



VASANTHAM e-Newsletter

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VASANTHAM Special School for the Mentally Challenged
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NEW YEAR 2009

The New Year began with a big dhamaka. Friends from YOU (Youth Organization for Upliftment), Panimalar college and Ethiraj college spent the whole day with our children. Packed with loads of games and a dance extravaganza the kids sure did enjoy the fun filled day completely. Members from "Siruthuli", a group of caring people working with different IT companies, visited us too. They provided various kinds of utensils and amenities that would go a long way helping the children.



PONGAL



Pongal celebrations were conducted on the 8th of January 2009. Many of our well-wishers and friends took time out of their busy schedules to come to Vasantham and spend time with our kids on the day. Pongal was celebrated with a lot of funfare, the day being packed with a variety of dance, music and games. Many of our parents also joined in the celebrations making it a memorable and enjoyable day for all those who attended.

INAUGURATION OF TWO MAJOR PROJECTS . . .

It gives us immense pleasure in updating about the much awaited projects. The first of these was the procurement of a mini bus exclusively for Vasantham. The urgency for this van was felt bearing in mind the growing number of children and the inadequacy of the available conveyance. Currently, very few children use auto and car to commute between school and home. This mini bus helps a greater number of children travel comfortably. As the need became more crucial, we have been trying to raise funds for this project. With the donations and loan from bank, we managed to get this mini bus. Mr. Suresh Kamath, CMD, Laser Soft Infosystems & member of Vasantham's board of management, inaugurated the mini bus.

The second project undertaken during this 20th year of Vasantham's journey was to renovate the hall on 2nd floor. This was focused on meeting the needs for group therapies, classrooms, meetings and recreational activities. This project was supported by many generous and service minded people. Smt. Yashumathi Doshi (President-Stri Mandal) & W/o. Harshad Doshi (Doshi Housing) inaugurated the hall.

Several other dignitaries including Rev.Suviseshamuthu (President, Board of the Management), Dr.Vidya Durai (Director-Training, iNautix), Mr.Balaji (Trend Setters), Mr. Krishnan Kannan (Retd IPS), Mr.Krishnamoorthy, Prof. Roopa Nagarajan (Course chairperson, Dept of SLHS, SRU), Mr.Sekar (Auditor), and many others were also present to make the day special. Friends from YOU, Panimalar college, Dream India and YHM joined us on this occasion. Our special kids performed a dance and enthralled all the guests present on that day.



DISTRICT LEVEL SPORTS DAY

Our kids also participated and won accolades in the district level sports day event held on 2nd of February 2009 at Thiruvallur district.

PARENTS-TEACHERS MEETING

The IV Quarterly program plan meeting (Parents-teachers meeting) was held on the 6th of March 2009, during which we had representatives from Alegion insurance company. The interactive session included details regarding the benefits available for children with special needs and the process of registration for the same. All our special children have registered for their health insurance. The parents-teachers meeting, scheduled once in 3 months, included discussion of each child's baseline, progress and future goals with the special educator, speech language pathologist, physiotherapist, occupational therapist and vocational trainer.

QUEENS LAND



Away from the hustle and bustle of everyday Chennai and the rigours of school, the kids and teachers along with several parents and volunteers spent a pleasant and extremely fun filled Sunday at Queensland. It was a sheer delight to watch all the kids fearlessly take part in many daring rides. The joy and radiance on each child's face would surely be etched in the memory of all who participated in making it a wonderful and successful 20th anniversary outing. We extend our gratitude to the management and staff of Queensland for all the help extended. Special thanks to members from YOU team, Panimalar college, Dream India, Jayakanth's family for spending the whole day in helping our children at Queens Land.

REPUBLIC DAY

Republic Day was celebrated on the 26th of January 2009. One of our staff hoisted national flag. Sweets were distributed

STALLS

We did put up stalls with products made by special children at various companies such as Pay Pal, Barry-Wehmiller International Resources.

FIRST AID CLASS

Life is full of unexpected twists and turns and there is nothing like being prepared for the worst too. Setting out with this outlook, an one day first aid course was organised on the 15th of March 2009 at our institution. This was conducted by St.John's Ambulance, Chennai. Mr. Ashok Kumar (Assistant Commissioner), inaugurated the day by lighting the kuthuvilakku. Many of our staff, parents and well-wishers participated in the course. Following a day packed with live demonstration, all participations undertook a written exam and were then awarded the certification.



SPORTS DAY

Sports day was organised by students of St.Joseph's Engineering College (EIE-2005 - '09 batch) during the first week of April. It was a fun filled day filled with lots and loads of sports, games, cultural. Mr.Suresh Kamath (Chairman & MD, Laser Soft Infosystems Ltd.) distributed the prizes to the winners.



REGULAR CALENDAR EVENTS

- Medical camps for our children.
- Observational visits by nursing and special education students from various colleges, in and around the city.

PHOTOS CORNER

