

# TITLES

## The Telegraph in Schools

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### DPS, Joka students spend a day with Grannies

**O**n 13 December, as part of the community service programme, the students of Classes V, VI and VII of Delhi Public School, Joka, were taken to Kalyan Ashram, at Chetla, Behala, in south Calcutta. It is an old age home run by Helpage India and has 12 inmates. On the pleasant, cheery winter morning our middle school students put up a small programme for the old grannies. In the beginning itself the inmates of the Ashram were felicitated with handmade cards made by the students themselves and a basket of goodies for the festive season of Christmas. Some students carried home baked cakes for the elderly too. After this, a medley of songs in English, Hindi and Bengali was sung by the choir group followed by a beautiful dance performance. Everyone joyously joined in the singing and gladly clapped at the enthusiastic and energetic performance of the dancers.

This gesture was highly appreciated by the elderly inmates and they showered immense blessings to all our students and acknowledged the efforts made by the school to make such an initiative that touched them all. A brief tour of the place was given to give an idea to the students about the life of the elderly

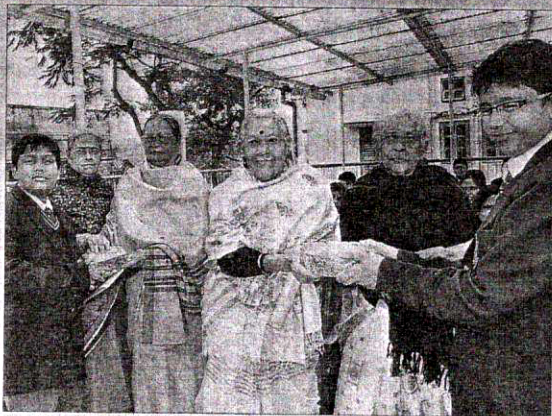
there. Some rather shocking incidents of torture were narrated too. The availability of a helpline to assist elderly was given so that in some way more awareness could be generated among the youngsters about looking after their grandparents.

This Ashram provides free medical aid to all outsiders as well, along with legal advice by professional and experienced advocates.

After the tour the children were allowed to interact personally with the elderly in their rooms. They displayed art and craft objects which they make in their leisure time and sell in the market. It was an enriching experience for both the students as well as teachers.

The initiative that was taken by the school with the objective to make students aware about their duties to the elderly and the necessity to love them was successfully fulfilled because most of the children were moved to tears at the sight of the helpless

elderly. And the short visit came to end with the inmates extracting a promise from the students that they would again come down to see them and remember them.



*Sent in by the School*