



Anushruti Academy for the Deaf

Nurturing Silence, Creating Lives

(A Social Initiative of IIT Roorkee)

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Newsletter for April- May 2020

After the annual result declaration in March 2020, start of the new session for Anushruti Academy for the Deaf (AAD), was scheduled for 1st April 2020. However, the start was delayed due to nation-wide lockdown. Unable to call the students to the school, it was a challenge for AAD how to teach its hearing impaired students. The AAD Management Committee (MC) decided to conduct online classes for the special students of AAD and motivated the teachers to conduct online classes for our H.I. students.

MC members (IITR Professors and the Speech Therapist cum Audiologist) had discussions on the pros and cons, and strategies for the classes with the 15 teachers/ Vocational Trainers through web conference. The school via Principal made 15 WhatsApp groups, one for each class, through which the teachers first counselled the parents of the H.I. children so that they understand the strategies and make their H.I. child understand about the online classes. The Management Committee took another important decision which included providing mobile phones to those parents who did not have a smart phone and are from a comparatively poor background so that their child could also attend online classes.

The online classes started from 14th April 2020. On the first day an effort was made to promote awareness on the Corona Virus pandemic and the need to take necessary precautions through educational videos. Thereafter, the classes were started for the core subjects as well as for some other subjects for six days a week according to a given timetable shared with the students. Even a Corona virus related contest was held for the students during this period.



Corona virus contest

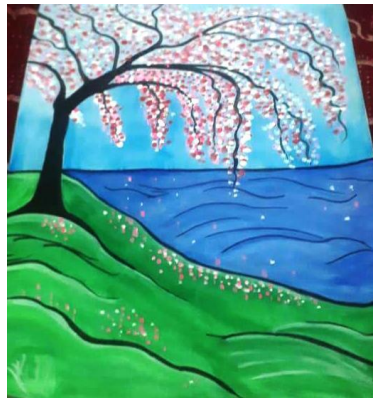


The school www.iitr.ac.in/anushruti gained a lot of appreciation from the media for the unique initiative of starting online classes for the hearing impaired students, e.g. <https://newsbust.in/iit-roorkee-holds-online-lessons-for-speech-and-hearing-impaired-students/>

The lessons which included videos, images, PDF documents, links to websites and worksheets were sent over to every student through the parents on WhatsApp between 11 am – 1 pm every day. Students and their parents went through the material and raised their doubts via call, text or video calls.

The hiccups in the e-learning process were resolved with the active support from the teacher-parent community.

Besides academics, online classes also focused on extra-curricular activities like dance, drawing and stitching.



The students enjoyed Painting Classes with enthusiasm and submitted pics of their colorful creations.



Vocational Training was given to students on making a Mask at home

On 22nd April, 2020 ,‘Earth’s day’ the students were shown a video on ‘How to protect our Mother Earth’ and were asked to water indoor plants or those in the garden. The students actively indulged in watering the plants and shared their pics.



Earth day celebration

On 10th May, 2020 – the school celebrated ‘Mother’s day’ by telling the importance of the mother and asking the students to make a collage work for their mothers and gifting it to them.



Mother’s day celebration