



VASANTHAM Special School for the Mentally Challenged
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Chilling out ☺



OUR VISITORS

- Two Diploma in Special Education (Mental Retardation) trainees from Balavihar Training School were posted in Vasantham for a period of 3 months.
- B.Ed (Special Education-Mental Retardation) trainees from Balavihar Training School had a one day observational visit at Vasantham.
- Students from Spartan and Velammal schools visited Vasantham.
- Bachelor and Master students from Omayal Aachi College of Nursing and Apollo College of Nursing.

CITIZEN'S RUN TRUST & BEACH

Citizens' Run Trust, our constant supporters, organised their annual run on the 7th of August 2011 (Sunday). Vasantham children participated in the run and enjoyed walking on the beach lane. There was also a dance show by John Britto's dance team to enthral the gathering. While they were getting ready back stage, a group of Vasantham kids went on the stage and danced for a fusion song and were appreciated by all. Children were then taken to the beach and enjoyed the games, bajji, cotton candy and sugarcane juice.



INDEPENDENCE DAY

The 64th Independence day celebrations was ingrained with patriotism, a usual at Vasantham. Our special children welcomed the guests and invitees by tying friendship bands on their wrists. The chief guest for the day was Mr. Vijay Maheshwari, Chairman, Food Bank, A project of Rajasthan Youth Association Madras Metro Trust. The programme began with the guest lighting the traditional *Kuthuvillaku* along with his wife, Shri. B. Suresh Kamath (President, Board of Management, Vasantham), Shri. Natarajan Raman (Dream India Educational and Charitable Trust), Shri. Subramanian (Punnagai Charitable Trust). Followed by this, special children of Vasantham sang Vasantham's prayer song. Shri. Suresh Kamath (President, Board of Management, Vasantham) welcomed the guests and gathering. The national flag was hoisted by the guest and children sang the flag song with pride and patriotism. The guest was honoured with a gift painted by our special children. One of the paintings which was given as a token of gratitude to our long time supporter Shri. K. S. Kalidas and his family were auctioned and the response was just overwhelming.

A variety of cultural programmes were staged by our children. The cultural events began with the kids dancing to the tunes of a Punjabi song. The younger ones rose to the occasion and kept the audience asking for more. The girls danced for the famous *nanarae* song. There was also a fusion dance covering a variety of Indian dance forms, incorporating both old and recent bollywood songs. The boys transformed themselves to human pyramids. It was heart-warming to see the way one of our student, Jaffania, instructed the others to form the various shapes of the human pyramid. It was great to witness such leadership qualities. There were many kids who came up to sing patriotic songs, *slokas* and recite *thirukural*. Many of our kids were dressed colourful as Nehru, Veerapandia Kattaboman, Kodi kaartha Kumaran, soldier, angel, tiger, parrot, elephant, Lord Krishna and Swami Vivekanandha. Our long time well-wisher Smt. Usha Chandramouli gave gifts to the participants of the fancy dress event. The day's celebrations were fun filled, innovative, motivating and joyous with the support of friends from Dream India, Punnagai Charitable trusts and our very own parents and board members. Prizes were distributed by the guests to all children.



INDEPENDENCE DAY (Photos)



TEACHER'S DAY

Teachers Day was celebrated at Vasantham on the 10th of September 2011 (Saturday). This event was celebrated along with the regular quarterly programme plan meeting of parents and teachers. The parent- teachers meeting was held to discuss the various updates and issues in the last 3 months. Individual discussion sessions of parents with their respective class teachers were also carried out. The guests who felicitated these special teachers included Shri. Suresh Kamath and Shri. Krishnan Kannan (Board of Management, Vasantham) and Shri. Natarajan Raman (Dream India Educational and Charitable Trust). Teachers were given gifts and credits for being more involved and with greater attendance. One of our student, Pravin Raj's mother read out two poems written in praise of special children and teachers. It was a pleasure and moment of extreme satisfaction to hear one of our students, Veerabhadran, read one of the poems.



PARTICIPATION IN THOLI

Vasantham children participated in *THOLI Ivaigal Seranthaal Kadal...*, a daylong event organised by Punnagai Charitable Trust along with Dream India Educational and Charitable Trust on the 6th of August 2011 at Asan Memorial School, Chennai. Our children were among 365 other children from 14 NGOs in Chennai. The day was packed with events focussing on learning and fun, such as oratorical competition, quiz competition, drama, dance, variety entertainment, crayon sketching and collage to bring out hidden talents of many children. Our children participated in all the competitions and prizes. It was great to witness each team cheering up not just for their friends but for the children from other NGOs as well. The prizes were distributed during the valedictory ceremony. The prizes included medals, books and teaching materials. Refreshments, food and special gifts were also provided for all children. Overall, it was great to witness individuals with special needs (children and adults) compete with normal children.

