

Singh Sabha Southall Education Centre



HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Newsletter

January 2014

Issue No. 2

**PLEASE SEE PAGES 4 AND 5
FOR IMPORTANT NOTICES**

HAPPY NEW YEAR AND WELCOME back to the second issue of the SSSEC Newsletter!

A lot has been going on over the past term – here is an overview of just some of the events which have occurred at SSSEC recently:



Recent News

Amrit sanchar

In September last year, four teachers and one pupil from SSSEC officially became members of the Khalsa! Congratulations to Sandeep Kaur, Gurleen Kaur, Harpreet Kaur, Harneet Kaur and Prabhleen Kaur, who all took amrit on 15th September. We are very proud of them!



Teachers' Meeting & syllabi

All the teachers have been working very hard to prepare structured lesson plans and syllabi for each class. Special mentions go to Sandeep Kaur, Baldev Kaur, Jaswant Kaur, Guneet Kaur and Amarjit Kaur in particular for the extra time and effort they have put in.



Historical Dates

There have been many important dates in the past few months. Last term we celebrated the pehla parkash purab in September, then Bandi Chhor divas and Guru Nanak Dev ji's gurpurab in November. Towards the end of the term, we commemorated many shaheeds, including Guru Teg Bahadur ji, the Char Sahibzadey, and Mata Gujri ji. You can learn more about them on page 8.



Sandwiches

A big thank you to all the parents who have been providing the students with milk and sandwiches over the last half term. It takes a lot of effort to make lunch for 200 pupils every week, but the parents have risen to the challenge! The recent change in timetable has moved the Kirtan class forward to 1pm, allowing us to have a break of half an hour between Punjabi and Kirtan class, so the children are not hungry in the afternoon.

Winter Programme



This year's winter programme was a great success, and everyone who participated or came to watch enjoyed it very much. We heard poems, sakhis, articles, shabads, and much more from the talented Kirtan and Punjabi students.

Each class had prepared a short presentation on topics ranging from Guru Nanak Dev ji, to the Rehat Maryada, to how to make Karha Parshad!

Lunch was prepared and served by an efficient team of parents and teachers – thank you to those who helped out!

But no-one was allowed to relax for long, as there was a fun quiz to complete in the meantime! Everyone did really well, although there were a few *interesting* answers as well. In the end, the three winning teams were awarded with an edible prize.

Prizes were also given to one student from each class who had done consistently well throughout the term, although it took the teachers a long time and a lot of effort to decide on the prizewinners!

Thank you to everyone who made the event a success, and we all look forward to seeing what the students have in store for the next programme!

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Admission Forms

There are currently well over 200 students enrolled at SSSEC, so it is vital that we have necessary information about all students in the event of an emergency. However, we have noticed that a number of the students' admission forms are either incomplete or not present in our records.

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR CHILD'S ADMISSION FORM IS COMPLETE.



Singh Sabha Southall Education Centre
SSSEC

PUPIL ADMISSION FORM

Name: First name _____ Singh/Kaur _____ Surname _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Male/Female (delete as appropriate)
 Unique Pupil Number: _____ (DO NOT FILL IN)
 Address: _____ Mobile: _____
 _____ Email: _____
 Post Code: _____
 Pupil will be attending: Punjabi Class _____ Kirtan Class _____ Other: _____

Photo

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION (if under 18)
 MOTHER / GUARDIAN 1 FATHER / GUARDIAN 2
 Name: _____ Name: _____
 Address: _____ Address (if different): _____

 Phone Numbers
 Home: _____ Home: (if different) _____
 Mobile: _____ Mobile: _____
 Email: _____ Email: _____

Singh Sabha Southall Education Centre
 11660@btinternet.co.uk
 Harbans Kaur: 07545065847
 Sukhraj Kiran Kaur: 07941696607

MEDICAL & ADDITIONAL NEEDS INFORMATION

DOCTOR
 Surgery name and address: _____ Doctor's name (if known): _____
 _____ Telephone number: _____

Does your child have any medical conditions (e.g. allergies, asthma, diabetes, epilepsy etc.) at present? Please give details including any medication requirements: _____

If your child uses an inhaler, is it carried on their person? Yes/No
 Does your child use an Epi-Pen and is it carried on their person? Yes/No
 Do you consent to your child's photo being used in SSSEC publications? Yes/No
 Further information if necessary: _____

DATE OF ADMISSION: _____
 FORM CHECKED BY: _____ Yearly Fee paid: £15 £30
 PUPIL SIGNATURE (if over 18): _____
 The ultimate responsibility for the welfare of my child remains with me as a parent.
 PARENT SIGNATURE: _____

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Library books

In order to improve the children's Punjabi skills, we would like everyone to make an effort to regularly borrow Punjabi books from their local libraries. As well as improving your children's (and your own!) Punjabi, this will help to ensure that libraries do keep Punjabi books rather than getting rid of them because there is little or no demand for Punjabi books. For younger children in particular, there are usually a variety of dual language English/Punjabi books available at most local libraries.

Presentation of exam certificates

On 9th February, all students who did GCSE and A level Panjabi in June 2013, as well as those who sat the music exams last summer, will be presented with certificates and prizes. The presentation will take place at Park Avenue Gurdwara from 11am – 2pm and the exam students will be performing kirtan as well. There will be no classes on that day. A letter about this event will be given out nearer to the date.

Parents in classes

We have noticed that some parents are accompanying their children into class. However, to minimise disruption, no parents should be present in classes unless they have the consent of the SSSEC coordinators.

Music Exams

Last summer (2013) our first batch of music students and teachers sat the vocal and instrumental exams run by the Pracheen Kala Kendra in Chandigarh. Everyone did really well, and from now, the music teachers will be entering all capable kirtan and tabla students to do the exams. The students will be assessed in class before being entered, to make sure they are ready. We hope that eventually all SSSEC kirtan and tabla students will have sat these exams and gained a certificate from the Pracheen Kala Kendra.



Instrument usage

Due to the rapid expansion of the SSSEC kirtan and tabla classes, it has become impossible for all students to be provided with an instrument from the centre! All students are therefore encouraged to buy their own instrument – this will enable them to practise at home and get the most out of the Sunday classes. It is advised that you write your name clearly on your instruments to prevent them being mixed up with another pupil's. We would also like to remind the pupils that all instruments, whether belonging to them, the centre, or someone else, should be treated with respect and care as they can be easily damaged.

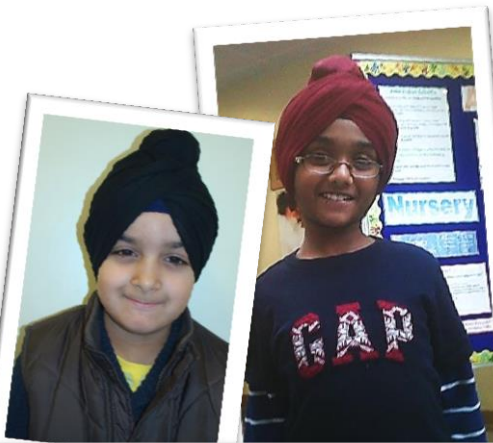
Hemkunt Symposium and Kirtan Darbar

The deadlines for entering the annual speech competition and kirtan darbar are coming up soon! This year we aim to have every eligible SSSEC student taking part in the symposium, and as many kirtan students as possible competing in the kirtan darbar. Help will be given to all pupils to prepare for the competitions. If you have any further queries, do not hesitate to ask one of the SSSEC team. You can find the key dates below.

Dates for your diary

- 2nd February:** Registration deadline for Hemkunt symposium
- 9th February:** Presentation of exam certificates at Park Avenue
- 23rd February:** Half term break
- 14th March:** Sikh Environment Day
- 30th March:** Centre-level symposium at Khalsa Primary School, Norwood Green
Registration deadline for keertan darbaar
- 6th April & 13th April :** Spring break
- 27th April:** Zonal-level symposium (venue to be confirmed)
- 4th May:** Keertan darbaar at Sri Guru Singh Sabha Gurdwara, Havelock Road

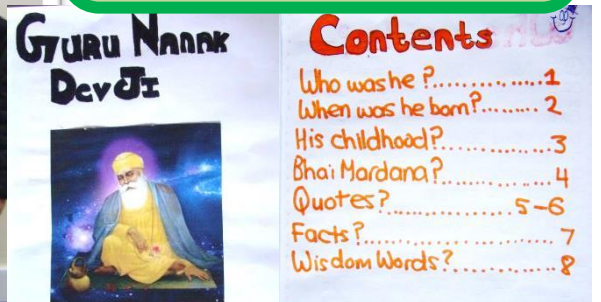
A special mention goes to...



...the children who have been learning how to tie a **dastaar** over the past few weeks. Recently, a lot of students have expressed a desire to learn how to tie a dastaar, and our teachers have been helping them in this. Every week, we see more students looking smart as they come in wearing a dastaar! Anyone who also wants to learn, can ask one of the SSSEC teachers for more information.



...**Harnoor Kaur** for the amazing booklet she has made about Guru Nanak Dev Ji. Here is what it looks like:



Who was he?

Guru Nanak Dev Ji was the founder of Sikhism. He was the first Guru in Sikhi and taught right over wrong. Guru Nanak was recognised as a very spiritual person from a young age but began travelling to preach his message around the age of thirty. Many many people have lived on this earth. He remember some of them but many of them we don't remember at all. Great men give us great thoughts so we remember them. We are always happy when Christmas comes. On Christmas day a great man was born. He was Jesus Christ. The Sikhs have another 'Christmas day.' It comes in October/November every year. They call it GURPURB. It is the day when another great man was born. His name was Nanak.

When was he born?

Guru Nanak was born on the 15th April 1469 at Nankana Sahib, Pakistan. Guru Nanak left this world on September 22nd 1539 at Kartarpur, Pakistan. His father was Mehta Kalu and his mother was Mata Tripta. Guru Nanak also had a sister, Bebe Nanaki, who was four years older than him. Bebe Nanaki was the first person to realise her younger brothers spiritual power. Guru Nanak had a wife, Mata Sulakhi ji. She gave birth to two sons: Sri Chand and Lakhmi Das. Guru Nanak was born in a hindu family, but brought up the religion of Sikhism.

His Childhood

When Guru Nanak was seven years old, he was sent to a school. He liked to read, write and think. Very soon he learnt a lot and surprised his teacher. But more than his books, he liked to sit and think about God. He would sit down, close his eyes, and say nothing. His friends also joined him. The teacher liked them to read books but they had only God on their lips. The teacher told this to Nanak's father. He thought that Guru Nanak did not like going school. So he did not send him to school anymore. Then Guru Nanak was happy. He had now made friends with many boys and all of them sang hymns in the streets.

Bhai Mardana

Guru Nanak had one companion with him, until death, Bhai Mardana. Once, Guru Nanak dev ji went to a poor woman who was crying, and holding a baby. She told Guru Nanak about how her six sons had died the minute they were born. She told him about her seventh son. She named him Marjona, because she knew he would probably die too. Guru Nanak shook his head and held the baby high. He renamed him Mardana which meant Mar-dana, he won't die. Guru Nanak went on his travels with his companion Bhai Mardana.

Quotes

Even kings and emperors with heaps of wealth and vast dominion cannot compare with an ant filled with the love of God.

Sing the Songs of joy to the Lord, serve the name of the Lord and become the Servant of His Servants.

may the teaching of the Guru be re-flect and Compassion in you and bring into your life, the glow of Happiness and Prosperity.

Death would not be called bad, if one knew how to truly die.

I am not the born how can there either be birth or Death for me.

Facts

- At the age of nine, Guru Nanak refused to wear the Sacred thread and believed only God can make you a good boy.
- At the age of sixteen, Guru Nanak helped some poor Saints, by feeding them with all his money.
- Guru Nanak believed in only one God.
- Guru Nanak Dev Ji was born in a Hindu family but brought up the religion of Sikhism.

Wisdom Words

- Naam Japna - Pray to God
- Kirat karna - Care for others
- Vand ke Shukna - Share what you have with others
- All is one - Equality!

Guru Nanak was not only Guru to Sikhs, but to humanity.

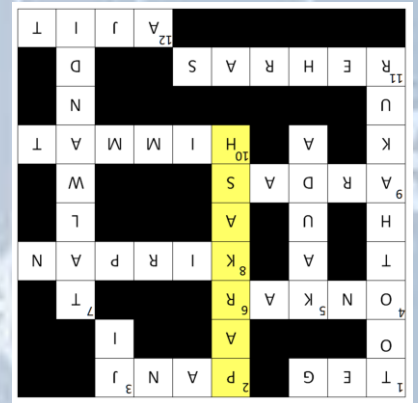
If you want to submit something for the SSSEC newsletter, like Harnoor, please talk to your teacher, or email us at sssec@hotmail.co.uk

Activities!

Punjabi (winter-themed) wordsearch:

Can you find all these words in the wordsearch below? As a bonus, you could try to work out what they mean!

ਛੁੱ	ਕੇ	ਰੀ	ਠ	ੜੇ	ਲ	ਜੋ	ਣ	ਧ	ਹ
ਚ	ਟੀ	ਆ	ਸ਼ੀ	ਦਾਂ	ਰੋ	ਹ	ੜ	ਗੈ	ਨੇ
ਸੇ	ਮ	ਆਂ	ਢ	ਗ	ਰ	ਮ	ਦੁੱ	ਧ	ਰਾ
ਦਿ	ਝ	ਘ	ਭਾ	ੜੇ	ਥ	ਤੇ	ਰੀ	ਕੁ	ਮੰ
ਲ	ਸੁ	ਟ	ਲੋ	ਉ	ਖੀ	ਨੇ	ਸ਼	ਖਿ	ਕੇ
ਸਾ	ਰਿ	ਪੁੰ	ਗ਼ੀ	ਨ	ਹ	ਈ	ਘਾ	ਇੰ	ਟਾ
ਵਾਂ	ਫ	ਦ	ਗ	ਫ	ਕੋ	ਨੇ	ਬੁ	ਜ਼ੀ	ਪ
ਨ	ਬੇ	ਦੋ	ਤੂ	ਫ਼ਾ	ਨ	ਵਿ	ਰਾ	ਕੋ	ਗ
ਪਾ	ਣ	ਇ	ਮਾ	ਬੀ	ਅ	ਯ	ਘ	ਠੰ	ਓ
ਫ	ਬ	ਰ	ਫ	ਦਾ	ਗੋ	ਲਾ	ਪੰ	ਜ	ਡ



Here are the answers to the last crossword. Did you get them all right?

ਬਰਫ ਦਾ ਗੋਲਾ

ਗੜੇ

ਹਨੇਰੀ

ਨਵਾਂ ਸਾਲ

ਗਰਮ ਦੁੱਧ

ਛੁੱਟੀਆਂ

ਕੋਰਾ

ਠੰਡ

ਪੁੰਦ

ੜੇਲ

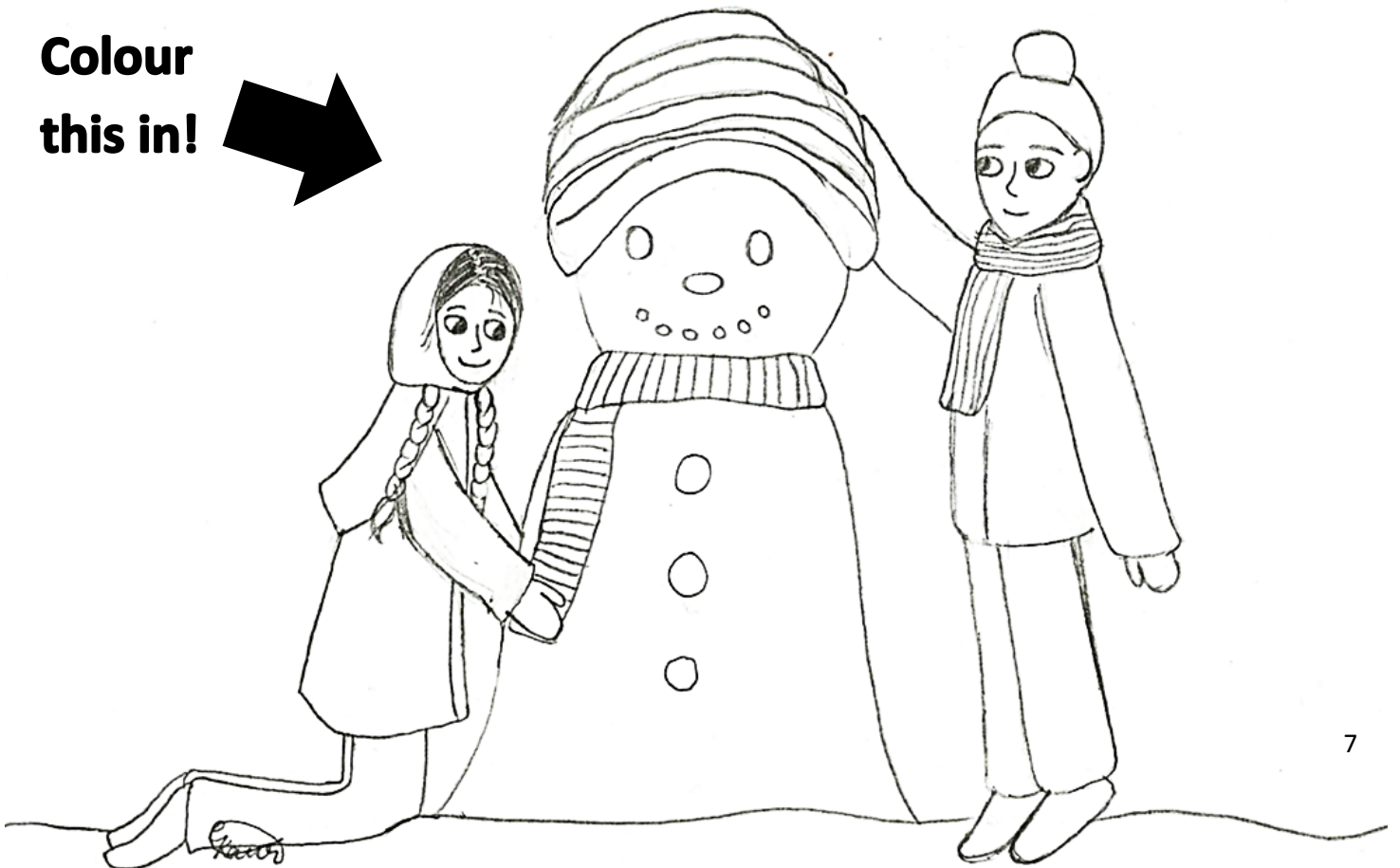
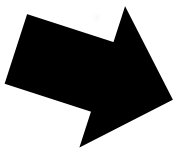
ਹੜ

ਤੂਫਾਨ

ਪਟਾਕੇ

ਹਨੇਰਾ

Colour this in!



Remember ⁸

Our

Shaheeds

Guru Gobind Singh Ji was the tenth Sikh Guru.

He was born on **5th January 1666** – we recently celebrated his gurpurab!

Guru Gobind Singh ji used to be called **Gobind Rai** until Vaisakhi in 1699, when he took **Amrit** from the Panj Pyare at Anandpur Sahib.

When Gobind Rai was nine years old, his father, **Guru Teg Bahadur ji**, was **beheaded** at Delhi.

Guru Teg Bahadur ji **sacrificed** his life for the people who were being forced to turn into muslims by the cruel rulers of the time.

He **refused to convert** to Islam, so the king tortured and killed three of his Sikhs, and then beheaded him.

So Gobind Rai became the next Guru at the **age of nine**.

Guru ji had four sons – the **char Sahibzadey**.

‘Char’ means ‘**four**’ in Punjabi, and ‘Sahibzada’ means ‘**prince**’, so we remember Guru Gobind Singh ji’s sons as princes.

All the sahibzadey also **sacrificed their lives** for their faith, rather than converting to Islam.

The two **older Sahibzadey** – Baba Ajit Singh ji and Baba Jujhar Singh ji – were only teenagers when they were killed in the **battle of Chamkaur**.

The two **younger sahibzadey** – Baba Zorawar Singh ji and Baba Fateh Singh ji – were not even ten years old when they were **bricked alive** in Sirhind.

Their grandmother **Mata Gujri ji** – Guru Gobind Singh ji’s mother – was then thrown off a tall tower called the **Thanda Burj**.

We remember these sacrifices every December.

All these ‘**shaheeds**’ – martyrs – are a reminder to be **strong in our beliefs** even when we are threatened by others because of what we believe in.

