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# YOcee

The Hub for Young Chennai

**E-NEWSPAPER  
FOR  
THE LITTLE PEOPLE  
OF  
CHENNAI**

Feb. 01 - Feb. 15, 2014

**Fortnightly Electronic edition**  
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## Republic Day Parade: Students' efforts and prizes



By YOcee Team

**A part of the group from St. Raphaels Hr. Sec. School that won the first prize in the Republic Day Parade held in Chennai.**

The long road alongside the Marina beach comes alive for a week every year around Republic Day. The rehearsal sessions for the parade begin as early as 6 a.m. a week before Jan. 26 here.

On Republic Day, the scenes on the

road were colourful and seem to have kindled the feeling for patriotism in those who visited the show.

Men, women and kids were holding small flags or had badges pinned to their

oufit.

Tamil Nadu Governor K. Rosaiah unfurled the flag on the day at 8 a.m. Chetak, a Indian Air Force helicopter showered flower petals from the sky on

the crowd that gathered there on the fenced pavement along the Marina.

After the distribution of gallantry awards, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Jayalalithaa, Governor Rosaiah and other ministers watched folk dances performed by school and college students.

Floats by the government departments showcased the welfare schemes by each of them.

Later, the Republic Day reception 'At Home' was hosted by Governor K. Rosaiah at the Raj Bhavan.

It was the time for prizes for the school and college carnivals and floats. St. Raphaels Girls Higher Secondary School, Santhome won the best carnivals (Schools). Government Girls Hr.Sec.School, Ashok Nagar bagged the second prize while GRT Mahalakshmi Vidyalaya got the third prize.

>>> **Share the events hosted by your school with YOcee. Also the awards and feats of students Mail to editor@yocee.in**

## Did you know?

Of the 18 tableaux, including five from Union Ministries / Departments took part in the Republic Day Parade 2014, the tableau from Tamil Nadu won the second prize in New Delhi.

The tableau depicted Pongal celebration in a rural household. Folk artists played the Nadaswaram and danced in Karagattam style along the float.

West Bengal's Purulia Chhau Dance float bagged the first prize.





# This fortnight for you ...

## MUSIC CONCERT IN PARK Feb 2, 2014

Preethi Sethuraman, a class 9 student of Jawahar Vidyalaya, will present a mikeless concert on Feb 2, 2014 at 7a.m. At the Chess Square in the Nageswara Rao Park, Mylapore.

Preethi, who is learning music from Guru Smt. Vasantha Shankaraman, will be accompanied on the violin by Parur Ananthalakshmi and on the mridangam by R. Kishore.

The Sunday Kutcheri in the Park is organised by Sundaram Finance to promote young musical talent among children aged below 15 years and provide them with a launch pad. Sundaram Finance conducts audition to select the artistes to perform at the park.

To register for the audition: call 94450 34557 or email to [sundaykutcheri@gmail.com](mailto:sundaykutcheri@gmail.com)

## PETER PANDU IN TOWN Feb. 2, 2014

Glow Worm Club, Children's library and activity centre based in Shenoy Nagar celebrates its fifth anniversary with Peter Pan(du) and Princess Rukku, a theatre production.

The ever-popular story of Peter Pan comes with a twist in this production. Donning a 'kudumi' and a 'veshti', his adventures in Chennai when he faces the actor Rajnikanth's fans, are improvised on the spot by children.

The script and music are all by children while Sandhya Ruban of Eloquens has directed the play.

The play also has a few underprivileged children from Teach for India and Oasis International participating in it.

Venue: Chinmaya Heritage Centre, Harrington Road. At 5 p.m.

Contact 98405 06041 for tickets.

## LEARN KIRIGAMI Feb. 2, 2014

At this week's Happy Sunday morning workshop at Hansel & Gretel kids Centre, you can learn the creative art of Kirigami. The workshop is conducted by Jagan Raj from Origami Society of Madras.

The session is suitable for children above 5 years of age.

At Hansel & Gretel, 11, Jagadambal Street, T. Nagar. From 10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

Contact : 9840431549, 43533073

## FLY IN THE MAGIC CARPET OF STORIES Feb. 8, 2014

Geetha Ramanujam, founder of Kathalaya Trust presents stories and pulls out a monster from Polland and sings songs from Scotland.

The storytelling session is suitable for children in the age group 4 to 10 years. At Hippocampus Children's Library, New no. 11, 3rd Avenue, Indira Nagar, Adyar. At 11 a.m.

Fee for members of the centre is Rs. 100 and for non-members it is Rs. 250.

Contact 42116417, 94444049175

## ARE YOU A SUPER CHEF? Feb. 8 & 9, 2014 Register before Feb. 2, 2014

Want to show off your culinary skills? Do it at this weekend show of Super Chef to be held at The Park Hotel.

Apart from the Adult and Adult team categories, juniors in the age group 10 – 14 years can also compete to win prizes.

Stars of the culinary world, Chef Sanjeev Kapoor, Chef Vicky Ratnani and Chef Sanjay Thumma as well as The Park's Chef Rajesh Radhakrishnan will be judges of the contest.

Registrations are on now and will be accepted till Feb. 2, 2014. Online registrations at [www.superchefchennai.com](http://www.superchefchennai.com) Contact: +91 74014 47342

## PUPPET SHOW Feb. 14, 2014

A shadow puppet theatre show by Handgemenge, a German puppet theatre company is held at DakshinaChitra.

A King's Journey is a story of the world where all men carry a watering pot and women carry an umbrella. It has the story of the King who is forced to go on a

hazardous voyage through tropical islands, deserts and narrow city alleys.

The show uses innovative lighting techniques. Open to all.

The event is hosted by Goethe Institut in collaboration with DakshinaChitra.

Contact 28331314, 28332343

## SCIENCE FAIR Last date to register: Feb. 8, 2014

ThinkDiff S'kool is organizing a Science

Fair for students in class 1 to 10.

Science projects involving experiments can be submitted in three categories.

Little Scientists for Class 1,2 & 3, Junior Scientists for Class 4,5 & 6 and Senior Scientists for Class 7 to 10.

Individual / Team (2 members) projects are allowed.

Last date for registration: Feb 8, 2014. Registration fee: Rs. 150

To register. send an email to [bhuvana.ka@thinkdiffskool.com](mailto:bhuvana.ka@thinkdiffskool.com) or contact + 91 80561 00293. Website: [www.thinkdiffskool.com](http://www.thinkdiffskool.com)

## HOLIDAY CAMPS Feb. 8 & 15, 2014

Kids Holiday Camps hosts 'Hats On Day' for kids age 3 yrs to 13 yrs. Games, music, dance stories and crafts will be part of the event. The session is held between 11 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.

On Feb. 15, it is a session on 'Countries and Flags' for kids age 3 yrs to 10 yrs. Know interesting facts about flags and their colours and the meaning attached to them. There is also a GK corner, session on unheard stories and crafts. Fee - Rs.350 per child for each session.

Contact and register at +91 87545 03323.

## ART CONTEST Feb. 15, 16 & 22, 23, 2014

Hepzibah Trust is conducting drawing contests for children on the theme Forget and Forgive, as part of their 5th anniversary

The contest will be held on Feb.15, 16 and 22 and 23, 2014 at 21, V.O.C. Street, M.G.R. Nagar, Chennai 600 078.

Contact 09381008253, 2474 5944, 24713239.

Y's Mens Club is conducting a drawing and painting competition for school students on Feb. 2, 2014.

Vene: Krishnaswamy Matriculation Higher Secondary School, AC Block, Anna Nagar, near Ayyappan temple.

The competition is open to students from Std. 1 to Std. 10 and will have 4 groups (Std.1-2, Std. 3-5, Std. 6-8 and Std. 9-10)

Contact Shubha Sathyanarayanan at 98417 82718, 99406 54776

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## EVENTS FOR CHILDREN IN CHENNAI

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## Tracing history through philately

**Sreenidhi G S**  
Student Reporter

Chennai City South Division of India Post organised a district level Philatelic Exhibition, CHENSPEX 2014 for children on Jan. 25 and 26, 2014 at MGR Janaki College, Durgabai Deshmukh Road, R A Puram.

A workshop on philately was held for school students on Saturday and a quiz was held on the following day. Visitors at the exhibition were also provided with snacks and refreshments.

The exhibition consisted of a display of about a 100



A collection of postage stamps in attractive packs.  
- Photo: Sreenidhi G S

frames of stamps arranged according to various different categories ranging from flowers, birds, famous personalities to Olympics to Children's day releases and even a large collection of Miniature Sheets.

Special festival releases and Rotary releases by numerous countries were also a part of the display.

Latest releases and a variety of other interesting stamps were up for sale at a counter in the exhibition.

The enormity of the whole event was impressive and it definitely has paved the way for the overflowing positive comments in the suggestions book.

## Planning to host Summer Camps for children?



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## Maharshi Vidya Mandir team wins Indian Coast Guard Quiz



In the annual quiz event conducted on board Indian

Coast Guard ships Sarang and Sagar at Madhusudhan jetty in the Chennai Port Trust on Jan. 28, the team of Pranav hari and Pranav Kamesh, both students of Class 9 of Maharshi Vidya Mandir bagged the first prize.

This quiz is held every year as part of Coast Guard Week celebrations for Class 8 and 9 students.

The team from Bala Vidya Mandir, Adyar with Karthi Srinivasan and Hari Madhavan was the runners up.

## Tuberculosis Awareness: Essay Competition for school students

To mark the World Tuberculosis Day, Indian Development Foundation and Gremaltes Hospital, Chennai jointly organise Essay Writing Contest for students of classes 8 and 9.

Topic for this year is 'How to reach the three million and how to cure? A student's perspective'. Essays should be hand written and can be

around 750 words.

Entries authorised by the Head of the institution should be submitted on or before February 20, 2014 to:

Indian Development Foundation, 6/PP1, School Street, Mogappair West, Chennai - 600 037. Phone: 044 - 26531168

## Chennai students in Germany conference

Ankita and Tasneem, two students of Kumararani Meena Muthiah Matriculation Hr. Sec School who have taken German as a second language, participated in a youth conference held in Germany recently.

the 3rd environmental youth conference, 'Greening with Goethe', was held from November 29 to December 1, 2013 in Bremen, Germany.

The two students presented a paper and posters on the manufacture, use and disposal of CDs in Chennai.

They received certificates from Karl Pechatscheck, chief guest at their school's annual day.

Kumararani Meena Muthiah, correspondent of the school, R. Sridevi, principal of the school and Prabhakar, head of language

department, Goethe Institut, Chennai were also present on the occasion.



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## Music for World Peace. Setting a record



**For the records. 229 children playing the keyboard at Samarpan, an event held at Chennai Trade Centre's Convention Hall on Jan. 16, 2014.**

Titled Samarpan, music for World Peace, the concert had songs like 'Vande Mataram', 'Vaishnava Jan to' and the Oscar winning 'Jai Ho'.

The composer A.R. Rahman's sister A.R. Reihana was also among the chief guests along the industrialist Nalli Kuppuswami Chetty and veteran playback singer S. Janaki.

"It took six months to train these children, dividing them into two groups of Carnatic and Western music learners and then bringing them together," Martin says.

The concert held the audience spellbound for 2 hours.

The list of songs included a special Samarpan theme music, composed by M.S. Martin, which displayed a variety of styles in the Indian music set in 5 different ragas.

In an attempt to create a new Guinness World Record for the largest electronic keyboard ensemble,

M.S. Martin, a well-known keyboard teacher in Chennai brought 229 children

together on stage. The event held on Jan. 16, 2014 at the Convention Hall in Chennai Trade Centre's vast campus had children from 25 different schools in Chennai.

M.S. Martin had earlier set a record with 109 children playing the keyboard. But when that record was broken in New York, he drew plans to set a higher goal for the new records.

**M.S. Martin conducts Keyboard classes in Mylapore and Adyar. Contact him at 98400 16565**

## Weekend embroidery classes for children



Savitha Elangovan conducts weekend embroidery workshops for kids from 5 years.

Aari and Zardosi classes for girls of age 13 years onwards are also offered.

All materials will be provided by her at the workshops.

If you are a group of 10 or

more kids in the same campus, she offers classes at your place too.

Contact Savitha Elangovan at Old no. 21, New 47, Thiruvangadapuram 1st St, Choolaimedu.

Contact Savitha at 9884560228.



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# Award winning project Keni launched

**Nandini P S**  
Student Reporter

Books are windows to the soul. The Keni Project, a student initiative, aims to provide a multiple number of these windows by setting up small libraries using second hand books in schools where the need is felt.

The Keni Project was born out of The Changemaker's Conference 2013 held at Bhavan's Rajaji Vidhyashram. This project was inaugurated on Nov. 25, 2013, at R.K.Swamy Auditorium, Sir Sivaswami Kalalaya Senior Secondary School by Shri. J. Ajeeth Prasath Jain, Senior Principal, Bhavan's Rajaji Vidhyashram.



The event guests included Ms. Ragini Srinivasan, Counselor, Bhavan's Rajaji Vidhyashram, and Ms. Latha, Administrative Officer, Karpagavalli Vidyalaya, Mylapore. Dr. (Smt.) Vatsala Narayanaswami, Honorary Joint Secretary and Treasurer, Dr. (Smt.) Prema Kasturi, Secretary, Ms. M.S.Jaisree, Principal – in charge, Sir Sivaswami Kalalaya, Ms. Jashoda Sundar, Vice Principal-in charge, Sir Sivaswami Kalalaya, also were present on the occasion.

'The Keni Project' banner was unveiled by the Chief Guest Shri. J. Ajeeth Prasath Jain. In his address, he spoke about the importance of realizing

that books are also a medium of learning, in an era dominated by technology.

As a sign of inauguration of the Keni Library at Karpagavalli Vidyalaya, a book hamper consisting of second hand books collected for the Keni Project was presented to Ms. Latha, Administrative Officer, Karpagavalli Vidyalaya by the Keni Team. The 5 core members of the Keni Team were awarded with their official position badges by Ms. Ragini Srinivasan.

Ms. Ragini Srinivasan briefed the audience about the activities of The Debate Club including The Bait and The Changemaker's Conference. Then, Ms. Latha, Administrative Officer, Karpagavalli

Vidyalaya, spoke about the usefulness of cultivating a good reading habit and about Karpagavalli Vidyalaya which is the first school to be selected under the Keni Project.

The Keni Project aims at collecting used books and newspapers from public and using them to set up the libraries in identified schools. These books will be directly installed in the library, while the old newspapers will be sold at the newspaper marts and the money realized will be used for buying needed books.

If you want to donate books, contact Keni Project at [keniproject@gmail.com](mailto:keniproject@gmail.com)

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# Jus' Pics ...

## Nature's nutty friends

Photo by Varsha S, Student Reporter



## Books on display at Chennai Book Fair

Photo by Priyamvadah R



## A scene at the Float festival at Kapaleswarar temple, Mylapore



## A flower found in Nageswara Rao Park, Mylapore

Photo by Ashwin J



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# Short Takes

## Work on bicycle tracks in Chennai begins

The Chennai Corporation has begun work on bicycle tracks in the city. The first network of a 2.2-metre-wide bicycle track on Besant Nagar Second Avenue has already started. The network between Elliot's Beach and Indira Nagar railway station too is getting ready, according to officials of Chennai Corporation.

Another stretch proposed for bicycle track is in K.K. Nagar near P.T. Rajan Salai. This neighbourhood which has a lot of schools and the so the tracks will be put to use to its best, hopes the cycling enthusiasts.

Plans are on for bicycle tracks on Swami Sivananda Salai and Wallajah Road as part of the pedestrianisation of Chepauk, Mylapore and T. Nagar.

The mayor has already announced a 7km long bicycle track connecting Fort Station and Marina beach. Get ready with your bikes, Chennai roads are becoming biker friendly soon.

- YOCee Team

## Hotline for recycle

Paperman, a group of people concerned about the environment, connects local paper men and recyclers to customers who wish to recycle.

On the website [www.paperman.in](http://www.paperman.in), you can find someone near your home who accept paper, plastic, glass (not broken) and metal products for recycling. You can also call the Paperman hotline at 8015269831.

So, is this a good way to clear clutter at home and at the same time help conserve nature by getting things to recycle and reuse?

Go ahead and recycle all that you have used and done with.

- Janani K S  
KK Nagar

## Frequent Flyers, You need your school ID to board a plane

With an e-ticket in hand, we went to the Check-in counter of a leading flight outlet to collect our boarding pass. The person on the counter asked my father's and then mother's identity proof. Surprisingly they asked me and my younger brother for our School ID cards. We did not have them. Luckily my father had our passports ready. We heaved a sigh of relief! When enquired she was even ready to show the rulebook which specially mentioned this factor. Later I came to know that various security reasons require taking this measure.

So here's just a reminder to all my friends out there to carry their School ID Cards if they are going to fly. If your school has not issued them, head over to your Co-ordinator and request issue of ID card. Other ID proofs such as Passports or Aadhar card also are accepted.

- Aditya Sharma  
Student Reporter

## Dredging of Cooum, Adyar river mouths on

Reacting to the complaints on the rise of mosquito menace, the Water Resources department has begun daily dredging of the Cooum and Adyar river mouths.

Each wave deposits up to half an inch of sand at the river mouth and this deposit stops the tidal wave backflow. Regular dredging at the river mouths would help better tidal wave action and drain river water into the sea, say the officials. This prevents stagnation of water at the river mouths and upto 2 to 3 km distance along the rivers. This eliminates breeding of mosquitoes

There is hope for mosquito free neighbourhood along the rivers and a better night sleep soon.

- YOCee Team

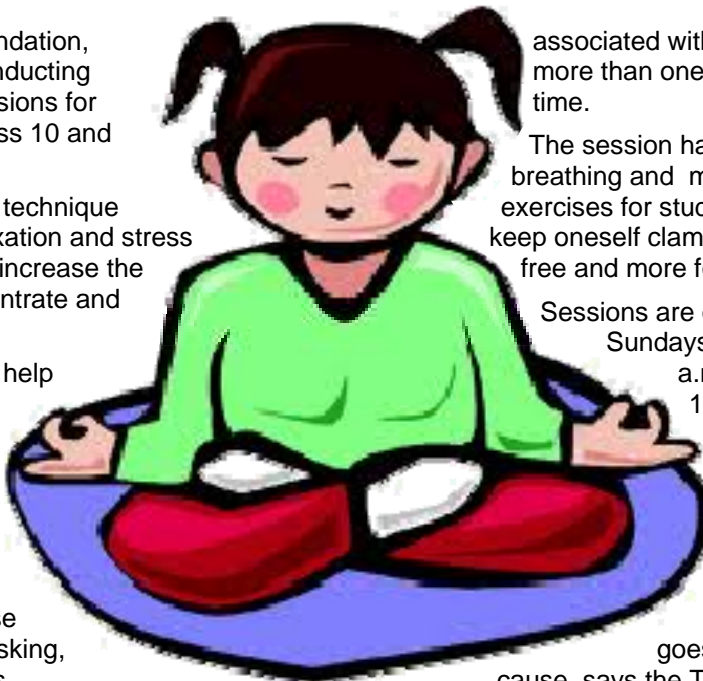
## Meditation sessions for students

Wellbeing Foundation, Alwarpet is conducting Meditation sessions for students of class 10 and 12,

Meditation is a technique known for relaxation and stress relief that can increase the ability to concentrate and focus.

This focus can help the students pay attention to one specific thing at a time which is difficult to achieve in these days of multitasking, say the trainers.

Increasing one's ability to focus can foster creativity, promote problem-solving skills and decrease the stress



associated with handling more than one task at a time.

The session has simple breathing and meditation exercises for students to keep oneself calm, stress-free and more focused.

Sessions are on Sundays from 8.15 a.m. to 11.15 a.m. Fee Rs.200. Funds raised through this activity goes for a cause, says the Trust.

Venue - No.1, Seethamma Colony 1st cross, Alwarpet.

For details call 7299094413

**YOCee**  
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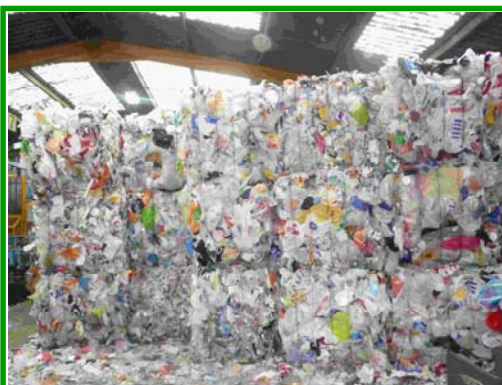
## PS Senior team wins Times Science Quiz

In the third edition of the Times Science Quiz held in Chennai on Jan. 29, 2014, the team from P S Senior School, Mylapore with S. Abhinav and V. Thejas won the first prize.



Students from 70 schools across Chennai took part in the written preliminary round. Six teams made it to the final round of the quiz held at Chinmaya Heritage Centre in Chetpet.

Pranav Krishnan and R. Amroth of PSBB School, Nungambakkam were the first runners-up.



## Students initiate steps for recycling plastic for roads

Do you know that simply segregating the used milk sachets in your home and collecting them from your area can contribute hugely to solve eco issues?

The students of A. V. Meiyappan Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Virugambakkam did get to know through a project and initiative in their school. They recently collected and contributed more than 8600 used polythene milk

their own homes on a daily basis. Later they extended it talking to their neighbours and even to local tea stalls owners.

The project was carried out in association with PeoplePro Trainers & Consultants Pvt. Ltd.

The Corporation of Chennai (Zone 10) has awarded a certificate of appreciation to the school in recognition of this



sachets to the Corporation of Chennai, which in turn will be used for use in laying roads.

The correspondent of the school, Nidhya Guhan, has been initiating various such activities involving students and focuses on creating awareness among children and help them learn a life skill in the process.

The students learnt that Chennai Corporation has already begun laying road using plastic trash. In this project, they began collecting the sachets from

initiative.

One of the first roads to have been laid in Chennai city using plastic trash is Judge Jambulingam Street in Nungambakkam.

**S. Sruti, one of the then Student Reporters of YOcee reported elaborately on the project of laying roads using plastic wastes in June 2009. Read the report here - <http://yocee.in/2009/06/plastic-roads/>**

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