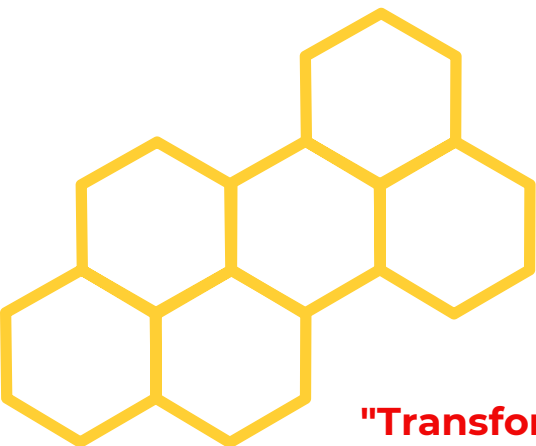
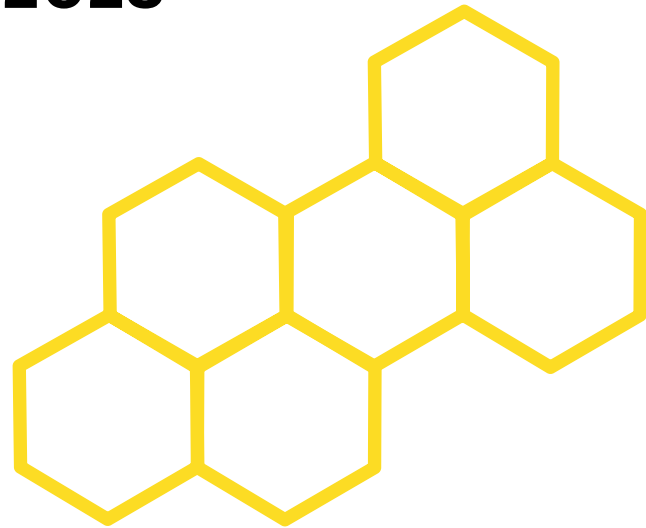




Monthly Newsletter

November 2023



**"Transforming Lives of Communities through
Education, Environment and Empowerment Initiatives."**

Overview

We're delighted to share an exciting update for the month of November. Amidst the festive spirit, Diwali was joyfully celebrated with the entire Cosmo Foundation team and rural students across locations. As there was a Diwali break in schools, we seized the opportunity to conduct intensive capacity-building training for Cosmo teachers.

Simultaneously, we organized short-term courses focusing on enhancing English communication and building digital skills for students in rural areas, spanning Karjan and Aurangabad.

In addition to the festive cheer, we diligently analyzed the mid-term assessment results across our programs. This thorough evaluation has helped us to strategize, plan, and prepare for the upcoming academic session, ensuring a continued commitment to quality education and holistic development for rural students.

During this period we also organized self-defence training for shalinis of Gangapur block in Aurangabad. considering local need we organized oral hygiene awareness and dental check-up camp in remotest village of karjan.



Lighting up Lives: Diwali Celebration

Diwali the festival of lamp and light is celebrated at Cosmo Foundation, Karjan, and Aurangabad with great zill and enthusiasm. We organized Diya painting, candle making, rangoli, and colourful celebrations across villages with the students and team.



Cosmo Diwali Market- Building Young Entrepreneurs

Cosmo Foundation organized the Diwali market at Cosmo First Ltd. Karjan. Children, women, and Balmitras prepared very creative and colourful Diya, candles, and flowers and organized a sale. There was an overwhelming response from the employees of Cosmo First, Karjan. Generous support, wholehearted appreciation, and encouragement to the entrepreneurial initiative of the rural community by employees. Making a difference in the lives of the lesser privileged amongst us this Diwali with compassion, enthusiasm, support, and collaboration was the motto at Cosmo Foundation and Cosmo First.



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Community Engagement (2000+ households - 25 villages)



Cosmo Foundation teachers visited 2000+ households across 25 villages. They met children and parents and wished them for Diwali and Happy New Year. It was a great opportunity for CF team to get engaged with community members and parents. It helped them to understand the socio-economic context of students and inspired them to pursue their education. It served as a channel to involve parents in the educational process. Along with it Cosmo teachers also visited local institutions like Health centers, Anganwadi, Panchayat, and Schools and built positive relations.

EDUCATION

Short-term courses for Rural Children and Youth

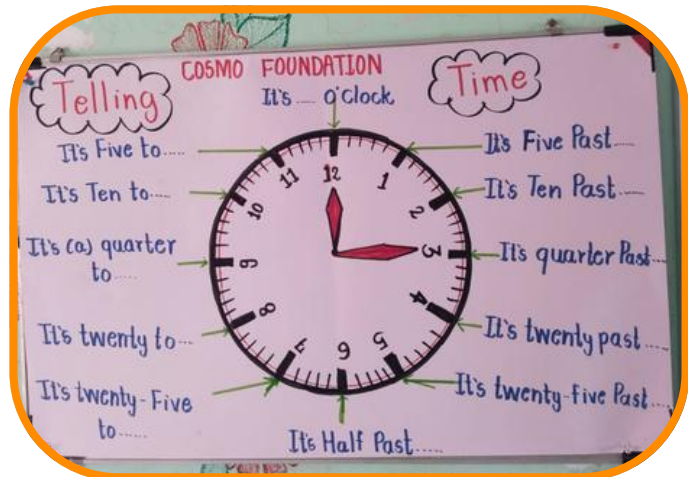
Digital Skill-building Course is a necessity of the present time. Considering this need, CF organized a computer operation and digital skill-building course for rural children and youth. For our younger participants, the curriculum encompassed fundamental topics such as Computer Word Vocabulary, Google Maps, Google Search, and practical lessons on using a Calculator and M.S. Word. With the youth group, our focus shifted towards more advanced skills, like Excel proficiency, PowerPoint mastery, and navigating the URL (Uniform Resource Locator) intricacies of the effective and quick search of website mechanisms. The dynamic nature of the course allowed us to tailor our approach to each age group, ensuring a comprehensive and engaging learning experience for all participants.

400 students



English for Beginners

English is essential for rural children and youth as it opens door to higher education and employment opportunities. Proficiency in English enhances communication skills, better access to information and, empowering them for a broader and interconnected world. The English training sessions for Cosmo teachers were designed to enhance language proficiency through a variety of modules, including Motivational Thoughts, Conversation Practice, Sentence Formation with Action Words, and learning grammar with the Application of Tenses. This holistic approach, combining practical language skills with motivational elements, ensures a comprehensive and enriching experience for all the participants.



Feedback from Learner's Desks



I enrolled in the short-term English course organized by CF at Village: Dethan. Here I gained valuable insights into action words, value-based thoughts, and everyday conversation practices such as expressing excitement, seeking assistance, greetings and expressing gratitude. The program also introduced me to new words and sentences in the English language, enhancing my vocabulary and communication skills. I am grateful for the enriching learning experience. It will help me in my academics too.

Parth Gohil, Std: 11th
Village: Dethan, Karjan

Capacity Building of Cosmo Teachers

Basic English Communication: A Grammar-Focused Training for Educators



Cosmo Foundation has conducted training for the Cosmo community-based teachers from Karjan and Aurangabad on “English Language Skill Enhancement”. Participants are trained in sentence formation and Tenses by using action words and modal Verbs, the Art of storytelling, Day to day conversation practice, and inspiring thoughts for the day. Pravin Chauhan, Senior English Faculty of Cosmo Foundation trained the teachers to equip more and more rural folks with correct English language skills. Teachers across locations were learning English with their foundational base of Gujarati, Marathi, Urdu, and Hindi.

Feedback from Participant

I gained confidence in taking English classes. My English communication skills improved. I understood how to plan and conduct classes effectively. I learnt about how to give leadership to the English Program. Through daily stories and discussions, my English vocabulary expanded, and I developed a curiosity to learn advance English. In this class, I not only learnt sentences for daily use but also gained more fluency in using these sentences in conversations. As per teaching sessions from Senior English Faculty, I made creative lesson plans for training of teachers.



Mrunali Raj , English Teacher, Cosmo Foundation, Karjan

Math Mastery Unleashed: Transformative Training for Balmitras

Cosmo Foundation Karjan organized a comprehensive training session for "Balmitras" focused on numeracy, arithmetic, and practical mathematics. The workshop featured an insightful facilitator by a resource person Kaushik Chonker from ARCH Dharampur, who emphasized the significance of mathematical skills in everyday life. He taught creative and participatory methods to teach the practical applicability of quick and efficient calculations and innovative ways to teach valuable concepts of maths, and calculation using games and puzzles. The training also focused on strategies for enhancing students' logical abilities through mathematics, providing a well-rounded and engaging learning experience.



Feedback from Balmitra

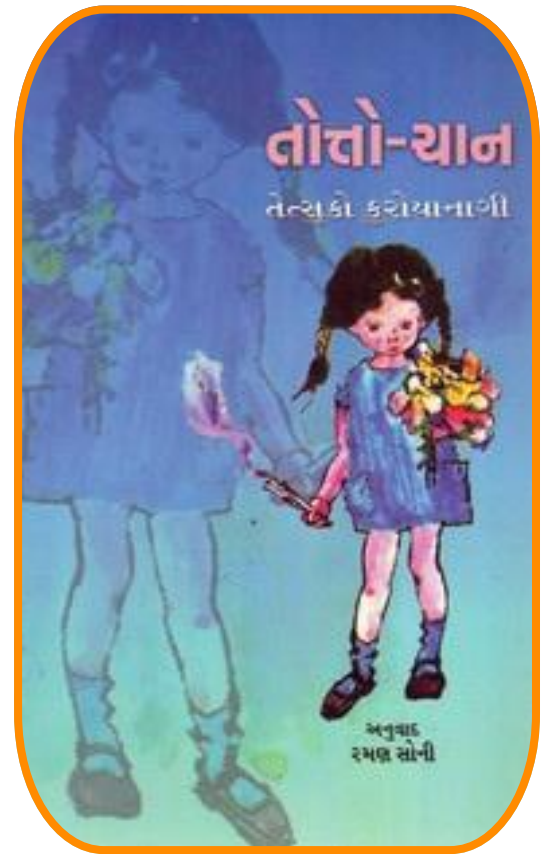
The training which was organized on arithmetic and mathematical abilities by the Cosmo Foundation was the most insightful training for teachers. In this training, the expert, Mr. Kaushik Chonker from the ARCH Dharampur taught us how to teach practical maths and how students should be able to calculate quickly and accurately. They taught us various concepts such as tables, place value, and basic concepts of calculations and numbers. I am sure this training will help us to teach the students with more confidence and also with diverse methods which will help us to expedite. It will help us to complete the course in the most efficient way and in a lesser time we will be able to teach more subjects with greater quality. Thank you for organizing such insightful training.



Rekhaben Thakor, (Balmitra) Cosmo Foundation, Karjan

Study circle on the book- Totto-Chan

The study circle on the book Totto-Chan- “The Little Girl at the Window” witnessed active participation from our dedicated teachers. The focal point of our discussion was understanding how children are perceived and the importance of respecting the ability and pace of learning of each child. The essence of the book emphasizes the crucial notion that a child requires both time and space. It reminded us that incessantly shuttling them from one tuition class to another, one music lesson or sports coaching session to the next, doesn't constitute a genuine childhood. The study circle served as a poignant reminder of the significance of nurturing a holistic and balanced educational environment for our young learners. It was a very insightful learning experience for the teachers of Karjan and Aurangabad about how to handle children patiently, and positively, nurturing their growth and development.

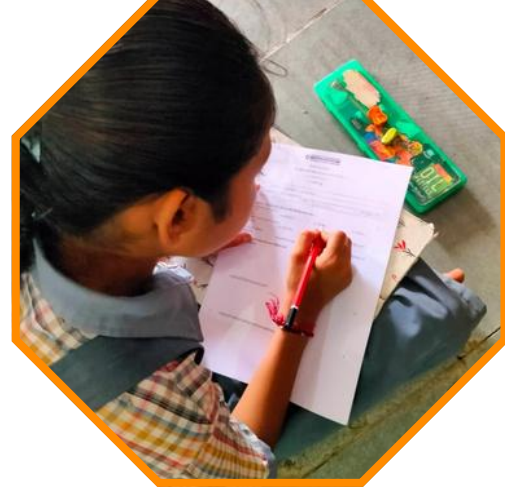


Mapping the Learning Outcome

CF conducted a diverse array of midterm assessments, encompassing oral, written, and practical tests for every student enrolled in the Computer Literacy, Foundational Literacy, and Basic English Learning Program. This multifaceted approach aimed to comprehensively evaluate the student's understanding and application of the subject, ensuring a thorough examination of their skills across various domains. This method not only gauged theoretical knowledge but also assessed practical aptitude, providing a holistic overview of each student's progress in these educational programs.

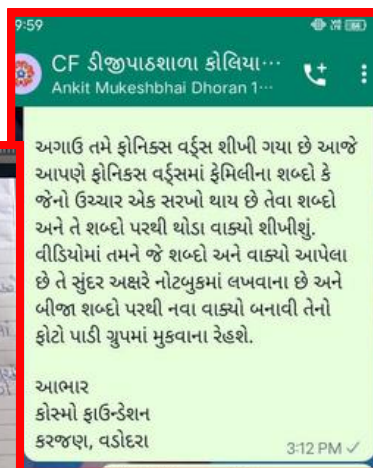
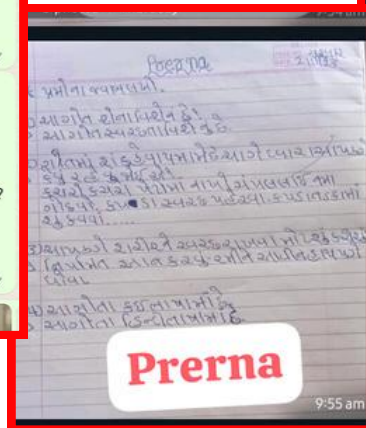
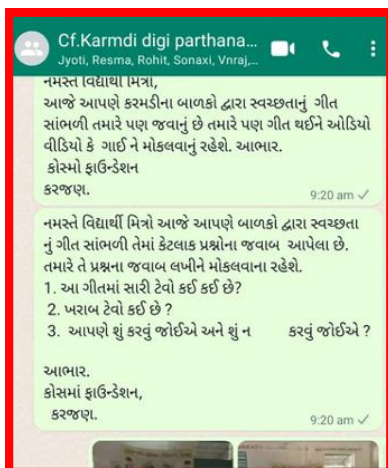


Our Mid-term assessment revealed that post covid there was a huge learning gap. Our entire focus was on foundational literacy programs to get the children to survive in mainstream education. We achieved fairly good results in span of three months. In Foundational Literacy Program 77% students are upgraded. In the Computer Literacy Program 40% students are upgraded to next level, we started Computer Literacy Program in five new schools and despite that, we could enhance results by 10% from the previous year. In the English Program 43% students are upgraded to next level and we are moving forward with steady steps by catching young minds.



Cosmo Digi Pathshala

Cosmo Digi Pathshala is a virtual learning platform in which students gain an understanding on diverse issues. During this month we shared information on their academic subjects along with best practices to protect environment, final match of the world cup, tunnel mishaps, etc... It is heartening to see reciprocation on digital platform.



Empowerment

Internship at Cosmo Foundation

Four University students from the Masters in Human Resource Management course completed their internship. They shared their in-depth learning about CSR, community engagement, technical skills, and communication. They contributed to beneficiary data base, monitoring of CSR projects, and executing educational programs. Urban youth volunteering to build the lives of rural children and youth.



Pallavi Shaw
Cosmo Foundation intern from (MHRM)
Master's in Human Resource Management
The Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda

Being a student of Human resource management , we are always taught by our teachers how CSR creates a basic grass root level understanding of human connections. Cosmo Foundation offered a perfect opportunity for me to work with the community and contribute to society on my own terms.

I was part of Cosmo's flagship education program where I learnt how to interact with children and understood about their hardships. The teachers at CF are hardworking and dedicated to the children's welfare.

One of the aspects that struck me profoundly during my time at Cosmo Foundation is their unwavering dedication to education. The organisation tirelessly works towards bridging educational gaps in the community, ensuring that every individual, regardless of socio-economic background, has access to quality education.

As an intern, I had the privilege of being part of projects that aimed to make a real difference in people's lives. The collaborative and supportive environment at Cosmo Foundation allowed me to contribute meaningfully while also learning from dedicated professionals who are truly passionate about their work.

The experience has not only enriched my understanding of social responsibility but has also inspired me to continue contributing to community welfare in my future endeavours.

Self- Defense Workshop for Shalinis'



The Empowers HER Workshop, a self-defense training program for Shalinis of Gangapur. To equip Shalini with the skills and confidence for their safety, the self-defense training was organized by USF Aurangabad with the support of Cosmo Foundation. This initiative focused on enhancing their physical and mental strength, fostering a sense of empowerment, and increasing their awareness on personal safety. Certified Instructor Mr. Rameshwar Chayal led the Shalinis through practical self-defense techniques of basic strikes, techniques to escape from common holds and grabs were demonstrated. The girls were educated on the importance of being vigilant and aware of their surroundings.

[Click here to view more.....](#)

Also, Strategies for recognizing potential threats and avoiding dangerous situations were taught. Girls learned how to use their voices effectively to deter potential attackers. Confidence-building exercises and discussions aimed to empower the girls, helping them overcome fear and insecurity. All in all The Empower HER Workshop was a resounding success. They now possess valuable skills to defend themselves physically and mentally. Mentors from Cosmo First also joined and encouraged Shalinis.

Events & Celebration

Children's Day



14th November, celebrated as Children's Day across the globe. In India, it is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Jawaharlal Nehru, the first prime minister of India. It aims to protect the rights of children and ensure the welfare and well-being of children. We at Cosmo Foundation are humbled to relentlessly work for the education, skill development, and well-being of children. Let's build future citizens with skills, Empowerment, and Humane values.

National Constitution Day

On the eve of the Nation Constitution Day 26th of November, Cosmo Foundation organized a webinar with rural students across the villages. 600+ students participated. In Aurangabad, Cosmo teachers spoke on the preamble to the constitution of India & role of students in maintaining of constitutional values. Children made flashcards on pillars of the constitution and reaffirmed their commitment. In Karjan former CF student & lawyer Sumaiya Malek did a session on a virtual platform & spoke about non-negotiation principles of Indian constitution and how it respects diversity and inclusion.



Get Involved

Volunteering Opportunity for Employees of Cosmo First - December 2023

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

2nd December

**World Computer
Literacy Day**

Location

**Karjan & Aurangabad
Time - 11:00 am To 12:00 pm**

Subject/ Activity

**A session on Best Practices
in Cosmo Computer
Education on virtual platform**

3rd December

**International Day of Persons
with Disabilities**

Location

**Karjan & Aurangabad
Time: 2 to 4 pm**

Subject/ Activity

**Information sharing on
Government schemes for
persons with disabilities on
virtual platform**

5th December

World Soil Day

Location

**Village Handod , Karjan
Village Ambelohal, Aurangabad
Time: 11:00 am to 12:30 pm**

Subject/ Activity

**Workshop with farmers on
“Boosting the Soil
Productivity”**

14th December

**National Energy
Conservation Day**

Location

**Karjan & Aurangabad
Time: 4:00 to 5:00 pm
(team and students)**

Subject/ Activity

**Webinar on the Importance
of solar energy & electric
vehicles**

22nd December

National Mathematics Day

Location

**Primary School Kurali &
Mangrol-Karjan
Primary School Ambelohal
& Limbejalgaon-Aurangabad
Time: 10:00 am to 12:00 pm**

Subject/ Activity

**Math's fair with students
for 6th to 8th standard**

23rd December

Farmer's Day

Location

**Village Bodka- Karjan
Village Asegaon-Aurangabad
Gram Panchayat Hall
Time: 12:00 to 1:00 pm**

Subject/ Activity

**Nutritional security from
millet production
A workshop with youth and
farmers**

Glimpses of Dental Checkup



Cosmo Foundation in collaboration with K.M.Shah Dental College, Sumandeep Vidyapith, Vadodara organized a dental check-up camp in the village -Simali, Karjan. Large number of children and villagers received treatment. Members of Gram Panchayat, village Simali actively participated in organizing this drive.

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