

MY SCHOOL, MY TEACHERS MY DREAM OF QUALITY EDUCATION

-Students' Voice



Inspiring Students through Quality Education across Rural India



Bharti Foundation

ABOUT BHARTI FOUNDATION

Established in the year 2000, Bharti Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Bharti Enterprises. It implements and supports primary, elementary and senior secondary education through its flagship initiative of Satya Bharti School Program as well as through Government school interventions under Satya Bharti Quality Support Program and Satya Bharti Learning Centre Program.

Satya Bharti Schools provide free and quality education to underprivileged children across rural India, with a focus on the girl child. A salient characteristic of the schools is that most of the students are first-generation learners. The program aims to deliver transformative education to students so that they become educated, responsible and self-reliant citizens with a deep sense of commitment to their society. Both classroom as well as out-of-classroom activities are given equal importance making students learners for life and from life with the right values, attitudes, life-skills and confidence instilled. Parents, members and like-minded community organizations are active partners of the school program and all 254 Satya Bharti Schools uphold this way of functioning. The Satya Bharti School Program completed a decade of its operations in 2016.

In addition to its primary focus on education, the Foundation is running *Satya Bharti Abhiyan* since 2014 to improve sanitation facilities in rural Ludhiana, and *Nyaya Bharti* since 2015 to provide legal and financial assistance to deserving under-privileged under-trials languishing in jails across the country for petty offences.

The Foundation's education programs currently reach out to close to 2,00,000 students through more than 1,700 schools and centres and engaging over 7,000 educators across 13 states. Its initiatives have together impacted over 1 million community members of rural India, since inception.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This issue of the *Voice of Change* Newsletter encapsulates the dreams and aspirations of students towards an ideal schooling experience. Students used various forms of art-work to express this with a view to sharing their ideas with Shri Pranab Mukherjee, the Hon'ble President of India. The idea was realised through *Bal Sabhas** at various school locations where students were encouraged to think, discuss and share visual representations of their aspirations and expectations of quality education.

This is the first time when our students, from diverse backgrounds and under our various programs, have come together to share a collective view of how their schools and education systems should be. They have used varied art-work such as cards, crafts, drawings, essays, poems, posters and slogans to highlight what they believe are the issues that can impact their schooling experience. Their hopes, ranging from access to basic necessities like clean water and toilets, to the vision of India becoming the "Number One" country of the world, are just as instinctive as any child anywhere in the world.



* Bal Sabhas are children's meetings that provide opportunities to students to engage in discussions with each other on the selected topic. These meetings host ideas through collaborative mediums, such as skits, debates and question-answer sessions. The aim is to facilitate children to share their opinions and to learn to ideate.



It is, however, the style of expressing their thoughts that deserves commendation. With a backdrop of communities that often lack basic amenities, these pages will reveal that children are indeed the true forbearers of change. Displaying unique optimism towards the current way of schooling, gratitude towards their teachers and the Bharti Foundation team members who inspire their teachers, these young citizens hope to become active contributors to the betterment of society in future India.

The activity was carried out across 13 states of rural India, by students of all 254 Satya Bharti Schools, 325 Government schools under the Satya Bharti Quality Support Program and 212 Satya Bharti Learning Centers located Government schools. This newsletter aims to provide a visual experience on the boundless creativity and energy inherent in students' thinking process. As they weave their dreams into narratives, they demonstrate how they are starting to think beyond the ordinary and emerging as role models of change across rural India. As a community of lifelong learners and champions of their own success, each one of these children has a story to tell. We invite you to be a part of this special issue that celebrates their aspirations in their own way!

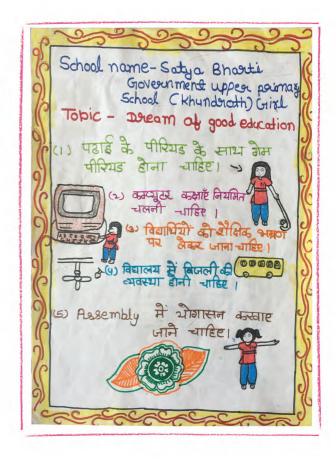
EDUCATION

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"

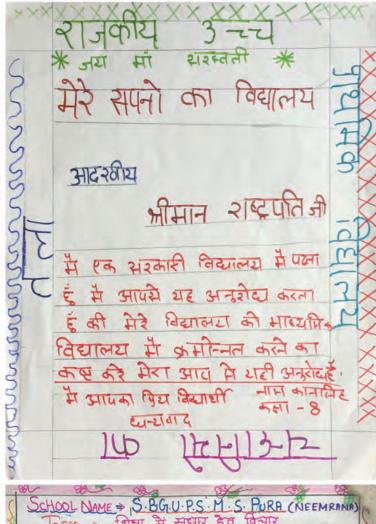
-Nelson Mandela

Thank you for setting up schools within our villages; now we can go to school every day. Every child should have the opportunity to be educated so that we progress as a nation and India becomes the Number One country in the world! Our dream of a good school is where we receive education that is related to real-life situations and creates room for exposure. Education in schools should be such that it can make us employable and also give us the possibility of meeting inspirational leaders like you! Schools must have lots of engaging activities, a fun learning environment, provide help in developing social and moral values, as well as guide us to become good future citizens. Learning from exposure and experience is limited in the remote rural areas where our schools are located. We aspire to travel in an airplane and in a metro rail one day. Every time we see an airplane crossing the skies high above our little school in the desert, we dream that we too may one day have the opportunity to fly and now we await this dream of ours to come true!















EDUCATION









SCHOOL

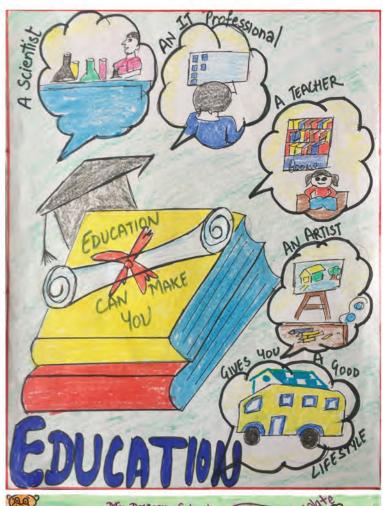
"The years spent in school are the ones you remember long after the formal education has ended"

-Michael Forbes

All schools should be up to senior secondary level so that we are able to complete our education in the same school and don't have to miss out due to distance or any other reason. The roads leading to all schools should be in good condition so that all children, irrespective of age and/or physical ability, can reach school easily. We believe that every child should be treated equally without any discrimination on the basis of our caste or gender. Girls should be given equal opportunities and encouraged to participate in the various events and activities. There should be a counsellor in every school to help us overcome any stress and also for career guidance. Vocational education should be available in our schools so that we can gain technical skills. Education officials should visit our schools regularly and interact with us so that we can inform them of our requirements and also share our aspirations. One more request, can we have fruits in our Mid-Day Meal, at least once a week?



अपना विदयातय सपना ही होता है। क्योंकि विद्यालय से ही शिक्षा और संस्कार लेकर हम संघर्ष पूर्ण जीवन के मैदान में उतरेत हैं। मुझे अपना विद्यालय बहुत ही अच्छा लगता है क्योंकि प्रातःकाल का जो वातावरण मेरे विद्यालय का होता है शायद हा किसी और का होता है। मुझे अपना विद्यालय हमलिए भी अच्छा लगता हैं कि यहाँ की स्वेक अध्यापिका का व्यवहार सभी बच्चें के प्रति विशेषकर मेरे प्रति बहुत ही सीहाद पूर्ण है। मेरी सभी अध्यापिकाएँ मुझे मेरे अभिभावकों की तरह ही गतनी होने पर भी मुझे प्रेम पूर्वक समझाती हैं। विद्यालय की प्रधानाचार्या का योगदान विद्यालय प्रशासन को एक नाई गति प्रदान करता है।







SCHOOL







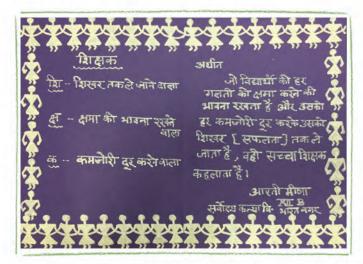


TEACHERS

"An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest."

-Benjamin Franklin

Teachers are our mentors, guides and our inspiration. They help us to realize our potential, forgive our mistakes and turn our weaknesses into strengths. We want them to be kind-hearted, friendly, humorous and disciplined, and to have love and care for us. They should connect with our parents and visit our homes. We should get adequate number of teachers in our schools for specific subjects, sports, music and other activities. Our teachers should be well-qualified, active and ready to support and help us, and to cooperate with us. Beyond teaching the lesson, our teachers should also teach us humanity with social and moral values. We respect our teachers a lot and many of us dream of becoming teachers one day.









what a teacher writes on the boosed, counsed be erased from the mind of a student. A teacher is a quide that always sets a good example. so Good School, will forwide Good Enachers that will give a bood Education. A teacher should not teaches hat will give a bood Education. A teacher should not teaches have only, but also teaches humanity and social & merital values.



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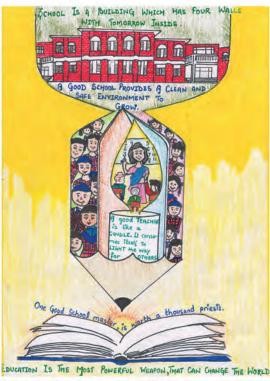
श्रीमन वाख्यात महोदय ने वा उ. प्राः संस्कृत विद्यालय मालयो के दानी स्थान प्रमान के दानी स्थान प्रमान के दानी स्थान के द्वारा प्रमान के दानी क



GOOD TEACHER
GOOD STUDENT
GOOD SCHOOL



TEACHERS







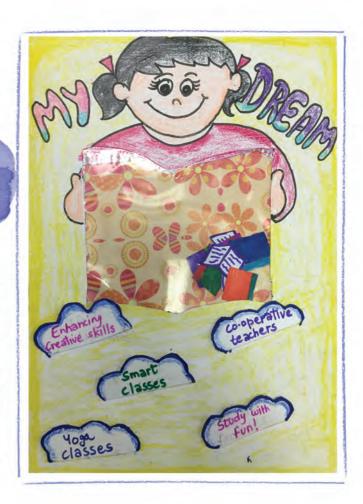


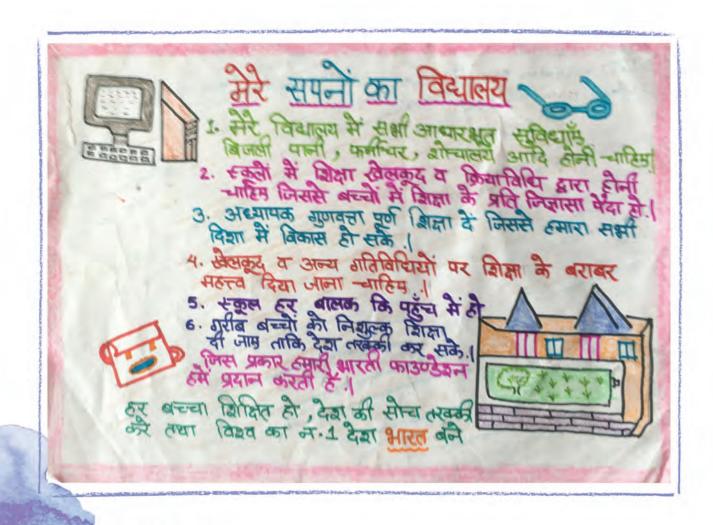
INSIDE THE SCHOOL

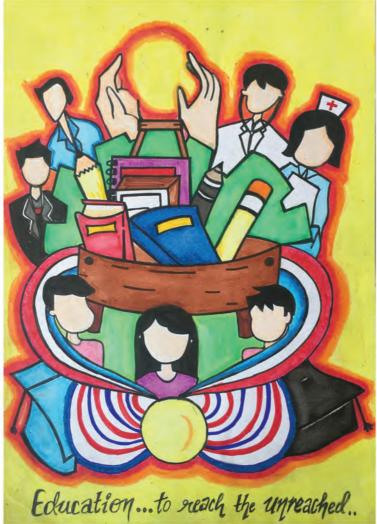
"To build up a library is to create a life."

-Carlos María Domínguez

School is our second home and the best place for us to be in. We wish it to be a happy and clean place, and have dustbins and also a watchman for our safety. The schools should have regular morning assembly, Bal Sabhas, and lots of competitions and expedition trips, and little children should be given a sleeping period. Along with our studies, there should also be a focus on sports, art, music and dance. The school-level assessment should have at least two sports competitions. We should have a lot of books in our library and other learning materials to make learning fun and enjoyable.





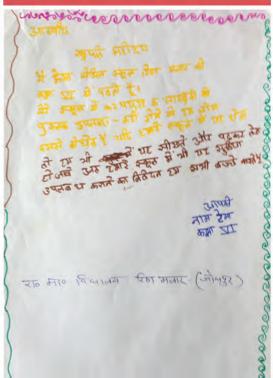








INSIDE THE SCHOOL







ENVIRONMENT

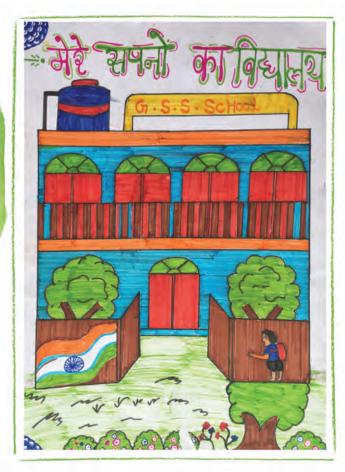
The earth, the air, the land and the water are not an inheritance from our fore fathers but on loan from our children. So we have to handover to them at least as it was handed over to us.

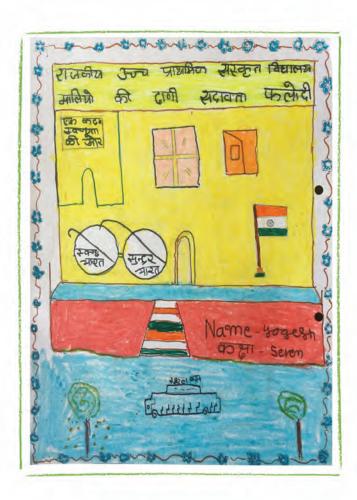
-Mahatma Gandhi

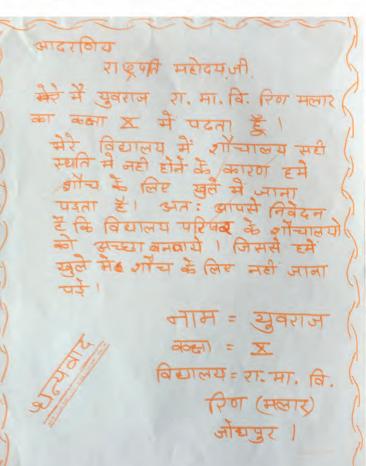
We have planted lots of trees in our schools; we feel great when we see greenery, plants and trees in our environment. A clean and hygienic environment, colourful classrooms with display of student work, teaching-learning materials and cleaner toilets would help us learn better in our schools. Working toilets inside the school, especially for girls, is an important need so that we are not forced to relieve ourselves in the open. All schools should organize plantation drives on a routine basis and have a gardener to take care of the plants. A Swachh Vidyalaya is critical to the success of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. With such an environment in place, we will be really happy to welcome and host you in our school soon!















ENVIRONMENT







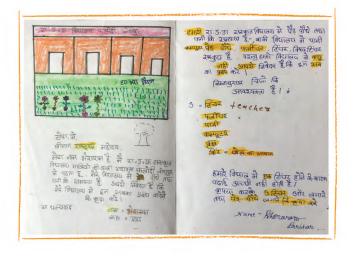


INFRASTRUCTURE

"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."

-Eleanor Roosevelt

Proper and sufficient number of classrooms, working and clean toilets, and availability of clean drinking water within the school premises are our three most earnest requests. Absence of any of these facilities has a huge impact over our studies. Inside the classroom, the presence of proper desks, benches, fans, sufficient lighting and ventilation would enhance our learning experience to a great extent. The availability of a playground with adequate play materials for indoor and outdoor games is necessary to keep equal focus on sports. A library, computer lab, science lab, medical room, music room and some coolers during the sweltering summers would be great! A mandate to provide free solar lights in all schools would go a long way in supporting our journey of learning, especially for schools such as ours that are located in remote rural pockets with acute electricity crises.







SPORTS

"Students are born with the wings.
Don't make them crawl. Teach them how to fly."
-Dr APJ Abdul Kalam

Our love and passion for games is something that we share with all our friends and classmates. We should have more games' periods in our time-table. Having a big playground with lots of play materials, swings, and even facilities for games like Basketball, Volley Ball and Yoga is what we aspire for. The dream of having a swimming pool in our school brings smiles on all our faces and also a hope to have it in our own school premises someday. Sports should be given equal importance as academics. Every examination should have test for sports as well with at least two games. We hope to fulfil our dream of bringing lot of awards and medals for our country.







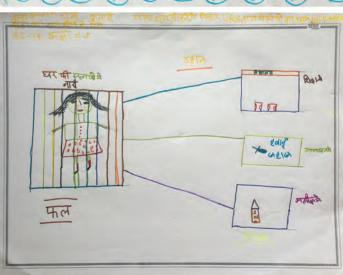
SPORTS







सेवा में, श्रीमान राष्ट्रपति महौद्धय जी, में हरजीराम क्या 🗴 मे राजकीय मास्यमिक विद्यालय रिवा मलार में पढता हूं। मेरे विद्यालय के बच्ची की मेरीरेल हवाई जराज में बैठने की बस्ता होती है। लेकिन हमारे अलजी हमें नहीं लेजाते है। हवाई जहां ज को आकाश में उड़ते देखते हैं तो हमें बहुत अच्छा लगता है। हमें भी हवाई जहाज में बैठने की इच्छा होती है। हम समी बच्ची का हवाई जहाज में बेठने का सपना कव काव कैसे द्वरा होगा। नाम > हरजीराम 40611 > X विद्यालय श्रा.मा. वि. रिव (मलार)।



TECHNOLOGY

"Technology gives the quietest student a voice."

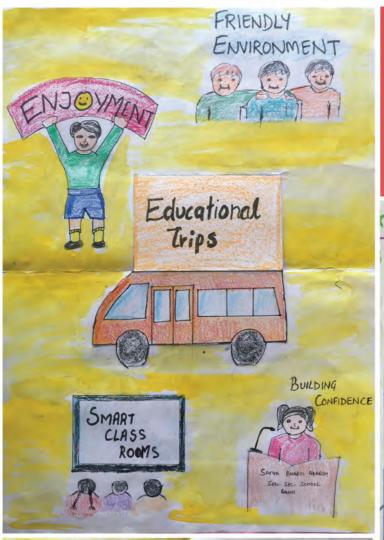
-Jerry Blumengarten

Technology is an important medium for us to keep pace with our times and to connect ourselves with the external world. Many of our schools still need computers and a constant source of energy to operate them. Though having a computer lab and smart classes is a distance dream, but at least a few working computers with internet connection will improve the education experience in our schools. Even our teachers make attempts to e-connect us in a small way through their mobile phones but we aspire to have fully functional computers in our school so that we can enjoy online education and also learn more about the world around us. In addition, this will make us employable as computer literacy has already become a must today.

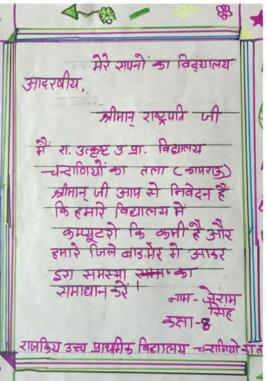


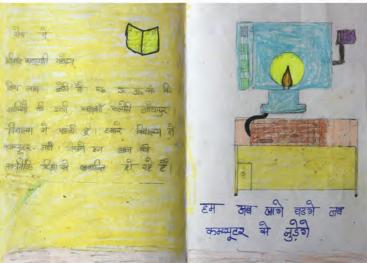


It would be an honour for us if you could kindly share our voice with the entire nation and inform them of our dreams and aspirations. It is also our dream to have you visit our school in future and spend a day with us.















Senior Secondary Students Excel in Class X and XII CBSE Board Examinations





The first batch of Class XII students from Satya Bharti Adarsh Senior Secondary School, Chogawan (Amritsar) and Class X students from five Satya Bharti Adarsh Senior Secondary Schools in Punjab (Chogawan, Fattubhila, Jhaneri, Rauni and Sherpur Kalan villages) excelled in the 2017 CBSE Board examinations.

Out of the 313 students of Class X, 28 students scored a perfect 10 CGPA, while 112 students scored grade A2 and above. Similarly, 28 students of Class XII, the first batch to appear for Class XII CBSE Exams, made their institution proud with their stellar results. Despite the challenge of belonging to underprivileged backgrounds, two students scored above 90% and one-third of the students scored over 70% marks.

It is a matter of great pride and joy for all of us at Bharti Foundation. The resounding success of the first batch of Class XII students bears testimony to the grit and determination of our students as much as the quality of education that is being provided by Satya Bharti Schools across rural India.

Vijay Chadda, CEO, Bharti Foundation

Editor: Sherry Bhawsar Malhotra Special input from: Binu Nair and the field team

Should you wish to partner with Bharti Foundation, please write to us at: partnership@bhartifoundation.org Please send your feedback and suggestions at: communication@bhartifoundation.org

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You can also write to us at:
Bharti Foundation, Plot No. 16, Airtel NCR Campus, Wing 'B'(1st Floor), Udyog Vihar, Phase IV, Gurgaon - 122 015 (Haryana)
Telephone: +91-124-4823500

