

Figuring Out the New Normal

When the going gets tough Tough gets **ONLINE !**



Dr. Ram Singh
Principal DPS Ranchi

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the resultant lockdown, Schools have been shut to prevent the spread of the virus and this has given way to online classrooms, for most of the schools. All thanks to tools such as Zoom, Google Hangouts, and Microsoft Teams. We start afresh with the concept of New Normal where the communication, technology, webinars, virtual classes, Online training, websites, and lot more are the tools to get us going.

However, in DPS Ranchi information and technology have always been hand in hand even in the Pre-COVID era. Now there has been a paradigm shift in teaching and learning from classroom teaching to

virtual classes. I strongly believe that the crisis situation cannot diminish the zest for knowledge in the minds of the students. Instead, this has paved the way for a new dimension in education – replacing physical classrooms with an online mode of teaching and learning.

In this tough time, different methods of technology are being tried and tested by our teachers and management to minimize the loss due to the closure of the school. The teachers are all set and have started with the online classes in every subject to keep the momentum going on. Whatsapp group has been formed by the teachers with the students to pass on the immediate information. Like usual school days, the routine has been prepared for the proper classes and the details are shared with the students. The virtual classes are no less than the physical classrooms where in students are being taught with perfection addressing their queries and concerns.

It's astounding to see the nursery students responding so well in the virtual classes who could not attend the school even for a day due to the



pandemic. They really set an example of optimism when we all are cribbing in the said situation.

I further appreciate and applaud the untiring efforts of the teachers who are preparing the slides, PPT's, and assignments to teach the students through the virtual classes which have not been the part of everyday teaching.

Necessity is the mother of invention and DPS Ranchi has invented numerous ways to guide, train, and teach their students. It's surprising to see the teachers adapt themselves at such a fast pace. The technology has not only been confined to the syllabus and the courses instead the teachers have well adopted the tool

for the students' engagements, activities, and summer camp. Recitation competition was held on Zoom for the junior wing and the kids were elated to recite poems for their friends and teachers. They are leaving no stone unturned to make it all normal at the best.

I seriously think "Learning never stops whatever be

the hurdles, we as a teacher, a guide, a mentor have to find a way out. We cannot wait for the lockdown to be over, days to be normal, solutions to be provided. We are going ahead with teaching and have even made the books available to the students to facilitate uninterrupted learning.

As a Principal, I had to take a stand and abide by it. I have motivated the team to accept the new normal and give their best to ease out things for the students irrespective of the barriers. We cannot sacrifice the learning of the students as their time is precious. They have already lost their freedom to move out, have fun with their friends, play in the ground, and lot more and are forced to confine themselves within the four walls due to this pandemic. We cannot normalize everything but definitely we are striving hard to make the best of the new normal and working towards our mission to ensure that learning will never be interrupted, no matter what".

