



b - In Touch

Vol. XIV

July 2009

“ Educating minds.... strengthening roots.... To build a better tomorrow ”

⌘ Inauguration of Buniyaad’s 3rd English Playgroup & Nursery:

The onset of the new academic year began on an auspicious note for **Buniyaad**. It was a proud moment on the morning of June 15th, 2009 when **Buniyaad** inaugurated its third *English Playschool & Nursery*, adding yet another feather to its cap.

The sunny day added brightness to the excitement, pride and joy that the students, parents, class teacher, **Buniyaad** volunteers and guests assembled at **Raigad Chawl, Shivaji Nagar, Vikhroli Parksit** seemed to radiate. The little children were huddled into the laps of their mothers, some with uncertain looks in their eyes while some children were brimming with excitement at the prospect of something new.



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The parents and the class teacher **Ms. Vaishali Wankhede** too seemed to be sharing their sentiments as they waited patiently for the day’s proceedings to begin. The **Buniyaad** volunteers, fresh and recharged from the summer vacations, looked buoyant and raring to go.



Together, laying the Buniyaad for a better tomorrow.

The inaugural function commenced with the honourable guests, **Dr. Vineeta Raut & Mrs. Durga Suri** cutting the ribbon and formally unveiling the ‘**Buniyaad Playschool & Nursery**’ plaque amidst loud applause and enthusiastic cheer of those assembled. This was followed by the ceremonial breaking of a coconut and distribution of sweets. The lighting of the lamp of education and offering of flowers at the altar marked an auspicious beginning to the proceedings. The formal session began with the chanting of ‘Om’ thrice, followed by shlokas. The handing over of the Attendance Register to the Nursery teacher **Ms. Vaishali Wankhede** marked the customary beginning of a new chapter in her life.



Dr. Raut(L) & Mrs. Suri(R) unveiling the plaque.



Lighting the ceremonial lamp.



Towards sweet beginnings.

Ms. Vibha Kulkarni introduced the guests of honour **Dr. Vineeta Raut** and **Mrs. Durga Suri** to the esteemed parents. **Ms. Saigita Narayan** of **Buniyaad** addressing the parents stated the goals of the English Playgroup and Nursery. She emphasised on the quality of education

imparted which was integrated with moral values, health, hygiene, etc. She highlighted the importance of regularity and punctuality and the impact it will have on the students.

The guests, **Dr. Vineeta Raut & Mrs. Durga Suri** spoke at length to the assembled parents regarding various aspects of their children's health, hygiene and educational issues. **Dr. Raut** urged the parents to pay attention to hygiene and cleanliness issues and how they could improve the children's nutritional intake by substituting junk foods with healthier food options. She emphasised that following these simple tips would go a long way to achieving and maintaining better health and nutrition. She also stressed the importance of education, especially the education of the girl child in today's day and age. **Mrs. Durga Suri** reiterated the value of education and told the parents to make good use of the opportunity of having an *English Playschool & Nursery* right at their doorstep and to follow the advice given by **Dr. Raut**.

The guests' sentiments seemed to find a resonance with the parents, with one of the parents sharing the information with other parents that her elder son had studied in *Buniyaad's 1st English Playschool & Nursery* at *Vikhroli Parksit* under the class teacher **Ms. Bharati Ahire**. The mother said that she has been so impressed with the method of instruction and the quality of education imparted at *Buniyaad's Playschools & Nurseries* that her son continues to be a top performer in *Guru Nanak High School*, thanks to his strong foundation. She is convinced her younger child, **Mst. Ravindra** must be in *Buniyaad* and has enrolled at the new Nursery. This lavish praise and confidence from a parent gave all the *Buniyaad* volunteers and teachers a shot in their arms and has also raised the bar for *Buniyaad's* future performance.

After the 'Thank You' prayer, everyone sang the National Anthem. Snacks, sweets and soft drinks were distributed to all to mark the auspicious event and the inaugural function drew to a close.

ParentSpeak:

The saying that 'Parents are the guiding light that illuminates a child's destiny' is amply proved by **Mr. Hanumant & Mrs. Asha Tadake**, the proud parents of **Ms. Deeksha** from *Buniyaad's English Playschool & Nursery* at *Milind Nagar*. This brilliant child, who won the **Smt. Swarnambal Sundaram Award for Best Female Student** in April 2009, is the younger child of her parents. Her elder brother studies in a Marathi medium school but her parents have opted to teach their girl child in an English medium Nursery. In the words of her father, "We are very proud of our daughter. It's the first time that someone from our family has ever won an award. When the news of her receiving an award spread to my village, congratulatory messages poured in from relatives and friends." The mother added, "The entire credit for Disha's performance goes to her school & her class teacher. Whatever was taught to her, she would come home and follow it, be it matters of cleanliness, hygiene or moral values. We have not helped her with her studies at home. *Buniyaad* has strengthened our resolution to educate her as much as we can." According to **Mr. Tadake** and the class teacher **Ms. Sarika Matode**, inspired by the success of their daughter, a couple of neighbours have enrolled their children in *Buniyaad's Playschool & Nursery* in the current academic year.

Nursery No.1 at *Vikhroli Parksit* and No.2 at *Milind Nagar* re-opened on June 11, 2009 and are functioning at full strength. Admissions to these Nurseries were full well ahead of time.

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