

MALA SOOD, Principal, Arvind Gupta DAV Centenary Public School, Model Town, Delhi

'Learning is a life-long process'

Do dreams have a deadline? If you could chase a second dream, what would that be?

Yes dreams definitely have a deadline. My dream is to build this institution into a close knit community, a family of DAV fraternity where every member is groomed. I also seek continuous uplift in all aspects and accomplishment of my goal so as to make this institution a centre of excellence. Till I achieve this dream I don't think of chasing a second dream.

Tell us about the most recent success stories, of your school. Please talk about one or two such examples that are most dear to you.

I have been honoured with the prestigious State Award from the Directorate of Education for laudable contribution towards society.

Our school has also been bestowed with the ISA Award for imparting knowledge in a global context. We have also earned the most coveted award



for the constant endeavour for the betterment of society. A few unique initiatives taken for environmental protection and eco-system like installations of solar panel and water harvesting systems have boosted my confidence.

Principals are required to stay active almost through the entire day at work? How do you ensure the high motivation and energy levels needed to cope with the enormity of the job?

My continuous interaction with my staff members, admin

and school helpers provides me with zest and vigour to work for my institution. Ensuring maximum participation in the duties and activities carried out by my staff members and total involvement and dedication towards all the work of the institution gives me positive reinforcement. As a team leader I ensure that my words of encouragement and motivation will help in engaging my team members in constructive work. Lending a patient ear to their problems and doubts boosts not only their

confidence and motivation but also gives me satisfaction.

It is said that one learns something every day. How much do students/teachers contribute in your daily learning process?

I believe that learning is a continuous and life-long process. I have a tireless capacity to mix with my children and staff members and from whom I have learnt a lot. From my students I have learnt the power of obedience, discipline and respect. From my teachers I have acquired interpersonal skills.

Share with us your favourite pastimes/modes of relaxation before/after a busy day?

I derive sublime joy by total immersion in art and music, my favourite pastimes. Art and music help me to develop my aesthetic sense. I love to check the various websites and Google to hone up my skills. Engaging with art at various levels gives me immense relaxation and serenity of mind.