

Monthly Musing

OCTOBER-2025 EDITION

Welcome To Nss's World!

Welcome to Neev Shikshan Sanstha's Newsletter, your go-to source for our monthly activities and news. We're thrilled to have you on board! At the end of the newsletter, we have a small request from you, so please read it till the end. As always, we love hearing from you, so feel free to reach out with any questions or feedback. Enjoy the read!

Pages Of Progress



- Navratri Celebration At NSS
- Joy of Giving - “ Dann Utsav”
- From Numbers to Narratives:
Reimagining Learning
- Illuminating Bonds Beyond Work: NSS
Diwali Celebration
- Connecting Virtually, Learning
Together
- Stories From The Field

Monthly quote

"GIVE THE PUPILS SOMETHING TO DO, NOT SOMETHING TO LEARN; AND THE DOING IS OF SUCH A NATURE AS TO DEMAND THINKING."

-JOHN DEWEY



Upcoming Event/Interesting Facts

- Children 's Day - 14th November
- The world's first "kindergarten" was started by Friedrich Froebel in Germany in 1837.

Messages from Mentor

/teacher/NSS member

Facilitating Zero: Turning Numbers into Fun!
I recently facilitated a session on zero, exploring it not just as a number but as a playful concept. Through hands-on activities, stories, and songs like "Aao Sikhau Tumhe Ande ka Funda", learning turned into laughter, movement, and discovery. Seeing teachers connect and experiment reminded me that teaching is about creating joyful, memorable experiences.

-Heli Dave



NAVRATRI CELEBRATION AT NSS

NSS recently celebrated Navratri on the auspicious day of Sharad Purnima, embracing togetherness, culture, and joy. The celebration brought vibrant energy to the event as every team member was in beautiful traditional attire, radiating festive spirit. The folk music filled the air, creating an atmosphere of cultural pride.

The colleagues came together beyond their daily roles, sharing smiles and stories. The event beautifully reflected NSS's belief in nurturing not just minds but hearts as well. As the day drew to a close, everyone enjoyed evening snacks, refreshing cold drinks, and captured memories through cheerful photographs. A perfect blend of tradition, togetherness, and celebration.



JOY OF GIVING - “DANN UTSAV”

At NSS, we believe that giving is not just about donating things; it's about sharing happiness and care. Every year, from October 2nd to 8th, people across India celebrate Daan Utsav, also called the Festival of Giving, where people come together to celebrate acts of kindness by providing time, resources, or money to the cause(s) they care about.

This year, we at NSS celebrated Daan Utsav through our campaign “Learn & Give.” The idea was to connect learning with giving. The idea was to connect learning with giving. Our team, along with students, families, and those who helped us create Teaching-Learning Materials (TLMs), came together with a shared purpose – to make learning more joyful and meaningful. These collective efforts and resources will help children in Anganwadis and schools learn with curiosity, creativity, and fun

We are grateful to Aarti Industries and Standard Chartered Bank for providing us with space to set up our stalls. Many people visited, looked around, and picked up TLMs they liked. Some even shared how special these materials felt – because they weren't just things, they carried thought and care.

The best part of this week was seeing everyone come together – smiling, helping, and feeling proud to be part of something meaningful. Daan Utsav reminded us that giving doesn't need to be big; even a small act done with love can bring learning and joy to someone's life.



FROM NUMBERS TO NARRATIVES: REIMAGINING LEARNING

NSS team recently conducted a five-day workshop at Dabhoi-1, 2, and Waghodiya, bringing together nearly 350 Anganwadi workers with one shared goal – to strengthen early learning experiences for young children.

The sessions weren't just lectures—they were interactive, hands-on, and rooted in real classroom experiences. Each educator was engaged with two focused modules: one on literacy and the other on numeracy. From playful activities to thoughtful reflection, the sessions gave teachers fresh ways to spark curiosity and confidence in their young learners.

The response was overwhelming. Educators described the sessions as engaging, practical, and deeply relevant to their daily work with children. For many, it wasn't just professional development—it was a reminder of the power they hold to shape a child's first steps into learning.

By the end of the workshop, participants felt confident and excited to use fun learning ideas in their Anganwadi centres, turning everyday moments into joyful learning experiences for every child.



ILLUMINATING BONDS BEYOND WORK: NSS DIWALI CELEBRATION

NSS team came together to celebrate the festival of lights with warmth, joy, and togetherness. The day began with vibrant rangoli designs that lit up the office with festive colours. Laughter echoed through moments of gift exchanges, dance, cricket, and cheerful conversations – creating memories that truly reflected the spirit of Diwali.

The celebration continued with group photos and cheerful moments, capturing the spirit of unity and joy that Diwali brings. The day ended with a delightful lunch together, filled with laughter, stories, and heartfelt wishes shared among the team.

It was a day that truly reflected what Diwali stands for – spreading light, happiness, and togetherness among everyone at NSS.

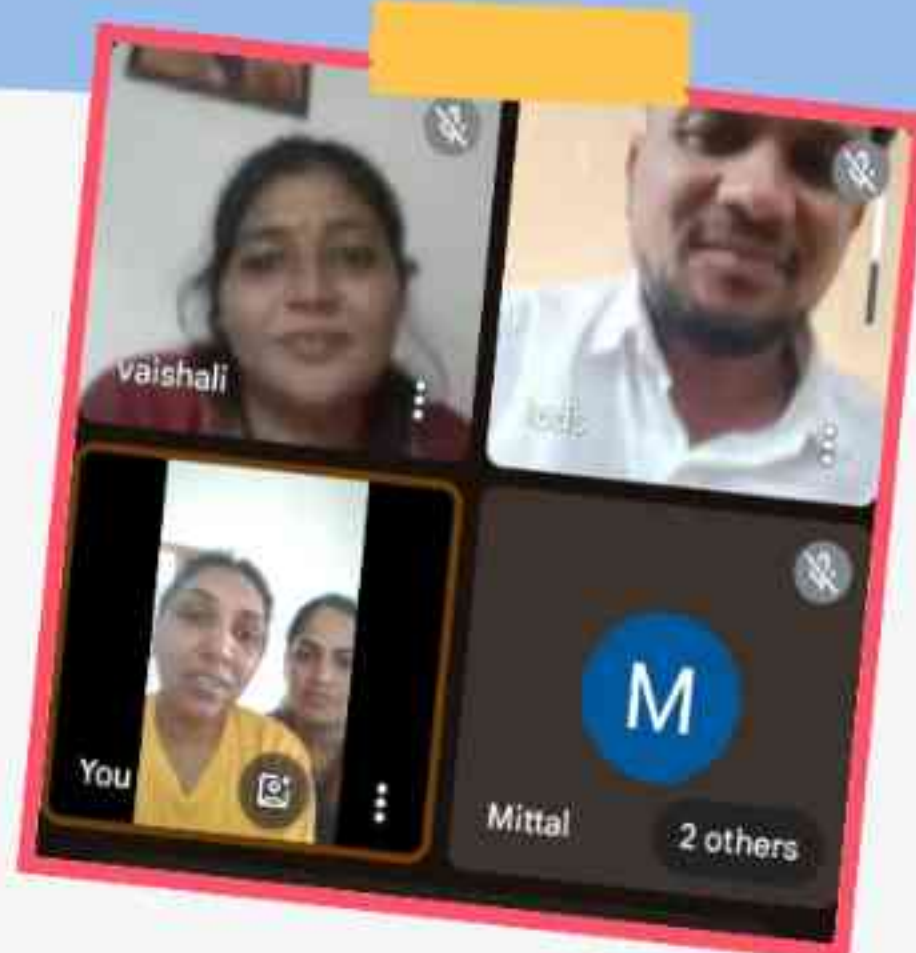
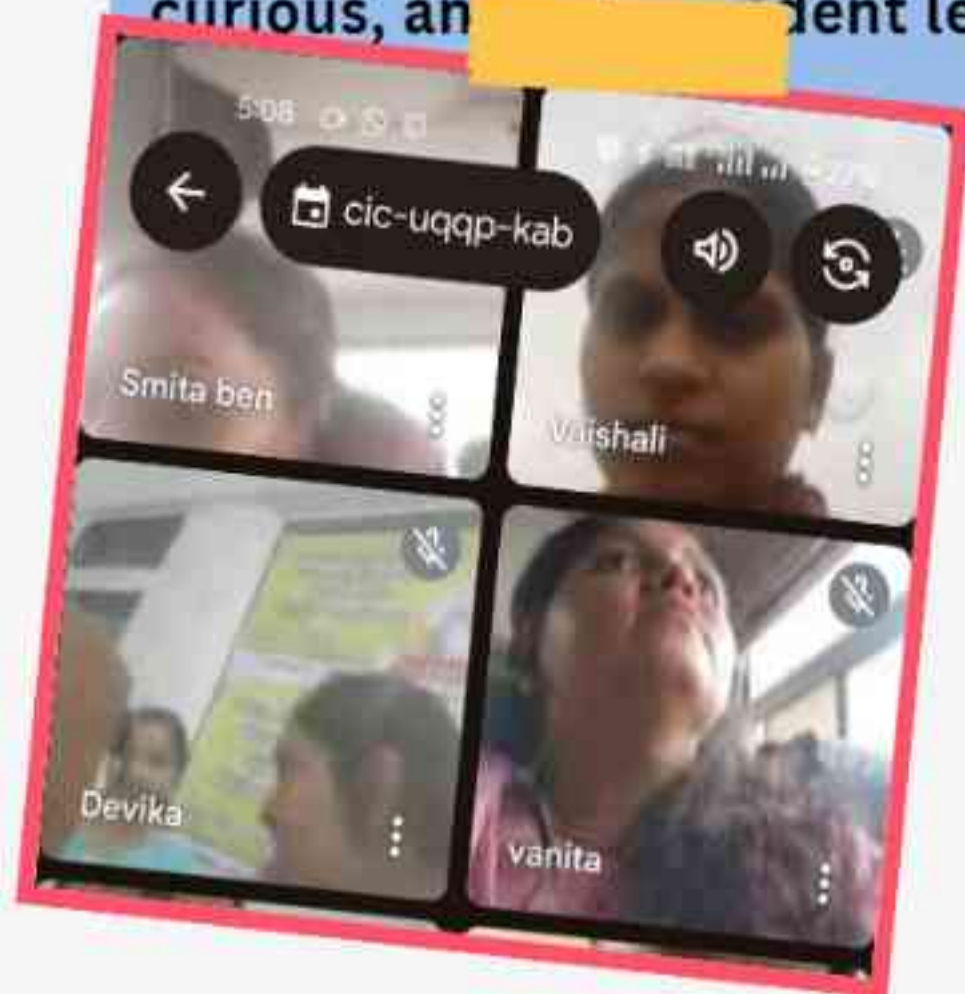


CONNECTING VIRTUALLY, LEARNING TOGETHER

The Rural PSEI meeting was conducted via video call, bringing participants together to discuss the month's theme on birds. The conversation included activities aligned with this theme, such as teaching the “picture drawing and searching” skill (concepts like less-more, up-down), singing children's songs, storytelling, and free talk during circle time on birds and their importance in human life.

The session began with reflections on the picture drawing and searching skill. The NSS team suggested using flashcards and other activities to help children recognise different birds.

Discussions also focused on sound awareness activities (Dhwani Chetna) for the Gujarati letters “મ” (M) and “ર” (R), and educators shared plans to use simple language games in their centres to strengthen early literacy skills. Discussion on how classroom activities, TLMs, and the Four Learning Corners are helping children become more engaged, curious, and independent learners.



STORIES FROM FIELD



“STORIES OF GROWTH AND HOPE”

CORNERS THAT GROW CONFIDENCE

We believe that learning should always come with joy. Through the simple yet powerful “Four Learning Corners,” we’ve seen wonderful changes in our little learners.

At Kailanpur-1 Anganwadi, when we first introduced the game, some children were shy and hesitant. A child from the anganwadi initially rarely took part in activities and preferred to sit quietly by themselves. But with regular play, she began opening up – smiling, talking, and participating eagerly. Today, she confidently joins every activity and loves solving puzzles at the “puzzle & block corner.”

Another child from Anganwadi, too, had a similar journey. Earlier, she found it difficult to stay engaged during activities. But through the game, her interest grew. She now enjoys every session and expresses her creativity beautifully through free drawing in the “creative corner.” These small but meaningful changes remind us how play can spark confidence, curiosity, and connection.

“When a child enjoys the game, learning naturally follows.”

— Gayatri Ben, Anganwadi Worker, Kailanpur-1



MAGIC IN EVERY COUNT

Teaching addition can seem abstract for young learners, but a teacher at Baroda High School brings it to life in a fun and meaningful way using the CPA method (Concrete-Pictorial-Abstract).

She begins with concrete objects, allowing children to touch, count, and explore numbers through play. Then she introduces pictorial representations, helping students transition from objects to drawings and visual patterns. Over time, children begin solving sums on their own, gaining confidence and independence, and even the quietest learners participate eagerly

“Their eyes lit up when they realised what addition truly means – adding with understanding,” the Teacher shares.

Addition becomes more than formulas; it becomes a natural part of their everyday thinking. The teacher notes that this approach nurtures not only knowledge but also happiness in learning. With creativity, patience, and guidance, even the most abstract concepts can spark joy and understanding in young minds.

