

TTM! CONNECT



250 women and men. 20-year-olds who infuse us with their energy and optimism; and wise guides in their 80's. Gentle souls and firebrands. Homemakers, dancers, professors. Across nations and oceans.

TTM! has them all!

Who could possibly weave this diversity into a rich and radiant tapestry?

Only the Master Planner, sitting up on high. We started as a merry band of 7. We had no road map...just a great desire to help the underserved. Each had a strong belief that:

"He who has deserved to drink from the ocean of life, deserves to fill his cup from your little stream."

(Kahlil Gibran)

Step by step, we were guided to where we are today. Where I can honestly say of each:

"They give, as in yonder valley, the myrtle breathes its fragrance into space.

Through the hands of such as these God speaks, and from behind their eyes He smiles upon the earth."

(Kahlil Gibran)

Dear TTM! Family, we are unique, we are incredible! And we walk as one. Slowly, but steadily. Stopping to savour the sweet smell of each success. And to look deeply into our lessons when we falter. But always as one!

~ Malavika Sharma



Mentor Speak

MENTORS' MEET

20th March '24 marked a red-letter day for TTM! Anushree Mahajan, one of our veteran mentors, hosted the Talk to Me! family at her home in Delhi.

The mentor turnout was unprecedented. Around sixty mentors attended the get-together, some of them from as far away as Chennai, Bangalore and Hisar.

Anushree's hospitality was incredible. No detail was too small for her. The garden looked festive; spring flowers bloomed around the glorious coral tree.

Music played in the background while the mentors greeted and chatted with one another.

We met old friends after a long hiatus and were thrilled to make new ones. Some of our mentors spoke about their mentoring experiences.

The table was laden with delicacies. There was much merriment and bonhomie, even some dancing!

Our heartfelt thanks to Anushree, Mala and Tanu for helping to make the morning such a resounding success. Special thanks to Surita who flew down from Bangalore and immediately jumped into the fray.



DEBIKA LAHIRI



Photo credits: Amita Saluja

The following are some of the comments on the meet by Mentors:

“At our coffee morning, several mentors complimented me on how beautifully TTM! was organized. Thank you! Each one of you, lovingly guided by Surita and Tanu, work so hard to keep your teams motivated and excited! The sheer joy on the faces of all the mentors with us that day, is testament to the great job you are doing.

Each one of you have worked in harmony to create a culture that is uniquely ours!

You are in TTM! And TTM! is in you!”



MALAVIKA

“Thank you for giving me this wonderful opportunity to be a part of Talk to Me!. It’s an initiative which is so convenient to both Mentor and Mentee, which is why it works. The flexibility is a big draw.

I also have to say that I am awed by the way my Mentees (especially one of them) balance work, commuting, parental care, household chores and yet manage to bring forth an enthusiasm for learning to our classes. I feel I learn as much from them as I hope they learn from me.”



GAURI

“What you're seeking is seeking you.”

I felt these words of Rumi manifest in my life recently. For the last few years, I'd had a strong wish to guide and mentor underprivileged children. I did keep trying on and off, but nothing concrete really materialised.

Last September, on one of my heritage walks, I met Kavleen, who mentioned an organization she's associated with. An online portal that connects a mentor to a mentee with the whole idea of enabling conversation in English, a skill which many bright students are unable to develop simply due to not enough opportunity to practice or getting exposure to the language, thus putting them at a huge disadvantage for life.

I jumped at the chance and in the last 6 months, I'm convinced this is just what I was looking for. I have 2 mentees in my fold now, and have substituted for few more, all of whom have been a bunch of eager, bright young minds raring to go. And at the end of each interaction, I end up convinced that they may need me for my guidance, but in the larger scheme of things, I need them more for the sheer value that this adds to my being!

And today, meeting up and sharing experiences with some of the members of our fraternity that's a growing family of 200 and more, the joy and contentment in the air only exemplified the words of Kahlil Gibran that form the cover page of our website - "You give but little when you give of your possessions, It is when you give of yourself that you truly give".



SUNEETI BHALLA

"It was a great get together of like-minded Women of Substance!!! The setting, the arrangements , the hospitality....all superb!! Many many thanks to TTM!, the organisers & the participants.

The TTM! meet was a great occasion to get to meet some old friends and many new ones and to get to know many others who we talk to on the phone or WhatsApp. Most if all it was great to know that there were so many of us on the same page."



Mentee achievements

Sharing some school results from Group M DAV School Moonak. All our Mentors have worked diligently with their Mentees clearing their doubts and motivating them during exam time. Really proud of the Mentors and Mentees.



KAVLEEN RIKHY

BABU BRISH BHAN DAV PUBLIC SCHOOL
MOONAK-148033 (SANGRUR) PB.
AFFILIATED TO CBSE NEW DELHI - 1630219
ACADEMIC SESSION 2023-24
REPORT CARD

NAME: ANHRETTI, JAIN MOTHER'S NAME: BHUPNA SANE
FATHER'S NAME: PUNDESH, JAIN D.O.B.: 23.05.2009
ADMISSION NO.: 3005 CLASS: 9th ADDRESS: MOONAK

Sr. No	Subject	Obtained Marks	Maximum Marks
1	ENGLISH	96	100
2	HINDI	98	100
3	MATHEMATICS	100	100
4	SCIENCE	99	100
5	SOCIAL SCIENCE	91	100
6	PUNJABI	99	100

Co-scholastic area (on a 5-point (A-E) Grading Scale)

Work Education	A
Art Education	A
Health and physical education	A

Total Marks - 583 Attendance: - 423/444
Promoted to - 10th Date: - 28-03-2024

Class Incharge: [Signature] Examination Incharge: [Signature] Principal: [Signature]

Ph. : 01676-276573, M. 95922-76573, 92164-23230
E-MAIL: davmoonak@yahoo.co.in WEBSITE: davmoonak.edu.in

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MOONAK-148033 (SANGRUR) PB.
AFFILIATED TO CBSE NEW DELHI - 1630219
ACADEMIC SESSION 2023-24
REPORT CARD

NAME: PRANSHU GUPTA MOTHER'S NAME: SHIFFY GUPTA
FATHER'S NAME: ASHWINI KUMAR D.O.B.: 28.06.2009
ADMISSION NO.: 3099 CLASS: 9th ADDRESS: LEHRGASGA

Sr. No	Subject	Obtained Marks	Maximum Marks
1	ENGLISH	94	100
2	HINDI	97	100
3	MATHEMATICS	92	100
4	SCIENCE	95	100
5	SOCIAL SCIENCE	84	100
6	PUNJABI	98	100

Co-scholastic area (on a 5-point (A-E) Grading Scale)

Work Education	A
Art Education	A
Health and physical education	A

Total Marks - 560 Attendance: - 429/444
Promoted to - 10th Date: - 28-03-2024

Class Incharge: [Signature] Examination Incharge: [Signature] Principal: [Signature]

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ACADEMIC SESSION 2023-24
REPORT CARD

NAME: SAVITA MOTHER'S NAME: RAJNE SINGH
FATHER'S NAME: DINESH KUMAR D.O.B.: 04.04.2002
ADMISSION NO.: 4274 CLASS: 9th ADDRESS: LEHRGASGA

Sr. No	Subject	Obtained Marks	Maximum Marks
1	ENGLISH	94	100
2	HINDI	99	100
3	MATHEMATICS	95	100
4	SCIENCE	98	100
5	SOCIAL SCIENCE	93	100
6	PUNJABI	99	100

Co-scholastic area (on a 5-point (A-E) Grading Scale)

Work Education	A
Art Education	A
Health and physical education	A

Total Marks - 578 Attendance: - 424/444
Promoted to - 10th Date: - 28-03-2024

Class Incharge: [Signature] Examination Incharge: [Signature] Principal: [Signature]

Ph. : 01676-276573, M. 95922-76573, 92164-23230
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Creativity



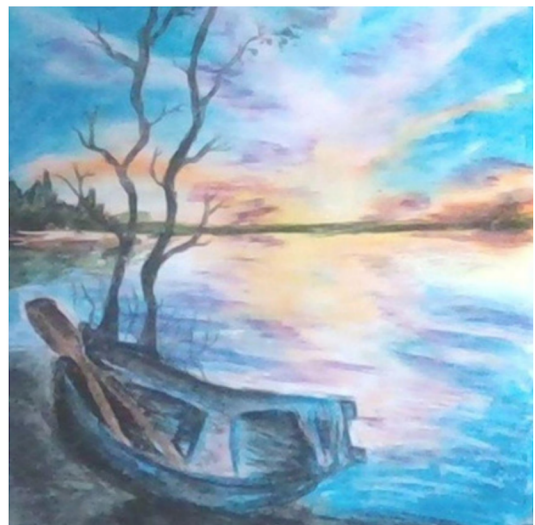
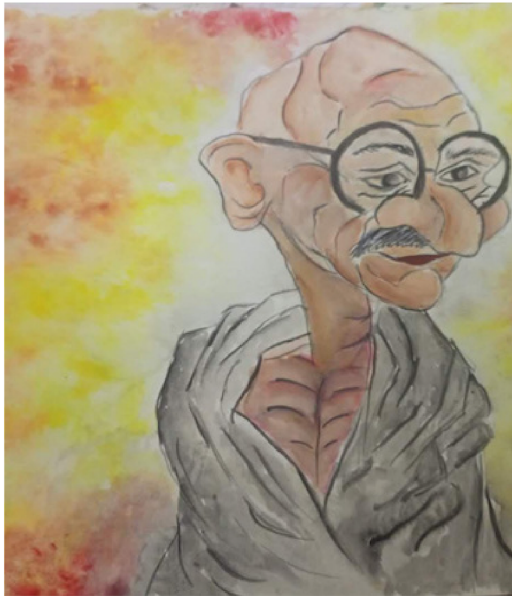
TANYA YADAV
Vidya Mensa Gurgaon

The boy who taught me many things in his epic adventure; the boy wrapped in scarlet-red and gold-colored robes (symbolizing bravery, courage and chivalry), a lightning scar on his forehead and blinking through the generous-green eyes that were like Lily Potter, his mother. He was orphan at the age of 1, and tortured by the Dursleys. But Dumbledore taught him, "It matters not what someone is born, but what they grow to be." Harry also learned a lesson from his godfather that "the people who love us, never really leave us; we can always find them in our hearts." I have realized so far from Harry that no man is defeated who has friends; friends who could stand up to speak for you and sit down to listen too.



ASHUTOSH RAI
Mensa Rishikesh

The trees are tall, with branches up high,
Giving shade under the bright sky.
They give us air to breathe and stay alive,
Their role is crucial, let's realize.
With fruits, shade, and beauty so sweet,
Trees are nature's gift, our Earth's heartbeat.



Ganesh Chaturthi is an annual festival and one of the most revered festivals in India. Also known as Vinayaka Chaturthi, the festival marks the birth of the Hindu God Ganesha. More particularly, the festival signifies the arrival of Lord Ganesha with his mother, Goddess Parvati to earth from Mount Kailash. Celebrations begin in the Bhadrapada month of Hindu calendar. This month corresponds to August or September of the Gregorian calendar.

The festival is celebrated with grandeur and devotion all over India. The public celebrate this festival with the installation of clay Idols of Lord Ganesha. Pandals are also seen as a part of the celebrations. Popular sweets include the Modak, which was believed to be the Favourite Sweet of Lord Ganesha. Finally, these Idols are immersed in water.



SWATI SINGH
JEET

Donkey and the Washerman

Once upon a time there was a poor washerman living in a small village near Dehradun. He was so poor that he hardly had anything to eat for himself. He owned a donkey who was living with him. He hardly had any food for the donkey hence the donkey was very weak.

One day the washerman found a dead tiger. He got an idea. He decided to put tiger's skin on the donkey and let him eat grass from the neighboring farmer's field. The farmer thought it was a real tiger and let him eat the grass as he was scared to go in front of the tiger, worried that the tiger will eat him up. This continued for some days.

One day a female donkey was crying in the nearby area while the donkey was eating grass wearing tiger's skin. Hearing that sound, the donkey started braying loudly in excitement. The farmer heard the donkey braying and immediately understood that the washer man and donkey were fooling him and started beating both of them and threw them out of the farm.

Moral of the story: One can never hide their identify and the truth always comes out in the end.



POOJA KUMARI
JEET

What Game I Like and Why?

I like throwball because I can play it well. Throwball is a team sport that originated in the Indian sub-continent. Two teams of 9 players are required to play this game.

I have been participating in throw ball matches since I turned 12 years old. I played 4 matches in zonal level. I got many trophies and medals. I won three matches, and I lost one match. Whenever I lose the match I would become very sad. My teacher then explained to me "Don't be sad. If you lose a match, it means you need more practice to win the next one."



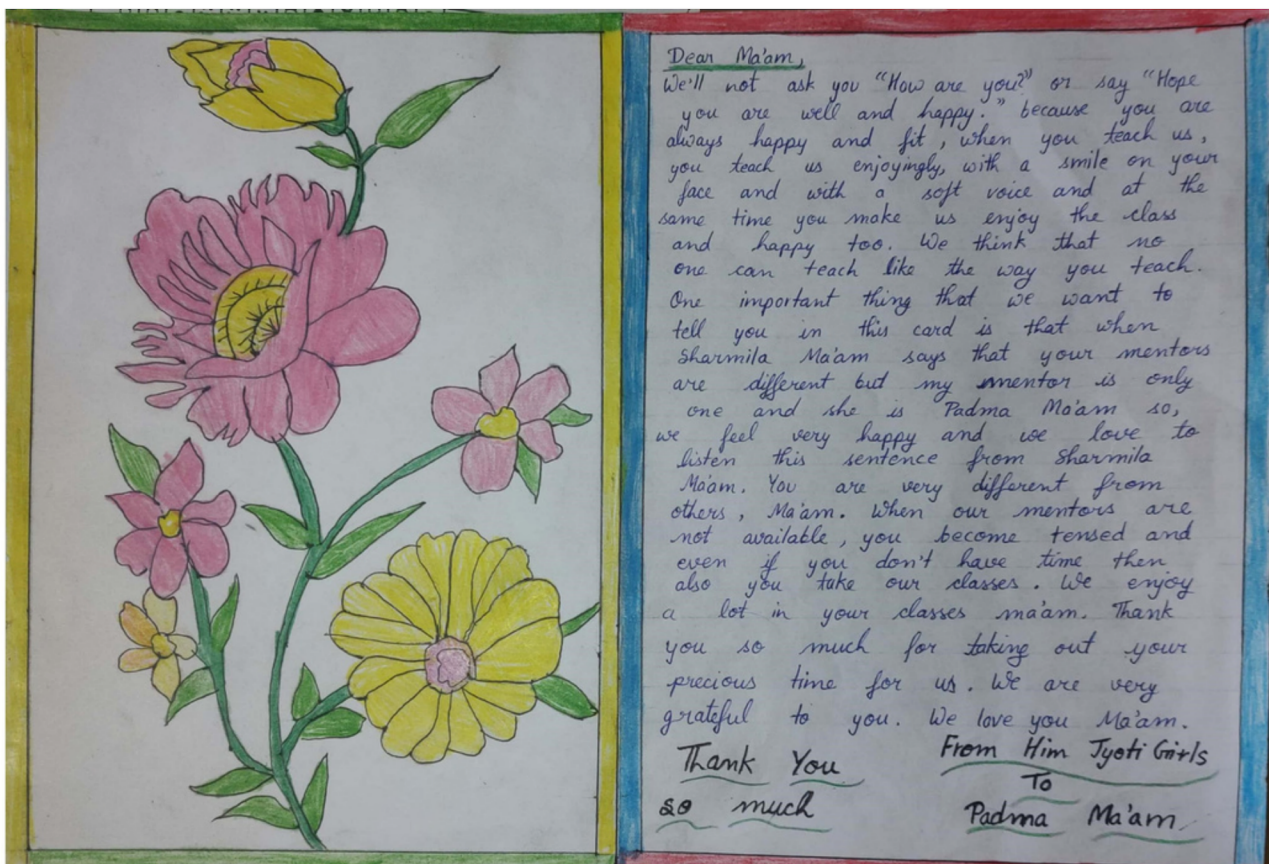
CHITRA TADYAL
Gyan Arambh



From Mentees to Mentors - Him Jyoti

"It only takes a spark..."

A TTM! group of 22 mentees at Him Jyoti residential school in Dehra Dun decided to show their appreciation to their mentors. This collage of "Thank You" cards with beautiful art and expressions of appreciation for their mentors is an attempt to capture the spark of gratitude that has been lit among these mentees, who made these cards entirely on their own initiative.





Chicken Soup - Sangeeta Misra

I have been a TTM! mentor for a few years now. During this time, I have had a chance to interact with children and young adults with different socio-economic backgrounds.

I mentored a physiotherapist during this period who was trying to move to New Zealand and needed to clear the IELTS papers for that. Since he was already familiar with the TTM! lesson plans, I would discuss the IELTS material with him. I was happy to know that he managed to get to New Zealand.

Then, I got assigned to the Udyam group and mentored children from there. Rajni Saxena has been my Group Head all along. The children are always very well behaved and courteous. At Udyam, the children are helped with their school curriculum and also encouraged to follow their dreams and passion – for example, nursing, dance, various sports activities like squash, tennis, etc.

I mentored a boy who had decided to do his Class X exam from the Open School system, and was working at a coffee shop where he went in an hour early to be able to do his TTM! lessons. During the course of our conversation, I also figured that he had done various odd chores to make both ends meet. These included cleaning cars, walking dogs, working at the Post Office, painting of houses, etc. Makes one realize that there are so many things we take for granted in our lives, but need to be grateful for.

Another mentee I had, used to be a student at Udyam and has now gone on to teach there and look after the Administration. She was taking TTM! lessons and that helped her improve her English conversation and Grammar.

For me, personally, it's been a pleasure going through the TTM! lesson plans. They're comprehensive and compact and besides dealing with various subjects, try and inculcate a good value system.



Editorial team signing off

It's that time of year when the poem "April showers bring May flowers!" comes to mind. The vibrant colours and hues of flowers in our homes and public spaces are reminders of the changing seasons.

At dusk and at dawn the fragrance of mogra fills the air. Madhumalti delights the senses. It reminds us of long ago, hot summer evenings spent stringing the pink, red and white madhumalti flowers into necklaces. The heady scent of mango blossoms and pale yellow, powder puff siris flowers leave traces in the air.

Having recently celebrated various festivals across India that heralded the advent of spring, as temperatures continue to rise, we know that summer will soon be here. Our mentees will get busy with exams. Mentors and mentees alike will be looking forward to holidays and travel. So from us on the editorial team - all the best to our mentees for their exams and happy holidays....

BRIDGET GANGULY

DEBIKA LAHIRI

RAJAT RAY

