



MUSKAN FOUNDATION FOR PEOPLE WITH MULTIPLE DISABILITIES

News Letter

January 2022 Edition

Our Vision

Children with MDVI participate and are recognized in their families and communities, and realize their unique abilities in life.

Our Mission

Muskan maximizes the potential of MDVI children, by providing customized, low-cost therapies and special education under one roof, and by empowering parents with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to support their child's unique needs and development.

NEWS & UPDATE

Braille Day

World Braille Day is an international day on 4 January and celebrates awareness of the importance of braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights for blind and visually impaired people. The date for the event was chosen by the United Nations General Assembly via a proclamation in November 2018 and marks the birthday of Louis Braille, creator of this writing system.



Muskan Parents were introduced to various devices, adaptations, and assistive technology used by individuals with visual impairment to access information for both academic and leisurely pursuits. Parents explored the Taylor Frame used for Mathematics, Brallier used to type, tactile storybooks, different textures, and cane used for mobility.



Makar Sankranti

Makara Sankranti is an important pan-Indian solar festival, known by different names though observed on the same date, sometimes for multiple dates around the Makar Sankranti. Muskan celebrated Makar Sankranti virtually. Children were taught to make kites and sesame seeds – Jaggery sweets. There were feelings of accomplishment and festivity on the faces of children. Muskan celebrated Makar Sankranti for the following reasons.

- To encourage to pay tribute for the grace of Sun energy as it has enabled life and food on earth.
- To be grateful and respect Mother Nature as Makar Sankranti is a time of joy, abundance, and celebration in the farming communities, the time to reap the fruits of hard labour.
- To encourage Family spirit in and around Muskan and Muskan associates as it is a time for peace and to bury the hatchet and get together.



Republic Day

"Long years ago, we made a tryst with destiny and now the time comes when we shall redeem our pledge. At the stroke of the midnight hour, when the world sleeps, India will awake to life and freedom," said Jawaharlal Nehru. The 73rd Republic Day was celebrated with much pomp all across Muskan Foundation Centers. The flag was hoisted in the patriotic spirit. Muskan commemorated on Republic Day the spirit of independent and individual India.



The students at Muskan centers were introduced to the National bird, animal, tricolor of the flag and sang National Anthem and Vande Mataram. The teachers sang the national anthem using sign language. To keep the spirit of patriotism alive, the students dressed like Barat Mata and freedom fighters. The children also decorated the center with flowers and made flower rangoli with the help and guidance of the teachers. The students and the parents celebrated the event with great enthusiasm and joy.

Unit test Day

Teaching and testing are an integral part of the educational system. Testing is implicit in teaching some of the stages, which may be properly marked for testing procedures. A unit test is a test that is pre-planned, systematically constructed, administered, and assessed by a teacher after teaching a particular unit to the students.

The unit test was conducted at Goregaon Muskan Center from 18-21 January to ensure the learning level of the students. Muskan conducts regular tests to measure the developed areas of the child and to further design the program as per the need of the child.

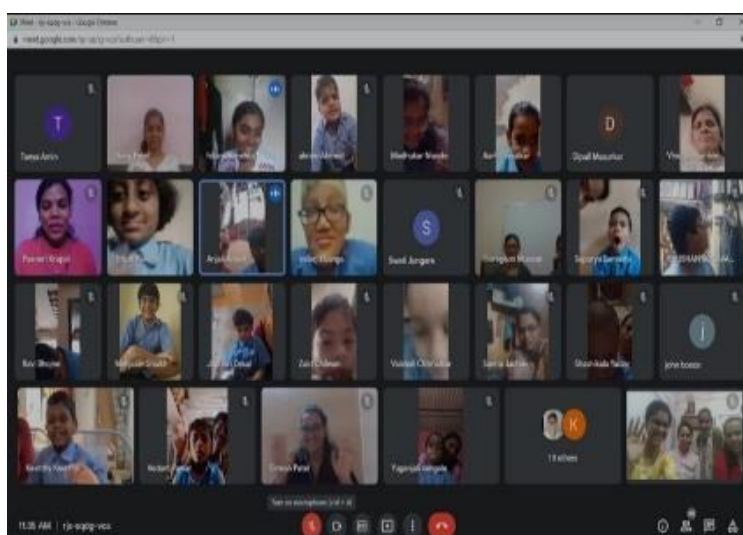


MAPP

Parents of children with multiple disabilities are always at high-stress levels as they are combating an inner battle of emotional and mental distress. Muskan Foundation equally looks into the well-being of the mental state of such parents through its Muskan's Association for Parents & Professionals (MAPP). Muskan conducted an online Storytelling competition for Parents, where parents were expected to send a 2-minute video recording. The parents came up with varieties of stories. The story of a women's journey to independence was touching. The parents participated enthusiastically and showed their creative side by using various props and voice modulations.

Session by Students of Dr. Bhanubai Nanavati College of Pharmacy

Positive interactions increase good feelings, increase morale and improve work satisfaction. The members of The Public Health Office of Dr. Bhanubai Nanavati College of pharmacy – took the time and energy to help Muskan and conducted an online session for Muskan students and Parents as part of their two-day camp called "From Life to Life". It was a very interactive and creative session. The students enjoyed every bit of the session and the puppet show remained memorable for them. They also taught the students the difference between good touch and bad touch. The Pharmacy students also did crowd-funding for Special Children. Muskan expressed gratitude by giving them appreciation letters and receipts for their monetary contribution and creative session.



Special education

Name of student: Adan Shaikh

Age: 15 years Disability: Low Vision

Area of Development: NIOS- Basic Computer Skills

Progress: - Typing on computer /Laptop

Session 1:- He learnt about parts of computer. With help of that he learnt to type on laptop with verbal prompts.

Session 2:- After some sessions, he has started typing short stories in English on laptop by using keys for capital letters, space bar, delete/backspace with minimum verbal prompts from his teacher.

End of the month: - Adnan has learnt to type on laptop with minimum help.



Therapies and Activities

Name of the student: Aswin Bhandari

Age of the student :3 years

Disability: Cerebral Palsy + GDD

Current level of the child: Child can hold a surface and stand independently for 4-5 minutes. He can perform sit to stand with moderate support. Walks with two hand support. He can perform floor to stand transfer with moderate support. Can crawl 1-2 steps with minimal help. Can cruise with help with hands and weight shifts (minimal).

<p>Goal/program for the next month :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Crawl for 5-7 steps independently• Perform floor-to-stand transition independently holding a surface.• Cruise independently• Push a walker and walk with minimal help	<p>Suggestion for teacher/parent :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Give toys/ books at eye level.• Display light on ceilings for him to look up.• While teaching to grip concentrate on holding the objects in hand for long• Self-feeding• Let him perform floor to stand on his own and don't pick him up• Practice standing for the maximum time of the day.
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Remark: Upward vision has improved. Grasp and release much better. Improved posture.

Speech Therapy

Name of the student:- Shreyas kalvankar

Disability- ASD

Areas of concern-

- concentrating to develop oral area and vegetative functions
- Language
- Working to develop eye contact during the session.

Goal- To Develop Vowels vocalisation and eye contact

When Shreyas came for assessment	With regular Speech Therapy programme Shreyas is now
1)His chewing and swallowing pattern was fully developed. 2) His Tongue and Lips movements were not fully developed 3) He was unable to vocalise basic vowels 4) Drooling was present.	1) Started to move his tongue forward with the help of physical prompts. 2) Able to vocalized 'aa' sound 3) Started to vocalize some words like 'Aai, baba, dada, de-de

Parental Guidance: The mother was guided to follow the above pattern of teaching at home.

We are at:

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HELP US CHANGE A STORY



The confidence and positive attitude of this girl with low vision in our Mother Toddler program of Bandra Center are remarkable. She has learned to follow instructions given by her teacher and use her tactile sense to sort out the marbles. The improvement in the child acts as a motivation to the parent. Muskan Foundation touches the lives of many such families through its services.

Muskan Foundation needs your support to counter the impact of a pandemic on the low-income group families who have lost their source their children with multiple disabilities.

- You can support the Special Education Program of 100 children with multiple disabilities by sponsoring a Child's Monthly Education Program at Rs.5000 or Monthly Therapy Sponsorship at Rs. 4500.
- You can help by Sponsoring the livelihood of below poverty line families at just Rs. 1000 per family. We provide a livelihood to 100 below poverty line families every month.
- You can sponsor a child with multiple disabilities smartphone at Rs.5000 which will solely be dedicated to the child's special education and therapy program.
- You can also Sponsor Counselling sessions at Rs. 500 per session as these sessions provide emotional guidance to 116 parents in these difficult times.
- CLICK ON: <https://rzp.io/l/Vr7KhNQ>

Help us to spread Muskan on our children's faces. Donate Now.