



BAAL DEVO BHAVA
Shishukunj
LET EVERY BUD BLOOM



international इतु

E-Newsletter....a bridge to Shishukunj

August 2026

Namaste! ✨

Welcome to our Shishukunj International Setu. We are delighted to introduce our August 2026 edition of Shishukunj e-newsletter.

As we look back on the year, we hope it fills your heart with joy and gratitude.

Thank you for walking with Shishukunj and make our journey of Baal Pravriti, Seva Pravriti, Shikshan Pravriti and Paryavaran Pravriti possible.

“ Together, we keep the torch of learning,
care and hope burning bright. ”

*Shishukunj -
An Experience*



August Setu includes...

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As Shishukunj London celebrates its 50th anniversary, we honour five decades of compassion that has touched lives across the world.



28th December to
31st December, 2026



Shishukunj International
School, Bhuj

2 Days of Celebration
Sharing • Experience



2 Days of
Medical Camp

Save the Date!

Come, Be Part of the Experience!

A Journey

That Began in 1941



In 1941, in Karachi, something very simple began under the shade of a tree.



It was not a large organisation. There was no office, no elaborate programme and certainly no thought that this little beginning would one day grow into a movement reaching children across the world.



There were simply children, stories and a few people who believed that childhood deserved something more.



Among those who played an inspirational role was **Harjivanbhai Somaiya**. He began gathering children and telling them stories. The children came because they enjoyed being there. They listened, laughed, asked questions and, little by little, began learning through those informal gatherings.



Soon, others joined in. **Indubhai Davey**, **Jeetendrabhai Bhatt** and several other like-minded friends shared the same belief—that education was about far more than books and examinations. Children also needed values, imagination, friendship, discipline, creativity and opportunities to discover their own abilities and potential.



And so, what began as simple gatherings gradually began to take shape. Stories were complemented by games, discussions, songs, crafts and other enriching activities. Children were encouraged to participate rather than simply listen. The emphasis was on learning through experience, sharing with one another and growing together.



A small beginning,

That grew into a movement.

That continues to blossom.



*A small beginning...
that grew into a movement
for children.*

From Karachi to Africa & Beyond

As families and communities moved to different parts of the world, the spirit of Shishukunj travelled with them. **From Karachi**, its activities began to take root and flourish in Africa.

In Nairobi, **Vallabhbhai Patel** with others lovingly created a platform called **Kala Niketan**, bringing children together through creative, educational and enriching activities. He was later joined by **Devchandbhai Shah**.

Later, they met **Indubhai Davey**, and together they began organising activities for children under the name **Kala Niketan Shishukunj**. This became another important chapter in the journey of Shishukunj, carrying forward the same fundamental belief - that children learn and flourish when they are given opportunities to explore, participate, create, share and grow together.

Perhaps nobody could have imagined in those early days that these small gatherings beneath a tree in Karachi—and later those in Nairobi—would become the foundation of something so much larger. But perhaps that is precisely how Shishukunj was destined to grow: not through a grand plan, but through a simple concern for children, a deep belief in their potential, and the dedication of people willing to give their time, energy and love to nurture them.

Many community members/karyakars like of **Dhanjibhai**, **Ranchodbhai**, **Karsankaka** and **others** got inspired to extend Shishukunj anchored activities around the East African region.

With the vision of our pioneers and Karyakars migrating to all the corners of our World, Shishukunj activities have bloomed offering Baal, Shikshan, Sewa and Paryavaran pravrutti.

From one tree in Karachi to communities across continents, the journey had begun.

Learning And Nature

- Rutvidbhai Dholakia

A school in Nature - That has been one of the founding vision points of Shishukunj International School. The reasons are obvious, but need repeating - the atmosphere in such a school, with open skies, greenery around, birds chirping, insects visible, the whole nine yards - provides a quiet space for students and adults alike to calm down. The environment in which children grow up plays a vital role in their growth - spaces to play, to run, to walk on uneven surfaces, to see the weather changing so drastically at times - all these bits add up in not just having an effect of exposure, but often stays as a realization of a deep possibility - that a school can have large open spaces, and that everyone connects to nature, at some point of time.

With that in mind, we keep trying to take steps to further the experience that students get - be it short plantation activities, to weekly farming slots, to nature walks in the club hours, and longer "van bhojans" in a natural setting. Often, we see how students remember these seemingly small exposure trips for years to come. As adults, we see that they have the ability to see and hear things which we often miss - something which acts as a reminder that a school is a place where we are all learners.

A non judgmental learning environment which Nature provides is easier to take to the classroom, once we realize the powerful and patient Natural cycles of Life.

In spite of a weak monsoon this year, hopes are high, and everyone is yearning for their next excursion into the outdoor spaces - spaces which enable looking inside into our own habits.



In the Lap Of Nature



Dar-es-Salam

Dipenbhai Patel

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Laxmikant Odhavji Visram Shishukunj – Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, runs under the auspices of Indo Tanzania Cultural Centre. The institution is purely based on donation and sponsors. They have two libraries running, one for adults and another for children. The 70th Foundation Day was celebrated by all Karyakars with great excitement. They enjoyed the day picnic and had fun the all day.



*Celebration of 71st Foundation Day
Of Dar-es-Salaam Centre*

Limuru

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The First Term of Acme Shishukunj Nursery was from 6th January to 31st March 2026. The school reopened on 6th January 2026, whereby the teachers welcomed the learners into the New academic year 2026.

This term there are 142 new learners of ages 3 ½ years in the beginner's Class, In this level the learners are trained on the Greetings, Follow simple instructions, School routine, Cleanliness, Toileting, School Environment, Taking care of their personal effects, Number work, Creativity and Music. In PP1 they have a single stream of 74 learners who transitioned from beginner class (2025). Learners in this level are 4½ years of age. In this level they are taught the learning areas like Language, Number work, Religious - CRE, Environmental, Psychomotor, Creative Arts, Music and Outdoor Activities.

On 31st March 2026, school lab was officially handed over ICT Hub for digital learning an occasion which was graced by; Mr. Anilbhai Shah-School Director, Madam Mumbi Keega-Managing Director, Dow Eastern Africa and her team-she commissioned the project, Madam Caroline Ngonge-Portfolio Manager-Child fund and her team. School Administration, Senior Teacher, Teachers, Learners and Support Staff all were present. Learning in the ICT hub started this term, it has been going well and learners are enjoying with lots of curiosity which the teachers are handling well.



Anilbhai with Children



Mombasa

Hinalben Vaja (E: hinalvaja@yahoo.com)

Shishukunj Mombasa began the year with activities focused on learning, leadership, teamwork and holistic youth development.

Sports Day on 1st March brought Sabhyos and parents together through interactive games that encouraged teamwork, camaraderie and stronger family bonds. On 19th April, an educational trip to Tsavo East National Park gave Sabhyos an opportunity to explore Kenya's rich wildlife and natural heritage.

Members also joined the International Yoga Day celebrations organised by the Hindu Council of Mombasa on 21st June. Weekly activities were enriched by a paper-craft expert, introducing Sabhyos to creative techniques using simple materials such as paper and scissors.

Together, these activities strengthened fellowship, encouraged experiential learning and supported Shishukunj Mombasa's aim of developing confident, responsible and well-rounded young individuals.



A new generation of leadership.
Bhavinbhai Vaja was elected Chairman of Shishukunj Mombasa at the June AGM, becoming the **youngest person in the organisation's history** to take on this role.

Nairobi

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The Foundation Day was celebrated on 15th February 2026 with regular Kendra activities. As it was Ekadashi, everyone enjoyed *farari cake*, *sabudana vada* and fried *Mogo!* Holi was celebrated on 8th March, with children learning to make *Holika Dahan* before enjoying Dhuletti. Parents joined the celebrations and fresh *thandai* was served.

An educational trip on 21st June took members to Zee Flora Rose Farm, where they learnt about flower growing, harvesting, packaging and storage. Regular hobby and yoga sessions continue every two weeks.



"Learning, teamwork and unforgettable experiences."

The **Jeevan Ghadtar Shibir**, held from 3rd–6th April at Muguku Tumaini School, brought together 89 participants, with Karyakars and members as young as 12 working together to create a memorable camp.



Nairobi- SHIPA (Shishukunj Parents Association) PROJECTS

Grandparents Day – 15th March 2026

Twenty-six grandparents and approximately 150 participants came together to celebrate intergenerational bonding. The programme honoured grandparents and values inspired by Indubhai, with interactive games and a *farari* lunch.

“From village life to hands-on learning.”

On 10th May, Gujarat Din was celebrated with a *Village Vibes* theme. Parents introduced children to traditional village life in India, including making items from mud and grinding lentils—many experiencing these activities for the first time.

The event brought together culture, practical skills and joyful learning in a memorable experience for children and adults alike.



“The way we treat our elders influences how our children will treat us in the future; care for them with dignity, respect, and help them recognize their worth.”

– GIS Barbados



Bengaluru

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After two successful years of Saturday enrichment activities at Mysuru Kendra, the centre is entering a new phase. From this year, weekly activities will transition into daily structured tuition classes for students of Shri Chenna Keshava School, providing consistent academic support and strengthening learning outcomes.

The centre has also expanded its outreach to Gejjagalli Government School. Following a visit in March 2026, Karyakars found the school in urgent need of complete renovation. With the support of Karyakars and financial assistance from Bob and Indu Shah, the school was renovated, and children returned from their summer holidays to a transformed learning environment.

Saturday activities at Gejjagalli are now in full swing, offering educational, cultural and personality-development opportunities to more children. At BGMS, Karyakars conduct Art, Tabla, Indian Instrumental and Vocal Music classes, where children have shown remarkable progress over the past two years.

Through Shishukunj International Projects (SIP), the centre also continues to support higher education through sponsorships for Engineering, MBA, Commerce, Master's, PhD and Pre-University courses. Every Sunday, children enjoy Baalsabha, quizzes, pick-and-speak, kavayat, hukumos, games and art activities—a lively blend of learning and fun that nurtures curiosity, confidence, creativity and holistic development.



Tabla Classes



Art & Creativity



Baalsabha

Dhrangadhra

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The Shishukunj School Dhrangadhra celebrated its 76th Foundation Day in January. They organised various performances such as drama, dance, singing on the stage and some activities like drawing and art. The Students Police Cadets visited the Dhrangadhra Police Station and collected information about their duty and services of Police towards the society. The students enjoy the games and sports in school and celebrated The Sports Day. The school participate also in Khel Mahakumbh Competition and they got opportunity to showcase their skills at district level.



Indore

For more details visit (www.shishukunj.in)

Grade 4 students at Jhalaria Campus participated in a Word Power Event, showcasing their skills in vocabulary, idioms, proverbs, similes, grammar and literature. A Healthy Week encouraged children to adopt good habits with the message, *"Eat Healthy, Stay Active and Be Happy."*

Creativity was celebrated through Trash to Treasure and a Book Poster Designing activity, where students transformed ideas into colourful and informative artwork. The students of Shishukunj International School, North Campus also celebrated International Yoga Day and World Music Day, promoting healthy living and holistic development.

The school observed National Doctors' Day on July 1, while the Pre-Primary Wing celebrated International Tiger Day on July 31. Classes I and II welcomed the monsoon with a fun-filled Wet-on-Wet Watercolor Painting activity. A Career Counselling Session on *"The New-Age Educator Mindset: Critical Thinking – Minding the Mind"*, led by educational consultant and behavioural psychologist Dr. Madhavi Dhabholkar, enriched the students' learning experience.



Mankuva

Durgaben (E: shishukunjugharat@gmail.com)

The children played Holi with organic colours and *Gulal* with their friends and families. They also drew the picture of *pichkari* and pasted colourful papers on it as an art work. On the auspicious occasion of *Mahashivratri*, they drew the picture of *Shivling* and filled colour in it. They also made some print work on chart with thumb stamp and with balloons dipping in colours. The children played some games with "Fun and Learn" activities to identify alphabet. In the month of April, they made beautiful flower designs with the shells of pistachios, some designs of duck and pineapple with thumb stamp, designs of butterflies with sponge dipped in colours.

The children created the image of caterpillar with their finger stamp and counted the number of caterpillar as an activity. They learnt to make shape of alphabet A-Z using sand artistically, they drew the picture of watermelon with beautiful colours in it. They also drew the picture of sparrow and gave 3-D effect pasting tree leaves to the picture on their feathers. They played some funny games and made flags using colourful papers. After the long summer break in the month of May the students were back to school in June and were welcomed with *Tilak* and sweets. In the beginning of new academic year, the children enjoyed the activities such as making teddy bear and design on it with colourful finger stamps and embossing colourful shapes on the papers.

GLIMPSES FROM MANKUVA

01



Learning Numbers with activity

02



Learning Shapes

03



Warm Welcome to School

Nilpar

Nakulbhai Bhavsar (E: gssnilpar@rediffmail.com)



GROWING MINDS, STRONG BODIES: In April, students appeared for the Dr. Vikram Sarabhai Institute Scholarship Exam. Yoga and sports activities helped strengthen their physical and mental well-being. Students also welcomed visitors from Rapar School and Gram Swaraj Sangh through cultural programmes, sports and fun activities. A drinking-water cooler was also installed at the school to help children stay hydrated during the summer heat.



FUN PICNICS, LASTING MEMORIES: The Primary School enjoyed a picnic near Nilpar village on 12 March. High School students visited Dholavira on 13 March, exploring Fossil Park, bird watching and the Road Through Heaven. They also visited Ravechi Mataji Temple and enjoyed *Prasad* together.



SHIBIR: LEARN, PRACTISE, GROW: A 5-day Shibir was organised from 13–17 April. Children practised handwriting every day and learned valuable life skills such as washing and folding clothes and organising their wardrobes. They also enjoyed swimming and creative activities including Art & Craft, Clay Work, One-Minute Games, Mehndi and Rangoli.



EXCITING START TO A NEW YEAR: After the summer vacation, the campus came alive with energy and enthusiasm in June. Students returned with renewed excitement for the new academic year. Morning assemblies featured songs, bhajans, storytelling, action songs and physical exercises, while student leaders helped plan upcoming activities.



LEARNING VALUES, BUILDING UNITY: Shri Rameshbhai Sanghvi, a favourite among the children, shared practical experiences from his life and encouraged students to learn from everyday experiences. He also spoke about equality, unity and the importance of respecting all religions.



CLUBS, EXPLORATION & SPIRITUAL DAY: In July, five clubs were formed focusing on Music, Cultural Activities, Arts & Craft, Environment and Science. Students worked together regularly, exploring their interests and developing teamwork skills. On Guru Poornima, students visited Ravechi Mataji Temple and spent a memorable day at the temple campus.

Moments THAT MATTER

— Learning, Fun & Togetherness —



01 Children at Picnic



02 Prasad at the Ravechi Mataji Temple



03 Shibir Session at Ravechi Mataji Temple

Every moment together creates beautiful memories!



A BOOK FOR OUR TIMES

The Good Ancestor

HOW TO THINK LONG TERM IN A SHORT-TERM WORLD

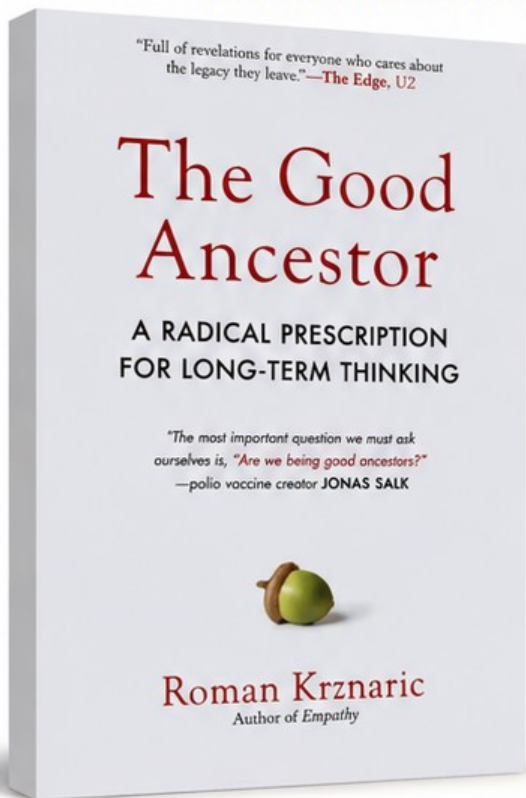
Roman Krznaric

“

“Full of revelations for everyone who cares about the legacy they leave.”

— The Edge, U2

”



A QUESTION FOR OUR TIME:

“

“If people living in 2126 could look back at our time, what would they say about us?”

”



What if someone born 100 years from now could ask you:

“Why did you do that?”

We spend so much of our lives thinking about **today**. The next election. The next profit. The next achievement. The next crisis.

But what about the people who will live in the world we are creating today?

Roman Krznaric’s *The Good Ancestor: How to Think Long Term in a Short-Term World* asks us to make an extraordinary shift in perspective: **Imagine yourself as an ancestor.**

The decisions we make today—about war and peace, the environment, technology, resources, education and society—may shape the lives of people we will never meet.

They cannot vote today.

They cannot speak to our leaders.

They cannot tell us what they need.

Yet **they will inherit our decisions.**

SIX WAYS TO THINK LONG



Future Generations

Deepen our connection with people who are not yet born.



Longer Time Horizons

Create institutions and decisions that can last beyond short-term politics and profits.



Respect & Humility

Accept that we are a small part of a much longer story.



Global Solidarity

Think beyond borders. Today’s problems and solutions are global.



Justice for Tomorrow

Consider fairness not just for people today, but for those who come after us.



Cathedral Thinking

Build, plant, create and invest in what we may never live to see completed.

When countries prepare for war and leaders think only of the next election, we forget the next generation. When immediate gains are valued over lasting wellbeing, someone else eventually pays the price.

***The Good Ancestor* does not ask us to predict the future.**

It asks us to take responsibility for it



MY TAKEAWAY

Perhaps the real measure of a generation is not what it takes from the world - but what it leaves for those who come next.

A thought-provoking book for anyone who cares about children, humanity and the future.

Read it. Question it. And perhaps let it change the way you think about tomorrow.

Shishukunj International School, Bhuj

Tanujbhai Shah (E: shahtanuj@hotmail.com) / Sandhyaben Acharya (E: management@sisbhuj.org)

The year was filled with music, nature, sports, creativity and opportunities to learn beyond the classroom. Shabadshala Mandali introduced students to the joy of folk songs and bhajans, while the annual Ajab Gazab Bazar brought the year's sessions to a lively close in Bhuj.

The school welcomed teachers from Uttarakhand for an exchange of ideas, as well as Pritiben and Banitaben from Kenya, who brought their energy to the Hockey team and English programmes. Grade 4 and 5 students explored the Chhari Dhandh Conservation Area, while senior students took on trekking, rappelling, chimney climbing and obstacle courses at Mount Abu. With support from Mayaben Shah and two friends, a simple and beautiful mud house was built as a resting room for the driver. The WAAH STEM Lab team also visited as the school completed its first year with the new lab facilities. Grade 10 students appeared for their Board exams and, after a brief farewell gathering, set off for the annual Himalayan Trek.

A Fresh Start: The new academic year began in April with renewed enthusiasm. A celebratory feast with children from the Kilol Programme, Kailashnagar marked the beginning, followed by the reopening of the swimming pool, club activities, hands-on learning and evening stays. A new milestone this year: the first batch of Grade 11 Commerce students began their journey!

Two new teachers joined the school along with many energetic young students. The dining hall received new furniture, sports equipment was upgraded, sports halls were freshly painted, and a new parking road was added to ease monsoon conditions. The school also hosted a 3-day residential Shibir for the youth of Kutch.

Growing Together: Teacher training with Shri Tanujbhai Shah encouraged the staff to continue learning and working together. Preparations also began for an upcoming reading festival and a common-book reading initiative.

Students continued to enjoy activities such as Mock-Mela, Van Mahotsav, and the Kilol Programme with children from Kailashnagar and Mankuva. A basic health check-up was also organised for kitchen and campus staff. A field visit to Khamir-Rapar gave students the opportunity to meet local artisans and experience the rich craft traditions of Kutch. From music and nature to sports, crafts, reading and new academic journeys — it was a year of learning, discovery and joyful experiences.

July brought the school's first week-long Reading Festival, with enthusiastic participation from students, teachers and parents. Authors from Bhuj, Kolkata and Bengaluru joined the celebrations and interacted with students throughout the week.



Shishukunj Kilol Programme, Bhuj

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Ahimsa Kendra: They made a painting using oil paints. Every week, the teacher takes all the children for Nature Walk. They learnt to write English alphabet in cursive. They also learnt reading small words in Gujarati. They enjoyed solving puzzles and number names 1 to 100 orally in English.

In the month of June, the teacher visited children's homes to counsel their parents and motivate children to restart and regularize attending Kendra. In the early days, children and teacher jointly worked on cleaning the campus of Kendra so they can sit in a clean place. Some other activities they learnt are to make sparrow out of groundnut shells and to colour it and stamp print of *Bhindi* (Okra) on the plain papers.

Karm Kendra: They made *Tabla* out of coconut shells. They also learnt to make an object of merry-go-round using candy sticks. They learnt to make envelops out of a plain paper.

All the children returned to Kendra in June. The revision of studies was done during first ten days of new term. In Art & Craft, The children learnt to make frog out of waste papers and put the stamp print of *Bhindi* (Okra) on that frog. The children learnt to make best things out of waste. They made a model of truck using waste cardboard boxes.



Truck Made Out Of Waste Boxes



Children with Paper Boat



Painting Activity



Plantation

Karuna Kendra: In the month of February, children learnt to make different types of toys with clay, they also learnt to make aeroplane out of craft paper and paper cups out of chart paper. They organised some creative activities where they learnt making and garnishing salad. They learnt counting numbers with an activity making coloured dots on a paper and counting them.

In Art & Craft, they made the picture of Sunflower using seeds of *Aamli* (tamarind). They made the picture of tree with the stamp print of *Bhindi* (Okra). In the month of June, all the children were back to Kendra and in the beginning of new term they revised the studies. On 5th June they celebrated the World Environ Day and "Tree Plantation". They learnt to cover their books with old newspapers.



OUR SPECIAL MOMENTS

Some guests from London namely Sureshbhai, Smitaben and Jayeshbhai visited the Kilol Kendra in February, Atishbhai and Nitaben visited the Kendra in March. A day picnic was arranged to visit Khengar Park in Bhuj for the children of all Kilol Kendra of Bhuj.



Every Activity Shapes a Better Tomorrow!



Shishukunj Kilol Programme, Kailash Nagar

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In English sessions, students learnt action verbs used in daily life, along with their spelling and Gujarati meanings. In Creative Corner, Priyasha Madam introduced children to art & craft, drawing and collage art. Students explored the difference between violence and non-violence through a mindful newspaper activity—identifying and listing non-violent news.

An engaging activity encouraged children to explore the trees on the school campus. They gathered information about the number of trees, leaves, height, type of tree, fruits, and the birds and insects that inhabit them. A truly interesting and knowledge-enhancing experience!

In March, students learnt about the history and evolution of computers and practised using laptops and MS Office. Bhavesh Sir guided students through cricket, basketball and hockey, making sports sessions energetic and enjoyable. Jayraj Sir trained the children in wall climbing with rope support.

In April, swimming kits were distributed among the children by Premkuvar Ben, in collaboration with Shishukunj Foundation. The children enthusiastically enjoyed swimming and learnt essential techniques such as bubbling, kicking and breathing. The boys and girls enjoyed indoor cricket, with girls proudly taking on the role of captains for both teams.



The Kilol students also attended a **4-day Shibir at Nilpar**, filled with activities designed to build confidence, discipline, teamwork and personality.

Shishukunj Kilol Programme, Canning (West Bengal)

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The Kilol Programme thinks and works upon overall growth and development of deprived children. Here children Learn with Fun the subjects such as Mathematics, Language, Moral values, Dance, Music, Singing, Yoga, Prayer and storytelling etc.

The Montessori kits are used for learning numbers, addition, subtraction in Mathematics as well as alphabet and words in language. The Kilol students enjoy such activities. Here, children learn about different shapes and numbers using Montessori kits. They also learn about names of different fruits and vegetables. They enjoy drawing and painting as well as some indoor & outdoor games activities. They learn to identify different birds and animals around them with the help of pictures in the charts.



A Journey of Learning and Fun at Shishukunj Canning (West Bengal)

Shishukunj International Foundation (SIF)

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PLANTATION INITIATIVE



Shishukunj's Paryavaran Pravrutti (Environmental Initiative) is one of the key activities undertaken by Shishukunj globally. With a vision to create a greener and healthier future. As part of this initiative, more than 1,700 saplings have been planted this year, with an overall goal of planting around 7,000 saplings. Over the past two years, approximately 3,400 saplings have already been planted in and around the Shishukunj School Campus, Bhuj, and the Vidyakunj Campus, Bhuj.



Melbourne

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The first half of 2026 has been a busy and enjoyable period for Shishukunj Melbourne, with a range of activities bringing together our children, parents and karyakars. We began the year with Mata Pita Poojan, giving our children an opportunity to show their love, respect and gratitude towards their parents. It was a meaningful way to start the year and reinforce the values that Shishukunj aims to develop within our children. This was followed by our **Sports Day with Parents**, where children, parents and karyakars came together for a fun and energetic day. The activities encouraged teamwork, participation and healthy competition, while also allowing families to enjoy the Shishukunj experience together.



We then held our Parents Meeting, providing an opportunity to connect with parents, share updates on the progress of the year and discuss the activities and direction of Shishukunj.



Our karyakars also had the opportunity to attend a Karyakars-Only Excursion Camp. The camp allowed the team to spend time together outside the regular Shishukunj environment, strengthen relationships, build teamwork and create some memorable experiences.



Finally, we concluded this period with our Painting Competition, welcoming participants back for a creative and colourful event. The competition gave children, parents and karyakars an opportunity to showcase their creativity and artistic skills while enjoying a relaxed and engaging day together.



Overall, January to July 2026 has been filled with values, family involvement, teamwork, creativity and community spirit. We look forward to carrying this momentum into the remainder of the year and creating many more memorable experiences together.



Activity Day with Parents



Fun with painting



Karyakar's outing





BAAL DEVO BHAVA

Shishukunj

LET EVERY BUD BLOOM



EUROPE

London

www.shishukunj.org.uk

(E: secretary@shishukunj.org.uk)

Over the past few months, Shishukunj London has once again been full of energy, learning, sewa and togetherness. As another Kendra year came to a close, our baalako continued to grow through a wonderful mix of cultural, developmental and community experiences — building friendships, discovering new strengths and creating memories along the way.



**KENDRA:
LEARNING & SEWA
IN ACTION**

Baal Kendra, explored Indian culture, stories and values through music, dance and engaging activities.

Sewa at the heart—visits to care homes, Hare Krishna Mandir and support to a local food bank.

Ramat Gamat bilt teamwork, confidance and game skills.

Yuvak Kendra baalako took on leadership through projects like Roots and Routes, woodland conversation sewa and planning sessions for younger baalako.



**TALIM INITIATION
WEEKEND**

From 15th-17th May, Vallabh Gooch Baalako came together to develop skills for leadership and life.

Sessions on Public speaking communication, logistics, managing younger baalako and spiritual health.

Planned and presented their own hypothetical Joint Kendra Day!

Ramat Gamat, Kho Kho session, bonfires, games & Capture the Flag— and lots of bonding!



**JOINT KENDRA
DAYS: CELEBRATING
TOGETHER**

Spring Joint Kendra Day (29 Mar): Holi celebrations full of colour, culture and creativity.

Summer Joint Kendra Day (5 Jul): Sports Day+Family BBQ picninc.

Mill Hill & Harrow came together for a day of Ramat Gamat, friendly competition and community spirit.



**SHISHU SHIBIR
2026**

Held on 11th-12th July with 80 baalako.

Theme: **“From a Seed to a Tree: Think it, Build it, Grow it!”**

Packed schedule of creative activities, challenges, Ramat Gamat, prarthna and classic Shishukunj shibir experiences.

All 80 places filled within just three days!



NEXT STOP: JEEVAN GHADTAR SHIBIR 2026!

THEME:

PRISON BREAK



Over the August Bank Holiday weekend



Four days of challenges, teamwork, creativity and unforgettable memories.



More than 80 baalako already signed up



“ We are incredibly proud of everything our baalako have achieved and grateful to all the **bhaio,beno, parents and volunteers** whose sewa makes these experiences possible.

Here's to another year of



LEARNING



FRIENDSHIP



SEWA



GROWING
TOGETHER!

THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF THE SHISHUKUNJ JOURNEY!



Chaitanya Charitable Trust, Jamnagar

Hiteshbhai Panya

(E: chaitanyatrust1996@gmail.com)

The Mother Earth provides us with protection and security. We can express our gratitude by taking care of Mother Earth in return. We should take steps to save environment by growing more and more trees and conservation of forests and wildlife. The members of Chaitanya Charitable Trust, Jamnagar organised a Tree Plantation Programme with the support and co-operation of Vigyan Gurjari, Nand Vidyaniketan and Jamnagar Municipality in April. They also organised Raincoat Distribution Programme for 200 underprivileged children.



Dhanvantri School, Bhuj

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Dhanvantri School is dedicated to the education and overall development of children with **Hearing Impairment, Intellectual Disability, Autism and Cerebral Palsy.**

FUNFAIR – FEBRUARY



The school organised a Funfair in February, inaugurated by **Shri Vinodbhai Gala, Reshmaben Zaveri and Artiba Jadeja.** Nilamben and Gitaben also graced the occasion.

Yoga Day at Dhanvantri School inspired children towards better physical, mental and emotional well-being.

Yoga with the help of teachers for special children.



SEMINAR FOR PARENTS & TEACHERS – APRIL

A special seminar was organised for parents and teachers of children with disabilities.

- Trustees **Nilamben and Artiba Jadeja** were present.
- Experts **Shree Dhyaneshwar Sawant** and **Dr. Ravi Prakash Singh** shared valuable insights.
- **Ms. Anusha Sampath**, Assistant Professor, conducted online sessions.
- Topics included **Legal Provisions & Policies, Resources & Assistive Aids, and Teaching Strategies & Practices.**



On the first day of new academic term the school organised a seminar and training for the Hearing Impaired children and their teachers. The training covered the topics like Sign Language, Fundamentals of Indian Sign Language and Basic Communication.

The school celebrated *Guru Purnima* and all the teachers and students performed *pooja* of Dr Shantu Ben Patel, the founder of this institute. Harsh - a hearing impaired student participated state level chess championship tournament and won the title. The vocational training section of Dhanvantri School help the students making festival related art creation and held an exhibition cum sale for all items. The children get motivation with this efforts.



Shishukunj Residential School Bagasara

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Children wrote stories like “Abhimani Kagdo” (The Arrogant Crow) and “Chatur Kachbo” (The Clever Tortoise) using given clues. Teachers shared the life stories of Lord Krishna and Swami Vivekanand, followed by discussions with the children. Children practised Yogasanas with the guidance of Sangitaben, a yoga teacher.



Learning through Stories & Creativity



Yogasanas for a Healthy Body & Mind



A rally was organised to spread awareness about cancer on World Cancer Day. International Women's Day was celebrated on 8th March. A General Knowledge Quiz was conducted to enhance learning. Children enjoyed various indoor games and one-minute activities with great enthusiasm.



Students and teachers of Dr. Kalam School, Amreli district, visited Shishukunj Bagasara. Children learnt about the use of modern technology, including Google Pay for online payments and AI for creativity. In Art & Craft, they made caps and hand fans from old newspapers and created beautiful bouquets using craft paper.



A meeting was held with hostel children to plan the new term and distribute responsibilities among teams. A cleanliness drive was conducted across the hostel campus.

The first week included revision of reading, writing, small words and the English alphabet. Children participated in balancing games, kho-kho, drawing, colouring and storytelling. In July, a quiz competition on Indian States, Union Territories and their capitals was organised.



Quiz Time – Knowledge is Power!

Every Activity, Every Moment –
Building a Better Future!



Saheli Gramya Vikas Sansthan Trust

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In the month of February, the school held a creativity fair for mud work. On 28th March, Yoga session was organized for the school and all the children practiced different variants of Yoga. A team of Yoga instructors had arrived from Porbandar and they guided the children practicing Yoga and informed the benefits of Yoga.

On the day of Annual Results declaration, The Principal Jaybhai and the team of teachers had created the positive environment to motivate the children to do better next time than whatever results they could achieve in previous exams. The best achievers were awarded Gold Medal to 1st ranker, Silver Medal to 2nd ranker and Bronze Medal to 3rd ranker.

A small function was organised on 21st June. *Guru vandana* is an Indian tradition since ancient time. The school celebrated *Guru poornima* and performed *Poojan* to all the *Gurus* with chanting of Sanskrit shlokas, prayers and poems on *Gurus' Mahima*.

Learning. Respect. Well-being.

Activities that nurture body, mind and values.



Mud Work

Hands that create, minds that imagine.

Children explored their creativity and patience through mud work.



Guru Vandana

A beautiful expression of gratitude and respect towards our gurus.

It inspires humility and strengthens our values.

Yoga Day

Stretching the body, calming the mind, energising the spirit.

Our children embraced well-being through the joy of Yoga.



Mango Global Preschool (Bhuj)

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The school celebrated its Annual Function in February, featuring performances by students, teachers and mothers. UKG students were honoured with mementos for their outstanding achievements.

In April, the learning theme "My Self" helped children explore their identity, body parts, feelings, likes and dislikes. They enjoyed sensory activities, nature walks and hands-on learning in the Montessori Lab, developing concentration, creativity and problem-solving skills.

Annual Function



Annual Function

A celebration of talents, creativity and confidence. Our little stars lit up the stage with joy and enthusiasm!

Children also learned practical life skills such as peeling oranges, scooping watermelon, curd making, sprouting and brushing teeth. The Jain Jagruti Centre – Ladies Wing conducted a bird-care awareness activity, teaching children kindness and responsibility towards nature and birds.

Montessori Kit

Hands-on learning that builds focus, independence and problem-solving skills.



Fruit Cutting

Learning life skills in a fun and safe way. Encouraging independence and healthy habits!



The school celebrated World Earth Day and World Book Day through environmental awareness, storytelling and reading activities. An exciting Art Mela encouraged children to express their creativity through colourful art and craft activities.



VIDEO STORIES



[Welcome Video of
Shishukunj
An Experience Event](#)



[Celebrating Birthdays
in Shishukunj](#)



[Shish-Sunday at
Shishukunj
Melbourne](#)

A Thought for Tomorrow

One day, today's children will inherit the world
we are shaping now.

They will inherit the borders we defend,
the prejudices we tolerate,
the conflicts we choose to continue -
but also the kindness we practise,
the bridges we build,
and the peace we choose.

.....♥.....
Let us give them a world where differences are
celebrated,
where dialogue is stronger than hatred,
where compassion crosses every border,
and where no child has to learn the meaning of
war.

.....♥.....
Because ultimately, peace is not a gift we give to the
world.

Where Next?

We always welcome any feedback, thoughts from all readers of this newsletter – it inspires us to write the next issue knowing someone values the effort put in and supports in improving our newsletter. Your centre's activities, personal stories, photos would make the next issue more colourful and interesting to read.



Any comments, please drop us an email at "admin@shishukunj.net".
To remain updated with activities of Shishukunj, please visit shishukunj.net.

*It is a legacy
we leave to our children.*



BAAL DEVO BHAVA
LET EVERY BUD BLOOM