

TÊTE-À-TÊTE



• KNOWLEDGE • TEACHERS • STUDENT • ALUMNI



VIDYA VAANI

Volume VI

Conversations are an important part of human life. In this edition, you will run into interviews and heart-to-heart talks with various members of VIDYA family. Read on to learn more about us. After all, it is a tête-à-tête!



Ms. Malavika Goel Vice President

Q: How long have you been associated with VIDYA school and in what capacity?

When I joined VIDYA in 1999, we didn't have proper logistics and opportunities to start with. I started as the volunteer coordinator in an open theatre and now I'm the Vice president of VIDYA. We had an office in Rashmi ma'am's house. Then we had our office in Panchsheel for a few years but eventually, we moved up and grew from there and now we are here.

Q: Do you think that the cultures and ethics of VIDYA are unique?

Yes, certainly they are unique. Like every NGO, we had our vision clear in the very first place. We wanted to educate children, and empower women. We started with an open theatre school for children where they used to come but later on, we realized that unless their mothers are not well educated they can't understand the value of education for their children.

So, we started educating and empowering those women, and eventually, we did succeed in it. Those women used to discuss their domestic lifestyle and problems in their counseling sessions. But nothing would have been done if Rashmi ma'am hasn't guided us throughout the journey, she had played an important role in the development of VIDYA. I truly admire her sound leadership qualities and work ethic.

Q: How has VIDYA evolved in the past two decades with your association?

We started with 5 students with a vision to evolve into a bigger and better school. Now, in VIDYA Gurugram we have more than a thousand students and almost a thousand students in Bal Vihar. So looking back, we have grown a lot not only with the schools and students but also with the empowerment of women. We have helped women in getting financially independent by giving them hands-on training and resources to learn and grow in whichever path they desire. We started with students and education but we grew in almost every phase of women empowerment as well.

Q: What values contributed to this growth of VIDYA?

It was the passion that contributed to the growth of VIDYA, we were driven by the passion, and we didn't even take salaries for our work. It was Rashmi's leadership that empowered us and her network with similar people had a growing effect on us. People's funding and their support also contributed to the growth of VIDYA. So, in total, passion, network, and funding were the reasons for our growth.

Q: What is the way forward for VIDYA school, in your opinion?

The thing to go forward with is to concentrate on children and their results in exams and helping them in securing jobs wherever possible. We need to walk hand in hand with the students and women to help them with every kind of opportunity possible. We have got many helping hands like the people of Mensa, Mitra program, and counseling to make a student a complete human being. So I'd say that we should keep moving in the same line of growth and success.





Mrs. Savita Sharma

Hindi Teacher

१. आपको स्कूल में पढ़ाते हुए कितना समय हो गया है?

मुझे विद्या स्कूल के साथ जुड़े हुए 14 साल हो गए हैं और पता ही नहीं चला कब ये 14 साल निकल गए। ऐसा लगा मानो कल ही मैंने विद्या स्कूल को ज्वाइन किया हो।

२. आपने विद्या स्कूल को ही क्यों चुना?

मेरा बचपन से सपना था कि मुझे अध्यापिका बनना है। मेरी ग्रेजुएशन के बाद मुझे यह पता चला की विद्या नाम का एक संगठन है और ये बच्चों की मदद के लिए है, तभी मैंने ठान लिया कि मुझे विद्या स्कूल में ही पढ़ाना है।

३. क्या आपके मन में कभी यह विचार आया है कि आप विद्या को छोड़ दें?

नहीं, ऐसा विचार ना मेरे मन में कभी आया और ना ही आएगा, क्योंकि विद्या मेरे लिए स्कूल नहीं बल्कि मेरे परिवार जैसा है। यहां के बच्चों के साथ मुझे अत्यधिक लगाव है, इसलिए मैं कभी विद्या को छोड़ने के बारे में सोच भी नहीं सकती।

४. आपको कौन से लेखक एवं कवि की कविताएं या कहानियां पसंद हैं?

मुझे मुंशी प्रेमचंद जी की कहानियां और अशोक चक्रधर जी की कविताएं पढ़ना पसंद है।

५. आपकी तरफ से विद्या के लिए कोई संदेश?

विद्या ने हमेशा मुझे प्यार एवं स्नेह दिया है। जो भी विद्या का हिस्सा बनता है, चाहे कोई अध्यापक या कोई छात्र, विद्या उन्हें खुले दिल से अपनाता है। इसीलिए मुझे विद्या से अत्यधिक लगाव है।



मेरा परिवार
 ना मुझे अपना बड़ा नाम चाहिए ,
 ना ही सुख और एश ओ आराम चाहिए।
 बस एक वर चाहिए भगवान से ,
 मेरे परिवार के चेहरे पर हर पल मुस्कान चाहिए॥
 खून का रिश्ता दुनिया में सबसे मजबूत होता है।
 यह हर किसी के नसीब में नहीं लिखा होता है॥
 एकता शक्ति परिवार है ,
 जहाँ हर एक का प्यार है।
 मुसीबत आए किसी एक पर ,
 सहारा बनता परिवार है॥
 समय के साथ लगाव ,
 कभी कम नहीं होता परिवार में
 जहाँ बूढ़े माँबाप हों..
 वहीं देव का वास होता परिवार में ॥
 परिवार मेरा है अनमोल ,
 तू -तू मैं -मैं का ना झोल ।
 रहें दूर रिश्ता ना टूटे
 अलग रहें तो प्यार ना छूटे ॥
 संसार में है रिश्ते अनेक ,
 है परिवार का रिश्ता मजबूत ।
 इस पर मैं हूँ कुर्बानि ,
 इसी से है बस मेरी शान ॥
 बड़ों का करते सम्मान ,
 पर बच्चे हैं कुछ - कुछ शैतान ।
 बड़ों से सुनते रोज कहानी ,
 वर्ना लगे जीवन बेमानी ॥
 परिवार से बड़ा कोई धन नहीं ,
 इसलिए परिवार के बिना जीवन नहीं॥





Poem- By Shweta



क्या लिखवा कर आए हैं ?
हम अपनी तकदीरों में।

क्यूं हमे ही भय?
क्यूं हमे ही उलझन ?
क्यूं हमारी यह दशा ?
यह तिरस्कार हमारा क्यों?
हम नारियां अभिशाप नहीं।

हमारा चरित्र हमसे है।
हमसे हमारा समान।
हममें काबीलियत है बदलने की
हमारा भविष्य और वर्तमान।

प्यार कि परिभाषा हमसे।
संसार का अस्तित्व हम।

हम अधिकारी है सम्मान कि,
अपनी उड़ान भरने के हकदार हम।

क्यूंसहे हम,
हमारे आत्मसम्मान पे वार ?
अब और कैद नहीं,
अब और नहीं हमारा अपमान।





Richa Thakur- Success Story



Richa Thakur

“Being successful is the desire of all of us residing over this lovely planet!”

Being raised in a middle-class family comes with loads of unprecedented problems and if you aspire to become something that is unusual or unfamiliar to the people in the family along with the unstable financial issues, your aspirations get limited and constrained. All this leads to selective aims. However, I wanted to break this taboo and outgrow these barriers. As I grew up, I learned to be strong and overcome these obstacles to lead my life, my way. Hence, I thought of working in a reputed company, and to be specific, one of my dream companies, "Ernst n Young" or "EY".

I have completed high school in 2017 at Vidya School. I scored 87% in the Humanities stream and was the topper of my batch. Consequently, the school awarded me a free scholarship for further studies and through its support, I successfully completed my Diploma in Mass Communication from Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi. Alongside, I also completed my graduation in English Honours due to my keen interest in knowing about the author's life and literature.

After completing my diploma, I got placed in the Times of India as a copywriter intern for 3 months. Following that, I got an offer to work with AuthBridge Research Services Pvt. Ltd.. I successfully cleared their interview rounds and thereafter, worked with them as a Report Specialist. Working rigorously with full dedication and enthusiasm for 3 months along with pursuing my graduation, I became the senior leader of my team at the workplace and supervised about 20 people who were working under me. In 2020 I completed my graduation and currently, I am pursuing a post-graduation, MBA in operations management from NMIMS University (University of Mumbai).

WHAT ARE YOU PRESENTLY DOING?

Currently, I'm pursuing a BA first year at IGNOU. After completing my 12th in 2019 I was selected for Navgurukul which is a one-year residential course in software engineering in Himachal Pradesh.

HOW IS THE ENVIRONMENT IN NAV GURUKUL FOR STUDIES?

When I reached Navgurukul it was very different from typical schools and colleges. The culture is very unique. Initially, it was a bit problematic to settle down in a new place but as time passed, I settled here completely. The ecosystem is such that all the students help each other and their nature as well as the environment. My studies went really well.

ARE YOU FACING ANY TYPE OF PROBLEM?

No, I am not facing any type of problem here as everyone is very helpful. I'm able to manage everything.

WHAT ARE YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS SO FAR?

One fine day I got an opportunity to take algebra interviews for the students who were applying for Navgurukul. I also became the outreach and prosperity officer, which handles the official Instagram account of Navgurukul, in which I have to post things that happen on the daily basis and this post simultaneously changes with respect to time. By seeing my initiative for the campus I got another opportunity to conduct an interview for the students from Afghanistan and I managed all the interviews by myself. I also went to Thyagraj Stadium for a career conclave in which I represented Navgurukul in front of 30,000+ students and more than 120+ schools. That time I was feeling elated as it was a great opportunity for me. My studies were also going very well, but somehow I was lacking behind in my studies due to a laptop issue. Again I came across one more opportunity that I got selected for LSUC- which was held every year in a different state, in which we came across new people who were self-learners or CEO and Co-Founder of some company. They shared their experiences and motivating others. For me, it was the first time that I met a lot of people, at the same time, who all were very talented in their respective fields. As I was taking a lot of initiatives within the campus, I got an internship for 4 months at Nav Gurukul as an Admission manager who manages all the admission process of Navgurukul.

I got an opportunity to lead a team of 50 students who were supposed to take interviews for the students who are applying for Navgurukul. After some time, I became the General Secretary of the campus- elected by the student body. My work was to manage the whole community and be a bridge for bonding between the general body and the council members so that we could make a good community. Simultaneously I was also learning new skills like graphic designing with coding. I have done different languages like Python, JavaScript, HTML, CSS, Bootstrap, and a little bit of React.js. Then I came across a big opportunity in my life to become the boy's facility in charge at Navgurukul, so I grabbed this opportunity and filled the form for that, gave three rounds of interviews, and got selected. So right now I'm the facility in charge of the boys' campus at Navi Gurukul in Dharamsala, Himachal Pradesh.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING AFTER ALL YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS?

It was a very proud moment for me to become a team member of Navgurukul, working along with them and learning a lot of things daily. The whole campus was running under my guidance, in which I had to manage the functioning of the campus, talk with the students and share time with them to get to know more about them so that we could have a good bonding within the community. There are a lot of things to learn from this post on a daily basis and every day I learnt a lot of things. And I feel very happy to work with the students and learn from them as well. Further, I was planning to work with Navgurukul for a few years and simultaneously I will be doing graphic designing. I feel a sense of contentment and joy to have reached here so far.



Did You Know?

- 1. You lose about 8 percent of your body water while on a flight. This is because the humidity in the climate-controlled environment can be as low as 10 to 15 percent.**
- 2. Gadsby is a lipogram or a novel written without using a letter or letters. In the case of Gadsby, written by Ernest Vincent Wright in 1939, that letter is "E."**

Brain Teasers

- 1. Jesse's two grandmothers want to see him every weekend, but they live on opposite sides of town. As a compromise, he tells them that every Sunday, he'll head to the subway station nearest to his apartment at a random time of the day and will hop on the next train that arrives. If it happens to be the train travelling north, he'll visit his Grandma Erica uptown, and if it happens to be the train travelling south, he'll visit his Grandma Cara downtown. Both of his grandmothers are okay with this plan since they know both the northbound and southbound trains run every 20 minutes. But after a few months of doing this, Grandma Cara complains that she sees him only one out of five Sundays. Jesse promises he's indeed heading to the station at a random time each day. How can this be?**
- 2. To attend a world science seminar, A famous chemist from Russia visited Tokyo(Japan). In the lab, the scientist was killed and his six assistants were under suspicion of killing the chemist. Name of six assistants: Austin, Wayne, Dege, Oscar, Lingard, and Rojo. He left a note "76-20-44 79-16-22-7" A local detective L Lawliet was called to solve the case, After reading the note, L Lawliet instantly asked the police to arrest the murderers. Who are the murderers?**
- 3. Two batsmen each on 94 runs. Seven runs needed to win in the last 3 balls. Both make 100*. How?**



Be Mature

By a student of Vidya:

**"Be mature", we all must have heard this phrase, a million times,
But do you actually know who a mature person is?**

**Well, a mature isn't the one who often fights,
Instead a mature is the one who fights for a purpose; for the truth.
A mature is someone who doesn't show off,
He is someone who loves to be himself regardless of people's
opinions.**

**A mature is not the person who is serious all the time,
He is a person who doesn't waste his wisdom on unnecessary or
unconscious acts.**

**Acting mature does mean acting sensibly, but that does not mean to
compromise your own feelings for somebody else all the time.**

**Being mature means loving yourself, as you are, without changing
yourself on somebody else's say.**

**A mature person is someone who is smart, intelligent, and who takes
time to make decisions, who loves his own company, who doesn't
regret his own decisions, who doesn't blame others.**

**He is someone who accepts his mistake and finds a ray of hope in
every situation.**

**Being mature is to understand the emotional sense as well as the
practical importance of something.**

Both are equally important to know and be aware of.

And most importantly, age doesn't define how mature you are!

**So, next time you hear or ask somebody to act mature, recall and
remember who actually a mature is and what & what not make them
such.**

Whispering Mind by Vishal Paudel



In the winter of 2019, I sat to gather all my thoughts. Wrote two-word files, one on my thoughts on the self-induced and chaotic nature of consciousness, and the other on a numerical function that was good at generating numbers that were prime numbers. Later, these would transform into sleepless nights:

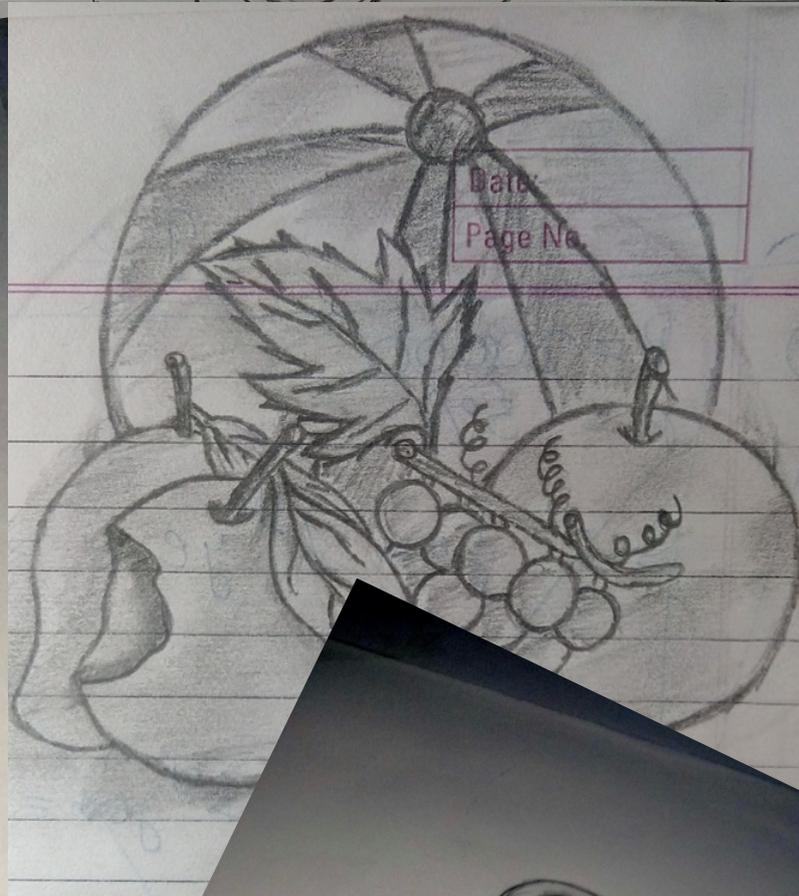
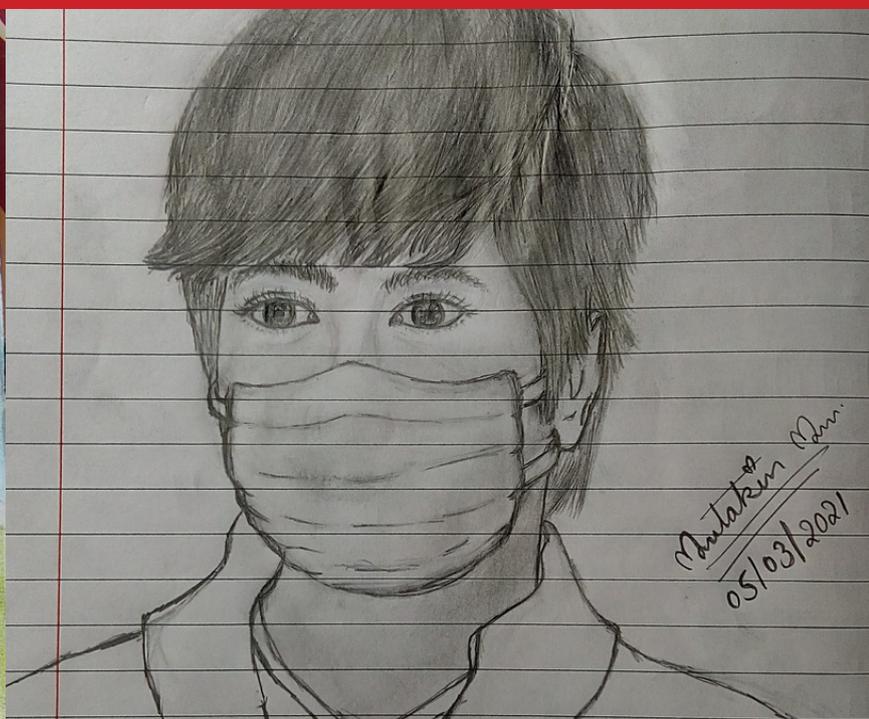
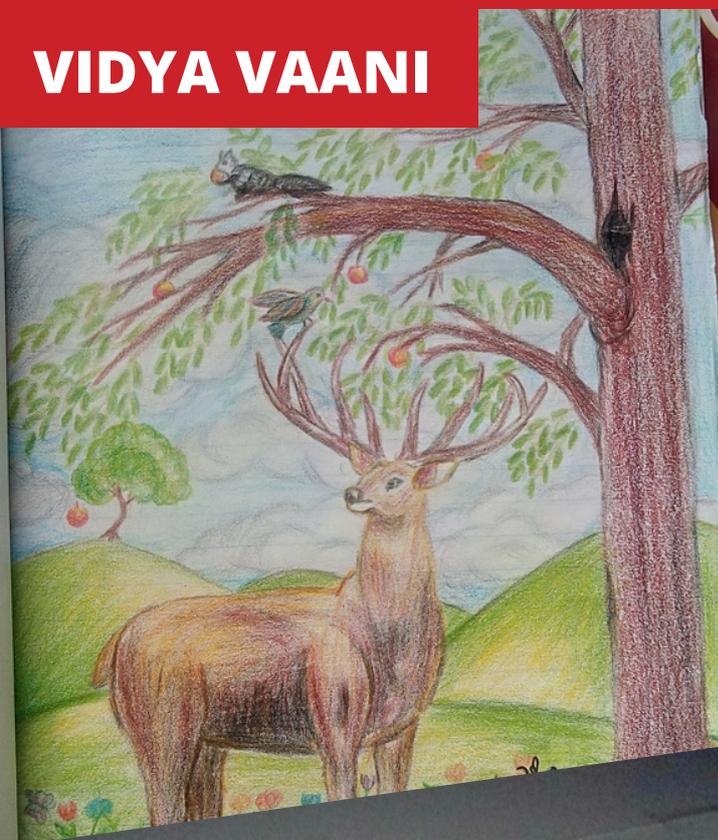
I once found my math teacher telling me that Allah is self-created, which seemed paradoxical to me. I have an interest in various fields, but when I think of determinism, I get stuck. Let me assume that there was a point at which every bit of time and energy came to life. Suppose somehow I had a mathematical model of that infant universe and a knowledge of the fundamental interactions (which is what physics, as a system of knowledge, tries to achieve). Then I would be able to move this model and would be able to predict the position of any particle (whatever it may be, quarks, bosons, anything else) the very next moment. Then, I would be able to tell the direction of the Na^+ ion moving through my neurons right now.

If so, my actions are pre-planned and already written in Brahma's Bhavishya-Puran. But now, I'm moving my fingers to type. Am I breaking the already predicted Katha with my free will, or is my "free will" already predicted? I certainly don't feel the second way. Essentially I'm the same heap of building blocks as the device on which I'm typing, but the building blocks arranged differently now start to question its source of itself- questioning!

The self-creation axiom in meditative enlightenment became little evident with time. It occurred to me one day that if I have a process of creating a tabla that produced more tablas with some differences in structure, then after a long search and time, I'm bound to find a tabla that with a single hit would make a sound that said "Vishal" recognizably. I think self-creation is possible in a holistic and subjective sense and not in an objective sense.

These thoughts have excited me as much as they've kept me awake. So have the self-similar patterns in primes. Maybe, Heisenberg and Schrodinger try to turn away from this self-dilemma by the assumption of matter waves. But it only glorifies the essence of the problem. I further want to investigate how systems show holistic behaviors. An eagle flying over my school bus thinking about flying.

• Vishal Paudal (Class XII)





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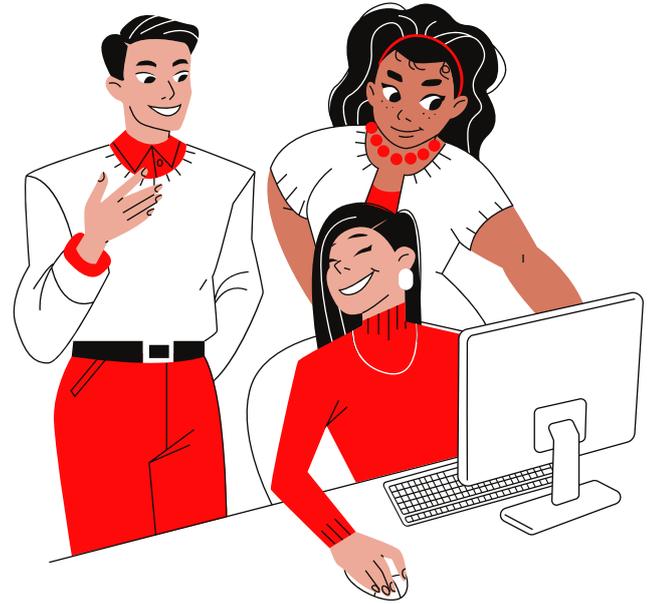


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Vidya Vaani is the alumni-led initiative, which aims to connect Vidya School to the outer world. We put forth this e-newsletter with a desire to allow you a sneak peek into the day to day affairs of the school, thereby also, creating a space for the students to exhibit their talents in terms of artistic or poetic expression.



We welcome you to our sixth edition of the series and hope to keep you engaged. Venga! Board the train to VIDYA Land and let Vidya Vaani echo unsung vignettes of inspiration into your ears.



We would like to hear from you! Share your suggestions/feedback and views with us on vidyavaaniconnect@gmail.com. Our inbox anticipates your mail.

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