

SEEDS OF CHANGE: A MONTH OF GROWTH AND UNITY

Weekly Newsletter



Introduction: A New Year Rooted in Hope

NEW YEAR REFLECTIONS

As January 2026 unfolded, it brought renewed hope, collective strength, and fresh beginnings across our villages. At Snehavardhini Social Trust, the new year was welcomed not merely with plans and resolutions, but with people—women, children, teachers, youth, and community members—coming together to learn, grow, and uplift one another.

The month became a living example of how small initiatives, rooted in unity and purpose, can spark meaningful transformation. From empowerment programs and educational support to celebrations that strengthened community bonds, January truly sowed the seeds of lasting change.

Honoring Our Educators: A Day of Togetherness

TEACHER BONDING AND APPRECIATION

On 4th January in Khargaon village, our teachers—the backbone of our educational mission—came together under the open sky for a day of joy and connection. Stepping away from classrooms and daily responsibilities, they prepared traditional popti, a seasonal delicacy unique to Raigad, sharing laughter, stories, and companionship.

The day continued with a peaceful boat ride, offering moments of relaxation and reconnection with nature and with one another. It concluded with a Haldi Kumkum celebration, honoring their dedication and tireless efforts in shaping young minds.

One teacher reflected emotionally:

“Today, I remembered why I chose this path. We are not just teachers; we are a family.”



Finding Their Voice: Strengthening Democratic Participation

DEMO GRAM SABHA FOR GAVKI WOMEN

A demo Gram Sabha was organized for Gavki women to strengthen their understanding of democratic processes. While initially hesitant, the women gradually began to voice their concerns—raising issues related to roads, water supply, and street lighting.



What began as a practice exercise soon turned into an awakening of confidence and awareness. These women are now preparing with courage and clarity for the upcoming Gram Sabha on 26th January, equipped with knowledge, determination, and a stronger voice.

This initiative reinforced the idea that democracy is not only about voting—it is about active participation and the power of voice.



Nurturing Young Minds: Education Beyond Textbooks

PROJECT-BASED LEARNING AND PARENTAL ENGAGEMENT

At JMRT School, nearly 150 fourth-standard students participated in project-based learning, fostering creativity, teamwork, and critical thinking.

Alongside this initiative, a parents' meeting was held to highlight how families can actively support their children's education. One father shared with emotion:

"I couldn't study much, but my child will have every opportunity."

Empowering Board Exam Students: Mastering Time Management

TIME-MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

A special time-management session was conducted for 10th standard students preparing for their board exams. The workshop equipped them with strategies to plan, prioritize, revise effectively, and manage stress.

One student reflected:

"I now understand it's not about studying longer, but studying smarter."

Teachers observed a visible transformation among the students—from anxiety to confidence and clarity—highlighting the impact of practical guidance on exam preparation.





Celebrations That Strengthen Community Bonds

HALDI KUMKUM CELEBRATION

On 27th January, the village ground came alive with color and joy as women arrived in vibrant sarees, carrying sweets, flowers, and bowls of haldi and kumkum. The atmosphere quickly filled with cheerful voices and laughter, as everyone delighted in being together.

Mrs. Kranti welcomed the gathering and organized lively games such as musical chairs, passing the parcel, and relay races. The beauty of these activities was that they transcended age—young girls, mothers, and grandmothers all joined in, running, laughing, and encouraging one another.

Between the games, women applied haldi and kumkum on each other's foreheads, shared homemade sweets, and exchanged blessings. For those precious hours, worries were set aside as they celebrated their bond and womanhood.

By the end of the day, participants returned home with smiling faces and joyful hearts, carrying sweet memories of laughter, sisterhood, and togetherness.

Playschool Activities

EDUCATION CUM PLAY

For playschool children, January was filled with joy and discovery. Sports Day activities and an early Republic Day celebration on 22nd January introduced them to India's national heroes and values in a playful, age-appropriate way—through games, storytelling, and creative activities.



Republic Day: Pride, Participation, and Promise

REPUBLIC DAY EXPERIENCE

On 26th January, hostel girls visited Alibag to witness the Republic Day parade—a powerful and memorable experience for tribal children who are often excluded from such opportunities.

Back at the hostel, they performed a street play on the Constitution, bringing the Preamble to life. Their confident expressions of justice, equality, liberty, and fraternity were deeply moving and inspiring.

As one coordinator shared with emotion:

“These are not just performances; these are new beginnings.”



Conclusion: Growing Together

JANUARY REFLECTIONS

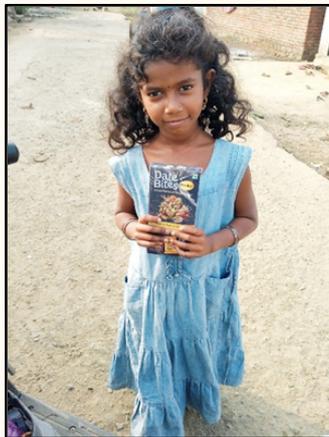
January 2026 was more than a month of activities—it was a month of transformation. Women discovered their strength, children found their voice, teachers rediscovered joy, and communities stood together. Each moment added resilience and unity to the fabric of our shared future.

At Snehavardhini Social Trust, we believe true development is not about charity, but about awakening potential. As we step into the months ahead, we carry with us the energy, hope, and solidarity that January has sown.

The journey continues—and with every step, we grow stronger, together.

Some photos:





Thank you for reading!

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