



MAHATMA EDUCATION SOCIETY'S PILLAI'S COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & RESEARCH

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PCER-Panvel Alumni Association in action...

The idea for the formation of "PCER - Panvel Alumni Association" was ushered at the alumni meet-2010 by Principal Dr. Sally Enos. The idea received good response. Many students appreciated it and showed their willingness to be a part of it. A blog specially designed for the alumni by Asst.Prof. Bijoy Thomas was also inaugurated on this occasion. This blog would help the alumni to share their experiences, views and suggestions on education and also

be informed of the forthcoming events in the college. Members for the various posts were appointed through election in the alumni meet. The first meeting of the elected members was held on 15th January 2011, in the college. The members discussed the possible activities to be carried out by the association. The alumni members decided to initiate their work at Balgram, an orphanage at Khanda Colony. They visited Balgram on 5th February 2011 and on 17th February 2011. Each alumni volunteer helped the children of Balgram with the concepts in Math, Science, English, Grammar, Social studies and cleared their doubts.

Some children were also engaged in doing some creative drawing. The alumni volunteers were touched by the interest and eagerness of these children to learn. What would be more rewarding than to see the change one can make to the children living in such institutions! Just the way they smile at you, you are motivated to visit them week after week.

In addition to the government and social service organizations, another great force in every country that can also play a very important role in social upliftment is the Teacher Community! 'PCER-Panvel Alumni Association' is one such small sincere beginning!

Extending to the community...

It is aptly said by Dr. Zakir Hussain, "Work is about devotion, work is worship, work is discipline and perseverance for the realization of a worthy ideal." To extend to the community, the staff and students of PCER-Panvel joined hands with organizations like:

- **Social and Evangelical Association for Love (SEAL):** Our alumnus Mrs. Bharati Iyer, who is associated with SEAL introduced their noble activities to our present batch of students and they whole heartedly contributed to SEAL by giving clothes, blankets and groceries.
- **Wockhardt Foundation:** As a token of love the students offered help in the form of money and in return the students were given forgiveness bands

• Jyothi's Terminal Care Centre for people living with HIV & AIDS:

A substantial amount was contributed by our students.

The circle of life is incomplete without a give and take relationship. We have received a lot from the society and now it is our turn to share with those who need our help. Working with the above organizations gave us an opportunity to do so.

AIDS awareness campaign...

We believe that community work extends to personal dedication and selflessness that leads to building stronger communities and a more workable and responsive world. This year our college focused on HIV-AIDS awareness programme as the major community work. On 22nd November 2010, a group of people from Jyothi's Charitable trust oriented students about HIV-AIDS. Through

this, the students were motivated to get involved in the HIV-AIDS awareness programme.



On 30th November 2010, the B.Ed students put up more than 250 posters at different locations in & around Panvel area. Four groups of students performed street play on the World AIDS Day -1st Dec and 2nd Dec. at various locations in Old Panvel, Khanda Colony, New Panvel and Kalamboli. The Old Panvel group interviewed the president of Panvel Taluka Patrakar Sangh, Mr. Sudhir Kolge and the youth leader Mr. Paresh Thakur at the Congress (I) Party Office

Sports...

On 15th Jan.2011, the Annual Sports day was organized by the students of PCER headed by Prof. Bijoy Thomas. The outdoor events held were 100 m running race, relay race 400 m, book balancing, potato race, sack race, marble & spoon race, long jump, shot put, javelin throw, kabaddi, kho-kho, and finally, a tug-of-war. Everyone displayed sportsman spirit and enthusiasm. Indoor games like carrom, chess, badminton and table tennis were also organized. Certificates were awarded to the winners of all the various events. Our students Rajani Mookparambil and Vikas Patil won the Sports-Championship trophies in the female and male section respectively.

Picnic...

On 24th February, 2011, a picnic for the students and staff was organized at Panoramic Resort, Karnala. The resort is nestled in the Karnala bird sanctuary, surrounded by natural beauty and the majestic Sahayadri mountains. All the students had a gala time. It was real fun to end the academic session on a relaxing and refreshing note. We are thankful to our CEO and Secretary DR. K. M. Vasudevan Pillai for making this possible. We earnestly appreciate his benevolent gesture.

On 25th March 2011, we organized a valedictory function for the students of B.Ed. & M.Ed. The chief guest DR. K. M. Vasudevan Pillai, CEO and Secretary of Mahatma Education Society, released the fourth issue of the annual magazine 'SPARK' which is a compilation of the contributions made by the students and staff of B.Ed., M.Ed. and the alumni. In his address to the audience, he enlightened everyone on the role of teachers in today's educational system. He said that teachers are 'knowledge workers' and therefore they should work with commitment and conviction. This was followed by reading of the college report, the cultural programme and the prize distribution function.

in Panvel. The skit performance of this group was covered by the news reporter of 'Ram Prahar' and the Navi Mumbai news channel. The New Panvel group attended HIV-AIDS programme at Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital and, thereafter, performed the streetplay. Their performance was appreciated by the dignitaries. Students also got an opportunity to listen to the experience of the 'People living with HIV' (PLH). This activity enabled the students to build up team spirit,

leadership qualities, we-feeling, belongingness and empathy & compassion towards the cause.



Our bonding with HARIYALI

We at PCER-Panvel are always eager to work productively towards the environment and it did materialize when we came across Hariyali, an NGO working selflessly towards saving the environment in collaboration with the Thane Municipal Corporation. Mrs. Aditi Date, an active member of Hariyali briefed us about their working towards the afforestation process.

In phase one, on 27th Nov. 2010, a few students headed by Asst. Prof. Geeta Syamantak, participated in the sapling-making process at the Hariyali site located at Kasarwadavali at Ghodbandar, Thane. They planted seeds of gulmohar, ashoka, saptaparni, kanchan, karanj, bahava, mango, sitafal subabul, chinch, herada, beheda and others. The students prepared more

than 250 saplings, arranged them in the nursery and even watered them in the second phase, we contacted Mr. Punam Singhavi, the founder of Hariyali who handles the post-plantation process. On 6th February, 2011, our students with Asst. Prof. Geeta Syamantak and Asst. Prof. Bhavna Dave went to the Bhavale site a few kilometers away from Kalyan. Under the guidance of the elderly people of the Haryali team, water was fetched in cans from a nearby industry, filled in bisleri bottles and then carried up on the hillocks to water the plants.

Overall, it was a great learning experience for the students and each one promised that this wouldn't be their first and the last contribution, but they would always be ready to serve nature at any time in future.

The Valedictory Function an the release of SPARK



Our Honoured moments...

- 27th January, 2011- Principal Dr. Sally Enos was invited as the Chief Guest for the annual day celebrations at the Powai English High School, Mumbai.

- 9th March, 2011- Dr. Karuna Gupta, HOD, M.Ed. was invited to be the member of the Scrutiny Committee nominated by University of Mumbai for BOS (Edu). On

- 21st Mar. 2011, she shared her expertise as a resource person on the topic 'Teacher-A Barefoot Counsellor' at the National Level Seminar on 'Counselling-A Silent Necessity' at H.B. B.Ed. College of Education.

- Dr. Karuna Gupta is a member of the IQAC team of Pushpanjali College of Education, Vasai.

- Our student Ms. Nandita Shah bagged the third prize in the post graduate regional level at the Annual All India Essay-writing Event 2010 organised by RamChandra Mission.

- 30th December, 2010- At the 'Kala, Krida Sanskrutik Mohatsav, organised by Karnala Sports Academy, Panvel, our students headed by Mrs. Agy Shaju participated in a competition on 'Mahila Kalavishkar' at the Taluka level and secured the 3rd prize.

- 5th January, 2011- our student Ms. Nandita Shah won the second prize in the Solo dance competition at Jalosh 2010, a cultural festival organized by H.B. B.Ed. College, Vashi.



- 15th February 2011-Our group of students won the Second Prize at Udaan festival organized by Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension, University of Mumbai, in the streetplay competition and Vaishali Waghmare won the consolation prize in the Poster competition.

Two-Day National Level Seminar on Empowering Learners in the Contemporary Society ...

1st and 2nd April, 2011: To help the teachers to understand their role in meeting the demands of contemporary education, a two-day National Level Seminar on 'Empowering Learners in the Contemporary Society' was organized at PCER-Panvel.

The Key note address was delivered by Dr. Ramesh G. Kothari, Faculty

Of Education and Psychology (CASE), M.S.University, Vadodara. He enlightened the participants by expounding on two thought provoking questions: Is the need of 21st century different than earlier ones? Are the problems of 21st century different? He said that to meet the challenges of the contemporary society teachers must have 5 C's- cognition, care, concern, commitment and communication.

The resource person for session -1 on Global Awareness was Prof. Bino Paul, Associate Prof. School of Management & Labour Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. He illuminated the need of education and added that learning systems need to integrate the knowledge rather than dissecting it to conventional categories like arts and science. The





world over, argumentative-discourse based democratic governances such as India, continue to witness how the media and interconnected-shared texts and data contribute to changes in norms and laws, turning out to be a path of social innovation. He said that we need to give a rational thought to global issues from international, national and local point of view.

Prof. DR. Avinash Kohli, Faculty for Political Science at Ruparel College, Mumbai, was the resource person for session-2 on the sub-theme 'Civic Literacy'. He said that the concept of literacy is changing. A literate of one field may be an illiterate in another field. He explained the concept of civic literacy from three dimensions viz., participation, tolerance and duty. He urged every individual to participate in the functioning of the state by effectively exercising their fundamental duties and rights. He brought forth the qualities required to be a good politician in a participatory democracy. He provoked the participants to understand the local and global implications of civic decisions and how it is important for everyone to act responsibly with the

interests of the larger community in mind.

Session-3 was based on Entrepreneurial Literacy and the expert invited was Prof. Ganapathy, Faculty for Organizational Behaviour, Human Resource



Management, Learning and Development in various prestigious Management institutes like TISS. He brought out to the audience the difference between an entrepreneur and a non-entrepreneur with the trait approach. He shared real life experiences and also carried out an activity with the participants. He said that an entrepreneur in his pursuit demonstrates certain traits that could have an impact on his enterprise. Through his interactive session, he brought to limelight the essential



assets of becoming a successful entrepreneur.



After the expert talk in every session there were paper presentations by the participants from various colleges. Overall 19 papers were accepted for presentation. Six papers were based on global awareness, seven papers on civic literacy and six papers on entrepreneurial literacy. Seven minutes were allotted for each presentation. The valedictory session included the participant reactions and the reading of the overview of all the sessions. All participants were awarded certificates after the valedictory session. DR. Karuna Gupta, HOD- M.Ed, expressed her gratitude to everyone for making the seminar a grand success.

This seminar had enabled every participant to become aware of the 21st century skills to understand and address global issues, to explore entrepreneurial skills required to enhance workplace productivity and also to develop an attitude of participating effectively in civic life.

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