instilled in me. If I can touch even one child’s life the way my teachers touched mine, I will consider my journey truly worthwhile.

Years may pass, faces may change, but the heart of Gopal’s Garden will always remain the same, a home filled with love, learning, and memories to last a lifetime.

GANDHARVIKA SHANBHAG

Pre-Primary Teacher



Timeless Frames

Moments that whisper stories of laughter, friendship, and the joy of school days — captured once, cherished forever.



"Our process is to follow in the footsteps of the great acharyas, the great teachers."
- A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

‘सुनहरे पल’



"यादें" मतलब हमारे जीवन का बीता हुआ कल, एक कहानी, जिसमें से कुछ ऐसी सुनहरी यादें होती हैं जो हमेशा हमें सुखही प्रदान करती है। जिनके बारे में हम हमेशा बातें करते हैं और कभी भी भूल नहीं पाते। दरअसल हमें हमारे जीवन की ऐसी ही यादों को याद भी रखना चाहिए जिनको याद करने से हमारे चेहरे पर एक मधुर मुस्कान खिल जाये - गोपालस गार्डन के इस उन्नीस (19) सालों के सफर में मेरी भी ऐसी बहुत सी यादें हैं, जो मेरे लिए बहुत खास (विशेष) है और सुखमय है। सारी तो नहीं पर उनमें से कुछ आज मैं आप लोगों के साथ साझा कर रही हूँ।

हर साल महाराज का आना, ओह! कितना उत्साह और उमंग भरे पल होते थे वो। उनके स्वागत में पूरा स्कूल सजाना, सारी तैयारी करना, और जरा भी थकान नहीं बल्कि एक अलग ही खुशी होती थी बस एक झलक दर्शन के मिल जाए वो खुशी शब्दों में तो बयां नहीं की जा सकती।

साल में एक बार हम सारे टीचर्स मिलकर फेस्टिवल में एक ड्रामा या डांस करते थे, बच्चों के सामने या कभी -कभी बच्चों के साथ भी। तब कुछ भी रिकार्ड नहीं होता था सबकुछ लाइव (LIVE) ही होता था और हम सब ही गाते भी थे और स्टेज पर अभिनय भी करते थे।

पर इन सब में सबसे मजेदार होता था स्टेज के पीछे का वो सारा नजारा और गड़बड़ जिन्हें आज भी सोचकर हम हँस देते हैं पर क्या मजाल की सामने किसी को कुछ पता चले। शायद कुछ गड़बड़ तो आजतक किसी को पता नहीं होगी। हमारा पहला वार्षिक सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम (Annual Day) में इतना जोश था कि बस पूछो मत और डर भी इसलिए कि कोई गलती ना हो। तब कोई कोरियोग्राफर

नहीं था सब हमको ही सिखाना था और सब मिलकर एक-दूसरे की मदद करते थे | कोई शिकायत नहीं, थकान नहीं बस अच्छा करने की चाहत थी| कोई हमारी तारीफ करें ये चाहत नहीं थी| हमारा सिखाया हुआ बच्चे अच्छी तरह से पेश करें वो देखकर ही हम खुश हो लेते थे।

"जाने कहां गये वो दिन"- कहने को तो बहुत कुछ है, पर अभी बस इतना ही| नहीं तो ये बातें तो 10 पन्नों में खत्म नहीं होगी | यहाँ पर ना सही पर मैं अपने मन में हमेशा इन्हें सजोकर रखूंगी और याद करके मुस्कुराऊंगी।

AMRITA RAI
Music Teacher



A Teacher's Memoir - Lessons From the Heart

Eighteen years ago, I entered Gopal's Garden as a teacher with dreams in my heart. Today, I stand as a senior teacher, proud to call this school my second home. They say old is gold, and truly, these years have only grown richer with memories — from lively classrooms to staffroom. Over the years, the school has given me countless memories, from unique traditions to adventurous journeys, each one holding a special place in my heart.

- **From Empty Fields to Victorious Teams**

When I joined Gopal's Garden as a Physical Education teacher, our school was small, with only a few students, and even forming a sports team felt like a challenge. We would mix age groups, teach new games, and encourage every child to step onto the field. Those moments taught me that a team is built not by numbers, but by spirit — and that same spirit still shines today.

- **The 108th Day Tradition**

One of my fondest memories at Gopal's Garden is our annual 108th Day celebration. Every year, students and teachers would spend a night at school, turning the campus into a joyful campsite. We would gather around a warm campfire, sharing stories, songs, dramas and laughter under the stars. The next morning, we would set off to the beach where the waves echoed our excitement. It was more than just an event — it was a tradition that brought us closer, making our school feel like one big family.

- **Where Memories Climb Higher**

Every year, our journey to Sinhagad Fort was more than just a trek — it was a step back in time. As we climbed, I would share stories of the brave legends who fought to protect the fort, filling the air with pride and inspiration. At the top, we treated students to a traditional Indian delicacy, Zunka Bhakari, a taste of our culture as rich as the history surrounding us.

Students experienced the thrill of outdoor challenges and we spent the night surrounded by calm, spiritual energy at the serene Mafatlal Bungalow, my personal favourite. Watching students enjoy these moments reminded me that learning often happens best, beyond the four walls of a classroom.

Looking back, I realise these memories are not just events — they are lessons, bonds, and milestones. They remind me that a school is not just a place to teach; it is a place to live, to grow, and to inspire. Gopal's Garden High School has been my second home, my playground of dreams, and my family for nearly two decades. And just like gold, these moments only shine brighter with time. I am grateful to this school for making my journey shine so brightly.

DIPTI CHAVAN

PE Teacher



"Do not postpone your happiness; practice gratitude today." - H.G. Gaur Gopal Das

Together with the School: A Mother's Reflection

“Gopal’s Garden High School is a temple cum school. Even though there are advantages and disadvantages of material study in this school, if I am really serious about Krishna Consciousness, there is no other way, no other way, no other way than Gopal’s Garden High School for my children.”

This was my heartfelt feedback written around 21 years ago in the Garden Buzz magazine of GGHS.

Our association with Gopal’s Garden began in 2003, when the school was still located in Siddharth Nagar in a flat system. A simple moment from our very first visit left a lasting impression on me. At the reception, a peon, with a big smile on his face, handed me a glass of water without my even asking. That thoughtful gesture made me feel instantly at home and created a sense of belonging.

At that time, my son was in the 5th standard and my daughter in the 1st standard when they joined GGHS. That very year, the school decided to stage a drama titled Damodar Lila for the annual drama festival. With just 40 children from 1st to 6th standard, every single child participated, ensuring no one was left out. For almost two months they practiced with great sincerity, and that drama became a cherished memory for the entire school community.

In 2004, the school shifted to its current location. HH Radhanath Swami Maharaj, the visionary behind GGHS, inaugurated the new premises. I vividly remember one powerful sentence he spoke that day: “Even if there is one child, the school must go on.” That message became very personal to us in 2005 when my son was in 7th grade. Many of his classmates were considering leaving, and he returned home in tears, worried about being left alone. I reassured him with Maharaj’s words, saying, “You may be that one child.” In the end, no one left, and today, every one of them has gone on to achieve success in their chosen fields.

Every year, Maharaj’s visits were eagerly awaited by the children. They poured their hearts into preparing welcome cards, decorating the school, cleaning their classrooms, and planning performances. The joy of welcoming him was an experience in itself.

Those years were also filled with many unique celebrations. The 108th Day was marked with an overnight stay at the school — a day packed with activities, an evening at the beach, a bonfire, delicious prasad, outdoor games through the night, and finally, heading home in the morning.



Children also went on picnics with the brahmacharis from Radha Gopinath Temple, where trekking, sports, and fun were beautifully blended with spiritual experiences. Rainbow Mela, Sports Day, and Annual Day were annual highlights, bringing immense joy as we watched the children perform with such grace and enthusiasm.

Daily school life was equally nourishing. Each morning began with aarti, where children took turns leading the offering. They recited shlokas, chanted one full round of the Hare Krishna mantra, and honoured lunch prasad prepared by the school — with a special delicious treat added every Friday. Festivals were celebrated with joy, and even holidays were planned around the festivals and yatras of Radha Gopinath Temple. In this way, the school nurtured the children in a sattvic environment.

At that time, we were residing in Bhayander, and the children would reach home only after 1.5 hours, as the school bus first dropped off students at Mira Road. What initially seemed tiring later turned into a blessing. When they eventually had to travel long distances for college and medical entrance coaching at Vile Parle, they were already used to long commutes and had learned to balance their study schedules within the available time.

With small class sizes — just 6 in my son's class and 11 in my daughter's — the children received individual attention from highly qualified teachers and never required outside tuition. Both went on to score 95% in their 10th grade exams. Today, my son is a Pediatrician, having completed his MBBS at Seth GS Medical College and KEM Hospital, Mumbai, followed by an MD in Pediatrics at Jalgaon. My daughter is a dentist from Nair Hospital Dental College, Mumbai.

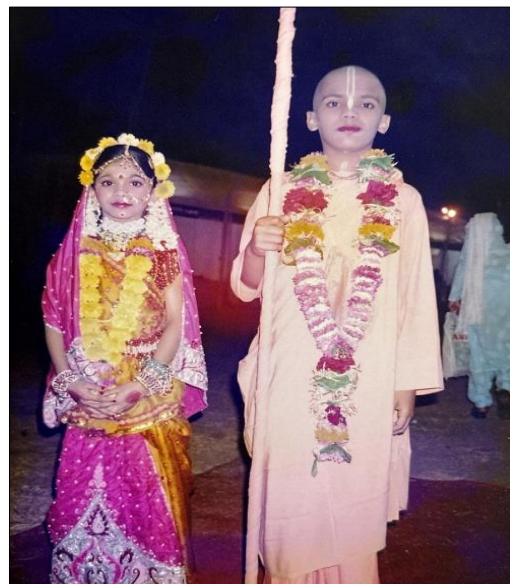
In the material world, life often feels full of envy and competition, but at GGHS my children experienced only love and care. Even today, they fondly remember their school days, remain in touch with their teachers, and treasure those memories deeply.

For me too, GGHS has been much more than a school for my children. It has been a guiding light in my own spiritual journey. I sincerely pray that my children always remain deeply grateful to the school that shaped them into who they are, and that they may, in turn, contribute to Maharaj's project as an offering of gratitude for all that GGHS has given them.

I humbly request all of you to bless my children so that they may grow into sincere devotees of Lord Krishna.

Thank you!

JAY RADHA DEVI DASI (DR. JIVIKA K. RANGNEKAR)
Parent of Dr. Pradnil K. Rangnekar (Batch of 2009)
and Dr. Nivida K. Rangnekar (Batch of 2013)



"Peace is not the absence of problems but the presence of Krishna in the heart."
– H.G. Gaur Gopal Das

Memories and Moments – From Home to Alma Mater

We are immensely proud of our alumna, Ms. Hrujuta Kshirsagar, who has successfully completed her Masters in Paediatric Physiotherapy with distinction (77.63%). She is presently serving as the Clinical In-charge & Branch Administrator at Unnati Paediatric Rehabilitation Center, Pune.

Her heartfelt note on the occasion of Guru Purnima is a testimony to the bond our students share with GGHS and their teachers. It reflects the timeless values and culture nurtured within our school.

It is also a moment of joy to see her mother's words in this edition of Memory Lane, where she beautifully recalls Hrujuta's journey with GGHS—from her early struggles in Mathematics to her outstanding performance in the 10th Boards, and the loving care she received from her teachers.

Together, both mother and daughter's reflections remind us that GGHS is not just a school—it is a family, a home, and a foundation for life.

A Heartfelt Note from Our Alumni – Guru Purnima Special

Dear Teachers,

I am happy to inform you that I have completed my Masters in Paediatric Physiotherapy with 77.63%. I am also currently working at Unnati Paediatric Rehabilitation Center in Pune as a Paediatric Physiotherapist. I have a good post here of Clinical In-charge & Branch Administrator.

I am very much grateful to each one of you for playing a very crucial role in my life always. Thank you so much! It's only because of what I learnt from you that I can shine anywhere & everywhere I go.



I thank you from the bottom of my heart for taking care of me even more than my parents could. This sentence is no exaggeration—you can confirm this with my mother too. She'll tell you that I was first a child of GGHS, and then hers. I hope to meet everyone soon. Kindly forgive my absence this time & please accept my love in the form of sweets.

I request you to kindly accept my veneration at your feet on the occasion of Guru Purnima.

Yours sincerely,

HRUJUTA KSHIRSAGAR

Batch of 2015



Growing Together With Gopal's Garden High School

In 2003, we enrolled our daughter, Ms. Hrujuta Bhushan Kshirsagar, in Junior KG at Gopal's Garden High School. At that time, the school was functioning out of just two to three flats in Siddharth Nagar, Kandivali. Though we lived in Dadar and the daily travel was long, we chose GGHS because we wished to provide our child with not only the best education but also a strong cultural foundation.

From the very beginning, GGHS gave Hrujuta excellent education, values, and—most importantly—abundant love and attention. Throughout her journey here, she received immense support, be it emotional, mental, or physical.

One incident that will forever stay in my memory is when Hrujuta once developed a fever in school. We received a call to pick her up, but due to the distance, it took us nearly an hour and a half to reach. When I arrived, what I saw touched me deeply—Hrujuta was fast asleep in the lap of one of her teachers, who was gently applying cold water strips to her forehead. That moment showed me the warmth and motherly care that GGHS extends to every child.

Academically, too, the teachers went above and beyond. Mathematics was always a challenge for Hrujuta, but her teachers patiently guided her and built her confidence. With their constant support, she went on to score an impressive 96/100 in her 10th Board exams.

Along with academics, GGHS also gave her the association of noble and pure-hearted souls. Their influence enriched her life with strong cultural values and helped shape her into a compassionate and cultured human being.

As a parent, I feel truly fortunate to have entrusted my daughter's growth to GGHS. The school has been a partner in her holistic development, and my experience as a parent here has been blissful.

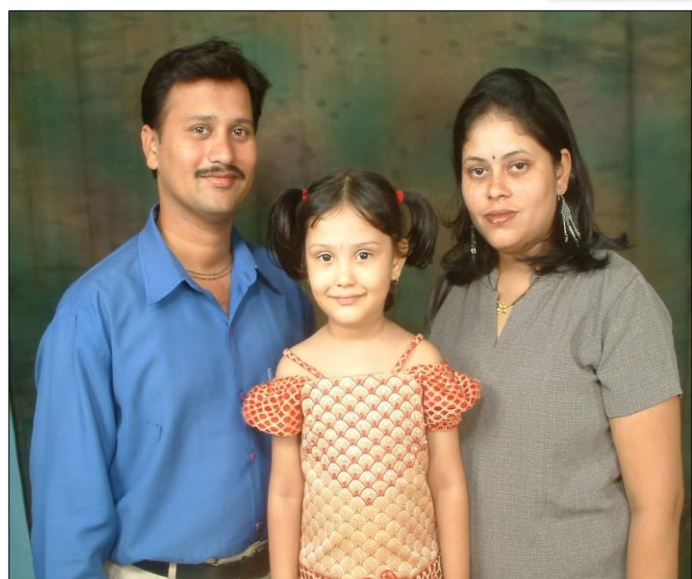
Life came full circle for me when I myself got the opportunity to join Gopal's Garden High School as an employee. For the past three years, this school has been much more than a workplace—it has been like a family to me.

I have experienced love, support, and care at every step. Every member of the GGHS team is deeply committed to their work, striving tirelessly to provide the best education and values, and to raise a generation that is morally and spiritually enriched.

For me, GGHS is not just a school—it is a timeless tale of love, care, and growth, a second home where both my daughter and I have found guidance, values, and family.

UTTARA KSHIRSAGAR

Admin Department



"Real success is to live a life that pleases God."- H.H Radhanath Swami Maharaj

Then and Now: A Tale of School Days



School life is a wonderful phase where we make friends, gain knowledge and lay the foundation for our future. It's a time filled with fun and learning, creating memories that stay with us forever. When I look at my child's school routine today, I can't help but compare it to my own. While the school bell still rings and lunch breaks still bring laughter, nearly everything else has changed.

In my days, we carried heavy bags filled with textbooks, wrote our homework in notebooks, and learned from chalkboards. We relied on libraries and teachers for knowledge. There were no smartphones, no Google and certainly no online classes. Recess was sacred and handwritten notes were our version of texting.

Now, my child's school is filled with technology. Lessons are taught using smartboards. Homework is given online or via school app. Even communication with teachers happens through school apps, emails or school calendar. Their subjects go beyond reading and Mathematics — they learn coding, emotional wellness, and climate awareness. Classrooms are more interactive, students are encouraged to question and explore. While my teachers were strict and traditional, my child's teachers focus on empathy and student voice.

Despite all these differences, some things remain the same. The excitement of making new friends, the nervousness before exams, the joy of school events — these are timeless experiences we both share.

Another good thing about Gopal's Garden High School is that they introduce students to the vedic culture which includes teaching the importance of Ekadashi, tulsi aarti and much more.

Though my school days may feel like a world apart from my child's, both versions have their value. I'm grateful for the discipline and simplicity of my time, just as I admire the creativity and resources that are in use now. Education has evolved, but its heart remains the same — to prepare young minds for a better future.



PREETI SONI

Mother of Maanvi Soni

Class: 2 Bahulavan (Kirtan)



Unspoken Stories of a Mother's Heart

Parenting is a beautiful journey filled with love, joy, and countless little moments that touch the soul. Yet, behind every smiling baby photo and every joyful memory lies another story—a story only a parent truly knows. A story of struggles, sleepless nights and silent tears.

I still remember those days vividly, as though they were yesterday. My little one would cry endlessly, for reasons I could not always understand. He would refuse to eat, turning away from every spoon, no matter how lovingly I tried. And the nights felt longer than ever—as he stayed awake, restless and uncomfortable—while I held him close, rocking him with tired arms and a hopeful heart.

These moments tested every bit of strength in me. I constantly questioned myself: "Am I doing enough? Am I doing it right?"

♥ There were moments when I felt broken, yet I still smiled—for him.

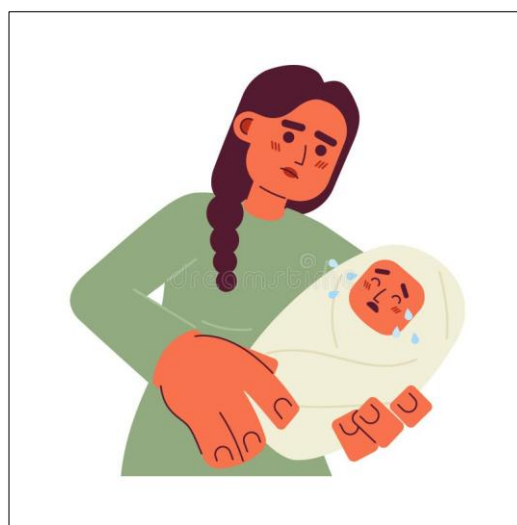
♥ There were days I longed for rest, yet I stayed awake—just to watch him breathe peacefully.

♥ I realized that even in my exhaustion, I had never loved so fiercely, so completely.

Some days, the only thing that kept me going was the gentle weight of his tiny fingers curled around mine—a silent reminder that even though he could not speak, he trusted me completely. Parenting, I learned, is not about perfection—it is about presence. It's about showing up every single day with love, no matter how tired you are.

◆ The Reality of Parenting Today

◆ Emotional Struggles: Children, even babies, experience anxiety and discomfort that they cannot express in words. For parents, understanding these silent cues becomes both a challenge and a responsibility.



◆ Sleepless Nights: Sleep deprivation becomes a daily reality. When a child isn't sleeping, neither does the parent. And yet, every tired yawn and sleepless night is filled with care and hope.

◆ Feeding Difficulties: Feeding a child is not just about nutrition—it is emotional. When your child refuses to eat, it feels like a personal failure, even though it isn't. Patience becomes a daily practice.

★ Lessons Learned Through Challenges

Despite the tears, the worry, and the exhaustion, parenting teaches us the deepest form of patience and resilience. We learn to love without limits, to give without expecting anything in return, and to find joy in the smallest victories—a smile, a bite of food, a peaceful nap.



Parenting has not been an easy path. It has been filled with long nights, unanswered questions, and moments of quiet self-doubt. But it has also been the most profound and soul-shaping journey I have ever known. I have discovered strength I never knew I had. I have learned to love beyond exhaustion, to give without limits, and to find magic in the smallest things—a sleepy smile, a tiny hand in mine, a quiet moment of peace. Through every cry, every struggle, and every sleepless night, I have come to understand one thing deeply: I may not be perfect, but I am exactly the parent my child needs. And that... is more than enough.

SUSHMA SHRINIVAS AMIN

Parent of Ahan Amin

Class: 2 Bahulavan (Kirtan)



Stories that Shaped Generations



Growing is one of the most beautiful aspects of life. As we journey through it, we each carry our own unique set of experiences. These life lessons shape our thoughts, values, and character. While our experiences may differ, the wisdom passed down through generations often connects us all — and one of the most powerful ways this wisdom is shared is through timeless tales.

It's often said that life never stops teaching, and we should never stop learning. But there are certain lessons so valuable and universal that they continue to be told and retold, year after year, generation after generation. These lessons often take the form of stories — simple yet powerful narratives that stay with us long after we've heard them.

Some of the greatest timeless tales come from our epics — the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. These are not just stories of gods and kings, but deep wells of wisdom and moral guidance.

From the Ramayana, we learn about the ideals of duty and sacrifice through Lord Rama — who gave up his kingdom and comforts for the sake of his father's promise. Sita's strength and patience, Lakshman's loyalty, and Hanuman's devotion are all examples of virtues that continue to inspire us even today.

The Mahabharata teaches us about righteousness (Dharma) and the consequences of our choices. The story of Yudhishtira, who always stood for truth and justice, or Karna, who struggled between loyalty and morality, are tales that make us think deeply about our actions. The Bhagavad Gita, a part of the Mahabharata, gives us timeless lessons on life, duty, and inner strength — still relevant in today's fast-paced world.

When I was a child, I remember how my younger sister and I would eagerly wait to hear these stories before bedtime. These tales were more than entertainment — they were lessons in courage, respect, honesty, and love. Today, as a parent, I feel proud to pass these same stories to my daughter Niyati, hoping she too will find inspiration in them, just as I once did.



In a world that's constantly changing, these timeless tales remain anchors — helping us hold onto the values that make us better human beings. Let us continue to treasure them, share them, and learn from them.

AMISHA JIGNESH MISTRY

Mother of Niyati Mistry

Class: 1 Bhandiravan (Kirtan)



Through the Lens of Time

A glimpse of cherished moments frozen in time—each frame tells a story, capturing the essence of our journey through the years.



आठवण

आठवणींच्या हिंदोळ्यावर
मन हे माझे झुलताना
क्षणात गेले उंच आकाशी
हिरवे डोंगर चढताना

आकाशीच्या निळाईतल्या
श्याम रंगी मी रंगताना
पक्षांचा गुंजारव पडला
कानी माझ्या जाताना

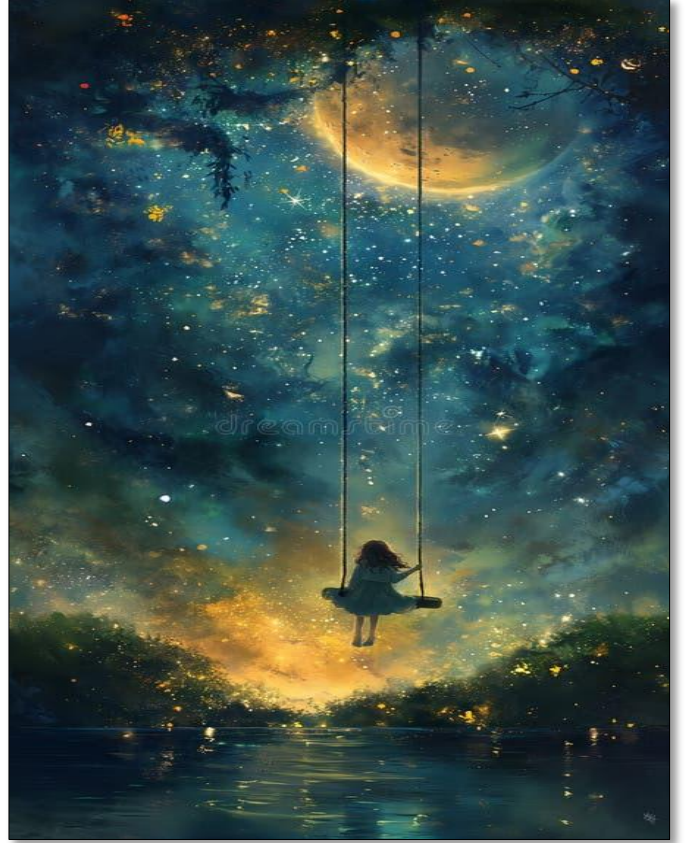
बालपणीच्या आठवणीतली
भातुकली ती खेळताना
क्षणात गेले मागील अंगणी
पारिजात तो दरवळताना

कधी नदीवर, कधी ओढ्यावर
कधी शिवारी जाताना
तिन्ही सांजेला रंग उधळले
नभोतेजाने जाताना

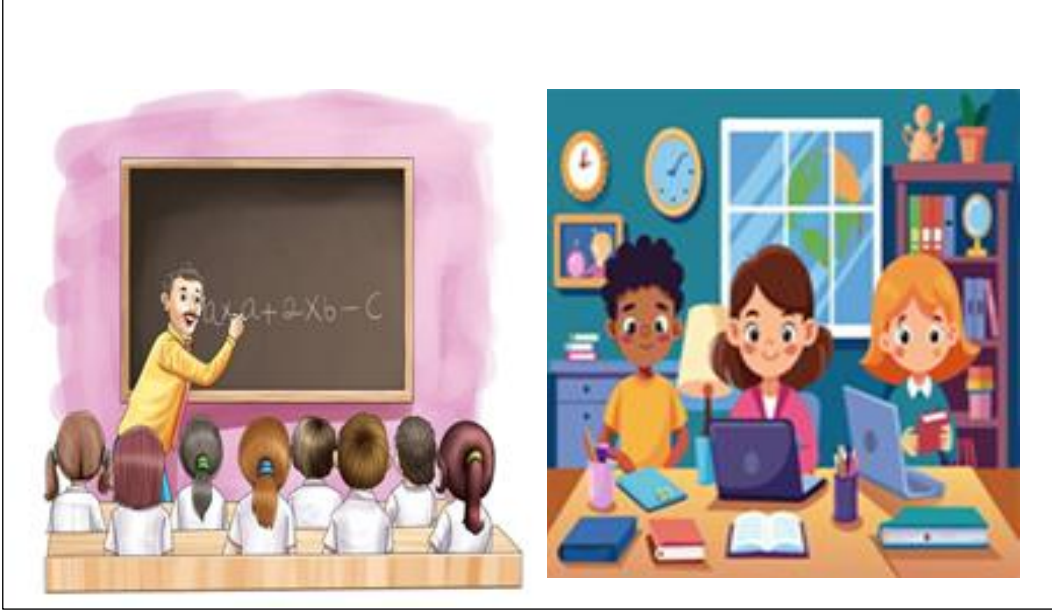
अशाच सुंदर आठवणी या
मनाशी मी गोंजारताना
कधी माझी मला विसरून गेले
कळू न शकले माझे मला.

VIMAL PATIL


Marathi Teacher



अनोखे अनुभव




जब भी मैं अपनी बेटी को स्कूल के लिए तैयार करती हूँ, तो मेरा मन अपने बचपन की गलियों में घूम आता है। वो सादगी, वो अनुशासन, वो खुशबू जो कॉपियों और किताबों से आती थी सब कुछ ... आज भी याद है। लेकिन अब समय बदल गया है। मेरी बेटी का विद्यालय जीवन मेरे समय से बिल्कुल और ये अंतर हर दिन मुझे महसूस होता है। – अलग है

 जब मैं विद्यालय जाती थी...

मेरे समय में विद्यालय जाना एक जिम्मेदारी की तरह था, जिसमें अनुशासन, मेहनत और सादगी भरी होती थी। हम हाथ से नोट्स लिखते थे (टिप्पणियाँ), किताबें ही हमारी दुनिया थीं, और गुरुजन की बातें ही हमारे लिए सबसे बड़ी सीख होती थीं।

कक्षा में श्यामपट और डस्टर की महक होती थी। कोई स्मार्टबोर्ड नहीं (ब्लैकबोर्ड), कोई प्रोजेक्टर नहीं। जो कुछ भी सीखना था, वही पढ़कर, सुनकर और दोहराकर याद करना होता था। हमें तो शिक्षक से प्रश्न पूछने में भी संकोच होता था। तकनीक बस आरंभ ही हुई थी। संगणक की कक्षा त (कंप्यूटर)ो पंद्रह दिन में एक बार होती थी। लेकिन उस पढ़ाई में जो गहराई थी, वो आज भी मेरे जीवन का आधार है।

 अब मेरी बेटी का विद्यालय...

अब जब मैं अपनी बेटी की पढ़ाई देखती हूँ, तो लगता है जैसे किसी दूसरी दुनिया में आ गई हूँ। अब कक्षा में स्मार्टबोर्ड हैं, बच्चे टैबलेट पर अध्ययन करते हैं, और गृहकार्य शैक्षणिक (होमवर्क) अनुप्रयोगों के माध्यम से आता है। (ऐप्स)

अब शिक्षा केवल पाठ्यपुस्तकों तक सीमित नहीं रही। बच्चे कोडिंग सीख रहे हैं (संगणकीय लेखन), प्रकल्प बना रहे हैं (प्रोजेक्ट्स), और रोबोटिक्स जैसी आधुनिक विधाओं से परिचित हो रहे हैं। शिक्षक अब केवल पढ़ाते नहीं, बल्कि बच्चों का मार्गदर्शन करते हैं, उन्हें खोजने और समझने के लिए प्रेरित करते हैं और बच्चे भी अब खुलकर अपने विचार साझा करते हैं, शंकाएँ नि संकोच पूछते हैं। विकास:

मूल्यांकन के अंतर्गत प्रतियोगी परीक्षाएँ भी होती हैं। आज के इस युग में तकनीक के साथसाथ -
आध्यात्मिकशिक्षा भी दी जाती है।



बदलाव जो स्पष्ट रूप से दिखते हैं...

तकनीक का उपयोगमेरे समय में जहाँ केवल किताबें थीं ;, अब बच्चों के पास स्क्रीन, अनुप्रयोग और डिजिटल कक्षाएँ हैं।

पाठ्यक्रम में विविधताअब केवल गणित या विज्ञान नहीं ;, बल्कि कार्यपत्रिकाएं (वर्कशीट्स), कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस), संगीत, योग, नृत्य सब कुछ है। -

शिक्षकों की भूमिकापहले गुरुजन अनुशासन सिखाते थे ;, अब वे बच्चों के मित्र जैसे हो गए हैं।

समग्र विकास पर बलअब केवल पढ़ाई नहीं ;, बल्कि खेल, कला, भावनात्मक समझ और आत्मविश्वास को भी महत्व दिया जाता है।



कुछ बातें जो अब भी वैसी ही हैं...

बदलते दौर के बीच कुछ बातें आज भी वैसी ही बनी हुई हैं –

गुरुजनों का सम्मान

मातापिता की चिंता और अपेक्षाएँ-

और वह मासूम सा उत्साह जो हर सुबह बच्चों की आँखों में झलकता है।



अंत में एक माँ का अनुभव ...

मेरे विद्यालय के दिन मुझे परिश्रमी और आत्मनिर्भर बनाना सिखाते थे, और अब मेरी बेटी का विद्यालय उसे रचनात्मक और आत्मविश्वासी बना रहा है। दोनों ही समय की अपनीअपनी सुंदरता है।- समय बदलता है, तरीकें बदलते हैं एक अच्छा और :पर शिक्षा का मूल उद्देश्य आज भी वही है – संवेदनशील मनुष्य बनाना। मुझे इस बात की खुशी है कि मुझे दो पीढ़ियों की शिक्षा को इतने निकट का अवसर मिला। से देखने और समझने और सबसे सुंदर बात में अब हर दिन अपनी बेटी से कुछ नया सीखती हूँ। –

बचपन की गलियों से अबतक का ये सफ़र,

किताबों की खुशबू से टैबलेट का असर।

माँ की यादों में स्कूल की सीढ़ियाँ पुरानी,

बेटी के संग अब लिख रही हूँ नई कहानी।

ANITA K. NAYAK

Mother of Nakshatra K. Nayak

Class: 4 Belavan (Shravan)



"Life is simple, but we insist on making it complicated." – H.G. Gaur Gopal Das

Navigating Parenthood in the Modern Era

In the past, parents got a lot of help from grandparents and the community in raising children. That support made parenting easier. But today many families live away from their elders. This change has a big effect on how children grow up. As parents, we often feel anxious and ask ourselves, “What is happening with my child?” This worry creates fear, and children too can feel it. A home filled with love, care, and happiness is the best cure.

Common Parenting Challenges:

1. Too Much Advice-

Parents get advice from many sources—books, internet, relatives. Too much information often confuses instead of helping.

2. Lack of Support -

Without grandparents or family around, parents feel alone and stressed.

3. Digital World -

Screen time, social media, online safety, and mobile addiction are big worries today.

4. Behaviour Problems -

Tantrums, disobedience and anger are common issues.

5. Less Communication -

With teenagers, mobile phones and lack of family time often create distance and misunderstandings.

6. Academic Pressure -

Parents want children to do well in studies, but balancing expectations with a stress-free life is hard.

7. Sibling Rivalry -

Fights and competition between brothers and sisters is another common challenge.

Parenting today is not easy. Changing family life, new technology, and social pressures bring many problems. These often lead to stress and worry for parents. But when a home is filled with love, support and open talk, both parents and children can be happy.

NEHA KADWE

Mother of Manasvi Kadwe

Class: 3 Talavan (Shravan)



“Happiness is not about having more; it’s about needing less.” – H.G. Gaur Gopal Das

The Hidden Struggles of Raising Kids



Parenting today is not like following a recipe—it's more like trying to cook a meal while the stove keeps changing temperatures! There are spills, messes, and moments when everything feels out of control. But the real challenge isn't just managing the chaos—it's handling the emotions, the doubts, and the constant balancing act.

As a mother of twins, I've learned that no two children are the same, and what works for one may not work for the other. One of my daughters loves drawing, while the other is a natural storyteller. When they compete in the same activity, like a school race or an art competition, things get tough. Recently, one won first prize, and while the other was happy for her sister, I could see her heart was hurting when she asked, "Why can't I be as good?" I hugged her and said, "You don't have to be the same. You have your own superpowers!" But it's not always easy to make them believe that.



Some days, parenting feels like walking on a tightrope. One child needs extra help with homework, while the other craves attention. I worry—am I giving enough to both? Am I being fair? There are moments when I feel guilty, like when I lose my patience or can't fix their problems. But then I remind myself—I don't have to be perfect. I just have to be there.



Technology is another battle. "Five more minutes!"

they beg when it's time to put away the tablet. Setting limits feels hard, especially when other parents seem more relaxed.

But here's what I've realized: Parenting isn't about having all the answers. It's about trying, learning, and loving—even on the messy days. When my child is upset, sometimes just sitting with her, telling a funny story, or making her favourite snack helps more than any advice. Other times, they don't want to talk, and that's okay too.

To all the parents reading this—you're not alone. We all have days when we doubt ourselves. But the fact that you care so much? That's what makes you a great parent. Keep going, one small step at a time. After all, the best stories aren't about perfect journeys—they're about love, mistakes, and never giving up.

MEGHA SARVAIYA

Parent of Kriya and Kayra Sarvaiya

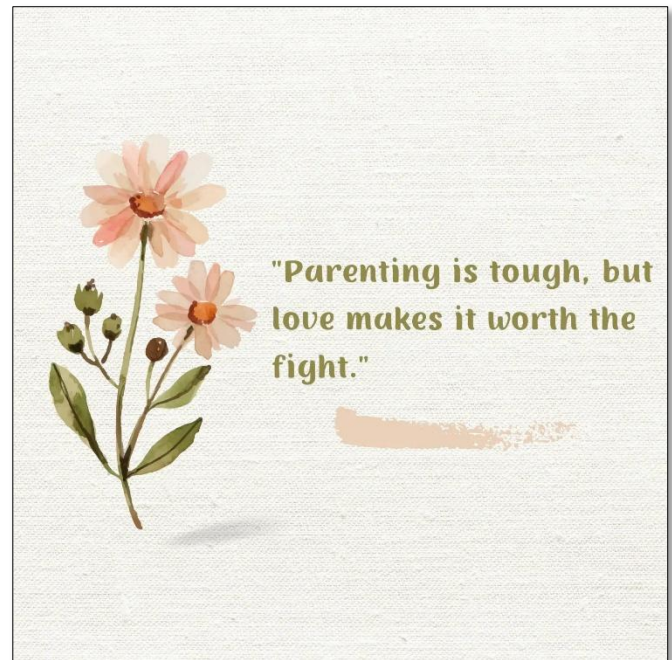
Class: 1 Bhandiravan (Shravan)



Parenting: A Journey, Not a Sprint

In today's modern world, life has become more comfortable, yet parenting has grown more complex. Parents now face unique pressures shaped by changing lifestyles and rising societal expectations.

Among the greatest challenges are digital addiction and screen-time management. Excessive use of gadgets not only raises concerns about children's safety but also disrupts daily routines, eating habits, and behaviour. Similarly, encouraging healthy food choices has become increasingly difficult. The easy availability and overconsumption of junk food negatively affect both the physical and mental well-being of children.



Societal expectations also weigh heavily on parents and children alike, often leading to stress, anxiety, and an imbalance in emotional well-being. To overcome these hurdles, open and honest communication between parent and child is essential. Coupled with this, adopting a positive parenting style—firm yet loving, with clear boundaries—creates a nurturing environment. Such an approach strengthens the bond between parent and child, while also building emotional resilience, confidence, and mental strength in children.

Thus parenting is not a race to the finish line but a long, evolving journey—one filled with both challenges and immeasurable joy.

NEHA TRIVEDI

Mother of Khushi Trivedi

Class: 3 Talavan (Shravan)



"Forgiveness makes life light and peaceful." – H.H Radhanath Swami Maharaj

माँ की कलम से....

14 मार्च 2018 — यह दिन मेरी ज़िन्दगी का सबसे अनमोल दिन था, और साथ ही सबसे डरावना भी। मेरी बेटी समय से पहले इस दुनिया में आई थी। डॉक्टर्स ने कहा था कि वो प्रीमैच्योर है, बहुत नाज़ुक है, बहुत सी चुनौतियाँ आ सकती हैं। पर एक माँ के लिए उस नन्ही सी धड़कन को देखना ही सब कुछ होता है। जब मैंने पहली बार उसे देखा, तो उसकी छोटी-सी उंगलियाँ, वो धीमी सी साँसे, और मासूम चेहरा मेरी दुनिया बन गया। मैंने उसे इन्क्यूबेटर में लेटे देखा — नन्हा सा शरीर, पर जीवन से भरा हुआ। मुझे याद है, हर पल मैंने ईश्वर से सिर्फ एक ही दुआ माँगी — कि मेरी बच्ची स्वस्थ हो जाए। मैंने अपनी साँसें उसकी साँसों से बाँध दी थीं। वो कुछ हफ्ते जैसे सदियों जैसे लगे, पर मेरी बेटी ने हर चुनौती को पार किया। उसने दिखा दिया कि वो लड़ने वाली है — एक नन्ही सी योद्धा।

जैसे-जैसे वो बड़ी होती गई, उसके हर छोटे-छोटे पल मेरे लिए एक उत्सव बन गए। उसका पहला मुस्कराना, पहली बार 'माँ' कहना, पहला कदम चलना — सब कुछ मेरे दिल पर लिखा गया जैसे। वो कभी ज़िद नहीं करती, बिना कहे अपना होमवर्क करती है, दादी की मदद करती है, और जब मैं थकी होती हूँ तो पास आकर मेरे माथे को चूम लेती है। ऐसे लगने लगता है जैसे मेरी परवरिश का सबसे सुंदर फूल खिल रहा हो। उसकी आज्ञाकारी और सरल स्वभाव ने मुझे हर दिन गर्व से भर दिया है।



अब वो सात साल की हो गई है। स्कूल जाती है, नए दोस्त बनाती है, कहानियाँ सुनाती है और ढेर सारे सवाल पूछती है। उसकी आँखों में एक अलग सी चमक है — मासूमियत से भरी, पर समझदारी से रोशनी। जब मैं उसे देखती हूँ तो लगता है कि उस कमजोर शुरुआत ने एक मजबूत आत्मा को जन्म दिया है।

कई बार रात को जब वो सो रही होती है, मैं चुपचाप उसके पास बैठकर उसे निहारती हूँ। सोचती हूँ, वो नन्ही बच्ची जो एक समय साँसों के लिए संघर्ष कर रही थी, आज जीवन की हर धुन पर मुस्कुरा रही है। ये सफर आसान नहीं था, पर इसने मुझे सिखाया कि प्रेम और विश्वास से बड़ा कोई चमत्कार नहीं।

मेरी बेटी सिर्फ मेरी संतान नहीं है, वो मेरी ताकत है, मेरी प्रेरणा है, मेरी सबसे प्यारी कहानी है। मैं हर दिन उसके लिए दुआ करती हूँ — कि वो यूँ ही हँसती रहे, बढ़ती रहे, और हमेशा अपने दिल की सुनती रहे।

मेरी नन्ही परी — तुम मेरी दुनिया हो।

तुम्हारे बिना मैं अधूरी हूँ, और तुम्हारे साथ मैं सबसे धन्य माँ हूँ।

ARCHANA DUBEY

Mother of Janhvi Dubey

Class: 2 Bahulavan (Kirtan)



Timeless Tales of Love and Learning

The topic of parenting challenges brings back a wave of memories that have shaped my journey with Aarav, my energetic six-year-old in Class 1 at Gopal's Garden High School. These challenges, once tough, have become part of our family story, turning into cherished tales of growth, patience, and strong bonds.



One of my earliest parenting challenges was dealing with Aarav's sleepless nights as a toddler. I remember pacing our small apartment at 2 a.m., holding a fussy Aarav who wouldn't sleep. Exhausted and overwhelmed, I questioned whether I was doing something wrong. During those quiet hours, I'd hum the lullabies my mother sang to me, and slowly, Aarav's tiny yawns would replace his cries. Those sleepless nights were hard but now remind me of discovering the calming power of patience and the comfort of familiar tunes, moments that connected us across generations.

Another challenge that stays with me was Aarav's first day at Gopal's Garden High School. As we neared the school gates, his small hand gripped mine tightly while his eyes were wide with worry about leaving the safety of home. I felt a wave of guilt, unsure if he was ready. But when I picked him up that afternoon, his face brightened with stories of new friends and classroom adventures. That struggle taught me to trust Aarav's strength, turning a moment of doubt into a memory of his growing independence, a story I'll keep forever.

Meal times also posed a hurdle. Aarav, with his picky eating habits, would refuse anything green on his plate, leaving me frustrated after spending hours cooking. One evening, inspired, I turned dinner into a game, pretending his broccoli was a "magic tree" that would make him strong. His giggles while eating changed a daily battle into a joyful memory of creativity and connection. Those moments remind me that parenting challenges can lead to the most inventive solutions and strengthen our bond.

Perhaps the most profound challenge has been answering Aarav’s big questions about the world. One day, while walking in the Park, he asked, “Why is the sky so big, Mama?” I struggled to find an answer and felt inadequate. But as we lay on the grass watching clouds, I told him the sky is vast enough to hold all our dreams. His thoughtful nod turned that moment of uncertainty into a memory of sharing wonder and sparking his curiosity, a lesson in embracing the unknown together.

These parenting challenges, once daunting, are now timeless tales that define our journey. They’ve taught me that love, patience, and a willingness to learn alongside Aarav are the heart of parenting. Each struggle, from sleepless nights to school fears, has become a story of growth—not just for Aarav, but for me. As he continues to thrive at Gopals Garden, I look forward to gathering more memories, each one a testament to the challenges that shape us into a family, forever rooted in love.

BINDU PAL

Mother of Aarava Pal

Class: 1 Bhandiravan (Kirtan)



अविस्मरणीय सेवा

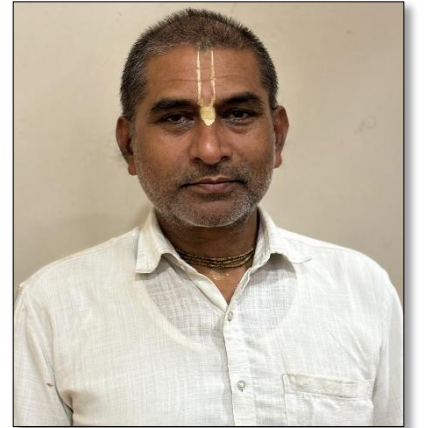
श्री. रविंद्र सदाशिव पानगळे

आपल्या शाळेतील प्रभुजी श्री रविंद्र सदाशिव पानगळे गेल्या वीस वर्षांपासून चंदनासारखे झिजून आपला नित्यक्रम लीलया करताना दिसतात. सूर्यासारखे नियमितपणे श्रीहरीचे नाम घेत आपले काम अहोरात्र चोख बजावत ते मुलांना कडूनिंबाची सुरक्षित सावली देताना दिसून येतात. ज्याच्याशिवाय आपण जगू शकत नाही त्या पाण्याची व्यवस्था पाहत प्रत्येक वर्ग चालू ते बंद करण्याची सेवा अविरत करत आहेत. अशा या आदर्श व्यक्तिमत्वाला आम्हा सर्वांचा मानाचा मुजरा



श्री. गंगाप्रकाश तिवारी

गेल्या पंचवीस वर्षांपासून म्हणजेच शाळा सिद्धार्थ नगरला होती तेंव्हापासून सेवाभावी गंगाप्रकाश तिवारी हे आपल्या संस्थेत वाहन चालकाच्या कामात अविरत कार्यरत आहे. ते नालासोपारा येथे राहत असूनही मुंबई सेन्ट्रल, ठाणे, मुलुंड येथून अनेक मुलांना शाळेत आणण्याची जबाबदारी ते अगदी चोख पार पाडत असत. शाळा ही भगवंताच स्थान आहे अस समजून ते आपल्या मुलांप्रमाणे त्यांची काळजी घेतात. ते सर्वांचाच आदर करून मदतही करतात. शाळेतून त्यांना आध्यत्मिक आणि आर्थिक गोष्टी मिळत आल्यात. त्यासाठी ते शाळेचे आभार मानतात. त्यांच्या सेवाभावनेला आमचा मानाचा सलाम .



"The material world is a place of suffering; do not expect happiness here."
- A.C. Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada

यादों के गीत

स्कूल के दिन, ओ प्यारे दिन,
हँसी-खुशी से भरे हुए दिन।
याद आते टीचर्स हमें,
गुरु-महाराज की बातें हमें।

हम सचमुच मिस करते हैं वो दिन,
हम सचमुच मिस करते हैं वो दिन।
त्योहारों की रौनक प्यारी,
सजती थी स्कूल की तैयारी।
गीत, नृत्य और खेलों का मेल,
हर चेहरा था हँसी से खेल।

हम सचमुच मिस करते हैं वो दिन,
हम सचमुच मिस करते हैं वो दिन।
संस्कार, शिक्षा और श्लोक,
याद दिलाएँ अच्छे संयोग।
सुनहरे पल, सुनहरी यादें,
मन में गूँजे मीठी बातें।

हम सदा सँजोएँगे वो दिन,
हम सदा सँजोएँगे वो दिन।



TRISHA SHETTY

Batch of 2009



A Very Special Thanks to



SANJEEVANI SONAVANE
(Hindi)



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(Spritual Article)

For Their Valuable Support.



GARDEN BUZZ TEAM



NEETA NAYAK



NEHA CHADHA



MANALI RANE



KAVITA TRIVEDI



NIKITA SINGH