

NORTHAMPTON

Gujarati School

ગુજરાતી ભાષા ભણવાનું મહત્વ છે!

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Northampton Gujarati School Newsletter

Issue 1 February 2015

Namaste

Welcome to Northampton Gujarati School's first Newsletter. I have the pleasure of being the new Head Teacher and working with a fantastic team of teachers and volunteers, and hope to take the school forward in its success and standing in the community. Being the Head Teacher means I am able to give back to the community that I, in fact, grew up in and allow other Gujarati children like myself to learn about and eventually become part of their language and culture the way I did when growing up; even becoming the future teachers of the school or Head like I have!

As a qualified teacher of 11 years I know the importance of education and how it can influence a young person's choices in life. I see the future of Gujarati School as a lively and promising one. A future where Northampton Gujarati School students are the heart of the community and are proud to learn their language and culture.

Northampton Gujarati School are proud to work with a number of charities and organisations in and around Northampton and will continue to do so to help it progress and grow. Northampton Gujarati School is part of the VHP organisation (Vishwa Hindu Parishad) and we work alongside IHWO (Indian Hindu Welfare Organisation) and ANSS (Association of Northamptonshire Supplementary Schools). Our events are often collaborated with these organisations and are always a success. I hope that you enjoy our first ever Newsletter and I look forward to the next issue!

Maaya Brooker - Head teacher

Contact us: northamptongujaratischool@outlook.com

Meet the Teachers

Class 1 - Vacancy

Class 2 - Ria Patel

Class 3 - Karishma Parekh

Class 4 - Chintalben Parekh

Class 5 - Harshadaben Govind

A huge Thank You to the team who have continued to work hard throughout the term, a special mention to the volunteers who give up their Saturday morning to support teachers and students

Meet the Volunteers

Karish Raja

Anisha Chauhan

Rishna Chauhan

Rina

Priyanka

When and where does Northampton Gujarati School take place?

Northampton Gujarati School runs on Saturdays term time only, for 37 weeks a year. The staff are dedicated in teaching the language and the customs. Fees are £45 with a £5 insurance and a £5 book deposit. Family concession there is an additional £5 fee in total and a £5 book deposit per child. Gujarati School runs from 10am-12pm at Northampton Academy and is open to anyone wishing to learn Gujarati from the age of 5 onwards. Term starts in September and ends in July in line with mainstream schools. There are 5 classes with Class 5 being a two year GCSE qualification class.

The Association of Northamptonshire Supplementary Schools' (ANSS) Award Ceremony took place at Northampton High School on Sunday 7th December 2014.

Supplementary Schools are run by members of the community who endeavour to keep language and culture alive. The Supplementary Schools in Northamptonshire's diverse community include the Arabic, Chinese, Urdu, Latvian, Russian, Tamil, Punjabi, Gujarati, Bengali, Greek, and Polish and Ghanaian schools.

Awards were given to students nominated by their schools for various categories, and were presented by VIP's such as Councillor John Caswell, the Mayor of Northampton, the leader of Northampton Borough Council, Councillor David Mackintosh, and the Chairman of Northamptonshire County Council, Councillor Joan Kirkbride.



Hinal Bharadia received a certificate for 'the student with the best attendance'. 'The most creative student' award went to Riyana Raja and Aadya Dave was awarded as the 'most improved student'. Northampton Gujarati School are extremely proud of these students who work really hard to achieve their best.



**ASSOCIATION OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE
SUPPLEMENTARY SCHOOLS**



Vacancy: CLASS 1 TEACHER OF GUJARATI

£15 per session (37 sessions term time only)

The ideal candidate will have some experience in teaching, although this is not essential. You will be a confident and clear communicator and have excellent organisational skills. You should be able to teach the alphabet and basic numbers in an imaginative and engaging manner.

This role will include liaising with staff, parents and any external partners working with Northampton Gujarati School. You will be expected to attend all staff meetings., be a good time keeper and be part of the wider community ethos of the school. You will also meet with parents to discuss the progress of their child annually and write an end of year report on their child too.

We will provide you with in house training in planning and delivering effective lessons as well as fantastic support from a team of experienced and supportive staff.

For more information about this new position, please email the school:

northamptongujaratischool@outlook.com



The children of Northampton Gujarati School participated in the Annual Diwali celebrations that took place in Northampton Town Centre.

Many of our talented students practiced for hours to perfect their dance routines performed as part of the celebratory events.

The Market Square and surrounding streets were filled with people to watch the performances and partake in the activities including henna painting and saree dressing. A number of stalls selling cultural food and drinks were also offered.

The highlight of the evening was the parade, which featured a five-metre tall elephant and a number of other colourful mystical creatures. The procession tells the epic Hindu story of the Ramayan, in which evil is defeated by the godly king, Lord Ram.

The students of Northampton Gujarati School felt “proud to play the important characters because Ram is our Hero”. Diwali has now become a key part of the Northampton calendar.

huge heartfelt Thank you to all volunteers and supporters who made the day so special.

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Indian Republic Day Celebrations Sunday 25th January 2015

Northampton Gujarati School took part in the Annual Republic Day Celebrations held in Wellingborough. Led by Class 4 teacher, Chintalben Parekh and our vibrant enthusiastic volunteer Aneesha Chauhan, a small group of students performed a comedy play about two elderly Indian women’s trip to London from India. The play takes them from checking in at an Indian airport to walking off the plane at Heathrow. With excellent comedy writing the Gujarati School students play these roles hilariously; really taking the essence of our typical Indian elders! A heart warming and chuckle-worthy watch. Well done to all our fantastic students who have spent hours practicing and perfecting their lines and roles; Nakshi Soni, Raina Shah, Riyana Raja, Dhriti Shah, Ashna Shah, Parshav Ghandi. Let’s hope next year we have something bigger to show off about!

Dates for the Diary

Saturday 21st February 2015 - Gujarati School closed for half term

Saturday 28th February 2015 - Gujarati School re-opens

Saturday 4th April 2015 - Gujarati School closed for Easter

Saturday 11th April 2015 - Gujarati School closed for Easter

Saturday 18th April 2015 - School re-opens

Saturday 30th May 2015 - School Closed for half term

Saturday 6th June 2015 - School re-opens

Saturday 4th July 2015 - Parent Teacher Meet

Saturday 11th July 2015 - Gujarati School closed for Summer holidays

Children's University Opportunity - not to be missed!

Northampton Gujarati School are pleased to announce they are a Learning destination for Children's University. Our students aged 7 to 14 years will have the opportunity to collect stamps for attending Gujarati School and at the end of the year they will be given an award and certificate at an impressive Ceremony at the University of Northampton. The stamps can be backdated from the beginning of September! This is in line with other clubs that your child may attend. There is a small cost for this fantastic opportunity.

If you are interested please see Rakhiben for further information.

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Parent and Student Forums are back!

Following the success of previous Parent and Student forums we are starting these up again. If you are interested in having a say about the running of Gujarati School and would like to be part of our children's community experiences then please give your names to Mayaben. **Also**— if you are a student and would like to sit down with the teachers and discuss lessons and what could be done to improve the School then please give your name to Maayaben.

Why not have a go at completing this Sudoku. Hand them in to Maayaben and your name will go into a prize draw!