

Bridgewater Marathi Shala At Balaji Temple, Bridgewater New Jersey

All class levels in Marathi Shala learn Marathi Prayers/Shlokas, a Pledge and India's National Anthem. Marathi Shala also celebrates a few festivals, including India's Independence Day (15th August). All students get a chance to participate in Shala performance at "Vasantotsav" organized by Marathi Vishwa of New Jersey around Spring time and at the end of the school year at the Balaji Temple on Temple's "Vidyalaya Day". Below are the few highlights of the different class levels at Marathi Shala of Bridgewater:

Level 1 (aka as Bal Mitra): What do Students learn?

- Introduction to all letters (Consonants & Vowels)
- Introduction to Marathi months.
- Students learn to recognize words starting from vowels, & consonants.
- Students start to learn how to communicate in Marathi.
- Students also learn a few Marathi rhymes and poems, colors, animals, fruits, flowers, days of the week in Marathi.
- Students learn numbers from 1-20

Level Passing Criteria:

- Students should be able to pronounce each letter correctly.
- Students should be able to recognize all the letters & numbers.
- Students should be able to say at least 3 sentences in Marathi. (For example: name, age, school name/grade level)

Level 2 (aka Kishor Mitra): What do Students learn?

- Revision of Level 1: -
 - Revision of all letters with the words starting from each letter. (Revision of Level 1)
 - Students revise numbers from 1-20 and learn numbers from 21-50.
 - Students revise all the colors, animals, fruits, flowers, days of the week, body parts.
- Students start learning Barakhadi (how each consonant sound when the vowel is added to it)
- Students start reading small words with the help of Barakhadi.
- Students learn Marathi Months and their corresponding importance such as seasons, festivals, etc.

Level Passing Criteria:

- Students should be able to read and write all the Barakhadi.
- Student should be able to read and write all the numbers from 1-50 (in numbers and words).
- Students should be able to recognize and tell all the colors, animals, fruits, flowers, days of the week, body parts.
- Students should be able to speak at least 5 sentences in Marathi with correct pronunciation (with very little to no support from the teachers) (For example: name, age, city, school name/grade level, favorite activity, etc.)

Level 3 (aka Pravin Mitra): What do Students learn?

- Revision of Level 2:
 - Revision of all letters, barakhadi, and numbers from 1-50.
 - Revision of all the colors, animals, fruits, flowers, days of the week, body parts.
- Students learn joint letters (jodakshara), and more complex words.
- Students learn to speak, read, and write small sentences/paragraphs and answer questions from the paragraphs.
- Students learn how to read a clock & tell time in Marathi.
- Students learn basic math skills (counting, addition, and subtraction) in Marathi.
- Students learn basic grammar such as noun, verb, adjective, etc.

Level Passing Criteria:

- Students should be able to recognize all the consonants, and vowels.
- Students should be able to read, and write all the numbers from 1-50 (in numbers and words).
- Students should be able to recognize and tell all the colors, animals, fruits, flowers, days of the week, body parts in Marathi.
- Students should be able to speak fluently (without teacher's support) at least 10 sentences with correct pronunciation.
- Students should be able to present good understanding of grammar.
- Students should be able to read a clock and tell the time correctly.

This level (Level 3 – Pravin Mitra) prepares the students to take BMM Pahili (Grade 1) exam. We encourage everyone to take BMM's exams as that provides students confidence and sense of achievement.

Bridgewater Marathi Shala provides students with all the required guidance in order to complete all grade levels of BMM Shala. Grade appropriate certificates will be provided by Bharati Vidyapith, Pune, India through BMM Shala. At the same time, Bridgewater Marathi Shala also facilitates its own exams for all class levels separately.

P.S. This handbook is only for reference, contents are subject to change as per requirement of the time.