

YOUNG WRITERS PROGRAM

WE'RE MAKING WRITING TOO COOL FOR SCHOOL!



☆ Via News Didi ☆

WHO'S NEWS DIDI?

Founded in 2020, Via News Didi is a **teacher-led, social enterprise** on a mission to: empower students to become responsible consumers and innovative creators of media, for a better tomorrow!

As teachers, we saw that:

- a) our students consume A LOT of media and often struggle to process this information
- b) our students consume problematic content that has a terrible impact on their behaviour and mental health
- c) students have huge potential to create inspiring media - magazines, podcasts, comics and more!



★ Via News Didi ★

So, we decided to :
create learning resources and
one-of-a-kind learning experiences that **empower students and teachers with media literacy and creator skills.**

HOW WILL WE MAKE WRITING COOL?

We turn students into reporters, designers, journalists and then let the magic unfold..

Students write about things that matter to them.

We've had students write about increasing prices in the school canteen, why school should start late and even a review of school furniture!

No grades, just real feedback from real people

Writing for a publication and people gives purpose to students' writing and builds their investment in the writing process.



We use journalism as a tool to enhance writing

Students interview people around them and conduct research, which turns out to be far more interesting than writing an essay.

Getting published is a game changer for students' confidence

Seeing their name printed in a publication read by their peers often makes students want to write more!

OUR IMPACT

In 2024, **213 students from 19 schools** worked on a student-led publication as part of the Young Writers Program (formerly known as the Editorial Board Training Program)



Prakriya
Green Wisdom School



POORNA



SANSKRITI
THE GURUKUL



SHIV NADAR SCHOOL
Education for Life



St. Columba's School
Ashok Place, New Delhi - 110001

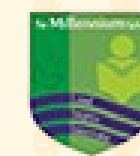


AKANKSHA
Aspire. Achieve. Be the Change.

sancta
maria



INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



The
Millennium
School
Amritsar

TEACHFORINDIA



ST. JOSEPH'S BOYS' HIGH SCHOOL
Museum Road



**Inventure
Academy**



DISCOVERI OAKS
CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

FROM OUR STUDENTS AND SUPPORTERS

The interactive sessions were the best part! They made the program feel like a safe and supportive space where we could freely share our ideas, ask questions without hesitation, and learn from each other's perspectives. It truly felt like a place where our voices mattered.

Reet Nalva, Grade 9, The Millennium School

Participating in the Journalism Club has been an adventure full of learning. Beyond learning how to write articles, we learnt about design, media and teamwork. The teaching was professional, yet friendly and fun. This club has inspired me to take up journalism as a career and I'm sure it has the capacity to do the same for many others out there.

Nina Catharina Goes, Grade 12
St. Joseph's Boys High School



Sulagna Dasgupta,
Sancta Maria International School, Hyderabad

"The program conducted for our learners by Via News Didi was an enriching experience not only for the learners but for me as a teacher as well. The highly interactive program enchanted us by showcasing some sample newsletters created by school going children worldwide. It also taught our children the nitty-gritties of publishing a newsletter ranging from layout to content. Overall, it was an enjoyable and fulfilling experience"

WHAT IS THE YOUNG WRITERS PROGRAM?

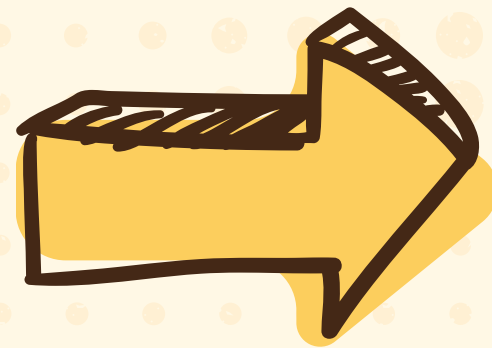
- a fun-filled learning experience for students or Grade 6-8 to develop:
creative expression + writing skills

we train students to **write like a journalist,**
create content like **a graphic designer,**
& **get published!**

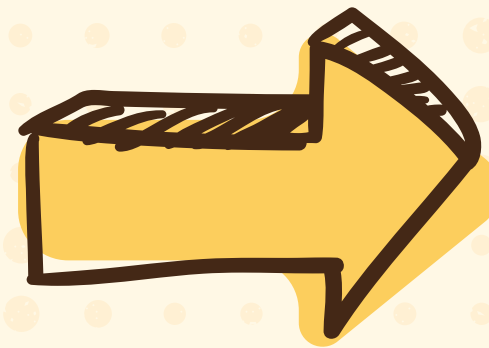
to put it simply, our students walk out with professional level communication
expertise at school



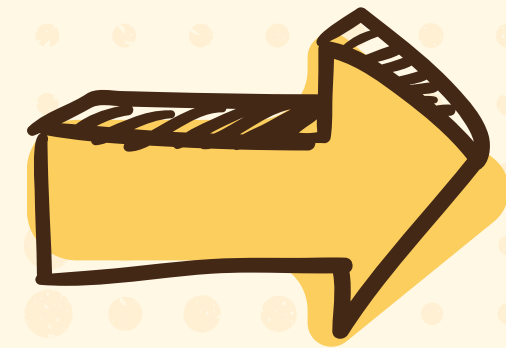
HOW DOES THE PROGRAM WORK?



We **partner with schools** committed to building better writers and providing students opportunities to creatively express themselves

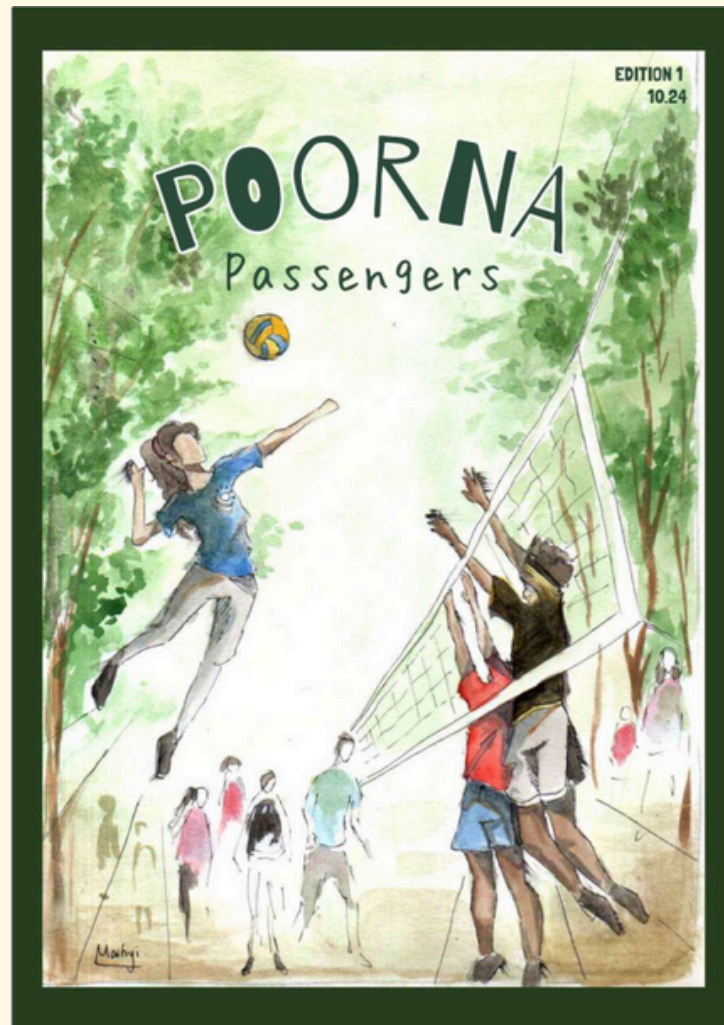


We start with a **2 day, in-person writing summit** where students turn into reporters, storytellers and designers!



Through **5 online workshops and 1:1 feedback**, we empower students to write, edit and get published!

STUDENT WORK FROM THE PROGRAM THAT WE CAN'T HELP BUT SHOW-OFF



Students at Poorna Learning Centre, Bangalore designed this **cover page** to highlight their cover story about their school winning a coveted volleyball tournament.



Pahul Gill of The Millennium School, Amritsar **reviewed** the furniture in his school. He writes "Furniture is not just an accessory, but the silent poetry of a well-lived life, shaping our spaces and framing our stories."

STUDENT WORK FROM THE PROGRAM THAT WE CAN'T HELP BUT SHOW-OFF



Kanan Gill, an 8th Grader at Sanskriti The Gurukul writes about the panic teens face on repeating outfits, in her feature article titled "Didn't You Wear That Last Time?"



Akshita Gosain of The Shiv Nadar School, Gurugram reviewed the biggest microtrends of 2024. She writes "The next time you see a concept like 'latte makeup' trending, or a lip gloss that everyone is claiming you 'need to have', think about the fact that probably hundreds of these lip gloss tubes will end up in landfill in a few years."

3 REASONS WHY STUDENTS SHOULD BE EXCITED ABOUT THE YOUNG WRITERS PROGRAM

01

Our workshops are less like writing classes and more like an **internship** - with students discussing ideas, working on thier articles and **learning on the job**

02

The **Writing Summit** is a **celebration** of great writing by students. It's full of activities and students undertaking some very cool writing assignments!

03

Their work will be **published** in a **digital and printed magazine** for them to show off to everyone around them!



WHAT WILL STUDENTS WRITE/CREATE?

By the end of the program, the entire cohort will write, design, edit and produce a professional quality magazine!

Each student will have:

(a) written at least 3 articles

(b) contributed to the design of the cohort magazine



HOW WILL STUDENTS GET THEIR WORK PUBLISHED?

- Each student will contribute at least one article to the cohort magazine that will be published by our team
- Outstanding articles will also be published on the Via News Didi website and weekly newsletter that is read by 1000+ students, teachers and parents across the country



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You can also write to us at vianewsdidi@gmail.com

