

Monthly Newsletter

August 2025 Edition



What's New

Raksha Bandhan Celebration

On 8th August 2025, Muskan Foundation celebrated the festival of Raksha Bandhan across the centres with great enthusiasm. Raksha Bandhan is a festival that cherishes the beautiful bond between brothers and sisters, symbolizing love, unity, and shared values.

The celebration began with circle time, where students were introduced to the concept of Raksha Bandhan through a specially designed concept book. The children eagerly explored the book, gaining a better understanding of the festival and its significance.

Following this, the traditional puja thali—adorned with kumkum, rice, a diya, sweets, and rakhis—was presented to the students. The girls tied rakhis on the wrists of the boys, and in turn, they exchanged sweets as a gesture of love and affection.

The event was filled with joy, laughter, and excitement. Every student actively participated and thoroughly enjoyed the celebration, making it a memorable day for all.



Friendship Day Celebration

Muskan Foundation celebrated Friendship Day in collaboration with mainstream schools, with the aim of fostering inclusiveness, celebrating diversity, and promoting bonds of friendship among students from both institutions. The event also served as a meaningful platform to raise awareness about disabilities in a simple, child-friendly way.

- Byculla Centre – Shushanti School
- Panvel Centre – Shanti Niketan School
- Bandra Centre – Mount Mary School
- Kalyan Centre – Harjeevan Vidyalay

Students from both schools participated in a collaborative craft activity where they created colourful friendship bands. This engaging hands-on session encouraged creativity, teamwork, and joyful interactions, while also nurturing an inclusive learning environment.

Muskan Foundation teachers conducted a short and engaging awareness session, using simple language and relatable examples to help students better understand and empathize with individuals with different abilities. Teacher Shweta introduced the basics of sign language, teaching common signs such as "Thank You," "Sorry," "Please," and "Welcome." The school teams greatly appreciated this demonstration and expressed their intent to incorporate these signs in daily interactions.

The Friendship Day celebration was a heartwarming and successful event, creating opportunities for learning, connection, and shared joy among students and educators from diverse backgrounds.



Gopal Kala Celebration



With the help of teachers, the students tied the dahi handi on a rope. A special puja was then performed by the Centre Head, teachers, parents, and students together. The highlight of the celebration was when the handi was broken, and the children joyfully collected sweets from it. Lively music and dance added to the festive spirit, filling

On 13th August 2025, Muskan Foundation celebrated the vibrant festival of Gopal Kala at the centre with enthusiastic participation from students, parents, and staff. All students along with their parents joined in the festivities, making it a memorable occasion.

The celebration room was beautifully decorated by the teachers with support from parents. The boys looked adorable dressed as Lord Krishna, while the girls gracefully represented Radha. The event began with introducing students to the significance of the celebration, explaining the importance of fruits, flowers, coconut, and other materials used during the ritual.



the atmosphere with happiness and laughter. The celebration concluded with the distribution of prasad to all students and parents. The event was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone and created lasting memories of joy and togetherness.

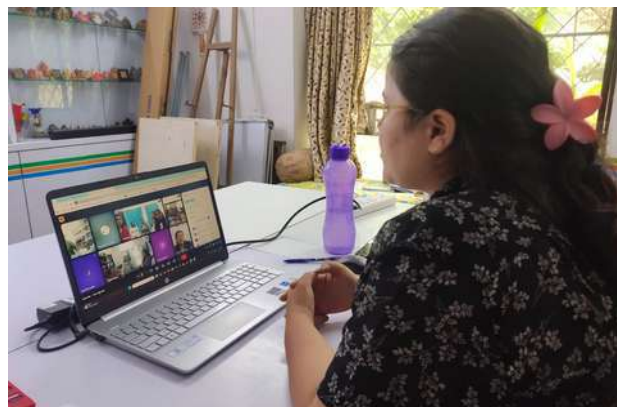
Muskan Branding Training

On 13th August 2025, Muskan Foundation conducted an online Muskan Branding Training session, led by Mrunali, focusing on the fundamentals of branding and visual consistency. A major highlight of the session was understanding the correct usage of Muskan's logo across various platforms, emphasizing the importance of maintaining brand integrity in all documentation and presentations. Key learning points included:

Choosing appropriate fonts and sizes for headings and body text

Proper use of headers and footers for a cohesive look, Guidelines for photo placement and image sizing to ensure visual balance maintaining consistent layouts across documents and presentations

The session provided participants with a strong foundation for creating professional, brand-aligned visual content, reinforcing the importance of uniformity in Muskan's communication materials.



Independence Day Celebration

On 14th August 2025, Muskan Foundation proudly celebrated the 79th Independence Day at the centre with immense enthusiasm and patriotism. The students embraced the theme of traditional attire—some dressed as iconic freedom fighters such as Bhagat Singh, Chacha Nehru, and Chandra Shekhar Azad, while a few girls beautifully portrayed Bharat Mata. The remaining students wore vibrant tri-colour outfits, adding to the festive spirit.



The celebration began with introducing students to the concept of the Indian flag, colours, and flowers, along with the importance of Independence Day. Following this, the Centre Head hoisted the national flag, and everyone joined together in singing the National Anthem with pride. Patriotic songs were played, creating an atmosphere filled with unity and joy. The event concluded with the distribution of snacks to all students. It was a heartwarming and memorable celebration that left everyone with a strong sense of pride and togetherness.

Muskan Association for Parents & Professionals (MAPP) Activity

On 23rd August 2025, Muskan Foundation organized the second MAPP (Muskan Association for Parents and Professionals) activity for parents, with the theme of Lippan Art. The session was conducted online by Ms. Amrut Prasad, while parents from the all Centre gathered in person to participate and practice the art form together.

Muskan Foundation provided all the necessary materials, and Ms. Amruta guided parents step by step in creating their own Lippan Art structures. The activity was highly engaging—parents followed the process enthusiastically and successfully crafted beautiful artworks.

The session not only introduced parents to a new creative skill but also offered them relaxation and joy. Some parents shared that the activity helped them feel stress-free, while others showed growing interest in exploring art further, even considering it as a professional option. Overall, the session was very creative, enjoyable, and well-received, leaving parents motivated and inspired.



Open House



On 23rd August 2025, Muskan Foundation held an Open House at the centre. Many parents attended the session, while those who could not join had informed teachers of their absence in advance.

Teachers, along with the Centre Head, shared report cards and gave parents a detailed update on their child's progress. They also discussed learning goals for the upcoming term and offered suggestions to further support each child's development.

Parents expressed their appreciation and shared positive feedback about their child's growth. The Open House proved to be a successful and meaningful platform for collaboration between parents and teachers.



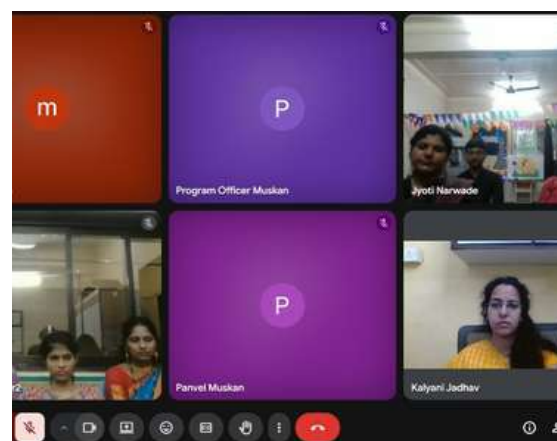
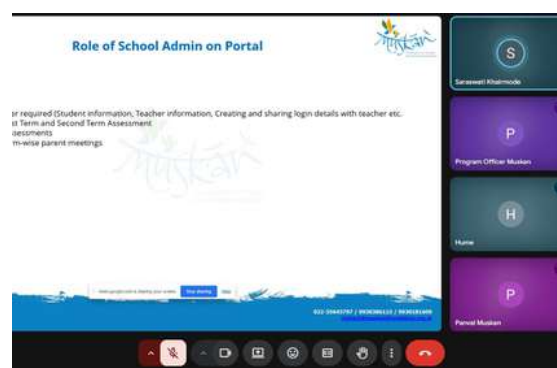
Disha Peer Training

In July, a 3-day training program organized by Disha was conducted, though it saw limited attendance from teachers due to time constraints. To ensure the dissemination of key learnings, a Peer Learning Training Program was initiated, where Muskan teachers from various centres shared insights with their peers.

This session was held on 25th August from 3:00 to 4:00 PM, focusing on crucial topics such as:

- The Disha web portal
- Assessment methods
- Scoring system
- Curriculum
- Activities
- Recent updates

The sessions were engaging and informative, offering valuable insights and strengthening the collective understanding of the Disha program and its implementation across centres.



Ganesh Chaturthi Celebration



On Monday, 25th August 2025, Muskan Foundation celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi across all centres with devotion and joy. The classrooms were beautifully decorated by teachers, creating a festive and welcoming atmosphere.

Students were introduced to the significance of flowers, leaves, and other materials used in prayer rituals. This was followed by the aagaman of Lord Ganesha, lovingly crafted by the students themselves. The celebration continued with a heartfelt aarti, where teachers, students, and parents together sought blessings from Lord Ganesha.

The event concluded with the distribution of prasad and sweets to everyone. It was a memorable and meaningful celebration that brought students, parents, and staff together in the spirit of devotion and unity.

Case study of the month

Name of the Student: Alfa Nasir Khan (*Name Change)

Age:5 years

Disability: Intellectual Impairment

Area of Development: Cognition

Monthly Goal: To identify the animal

Materials Used: Animal picture book, Tap

Beginning of the Month: At the start of the month, she was able to recognize animals with the help of maximum verbal and gestural cues.

End of the Month: By the end of the month, she showed significant progress. She was able to identify and name animals with minimum verbal support.

Vision Therapy

Name of the Child: Tamana Pawar (*Name Change)

Disability: Global Developmental Delay with Cerebral Palsy and Visual Impairment

Area of Concern: Poor ocular motor skills

Field Loss: Centre Left Field Loss

Goals: Visual Tracking and Scanning with light

When Tamana came for assessment :	With regular Vision Therapy Tamana is now :
1.Tracking and scanning are not present 2.Presence of ATNR; due to this position, she cannot focus on light	1.Giving little response to light 2.Attention span is improving 3.Responds to the yellow colour 4.Suggestions taken from a Physiotherapist on proper sitting position

Parental Guidance: Mother provides proper sitting position as advised by the Physiotherapist and engages her with a yellow toy by flashing it.

Speech Therapy

Name of the Child: Sanvika Yewale (*Name Change)

Disability: Global Developmental Delay (GDD)

Area of Concern: Speech and Language Development **Goals:** To develop vegetative functions

When Sanvika came for assessment :	With regular Speech Therapy Sanvika is now :
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.Unable to use facial muscles for oral movements2.Chewing, sipping, and swallowing patterns not developed3.Receptive language developing for simple verbal instructions4.Oral area was very sensitive	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.Show reciprocal responses during the session2.Chewing pattern is developing3.Able to give little pressure for chewing4.Tongue lateral movements yet to develop5.Swallowing pattern is developing6.Sipping pattern yet to develop7.Bilabial sounds are developing

Parental Guidance:

The Mother has been taught different strategies to develop oral movements and oro-motor exercises, which she is consistently practicing at home with Sanvika.

Physiotherapy

Name of the Child: Renuka Salunkhe (*Name Change)

Disability: Cerebral Palsy with Epilepsy

Area of Concern: Delayed milestones, gross motor affection, dystonic posturing, tightness

Goals: Renuka will be able to sit, stand, and walk with assistance

When Renuka came for assessment :	With regular Physiotherapy Renuka is now :
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.Had delayed milestones — could not roll, hold head, or sit independently2.Showed poor sitting tolerance and poor trunk control3.Had gross motor affection, no weight bearing on hands, and did not use both hands	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.Do side sitting with head supported and upper limb weight bearing on one side with support2.Maintain quadruped position with upper limb and trunk supported for 20 seconds3.Maintain kneeling position with good head control

Parental Guidance:

Parents are advised to continue stretching at home, support head and upper limbs to prevent neck hyperextension during hand activities, increase sitting tolerance in a corner chair, and encourage more weight bearing on upper limbs while sitting.

Occupational Therapy

Name of the Child: Manas Sakunde (*Name Change)

Disability: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

Areas of Concern:

- Severe hyperactivity – continuous jumping, hand flapping, walking in circles
- No response on call
- Poor eye contact
- Sensory processing difficulties – vestibular and pressure seeking

Goals for the Month:

1. Improve response to call and eye contact
2. Reduce hyperactivity
3. Facilitate sensory regulation

When Manas came for assessment :	With regular Occupational Therapy Manas is now :
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Severe hyperactivity with poor sitting tolerance2. Poor eye contact3. Needs visual prompts and repeated commands; attention span poor	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Show reduced hyperactivity – sits for one activity on most days2. Respond to call (2/5 times)3. Give eye contact – though sustenance remains poor

Parental Guidance:

- Encourage heavy work activities such as pushing and pulling, trampoline jumping, and outdoor play in the garden.

Turning Challenges into Successes

When Veer Bhausheb Kolekar (*Name Change), a cheerful 7-year-old, joined his sessions at Muskan Foundation, he faced challenges in managing his daily activities due to Cerebral Palsy and Low Vision. This month, the focus was on one important goal—identification of a glass.

In the first session, Veer was able to identify the glass and hold it, but only with both physical and verbal prompts. By the second session, his progress was visible—he required only verbal prompts to complete the task.

By the end of the month, Veer achieved his goal. He was able to independently identify the glass and hold it with confidence.

This simple yet powerful achievement reflects Veer's growing independence in activities of daily living. At Muskan, every small step is a milestone, and Veer's journey reminds us that with patience, practice, and guidance, children can gain the skills that lead to self-reliance.

Our Vision

Children with MDVI participate and are recognized in their families and communities, and realize their own 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.

Our dreams are big. But we cannot travel ahead to complete the mission without your generous support. Therefore, we request you to support the Special Education Program of children with multiple disabilities by sponsoring a Child's Monthly Education Program or Therapies on the following details.

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

CLICK ON: <https://rzp.io/l/Vr7KhNQ> to donate now

or

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