



# VASANTHAM e-Newsletter

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VASANTHAM Special School for the Mentally Challenged  
pp 10/4, East Mogappair, Chennai - 600 037. Website: www.vasantham.org  
Contact: 044- 26560662, 26561681, vasantham89@gmail@yahoo.com

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*Picture Perfect ☺ - "Moving ahead, together"*



## REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

India's 61<sup>st</sup> Republic day was celebrated on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January 2010. Mr. Natarajan Raman (Founder Trustee, Dream India) hoisted the national flag. He patiently explained about the significance of celebrating Republic Day to our children. Sweets were distributed and few games were organized.



## PONGAL CELEBRATION

Pongal celebration was one of the best ever. So colourful...so very fun-filled. Many parents of our children and well-wishers made it for the day's celebrations. Pongal was celebrated in a traditional way. Vasantham premises was filled with thoranam, colourful kolam and other traditional decorations. Pongal was prepared in two huge pots in the open area in the traditional manner, without using gas stoves. Many cultural programmes (music and dance by our children) were organised to mark the celebrations. Various games were conducted. The short video film about children with Intellectual Disability and Vasantham, released on the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, was screened for our children, parents and volunteers. Clippings of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration were also played. Children did have a great time. The traditional pongal lunch and sugarcane was served. Gifts were distributed for all the kids too.



## EXTRA ENTERTAINMENT

Our children were invited for the premiere of 'Extra Terrestrials' fearless entertainment and on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2010. It was indeed a perfect entertainment for the children. The children enjoyed watching the variety and colourful entertainment on stage. Vasantham would like to extend a hearty thanks to Mr. Bhandari, Rotary Club, for providing us with the special invites.

## PARENTS'-TEACHERS MEETING

The Quarterly Programme Plan Meeting was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2010. General rules and regulations, updates and plan for the upcoming three months and academic year were planned and discussed. There was individual and group discussion about each child's progress and plans for next 3 months in various areas with respect to special education, speech and language therapy, physiotherapy, occupational therapy and vocational training.

## MGM trip...

As a part of recreation and physical training activities, our children were taken to MGM Dizee World at ECR, Chennai, for a one day trip on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2010. The whole day was fun filled with various activities and the kids thoroughly enjoyed every ride. Many of the rides were slowed down in consideration of our special children's needs. The hospitality of the MGM staff was comendable. We thank the MGM team for their support. Special thanks to Laser Soft Infosystems Limited for supporting us with the conveyance for the day. Few children from Corporation School, Adyar, too joined us through the Dream India initiative.



## VOCATIONAL TRAINING - A BIG HIT ☺

*The provision and stationary vocational unit, which was inaugurated during our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, is a big hit. Stalls are put up every day, just outside our campus and our children are working on it. It was quite surprising, when we overheard one of them telling another 'Decenta irunga da. Customer nambala loosunu nenachukaporanga' (in Tamil).*



## DREAM INDIA'S SUPPORT

*Dream India, one of our constant supporters, is providing financial assistance (Rs.1,700/-) towards salary for one classroom helper. Considering the huge expenses incurred by way of salary for our staff, this support is well received. They have begun this since January 2010 and promised to continue it as long as possible. Special thanks to Mr.Natarajan, Founder trustee of Dream India.*

## NGO CULTURALS

*Our children participated in the cultural event organized for various NGOs by Surabi Trust on the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2010. Our children's performance was appreciated by all the audience and special guests.*



## REGULAR CALENDER EVENTS

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

## Others....

- Special thanks...to Mr.Radhakrishnan, CEO-India Operations, AVACorp for responding immediately with full financial support towards the grill work in the second floor hall. We did approach various donors for assistance for this safety related work. He was kind and encouraging in making it possible. Thanks to our student, Nirmal's father for getting the work in a short span of time, without disturbing our regular work.
- We are also working towards re-painting the current premises of Vasantham.