

Leicester Maher Community Association Create Unity Promote Education and Culture Facilitate Religious Activity Maher Community Centre 15 Ravensbridge Drive Leicester LE4 0BZ Tel: 0116 2425360 Email: info@mahercentre.com

30<sup>th</sup> September 2021

- <u>Jai Mataji</u> -

Dearest Samaj Brothers and Sisters

We hope this letter finds you in good health and spirit. Further to Government lifting of Covid-19 restrictions, we are pleased to inform you that we will be resuming our annual festivities. Please find details of Navratri, Sharad Purnima, Diwali, and Christmas party arrangements:

Event	Date
Navratri (Maher Community Only)	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> October: 7pm onwards
Sharad Purnima	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> October: 7pm onwards ( <b>Open to All</b> )
Diwali Gathering and Sneh Milan	Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> November : 5pm onwards
Children's Christmas Party	Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> December: 3pm onwards

Please do come along with your family members. Further information will be available on our community website www.maheronline.org

# Navratri 2021: Thursday 7th October – Friday 15th October

# (We Hope to make this event live broadcast on YouTube, provided there are no technical issues)

Singers: Various Popular Artists

Timescales: 7pm to 11pm prompt – Garba for ladies will begin at 7.30pm

Agenda: Arti, Garba, Dandia-Raas, Maniyaro, 3-Tadi, Heech, Ranjanyu, Sanedo

# Fancy Dress: Saturday 9th October @ 7pm promptly

(Provided there is enough interest shown for the competition)

Competition is open to boys and girls 14 years of age and under. We request participants to be in Religious & traditional proper costumes. Judges will be looking for unique concepts and effort.

## Arti Plate Design: Saturday 9th October @ 8pm promptly

Competition is open to children and adults. We would like to request our elders to encourage children to take part in decorating an Arti plate.

#### Traditional Dress Code: Saturday 9th October

Please wear our traditional Maher clothes on this evening. Ladies will have an opportunity to perform a customary Raasado and the Gents can perform a Maniyaro Raas on the dhol.

#### Mataji ni Sthapna and Puja Ceremony

There will be a *Sthapna* ceremony taking place on the first day of Navratri 6.30pm onwards. Please join us early to take part in the puja ceremony.

## Sharad Purnima: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 7pm onwards (<u>Ticketed event Open to all. Further details will be provided during Navratri and website</u>)

Agenda:Arti, Garba, Dandia-Raas, 3-Tadi, Heech, Ranjanyu, Sanedo (Mix)Dress Code:Red/White Traditional (Optional)

A dazzling evening of red and white for all to enjoy. Please come along with friends and family to celebrate full moon and offer our prayers to Radha-Krishna.

#### Diwali / Sneh Milan: Sunday 7th November 2021 5pm onwards.

We will be hosting a social evening gathering with music and a buffet dinner. Further information of this event will be made available during Navratri and updated on www.maheronline.org

## Children's Christmas Party: Saturday 18th December 2021 3pm onwards.

Open to children under the age of 16. Please come along to celebrate the festive season. There will be plenty of food and drinks, music, games, and activities for all to enjoy.

**Entry to Navratri:** We are pleased to announce that entry to Navratri will once again be free. Please do keep a hold of your previously organised ID cards as a record for future use.

**Sponsorship/Donation:** There will not be any sponsorship taken from businesses this year. All donations during the event will be voluntarily.

**Security and Parking:** Please be advised to follow instructions carefully in the car park. Children should be supervised at all times. Security staff will not hesitate to remove anyone from the premises causing trouble, under the influence of alcohol or any intoxicating substances. Please be respectful of the fact that this is a religious celebration.

**Covid-19 Precautions:** Please take necessary precautions to keep yourself and others safe. Do not attend the event should you have any symptoms.

AGM/Election: We are in process of finalising the date that is suitable and will inform everyone in due course.

# This year Navratri is hosted by LMCA Holding Trustees and Volunteer Group.

Thank you very much for your ongoing support. We look forward to seeing you soon!

LMCA Holding Trustees