DESH APNAYEN NEWSLETTER

16th Issue, November 2016

From the Editor's desk

Dear readers,

Hello!

Hope you had a delightful Diwali and a wonderful beginning to the New Year.

The buzzword for this month is definitely demonetization. Demonetization means the removal of a currency unit of its status as legal tender. The old unit of currency must be retired and replaced with a new currency unit. In our case, new notes of Rs. 500 notes and Rs. 2000 have replaced the old units of currency, Rs. 500 and Rs. 1000.
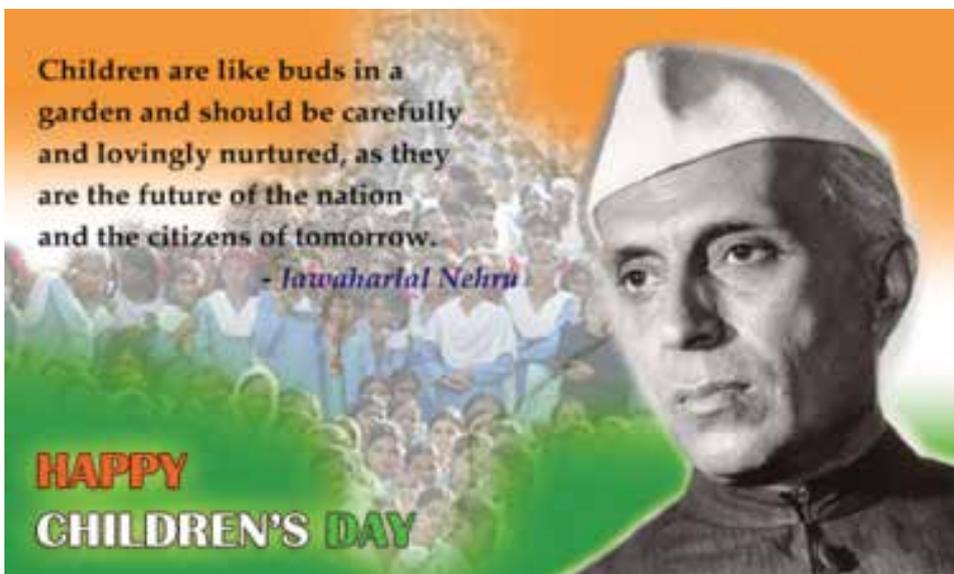
Image source
www.happychildrensday2015.blogspot.in

In these difficult times, what shone through was our country's spirit of citizenship. Mobile ATM vans, new customer-friendly initiatives by the post office and bank employees working way beyond their call are to be congratulated and thanked. To know more about the same, please read our blog titled 'Citizenship – India's One True Currency' - here.

On another note, November is also special for us because we celebrate Children's day. In words of Pandit Nehru, "Children are like buds in a garden and should be carefully and lovingly nurtured." Let us all make one promise to ourselves. Let us remember that our children are watching us. Let us all be an example worthy of them.

Best wishes,

Aditi Mehta, Editor

The History of Children's Day

India celebrates 'Baa Divas' or Children's Day on 14th November each year. In fact, children's day is recognized on various days in many places around the world. It celebrates children globally. Children's Day has its roots on the second Sunday of June, when it was initiated in 1856 by the Reverend Dr. Charles Leonard, pastor of the Universalist Church of the Redeemer in Chelsea, Massachusetts. Dr. Leonard held a special service dedicated to, and for the children. Dr. Leonard named the day Rose Day, though it was later named Flower Sunday, and then Children's Day.

Mothers and fathers, teachers, nurses and doctors, government leaders and civil society activists, religious and community elders, corporate moguls and media professionals as well as young people and children themselves can play an important part in making Universal Children's Day relevant for their societies, communities and nations.

Universal Children's Day offers each of us an inspirational entry-point to advocate, promote and celebrate children's rights, translating into dialogues and actions that will build a better world for Children.

Children's Day was first officially declared a national holiday by the Republic of Turkey in 1929 with the set date of 23rd of April. The International Day for Protection of Children is observed in many countries as Children's Day on 1st June since 1950. The Women's International Democratic Federation on its congress in Moscow established it. Major global variants include a Universal Children's Holiday on 20 November, by United Nations recommendation.

Universal Children's Day takes place annually on 20th November. First proclaimed by the United Kingdom in 1954, it was established to encourage all countries to institute a day, firstly to promote mutual exchange and understanding among children and secondly to initiate action to benefit and promote the welfare of the world's children.

We at Desh Apnayen believe that children have in them a unique sensitivity, maturity and intelligence and it is our prime duty to nurture it. Along with the world, we also join in celebrating Children's Day and pledge to be in service of the child always.

Image source www.westrii.com

Contribution from partner schools

This month, we bring you contributions from Campion School, Mumbai and Mukul Madhav Vidyalaya, Ratnagiri.

Children and teachers of Campion School, Mumbai, under the leadership of Principal Mr. Paul Machado conducted various citizenship club activities, a few of which are highlighted here.

Ms. Jenifer Fernandes - Citizenship Club supervisor, encouraged and guided children of 8th grade in planning and implementing the following activities:

1. Clean up and rearranging of the School Library

Students helped Karl Sir, the Librarian by helping to organise all the books back in their shelves. They learned how to enjoy by helping each other.

2. Making charts on Child Labour after a short video session

To sensitivise and create the awareness around child labour, an art and craft based chart making activity was undertaken under citizenship club. To start with, a documentary made in Delhi was shown to all the citizenship club students. Children learnt a lot and worked in groups to create charts to spread awareness and stop child labour.

3. Mock UN (MUN):

Students made groups, represented delegates, and were placed in committees. They were assigned countries and political figures to represent members of that body. They presented their assignments along with a topic that their committee wanted to discuss, post that, the they debated with the delegates in the committee; staying true to the actual position of the member they represent. At the end of a conference, the best-performing delegates in each committee, as well as delegations were recognized.

Mock UN helped students learned about diplomacy, international relations, and the United Nations. Apart from this students were involved in researching, public speaking, debating, and writing skills, in addition to critical thinking, teamwork, and leadership.

4. Debate on demonetization

When the entire India was busy queuing up in front of the banks to exchange notes, Citizenship Club students participated in a 'Demonetization' debate to understand the impact on the economy and inconvenience, discomfort caused to the common man. The debate was concluded in support of demonetization to be a solution to tackle black money, terrorism, flushing fake currencies and reforming India a Digital Economy.

Students also supported and appreciated the efforts of common man discipline, empathy and support to the government to bring about positive change in our nation. Also the bank employees for their tireless efforts for smooth execution.

The children, teachers and principal of Mukul Madhav Vidyalaya, Ratnagiri, kick started the Citizenship Club in their school on with great gusto. Under the leadership of Principal Ms Moonika Ratanparj, students from grade 7 came forward to take up the responsibility of the club as office bearers. The entire school proudly took the Desh Apnayen Citizenship Pledge and also sang a patriotic song to celebrate the occasion. We are proud of the school and teachers!
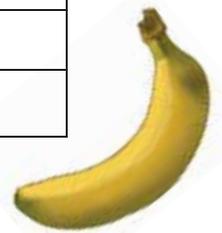
Fun and Games

In the spirit of children's day, here are some fun puzzles for the little ones to solve.

Fruit Logic Puzzle

Four kids are eating lunch on a hot summer's day. Each has a big glass of water, a sandwich, and a piece of fruit. Which fruit did each child have?

	Apple	Banana	Orange	Grapes
Kelly				
Marissa				
Dagwood				
Jon				

1. Marissa and Kelly have to peel their fruit before eating it.
2. Dagwood doesn't like grapes.
3. Kelly has a napkin to wipe the juice from her fingers.

Puzzle source:

http://cf.ltkcdn.net/kids/files/1954-Fruit--Logic-Puzzle.pdf

Fun and Games

Nonograms

Do you love doing paint by number pictures? These are kind of the same thing, but you use your pencil. To solve these puzzles, first, print this page. Then, look at the numbers on the tops and sides of the grid. Each number stands for a continuous section of black blocks. For example, if there is a number 6, it means you will need to color in 6 blocks in a row, with no gaps. If there are two numbers, for example, the row says 3, 4, that means there is a section of three black blocks, then one or more white blocks, then a section of four black blocks. So, how do you figure it out? If a row has 6 spaces and there is a number 6 to the left of it, that means all of the spaces in the row are black. If it has a 5 instead, you know the middle 4 spaces must be black because they will be black, whether you start from the left or start from the right.

	2	2	6	2	1 2	1 2	1 3	2
3 2								
3 2								
1 1								
5								
5								
1 1								

Puzzle source:

http://cf.ltkcdn.net/kids/files/1959-Nonogram.pdf