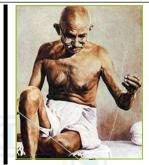
NEWSLETTER

EDITION 1 (JANUARY 2025)

EDITORIAL TEAM: Garima Singh, Shivang Naik, Anvesha Sharma(9-C), Sidhhrajsinh Parmar(9-B)

FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

Inspired by the ideologies of great thinkers and their views on the education system, particularly in the context of post-independence India—a legacy inherited from the British—I was deeply motivated to establish a school that would offer children a space to learn, play, grow, and blossom.



Be the change you wish to see in the world.

- MAHATMA GANDHI

28 years ago, I ventured into education by founding Anand Niketan, starting the first branch on the outskirts of Ahmedabad city, in the remote area in Shilaj.

It began humbly, with just 20 students in a thatched hut. At the time, I was uncertain about how to move forward, having no background in running a school. Coming from a business family well established in the paper industry, I spent my free time reading the works of influential authors like J. Krishnamurthy, Gijubhai Bhadeka, Shri A. Nagraj ji, and Sri Aurobindo.

Their writings and philosophies resonated deeply with me and became a guiding force in shaping the values of the school I envisioned. Today, I am filled with immense pride as I reflect on the journey of Anand Niketan. From that modest beginning, we now proudly have 12 branches under the Anand Niketan Group of Schools. Each branch is unique, but all share the common philosophy of holistic education, striving to provide the best for our students and to carry forward the legacy of our founding principles.



- SHRI KAMAL MANGAL

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

It is with great joy and pride that I welcome you to the first edition of **Nurturing Hearts**, **Empowering Minds**, our monthly newsletter. This inaugural issue marks a new chapter in how we share the vibrant achievements, events, and initiatives that make Anand Niketan Shilaj a

thriving community.

At Anand Niketan Shilaj, we believe education is not just about academics but about shaping compassionate, curious, and resilient individuals. Our vision is to create a learning environment where every child feels inspired, supported, and empowered to grow holistically.

This first edition is a testament to the incredible efforts of our students, educators, and parents who together embody the spirit of collaboration



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and excellence. We are excited to embark on this journey with you, celebrating milestones and sharing stories that reflect the heart and soul of our school.

Thank you for being an integral part of this community and for your unwavering support as we take this meaningful step forward.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Greetings to Our Wonderful Parents and Guardians,

As we step into 2025, I extend my heartfelt wishes for a year filled with joy, success, and good health for you and your families. It is my privilege to welcome you to the first edition of Nurturing Hearts, Empowering Minds, a reflection of the vibrant life and collective achievements at Anand Niketan Shilaj.

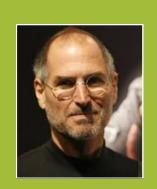
A new year brings with it fresh opportunities, renewed enthusiasm, and the chance to build on the strong foundation we've created together. Our mission remains steadfast—to inspire our students to dream big, learn passionately, and grow into compassionate, confident individuals.

This inaugural edition highlights the achievements, initiatives, and memorable moments of November and December. It showcases the dedication of our students, educators, and parents, who together make our school a thriving community of learning and growth.

As we embark on this new journey in 2025, I look forward to continued collaboration and shared successes. Let us make this year one of progress, innovation, and shared joy for our students.

Warm regards, **Tanu Mangla**Principal,

Anand Niketan Shilaj Campus



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The only way to do great work is to love what you do.

- STEVE JOBS

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CAMPUS CHRONICLES: HIGHLIGHTS OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATION (14TH NOVEMBER)

- **Kindergarteners** enjoyed a *nature walk, leaf printing,* and a parachute activity.
- Students of Nursery to Grade 4 witnessed inspiring enactments by teachers, celebrating the values of kindness and empathy.
- For older students, teachers put on lively performances, including a hilarious *Qawwali* and inspirational dances, making the day extra special. Every child received a *personalised* souvenir, ensuring they felt cherished and celebrated.
- A candid conversation between our Director Lamiya Ma'am and students inspired all with life lessons rooted in compassion.





SPACE SESSION (25[™] NOVEMBER)

Grades 3-5: The Martian Lab taught students about the Mars Curiosity Rover, culminating in a hands-on activity where they built their own rovers.



Grades 6-9: Building
Megastructures introduced
students to the engineering
marvels behind giant
satellites and space

telescopes, exploring how small structures create great wonders.



Our young space enthusiasts from **Grades 3-5** embarked on an exciting journey at the **Martian Lab Workshop**, exploring the **Mars Curiosity Rover**. They learned about its **remarkable journey, advanced technology**, and the **search for life beyond Earth.** With curiosity and enthusiasm, our students were inspired by the wonders of space, and who knows—maybe one day, they'll lead the next great space discovery!



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NIGHT STAY (GRADES 5 TO 8): A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Students enjoyed a fun-filled campus sleepover that included campfires, DJ sessions, tie-and-dye workshops, and inspiring movie screenings. The night was packed with excitement and lifelong memories.







NIGHT STAY (GRADES 2 TO 4): A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Our Grades 2, 3, and 4 students turned the campus into a vibrant haven with engaging night stay activities, including:



STEM experiments and thematic discoveries.



Paper planes, balloon play, and a bonfire.



Stargazing, storytelling, and endless laughter created memories to last a lifetime.

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WORLD STEM DAY CELEBRATION

STEM isn't just a subject; it's a mindset! Through innovative kits and activities aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), students were empowered to think critically, solve problems, and inspire change for a sustainable future.







ANNUAL CONCERT (GRADES 7-8): "A SAFAR TO SIFAR"

Through music, dance and drama, students presented the concept of restarting life with zero-zero stress, zero negativity, and zero hunger. The performances were a testament to teamwork and creativity, leaving the audience inspired.















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ANNUAL CONCERT (GRADES 5-6): "RAVIVAARI"

Students delivered heartfelt performances, showcasing the strength, beauty, and resilience woven into the fabric of our society.

RAVIVAARI: The Fabric of Our Society celebrated the roles that shape our community:

- Old Age: The Wisdom Keepers
- Adults: The Backbone of Society
- Women: Nurturers and Caregivers
- Kids: The Future Builders











ANNUAL CONCERT (GRADES 3-4): "ZOOMED IN"

The Annual Concert, "Zoomed In," brought life's often-overlooked details into focus through captivating performances by our Grade 3 & 4 students. The event highlighted mindfulness, the joy of cherishing small moments, and the importance of being thankful and giving, as encapsulated by the value of Aabhar. The audience left inspired and filled with delight.











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STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS: SPOTLIGHT ON EXCELLENCE



CHESS CHAMPION: AASHNA BAXI

Aashna Baxi (Grade 4) brought home the Gold Medal at the chess competition conducted by Champions Chess Academy. Her passion and critical thinking skills have made us proud. Congratulations, Aashna, on this remarkable achievement!

GIIS CHAMPIONSHIP

Anand Niketan Shilaj School added another feather to its cap by becoming the Overall Champions in the GIIS Championship.

<u>U-15 Boys: Champion</u> <u>U-10 Boys: Champion</u>

This achievement reflects the hard work, discipline, and sportsmanship of our young athletes. Congratulations to all the players and coaches for this remarkable victory!



CUBING HIS WAY TO SUCCESS!



PSSF CHAMPIONSHIP SEASON-3



We are proud to announce that our Anand Niketan Shilaj U-14 and U-17 Boys' Football Teams emerged as Champions in the prestigious PSSF Championship Season-3. Their determination, teamwork, and dedication were on full display, and we congratulate them for this outstanding accomplishment!

We're delighted to announce that Hitansh Soni of Grade 6F won a Silver Medal at the prestigious SFA Speed Cubing Championship. His dedication, perseverance, and passion for speed cubing have brought him well-deserved recognition. Congratulations, Hitansh—keep cubing and making us proud!

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FABULOUS FALCON:

"WINGS OF RESPECT, FEATHERS OF KINDNESS!"

Awards celebrate students exemplify the core values of respect, responsibility, and a strong sense of belonging, transforming our school into a family and a second home.

THE AWARDS ARE CATEGORISED INTO THREE PILLARS OF RESPECT:

- Respect for Self
- Respect for Property
- Respect for Others

NOVEMBER - 2024



GRADES: 7, 8 & 9

Respect for Self: Nandini Bhimrajka (9-C), Krishiv Shah (8-A), Mahveen Faisal Pirtiwala (7-C).

Respect for Property: Pranjal Kothari (9-A), Yashika Thakkar (8-D), Krish Acharya (7-F).

Respect for Others: Shanaya Patel (9-D), Aarya Sharma (8-E), Manish Chandorkar (7-E).



GRADES: 5 & 6

Respect for Self: Shivanshi Parmar (6-E), Varad Josh (5-F).

Respect for Property: Jahan Bora (6-F), Dia Kanjani (5-B).

Respect for Others: Avi Patel (6-D), Ramkrishna Bontha (5-E).



GRADES: 3 & 4

Respect for Self: Yashi Patel (4-E), Dira Paswani (3-C).

Respect for Property: Shrey Rathore (4-C), Priyangi Singh (3-F).

Respect for Others: Divija Dahate (4-D), Zakhi Gajipara (3-D).



GRADES: 1 & 2

Respect for Self: Showyaraj Jadeja (2-C), Neev Bhimbha (1-A).

Respect for Property: Reyansh Oza (2-B), Paakhi Shah (1-B).

Respect for Others: Divij Jain (2-E), Prapti Somani (1-E).

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DECEMBER - 2024



GRADES: 7, 8 & 9

Respect for Self: Dhriti Rajpurohit (9-A), Samayra Munshi (8-B), Dhveej Dwarkesh Gandhi (7-C).

Respect for Property: P. Sai Padma Lakshmi Praabhu (9-A), Veer Chandaria (8-E), Deetya Modi (7-B).

Respect for Others: Khanak Agarwal (9-C), Vani Shah (8-A), YaktaJain (7-F).



GRADES: 5 & 6

Respect for Self: Sharvi More (6-D), Tvisha Shah (5-C).

Respect for Property: Heer Mistri (6-F), Satya Shah (5-E).

Respect for Others: Sannidhi Patel (6-C), Priyal Samdani (5-D).



Respect for Self: Saksham Ragbav(4-E), Arshika Gil (3-D).

Respect for Property: Dhron Patel (4-F), Yuvraj Kewlani (3-A).

Respect for Others: Mishri Maheshwari (4-D), Ahaan Sheth (3-F).



Respect for Self: Punyashri Rawal (2–E), Siaana Udhani (1–B).

Respect for Property: Swar Shah (2-B), Mahir Tilwani (1-D).

Respect for Others: Reet Rain (2-A), Prahil Shah (1-E).

These awards recognise students who inspire kindness, responsibility, and positive action, embodying the essence of what it means to be a true Falcon.

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FROM WHEELS TO WINS!

Our talented skaters have made Anand Niketan Shilaj proud at the 44th Gujarat State Skating Championship 2024, bringing home an impressive haul of medals:



Dron Dabhi (GRADE 8A)

- **GOLD in 1000m Rink**
- 🏅 GOLD in 5000m Rink Elimination
- 🅉 GOLD in 3000m Road Race
- 🏅 GOLD in Mixed Relay Race

Dron Dabhi (Dron's stellar performance also qualifies him for the Nationals!)



Heer Mistri (GRADE 6-F)

- X SII VFR in Rink 500+D
- 🥈 SILVER in Road 100m
- **8** BRONZE in Rink Dual TT 200
- 🅉 BRONZE in Mixed Relay Race



Tamanna Gogia (GRADE 12-C)

- **GOLD in Road Elimination 15,000m**
- SILVER in Rink Elimination 10,000m
- **8** BRONZE in 1000m Rink



Dharm Patel (GRADE 7-D)

- **60LD** in Road 1 Lap
- 😿 SILVER in Rink 500+D
- **8** BRONZE in Rink Dual TT 200



Dia Kanjani (GRADE 5-B)

• 3 BRONZE in 1000m Rink

These remarkable achievements highlight the skill, endurance, and determination of our young skaters. Congratulations to all the champions—your journey to greatness has just begun!

IIHM INTERHOUSE COOKING COMPETITION

Participants prepared delightful dishes inspired by regional Indian, Western, or Oriental cuisines. Judged on presentation, hygiene, originality, and taste, the competition was a gastronomic celebration of skill and creativity.











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BEBRAS CHALLENGE 2024: A NATIONAL TRIUMPH!

We are thrilled to share our exceptional achievements in the Bebras Challenge 2024, where all our students from Grades 3 to 9 participated with enthusiasm and determination.

OUR HIGHLIGHTS

- National Rank 1: Secured by one of our star students!
- Best In State: 2 Students
- State First Runners-Up: 3 Students
- State Second Runners-Up:
 4 Students

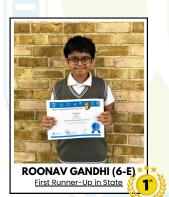






These accomplishments shine a spotlight on the incredible talent and dedication within our school community. Bravo to our bright minds!















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Laavanya Parmar (10-C)









Laavanya Parmar (10-C)





Jiya Patel (GRADE 11)



Riddhiman Jain (10-A)

ART GALLERY: BRUSHSTROKES O

EMOTION







Gracy Patel (GRADE 12)

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SAMARPAN-GIVING IS LIVING

EHSAAS!

At Anand Niketan Shilaj Campus, we believe the true spirit of celebration lies in sharing joy with others. As part of our Ehsaas: Empowering Hearts, Enriching Lives initiative, our students participated in the Ehsaas Visit, sharing their birthday gifts with children from **Shilaj Prathmik Shala**. This experience allowed them to embrace the joy of giving and become active change-makers in their community.



Ayaan Vaswani (NUR-B), Jenit Giria (NUR-B), Aveer Shah (NUR-C), Manasw Patel (NUR-C), Dira Raje (K1-C), Sourya Amin (K2-C), Laisha Babel (K1-D), Adwyto Ray (K1-D), Dhrishika Parwani (K1-D), Alysa M. Patel (K1-D), Hriday Patel (K1-D), Amyra Chandwani (K1-D), Divit Somani (K2-D), Ria Baksani (1-D), Cyrus Jhunjhunwala (1-D), Sia Sethi (1-E), Vaidansh Gupta (1-E), Anirudra Nair (1-E), Vanshika Doshi (2-D), Vihana Thakkar (2-D), Sakshita Gandhi (2-E), Karnav Mehta (2-E), Prehaan Agarwal (2-E), Pranash Shah (3-B), Hazel Gajjar (3-C), Pihu Shah (3-C), Kian Kubhani (3-C), Shanaya PAndya (3-C), Harsh Tekriwal (3-E), Swara Sakarvadiya (4-B), Jainil PAtel (4-B), Hiya patel (4-B), Mishti Thakkar (4-B), Samarth Patel (4-B), Rian Modasia (4-B), Atharv Shukla (4-B), Aarushi Dhruva (4-B), Dhaivya Soni (4-F), Netra Nair (6-A), Aarav R. Patel (6-C), Stavya Kathiriya (7-E), Paavi Maloo (7-F), Parv Doshi (8-A), Shaurya Choudhary (8-C), Kerav Patel (8-C), P. Sai PAdma Lakshmi (9-A), Dhvanit Vaghela (9-B), Preksha Doshi (10-D).

A heartfelt thank you to our parents for fostering generosity and compassion in our children. Together, we are shaping a brighter, kinder future.

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SOWING SEEDS OF KINDNESS!

As part of our night stay activities and Samarpan initiatives, we launched **Ek Mutthi Daan**, a heartfelt endeavor to cultivate gratitude and compassion among our students. With enthusiasm and willingness, students from Grades 2, 3, and 4 participated in this novel initiative, contributing a fistful of grains (Mutthi Bhar Anaaj) to make a difference in the lives of our ancillary staff.

From collection to measurement, and packaging with love, our young philanthropists experienced the joy of giving. This selfless act acknowledges the tireless efforts of our support staff, who care for our students' needs relentlessly, rain or shine.



EMPOWERING EDUCATORS: WORKSHOPS AND COLLABORATION

WORKSHOPS WITH KAMAL MANGAL SIR

Our Respected Chairman, **Shri Kamal Mangalji**, conducted impactful workshops for our educator teams:

- Math Team: Explored <u>teaching aids</u> and <u>experiential</u> <u>learning</u> to make math engaging and relatable, fostering problem-solving skills and a love for numbers.
- Language Team: Explored integrating reading and writing tasks for student-led lessons that encourage active learning.



Puzzle of the Month:

I am not alive, but I grow; I don't have lungs, but I need air; I don't have a mouth, but water kills me. What am I?

Hint: Think about something that can change and grow, yet isn't a living thing.

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INSPIRING INNOVATIVE TEACHING!

A workshop for Grades 1-3 educators focused on innovative teaching strategies:

- Error-free homework and assessments to support effective learning.
- **Story-building techniques** for English, Science, and Math, making lessons engaging and dynamic.
- **Real-life math applications** to make learning fun and relatable.

 This session reinforced our commitment to fostering engaging, student-centric learning and supporting our educators' professional growth.

ICSC AND ISC BOARD CELL MEETING

Our Grades 10 and 12 educators participated in online Cell Meetings, connecting with educators across India. The sessions focused on:

- Discussion of Board Sample Papers
- Scope of the Syllabus and Distribution of Marks
- Creating Blueprints of Examination Papers

Bonding Over Spices

Educators came together to share a heartwarming lunch, fostering camaraderie and relaxation amidst their busy schedules. This gathering provided a perfect opportunity for our educators to recharge and connect with one another.



THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP: PARENTS IN ACTION

PRITI BHOJ: FOSTERING PARENTAL BONDING AND HEALTHY EATING

Priti Bhoj is a unique initiative at Anand Niketan Shilaj School for our Nursery, K1, and K2 students, fostering parental bonding while encouraging healthy eating habits. Every Wednesday, two sets of parents collaborate to prepare and share nutritious, vegetarian, and satvik breakfast, ensuring that our youngest learners start their day with a wholesome and balanced meal.

This beautiful tradition not only promotes good health but also strengthens community bonds and shared responsibility within the Anand Niketan Shilaj family.





ANUBANDH INITIATIVE

The Anubandh Initiative continues to foster a strong connection between parents and the school. In November and December, parent volunteers played pivotal roles in the success of the Annual Concert, contributing to the management of costumes, props, and logistics.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our parent community for their unwavering support and collaboration!

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DIGITAL WELLBEING AT HOME

TIPS FOR THE NEW YEAR

As we welcome 2025, let's prioritise digital balance at home:

- Create Tech-Free Zones: Keep bedrooms and dining spaces device-free.
- Set Clear Boundaries: Define daily screen time limits for all family members.
- Promote Hobbies and Play: Encourage offline activities like reading, art, and sports.
- Have Open Conversations: Talk to children about digital safety and mindful tech use.
- Model Good Habits: Demonstrate responsible technology use as parents.

Let's work together to ensure our children build a healthy and balanced relationship with technology.



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Action for Happiness: A Journey of Positivity

The launch of our <u>Action for Happiness Initiative</u> in September marked a transformative step in promoting joy and well-being within our school community. Through the **#MondayHappiness** series, we have encouraged small, meaningful actions that brighten not only individual days but also the collective spirit of our students, staff, and parents.

This initiative has grown into more than just a program; it is a movement that reinforces our commitment to nurturing happiness as a core value. The positive feedback we've received highlights how simple acts of kindness, gratitude, and mindfulness can create ripples of joy, enhancing our school's culture.

As we step into the new year, we invite you to join us in sustaining this journey. Let's make happiness a daily practice, spreading positivity wherever we go.



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TOP 5 FAMILY WELLNESS TIPS: STRENGTHEN BONDS AND BOOST HAPPINESS

Fostering wellness begins at home! Here are five simple yet impactful activities to bring your family closer while enhancing happiness and well-being:

- Family Fitness Fun: Engage in shared physical activities like a walk, bike ride, or yoga session. It's a fun
 way to stay active and connect meaningfully with your loved ones.
- Digital Detox Evening: Unplug and unwind with tech-free quality time. Enjoy board games, storytelling, or a collaborative cooking session for a refreshing change.
- Cook and Eat Together: Pick a recipe, prepare it as a team, and savour the meal together. This not only
 nurtures family bonds but also creates delicious memories.
- Outdoor Adventures: Plan a picnic, hike, or nature walk. Enjoy fresh air, scenic views, and the joy of exploring the outdoors as a family.
- **Weekly Gratitude Circle:** Once a week, gather as a family and share one thing you're grateful for. This simple practice fosters positivity and strengthens connections.

Share your reflections, photos, or videos of these wellness moments with us at <u>ansh.newsletter@anandniketan.edu.in</u> Let's celebrate the joy of family togetherness!

NEW INITIATIVES: PIONEERING PROGRESS AT ANAND NIKETAN SHILAJ

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS: #MONDAYHAPPINESS

Launched in September, this initiative inspires small acts of joy and positivity each week, fostering a culture of happiness and well-being across the school community.

<u>ANUBANDH</u>

Introduced in November, this initiative strengthens the bond between parents and the school through collaborative efforts, fostering a supportive and involved school community.

ANUBHAV: PARTNERING IN PARENTING

Launched in December, this program offers monthly virtual guidance sessions to support parents in navigating the challenges of parenting. Through expert advice and solution-based discussions, Anuvaad creates a collaborative environment to help students thrive.

KSHITIJ-WHERE THE MEANDERING ENDS

Initiated in December, this program empowers students with guidance on career choices, helping them make informed decisions about their future paths.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

HERE'S WHAT'S IN STORE FOR JANUARY 2025

- Grade 10 Preboard Exams <u>Starting January 2nd</u>
- Annual Concert (Recycle Bin Grade 1 & 2) Saturday, January 4th
- Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM-III, Grade 5 to Grade 8) Saturday, January 4th
- Grade 8 Stream Selection Workshop <u>Saturday</u>, <u>January 4th</u>
- Parent-Teacher Meeting (Grade 1 to 4 & Grade 9 & 11) Saturday, January 11th
- Annual Sports Meet (Grade 1 to 9 & 11) Saturday, January 18th
- Best Wishes Ceremony for Grade 10 Tuesday, January 21st
- Farewell Ceremony for Grade 12 Friday, January 24th
- Annual Sports Meet (Nursery, K1, K2) <u>Saturday</u>, <u>January 25th</u>
- Republic Day Celebration <u>Sunday</u>, <u>January 26th</u>
- Grade 9 & 11 Mundra Industrial Visit <u>January 27th-30th</u>
- Ei Cares (Grade 3 to 8) <u>January 28th-30th</u>

FEEDBACK AND SUGGESTIONS

Share your thoughts, suggestions, and success stories with us at **ansh.newsletter@anandniketan.edu.in** as we continue to create a nurturing environment for our children.

Warm regards,

Team Anand Niketan Shilaj Campus

STAY CONNECTED: FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

Join us on social media to stay updated on school events, news, and achievements:

ANAND NIKETAN SHILAJ CAMPUS











Don't forget to like, share, and comment to spread positivity and joy in our vibrant school community!

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