

Issue
#002



GUJARATI SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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Edition 2 Introduction

Namaste and Jai Swaminarayan!

Welcome to our very special 'Spring Newsletter: **Edition 'Be'**.

The Sun is finally out, flowers are blooming, time to eat more chocolates at Easter, time to plant your flowers, fruits and vegetables, the time goes forward, the sunrises earlier in the morning – birds tweet and sing earlier, and sunsets later in the evenings – students can ride their cycles and go to the park.....

Firstly, let's start by **thanking** all the students, teachers, parents and readers who logged on and read '**Edition Ek**'. I hope you enjoyed it!!!!

We got some good responses, please read some comments below!!!

'I liked the Newsletter and its contents. There is some good information that can go on the main web page. This should be a quarterly Newsletter!'

Haricebhai, Committee Member.

'It is very informative and useful. The lay out is simple'

Trushali Senghani, Student.

'We like your school activity. We appreciate your hard work for our Sanskruti'
Patel G.N, Parent.

'I think it's a nice idea. It gives us more opportunity to do fun things. Great idea!'
Kajol Kerai, Student.

'Perfect – Absolutely a brilliant idea, which helps youngsters dedicate their time to school and put ideas into practice. The Gujarati puzzle is good. I will print it and do it myself!'
Mrs Senghani, Parent.

With these comments inspired Newsletter Committee and we decided to continue updating you of recent changes, news, festival updates, games and more fun, more frequently now ;) Lucky you! I would like to thank the Newsletter Committee and everyone who helped with 'Spring Newsletter: **Edition 'Be'**.

Please continue to support us and read each Edition. I hope you enjoy it, please pass on your feedback and comments at school@sksst.org.

The Big Move

So, on **6th April** , **Gujarati School** classrooms moved from Ghanshyam Education Building to the temporary Education Building located to the left of the back main carpark. It is located 1 minute from the old classrooms!

The school office is still located at Ghanshyam Education Building.

Due to this busy period due to examinations and end of year closely approaching I would be grateful if parents would like to speak to teachers or Office staff please make an appointment so that we make time for you and to avoid any clashes or delays.

The admin staff will be burning a lot of calories by walking up and down from Ghanshyam Education Building to temporary Education Building.

This is because the Ghanshyam Education Building is being modernised, repaired and renovated. How exciting :)

It was a very tiring process to plan and schedule, everything within 3 weeks prior to the move. Thanks to my office admin team (**Shivani, Darsita, Nyal, Jyoti**) and of course all my **staff members** for their contributions too, to ensure the school move was smooth. I couldn't have done it without you!

Tumaro Khub Abhar!

Thank you. **Dineshbhai and his team of boys** (you know who you are!) who helped with the furniture move – look at those muscles grow!



What is Easter?

Easter is one of the most celebrated and the most important festival in the Christian faith. Easter celebrates the day when Jesus, the Son of God in Christianity, was resurrected. Easter is celebrated on the first full moon after the March equinox, and is always on a Sunday. This usually is between 22nd March and 25th April, as it varies each year.

What is the Story of Easter?

One day when Jesus was eating his supper with his twelve friends, one of his friends asked him why he was looking so sad. Jesus replied saying that someone in the room had betrayed him and that he was to join his Father in heaven soon. To allow his followers to remember him while he was gone, Jesus broke some bread and said 'This is my body. Take it and eat it and remember me.' Then he took a cup of red wine, saying 'This is my blood. Drink it and remember me.' This dinner was known as the last supper. The next day, while Jesus was praying in the Garden of Gethsemane, all of a sudden hundreds of roman soldiers, who had wanted him dead for a



The Last Supper by Leonardo Da Vinci

long time, arrested him. Later on that day, he was crucified on the cross, in front of thousands, including his mother. After he died some friends of Jesus took his dead body off the cross and laid him in the tomb that was cut from a rock. The tomb was sealed with a large, heavy boulder. Two days later, on Sunday, a friend of Mary's went to the tomb, to find the boulder had been rolled away and the body of her friend had disappeared. She hurried to tell Peter, Mary and John. Weeping Mary was confronted by a stranger who begged to know why she was crying. She replied saying her Lord had been taken away. Imagine her shock when she realised that this stranger was no other than the Lord himself; risen from the dead. This day when Jesus Christ came back to life is known to us all as Easter.



How is Easter Celebrated?

Many people celebrate Easter in many different ways. Religious Christians will probably go to the Church for their special Easter service and others might just enjoy the bank holiday weekend at home. One thing is certain though; Easter can be lots of fun, with dozens of Easter eggs to be eaten or sometimes Easter egg hunts to take part in!

Easter is a very special festival for Christians around the world as it signifies one of the most important events in their history, but can also be celebrated by other, maybe just for the joys it brings.



Here's a little Easter word search:

Can you find all seven words? They can go in all directions; forwards, backwards, up, down and diagonal.

Q	E	G	H	E	G	G	S	N	J
C	D	H	Z	D	T	J	B	R	E
R	V	E	A	S	T	E	R	A	S
O	N	L	O	A	X	M	T	H	U
S	G	P	Y	D	C	O	I	C	S
S	N	K	E	U	V	B	A	R	U
T	I	A	R	J	A	I	U	U	K
V	G	E	S	H	I	S	J	H	D
Q	R	E	S	U	R	R	E	C	T

Eggs

Cross

Resurrect

Easter

Judas

Jesus

Church

By Kevallee Shah

Special Interview– Pooja Parmar's Jeevan

How many people in your family?

Four: My mum, dad, brother and I

What car do you drive?

Toyota Rav4

Your favourite food?

Depends on my mood. Love Mexican and Italian!

Food you dislike?

Aubergine, bitter gourd

Your favourite drink?

Scwepps Lemonade with strawberry grenadine, lemon, lime and mint!

Why do you teach Gujarati?

Having learnt Gujarati at this school myself, I feel it is a great opportunity to pass my knowledge on and encourage other youngsters to learn our Mother tongue. It's a great feeling of satisfaction to be able to teach!

Which famous people have you met?

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Jay Sean, Jessie J, Tom Jones, Will.I.Am, Danny O'Donoghue

How often do you come to the Mandir?

Almost everyday

Do you believe in hard work? If so Why?

Yes, absolutely! One must work hard in all aspects of their life in order to achieve their goals/ dreams.

Who are you inspired by?

My family and others around me

Your Wise Words or a Sentence?

Everything will be alright in the end. If it's not, it's not yet the end.



Your Two Favourite Hobbies?

1. Jogging – I go every morning
- Cupcake decorating

What Gujarati Standard do you teach?

Standard 3

How long is your service to Gujarati teaching?

9 years

Rapid Fire Questions:

Which one do you prefer the most

Gulab Jambu or Rasmalai – To be honest, I prefer chocolate! J

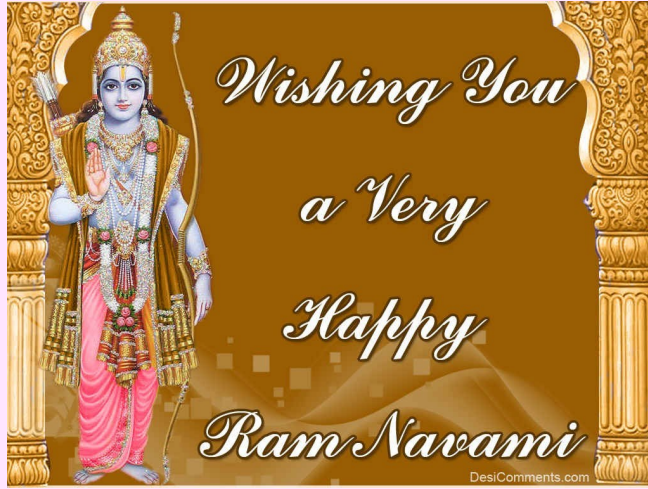
Askshay Kumar or Salman Khan – Neither

Pasta or Dhosa - Pasta

Eastenders or Emmerdale - Eastenders

Straight hair or curly hair – curly hair

Festivals of April...



**Birthday of Lord
Rama.**



**Happy Birthday
Swaminarayan
Bhagwan!**

Hanuman Jayanti

25/04/13



My Easter Holidays

My Easter holidays were full of fun. We had two weeks off and I had so many fun things to do and places to go to.

On the Monday of the first week, I went to a theme park with my friends. We left early in the morning so that we could get there first and spend a long time there. We had a great time because the weather was really good and we went on almost all of the rides.

A few days after that, we went to a water park which was three hours away, but it was worth it because it was really fun and enjoyable, we didn't want to leave!

For the remaining few days of that week I was just at home watching TV and doing some work because the weather wasn't really good and I was too tired to go out.

For the second week of the Easter holidays I went with my family to my cousin's house, because my cousin had just had a baby boy and we hadn't seen him in a long time.

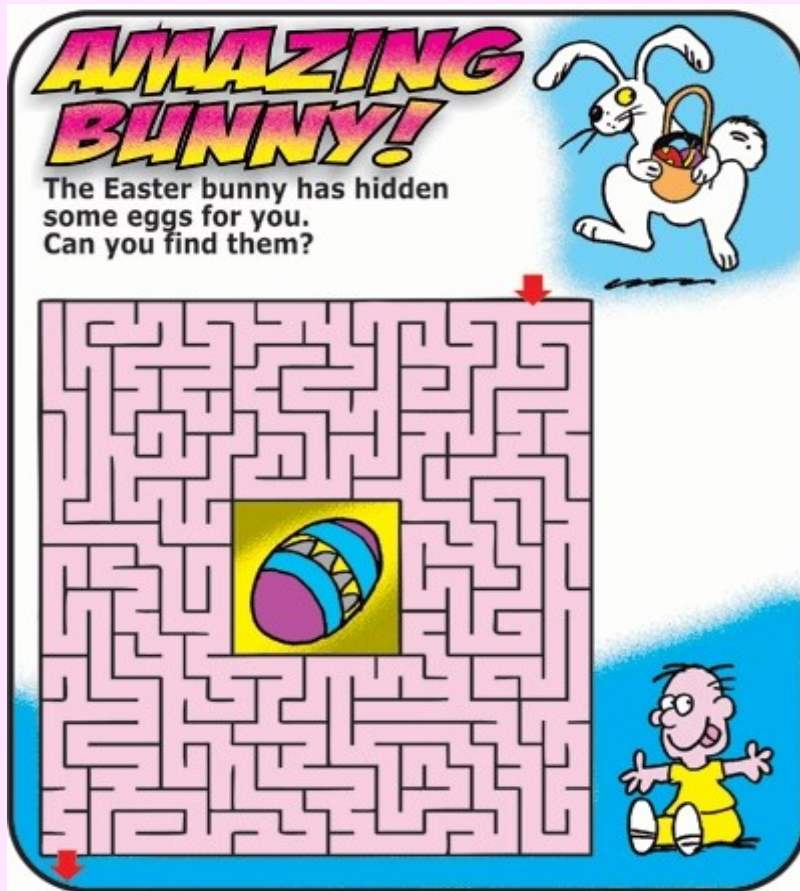
The next day I went shopping in Harrow for my sister's birthday and I got her new shoes and some clothes. Also my friends and I brought some Easter eggs and we ate them to celebrate the fact it was Easter and that we were on Easter holidays. For the remaining few days of the holiday I went to Cardiff for my aunty's son's wedding.

That Easter holiday for me, personally was the best holiday I have had in a long time as I did many enjoyable things and had a lot of fun.

By Pooja Jesani, Standard 3



Easter Fun Page



Q: What do you call a rabbit that tells good jokes?

A: A funny bunny!

Q: What kinds of stories do rabbits like best?

A: Ones with hoppy endings.

**How many words can you make using the word 'EASTER'? Email your answers to 'school@sksst.org' for a chance to win something!
Hint: There are 94 possible answers!**

Q: When do you jump on a trampoline?

A: *SPRING-time!*

Easter Competition Winners

To celebrate Easter, we gave all of our Ankodi and Balpothi students a blank Easter Egg to design in whichever way they liked. We were all thoroughly impressed by the entries we received and found it tough to decide who the winners should be.

In the end, the winners were Kajal, Tanay, Khushi, Kaveen, Ashvina & Devaj.

We would like to thank all of the students who took part!



Do You Know What Ramnavami Is?

By Nyshaal Gopal

All these years, Hindus have been celebrating Ramnavami and doing Ekadashi on this day yet many parents have been asked by their children “why do we celebrate Ramnavami?” and have given the vaguest and unclear definition that it is Bhagwan’s or “jeje’s” birthday. However this is partly the reason as to why we celebrate Ramnavami and there is more to it.



Hanuman (near left), Brother
Lakshmana (left) Ram (centre), Sita
(right)

This year, Ramnavami falls on the 19th April.

On this day, we celebrate Lord Rama’s Birth to King Dasharatha and Queen Kausalya of Ayodhya. Also years later, Lord Rama married Sita on vivah panchami. Celebrations last for 1-9 days and ends Chaitra Navami, Ninth day of the Chaitra month.

At Mandir, the walls are beautifully decorated with colourful patterns and elaborate bhajans’s and kirtan’s are sung by devotees and Prasad is distributed after the puja and aarti. Images of an infant form on Lord Rama are placed on cradles and rocked by devotees.

Thank you

This edition was produced with the help of:

- Shivani Patel
- Smita Varsani
- Pooja Parmar
- Nyal Vekaria
- Nyshaal Gopal
- Pooja Jesani
- Kevalee Shah

Thank you to you all for all of your help!

We hope that you enjoyed our Spring edition and hope to receive many competition entries by email.