



News by the Explorers @ UnSchool

Week 38, September 15, 2022

Teacher's Day at UnSchool

By Sagarika Iyer (Age 8 Years)



A week before the 5th of September, we heard our teacher's discussing how the day should be. They were planning something. When we went and asked them, they said 5th September is supposed to be Techer's Day. A day to celebrate the teacher's in your life. On asking and later researching I found that it was an important day because it was the birthday of one of the greatest teacher's in India, Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. Born on 5 September 1888 Dr Radhakrishnan was an Indian philosopher and politician. He also served as the and 1st Vice President of India from 1952 to 1962 and the 2nd President of India from 1962 to 1967. He was a teacher of philosophy. When he became the President of India, some of his students and friends requested him to allow them to celebrate his birthday, on 5 September. He replied, "instead of celebrating my birthday, it would be my proud privilege if September 5th is observed as "Teacher's Day", from then on in India this day is a special occasion.

At school we all dressed up like our favourite teachers and then took care of the younger classes. Some of us also taught the teachers and it was fun to see the teachers behave like us, making noise and disturbing us. It

was that time we realized how difficult it would be to teach us when we behave like an unruly bunch of kids. That day after reaching home I realized what an important yet difficult job all my teachers were doing. While we love to have fun in school, on thought came to my mind. Is it worth troubling those who are taking so much trouble for us to become better people? With that thought I went to school the next day and tried my best to be mindful not be disturbing during my classes. I love all my teachers and I am thankful that they are there to guide me in my life. Happy Teacher's Day.

What skills do 21st century teachers need?

By Rashmi Walimbe

What does a 21st-century teacher look like to you? When it comes to the skills that a teacher should acquire, critical thinking, problem solving, communication, cooperation, creativity, leadership are among the top-ranked.

Here are six more key characteristics of a 21st-century educator.



They're Adaptive

Being a teacher in today's world means that you have to adapt to the ever-changing tools and changes that are being implemented in the schools. Smartboards are replacing chalkboards and tablets are replacing textbooks and a 21st-century teacher needs to be okay with that.

Lifelong Learners

Today's educators don't just expect their students to be a lifelong learner, but they also continue their learning along with them. They stay up-to-date with current trends and technology and know-how so as to tweak their old lesson plans to make them more relevant.

Are Tech Savvy

Rapid technology changes insist that a 21st-century be up to date whether it's for lessons or grading.

An effective teacher knows that learning about the latest gadget can truly transform their students' education, so they are not just current on the new trends, but really know how to master them.

Know How to Collaborate

An effective 21st-century educator must be able to collaborate and work well within a team. Learning is deemed to be more effective when you can share your ideas and knowledge with others.

Sharing your expertise and experience, and communicating and learning from others is an important part of the learning and teaching process.

Are Forward Thinking

A 21st-century educator thinks about their students' future and is aware of the career opportunities that may arise from them. They are always planning to ensure that no child is left behind and thus focus on preparing them for the future.

Are Advocates for the Profession



A 21st-century teacher takes a stand for themselves and their profession. They pay close attention to what is going on in education and they address these issues head-on. Today's classrooms are filled with children who need someone to look out for them, give them advice, encouragement, and a listening ear.

Effective teachers share their knowledge and expertise and act as a role model for their students.

A Field Trip to Kesari Wada

By Shlok Ranawade (Age 12 Years)

Recently our school had gone for a field trip to Kesari Wada. Located in Narayan Peth, Pune the Kesari Wada is one of the iconic locations in the city. It was the residence of the great freedom fighter, Lokmanya Bal Ganagadgar Tilak. Lokmanya started the

first marathi newpaper "Kesari" from this very premises. The wada has been named after the newspaper published. Lokmanya Tilak made a press in Kesari Wada which printed Kesari

newspapers (which is still working and

printing new Kesari newspapers), before that it was known as Gaikwad Wada because it was built by Gaikwad Sarkar and it was the residence of Sayajirao Gaikwad the prince of Baroda and he gifted the Wada to Lokmanya Tilak.

Lokmanya Tilak also laid the foundation of a large-scale Ganesh Festival here.

Today's Kesari Wada is like a museum which has Lokmanya Tilak's belongings like letters, documents, pictures etc. There is a room, which is an exact replica of the room



he was kept after getting arrested by the Britishers. On every Ganesh festival the Wada is decorated and the festival is celebrated with great frevour.





Tête-à-Tête

By Himani Bhaktani (Age 13 years) and Aniruddha Iyer (Age 10 years)

On the occasion of Teacher's day students of UnSchool spoke to the founder and tried to understand the journey of the school until now. In a free-wheeling conversation Sanket Baraley told them about his journey and explained the philosophy behind his mission. Here are some excerpts:

Why did you start unschool?

When my son, Reyansh was 2 and half years old I was looking for a school to put him in. My problem with other schools is that they are focused on kids learning a certain set of skills, instead of becoming independent and creative thinkers. This is the prime reason why I wanted to start something on my own. Schools teach specific things they won't teach you how to adapt to the times. I did not find anything like what i wanted in the market, and hence I thought why not start it on my own and thus the idea of UnSchool was born.

What is the mission of UnSchool?

The mission of UnSchool is to help kids think differently, be creative and become great problem solvers.

How did you start UnSchool?

First, I got a small place. It was the size of one of the floors. I bought Montessori equipment. But when I began to work, I had an office and other responsibilities which distracted me. So, I thought of hiring some people and got a bigger place. That's how it started. That time i thought why not get a bigger place and thus this place came into existence. It was a vacant building. We used to study on the floor. I got carpenters to build it up, and spent a lot of money on it.



How did people react to the school when you first started it and told them about it?

I began by approaching homeschoolers.

There are a lot of homeschoolers in Pune. Homeschoolers began to come. We did not know what to do. We used to focus on activities. For almost a couple of days it was all informal.

The structure of the school was also different from what it is now. We focused on games.

The current kitchen was the office and the library was on the 4th floor.

Do you think UnSchool will develop this way, how did the non-homeschoolers react?

I started the school because I did not want my son to go to a regular school, so my idea was not to focus on how it developed but to find a space for my son to learn along with other like-minded children.

But today I am happy with the way it is developing.

The non-homeschoolers began to come here slowly.

Everybody who comes here, comes because they find value in this place, some stay, some go.

For everyone who is coming here, this school is solving some problems for them.



A trip to a treasure trove of knowledge: BORI

By Aniruddha Iyer (Age 10 Years)

Our school took us for a field trip to the 105-year-old "The Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute" BORI in the month of August. The institute is located on Law College Road in the heart of Pune. Founded on 6 July 1917 the institute gets its name after 'Ramakrishna Gopal Bhandarkar' who is also regarded as the founder of Indology in India.

Born, 6 July 1837 Sir Ramakrishna Gopal Bhandarkar KCIE was an Indian scholar, orientalist, and social reformer. He died, 24 August 1925 at a ripe age of 88.

The institute is spread on a beautiful plot with beautiful buildings, built in the Indo-Islamic style of architecture. The original hall at the institute was donated by the Tatas in 1917. The institute is well known for its collection of old Sanskrit and Prakrit manuscripts.

During the orientation we were told about the work that the institute does. It is one of prime institutes that is working hard to preserve the culture and heritage of India. The staff is well-versed in their subjects and walking around the institute made us all feel as if we were going back into the past.

The institute houses the largest collections of rare books and manuscripts spanning over 1,25,000 books and over 28,000 manuscripts collected over a period of 90 years covering almost all aspect of Orientology. This collection covers many languages and scripts such as Sanskrit, Prakrit, Indian regional languages, Classical, ASEAN and European languages.

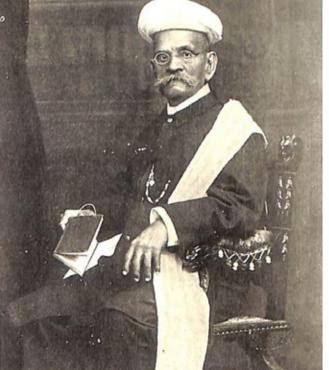
In addition, through the pursuits of its research projects in the Mahabharata and Prakrit Languages it has created invaluable reference archives. Walk around the institute took us to an amazing amphitheater which also has one of the oldest banayan trees.

At the library we also saw how the staff uses chemicals to treat old books and manuscripts to keep them in a readable format. It was fascinating to see them work with brushes and chemicals. Our teachers also told us that similar work is done by another institute named "Archeological Survey Of India" which takes care of old heritage buildings.

We came out of the institute feeling enriched with so much information that for the whole day we were speaking about it. Some of us even said that they would grow up and become members of the institute and work for it.

This field trip surely has left a long lasting mark on all our memories.





रामकृष्ण गोपाळ भांडारकर



Importance of teachers in our lives

By Students of UnSchool

As Albert Einstein says "It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge." As per definition, a teacher is a person who helps students to acquire knowledge, competence or virtue. Informally, the role of teacher may be taken on by anyone. Life itself is the biggest teacher one could ask for. But during student life we also have a bunch of people who touch our lives so deeply that it leaves a mark of a lifetime.

We have some amazing teachers at UnSchool. We are really blessed to have them, as they not only teach us the things that we need to learn most in order to live a successful life, but they also help us understand the logic and thus the importance of learning different skills.

Teachers are the ones who shape our personalities and future. At UnSchool we have a unique way of learning. We learn the usual subjects like Languages, Maths and Science, but even this is taught to us in a very practical way. We do experiments and make games around certain topics. We are given freedom to discuss and debate about anything we wish to. Our teachers also help us with interesting facts every now and then

and also show us educational videos to add to our information.

Apart from the regular classes, we also have fun subjects like Robotics and Doll Making. We also learn martial arts, skating, cooking, laser cutting and 3D printing at school. It is one of the best places for our creative juices to flow. Even without realising, just being with our teachers is helping us grow into fine human beings.

On this teacher's day we would all like to thank each and everyone of our fabulous teachers for everything that they are doing.

Some quotes by famous people about Teachers

"A good teacher is like a candle – it consumes itself to light the way for others." –Mustafa Kemal Ataturk

"If you have to put someone on a pedestal, put teachers. They are society's heroes. -Guy Kawasaki

"When you study great teachers... you will learn much more from their caring and hard work than from their style." -William Glasser

"Teachers can change lives with just the right mix of chalk and challenges." -Joyce Meyer

"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge." -Albert Einstein

"Let us remember: One book, one pen, one child, and one teacher can change the world." -Malala Yousafzai

"A good teacher can inspire hope, ignite the imagination, and instill a love of learning." -Brad Henry

"Technology is just a tool. In terms of getting the kids working together and motivating them, the teacher is the most important." –Bill Gates

"The dream begins with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and pushes and leads you to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called 'truth'." –Dan Rather



KIDS CORNER (A world of Puzzles, Jokes, Quizzes and much more..)

WORD SEARCH

By Archit Korke (Age 10 Years)

Find the following words

TEACHER, SCHOOL, BOOK, STUDENT, MATHS, ENGLISH, SCIENCE

Α	D	Н	Н	T	Н	Т	Н	Е
W	Α	Т	В	L	Е	М	Т	С
Q	Т	0	С	Α	Т	N	R	N
F	0	0	С	S	Е	S	D	Е
К	F	Н	G	D	R	W	Т	ı
W	Е	Q	U	Е	I	0	Р	С
R	Q	Т	W	М	Α	Т	Н	S
R	s	R	Т	Q	ΥI	D	G	Т
Н	s	1	L	G	N	Е	Т	s
W	s	С	Н	0	0	L	s	R
Z	D	L	1	Е	R	Т	Р	0

QUIZ FOR TEACHER'S DAY

By Obaid Alizai (Age 10 Years)

- 1) Since when is India celebrating teacher's day?
- a. 1962 b. 1972 c. 1965 d. 1975

2) How did teachers day originate?

- a. Birthday of Jawaharlal Nehru
- b. Birthday of Indira Gandhi
- c. Birthday of Dr Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan
- d. None of the above
- 3) Who said that teaching is not a profession but a way of life?
- a. Dr Radhakrishnan
- b. Swami Vivekananda
- c. Gulzarilal Nanda
- d. Narendra Modi

4) In which subject did Dr. Radhakrishnan did his post graduation?

a. Science b. Sociology c. History d. Philosophy

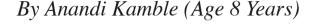




Drawings by our little artists

Teacher's day cards

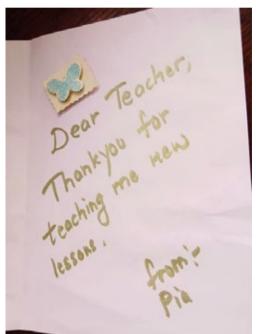
By Aarvi Zope and Pia Suri (Age 9 Years, Age 8 Years)















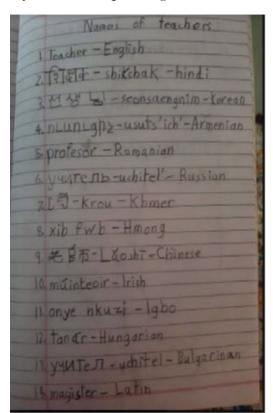
Reindeer

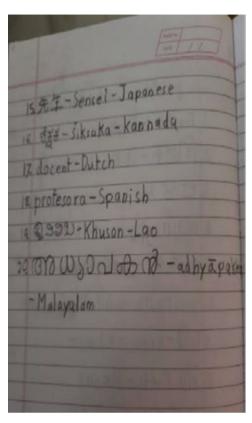
By Samaira Pradhan (Age 8 Years)

Reindeers are also called as Caribou in North America. It is a type of deer found in Artic and Tundra region. They are usually found in areas with cold weather. Male reindeers are called bulls and female are called cows. Their horns are shed every year and are called Antlers. The legend says that Santa Claus sleigh was pulled in the night sky by a reindeer. Santa used a reindeer to deliver gifts during night.

The word TEACHER in different languages

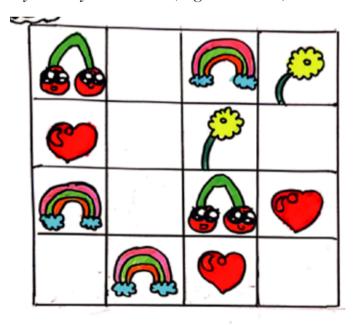
By Aarvi Zope (Age 9 Years)





Picture SudoKu

By Tanaya Jadhav (Age 8 Years)





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