



# Vidya Vikas Newsletter

April, 2016

## Teacher in focus

**Jay Jaykumar** has been with Vidya Vikas since 1998. Early on he taught levels 3 through 6 and has now been teaching level 10 for many years. The objective of teaching these classes has always been to make the youth aware of the rich spiritual heritage that they are heirs to, and easily own and utilize in their day-to-day life. The children in level 10 classes particularly like the little snippets in current research from areas such as Physics, Genetics, Medicine, and Astronomy etc. presented to them appropriately as extensions of our philosophical logic, and would be easier for them to comprehend. Incidentally, those also happen to be areas of his general interest. He holds a Ph. D. from Penn State and teaches in the College of Business at UNT. Smt. Maya, his wife has been actively helping in the VV office in their day-to-day chores. Daughter, Meghna went through the VV classes, and is currently a Junior at UNT. She thinks the VV classes afford her to have larger perspective with her studies at UNT. Son, Hari is in grade 11 at the Denton High School. Maya's father, Sri. G. D. Kamath teaches the adult Gita and Upanishad classes for VV, that are immensely popular among the attendees.

## Student in focus



**Vivek Pandit** is 18 years old and currently a senior at Grapevine High School. For school next year, he is deciding between Brown University and Stanford University. He has been attending Vidya Vikas since third grade. Vivek is proud to be a Hindu and wears an OM necklace everyday. He is very involved with the Hindu American Foundation (HAF) and received the Presidential Service Award for the 250+ community service hours he preformed in one year for HAF. Vivek have written a book called, *We Are Generation Z: How Identity, Attitudes, and Perspectives Are Shaping Our Future*. His book explains the characteristics of his generation (Gen Z) and analyzes their generational behaviors and perspectives. Since publishing his book, Vivek has spoken at various schools and conferences. He is really looking forward to college next year. Vivek is not sure what he wants to major in, but computational neuroscience fascinates him.

## Upcoming events/Important dates

**April 17:** Youth Group Spring fling

**May 15:** Youth Group Book Sale

**April 30:** Hindi speech contest (first round)

**May 22:** Last day of VV classes,

**May 1:** Hindi speech contest final round

End of year festivities

**May 8:** Walk-a-thon

**Registration for 2016-17: Coming Soon!**