



VASANTHAM e-Newsletter

Volume 5

Issue 1

January 2013

VASANTHAM Special School for the Mentally Challenged
East Mogappair, Chennai - 600 037. Website: www.vasantham.org
Contact: 26560662, vasantham89@gmail.com

Dream come true ☺

Chairperson

Mrs. Alli Murugesan

Editor-in-chief

Ms. Krupa M.

Editorial committee

Mr. B. Suresh Kamath

Mr. Natarajan Raman

Ms. Mathew Grace

Mr. Abhishek Venugopal



SUPPORTERS

Thanks to

- Friends from Omega Health Care for donating pillow covers and vessels
- Mr. Sivanesan and family for donating a rotating fan
- Dr. Ramesh Kumar Muthuswamy, Psychiatrist for donating a freezer
- Management of Spartan schools (CBSE & Matriculation), staff, students and parents for their financial contribution during Christmas celebration
- Mrs. Jayalakshmi and family for conducting computer, art and craft classes for special children at Vasantham

VISITORS

- 12th standard students from Lalaji Omega School visited Vasantham on the 7th of November 2012
- Students from Shamrock Matriculation visited on the 13th of December 2012
- Nursing students from Sri Ramachandra University visited on the 13th of December 2012
- Nursing students from Omayal Aachi College visited between 17th and 19th December 2012 and on 28th December 2012
- M.Sc (Nursing) students from Apollo College of Nursing

DREAM COME TRUE

Ten children from Vasantham along with a few staff and well wishers of Vasantham met Dr A P J Abdul Kalam and presented their written request signed by all their students and staff to visit Vasantham. Dr Kalam smilingly accepted the invitation of these children.

The children also presented Dr Kalam with some of the special products like greeting cards, flower baskets and candles made by them. Dr Kalam enjoyed his meeting with the children and personally blessed all the children. One of the students Jamshed presented a portrait he made of Dr.Kalam. Dr Kalam was very happy to receive the portrait and thanked the kid.

While entering the room where Dr Kalam was sitting, one of the boys screamed in excitement (in Tamil) "Hey, Kalam uncle whom we used to see in pictures is sitting here". The children also enjoyed interacting with Dr Kalam. Words cannot express the happiness they exhibited after coming out of the meeting.



PARENTS TEACHERS MEETING

The 3rd Quarterly Programme Plan meeting was held on the 8th of December 2012. General discussion, rules and regulations were discussed. Parents were provided with individual reports on the performance of their children. Further, individual and class meetings were scheduled and held between 16th and 19th December 2012.

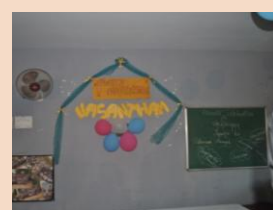
DISTRICT LEVEL SPORTS MEET

Children participated in the district level sports meet held on the 22nd of November 2012. Three children from Vasantham - Mas. Sai Prasad, Mas. Jamshed and Mas. Manoj won prizes in various events such as running race, short put and long jump. These children qualified to participate in the state level sports meet held on the 1st of December 2012 at Anna University. Other children participated in the march past held on the same day to observe the international disability day.

DIWALI CELEBRATION

November 2012 was a fun filled month for Vasantham children. Vasantham has always been a part of 'Anandha Deepavali' celebration organised by 'Udhavum Ullangal', Vasantham's long term supporters. The preparation began almost a month prior to the event with volunteers from Udhavum Ullangal visiting Vasantham to take measurements for purchasing new clothes for all the children. On the 4th of November 2012, Vasantham kids were dressed up colourfully in new clothes with matching accessories to participate in the 'Anandha Deepavali' celebration with dance and music. A number of entertainment shows with social messages were staged. This was followed an elaborate lunch. Children enjoyed the whole day with children from other NGOs as well.

The second Diwali celebration was held at Vasantham on the 6th of November 2012. The campus was decorated colourfully with kids dressing up even more colourfully. Entertainment shows included a mimicry show by Mr. Murugan of Vijay TV fame and Mr. Vinoth and magic show by Mas. Samyukt. Kids enjoyed both the shows to the maximum. It was nice of Mas. Samyukt to prepare tricks just for this event, and Mr. Murugan and Mr. Vinoth for travelling long distances to entertain Vasantham kids. Further, some parents and siblings sang songs to entertain everyone. Friends from Swasam team made it up early for helping in preparation and entertaining the children. Children lit Crackers, flowerpots, floor chakra and many others without any fear whatsoever. It was a treat for parents and volunteers to watch the children enjoy to their fullest!



ANNUAL DAY

Vasantham completed 23 years of its journey on the 2nd of October 2012. The stepping into our 24th year was observed with a small celebration with sweets being distributed to the children.

CONFERENCE

A representative from Vasantham attended the annual national seminar on Early intervention in children with mental retardation organised by Madhuram Narayan Centre for Exceptional Children on the 23rd and 24th November 2012 in Chennai.

EVENING AT THE BEACH

On the 16th of December 2012, children took part in the anniversary celebration of Food Bank, a RYA madras metro initiative. Light music show was conducted and Mrs. Latha Rajinikanth was the chief guest for the day. Children were served with snacks, drink and lunch.

In the evening, children visited the beach and indulged in a variety of sports and games such as cricket, kho-kho, running race etc. Some of them were engrossed in building their dream castle on the shore. Children formed groups and chose their friends to play the sport of their interest. Many spent time on the beach water after the games, followed by refreshment of tea, biscuits, fruits and cotton candy.

POOJA CELEBRATIONS

Saraswathi pooja was celebrated at Vasantham in a grand manner on the 20th of October 2012. Children and staff had decorated the entire school premises including the vehicles with flowers and Vasantham wore the festive look. The children, parents, volunteers and staff paid respects to goddess Saraswathi showing karpooa aarathi and showering flowers. A beautiful "Gollu" was set up to celebrate Navarathiri. Various well wishers and supporters visited the "Gollu" during the nine days festive season. Daily special poojas were performed special poojas were performed daily in the morning and evening with the highlight being delicious "sundaal" served to the kids. It was quite a sight to see children do pranam to God and show aarathi. Special thanks to Jayakanth's parents for performing the pooja.



SI:ALL

Products prepared by special children at Vasantham were displayed for sale at

- Chennai Trade Centre during the Auto Serve 2012 organised by Confederation of Indian Industries between the 16th and 18th November 2012. Tons of thanks to Mr. Mathew, Ms. Deepa Mala & Mr. Subramaniyan for making this possible.
- TI Cycles on 12th of December 2012. Thanks to Mrs. Dolly Radhakrishnan for the support.



CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Christmas celebrations were held on the 21st of December 2012 at Vasantham. Christmas tree, crib and star were displayed almost a day prior to the celebrations. Parents of our students Mas.J.Praveen, Mr. Harish Viswanath, Mas.Honnesh and Mas.Rajkumar organised the celebration for the day with decoration, carols, cake and sweets. Santa Claus walked around distributing sweets and gifts to all the children. On the 27th of December, Ms. Jemie and her friends visited Vasantham and played carols to the children. Tons of thanks to all the supporters for entertaining the children.

