

D.A.V PUBLIC SCHOOL, THANE
SESSION: 2025-26
READERS' AWARD '26 CEREMONY REPORT
Celebrating the Joy of Reading and the Power of Words

Books have the remarkable ability to open windows to new worlds, introduce us to countless lives and quietly shape the way we think. With this spirit of celebrating the joy of reading and recognising young bibliophiles, the school organised a Readers' Felicitation Ceremony on Saturday, 8th August '26, with great enthusiasm and warmth. The occasion was a celebration not merely of achievement, but of the beautiful habit of reading, the courage to create and the curiosity that books nurture in young minds.

The Chief-Guest for the event was Mr. Faiz Abdullah- a renowned author, and the guests of honour were Mrs Jayshree Khandekar Madam- Principal DAV Public School, Pune, Mrs. Hema Nair Madam-Principal DAV International School, Mulund, Mrs, Mukta Baurai Madam-Principal DAV Public School, Nerul and Mrs Simmi Juneja – ARO Western Zone C and Principal DAV Public School, Thane. The ceremony commenced on an auspicious note with the ceremonial lighting of the lamp, symbolising the dispelling of darkness and the illumination of knowledge. The chanting of Gayatri Mantra followed by the soulful rendition of the DAV Gaan, filled the atmosphere with a sense of pride and belonging. The welcome song presented by the students added warmth and grace to the proceedings and set the perfect tone for the celebration.

The spirit of sustainability was woven into the welcome ceremony through a thoughtful Green Welcome of all the esteemed guests. The gesture reflected the school's commitment to nurturing not only young readers but also responsible and environmentally conscious citizens.

The gathering was further enriched by the introduction to the literary journey and contribution to writing of our esteemed guest, writer Faiz Abdullah, whose presence made the occasion particularly meaningful for the young readers and budding writers. His words helped the students connect with the person behind the pages and appreciate the dedication, creativity and perseverance involved in the world of literature. His address offered an inspiring glimpse into the world of writing and encouraged the young audience to read with curiosity and write with confidence. His words resonated with the students and reminded them that every reader has the potential to become a storyteller.

A special segment of the ceremony was dedicated to BRI Books, celebrating the creative voices of our young authors. The students who had successfully contributed their writings and had the opportunity to see their work published in BRI Books were felicitated with great pride and appreciation. Their achievement was a moment of immense joy—not only because their words had found a place in a published book, but because they had taken the brave first step towards seeing themselves as writers. The felicitation served as an encouraging reminder that

every meaningful piece of writing begins with an idea, a little imagination and the confidence to put those thoughts into words.

The Readers' Award holds special significance in the school as it seeks to cultivate a lasting reading culture among students. In an age of screens and instant information, encouraging children to pause, read deeply and engage with stories is more important than ever. The award celebrates students who make reading a meaningful part of their lives and inspires others to embark on their own literary journeys.

A special highlight of the ceremony was the unveiling of *The Verse Voyage*, a beautiful anthology of poems penned by the Readers' Award winners. The book celebrates the imagination, emotions and creativity of our young poets, giving their voices a place in print. The unveiling was a proud and memorable moment, symbolising how the journey of a reader can beautifully lead to the joy of becoming a writer.

The much-awaited moment of the ceremony was the felicitation of the Readers' Award winners. The deserving students were honoured for their enthusiasm, consistency and love for books. Their achievements stood as a reminder that reading is not simply about completing books; it is about discovering ideas, developing empathy, asking questions and seeing the world through different perspectives.

Addressing the gathering, the principal congratulated the award winners and appreciated the efforts of the students and teachers in promoting reading and literary expression. The address emphasised that a good reader gradually becomes a thoughtful learner, an effective communicator and a more sensitive individual. The students were encouraged to continue exploring books beyond the boundaries of textbooks and examinations.

The ceremony concluded with a heartfelt Vote of Thanks, expressing gratitude to the Principal, the distinguished guests, teachers, students and everyone whose efforts contributed to the success of the event.

The Readers' Felicitation Ceremony was much more than an award function. It was a celebration of books, imagination, creativity and young minds—bringing together readers and budding authors under one roof. As the curtains came down, the message remained clear: every book read adds a new thought, every story leaves a little wisdom behind, and every young writer has a story waiting to be told.

