

SEEDS OF SYNERGY

September at NalandaWay

Our Kanne mucche project is setting the stage for the expanding holistic education for children in Karnataka.



The Apollo Schools Project brings an art-based curriculum to Gautampuri, marking new beginnings.



Art Vandi on the move! Zentangle Art in Krishnagiri.



Dear NalandaWay Community,

What can one say about September? It has been a month of subtle revolutions, where stories unravelled in classrooms, whispers of change drifted through school corridors, and the air buzzed with possibility. In these spaces, amid the hum of daily life, children discovered their voices, and we at NalandaWay witnessed the extraordinary resilience of young minds blossoming in unexpected ways.

A major highlight this month is the Kanna Mucche project in Karnataka, where our partnership with the state government signals a meaningful expansion in our reach.

The Delhi Children's Choir sang through the rain, their voices cutting through the clouds like silver threads of possibility. In their songs, there is no pretension, no grandeur – just the simple truth that when children sing, the world tilts a little more towards the light.

Within these pages, you will find stories of children like Hemasree and Abinaya, whose lives have begun to change, not through grand gestures, but through small, steady acts of kindness and care.

Dive in and see for yourself the impact we are making – one project, one story at a time.



Warm regards,
The NalandaWay Team

Foundational Learning IV & V: Bridging the Gap

Thanks to the generous support of our donors, Cholamandalam and Michelin Tyres, our initiative is transforming classrooms in resource-limited settings.

Baseline Survey: Insights into Learning Levels

In mid-July, we conducted a comprehensive baseline survey across 19 schools in Tiruvallur and Chennai, involving 725 students from Standards IV and V. Using the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) tool, we assessed English and Mathematics proficiency, identifying levels from beginner to advanced. Our Teaching Assistants administered these assessments one-on-one, providing valuable data on learning gaps.

Student Voices: Focus Group Discussions

Our Research and Impact team facilitated focus group discussions with students to gather insights about their learning experiences. Their feedback will shape future strategies, ensuring we maintain engagement and foster positive learning environments.

Mentoring Visits: Ground-Level Insights

Throughout September, our team conducted weekly mentoring visits to schools, observing classes and providing constructive feedback. We were thrilled to witness high engagement levels among students, with active participation in lessons.



Effective classroom management



Support system for students



Headmaster - Teacher collaboration on TAs performance

Apollo Schools Project: New Beginnings in Delhi

In September, NalandaWay Foundation, in collaboration with Apollo Indraprastha Hospitals, launched an exciting new initiative at two MCD schools in Gautampuri, South Delhi. With the approval of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, activities began at MCD Primary Girls School (morning session) and MCD Primary Boys School (evening session), running from August 2024 to March 2025.



Art and Social-Emotional Development Curriculum

The project introduces a structured curriculum that blends art education with social-emotional development. Pre-primary and primary students will engage in 10-12 creative sessions each month, exploring theatre, dance, music, and visual arts. The students are enthusiastic about each session, eager to expand their skills and express themselves creatively.

Baseline Survey

A baseline assessment for grades 1 to 5 at MCD Primary Boys School is helping to identify learning needs and track progress. Building relationships with the students is a core focus as the programme moves forward.

Schools Involved:
2
MCD schools

Sessions per Month:
10-12



➤ **Social and Emotional Learning: Building Healthy Identities**

Our Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) sessions are instrumental in helping students develop healthy identities and manage their emotions. By focusing on self-awareness, students identify their personal qualities, stressors, and aspirations, fostering a supportive classroom community.

➤ **Engaging Assessments: Formative Assessments in Action**

In September, we implemented formative assessments that combined activity-based (Fa(A)) and content-based (Fa(B)) evaluations. Students thrived in this hands-on format, applying critical thinking and creativity alongside traditional learning.

➤ **Volunteer Engagement: Michelin's Impact**

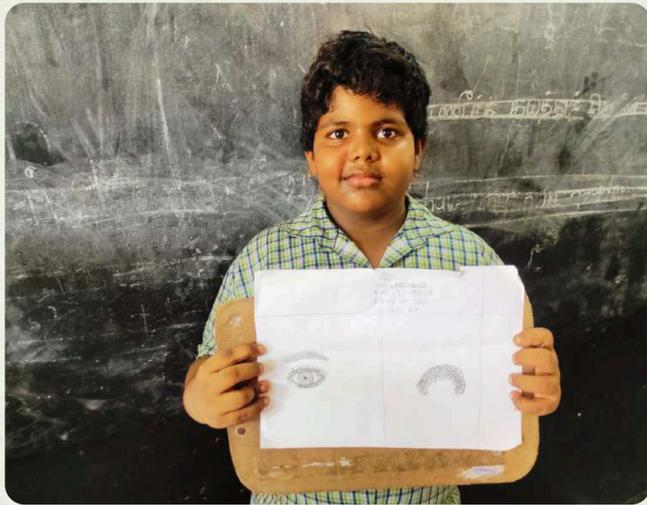
Twelve volunteers from Michelin Tyres joined the NalandaWay team for a volunteering programme at Panchayat Union Primary Schools in Thandalam and Palavakkam. They conducted engaging sessions on Health and Hygiene and Social Emotional Learning, energising both students and staff, and creating a lively atmosphere that enriched the learning experience.

Baseline Survey
Participants

725
students

Schools Involved

19



Michelin Stories from the Field

Student Spotlight: Hemasree

Grade: 5th

School: PUPS Kollanur

Hemasree is a quiet fifth grader at PUPS Kollanur who initially struggled to engage with her peers and the learning environment. Often ill-prepared for class, she rarely paid attention to the facilitator's instructions. However, during a recent activity, she began to write as soon as prompted, albeit at a slow pace.

The facilitator noticed Hemasree's reluctance to share personal details but gradually earned her trust through engaging games and activities. During one session, Hemasree opened up about her difficult home life, revealing, "My mother has been in prison for the last four years due to family issues, so no one likes me. Students don't talk to me, and the teachers constantly reprimand me. I don't like to go to school or talk to people."



Recognising her need for support, the facilitator offered practical advice on improving her appearance, encouraging her to wash and properly fold her clothes. After a few days, Hemasree began coming to school in clean attire. The facilitator also guided her in styling her hair, promoting a sense of pride in her appearance.

While Hemasree was slow to engage initially, her interest in various Social Emotional Learning (SEL) activities grew, indicating a positive shift in her outlook. Though not entirely transformed, she has shown signs of progress, embracing opportunities for change.

Art Vandī: Zentangle Art for Community Unity

In Sauloor village, Krishnagiri district, the Art Vandī team conducted a two-day community engagement programme, bringing together 38 children to explore the relaxing and creative world of Zentangle art. This meditative practice focused on intricate patterns and helped foster unity among the children while encouraging self-expression.

On the second day, even more participants joined in, eager to draw and colour their favourite designs. The children learned the basics of Zentangle, experimenting with dots, lines, curves, and circles to create unique, calming artwork. The programme offered a fun, new art form while promoting creativity and relaxation.

➤ **Field Notes: Children's Reflections**

Many participants were government school children who rarely experience such hands-on art education. A 6th-grade student shared her thoughts:

“In our school, academic subjects are the only focus. Even our art class has been repurposed for Maths and other subjects. Through this programme, I learned about pattern art and discovered a new way to explore many patterns within myself. Thanks to Art Vandī for helping us learn new things!”



UNICEF - Take it Eazy for Teachers (Teacher Well-being Course)

➤ **Video Creation Completed by Bytesor**

Our tech partner, Bytesor, has successfully finished creating all the videos for Module 1 of the Teacher Well-being Course. Voiceovers were recorded using the translated script provided by Brama Nathan, and the NalandaWay team conducted a thorough review. Feedback has been given, and the final video edits are scheduled for completion by September 30th.

➤ **Expert Insights: TISS Reviews Content for Teacher Well-being Course!**

To ensure quality and relevance, the NalandaWay team has enlisted the expertise of Dr. Chetna from SIMHA (School Initiatives for Mental Health Advocacy), a project of Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS). Dr. Chetna will review the sample module and provide valuable feedback on the content designed for adult learners, ensuring it meets the highest educational standards.



Student Spotlight: S Abinaya
Grade: 4th
School: PUPS Kollanur

Abinaya, a fourth grader at PUPS School Palavakkam, faced emotional challenges that impacted her classroom experience. During a lesson, she began to cry, drawing the facilitator's attention. When asked about her tears, Abinaya was hesitant to respond and sat alone, distant from her classmates.

The following day, Abinaya continued to struggle, prompting the facilitator to gently inquire about her feelings. She revealed that a skin condition she had since birth made her the target of teasing from her peers. The emotional toll of isolation weighed heavily on her, and she expressed her deep regret about missing out on the joy of school.

Understanding the impact of bullying on Abinaya's education, the facilitator took action. She gathered all the fourth graders into a circle and led a SEL activity focused on friendship and empathy. Through the activity, the facilitator emphasised, "It's wrong to tease Abinaya; it hurts her. Remember, it's not a contagious disease, and you can sit next to her without fear."

The activity opened the students' eyes to their behaviour, leading them to apologise to Abinaya for their actions. Since then, Abinaya has become more engaged, actively participating in class and forging connections with her peers, marking a significant turnaround in her school experience.



Well-being of Children Using a Whole School Approach (HCL Wellbeing): For Competent Futures

We are thrilled to launch our Holistic Wellbeing Programme, aimed at empowering 3,000 children aged 11–15 across 5 schools in Chennai through art, storytelling, and musical theatre. This initiative will develop essential life skills and social-emotional competencies, fostering hope and kindness in a nurturing school environment.

- ▶ **Capacity Building of Wellbeing Facilitators:**
Five skilled facilitators were onboarded and underwent intensive three-day training to integrate arts with wellbeing and create safe, child-friendly spaces.
- ▶ **Rapport Session on Compassion:**
An engaging session with 9th-grade students in Avadi focused on compassion, receiving positive feedback and enhancing student engagement.
- ▶ **School Visits and Material Distribution:**
Our team visited all five schools to introduce facilitators and discuss student backgrounds. At GGHSS Kamaraj Nagar, we distributed art materials for upcoming sessions, laying a solid foundation for our partnership.



Research & Impact: Sustainable Educational Reforms

- ▶ **NalandaWay's R&I Team Presents on Resilience and AI at FLAME Univ Symposium**
The Research and Impact (R&I) team recently participated in a symposium hosted by Leadership for Equity at FLAME University, Pune. This event aimed to foster dialogue around sustainable and scalable educational reforms that ensure equity and prepare learners for the challenges of the 21st century. Experts from government and civil society organisations shared their experiences on foundational learning, 21st-century skill development, teacher education, and enhancing bureaucratic capacity and governance.
- ▶ **AI and the Future of Learning**
A key theme of the symposium was the evolution of education systems, particularly with the increased use of technologies such as AI. In this context, the R&I team presented Beyond Academics: Project Sakhi's Approach to Building Resilience and Self-Esteem, highlighting the positive impact of Project Sakhi on adolescent girls. The project has successfully fostered resilience, improved self-esteem, and enhanced well-being by helping the girls develop adaptive coping strategies. We utilised quantitative tools such as the Brief Resilience Scale, Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale, and Multidimensional Adolescent Coping Scale, offering attendees a unique perspective on measuring resilience and self-esteem.
- ▶ **Building Community and Confidence**
Qualitative insights revealed that the intervention significantly strengthened community ties and sisterhood among the girls. It increased their sense of responsibility toward themselves and their surroundings, enhancing their participation in school co-curricular activities. Additionally, the programme cultivated essential leadership skills, resulting in notable improvements in their emotional expression.
- ▶ **Recommendations for Change**
We concluded our presentation with strategic recommendations for broader implementation, including:

Addressing systemic gaps in educational frameworks

Involving parents to build strong support systems

Scaling and replicating successful models in other regions

Demystifying the tutor-student hierarchy to foster collaboration

Collaborating with students to better understand their needs



3000
Students targeted

5
Schools involved

5
Well-being facilitators trained



Youth Co-Production for Sustainable Engagement and Empowerment in health (YiPEE)

- Together Action Board (TAB) Unites Communities**
 The YiPEE team successfully conducted TAB orientations in 15 schools, bringing together 3-4 parents, 4-6 students, and 3-4 teachers per school. This diverse group focuses on fostering unity and collective well-being through action-oriented initiatives for the academic year.
- "Every Weather Belongs" Classroom Intervention Launched**
 The new programme began with an icebreaker, guided discussions on emotions, and a reflective segment. Students engaged deeply, learning empathy and emotional awareness.
- Self-Care for Teachers: Weekly Audio Bytes**
 Teachers received weekly audio messages via WhatsApp, encouraging self-care and reflection. Many reported feeling rejuvenated and more connected to themselves.



15

Schools in TAB initiative

3-4
Parents

4-6
Students

Per TAB team

3-4
Teachers



Wellbeing and Skilling of Children in Child Care Institutions: Art-integrated Sessions

This September, we launched Art Integrated Wellbeing Sessions alongside Functional English and Financial Literacy workshops across 34 children's homes, fostering growth and commitment among the children.



"The sessions are interesting and are boosting my confidence. In addition to this, I've interacted with friends and the NW facilitator, which has brought me happiness."
 - Meera (name changed)

An officer from the DCPO noted, "We struggled to stay in touch with the students after they left school, but this project has helped us reconnect with them. We appreciate the team's efforts in initiating this."



- Ground Rules & Promise Trees: A Joyful Commitment!**
 In our well-being sessions, children actively participated in setting ground rules and exploring affirmations. They created a "Promise Tree," adorned with their thumbprints, symbolising their commitment. One child expressed, "Before the session, I didn't attend classes regularly, but now I feel happy and excited to keep my promise!"
- Affirmation Celebration: Building Positive Self-Images!**
 Children designed posters celebrating their unique qualities, boosting their confidence. One participant shared, "I put my affirmation poster on my wall, and it motivates me to chase my dreams every day!"
 "Akka (NalandaWay akka), thank you for having me do this activity! Just like you suggested, I put my affirmation poster on the wall. When I woke up and saw it, I felt so motivated to chase my dreams."



- Functional English Fun: Breaking Barriers!**
 Our Functional English sessions welcomed children into a supportive learning environment. Through engaging activities like "Feelings and Emotions," they learned to express themselves confidently. A child remarked, "I thought it would be boring, but it was much easier and interesting than I expected!"
- Financial Literacy: Empowering Futures!**
 In our Financial Literacy Workshop, children learned essential concepts such as earning, spending, and saving through roleplay scenarios. They explored how to tackle financial challenges, leading to insightful discussions. One child noted, "After today's session, I have a clear understanding of savings and bank accounts. It will help me manage my finances better."
- Mentoring Sessions Begin: Igniting Engagement!**
 Language sessions have commenced, with 52 students joining online and 22 participating via phone calls, sparking their engagement in learning.

34

Children's homes engaged in Art Integrated Wellbeing Sessions

122

Students secured college placements

52

Students participating in online mentoring sessions

22

Students joining via phone calls

Kanna Mucche: Expanding Holistic Learning in Karnataka

➤ New Partnership with Government of Karnataka

We're thrilled to announce the expansion of the Kanna Mucche project into Bangalore, thanks to a new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Karnataka's Department of Women and Child Development. Signed by Deputy Director Dr. Siddaramanna and Child Development Protection Officer (CDPO) Mrs. Arathi from Bangalore South, this partnership marks a pivotal step in enhancing children's educational experiences.

➤ Hands-On Learning: Germ Experiment

In September, children participated in a germ experiment that demonstrated how germs spread and the importance of handwashing. This interactive session made hygiene education both engaging and practical, helping kids understand how cleanliness protects health.

➤ Promoting Wellness: Yoga and Meditation

We also introduced children and their families to yoga and meditation, teaching simple poses and techniques to support both physical and mental well-being.

➤ Nutrition Awareness: Healthy vs. Junk Food

Through fun discussions and activities, children learned about the harmful effects of junk food and the benefits of a balanced diet. They explored the food pyramid and its role in maintaining good health, with parents noticing positive changes in their kids' eating habits.



➤ Inspiring Change through the Kanna Mucche Project

Boost in Admissions: Nanda Sri Anganwadi Centre

The Nanda Sri Anganwadi Centre, a vital part of the local community, struggled to compete with private schools when it came to admissions. However, this changed with the introduction of the Kanna Mucche Project, which significantly enhanced the learning environment. The project introduced a series of engaging activities like storytelling sessions, art and craft workshops, and the distribution of Kanna Mucche workbooks, making learning both fun and holistic.

Impact on Admissions: Since the project's implementation, the centre has seen a noticeable increase in admissions, with seven new children enrolled this year – an impressive improvement compared to previous years. This surge was primarily driven by positive feedback from parents who were impressed with the engaging activities and the enriched learning atmosphere.

Parental Feedback: Parents who initially chose private schools reconsidered their decisions after hearing glowing reviews from other parents. They appreciated the variety of activities, such as storytelling and art projects, as well as the educational materials provided to their children. The project's balanced and nurturing approach has helped re-establish the Anganwadi as a preferred choice for early childhood education in the community.

Outcome: The Kanna Mucche Project has successfully revitalised the Nanda Sri Anganwadi Centre, boosting its reputation and increasing attendance!

Positive Change: The Journey of Bhagyamma, Anganwadi Teacher

Bhagyamma (name changed), an Anganwadi worker, initially displayed resistance towards her responsibilities, often showing reluctance in engaging with the children. Her attitude created a challenging environment for the students. However, after observing the Nalandaway Teaching Assistants (TAs) actively participating and connecting with the children, Bhagyamma's mindset began to shift.

Transformation: The dedication and enthusiasm of the Nalandaway TAs made a strong impression on Bhagyamma. She witnessed how the TAs approached their teaching responsibilities with genuine care and commitment, inspiring her to rethink her own approach. Gradually, she began to take a more active role in teaching the children – a task she had previously avoided.

Co-Facilitating Sessions: In a turnaround, Bhagyamma now co-facilitates sessions with Nalandaway teachers. This positive change has created a more productive and effective learning environment, benefiting the children and bringing a sense of fulfillment to Bhagyamma herself.

➤ Positive role models and dedicated teamwork can transform an individual's attitude, leading to a more enriching educational experience for both teachers and students.

New faces, same awesome team spirit
– Welcome aboard!



Divya Prabhu
Associate - Projects



Chennai Children's Choir (CCC): New Musical Dimensions

- Special Performance for SCAN at The Quest, Besant Nagar**
 A highlight of the month was a performance for the Special Child Assistance Network (SCAN) at The Quest in Besant Nagar. Performing for special needs children was a profoundly emotional and joyful experience, providing the choir with invaluable exposure and a chance to connect through the universal language of music.
- Raag Jog Composition**
 September marked new musical journeys for the CCC. Under the guidance of facilitator Ajay, the choir was introduced to a fresh composition based on the serene Raag Jog, expanding their repertoire and exploring the intricacies of Indian classical music.
- Introduction to Beethoven's Für Elise**
 The young choir members embarked on a journey into Western classical music with their introduction to Beethoven's iconic Für Elise, enriching their musical knowledge and appreciation.
- Revisions and Preparations for Upcoming Performances**
 In preparation for future performances, the children revisited Für Elise and practised mic placement for their Prayer for Peace concert, refining their performance techniques to ensure flawless presentations.



Project Sakhi: Skill-building for the Future

- Gender Literacy in Kalkaji, Delhi**
 30 girls in Kalkaji participated in Gender Literacy sessions, exploring the differences between sex and gender. Through discussions and activities, they challenged stereotypes and promoted inclusivity, fostering awareness and equality.
- Conflict Management in Choolai, Chennai**
 15 girls in Choolai attended a Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) session on conflict management, learning practical skills to resolve disagreements and build better relationships. A time management workshop further helped them improve their organisational abilities.
- Health Camp and Online Safety in Bangalore**
 In Bangalore, 25 children benefited from a health camp, receiving check-ups and referrals. We also hosted a session for 40 parents on mobile safety and for 50 students on online safety, empowering them with essential tools to navigate the digital world.
- Perambur, Chennai: Home Visit Insights**
 A visit to the Perambur Junior Home shed light on the challenges faced by 20 students. This reaffirmed our commitment to supporting them with resources to help focus on their education.



Gender Literacy Sessions **30** Girls engaged in Delhi

Home Visit **20** Students observed in Perambur

Conflict Management Sessions **15** Girls in Choolai

Health camp **25** Children received check-ups in Bangalore

Expert sessions **40** Parents & **50** Students Educated on safety and health

Kalakriti: A Celebration of Art, Culture & Diversity

- Aavartan Performance: Delhi Children's Choir Shines Amid Rain!**
 In September 2024, the Delhi Children's Choir performed at the AAVARTAN Festival in New Delhi, celebrating Indian classical arts. Despite heavy rain, the children and the Kalakriti team ensured the event's success. Over two days, they showcased compositions in Raag Yaman, including "Aao Balma" and "Eri Ali Piya Bin".
- Employee Engagement with BCG**
 The Kalakriti Project hosted a successful employee engagement session with BCG, focused on visual arts and inspired by Devyani Krishna's artwork. BCG employees collaborated with children to create unique art pieces, sparking creativity and teamwork. Participants left with positive experiences, highlighting the power of art to inspire.
- Kalakriti Sessions: A Cradle for Creativity & Cultural Awareness**
 Spoken English classes continued to enhance children's communication skills, while visual arts sessions introduced traditional art forms like Bhil art from Madhya Pradesh. These initiatives encourage creativity, broaden cultural awareness, and deepen understanding of diverse heritages.



Early Childhood (Gutar Goo): A Month of Festivities & Learning

- Teacher's Day Celebration at ICDS Centres**
 The Gutar Goo team organised a vibrant Teacher's Day celebration, where children expressed gratitude by crafting heartfelt cards, painting, and performing lively dances. The event celebrated teachers' contributions while fostering creativity and joy among the children.
- Mother's Circle Meeting: Strengthening Community Bonds**
 The team hosted Mother's Circle meetings at all ICDS centres, drawing mothers, children, and even grandmothers for engaging conversations and activities. The session fostered stronger community ties, promoting shared experiences.
- Empowering Anganwadi Workers with TLM Training**
 A recent training session for Anganwadi Workers focused on creating engaging Learning Materials themed around Colours, Caps, and Animals. These tools aim to enhance the early education experience for young learners.



Arts in Education (AIE): Transforming Young Minds

Fostering Creativity and Social-Emotional Skills

The Arts in Education programme, designed for students in standards 1-5, aims to create a joyful and age-appropriate art learning experience. By enhancing art-based competencies and improving appreciation, the programme also focuses on developing social-emotional skills through engaging and creative activities.

Theatre Skills on Display: Workshop for Teaching Artists

A two-day theatre workshop between September 9-10, 2014 aimed at enhancing theatre skills for teaching artists focused on developing core techniques while fostering trust and collaboration.

Day 1

Activities such as the Mirror Activity, Mime Exercises, and the Blindfold Game enhanced body awareness, non-verbal communication, and trust.

Day 2

The emphasis shifted to improvisation and solo performance with exercises like Scene Improvisation, Monologues, and the Weight Sharing Game, promoting creativity, emotional depth, and teamwork.

Fidelity Volunteers Bring Joy to Schools!

CPS Manjakollai

On this day, 70 volunteers made a significant impact, engaging with 367 students from grades 1 to 5. Activities such as Colour by Number, Pattern Making, and Wall Hanging were enthusiastically led by the volunteers, creating a memorable experience for the children.

CMS Trustpuram

Simultaneously, another group of 70 volunteers connected with 325 students from grades 1 to 8, participating in similar activities. The interaction between volunteers and students led to an inspiring and enjoyable experience for all involved.

Creative Retreat at Fidelity Campus, Chennai

The NalandaWay team hosted a Mandala Art workshop for 55 volunteers, including Global Leads from Fidelity Investments. This session provided a relaxing and therapeutic art engagement, garnering positive feedback and enriching the experience for our valued donor.



Empowering Social and Emotional Learning through Digital Pedagogies: UNESCO 2.0

GCC Schools Get a Boost: 11 Schools Embrace Innovative SEL Programme!

The project has been successfully implemented in 11 schools, focusing on 6th, 7th, and select 8th-grade students. However, extending the programme to five additional schools in Phase One has faced challenges due to ongoing quarterly exams and an upcoming holiday schedule. We are actively working with school officials to address these issues and ensure a smooth continuation in all targeted schools.

Milestone Achieved: Thousands Enrolled in Groundbreaking SEL Initiative

14,962 Enrollments Completed

984 Certificates Created

1288 Certifications in GCC Schools

TA Training Success: Assistants Share Best Practices in Empowering Session

A refresher training session for Teaching Assistants (TAs) focused on best practices and challenges faced in various classrooms. This collaborative effort aimed to share solutions, celebrate the successful completion of Phase 1 targets, and outline goals for the upcoming phase, with tasks assigned to both TAs and interns for seamless execution.



Students in standards

1-5

Target Group

140

Volunteers reached

692

Students

Volunteer Engagement

55

Volunteers at Fidelity Campus

Workshop Participation

NalandaWay Arts School (NAS): School in Session

Musical Theater Sessions Kick-Off

We are excited to announce the launch of our Musical Theater (MT) sessions for the 2024-2025 academic year! On the first day, theatre artists introduced the concept of MT to our students, igniting excitement and curiosity. These introductory sessions aim to familiarise students with the art form and build a solid foundation for the year ahead.

Research Initiative Launched

We are thrilled to kick off our pilot research study, "Exploring the Impact of Arts Integration on English Language Learning." This initiative will employ both quantitative and qualitative methods to assess the effects of arts integration on students.

A rating scale will track students' confidence in public speaking throughout the year, and focus group discussions with students and teachers will provide valuable insights at the end of the academic year. The project team has collaborated with the Research and Impact (R&I) team to develop the research tools and has conducted a baseline orientation for the teaching artists.



Human Resources

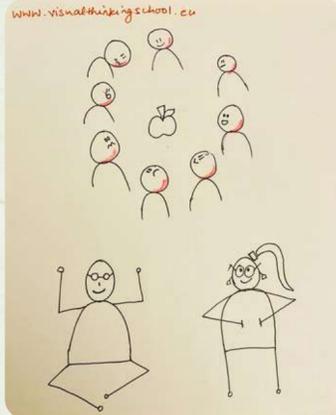
Team Engagement: Celebrating Onam

This September, our Onam celebration beautifully united our Chennai and Delhi teams in a vibrant display of culture and camaraderie! Dressed in traditional attire, we collaborated to create an intricate poo kolam that enhanced the festive atmosphere. The potluck lunch was a hit, featuring a delightful array of dishes that everyone savoured. Our remote colleagues joined in the fun during a special Brews and Banter tea time call, where we shared our favourite Kerala dishes and festive memories. The day was filled with laughter, tradition, and togetherness!



Thursday Circles: Sketchnotes Session

In September's Thursday Circle, we hosted an exciting learning session on sketchnotes, led by Akanksha Thakore, Practice Lead - Mental Well-being and SEL. Colleagues from all locations participated via Zoom, exploring the art of visual note-taking. Equipped with sketch pens, markers, and highlighters, everyone crafted their own unique sketchnotes. This session fostered a fantastic blend of creativity and teamwork, inspiring us all to incorporate more visual storytelling into our work!



OUR PRESENCE



OUR PARTNERS



Looking forward

"The greatest use of a life is to spend it on something that will outlast it." – William James

In October, we reaffirm our belief in the quiet strength of creativity and our commitment to nurturing even the most fragile dreams. We invite you to join us in supporting the reclamation of these dreams and empowering children to reach for the light, despite the challenges that may stand in their way. Your continued support is crucial on this journey, and together, we can inspire hope and create meaningful change.

