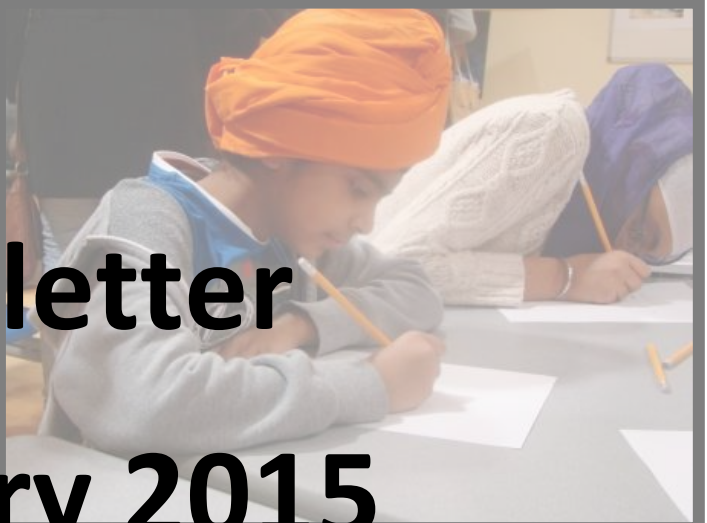




## Newsletter February 2015



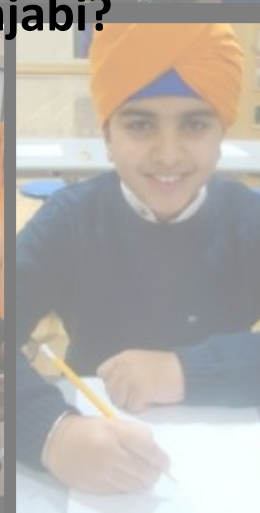
**P2 & 3 – IMPORTANT NOTICES**

**P4 & 5 – Student Achievements**

**P6 – Winter Programme**

**P7 – Why Should We Learn Punjabi?**

**P8 – Kids' Page**



SSSEC Newsletter written and edited  
by Gurleen Kaur and Harpreet Kaur

Classes every Sunday held at Khalsa  
Primary School, Norwood Green  
For more information please contact us:  
07941696607 (Sukhraj Kiran Kaur)  
[sssec@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sssec@hotmail.co.uk)  
[www.sssec.org](http://www.sssec.org)  
[www.twitter.com/sssec](https://twitter.com/sssec)

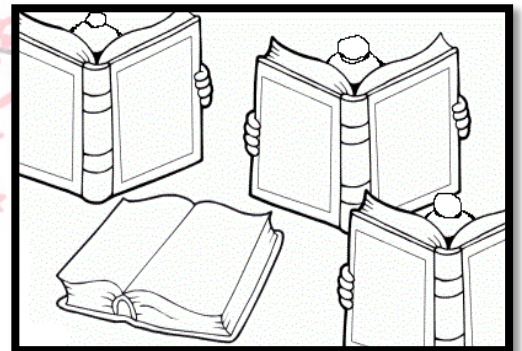
# IMPORTANT NOTICES

On 18<sup>th</sup> January we held a parents' meeting to discuss how to improve SSSEC further. Thank you to everyone who attended, and in particular to Sonia Kaur (Ajuni & Habhi's mum), who wrote up the minutes from the meeting. These are available on our website ([www.sssec.org](http://www.sssec.org)) under News>>Previous Letters.



All pupils need to be present in the darbar hall at 9:55am for a prompt 10:00am assembly. Assembly often overruns due to many students arriving late, which also impacts negatively on Punjabi & Gurmat lessons.

A lot of parents are helping out each week, but we still need more parent volunteers to further improve and expand SSSEC! Please sign up on the sheets available on the tables by the entrance of the school, or let us know directly that you would like to volunteer. We especially need volunteers to help the children practise their reading on a regular basis.



Gurmat Classes for adults are held in the Darbar hall after assembly, at 11am. Please come and join in to discuss and learn more about Gurbani meanings and pronunciation.

Good attendance is very important for pupils to be able to improve their Punjabi and kirtan. If a student has been absent, please email us as soon as possible. Please include the student's name, unique number, class, and reason for absence. If you do not have an email account, you can text us instead.



This year we have seen a massive increase in the numbers of both Punjabi and music students. This has meant that the shortage in musical instruments is now even more keenly felt. Therefore it is now compulsory for every music student to buy their own instruments. Those unable to bring in their instrument for a valid reason, please do not hesitate to talk to us. We also offer advanced music classes, with a variety of instruments. Please let us know if interested in taking these classes.



We are now trying to increase the focus onto speaking Punjabi in particular. Please encourage your children to speak Punjabi more often by practicing at home. You can also borrow dual-language books from your local library to help your child practise.



It is almost time for the first round of the Hemkunt Symposium 2015! We are hoping to see more children take part than ever, so please remember to register by the deadline on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March. The centre level round this year will take place at the SSSEC Centre on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2015 and the zonal level round will on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April at Featherstone High School.



#### Upcoming Dates:

22<sup>nd</sup> February – Centre closed for half term

1<sup>st</sup> March – Classes restart

8<sup>th</sup> March – Deadline for Hemkunt speech competition registration

22<sup>nd</sup> March – Hemkunt Speech competition first round for groups 1, 2 & 3

29<sup>th</sup> March – Vaisakhi Programme & last day of term

5<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April – Centre closed for school holidays

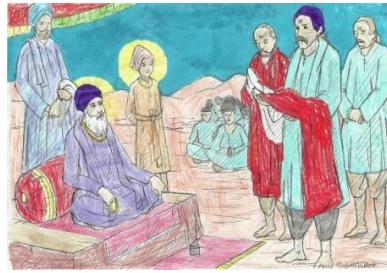
19<sup>th</sup> April – Classes restart, Hemkunt Zonal at Featherstone High School



# STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Our students continue to make us proud with their behaviour, classwork, and many achievements!

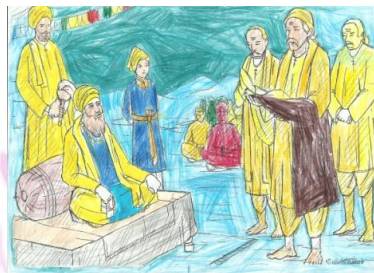
We have been learning about the shaheedis we remember during the winter season. Here are some pictures of Guru Teg Bahadur ji beautifully coloured in by Jasmehar, Margh, Eesha and Amanjot in Class 1.



Eesha



Margh



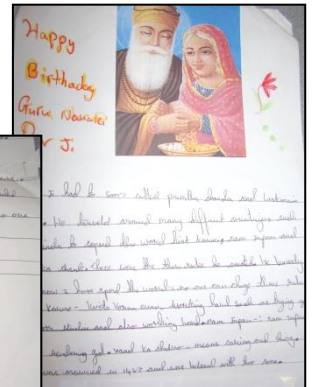
Amanjot



Jasmehar

In the last newsletter, there were two competitions. Jasmehar Kaur, Harleen Kaur and Avneet Kaur were the first students to answer the questions on 1984, and Harmeet Singh and Ajuni Kaur were the first to correctly translate the poem on the activities' page. Keep up the hard work!

Diya Nanaki Kaur has made an amazing booklet about Guru Nanak Dev ji – you can see the rest of the booklet on the SSSEC website.

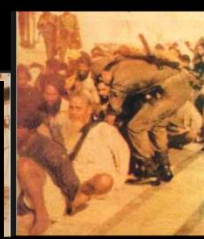


Here is some information:



- Attack on Akal Takht
- June 1984
- By Indira Gandhi
- 'Operation Blue Star'

- Attacks on Sikhs in November after Indira Gandhi was shot
- Thousands died



Attack On Akal Takht

By Jessica Kaur and Class 5

Jessica Kaur in Class 5 made a very informative PowerPoint presentation which was used by her class in the Winter programme. Some other students had also made a presentation, but this could not be used on the day. However, they did a fantastic job of explaining what happened in 1984. Well done to all of you!



# & SPECIAL MENTIONS...

Over the past few months, more and more students have been wearing dastaars, which is great to see! In assembly, we have learned about how this is an important part of the Sikh identity, and we would like to see even more students wearing turbans in the coming weeks. Thank you also to the parents who help tie dastaars in the morning.



A big thank you also goes to the extremely committed parent and student volunteers, and everyone else who helps to make SSSEC run so smoothly every Sunday =)

We are very proud of one student in particular, who got a special mention and a certificate in morning assembly. Well done to Iljeet Singh, for huge improvements in his behaviour and quality of work, as well as his Punjabi! He has put in a lot of effort over the past term – keep it up!



Congratulations to the twenty students who sat the Pracheen Kala Kendra music exams last summer – everyone did really well, with most passing in the first division, and many achieving distinction!





# WINTER PROGRAMME



A lot of planning and preparations made the 2014 Winter Programme the best one yet! We started the day off with assembly as usual, followed by the Thought of the Week and Sikhs in the Spotlight.



Then it was the students' turn to go on stage. Four Punjabi classes had each prepared a 10-minute presentation on a different topic relating to our theme of 'human rights and injustice'. The GCSE class read some poems and spoke about the life of Guru Nanak Dev ji, Class 2 told us about the life and martyrdom of Guru Teg Bahadur ji, Class 4 performed an amazing play about the 4 Sahibzadey (written by their class teacher Harneet Kaur), and Class 5 did a PowerPoint presentation about 1984. The kirtan students also sang a shabad between each presentation.



Just before ardas and hukamnama, we had two very special surprises! The first was the announcement of the best-behaved class during the past term. This was awarded to Class 2,

and their teacher Guljit Kaur was especially proud of how quiet and respectful they had been during lessons. The second surprise was the appearance of the Kollektive! These artists talked about the importance of creativity and spreading awareness of Sikhi through different ways – such as drawing or painting.

After the ardas and hukamnama, everyone rushed downstairs to have langar and take part in the workshop run by the Kollektive, which was a great success. The artists were very impressed with the students' (and parents'!) artwork.



Thank you to everyone who helped to make this event run as smoothly as possible, and to our special guests Raj Singh Tattal, Jyoti Singh Dhanjal, and Jagmohan Singh (The Kollektive).





# ਅਸੀਂ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਕਿਉਂ ਸਿਖੀਏ?

7

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਪੜਨਾ, ਲਿਖਣਾ ਅਤੇ ਬੋਲਣਾ ਬਹੁਤ ਜ਼ਰੂਰੀ ਹੈ। ਕਈ ਸਾਲ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ, ਇੱਕ UNESCO ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਵਿੱਚ ਕਿਹਾ ਗਿਆ ਸੀ ਕਿ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਅਗਲੇ ੫੦ ਸਾਲਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਲੋਪ (ਗਾਇਬ) ਹੋ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਇਸ ਨਾਲ ਸਾਡੀ ਨਵੇਕਲੀ ਹੋਂਦ ਨੂੰ ਖ਼ਤਰਾ ਹੈ। ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਸਿੱਖ ਕੇ ਅਸੀਂ ਇਹ ਧਿਆਨ ਰੱਖ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਾਂ ਕਿ ਸਾਡੀ ਮਾਂ-ਬੋਲੀ ਅਣਗੋਲੀ ਹੋ ਕੇ ਨਾ ਮਰੇ।

ਹੇਠ ਲਿਖੇ ਕਈ ਕਾਰਨ ਹਨ ਕਿ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਚੰਗੀ-ਤੋਂ-ਚੰਗੀ ਤਰਾਂ ਕਿਉਂ ਸਿਖਣੀ ਚਹੀਦੀ ਹੈ:

- ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਸਿੱਖ ਕੇ ਅਸੀਂ ਗੁਰੂ ਗ੍ਰੰਥ ਸਾਹਿਬ ਜੀ ਨੂੰ ਜ਼ਿਆਦਾ ਚੰਗੀ ਤਰਾਂ ਸਮਝ ਸਕਾਂਗੇ।
- ਅਸੀਂ ਆਪਣੇ ਦਾਦਾ-ਦਾਦੀ, ਨਾਨਾ-ਨਾਨੀ ਜੀ, ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਪਰਿਵਾਰ ਨਾਲ ਪੂਰੀ ਤਰਾਂ ਗਲ ਕਰ ਪਾਵਾਂਗੇ।
- ਇੰਡੀਆ ਘੁੰਮਣ ਵੇਲੇ ਸਾਨੂੰ ਮੁਸ਼ਕਲ ਨਹੀਂ ਆਵੇਗੀ।
- ਅਸੀਂ ਬਾਕੀ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਦੇ ਬਿਨਾਂ ਸਮਝੇ ਗਲਾਂ ਕਰ ਸਕਾਂਗੇ!
- ਅਸੀਂ ਇੱਕ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਸਿੱਖਣ ਕਰਕੇ ਹੋਰ ਹੁਸ਼ਿਆਰ ਹੋਵਾਂਗੇ।
- ਸਿੱਖ ਅਤੇ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਇਤਿਹਾਸ ਬਾਰੇ ਹੋਰ ਚੰਗੀ ਤਰਾਂ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਲੈ ਸਕਾਂਗੇ।
- ਭੰਗੜਾ ਅਤੇ ਹੋਰ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਸੰਗੀਤ ਸਮਝ ਪਾਵਾਂਗੇ!
- ਬਿਨਾ ਸਬ-ਟਾਈਟਲ ਦੇ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਫਿਲਮਾਂ ਦੇਖ ਸਕਾਂਗੇ।

ਸਾਡੇ ਸਾਰਿਆਂ ਦਾ ਫਰਜ਼ ਬਣਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਅਸੀਂ ਮਾਣ ਮਹਿਸੂਸ ਕਰਕੇ ਆਪਣੇ ਰੋਜ਼ਾਨਾ ਜੀਵਨ ਵਿੱਚ ਵੱਧ-ਤੋਂ-ਵੱਧ ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਬੋਲੀਏ।

*Here is a translation of the above article. See how much you understood by filling in the blanks!*

## WHY SHOULD WE LEARN \_\_\_\_\_?

Being able to \_\_\_\_\_, write and speak Punjabi is very important. In a report by UNESCO some \_\_\_\_\_ ago, it was predicted that the Punjabi \_\_\_\_\_ would disappear within the next 50 years. Because of this, our unique identity is in \_\_\_\_\_. By learning Punjabi we can make sure that our \_\_\_\_\_ does not \_\_\_\_\_ from being neglected.

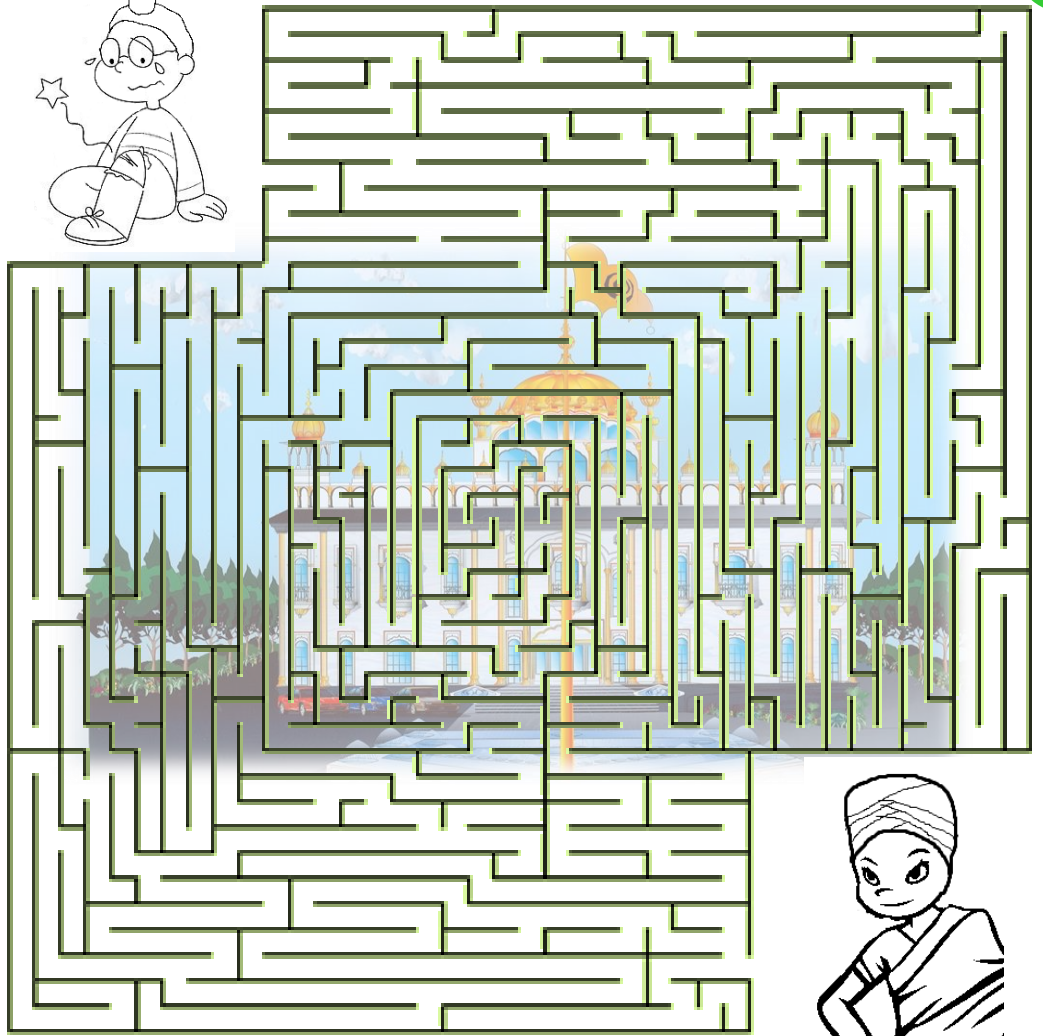
Here are some reasons why we need to make sure we \_\_\_\_\_ Punjabi to the best of our ability:

- By learning Punjabi we will be able to \_\_\_\_\_ the Guru Granth Sahib better.
- We will be able to talk with our \_\_\_\_\_ and other family members properly.
- When going to India, we will find it easier to \_\_\_\_\_.
- We will be able to \_\_\_\_\_ about things without \_\_\_\_\_ being able to understand!
- By learning another language, we will become \_\_\_\_\_.
- We will be able to get more \_\_\_\_\_ about Sikh and Punjabi \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ will be able to understand Bhangra and other Punjabi music!
- We will be able to \_\_\_\_\_ Punjabi \_\_\_\_\_ without sub-titles.

We \_\_\_\_\_ have a \_\_\_\_\_ to be proud to speak Punjabi as much as possible in our \_\_\_\_\_ lives.

# KIDS' PAGE!

If you want to **submit** an article, poem, picture, activity or anything else **for the SSSEC newsletter**, please email us at [sssec@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:sssec@hotmail.co.uk)



Simran has lost her little brother in the Gurdwara! Can you help her find him?

Sikh Environment Day is coming up on 14<sup>th</sup> March! Colour in this picture of a Sikh boy helping his dad with gardening and looking after the environment.