



#8
2021 June

Dear Supporters of Pustakaaar,

BIG NEWS!

Pustakaaar is working to understand the need of the hour in our community today. We strongly believe that reading opens young minds and prepares them for a better future. However, to foster a love for reading, these children need access to a good education. The covid19 pandemic has affected all of us, and while many of us are able weather this storm, those already struggling to pay for their child's education do not have the same luxury. To address this disparity Pustakaaar is additionally looking to establish scholarship funds for students in Grades 1-10 whose families have lost income due to the pandemic. Where possible, we will of course continue to do our regular Pustakaaar reading sessions, as we are all book lovers! We hope that our new initiative will help support parents and continue to enable them to keep their children in school. We are also working on creating fixed library models for schools once they reopen, wherein Pustakaaar will monitor the library for the school.

This is a huge endeavor and one that we do not take on lightly. We are working on identifying sustainable school programs, channels for distribution, and administrative due diligence. We will keep you posted as we work through this and as always look forward to your feedback and support.

PUSTAKAAR'S SIVA RAMKISAN IS A DAD!



The backbone of Pustakaar, Siva, went to his village in Orissa along with his wife Sombaari in November 2020. They were blessed with a son on 2nd May 2021. Both mother and child are healthy and at home with extended family. Congratulations, Siva and Sombaari!

VOLUNTEER PROFILE: MAYA MALPANI



Maya Malpani has been volunteering with Pustakaar since 2014. She continues to do so today via Zoom sessions with a Rainbow Homes orphanage. In her own words:

"More than 18 months into it, the pandemic is threatening to have a devastating legacy on the nation's young. In these unfortunate times, Pustakaar has given me a way to reach out to some of these children at Rainbow Homes and play my part in spreading the joy of reading and learning. Reading has always been fun but Pustakaar has given me a tool to spread this joy among many more children, who did not have an easy access to it. Our small reading sessions are lots more than just a literary gain, a paradigm shift for these children that learning is fun. Imaginations and curiosity have no boundaries and seeing these kids experience the same through beautiful storybooks has been an enriching experience for me."

ZOOM VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Let us know if you would like to read to children via Zoom! Our facilitator Shruthi Hegde can help set these sessions up for interested volunteers. Times are flexible, and we can use volunteers from all over the world. Sessions require a good Wi-Fi connection, a laptop enabled camera, and patience. Right now, there are 8 orphanages looking for volunteers to read stories on Zoom to children. **Please contact Shruthi if you are interested at shruthihegde@gmail.com.**

DONATIONS

Thank you to Ms Cass Coulton, Ms Chandana Raju, Ms Disha, and Ms Simran for their donation of storybooks. We received over 300 books that have been added to our database. We are in need of fiction storybooks at the primary school level; please do contact us if you have any to donate!

Your donation will really help Pustakaar. We are asking our supporters to donate funds to Pustakaar online.

Ansh Foundation Bank Details for Donations:

Account Name: **Ansh Foundation**

Account Number: **111405000966**

IFSC Code: **ICIC0001114**

****Kindly write your name in the reference line so we can track donations****

Warm regards,
PUSTAKAAR by ANSH FOUNDATION

Karuna Koripella Shruthi Hegde Shobha Bhansali

Contact Info:
www.pustakaar.org
pustakaar@gmail.com
[Facebook: www.facebook.com/pustakaar](https://www.facebook.com/pustakaar)
[Instagram: @pustakaar](https://www.instagram.com/pustakaar)