

A Day Outdoors: Wonderkids' First Sports Day

A sports day – traditionally a day of athletics and podiums. For the students at Wonderkids, they have never had an athletics carnival and The Dignity Project wanted to bring the fun and games of school sports days to the school. The first Wonderkids' Athletics Carnival was planned to continue to promote sports and exercise, but also as a day of fun and community.

Wonderkids– a tiny school nestled into half the bottom floor of an apartment building with 8 classes, two toilets and a kitchen. Khajuraho is the hometown of those kids and famous for its magnificent temples; population of 24,482 as of 2011. The school has about 150 students.



The Numbers

Medals needed: 96

Students: 145

Parents who came to watch: 100

Quantity of pulao made for lunch: 1 fat pot!

Staff: 10 teachers from Wonderkids'

Our team: Rhan, Lincoln, Buster, Madelene, Wayne, Marisa, Kanwaljit, Shantanu, Mayur, Saurabh

Ice cream bought after: 22

Days needed to recover: 2 or 3

Games played: Aussie rules, tunnel ball, sack races, running races, ball and spoon, magic corner

Hours of planning and shopping at Khajuraho: just 7!



Rhan and Mayur led the whole school in a warmup to start the day. Everyone formed a massive circle for stretches and general fun.



We then split the students into 1 to 4th standard (class) and 5th to 8th standard. The older students played Aussie rules including skills training, while the littlies enjoyed a patch of grass and some games.





Marisa hands out medals as the races get heated!



Highlights: passing the footy around with the kids while setting up; the excitement of the kids; the warm-up circle and big high five; the running and sack races (including the parents' race); and bringing the parents, staff and students together for a day of fun.



Our good friends – the ever reliable Bombay Boys who help ensure the day runs smoothly!



After the running races we had great fun with the sack races. Even the Dads and school principal joined in!

Challenges: finding a sports ground after the original ground was cancelled the day before.

Ms Pushpa and her wonderful Year 8 students made the sports day sustainable and picked up all the rubbish after the event. As a reward, they all enjoyed ice creams!



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