

# MONA REMEDIAL CORNER

2016 - 2017 edition

## Contents

Title	Pg
Parent's corner	2
Teacher's corner	2
Editorial	3
Monsoon field trip	4
Grandparents Day	4
Fun Fantastic Festivities	5
Student Artwork	6
Special Thanks	6

## Hearty Congratulations!!!

1. Principal Ms. Lena D'Silva received an award from Shri Hariharputra Bhajan Samaj for her dedicated service to the special education in 2016.
2. MREC launched the prevocational for the primary and vocational program for the secondary section as a part of their curriculum.
3. Congrats to students Gaurav Gupta, Sushant Jadhav, Neeyati Patel, for passing their NIOS secondary examination. Congrats to Gaurav Shetty, Swaraj Kalose, Sanika Chanchad, Gul Rumde, Meet Kubadia, Michelle Nakra for passing their first part of the NIOS secondary examination of March 2016.
4. Congratulations to Salik Khan, chirag Pawar, Sangeeta Pawar, Riddhi Keny, Aliya Amreen, Sunny Fernandes for successfully completing their NIOS OBE level-A examinations of March 2016.



## Contact Us

"Bullet", 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Opp. I.E.S.S Eng.Med.School,  
L.N. Road, Dadar (E), Mumbai – 400014  
Tel: 24133387 or 24131011  
Email: monaremedial@gmail.com  
Website: www.monaremedial.in

# MONA REMEDIAL CORNER

2016 - 2017 edition

## Parent's corner

The diagnosis of Cerebral Palsy for my son Aditya Shattered me. We went to various doctors for a second opinion. This helped me to come to terms with the situation. We initially got him admitted to normal school like the others. He struggled with his writing work and assignments.

At one of the doctor's appointments I got to know about MREC through an another parent I contacted the principal. She very beautifully compared children with disabilities to 'Angels' that God has created. This changed my perspective and gave me hope. I became more positive towards his future and in turn, mine. I am thankful to all the school members and staff.

-Written by Ashwini Dhigare (Parent of Aditya Dhigare)

## Teacher's Corner

The society calls them special children. They are indeed 'very special' to us. The challenges they face are enormous and the way they overcome them is indeed an inspiration to everyone. The keyword to dealing and nurturing special children is patience. Each child is different in terms of their intellectual ability and each provides a different challenge to us.

We need to have a lesson plan that incorporates all modes of teaching so that our children learn more effectively. The different modes that we aim to use are tactile, visual, auditory and kinaesthetic. This provides the knowledge, and trains them in practical skills. We as teachers need to work twice as hard so that each child learns in his or her own special way.

# MONA REMEDIAL CORNER

2016 April - September edition

## Editorial

What is NIOS? This is a commonly asked question by many parents who come to us. Many parents or even teachers from other schools don't know about NIOS. This creates confusion and also different myths about the board.

In the past few years since the schools have realized that they cannot throw a student out of the school as per law, they try to send to send the students with academic difficulties to the special school by saying, "Put him/her do NIOS".

Is NIOS simple? Can everyone do it? Is it useful for every child's future life? Is it the same as SSC?

To answer all these questions firstly you need to understand what is NIOS, and its structure. NIOS or National Institute of Open schools is a centralized board of education which was designed by the central government in 1989. It holds examinations as a unified board for the whole country, similar to other boards. It was developed to provide better, flexible education to the rural areas and to provide vocational training for those who require it.

It has 3 different courses or examinations;

1. OBE – Open Basic Education program – which has 3 levels
  - a. Level 'A'- similar to STD 3 of SSC
  - b. Level 'B'- similar to STD 5 of SSC
  - c. Level 'C'- Similar to STD 8 of SSC

2. Secondary level- same level as 10th SSC/ICSE/CBSE

3. Higher Secondary level – Similar to 12<sup>th</sup> HSC/ISC-

4. Vocational Courses- offered after secondary level

Each of these examinations have different number of subjects and qualification requirements. There are different regional centres which are conducting these examinations all over India.

MREC is one of the schools who have been training and enrolling students for the secondary exam since 1995 and for OBE level exams since 2015.

In MREC the subjects offered at the secondary level are English, Home science, Data Entry Operations, Business Studies, Economics. Painting and Baking can be taken as an alternative to business studies and economics. We have so far enrolled 15 students for the level A OBE examinations.

As you can see these levels are similar to state board levels, so the child has equal opportunity of employment and benefits after completing his education.

But then why do we use NIOS for special children? This is because it gives more flexibility and time for a child to study without pressure. The secondary exam can be given by the child in 5 years time. So they can give one subject per year if the need be. It gives more vocation oriented subjects such as Date entry operations which include Computer skills.

However, for the past few years the course difficulty level has increased. There are no clear cut guidelines about the concessions offered. So while some students may be offered some concessions like a writer another with the same difficulty level may not have got a writer. This has affected the special students.

Then what do we do? This is a big question haunting both the schools and parents. There is no special board for the children with academic disabilities. The government wants them to be included and integrated in the mainstream or normal schools. But can these students cope with the current education system in a class of 70 students?

Clueless parents, helpless teachers, difficult government policies, crowded schools, chaotic education system.... and stuck in between all this is the Student.

As a school MREC is trying to change this situation one student, one family at a time. We try, to counsel parents about accepting the situation, to find out different programs & skills that are required for the child's future, to find a way to customize the program to the child's ability, and make sure the child is not suffering emotionally. We ask for strength and support to keep working at it and never give up

# MONA REMEDIAL CORNER

## 2016 April - September edition

### PAST EVENTS

Monsoon field trip  
Grandparents Day  
Independence Day  
Rakshabandhan  
Holi

### Monsoon Field Trip

The purpose of a field trip is to connect the information learnt in the books to the real things around you. The trips help the students to get practical learning.

In the month of August the students of the primary section, dressed up in their colourful raincoats went for the first field trip of this academic year. The teachers took them for a trip to the garden. They have gone before to the gardens many times, usually to look at the trees, play around. But this time the trip was different. This time they went to look at the insects and the bugs that come out in the rainy season. They went to see how the rains give water to the trees and how the trees become evergreen. They also saw the small grass that comes out only in the rainy season.

The students were really happy to be out in the rains and play around in the new soft grass and look at all the tiny crawly bugs in the garden.

### Upcoming Events

Picnic  
Fun, Fantastic, Festivities:  
Christmas, Republic Day  
Celebration  
Sports day  
Annual Day

### Grandparents Day

Grandparents play an imperative role in the life of every child. They are the child's support system and their best friend. Grandparents pamper the kids more than the parents themselves and leave a lasting impression in child's life so it was time to felicitate and honour the grandparents. On 29th July 2016, our school celebrated Grandparents Day. It was a special day and a first time event for all those who attended the programme. It gave us a chance to interact with an age group that is most often overlooked.

The function started with a welcome song by the children. After that a dance performances by the kids was on display. Then the function moved ahead with the activity session where the grandparents were given a looping activity. After that they had to listen the music and recognize the song.

At the end the parents were called upon to speak a few words or share their experience. Many grandparents thanked the principal Ms. Lena D' Silva for giving them such a wonderful opportunity to bond with their grandchildren in the age of nuclear family. Many of the grandparents were overwhelmed with emotions.

Everyone seemed truly happy with this unique Nana- Nani day.

## Fun , Fantastic, Festivities:

Independence day and Rakshabandhan

As every year the Independence Day was celebrated in MREC with pride and enthusiasm. Corridors were decorated with the green, white, saffron, and blue colours. Charts depicting and honouring the sacrifices of our freedom fighters and great history of our nation were put up by the children. The event started with a flag hoisting by our guest Mr. Suradkar and Principal Ms. Lena D'silva.

A drawing and rakhi making competition was held to enhance the celebration. Students dressed up as and gave speeches about the freedom fighters in English as well as in Marathi and Hindi. Students then sang the Vande Mataram anthem of our country in both vocals and sign language. The event showcased the true spirit of patriotism and pride of MREC family.

### Annual Day

The most awaited day by students as well as parents, MREC's 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Day was celebrated on at Mysore Auditorium, Matunga. The children were eager to show their talents on the stage. The program began with traditional Ganesh Vandana performed by primary class followed by Lezim of Pre-NIOS and NIOS children. Class-wise performances added vibrancy to the program which kept the audience amazed throughout. Two melodious songs were sung by a few students and the music therapy teacher. After several dance and music performances, the guests were felicitated by the school children. The guests were pleased to receive beautiful Rose flowers made of cotton, and they were creatively handmade by the students. Mr. & Mrs.Saoji were present as guests. After the dances of the school students, ex-students of MREC performed a dance number. The Program concluded with a performance by MREC teachers on the theme of 'Save Girl Child' which was the highlight of the event. All the events were beautifully choreographed by our dance teacher Mrs. Priya Pankaj. She made each and every student of the school to perform on the stage. Principal Lena D'Silva was the source of energy and the real driving force behind this event. The program was a real showcase of 'Ability in disability'.

## Anand Ustav

Anand Ustav, the annual celebration of the cooperation between the school and the families of the students is a must visit festival. On this day the parents and students put up food and gaming stalls in the school. This marks the complete harmony between the trio of the MREC family- the parents, students and school. We thank all who are working tirelessly towards making this event a complete success.

### Annual Sports Day

33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sports Day of the MREC was celebrated on St. Xavier's sports ground with lots of enthusiasm. Students assembled class-wise on the ground. Principal Lena D'Silva hoisted the flag and declared the annual sports meet open. There was a march past performed by Saboo Siddik High School. Every year band group from Saboo Siddik High School adds up proud moments to the minds of the spectators and students.

There were different sports events specially designed for differently abled students like making the Christmas garland, etc. There were also 50m and 100m running race, relay race, and group event. All the events were beautifully organised so that each and every student could get a chance to participate. Meanwhile the winners were awarded medals and certificates. The honourable chief guests were Mr. Gokhale, Mr & Mrs.Saoji, and Mr & Mrs.Mistry who were part of the Rotary Club.

The children enjoyed the snacks in the break which were provided by the school. In the end there was an event which added joy to the program where the parents of the students participated. The event concluded with the National Anthem.

# MONA REMEDIAL CORNER

2016 April - September edition

COMIC/ ARTWORK FEATURE



## SPECIAL THANKS

**Editorial Team:**

Vanessa Lewis

Seema Tokekar

**Content Contributors:**

Teachers of MREC

**Artwork by:**

Chirag Pawar

For enquiries or feedback, please reach our team at [monaremedial@gmail.com](mailto:monaremedial@gmail.com).