

CFH Sitevisit Sept 2019 Rohini Muthuswami, noon.ch ambassador

I visited CfH on Friday Sept 27th 2019 afternoon.

There are now **8 centers**.

Bapu Colony:

Shaila's center -Runs morning and afternoon shift. 30 children are enrolled in the afternoon shift but some parents have requested that their children also be allowed to attend. So there were more than 30 children that afternoon.

Vandana's center- Runs only in the afternoon. All the girls who were enrolled in 10th grade have passed and moved on to 11th grade (class). Sophia scored 84% and has taken commerce. Shagufi scored around 64% and is into Social Sciences (Arts). There are now couple of girls who will give the 10th exam this year while couple of girls are in the 9th. Laxmi is in 12th and it was such a pleasure to meet her. She blossomed into a very confident young girl. Infact, Sophia and Shagufi are also very confident young girls. Their school runs an entrepreneurship course (this is something that the Delhi Government has initiated in their schools) and Shagufi is doing a project on photography. This year in January, two people from Germany had run a photography course and all these girls had attended it. Now each center has a camera and Laxmi was the official photographer for Vandana's center. They have a Whatsapp group and are in communication with the German couple. They send them photographs and tell them about what is happening. So any way, Shagufi is going to do a project on photography for her entrepreneurship course. The school is also going to run a course on English speaking and both Sophia and Shagufi are enrolled for it.

These two centers have moved to a new spacious location. The room where Shaila teaches is large and very comfortable. There is a toilet for the children to use.

Shazia's center- Shazia has left CfH as she has got a job. So a **new teacher, Aarnika**, has been appointed. This center has also moved to a new location. It is better as there is both light and air circulation.

Sanjay Colony

Chahat's center- Has been split into a morning and an afternoon shift. This was necessary as the children who are enrolled in classes 6th to 8th have afternoon school and would have missed out the center activities. This way they are able to come in the morning to the center. As Chahat has got a job, she is busy in the mornings. So CfH has hired a **new teacher, Sushma**, to teach the classes in the morning.

Menaka's center runs both in the morning and afternoon with Menaka teaching both shifts. They too have moved to a new location and Menaka has got it nicely painted.

A total of 330 children are officially enrolled. The teachers went for a workshop with Wall of Books. They have once again donated books for the children. The teachers along with the children will now make a tree and decorate it.

Vijay continues to be the coordinator for all the Learning centers and he has turned out to be a boon to CfH. He keeps an eye on all the activities and knows all the children. He also gets along well with all the teachers.

Regarding nutrition: They did try to get fruits but it became a logistical nightmare. Vijay has to purchase the fruits and then deliver it to the centers. As the prices of fruits fluctuate a lot, the budgeting became difficult. Also delivery became a nightmare as Sanjay Colony and Bapu Colony are far apart. So they have fallen back on peanuts and other packaged foods. However, with the ban on single use plastic coming into effect from October 2nd, I am not sure what is in store.

All the centers are now spacious and brightly painted. The children have made many paintings to decorate the wall. Recently, a notice board has been added in each center where the teachers put up events that will happen each month. They also put up general knowledge information. The children are supposed to read it but I think it will take some time to get into that habit.

One thing I particularly noticed this time was that the children come to the center neatly dressed. This is a new development because I have seen these children come in torn, unkempt clothes. But this time I noticed how neat each child was. There was an eager look in their faces and the older girls are very confident. Some of the girls, like Laxmi, are making an effort to speak in English.

Overall: Things are running smoothly and there are no major problems that I noticed.