



VASANTHAM e-Newsletter

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VASANTHAM Special School for the Mentally Challenged
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Picture Perfect ☺ - "Looking forward"



A REFRESHING EVENING

On the 14th of April, 2010 (Dr. Ambedkar's birthday), we took our residential children to Anna tower and they had good fun. Children enjoyed running and playing in the recently renovated park. The yummy cotton candy was a perfect icing on the cake. Mr. Azhagappan from Punnagai joined us and ensured kids had an awesome time.



"YES - I DO EARN" Project

The first quarterly parent-teacher meeting was held on 12th June 2010. Each child's progress, general rules and regulations at school were discussed in detail. The highlight of this meeting was the announcement of stipend for 12 of our children. These children received stipend (ranging between Rs.200-Rs.500) and ID Card. Rev.Suviseshamuthu (President, Vasantham's board of the management) was the chief guest and felicitated the stipend receivers.

We have also shortlisted 14 more children. After reviewing their performance, they will be added next month. We were a little skeptical while introducing this scheme wondering whether money would be a good reinforcement, but they proved us wrong. They have so many plans and are acting more responsible now. Not just the parents but the children also left us all overwhelmed. The children's reactions were unexpected and one of them had joyous tears too.



SUPPORT FROM GOV. OF TAMIL NADU

Thanks to the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and State Commissioner for the Disabled of Thiruvallur DDRO for providing Rs.1 lakh towards Vasantham staff's salary. This is an initiative by the Government of Tamil Nadu to honour a selected list of NGOs per year with Rs.1 lakh for the good work they do.

SUMMER !!!

It was summer time again and as always we decided to use the time effectively to carry on the renovation and maintenance work of the school. Thanks to Abhinitha foundation who took up the responsibility to get their workers paint for us free of cost, Vasantham is now really bright. Tons and tons of thanks to Mr.Duraiswamy and his team for making our work really easy.

Summer vacation commenced from 13th May to 25th May. The school re-opened on the 26th of May, 2010. New admissions happened as the school reopened. Many kids joined us for this academic year.

ANNUAL SPORTS DAY CELEBRATIONS

On April 4th, 2010 sports day was conducted at the school premises. This event was funded by St. Joseph's College alumni. Friends from Dream India, Punnagai and YHM joined us for the event. Various interesting games were conducted. The children also partook in a March past with colourful flags. The event ended with children bagging a lot of prizes for several events hosted.



SURABI PURASHKAR AWARD

On Sunday, 13th June 2010, Surabi Trust conferred the coveted "Surabi Purashkar - Awards 2010" to Mrs. Alli Murugesan, Founder of Vasantham. The event took place at Kamaraj Arangam, Chennai. Film music director Deva's enthralled the audience with his light music. Few of our children, our auditor & his family, well-wishers from Dream India, Punnagai and YHM were present for the event.



NEW EVENT

Ms. Swahilya Shambhavi (Simply Spiritual) is visiting Vasantham thrice in a week since July 2010 and teaching yoga for our children and staff. Filled with lots and loads of creative activities (indirectly getting them do a lot of physical activities), stories and songs, our children are enjoying the process. Special thanks to Ms. Swahilya, and Mr. Suresh Kamath for introducing her to Vasantham.



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...

Visit by our constant supporters, Foundation Marc Sauquet and Mr. Ranvir Shah.

Special thanks to ...

- Wabco TVS for sponsoring sweets;
- World bank for donating educational books and notebooks;
- Kavitha & friends from Little Hearts for donating mixer and teaching materials for our children.