

OLD THIRUPACHUR MINI SCHOOL - A CASE STUDY

My name is Iswarya and I have been working in Asha for last five years. I am working in panjayat union middle school Ramanjeri, as a regular teacher.

I am presenting a case study about the old Thirupachur Mini School. In **March 2019**, all schools in Tamil Nadu were closed temporarily due to the deadly virus “corona ” that was making its way to every corner of the world. So, we started running the school at home for about 2 months before closing for the academic year 2019-2020. That effected students' in different ways. **Mr. Rajaraman sir** gave us an advice. He told us to start a mini school in our houses without going anywhere outside. **We** also started a mini school on June 3rd 2020. Along with another teacher, we were running the mini school. The news spread to the old Tirupachur government teacher, and requested us to start a mini school in the school premises. After discussing with Asha coordinator, we started another mini school from the 4th of January 2020 at the old Tirupachur.



OLD TIRUPACHUR MINI SCHOOL

This is the first photo we took at the old Tirupachur Mini School. The school was run from this cottage. My childhood memories came rushing to me. I was born into a

humble family and lived in a cottage.

The children were wondering aimlessly in the village and were wasting their childhood. Their nutrition and grooming was also not taken care. I was feeling sorry for these children. I am proud to teach such children who needed guidance. I thank Rajaram sir for giving me such an opportunity.



We first had to educate the children regarding the deadly virus corona. We advised them to be clean, to bath and wear clean cloths. Before the children entered into the classroom each day, they had to wash their hands. This was followed strictly. They were also taught to follow social distancing.



We made learning process a fun filled activity for the children, with songs, stories, and interesting activities to make the children happy. Children were enjoying the process of learning and effective learning was also happening at the same time. However, there was something missing in the child. As we interacted with the children, we came to know that children came to school without their breakfast and were tired. Parent had to leave their homes early for earning their livelihood.



This was brought to the notice of Mr. Rajaraman. He then worked out this wonderful solution to satisfy this very basic need – Food. Especially during these growing years. Asha for Education supported with a nutritious meal to all the children who attended the school. This step motivated many more children to join our school. We could see a healthy and happy child in each of them.

Mr.Rajaraman and Mr. Srinivasan also –visited our mini school often.



We would be scared and nervous if the Mr.Rajaram sir was coming but the students would be happy. Students spoke boldly to him without fear. Sir also happily spoke in favour of children. The students' nicknamed him as “Tall Sir” .

After that we conducted an exam for the students to know their ability and where



they stand now. These exams were helpful for us to identify where the children needed further help. The purpose of these exams was also to identify the effectiveness of our teaching procedures.



Apart from academics, we also celebrated Pongal, national festivals and the annual day function. These occasions helped the children to learn and also showcasing their other talents to their parents and other friends. All the students were enthusiastic to participated in these programmes and displayed their talents. We held our annual day function on April 23rd at our mini school. The students all dressed up beautifully. It was such a feast for our eyes to see the children dressed so beautifully. We distributed sweets after the functions. Children were very happy to finish the year with a happy note.

We are looking forward to the school to reopen after the vacations which might be on the 1st of June.

Thanking you,
M.Iswarya.

