



Vidya Vikas Newsletter

April, 2018

Religion Teacher in focus



Vivek Tanna currently a senior in high school, as well as an Eagle Scout and avid piano player and swimmer, has been with Vidya Vikas for fourteen years. He taught Level 5 religion classes for two years before joining Level 6. He was inspired by his parents, religion teachers Bhavna and Nitin Tanna, and he appreciates the encouragement of his co-teacher Anila Jivanji. Vivek believes it is crucial to ensure that young Hindus are able to effectively express their religion. He has also lectured his school's social studies department on better ways to teach Hinduism, has contributed articles to the Hindu American Foundation blog, and runs the Hindu philosophy Twitter account @HinduismFromW. Vivek feels fortunate to have been a part of the wonderful Vidya Vikas program, which allows teachers to bring their best every week to touch the next generation of passionate young Hindus. Next year, he plans to attend Stanford University, where he hopes to prepare for a career in medicine.

SAT Teacher in focus



Ram Govindasamy has been a SAT instructor since 2013. He lives in the Valley Ranch with his wife Sujatha and daughters Janani Shree and Jahnvi Shree. Coming to the temple every Sunday has been a rewarding experience for his whole family. Both his daughters attend religion and Tamil classes from which they immensely benefit. Ram has been volunteering since his college days. For Ram, Vidya Vikas has been a double blessing, an institution where his daughters learn the values of Hindu religion and Tamil/Hindi language and where he also gets to teach the bright and young minds of our community the techniques of problem solving and equipping them with the knowledge and skill to score higher in SAT. Ram enjoys breaking & building stuff, gardening, music of all ages and reading history, science and math.

Students in focus



Dhruv Dusad, 9 years of age, has been attending Vidya Vikas since 2013. He is a very clever and enthusiastic boy and pays specific attention to details of what he does. He is currently attending both Hindi and religion classes. He has won the Hindi speech competition in his class two years in a row. Amongst his huge list of hobbies, he loves to play ping-pong, cricket and recently started paying more attention to international cricket matches. He also enjoys riding his bicycle; has very keen interest in origami and playing with his little sister. He also like to spend hours in gardening with his Dad. Dhruv currently holds a brown belt in taekwondo. Under Vidya Vikas guidance and teachings, Dhruv has come to understand his cultural roots and appreciate our values.

Upcoming events

April 8, 2018

1. *Something to Think about* (Discussion Forum)
2. Hindi Final Exam
3. Vidya Vikas Teachers' Meeting
4. Youth Group Activity Day/Bake sale

- **Hindi Annual Function:** May 5, 2018
- **Vidya Vikas Annual Function:** May 20, 2018
- **Last Day of Vidya Vikas:** May 20, 2018