

VASANTHAM Special School for the Mentally Challenged  
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### Editorial team

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## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

One of our students Mr. A. Jagadheesh's father; Dr. Sundari's son Mas. Suraj; our students, Mr. Gowrishankar and Mas. Saran; Ms. Sangeetha, wife of Mr. "Blade" Shankar; Mr. Mayur; Ms. Mansi, Dr. Balagopal, Mas. Aarav Praveen celebrated their birthdays by sponsoring food, donating teaching materials, etc. Further, actor Vivek celebrated his birthday with Vasantham children by cutting cake, interacting with children, patiently watching them perform.



## GLIMPSES

**Parents-teachers meeting:** The Third Quarterly Programme Plan Meeting was held on the 13.12.2014. Individual performances of children were discussed with the director, class teachers and therapist.

**Supporters:** A team from Indigo Airlines visited the children in memory of their friend and donated teaching materials. Various games were also conducted and children were served delicious snacks in December 2014. On the New Year eve, a group of youngsters from various colleges spent the entire day with children. They conducted games for children, served wonderful snacks to the children. Children got wonderful gifts from them to celebrate New Year. Children participated in the educational fest conducted by Dream India at SV Home and won prizes in Quiz, Elocution, Drawing, Recitation and cultural competitions

**Visitors:** Students from Apollo college of nursing and Sri Ramachandra University visited as a part of their curriculum. Shri. V. Ponraj, Scientific advisor to Dr.APJ Kalam who was the chief guest for the silver jubilee celebration visited Vasantham on the eve of the event and spent time interacting with the children. Ms. Aishwarya and team from TCS visited Vasantham, and spent time with children teaching craft work. Employees from RR Donneley celebrated Joy of Giving with Vasantham children by conducting games and giving gifts for the kids.



## DIWALI CELEBRATIONS

Diwali - the festival of lights, the one children enjoy with unlimited joy, was celebrated on 14<sup>th</sup> October at Vasantham. Mr.'Mimicry' Murugan and his team performed a wonderful mimicry and enthralled the children with jokes. Further, his team was involved in performing dance like a different animals and entertaining the children, parents and staff. Children were served wonderful food, delicious sweets and thanks to one of our board members Mr. Venkat and other donors we also had them enjoy harmless crackers and enjoy the day.





## SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Silver Jubilee celebration of Vasantham was held at Kamarajar Arangam, Chennai on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2014. Children, parents, well-wishers and supporters of Vasantham were present to celebrate this wonderful occasion. The celebration began with "*lighting of Kuthuvillaku*" by the guests. The day was filled with lots of activities such as release of Souvenir by the guest of honour (Shri.Ponraj, scientific advisor to Dr.APJ Abdul Kalam), release of a short film 'Vellai Pookal' (released by Music Director Shri. Dharan and directed by Shri. Dwarak) with an awareness focus, felicitating students of Vasantham's inclusive education unit (Visalam Academy) by Shri. Shankar Mahadevan, Udhavum Ullangal and vocational unit (by Prof. Roopa Nagarajan, Ms. Shyamala Ashok and Mrs. Kuganathan) and alumni (by our board member Mr.Venkatesan) and staff (by Prof. P. Jeyachandran); cultural programmes by individuals with special needs at Vasantham and a comedy play by Crazy Creations. For the first time three students of Vasantham received Salangai Poojai completion certificate on this day. Kalalaya Dance and Music Academy run by Smt. Jayalaskhmi Mohan Vaidya is involved in training these three students. Further, 'Natpu' Vasantham's dream for the silver jubilee year was inaugurated by Shri. Crazy Mohan. Welcome address was delivered by, Shri.B.Suresh Kamath, President, Board of Management of Vasantham; school report by Shri.Krishna Kannan, retired IPS, and vote of thanks by Founder & Director Mrs. Alli Murugesan.

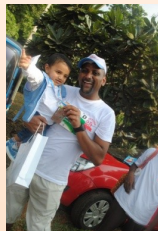


## TEACHERS' DAY CELEBRATION

Teachers' day was celebrated on the 6<sup>th</sup> of September 2014. The children and parents came along to express their sincere thanks and gratitude to all the staff who go beyond their way to ensure the children are taken care of. Parents gave gifts to the staff as a token of love and respect for them. Special gifts were provided to parents who were pillars of support during the science exhibition.

## THE WIPRO CHENNAI MARATHON

The Wipro Chennai marathon expo was held at Chennai Trade Center on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2014, the eve of the run. Children from Vasantham participated in the cultural event and entertained the audience; and interacted with runners about Vasantham. A team of runners from Zen runners, Patterns and Mr. Gopalakrishna Narayanamoni ran on behalf of the school. They raised not only funds but also awareness about special children. Children from Vasantham ensured they all gathered at the venue on time and cheered the runners along their path. Vasantham team thanks Wipro and United Way for the opportunity and to the runners who raised 6 lakhs through this marathon. The funds will be utilized for renovation of existing infrastructure - tiles in second floor and stairs, building painting, outdoor play material, indoor therapeutic materials. We found the team from Zen runners to be very special right from day one, when we first interacted with them. Not only did they run for the school but they took time from their busy schedules and visited the children on 20.12.2014 and spent time with children at Vasantham. They watched the children perform a special dance, skit and various other programs. Vasantham team is greatly indebted to Zen runners and Mr. Gopalakrishna for their wonderful support.



## CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

Christmas was celebrated on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2014 at the school. The celebrations actually began a week before with the school being decorated with wonderful lights and X-mas trees. Children enjoyed taking special interest in watching the decorations. Ashley and Deepak's parents gave away cakes to all the children. Ms. Oviya and friends sang carols for the children. Drawing competition was conducted and prizes were distributed.





## AYUDHA POOJA AND SARASWATHY POOJA

Ayudha Pooja and Saraswathy pooja were celebrated in usual fervour at school on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of October 2014. All the books, teaching materials and vehicles were decorated and made ready for the pooja. Our student Jayakanth's father presided over the pooja and conducted in a wonderful way. Children, staff, parents and well-wishers all came together to thank and pray to the almighty for the kindness being showered upon us.



## WORLD DISABILITY DAY

Children participated in the World Disability Day celebrations held at Anna University grounds on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December 2014. The children took part in the march past along with children from other NGOs and left a special mark on the minds and lives of all the spectators gathered there. Children also took part in games and a few more events held to mark the occasion.



## VISI

A small team of children from Vasantham visited Radisson Blu Temple Bay at Mamalapuram on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2014. The children were taken for a site visit and they completely enjoyed the sea side bay. It was a first time experience for them and their joy was boundless. Vasantham team thanks the Radisson team for this wonderful gesture. Children from Vasantham visited the beach and planetarium on 8<sup>th</sup> of December. Children enjoyed their time at the beach playing games and having fun. The visit to Birla planetarium helped them understand the nuances of the solar system. They also visited many other informative sections there and spent their time learning new things.

