

POWEdA

change is ours to create



Annual Report 2025-26

Why do we do what we do?

I ask my kindergarten teachers this often- why do you what you do?

I find I' m asking myself this sometimes when I drive to Bhor- why are you going to school today?

I tell my board members- you need to know, understand and believe the why of the what we do.

As in any good education program, the answer is simple- to build intellect and character.

The 4 key pillars of education as determined by UNESCO are-

- Learning to know
- Learning to do
- Learning to live together
- Learning to be

These are very real for us as we live them each day at Poveda.

We started in 2009. It is the support and encouragement of everyone involved with Poveda in one way or another, that has brought us thus far. It is difficult to live a dream without the support of resources that people, who believe in the dream, invest in.

We complete another academic year, making a deeper impact than before, with greater certitude of what we are doing in class every single day and tangible outcomes at the end of the year. And more. This year, in one form or another, we have reminded our learners of two questions- Is this the right thing to do? Is this is a big enough dream?

Reeves Rodrigues

This year, our program worked with 30 children across different levels:

10 in Nursery

13 in L.KG

7 in U.KG.

Each group was guided according to their age and learning needs, helping them grow step by step.

Our dream is to build a strong base for every child so they grow into confident, kind and responsible individuals. We want children not only to learn English but also to develop good values, manners and positive habits that will help them in life. To achieve this, we use simple and joyful teaching methods. Children learn through stories, rhymes, songs, dance and daily conversations in English. Festivals are also celebrated to help them be rooted in Indian culture. Along with learning, we guide them to speak complete English sentences, behave well with others and respect their parents.



We believe that children learn best when they are young. At this age, they can easily pick up language, habits and values. By teaching them early, we help them become confident speakers, disciplined learners and responsible individuals. These efforts brought visible changes. Children who were shy earlier are now more confident. Their behavior has improved, and they show better understanding of values.

Every child receives personal attention and learning is made fun and engaging. Children are now able to speak simple English with confidence, take part in activities, and show positive behaviour. Parents are happy to see these changes and feel more aware of the importance of education in their children' s lives.

One small but meaningful change was seen in a child who earlier preferred junk food every day. After learning about healthy eating, the child started bringing nutritious food from home. This shows how even simple lessons can bring positive changes in children' s habits.

Pramila Shetty, Manasi Pise, Shobha Gawli





Parents' meeting

Celebration of
Gokulashtami

Healthy Snacks
Competition for
Parents



Diya Painting
Competition for
Parents

Sports' Day



Poveda Meals

Last year I was in grade 6 in high school. I have been a volunteer at Poveda Meals for 4 years now.

Every Sunday I go with Reeves bhaiya to distribute food to people sitting on the streets of Pimpri-Chinchwad. This year we have distributed 1440 dabbas on 48 Sundays.

We continue this work in every season without stopping. We provide simple fresh and healthy meals like medu vada, vegetable pulao, paneer pulao, sabudana khichdi, pohe and idli sambhar so everyone can have nutritious food and never feel bored. Every Sunday brings new smiles and blessings.

Today, people respond to me with love respect and warmth and our bond is stronger and it will continue to be stronger.



Last April, when I was very sick and admitted to the hospital and could not go for two Sundays they prayed for me and kept asking about me. When I returned and saw their smiling faces, I felt truly happy. It made me realize how strong our connection is.

This journey has taught me kindness and humanity, and I feel very lucky to serve my community.

Tanish Shetty

Changemakers- A Year of Growth:

The Changemakers Leadership Class is more than just a foundation program; it is a space where children step out of their comfort zones to become active, “out-of-the-box” thinkers. This year, our motive was to move beyond the school curriculum and challenge our leaders to use their logic and initiative to engage with the world around them. Our journey began at home. We spent time analyzing our relationships with our parents and describing the values that shape us, building a foundation of empathy. From there, to keep up with the world, we started Weekly News Sessions every Sunday. By discussing global events and international news, our students stayed connected to world affairs, ensuring they are well informed leaders. Each session was balanced with logic and grammar games, keeping our minds sharp and our learning sessions energetic.

The middle of the year focused on deep intellectual curiosity through Versatile Research Projects. Students took on the role of investigators, diving into India’s medical and political systems, social life, and the challenges of poverty and crime. We also looked towards the future with detailed career guidance projects, where students researched various professional fields—from basic educational requirements to specialized career paths.

However, the heart of our year was found in our social service. During Raksha Bandhan, we shared our gratitude at a local hospital, where children made handmade cards and performed aarti for the staff, honoring their dedication with rakhis. We also conducted our “Food for Everyone” project, the children took the lead- from organizing the project to serving home-cooked meals to the homeless and concluding with cleaning.

For me, this program has been a vital reminder that real progress starts with individual initiative. It acted as a necessary bridge between academic theory and real-world application, providing a space to sharpen skills that textbooks alone cannot teach—specifically public speaking, critical thinking, and collaborative problem-solving.



This journey has fundamentally changed my perspective on what it means to be a leader. Now I can move from understanding the world to actively helping shape it. Ultimately, this year taught us that leadership is an action, not just a title. We learned that being a Changemaker means identifying a problem and having the courage to take the first step. Whether through deep research or community service, our students have proven that they have the brains and the heart to lead the way forward.

- Aditya Patil



Logical thinking

Service project-
Rakshabandhan at
ESI Hospital



Service project-
Lunch for people
from the street

English in Rural Schools

Poveda worked with 784 children from 10 village schools. A bridge syllabus between levels 1 and 2 and a high school grammar syllabus for older students was implemented in the one hour, once a week interventions. With our experience from the previous years, we started each term with 2 weeks of revision of what the students had learnt in the past and we ended each term with one month of thorough revision of all the learning objectives of the term. This helped in an increase in the ability of the students to converse in English.

We had 2 batches, October–November and February–March, of online languages classes by EDIW and led by teacher volunteers from WVSU, Philippines.

Additionally, we had friends from Spain who were with us in the project all through July. While they introduced Spain and its culture and cuisine and traditions and basic Spanish across all schools, we chose 2 schools in particular for extra classes in Spanish– Kondhanpur and Karandi.

In February, our friends from WVSU, Philippines, joined us in our schools for 2 weeks. Thus our students once again learned about another country in person. Kondhanpur and Savardhare received extra visits from this team for more classes in English.



Students from Degaon and Karandi continued to use the tabs given to them by Leap to Shine throughout the academic year.

Poveda introduced HB Fuller to a few of our schools, which were then recced and supported in infrastructure through their CSR.





Paula and the students with their new story books



Silvia receiving an Indian welcome



WWSU presenting the learners' kit to a school teacher.



Kenneth and Chea receiving an Indian welcome in the house of an SMC leader's house





Art Class in Dhangawadi

Sports Class in Dhangawadi



Language class- sentence formation

Grocery Hampers and Blankets

Each year, each one of us on the Board, tries our best to raise funds through our personal contacts- families and friends and colleagues- for grocery hampers and blankets which we distribute to really poor families on the margins of society.

This year we could bring these gifts of joy to Katkari communities in Bhor and Haveli, to a poor village outside Shrirampur, to a tribal village on the border of Maharashtra and Gujarat and to the people on the streets we serve meals to, every Sunday.

200 families benefitted in all.



Distribution in one of our Katkari communities



Distribution after a meal for the people on the street in PCMC

Teacher and Student Workshops

Poveda led capacity building teacher workshops across professional and personal learning themes in:

- MSFS School, Nalasopara
- St. Sebastian' s School, Daund (4 days)
- Pratibha International School, Chinchwad with teachers from St. Jude' s, Dehu Road joining in.
- Infant Jesus School, Wakad
- and for teachers of the ZP schools we work with.

A two day workshop on leadership skills for teenage girls from Azad Foundation, Jaipur was also facilitated by Poveda.



Teacher workshops
Daund
Bhor
Chinchwad

Other Support

- Nutrition for girls in a shelter home in Rahata in the first term
 - School books and uniforms for students of school in Tilaknagar
 - Story books for our students in the ZP schools, thanks to our friends from Spain
 - Teaching English kits for the teachers in ZP schools, thanks to our friends from WVSU
 - Thermos flasks and jackets for Katkari kids in one ZP school and the kindergarten, thanks to Leap to Shine
 - College and NEET scholarship for a former Poveda student thanks to a donor and Leap to Shine.
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- Bharati Vidyapeeth' s Rabindranath School of Excellence students have been very committed to their monthly visits at the kindergarten, leading our students in art, craft, language, song, dance and games. They brought in a lot of stationery for the kindergarten at Christmas. The team also presented 3 paintings to raise funds for Poveda at their school Art Auction.



The BVRTSE team at Poveda Kids with their Christmas hampers



Aditya and Tanish at BVRTSE



Katkari and kindergarten kids with their flasks and jackets

The people that make it happen

Shoba didi



Dipali didi



Sholy didi



Manasi and Pramila didis

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Would you like to be a
Good Will Ambassador for Poveda
this year?

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