डॉ. (श्रीमती) वि. विजयलक्ष्मी अपर आयुक्त (शैक्षिक)

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Don KVians

I welcome you all to the new academic session <u>2021-22</u>. At the outset, I would like to appreciate your positivity in the face of the unprecedented challenges posed by the pandemic. As individuals, and as an organisation, you didn't allow the pandemic to dampen your spirits, and rose to the occasion to find diverse alternatives to ensure that learning continues. Fresh challenges await us as we enter the new academic session. The need of the hour is to take stock of the situation and reinforce our efforts. I hope that the learning gaps at various levels have been identified and strategies evolved which will now be implemented to strengthen the foundations of students' learning to prepare them for their new classes.

As you are all aware, National Education Policy 2020 has placed renewed expectations on KVS. We need to shift from the traditional pedagogies to the competency based, experiential and joyful teaching-learning practices. What is imperative is-- a multidisciplinary approach to academics with focus on vocational education, values, ethics and life skills. Schools should be inclusive places which nurture the spirit of enquiry, innovation and creativity in our students under the leadership and guidance of the Principals, and helpful support and motivation from teachers. It is of paramount importance to involve parents in the holistic growth and development of the students. Only then can we carve new success stories.

The present conditions are unusual, and our children have completed one whole session without their physical presence in the school. The possible impact on the psyche of the growing children who were deprived of socialization is a cause of concern. As it is still uncertain as to when classes will begin normally, it is vital that students remain consistently involved in activities such as yog, play at home, reading books, and other creative pursuits in a happy, stress-free environment. Special care has to be taken by parents as well as teachers to ensure that the psychological issues, if any, of the children are appropriately addressed.

The CBSE examinations for classes X and XII are round the corner. The postponement of the Board exams to May-June is an opportunity to bridge the learning gaps and provide the requisite support to the students. I would urge teachers to constantly hand-hold the prospective candidates so that they don't go low on confidence and motivation. I am positive that KVS will uphold its tradition of producing excellent results.

The online registrations for admissions to class I have begun today. I appeal to all school heads to adhere to the latest admission schedule and observe the timelines in order to facilitate the smooth inflow of almost one lac children in the system.

The organization of classes online/offline should be decided by all the Kendriya Vidyalayas strictly as per the respective State Govt./Local Govt. instructions. All the prescribed safety protocols must be observed, especially as the process of admission has begun and the schools will have visitors.

I salute the spirit of our Gurus for having seamlessly adapted to online system of education. I trust that you all will continue with the same vigour and resplendence as the battle with Covid is still on. I wish all of you a happy beginning, not only of the new academic session, but also of healthy and safe times ahead.

With prayers that God blesses us all with a radiant and happy future!

(Dr. V. Vijayalakshmi)