



Indian Association for Promotion of  
Adoption and Child Welfare (IAPA)

# NEWS LETTER

January - March 2026

Dear Readers,

*We are happy sharing the happenings at IAPA in the first quarter of 2026!*

*The Annual Family Meet of Adoptive Families was a big success!*

*At our Educational Sponsorship and Alternative Family-care Programmes, some of our students got the opportunity to visit Mani Bhavan and learn about Mahatma Karamchand Gandhi.*

*Life skills sessions with the parents are increasingly getting a good response.*

*Visit by our esteemed donors from Chance of Life, Germany.*

*A lot more keeps happening and we would love you to visit our Project office to witness the different activities.*

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शिक्षा, सुरक्षा और परिवार हर बच्चे का अधिकार





# Annual Family Meet



17th January 2026 - successful Annual Family Meet! 130 participants - children and parents. Theme - Floral  Decoration - flowery designs; floral attires. All children received goodie bags and cookies. Bursting balloons has become a tradition enjoyed by the children. After a welcome by Mrs. Jagruti Mandavkar, President-IAPA, three adopted daughters, along with their aunt (and adoptive mother of one), sang a welcome song, adding to the joy of the program. One of the cousins shared her experiences, expressing deep gratitude towards her late parents. This was an emotional moment which created a powerful and touching atmosphere.

In addition Adoptive parents and grandparents expressed happiness and joy about adoption. The atmosphere in the hall was brimming with delight and cheer. The audience was all ears when an adoptive mother proudly shared her daughter's courage in avoiding a major mishap at home; for which the daughter received the National Bravery Award.

Ms. Savita Nagpurkar, facilitator shared a story to bring forth the importance of gratitude. Narrating thus, she expressed gratefulness towards the adoptive parents and supporters of the Family Meet.

Moving on, children showcased their talents during the Talent hunt segment. Entertainment came in the form of singing, group and solo dances. The icing on the cake was one of the parents expressing his appreciation and gratitude by singing a song on a famous Bollywood tune.

As in every year, tattoo design with water colours was a hit! Children were queueing up to get designs of their choice - flowers, butterfly, lion and so on. An additional attraction this time was the soap-making activity. Children were amused and excited to choose from the designs available, observe the soap making process and walk home with the handmade soap.

These activities were interspersed with the children and their parents posing with props at the selfie point for capturing photo memories. Various games for all present added to the enthusiasm. The Meet culminated with a group dance choreographed by Mr. Karan Solanki.

Refreshments - different Chaat items and ice-cream was enjoyed by one and all.

The main objective of the Family Meet was for parents to come together, share their experiences with children, convey the true meaning of the word 'adoption' to them and support them in understanding their adoptive status. Enthusiasm, delight, a sense of fulfilment were obvious parameters of a smooth and successful Family Meet.





## Educational visit

An educational visit was organised on 30th January 2026 to Mani Bhavan, a museum rich with information on Mahatma Gandhi's role in India's freedom struggle. Thirty-three sponsored students had the unique opportunity to visit on the 78th death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, making the experience especially meaningful.

The students learned that Mani Bhavan served as Gandhiji's Mumbai headquarters and residence from 1917 to 1934. This two-storey heritage building, now preserved as a museum, offered deep insights into his life, his philosophy of Satyagraha, and India's journey to independence.

The students were fascinated to see Gandhiji's room, carefully maintained in its original condition, along with a library housing over 40,000 books. The extensive collection of photographs, letters, dioramas, and exhibits including the charkha, symbolising self-reliance and the Swadeshi movement left them in awe.

A particularly engaging moment was the live demonstration of spinning thread from cotton using the charkha, followed by an explanation of the subsequent steps involved in cloth production. Additionally, a twenty-minute documentary on the life and work of Mahatma Gandhi was screened, further enriching their understanding.

Overall, the visit proved to be educational, informative, and inspiring — a truly meaningful experience for all involved. Here is a student's feedback in her words -

विषय - गांधी संग्रहालय, बमबहा का अनुभव  
माननीय प्रवक्ता महोदय / महोदया  
गांधी संग्रहालय  
आदर जयकार ।  
मैंने आज जिने आपके गांधी संग्रहालय का परमठा अनुभव मेरे लिए अत्यंत श्रेष्ठायक मानवर्णन को धु निने जाना रहा ।  
संग्रहालय में प्रदर्शित गांधी जी द्वारा उपयोग कि जा वस्तुओं देखने को मिली जैसे ते किम लोड में भोजन उनकी दैनिक जीवन से जुड़ी वस्तुओं मछा उनका चरखा उन सभी वस्तुओं में उनके अष्टि जीवन आत्मनिर्भरता को बहुत अच्छे ढंग से समजाया ।  
वहाँ गांधी जी के जीवन पर आधारित फाल चोरी 14 दिखाने की प्रदर्शित करने संबंधी और देना के कि गांधी जी की जानकारी मिली । उसके अलावा जी द्वारा किता गांधी सभी समुदाय कार्य में संबंधी प्रदर्शित किता गांधी जी द्वारा वास्तविक में गांधी देखा ।  
कमरे में इसके बारे में जी हमें विस्तार में गांधी संग्रहालय में हमें बताया जाना कि जीवन का अलग-अलग तने के कर्मचारियों ने बहुत ध्यान से कि तमाम कि इ साखा ।  
जीवन गांधी जी को आ अर्थ है ।  
जाने का स्तर अत्यंत सधु प्रयोगपूर्ण और समान हुआ था ।  
उसने हमें बहुत ही प्रामुखिक रूप पर तन ।  
अच्छे ढंग से समजाई ।  
संग्रहालय की उत्तरदाता और वातावरण बहुत शांत एवं अनुशासित ।  
आ अलाव अतिरिक्त समितियों की जीवन कथा है ।  
आदर जयकार ।  
निवेदिता वांछना





## *Life Skills Sessions for Parents*



Life skills sessions for parents of children supported by IAPA continued with the topics of Nutrition and Health, Financial Literacy, and Awareness about and handling of Child sexual abuse. IAPA has been fortunate to get experienced resource persons for the different topics. The resource person from Suryodaya Foundation for session on Financial Literacy expressed her satisfaction at the participation from the parents. She said she was happy to see attendance by male members too which she mentioned is a rare occasion.

A satisfying moment for IAPA was receiving positive feedback from the participants – “these sessions have been beneficial for us”;

“we have benefitted from information on different topics which we did not have otherwise.”

A humbling moment when one of the parents got up and expressed her gratitude towards IAPA with the Namaste gesture.



### *Donor engagement*



We were happy to welcome Ms. Rita Steinau and Ms. Claudea Elisabeth from Chance of Life, Germany. Both of them not only visited the Rural and Urban programme sites, they spent hours talking with the students and learning about the students' progress. They were satisfied with IAPA's intervention and expressed their interest to continue supporting girl child Education.



### *Aastha- Child Guidance Centre Outreach*



Session on creating awareness about the benefits of IAPA's Aastha - Child Guidance Centre (CGC) services with the Municipal school teachers, who come in close contact with the students. Ms. Lakshmi along with Ms. Smita sensitised teachers for early identification of academic, psychological, emotional concerns and issues faced by children and refer them for timely assessment at IAPA's CGC.





## Women's day programme



On the occasion of International Women's Day, a special programme was organized on 9th March for female teachers and mothers / female caretakers of the school students and children supported by IAPA. The school hall was buzzing with activity with more than 60 participants.

The programme began with a prayer, followed with brief information about the importance of Women's Day, highlighting the role and contributions of women in society.

IAPA's well-wisher and Committee Member Mrs. Yashodhara Deshpande conducted fun games for all participants. Everyone actively participated in the games, and many participants won prizes, which created a joyful and enthusiastic atmosphere. Some of the parents got on the floor and danced to their heart's content.

Every participant expressed happiness on receiving a gift to take home. They seemed to have liked the refreshments too.



## Glimpses

Grit and determination –

After a break for two months due to treatment for Thalassemia, young Sarika made up for the studies she missed and appeared for her 10th std exams at our Rural programme. Ashwini Vaidya, our facilitator guided Sarika's classmates to be vigilant about Sarika's medicine intake during class time. The encouragement and support certainly motivated Sarika to overcome hurdles around her Thalassemia condition.

Support comes in different forms –

A young student, on the verge of entering 12th standard, visited Nilima Karkal, our facilitator, one afternoon seeking guidance. He was confused about how to approach his studies and expressed difficulty in creating an effective timetable. The social worker appreciated his openness and willingness to share his concerns. She advised him to allocate dedicated time for studying and to regularly revise each subject. She also guided him to identify subjects he found challenging and to devote extra time to them.

By the end of this brief interaction, the student left feeling satisfied and reassured, having received focused attention and practical guidance. We felt encouraged to see that he valued the support provided by IAPA and had the trust and confidence to voice his concerns.

## *Wonder why students refrain from reading?*

To cultivate the habit of reading newspapers and storybooks among students, our facilitator, Ashwini Vaidya, initiated an activity by distributing storybooks. Although it began as a promising effort, the activity gradually came to a halt. Similarly, newspaper reading was encouraged, but only a few students showed interest. In most cases, the responsibility of reading the newspaper was limited to the student assigned to share news with the class after prayers.

Despite the lack of participation, students did not provide specific reasons for their disinterest in reading either newspapers or storybooks. Recognizing the importance of reviving this habit, Ms. Ashwini took the initiative to restart the activity. She personally distributed books to the 8th standard students and encouraged them to write a few lines about what they had read.

It is hoped that this renewed approach will motivate students to actively engage in reading and develop it as a regular habit.

## *Our Gratitude*

*Thank you, donors and well-wishers.  
Your support means a lot.  
Our QR code for quick donation transfers*



Donations to IAPA are available for deduction under Sec 80G of the Income Tax Act. Request you to drop us a line on [info@iapacw.org](mailto:info@iapacw.org) once you donate. Thank you.