

Filix

School of Education

CBSE Affiliation No : 2430246



Year : 2018-19

Message from the Secretary's Desk

Ranjana Sengupta
Secretary, Nanritam



It's difficult for me to pin-point when and where "Nanritam" was born.

I'm not sure if it was the moment when I first met this out-of-the-world monk of Ramakrishna Mission, Revered Swami Lokeswarananda, who changed the way I used to look at the world forever. Was it when he introduced me to some of his other admirers who now comprise the Nanritam family? Was it when we had started providing basic health care, and run modest schools in the slums of North Kolkata and suburban areas about 20 years ago? Was it in 2006 when we started providing basic eye care in the remote rural village of Para about 300 kilometres away from Kolkata?

Nanritam, I guess, has always been in the making during these years. The small health camp at Para grew into a small six bedded hospital in 2008 and then into a 100 bedded super speciality hospital in 2013.

Our modest attempt at growing vegetables for our modest health camp took the shape of a centre for agriculture linked livelihood, the Nanritam Krishi Kendra, in 2010.

The small preschool that we had started with 70 students in 2014 is well on its way to be high school. This year we have 540 students studying in different standards from Nursery to Standard VII.

Thanks to God's grace and your support, we have grown as planned and hope to send up the first batch of examinees for the Secondary level Board Examination organised by the Central Board of Secondary Education of India in 2021.

We are happy that many distinguished personalities including academicians of international stature have admired our humble efforts. But what pleases the Nanritam family even more is the smile that we often see in the faces of persons living in the very margin of the economy in this remote area, when they see their children in Filix School reading, playing, and performing at par in with their counterparts from better to do families; or when, with their sights restored, they are back into a meaningful, productive life.

We are grateful for the support from the Government of West Bengal Department of Health & Family Welfare , Syngenta India Limited, Paschimanchal Unnayan Parshad, Coal India Limited, Ramakrishna Foundation (USA), Rotary Club of Calcutta and also from many other individuals without which we could never have made it to where we are today. Our patrons include many of you who have donated valuable resources, including your time and money, to help us grow.

Let me assure you that all your gifts to Nanritam will be used efficiently, effectively and in the best interest of the poor.

Ranjana Sengupta



Message from the Chairperson's Desk



Asok M Chakrabarti

Former Chief Secretary of West Bengal
Chairperson, Felix School of Education

I would like to thank the well wishers of Filix school of Education for their continued support to the functioning of the school during the last five years.

Since 2014, the Filix School of Education has been pursuing the objectives of promoting all round development and making the process of learning an enjoyable experience for the young children. The number of classes and student strengths have been steadily going up in last five years. We have introduced Class VII in 2019 and our present students' strength is 543.

We believe that every child is born with immense potentialities. We try to ensure providing personalised care to every student, and feeding the curious minds on sustained basis, in an overall environment of hard work, discipline, affection and mutual respect.

From this year Cognitive Exchange, a non-profit organization based at Sacramento in California, USA is conducting live interactive sessions every week on public speaking and debating, for the students of Standard VI & VII of our school. We have added a Robotics lab, in addition to the existing computer lab for providing hands-on exposure to the world of Robotics and computers to students of Standard I to VII with supports from Stemrobo Technologies of Noida.

A mini Indoor games unit is also being added to the already existing amusement Park.

All these arrangements, I may remind you, are for providing world class education to children of remote rural areas in the district of Purulia, a backward district in the state of West Bengal in India. We look forward to your continued support and are grateful for all that you have done for us till now.

Asok M Chakrabarti



The Filix school of Education was Nanritam's response to the yearning of the disadvantaged families of Para block of Purulia, the area served by us, to obtain quality educational resources for their children that would equalise their possibilities of social and economic success.

The school commenced its journey in April 2014 with three pre-school classes: Nursery, KG I, KG II and 70 students in total. By 2019 school has been upgraded to STD VII with a total of 543 children. The school is now affiliated to The Central Board of Secondary Education of India

We wanted the school to deliver quality education with a difference and this is how we are trying to do so...

a) Since the poor rural families look upon education through the medium of English as a means to break out of the vicious cycle of poverty in Filix School uses English as the medium of instruction.

b) All learning in the Filix School is activity based. Glimpses of some of our classroom activities can be seen at Filix School website (<http://www.filixschool.com/ourchildrentheirstories>)

c) In Filix School science is a verb. Our students try out all scientific concepts through actual applications. We also try to expose them to cutting edge frontiers of science such as robotics and Artificial intelligence. They are regularly exposed to interactions and demonstrations by internationally famous teachers.

d) There is a big emphasis in Filix School on the STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths). But we do not believe that we should go all out for Stem alone and side-line the arts. We believe that classical music education have an impact on IQ and academic performance, classroom drama strengthens verbal skills and dance builds visuospatial skill. A renowned danseuse, Smt Sharmila Biswas orient all students of Filix School in these skills. The students are oriented on other extra-curricular skills too such as videography which contributes to developing their aesthetic and technical abilities simultaneously.

e) We emphasise on hands-on interactive Environmental Education that sparks the imagination and unlocks creativity.

f) We accord considerable importance on developing Social skills right from the Pre-school classes to enable the children to function effectively in society. We also try to inculcate the culture of paying the society back for all the good things we have received from it.

g) We prepare children to be disciplined and self-dependent from a very tender age and lay special focus on basic hygiene training.



School Infrastructure



Proposed School Building





Filix school has classrooms that inspire the students —spaces that are well-lighted, airy, and filled with examples of work that students aspire to do. The physical spaces are so designed that there is little to distract from teaching and learning.

We are gradually building up an ideal school library. With more than 2000 books already in shelves we are aiming for a library that would be liberating and able to provide a learning environment beyond what is generally feasible, practical, or even possible in the classrooms.

Teacher Spotlight



FILIX

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

An English Medium Co-education School of NANRITAM





Science Lab

"We in Filix school of education believe that Science is a verb. Science is something that we have to do and not just learn from Textbooks.

We can modestly claim that we have been able to transmit some of this spirit to our students. The school has a well-equipped science laboratory and well-trained teachers. Renowned science educators also visit the school frequently and interact with students. Stories about the various science related activities our students engage in can be found here."

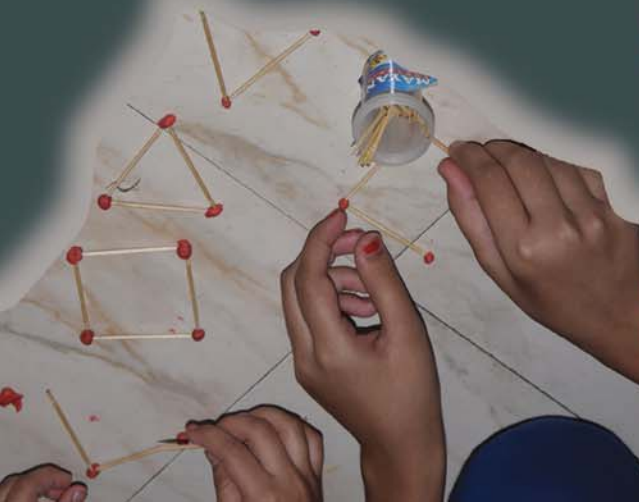
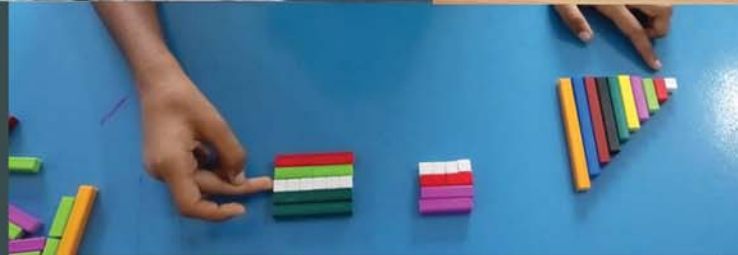
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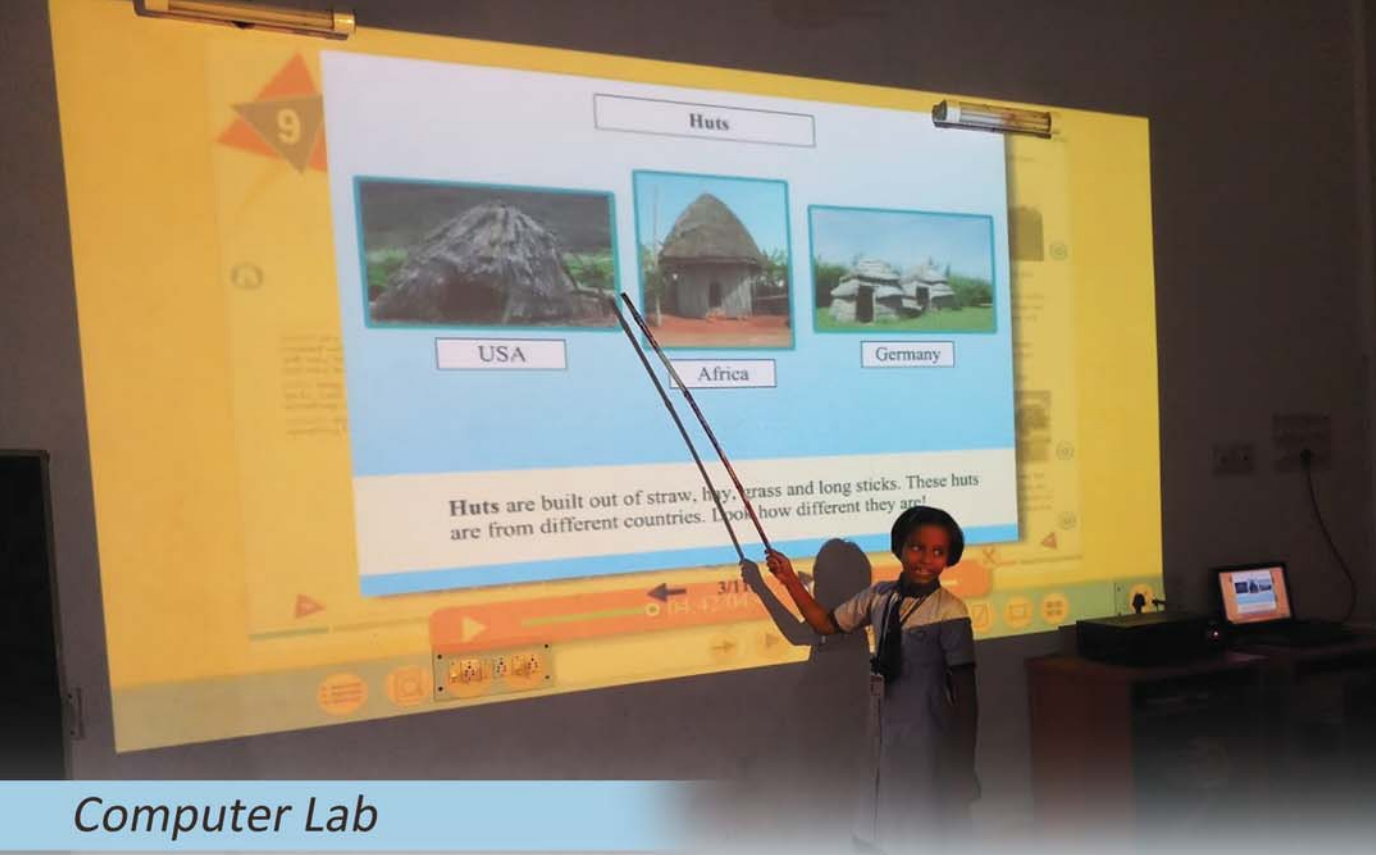


Maths Lab

$$\frac{P_i}{\pi} = \frac{C}{D} = \frac{\text{Circumference}}{\text{Diameter}}$$
$$= 3.14 (\text{approx})$$
$$= \text{Constant for all circles}$$

The Mathematics Lab in Filix School, set up and managed by Dr Bharati Bakshi is a place where anybody can experiment and explore patterns and ideas. It has a large collection of games, puzzles, and other teaching and learning materials that are used both by the students on their own and with their teacher to explore the world of mathematics, to discover, learn and develop an interest in mathematics. These activities help students to visualize, manipulate and reason. They provide an opportunity to make conjectures and test them, and to generalize observed patterns. The visualization of abstract concepts has a really great impact on the student's class performance.



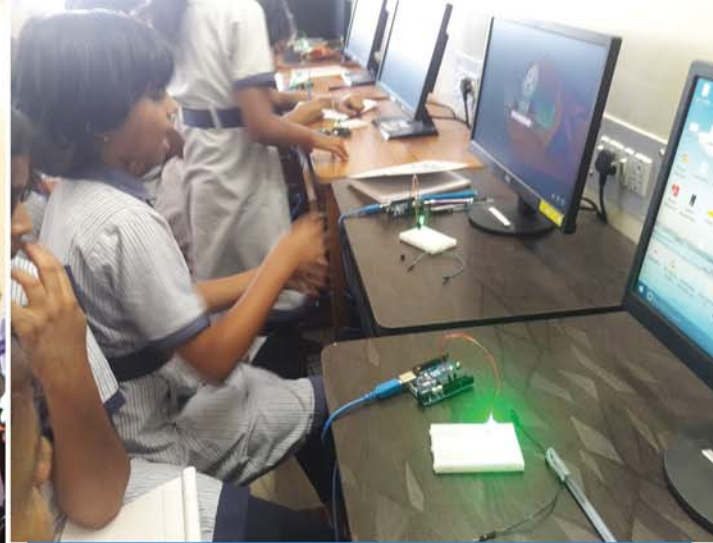


Computer Lab

The computer lab of the school is equipped with 30 computers and children are introduced to programming using "Scratch", a programme created to help young people learn to think creatively, reason systematically and work collaboratively.

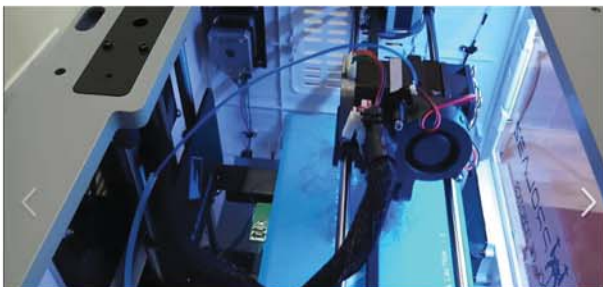
We use it for a range of educational and entertainment constructionist purposes ranging from math and science projects, simulations and visualizations of experiments, recording lectures with animated presentations, to social sciences animated stories, and interactive art.





Robotics Lab

Robotics is a field that is easily accessible to a wide range of students with varying talents and skills. Filix School has an equipped Robotics laboratory and arranges for age-appropriate structured sessions and projects for students of all classes with specific learning outcomes.





3D Science Theatre

Student attention is a scarce resource that must be earned by engaging it through creative course material — like animation. Filix School has a dedicated 3D Theater Room where students are regularly exposed to 3D models and animations of various scientific and technical issues discussed in the class. The school has a syllabus based digital library of 3D animated comprising several "Learning Object" to explain various Science and Mathematics concepts, like 3D Videos and virtual simulations. The animated videos act as a strong visualization tool to help students understand even the most abstract concepts.



Outdoor Facilities



Preschool Specials





Preschool Specials



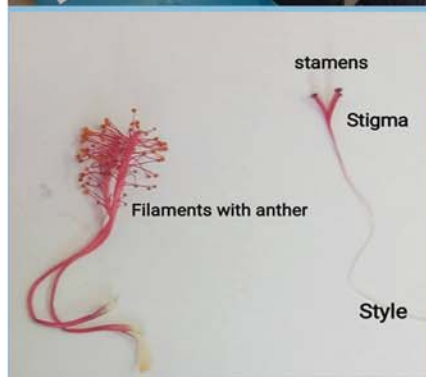
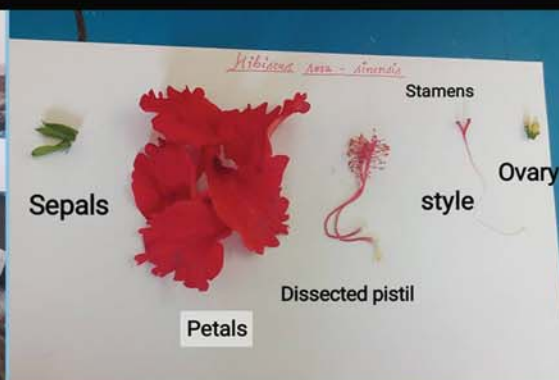
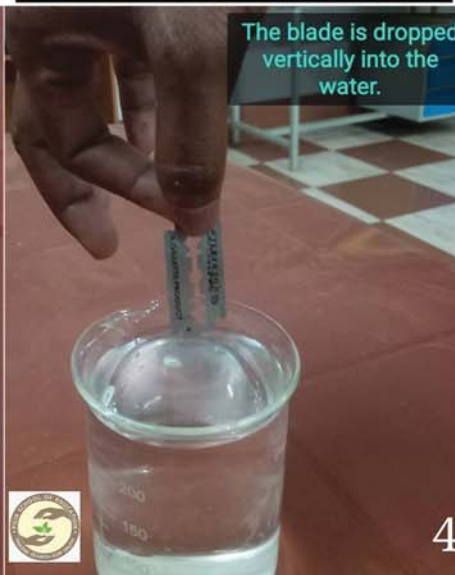


**Preschool
Specials**

Science is a verb
the power of projects

Relation of Force, Pressure and Area

- A demonstration



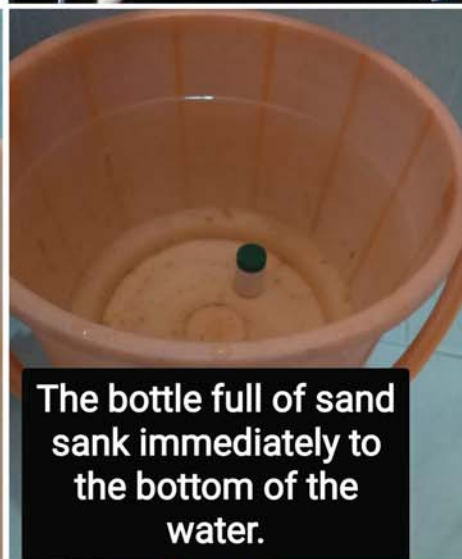
Dissecting
parts of a
China Rose
(Hibiscus)

Science is a verb

What sinks, What floats.



The bottle with three-fourth sand starts floating completely submerged under the surface of water.



The bottle full of sand sank immediately to the bottom of the water.



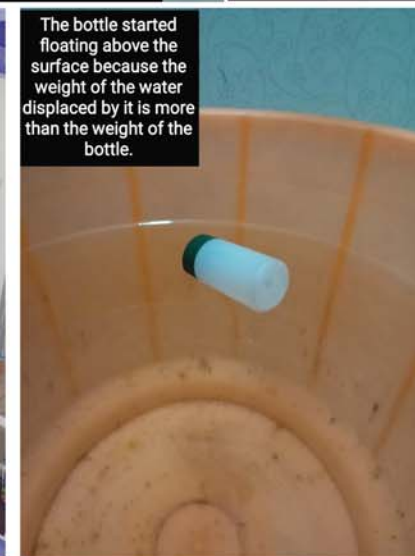
The sphere made of model clay sank immediately to the bottom of the water.



Same sphere when given the shape of a boat floats on the surface of the water.



When the same load is dipped in water the weight shows 25gm. So loss of weight is equal to (75gm-25gm) i.e. 50gm.



The bottle started floating above the surface because the weight of the water displaced by it is more than the weight of the bottle.



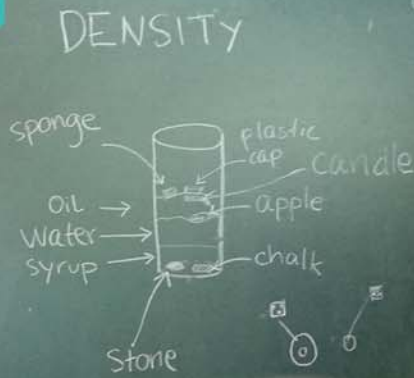
The modelling clay shows the weight as 75 gm.

Science is a verb
the power of projects

YES NO

Document everything!

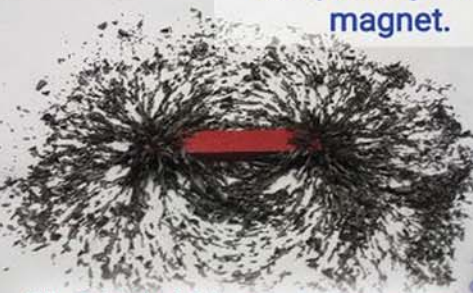
$$d = \frac{m}{V}$$



Total- 24
Present 23
Absent 01



Experiment showing the polarity of the magnet.



Felix School of Education's innovations in education was recognised by the International School Awards, Dubai.



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARDS
DUBAI | DECEMBER 2018

Certificate
OF ACHIEVEMENT

Congratulations!

FILIX SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

has been awarded

INNOVATION IN EDUCATION AWARD

International School Awards 2018
Dubai, UAE

Le Meridien Dubai Hotel & Conference Centre
December 23, 2018

Sun
Authorized Signatory
ISA, DUBAI

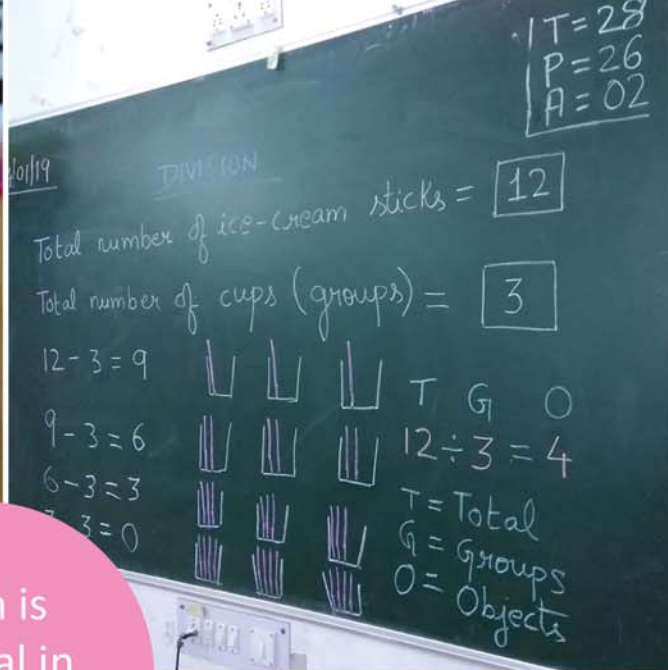
Students checking the level of water.



unable to lift the load when fulcrum-load distance is more.

Could easily lift the load when fulcrum-load distance is diminished.

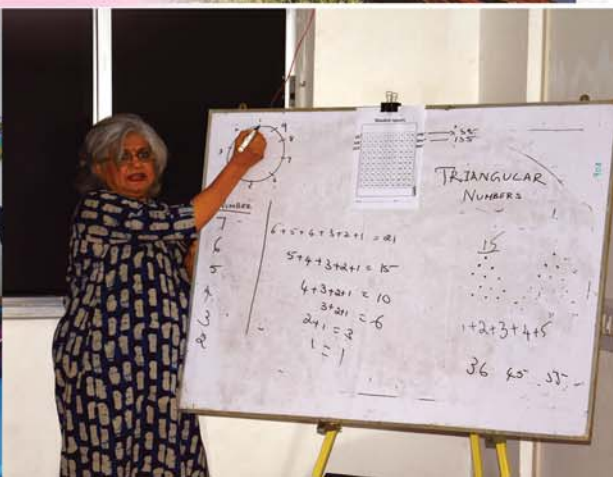
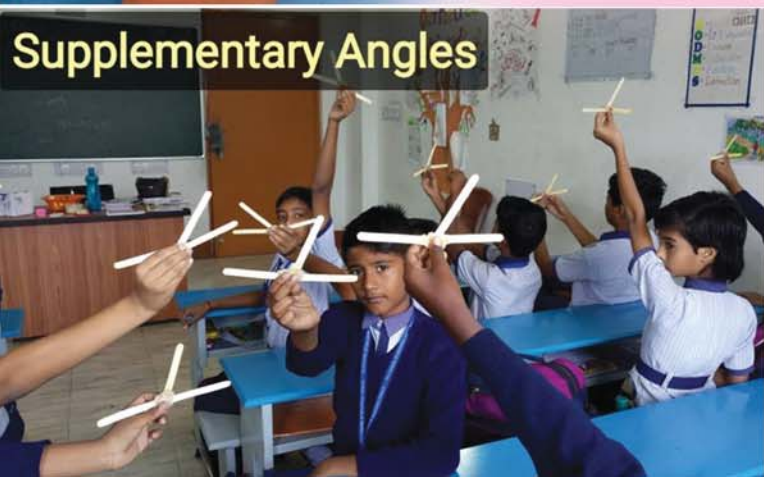




Math is
Magical in
Filix School



Research has shown that students best learn mathematics by going from the concrete to symbols to abstract. Visualization is part and parcel of Maths teaching in Filix School. To a 6 year old standard-I mathematician, subtraction means taking away, by eating up tasty biscuits which were good to eat and fun to 'subtract'. Place values take concrete shapes in ice cream sticks and concepts of HCF and LCM become exciting games played with enthusiasm using colourful Cuisenaire rods and a mnemonics specially designed by the School's own Mathemagician, Dr. Bharati Bakshi.



Supplementary Angles

TRIANGULAR NUMBERS

$1 = 1$
 $1 + 2 = 3$
 $1 + 2 + 3 = 6$
 $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 = 10$
 $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 = 15$
 $1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 = 21$

Cultural Creations



Cultural events at Filix Schools are like points in a map, serving as a sort of beacon of relationship for the whole year. The Annual Filix Fest is an extremely popular event in Purulia, in which all students, teachers, and other members of Nanritam participate. The renowned Odissi exponent Sharmila Biswas regularly comes down all the way to Filix School of Education at Para in Purulia and introduces our students and teachers to the very complex world of performing arts, in which various forms of Indian Classical dances play a major part.

The Annual sports brings the whole school together, from the tiniest pre-schoolers to young adults of the senior classes. In between, the school renews its bond with nation on National days such as the Independence Day, National Youth Day and so on. All these events are designed to bring out the best creative efforts of our young talents.







“Earthcare”

Ensuring a sustainable future for themselves

In Filix School we practice a Garden-based learning program, in which the garden is the foundation for integrated learning through active, engaging, real-world experiences that have personal meaning for our students

We believe that Garden-based learning contributes to increased academic skills; the student engagement in class increases as they are intrinsically motivated by "real world" experiences in a more informal setting than the classroom.

Their other skills induced by garden based learning include enhancement of moral education, increasing appreciation for nature, increasing responsibility, developing patience, improving relationship , and increase in self-esteem and develop a sense of ownership and responsibility.



Shared learning through relationship



Over the years, Filix School has succeeded in befriending many distinguished academicians and building bonds with many organizations engaged in furthering quality education here and in other countries.

The list of our institutional friends begins with Professor Kaushik Basu, the internationally acclaimed economist who has kindly taken over the role of being the Chief mentor of the School, and his wife, Prof Alaka Basu both of whom have visited our campus in Purulia on quite a few occasions and have assured us of being back here as and when they come to India.





We have collaboration with Cognitive Exchange, a non-profit organization of a group of academically talented high-school graduates and college freshmen, headed by Mr. Jyoti Dass and based in Sacramento, California, USA. They hold weekly interaction with our students in order to widen access to training in the skills of public speaking, debate and related soft skills.

Shared learning through relationship

Cognitive Exchange Programme

Guest Lecturer



Dr. D. P. Duari, Director, Research & Academic, M.P. Birla Institute of Fundamental Research, M. P. Birla Planetarium is another friend who had presented the wonders of the solar system at Filix School.



Shared learning through relationship



Lena Garkman

The Finnish Educationist and academician

We are proud to count Ms Lena Gärkmann from Finland among our friends since 2018. Lena is a Tutor for Teacher Students, a Curricular Adviser (Biophilia Educational Project/Team Leader Finland and a Lecturer. She had been a teacher Grades 1-6, a Writer since 2007) and Editor of teaching material. Lena holds a Master of Economics (Business Administration), Master of Pedagogy and a Head Teacher's degree and speaks Finnish, Swedish, English, French, German and Italian. Lena had spent a week at Filix School, from 27th Dec 2018 to 4th January 2019. Details of different workshops she held with our students and teachers can be seen at our website.



Shared
learning
through
relationship



Mr. Samar Bagchi, well-known science educator and a former Director, Birla Industrial and Technological Museum, Kolkata is another distinguished friend who has been visiting the school quite often and has been explaining the basic concepts of physics through demonstration and experiments which are predicated upon a pedagogic philosophy that rejects rote-learning and privileges the ethos of learning-by-doing.





Monday, August 20, 2018

A journey, an education

Travelling in rural Bengal, Jharkhand I saw a village school at the cutting edge, and met ordinary people distressed by political cults of a hate-filled Hinduism



IN GOOD FAITH

KAUSHIK BASU

FROM THE terrace of the small guest house, with the dawn struggling to break through the mists of a monsoon night, the landscape is desolate. A light wind blows over the vast, largely uninhabited landscape, creating a hush of rustled leaves. Far away, a lake gives off a faint, early-morning shimmer. Peering into this landscape, at once mystical and mysterious, one could visualise the moors of Yorkshire at the time of the Bronte sisters. Standing alone on the terrace, gradually seeing the green of the palash trees, the red and blue of the swings in the school yard, and the distant hills of Purulia, where Bengal abuts Jharkhand, my mind fills with hope.

This was the end of a three-day visit, which began on July 28, when I landed at Ranchi and drove for four hours through Jharkhand and the western fringe of Bengal. I was there to see a village school and an eye hospital run by the NGO, Nanritam. Nanritam was founded in 2002, in memory of Swami Lokeswarananda of the Ramakrishna Mission, by two women. It started work in the Para Block of Purulia District in 2004, with a team of dedicated doctors and social workers, many of whom travel there regularly from Kolkata and the nearby town of Purulia. The original aim was to run an eye hospital and agricultural extension work for poor farmers. That work is still flourishing. The eye hospital with its modern surgical equipment, clean rooms and corridors, and a steady turnover of poor patients, many staying overnight for surgery, could well be a facility in a modern city.

But, given my own interest in education, I spent a disproportionate amount of time at the school set up in 2014 next to the eye hospital — the Filix School. It turns out to be an unexpected experience. The school already has over 400 students and classes run from nursery to grade 6. Most students pay a regular tuition fee but a large number — for this is a poor region — pay nothing. But all wear the same uniform and sit together, learning, laughing and playing, unaware of their diverse wealth, religion and caste backgrounds.

Living in New York, I had for some time been wanting to see how a 3-D printer actually works. Little did I know that my first experience of 3-D printing would occur in Filix School, with a group of wide-eyed sixth-graders jostling to show me how it works. What is rare about the school is the quality of modern education that is being imparted. They learn about their heritage and history, but, importantly from the point of view of career, they learn to speak English, are taught logic, mathematics and modern science. Some of the techniques of education used here are from Finland, which has been a leader in school education, and a country that the founders of Nanritam visited with the explicit idea of bringing the best ideas to India.

Both teachers and students seem to enjoy school. As I go from class to class, the students shower me with logic and IQ questions. Some of these are tough enough that I have no idea what the answers are, and so am forced to employ the only strategy for such situations: I pretend that I am pretending that I do not know the answers.

The model of Filix School deserves to be taken to other parts of India. The modernity of this school is exemplary and it is encouraging to see how well the children of these remote areas are embracing it. With the arrival of artificial intelligence and robotics, this kind of education will be critical. It is important for India that we spend time doing science and mathematics, instead of trying to show that we did science and mathematics five thousand years ago.

After the school visit, I take advantage of being in this tribal terrain, where, till a few years ago, it would be impossible to move around because of the risk of Maoist attacks, to visit little villages with evocative names like Chorida and Tamna, and travel through the hills of Ajodhya, an extension of the Chota Nagpur plateau.

The Santals, who inhabit these villages and forests, constitute one of the largest tribes of India. Dark-skinned and beautiful, they settled in the Indian Subcontinent way before the arrival of the Aryans. Their villages, lined with artisan homes, with hand-painted facades, are a visual treat. Their language belongs to the Austroasiatic group that is used by nearly 120 million people, spread over South Asia, the Khmer region and southern China. It originally had no script of its own. Raghunath Munda, an innovative Santal leader, developed a script in the early 20th century, called Ol Chiki, which has now caught on widely.

In the village of Hathimara, in Huda Block, a talented young artist tells us about their art and festivals. The big one is Kali puja, though unlike in traditional Hinduism, they do not have any idols to go with the festival. Talking to these people, it is impossible not to marvel at our own history and wonder where we come from, who our ancestors are and the connections that all human beings have across vast geographic spaces and continents.

The final morning, I wake up early, to see the dawn break and attend the morning prayer, mangal arati, at 5 am, at the chapel of Ramakrishna. The chiming of the bells and the chanting of the Sanskrit verses adds to the sense of wonder.

I do not want to mislead my reader. I am a sceptic, with very few beliefs, beyond logical truths. I believe that anything that is not logically impossible is possible. What fascinates me about the mangal arati is not religion but its aura of philosophy. It is a reminder of how little we know and the need for humility. It captures a spirit of Hinduism so different from the cults of hatred being abetted by political groups. Travelling through these villages, talking to ordinary folks, I am heartened to see them distressed too by these cults. And that is what gives me the hope I mentioned at the start.

The writer is C Marks Professor at Cornell University and former chief economist and Senior Vice President, World Bank

ECONOMIST BASU DISCOVERS JOY OF LEARNING

Purulia puzzles for professor



■ **Pupil asks Basu:** Sir, how can you make 4 plus 5 equal 10?

■ **Sir:** Can I quietly slip in 'one'?

■ **Pupil:** No

She then uses nine strokes (|||| and |||||) to write

T E N
on the blackboard

DEVADEEP PUROHIT

Para (Purulia): "Sir, what, according to you, is integrity?"

"Sir, is it always good to be honest?"

"Sir" tried his best to satisfy the children. Then he told them: "I love numbers."

The ethics posers immediately took a back seat, and it was riddle time.

"Sir, how can you make 4 plus 5 equal 10?" asked a pupil.

"Sir" asked, "Can I quietly slip in 'one'?" The child said "No" before writing "TEN" on the blackboard

with nine straight lines.

As riddles flew in thick and fast — with a couple of rounds of noughts and crosses thrown in — a little boy walked up to the blackboard and wrote: "If $4+1=5$, $5+2=12$, $6+3=21$, then solve this, $7+4=?$ "

On Sunday, it was a different day out for Kaushik Basu, C. Marks Professor of international studies and professor of economics at Cornell University, at a school in Purulia in one of Bengal's remotest corners.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

more complicated. The 50-year-old does not permit an MLA to vote for him. Chief Justice Dipak Misra told advocate Amit Kumar who appeared for the poll panel.

The bench, which also included Justices A.M. Khanwilkar and D.Y. Chandrachud, was dealing with a petition

presented by K.K. Venugopal supported the PIL, the commission had defended the Neta option.

"By this notification the EC is empowering MLAs not to vote. When he (an MLA) has a constitutional obligation to elect he can't take recourse to Neta. We have a doubt

and must not be expected to direct elections like those to Parliament's upper House, where members are elected by MLAs.

Congress leader Parmar had filed the petition apprehending that some party MLAs might use the Neta option to prevent Patel from being elected.

Constitutional Bench statutory rules under the Representation of People Act did not provide for Neta. The 2014 circular, he argued, "is ex facie illegal, arbitrary and tainted with malafide, as an executive instruction cannot override express statutory provisions".

Neta seems to have won over Nation's eyes on 'Bring Back Choksi', PM must answer four questions, party media to charge Randeep Singh Surjewala tweeted.

The four questions are: whether Prime Minister Narendra Modi knows where Choksi is; if a red-corner notice has

been issued; if he has been granted two sets of travel documents.

The officials maintained that there was no way of ascertaining if a person has another passport as they are issued to Indian citizens on their understanding that they don't hold a passport of another country.

back to the CBI court, asking it to continue the trial and complete the framing of charges within 12 weeks.

"We are not inclined to interfere with the high court order. As recording of our views will only affect the trial, we refrain from doing so. Appeals dismissed," Justice Gogoi said.

Pupils' self-confidence leaves Basu impressed

► FROM PAGE 1

The former World Bank chief economist, who also served as the chief economic adviser to the Indian government, was involved in an impromptu Q&A session with children at the Filix School of Education in Baranagar, Purulia.

"It's very nice to see children here learning with joy. The effect of good education is visible," Basu said to be wowed from one class to another to interact with more pupils.

Basu, who often fondly remembers the tough questioning by journalists during his days in North Block, faced some easy ones this time: he was asked what his favourite food and favourite sport were. Then came the riddles.

He himself posed the chil-

dren a few tests. During geography lessons in a classroom, he pointed to the world map hanging from a board and asked: "Which would take longer: travelling from here to here (marking out two points at the top) or from here to here (two points of the same apparent distance along the equator)?"

The students looked silently at one another before Basu explained that the travel time between the two points around the equator would be longer as the earth is round. He then headed for the next classroom.

The school — run by Nanritam, a social welfare organisation — teaches up to Class VI and has 480 pupils, most of whom come from remote villages. The school bears all



Basu interacts with one of the schoolboys

their expenses, including books, uniforms and transport.

Nanritam also runs a super-specialty eye care unit

that caters to over 200,000 patients every year, carrying out 10,000-plus operations, more than 90 per cent of them free of charge. The agriculture wing

of Nanritam tries to give farmers better livelihood options.

Basu has been associated with the organisation since 2010-11, said Ranjana Sengupta, Nanritam secretary. "He is our chief mentor and takes special interest in our education initiative."

Education is crucial for Para block, which has a 58.1 per cent literacy rate. The rugged, unfriendly terrain limits the scope for agriculture, and employment is scarce.

Some 25 per cent of the block's working population are farmers and another 39.52 per cent are farm labourers. About 3.83 per cent are in household industry, such as handicrafts. Thirty-five per cent people live below the poverty line.

But Saimyaji Raywar and Sukhdev Mahato, Class V students at Filix School, represent hope. Both boys, first-generation school-goers like many in their class, conversed in clear English and radiated a self-confidence that surprised Basu.

"My parents say we are lucky to have a school like this in our area. They want me to study hard," said Sukhdev, son of a grocery store employee.

Saimyaji said his school education had helped his mother too: she had begun trying to speak to him in English. "Earlier, she wouldn't understand; now she has started trying," he grinned.

The boys were getting restless to return to the robotics lab at the school, which Basu

inaugurated on Sunday. A short while earlier, the boys were learning about the human digestive system and the lifecycle of the butterfly in the 3-D studio room, which district magistrate Alokesh Prasad Roy had thrown open, with Basu in attendance.

"It's encouraging that students are getting such facilities. Although only a small fraction here is getting the benefit of quality education, it will have a cascading effect on society," Basu said, drawing parallels with Bangladesh where spread of education, especially among women, has facilitated development.

As for the last puzzle, it has to be cracked thus:

$4+1=5$, $5+2=12$, $6+3=21$, $7+4=28$

Thank you, The Telegraph, for letting the world know about our humble efforts....



The Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture

Gol Park, Kolkata - 700 029

Presentation of the
VIVEKANANDA MEDAL

to
NANRITAM
by

SRIMAT SWAMI SUVIRANANDAJI MAHARAJ

General Secretary, Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission, Belur Math

THE CITATION

The Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture presents with great pleasure the Vivekananda Medal 2018 jointly to NANRITAM and VIVEKANANDA SWASTHYA SEVA SANGHA on this Seventeenth day of January of the 'Year Two Thousand Nineteen in recognition of the Organizations' excellent services to the poor and underprivileged people of Purulia, West Bengal and Jharkhand in the fields of treatment of eyes, education and agriculture.

NANRITAM, dedicated to the ideals of Shiva Inane Jiva Seva, 'is a non-profitable social-welfare organization. Initially, it started working with a small community of slum dwellers in North Kolkata. The organization is focussed on providing health-related services, quality education and enhancing livelihood opportunities in the backward districts of Purulia, Bankura, Paschim Medinipur and in parts of Jharkhand. Among the notable projects of this organization, mention may be made of 'Lokeswarananda Eye Foundation', 'Nanritam Krishi Kendra', 'Filix School of Education' and 'Udbhaas'.

In the words of Srmat Swami Suviranandaji Maharaj, General Secretary, Ramakrishna Math and Ramakrishna Mission, as recorded in the 'Visitors' Book': 'Here whatever I saw is excellent. Keep it up and also march ahead. Absolutely splendid — a hall mark of dedication and service imbued with the flavours of the soul! Hats off to organisers of NANRITAM.'

May the blessings of the Holy Trinity shower on NANRITAM and its dedicated members.

Date: January 17, 2019

Place: Kolkata

Swam Supernananda
Swami Supernananda
Secretary



**Vivekananda Medal awarded
to Nanritam
on 17th January, 2019**



Blessings



**Revered Swami
Suviranandaji
Maharaj**

General Secretary,
Ramakrishna Math and Mission

Ramakrishna Mission is an idea which one can translate into reality if one has imbibed the spirit of Ramakrishna - Vivekananda. Ranjana Pungitla and Bhakti Basakhi duo have just done it! I salute their dedicated team. They ^{deserve} support from all concerned - Govt. & the public alike. Their work should be acclaimed with a 'big hand' by today's strife torn society. I am sure Swamiji Maharaj will help them, support them, bless them with both the hands. The light that is lit at 'Parva' in the form of NAMRITAM will never die down.

Glorious unto Swamiji Maharaj!

Swirānanda

Jai Ma

Date March 20,
Page 2018

I was deeply impressed at the intensity of the dedicated service offered by everyone of Namritam. The great life and the inspiration of Swami Lokanarayanandaji is the guiding force behind every activities of this institution. It seems to me that Sri Ramakrishna and Holy Mother is holding the hands of all of you to fulfil their mission.

Let this inspiration ignite inspiration in the heart of other institution and people - is my prayer.

Happy to Visit & Stay are Joyful day with all of you.

My special thanks to Ranjana, Bhavati and every dedicated doctors and teachers, volunteers.

With deep regards,
S. Sarvadevanandaji

Teacher's Signature
Hollywood, USA



**Revered Swami
Sarvadevanandaji
Maharaj**

The minister and spiritual leader of the Vedanta Society of Southern California.

What Nanzitani's Filix School is trying to do in a poor, rural region is quite astonishing - to provide the finest, creative education to children. To see classrooms full of happy students and enthusiastic teachers, using the best methods of education and latest ideas from around the world, including most recently, Finland, is heartening. What we need to do is to replicate this in other places.

Kaushik Basu
31 July 2018



Prof. Kaushik Basu

Padmabhusan, Former-Chief Economist & Sr. Vice President of the World Bank.

What they say about

Filix



Dr Samar Bagchi

Former Director,
Birla Industrial &
Technological
Museum

This is my second visit to Nanzitani and I am more and more getting addicted to it. What a marvelous ambience the institute has! I see unique floral arrangements all around with such good taste of arrangement of colours.

My work is with the children of the school. I go round the country taking workshop for teachers & students. I have not found anywhere in India such students answering to questions. The communication capability of children, mostly rural, is marvelous. They are learning so well. All thanks to the teachers.

Teacher's Signature

SK Bagchi
21.1.2019



Lena Garkman

The Finnish Educationist and academician

How to describe a place like this...?

I look upon it with
- awe
- admiration
- astonishment
And love,
of course!

An oasis for education, health, faith
mental well-being, created out
of almost nothing, from scratch.

Thanks
up for
science class,
computer/photos
and
3D-screen!
Wow!

The school made ~~me~~ a very strong
impression on me from the start (inventive
Well organised, efficient, hard-working,
staff that have made the best
of use of any material they've got.

Also, open-minded and eager to learn
more! I had so many nice dialogues
with them! Many good laughs, too!

Teacher's Signature

To be able to meet the children and
work with them was incredibly
rewarding.

Even if it sometimes takes a while,
probably because I did things in
a different way (and was a stran-
ger, too), after a few moments I
could see things happening.

Some were shy but the major
part were very attentive and
interacted in such nice ways.

It makes me very humble to think
about what backgrounds they
come from. Such talent, such
intelligence, such development!

I learned so much.

Love,
Lena

Teacher's Signature

What they say about Filix

It was a deeply spiritual experience
visiting Filix school and the Eye
Hospital. It seems obvious there is
some divine design at play. We were
overjoyed to meet the class 6 students
first thing after we came in. Children
were exactly as they should be -
curious, uninhibited, communicative,
boisterous. And very good in mathematics
too. I am proud that this place, far
from anywhere is such a pure
role model of how to nurture the
future of India.

For a long while, I used to despair
that Bengal "what Bengal thinks today
India thinks tomorrow" is an attribute
of the past. Now I realise this is
kept alive here at Filix school and
the Lokeshwaramandala Eye hospital.

I am humbled by the dedication
and sincerity of the great doctors

Teacher's Signature

here, committed to delivering
excellence at this place.
I am not sure how we can do
it, but the rest of us have the
obligation to carry this message
and the good work to as many
places as possible - so we reach
the benefits to as many
teachers and as many students as
possible.

I have one regret though. I am
sorry I am getting to learn about
Filix school so late in my life.
I wish I knew about this many
years back. But then the Mother
works in her own ways, and I
cannot complain.

I wish Bharati di, Kanprey, and all
the doctors all strength and energy and
inspiration in this journey.

Kalyan K. Banerjee

Teacher's Signature



Kalyan K. Banerjee

Former Senior Vice President, Mindtree Ltd

Bridging the inequality divide

We serve in a remote rural area which is flanked by a large thermal power station on one side and South - Eastern railway colonies on the other . Children from families with highly skilled parents serving in this sophisticated power plant, Indian railways as well as those engaged in business, share the classrooms in Filix School with children from families with humbler occupations in the rural areas, some of whom are really marginalised.

We are aware that children begin constructing their relationship with the world early in life and we consider it one of our major responsibilities to ensure that no children, studying in Filix, suffer from any sense of being discriminated.

We organise special bridge classes, arrange for meeting their material needs for participating in the school's academic and recreational activities and also their nutritional needs if the occasion so demands, with our own limited resources.

The challenge for us is to ensure that children from these families do not feel that the odds are overwhelming, the personal costs are high, and disappointments are inevitable.

We believe that, "Education is the manifestation of perfection present already in man" as Swami Vivekananda put it, and that is what the school aspires to bring out in each child entrusted to our care.



Executive Committe of Nanritam

Chief Mentor

Prof Kaushik Basu

Patron in Chief :

Sri Asok Mohan Chakrabarti

President :

Dr (Prof) P.K.Giri

Vice-Presidents :

Sri Dilip Ghosh

Dr.Bharati Bakshi

Dr. Nandita Chatterjee

Dr. Asis Chattopadhyay

Secretary :

Ms. Ranjana Sengupta

Treasurer :

Dr. Shyamal Kanti Datta

Members :

Dr. Urmila Dasgupta

Dr. Kiriti Bhusan Sinha

Sri Karunamoy Mukhopadhyay

Dr Nilima Sinha

Mrs. Milika Datta

Mrs. Jayashree Basu



Vital details of NANRITAM		Bank Account Details :
Registration Number :	S /11 / 8102 of 2001 – 2002	United Bank Of India (for Indian currency) Bose Pukur Rajdanga , Kolkata Account No : 0955010108714, IFSC : UTBI0 BOSC90 MICR : 70002716
PAN Number :	AAAAN 2389J (for Income Tax)	
FCRA No. :	147120781	Axis Bank (for Foreign currency) Golpark , Kolkata, Account No : 916010034911672 IFSC : UTIB0000011 , MICR : 700211003
GST Number :	19AAAAN2389J1Z7	

All donations to Nanritam are eligible for income tax exemption under section 80G of IT Act, 1961.



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