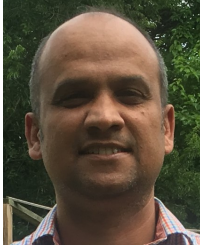




Religion Teacher in Focus



Mahesh Eshwarappa has been teaching religion since 2018 and is currently teaching level 2. He has loved reading Hindu religious text since he was exposed to prayers and bhajans as a grade 5 student. Bhagwad Gita is his all-time favorite book and he discovers hidden knowledge each time he reads it. His journey at Vidya Vikas started when he enrolled his kids for religion and language classes in 2017. He started volunteering in the kitchen and when the opportunity to teach the kids came, he jumped at it. These volunteering opportunities have been very soul enriching. He looks forward to his interactions with the kids, their parents and other volunteers. For him to teach religion to the kids is to pass on our ancient Hindu or Sanatan Dharma Values to the next generation, bringing in a sense of belonging and stability. He loves to read books, including religious texts, pen down his thoughts, practice some form of martial arts and spend time outdoors with his kids. He foresees Vidya Vikas continuing to spread the light of knowledge and spirituality to the kids in Dallas for a long time and it will help the kids and adults remain connected to our roots. He is an IT professional and lives in Irving with wife and 2 kids.

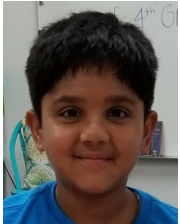
Language Teacher in Focus



Kamala Alankar has been teaching Kannada from past 5 years. Her son finished 5 years of Kannada classes at the temple and she felt he needed more guidance, so after a gap of 3 years he started again. Kamala joined as a teacher then, to encourage him. She is continuing now because she loves to see kids' bright faces when they accomplish something new. She likes the temple, spiritual feeling and enthusiastic teachers. Kannada language coordinator goes beyond her way to make sure kids learn and have materials available. Her husband, son and daughter encourage her to volunteer

her time on Sundays and adjust their routine around the class timings. Kamala likes to read. In her free time, she watches TV, exercises and cooks. She is learning Sanskrit and Telugu. She wants more kids to come and learn about religion and languages. They have a beautiful opportunity with enthusiastic and dedicated Vidya Vikas teachers and staff members.

Student in Focus



Naren Kartik is 9 years old and is a 4th Grader at Valley Ranch Elementary School, Irving TX. He has been attending Kannada classes at Vidya Vikas since he arrived in Dallas in 2017. Even though his mother tongue is not Kannada, he is eager to know the meaning of new words he encounters while learning Kannada. Naren loves being in water and never misses an opportunity to swim. He also enjoys playing different outdoor sports with his friends; his current interests are soccer, kabbaddi, cricket and football. He dreams of being a wildlife rehabilitator to help animals in the wild. His parents are thankful to Vidya Vikas and Kannada Shale for their efforts in helping children stay connected to Indian culture.

Upcoming events

October 13, 2019: **Youth Group Elections**

October 20, 2019: **Rangoli Competition**

October, 20, 2019: **Advice from a professional number cruncher:**

Nov. 3, 2019: **Vedic Heritage Parade (Levels 0-2)**

Nov. 3, 2019: **Vidya Vikas Diwali Celebration**