



Dear Friends of the Library,

We hope you all could catch up on some reading inside your blankets this December, and if not allow updates from the Library to warm you up from this chilly gloom.

In the first week of this month we celebrated the first successful year of our library. How far we've come and the memories we've created have brought a joy and motivation which is still expanding in the air. We aim to cease this inspiration and go on to build this trust and love.

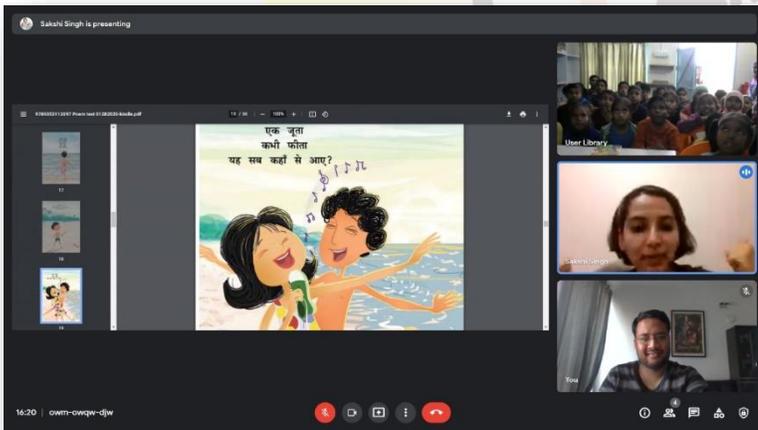


In the month of December we gained **38 new kids** and **8 new adult visitors**, issued **153 books** and added 30 new books to our collection. The number of total visitors rose to a shining 450. Even though we are finally gaining equilibrium and a steady pace of progress at the library, the dangers of the 3rd wave are looming in the air. We can hope to skip the disaster but cannot be indifferent to it, in fact we will be ready again to battle the virus and the destruction it creates with our relief work.

We have been pleased to witness a free flowing initiative from the promising members of our student council, our mornings are now washed fresh every Sunday from the sprightly yoga lessons these students have begun. The senior members of the library are always steering the student council to balance their studies along with their new-found duties, but their enthusiasm is far too focused and pure for anyone to control. This has given us a new thing to learn and understand this month, that children are never not learning and that they master quicker from their own experiences than from our handed down ones.

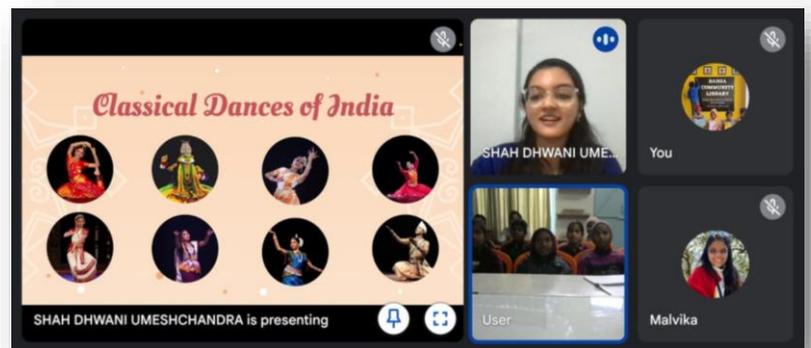


One of the primary functions and aims of our library is to pump out constant resourcefulness to its students. Thus to ensure that our children do not have to tread far away from the village looking for preparatory help and study material for competitive exams, we have arranged for Hindi classes thrice a week at the library along with the material required to read from and the teacher on call also organizes weekly mock tests for the aspirants of TET/TGT competition.



Another highlight of the month was the online session on reading for pleasure with [Ms. Sakshi Singh](#). She is the author of 'Jalebi Jingles' and many other brilliant poetry books for children which even adults must read. Just like her poetry the session was vivid, with bursts of creative expression and fun, she even asked the children to write back to her with their own stories and we can already see her mailbox brimming up with all sorts of ingenious knacks.

On popular request of some of our children, we also hosted an online Bharatanatyam class which was taken by [Ms. Dhvani Shah](#). Our children were eager and keen throughout this session on Indian classical dance forms, and we are sure we'll organize another one soon.



We also celebrated Christmas for our children at the library and received a surprise visit from Santa, thanks to [Pagaria Welfare Foundation](#) who distributed gifts and laughs while electrifying the whole air of a cheery glow.



Last month we also initiated our second dialogue series, '[UJAAGAR; Dialogue beyond Boundaries](#)' series. As the name suggests, we intend these dialogues to 'illuminate' our audience through nuanced global perspectives on issues pertaining to their life. This is yet another attempt to expose and cultivate a resilient and broad minded attitude towards education, its success and the gradual process behind it.

[Dr. Megha Bhargava](#) opened this dialogue for us this month, she is a Tax administrator with the Indian Revenue Services, a dental surgeon and the co-founder of the NGO- [Samarpann](#) through which she has been facilitating equitable access to inclusive education, comprehensive healthcare, and livelihood generation opportunities to rural and tribal communities across various places in India. All of these illustrious labels and yet she could identify with our students and left them feeling witnessed and heard. She went on to share her personal stories and practical tips on learning and making it through the important tests.



When we from our respected places of privilege are struck down from a feeling of isolation from time to time, imagine the alienation children here have to fathom. A simple discourse that makes them feel like their struggles do not exist in a vacuum and that they can be worked through, is a tiny miracle for them to grow from.

[Read and bloom where you are planted!](#)

Here's to the Rural Library Movement!

Anusha & Jatin

8 January, 2022.

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