



YOOCee



The Hub for Young Chennai

Sep. 14 - 27, 2014



Maharishi school team wins Madras Quiz

Kindled by the interest about their city, 282 teams from 59 city schools took part in the 4th edition of the Murugappa Madras Quotient Quiz held on Sep. 6, 2014 at Sir Mutha Venkatasubbarao Auditorium in Chetpet.

After the written prelims followed by a one-and-a-half hour Grand Finale, the team 'Two and a half men' comprising Pranav Hari, Visrudh and Ram Ananth from Maharishi Vidya Mandir, Chetpet emerged champions in the 2014 edition of the Quiz.

Six top-scoring teams from the written prelims went on to battle it out in the finals. Quizmaster Dr. Navin Jayakumar rolled out questions on the city's heritage, culture, landmarks, people and all that is Madras, that is Chennai today.

This edition had innovative rounds like 'Pictionary', 'Grid connect' and a Live Round

in addition to the usual rounds of quizzing.

The team 'Jill Jung Juk' which had Dharanesh, Varn Suresh and Vigneshwara from PSBB Numgambakkam and the team 'What's in a team name' with Shubhankar Agrawal, V.R. Akash and Saikrishna from AMM Matriculation school in the team were the runners up.

It was special for the quiz master too. Dr. Navin Jayakumar had earlier conducted the Madras 350 Quiz, the first-ever corporate sponsored quiz in Chennai, which was held to commemorate the 350th birth anniversary of the city 25 years ago.

The Murugappa Madras Quotient Quiz is one more tribute to the city of Madras, held every year for school children. The song-and-video tribute 'The Madras Song' specially produced to mark 375 years of the city by Murugappa Group went viral across the social media and

added colours to the celebration.

Mr. Ramesh KB Menon, the Director-HR of Murugappa Group distributed the prizes. The city's chronicler Mr. S. Muthiah was present at the quiz. Teachers, parents and other quizzing enthusiasts were among the audience.

>>>More photos on www.yocee.in

A GREEN DAY OUT
SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT
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Preeti presents mikeless concert



As part of the monthly open-air Sunday Kutcheri in the Park organised by Sundaram Finance, 14-year-old Preeti Thiyagarajan, a class 10 student of Modern Sr. Sec. School, Nanganallur presented a mikeless kutcheri on Sep. 7, 2014.

The concert was held at 7a.m. at the Chess Square of the Nageswara Rao Park in Mylapore and no electronic amplification was used in the concert.

Preeti is learning music from guru Anasuya Krishnamoorthy. Accompanied on the mridangam by Raguram, another young artiste and on the violin by senior violists and

Kalaimamani awardee Thiruvarur N Balam.

The morning walkers and music connoisseurs enjoyed and appreciated Preeti's music presentations.

V. Kumaraswamy, GM- Sundaram Finance felicitated the young artistes and presented certificates and mementos to the artistes.

Sunday Kutcheri in the Park aims at promoting musical talent among the young aged below 15 years and is conducted on the first Sunday of every month. To read about the previous concerts, log in to <http://sundaykutcheri.blogspot.in>.

Six teachers from Chennai receive National awards

This year two teachers from senior secondary schools, three from primary and secondary schools and two from Kendriya Vidyalayas in Chennai will be honoured with national awards at a function to be held on Sep. 4, 2014 in New Delhi.

Ms. Lakshmi Srinivasan, principal, P.S. Senior Sec. School, Mylapore receives National award for Teachers and Dr. K. Mohana, principal, Modern Senior Sec. School, Nanganallur receives CBSE award.

While Ms. D. Arokia Mary, headmistress, St. Anne's Primary School, Royapuram receives the award in Primary teachers category, Dr. Shashi Swaran Singh, Pathipaga Chemmal K. Gnapathy Govt. Higher Sec. School.

Kodambakkam and Mr. S. Adhiappan, headmaster, M.F.S.D Higher Sec. School, Sowcarpet receive the award for secondary teachers.

Ms. Lalitha Jayaraman, Kendriya Vidyalaya, IIT Campus, Chennai and Mr. E. Ananthan, principal, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Air Force Station, Tambaram are selected for the award under Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers' category.

Best teachers from across the country are honoured on the occasion of Teacher's Day every year. The day is observed on Sep. 5, commemorating the birthday of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, an outstanding teacher and former President of India.

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EVENTS FOR CHILDREN IN CHENNAI

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Kids ran for a cause

A.N. Dhurai, Student Reporter



Over 2000 kids from the age group 3 to 14 took part in a run for a cause on Aug. 17, 2014. It was the Chennai Kidathon held at YMCA grounds, Nandanam.

organized by the Madras Cosmopolitan Round Table 94. The famous Neville Billimoria (rower, runner and cyclist) also ran with the kids.

The first race (5 km) was flagged off at 6.30am and the last race finished around 10am. There were 4 categories – 5km, 2km, 1km and 500m. One adult was allowed to run with a child in the 500m category.

All the runners were called an hour in advance to get warmed up. After the run the participants went to the carnival area where they could play games and win prizes.

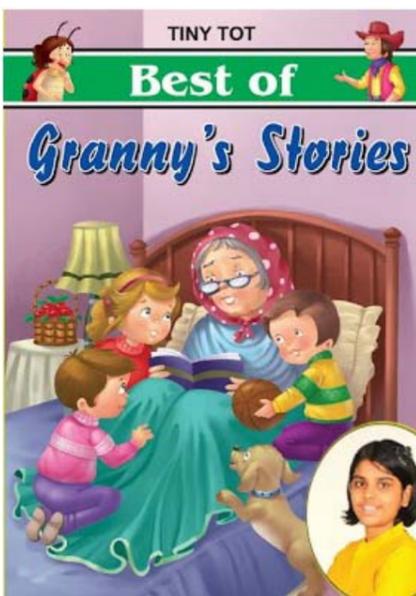
The run was sponsored by NAC Jewellers in aid of charity. All participants were given a T-shirt, a medal and a certificate. Breakfast was also available. The event was

Young girl publishes Granny's Stories

All of 13 years and putting grandma stories together may sound an oxymoron. But, that's what young Yamini Prashanth has come up with.

Yamini, a student at Vidya mandir, Mylapore is bringing out her second book 'Best of Granny's Stories' this weekend. The book is about two children spending a memorable weekend with their grandmother as she shares 20 stories that enthrall as well communicate the finer values of life.

Published by Tiny Tot Publications, the book was launched at the Odyssey Store in Adyar on Sep. 5, 2014.



Sanjay Pinto, a lawyer, columnist and former resident editor of NDTV released the book.

Spinning stories comes to Yamini just as her thoughts flow. She published her first book 'Mishti' last year. The book was about simple joys of a perfect childhood and all things young girls would love to do and included real-life experiences narrated interestingly. The book is also published in Hindi along side.

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Postage stamps on musicians

India Post recently released a set of eight commemorative postage stamps recognising the contributions of eight doyens of Indian Classical Music.



In Chennai the stamps were released at a function held on Sep. 3, 2014 at Sivagami Pethachi auditorium in Mylapore. The set of stamps had one maestro of Carnatic music, D.K.

Pattammal. Her grand daughter Nithyasree Mahadevan who is also a well-known singer received the first stamp released on the day.

Collectors of stamps can get the set of stamps from the Philatelic Bureau, Head Post Office, Anna Salai.



Paper bags for Navaratri

If you are inviting guests to your home this Navaratri, pack the gifts you want to offer them in paper bags.

Thambulam bags made by special children of Spastic Support Society are available in Kotturpuram and Pallikaranai. There are also file folders and gift pouches if you want to choose as gifts. Support a cause this festival season. Contact Ms. Bhuvana at 9884327011 or 98401 25181.

Elephant seized from a wedding hall

Do you see elephants in weddings greeting the groom and guests? Does that look grand and brings fun? But, have you thought of the animal and its rights?

Recently, an elephant which was brought from Srirangam to Chennai for the wedding of an NRI, was seized following complaints to Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA).

Rani, a 38 year old elephant was restless and was making noise which made the neighbours and passers by report to the SPCA. The authorities soon seized the elephant and found that it was brought in a mini lorry without enough food, water, medical kit and proper permission papers. These are violations of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, the officials said.

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Onam at Bamboola Play School

Bamboola's floor converted into a floral carpet with the parents bringing in flowers and encouraging the akkas to have a 'poo kalam' competition for Onam.

The children enjoyed all the lovely colours and designs while the teachers taught the children a few dance moves. The flower show was an entertainment and learning for the children.

A Greeny Day in Chennai

Harishreya V, Student Reporter

The Green Bazaar organised last Sunday from dawn to dusk at The Spaces in Besant Nagar was a real green treat by the sea.

The Alternative, an Online magazine for sustainable living organised the Green Bazaar. It featured stores that were into recycling, composting and organic production. Well Paper, Rainy filters, Aurville green practices were a few stores among many.

Vaer, provided an access to fresh, organic fruits and vegetables to the residents of Chennai while Well Paper provided alternative means of livelihood for women from all walks of life. It empowered women for the production of goods which were mostly fabrics and manufactured them at Auroville.

Rainy Filters was an initiative to create awareness on rain water harvesting. Auroville green practices introduced the residents of Chennai to organic farming and sold organic produces at affordable prices.

Many workshops were also conducted for children and adults that included origami, composting, stories on Indian tradition which were very interesting and held the viewers attention.

Team YOSee visited this unique initiative held in Chennai for the first time. Read all the reports in the special four-page supplement.

Photos: Prerana Thota, Student Reporter



A GREEN DAY OUT



Go Green ...

Gayathri Aravind, Student Reporter

The Green Bazaar is an exhibition organized by thealternative.in, online magazine on sustainability, to create awareness about the harmful effects of urbanization and reminds us of our old traditions and eco friendly ways of farming, cooking and playing. The bazaar had a lot of workshops and stalls for both children and adults.

A for Ashoka, B for Bodhi...

In the morning, at about 7, the first programme started. It was a tree walk - A for Ashoka, B for Bodhi, conducted by Nizhal, a non-profitable organization. Mr. Babu, who has specialized in marine diversity led the walk.

The first tree he started with was the Odiya maram, also called as the Indian ash tree. The tree sheds all its leaves in summer. Then we saw the Thazhamboo which is basically in the coastal eco-system. If a pond has thazhamboo, it will surely have a lotus flower too, he informed. Next, he started explaining about the Poovarasana tree, also called as Naatu Theku. It is a coastal tree which is very strong. He also shared his experience of how he used to use the leaves to whistle tunes.

The next tree we saw was the Gulmohar which is also called the May Flower tree. Its native is the Madagascar. It provides food for squirrels and birds. It was fascinating to hear that Gulmohar seeds, also called as rattle seeds is an official musical instrument in Africa.

Next we came to everybody's favourite, the Indian Badaam tree. The Baadam is rich in protein. You can even say, that a baadam a day, keeps protein deficiency away. After that we moved on to the Savukku or Casuarina tree which is a very dangerous one. The leaves of the tree do not decompose because of the oil content in them. It is grown as a cash crop. Next was the Pungam tree, also called The Indian Beach tree. It is a natural coolant. If you stand under the tree, you feel the temperature decreasing by two degrees!

We then moved on to the Trumpet flower tree. The flowers of the tree are trumpet shaped, pink or white in colour. One could also find this tree in the Semmozhi poonga, said Babu. The next tree we visited was a tree known to everybody, the Neem tree. The leaves of the tree are used as deworming agents. They are also used to treat skin diseases and measles. Near this tree was the Magizham poo tree which gives happiness because of its aroma. Next, came the Indian Cork Wood tree which grows very quickly but very brittle. The cork is taken from this tree.

Just like Savukku tree, another tree called



Subabul from America is also a dangerous tree. Its leaves do not decompose and they will not allow other trees to grow, he said. We ended the walk with the Peppal tree which cures infertility among humans. Mr. Babu suggested that we plant trees in places like abandoned parks.

The Chakra Design Studio

The Chakra Design Studio was started by Bindhu Kasinadhuni in 2011. She is an alumna of the NID (National Institute of Design school). Initially she was making dresses for her daughter Neela and then started making clothes for everybody. She specializes in children's clothes. She also makes clothes for adults. She has cute frocks and skirts and shirts for children. She uses perfectly eco-friendly vegetable dyes to dye the clothes.

She dips the printing blocks inside the vegetable dyes and prints it on the cloth. The cloth is made of pure cotton. Her dresses range from Rs. 450 to 2250. For more information, you can visit her studio at no.5, Brahadambal Street, Nungambakkam, Chennai - 34.

Thaivazhi Iyarkai Unavagam

Mr. Ravi and Mr. Mahalingam founded Thaivazhi Iyarkai Maruthuvam in January 2014. They were running a hotel before this, but they were not satisfied with providing food which was not very healthy. So they started the Thaivazhi Iyarkai Unavagam which provides healthy soups, laddoos, sprouted grains and the like.

Their list of soups includes thooduvalai and mudakatthan soup. They do not use white sugar and milk products to make the food items. They use palm jaggery instead of sugar, and instead of milk they use coconut milk.

They have a small stall set up in Saidapet. They also have a stall in the Marina Beach from 5 am to 9 am for the early morning walkers. The food items they make are safe for patients having diabetes, mellitus and blood pressure, they say. The food items are priced from Rs. 10 to Rs. 25.

Grow Green

Grow Green is a small organization started by Imteyaz. He just started growing plants in his terrace and then started to post pictures on his Facebook page. People got inspired and they also wanted to start gardening. That's how the Grow Green started.

He sources seeds and gardening tools from all over the world and sells them through social networking sites. All the products are child friendly. They have rare and exotic heirloom seeds bio fertilizers, bio pesticides, gardening tools, seedling trays, planters and watering cans. For more information call +91-9940283414, 04443859594. Email - greenmenders@gmail.com.

Organic Garten

Organic Garten was formed by Mr. Badri, an urban farmer. This is a Bangalore based organization. Mr. Badri is very passionate about gardening. This made him grow small plants in the balcony and terrace. He now sells seeds at a reduced price, as many people don't do gardening just because, the seeds are costly. He has a face book page in which there are about 2000 followers. He says that, a 500 sq.ft. terrace is enough for growing plants. He also feels that the people in Chennai should buy their seeds and grow their plants as it is both healthy and gives happiness. For more information, log in to www.organicgarten.com.

Photos : Gayathri Aravind

Experience Green

Prerana Thota, Student Reporter

The Alternative, an online magazine which strives to make sustainability a way of life did bring a new experience to Chennai. It was all about how to improve the environment we live in.

Many events were organised and stalls were put up there. I went in the Biodiversity walk and witnessed the children of Sargam Choir singing out their heart.

The Biodiversity walk was inside the campus and it was led by a 15 year old young man Vikas Madhav. We saw many different creatures like the seven spotted cockroach, bicolour ant, stink bug, jewel bug, lined garden snail, an ant mimicking a praying mantis and the honey ant. It was a very pleasant way of getting to know about the different creatures that we don't stop to notice in our daily life.

The Sargam Choir is primarily a choir group that sings with only the rhythm of the tabla. They presented songs on nature and about how we should save our environment and create awareness.

Daily Dump

Daily Dump is an awareness Campaign by Samridhi Foundation on how to manage your waste at home. They also host programs in schools and communities as they believe that only the children who are the future of tomorrow would benefit from waste management.

Meenakshi and her husband are running this venture. They believe that 60% of our daily waste is bio-degradable. Instead of the waste being collected and disposed off at a landfill,

we can use the composting pots to prepare manure for our gardens. The waste in the pots take about a month to become manure.

Lechate, a liquid manure can be used instead of chemical fertilizers, the duo says. Remix powder is an organic fertilizer which is also obtained from this composting, can also be used in the home garden.

It doesn't matter if you don't have a garden, you can always give your composted material to Daily Dump and they will make use of it. More details at <http://www.dailydump.org/>

Ultimate Cocos

Being an IMO certified company and with expertise in Organic farming and in the Coir Industry, Vishnu Ram and Santosh started their retail business in 1987 and are based in Coimbatore.

Having experience in the Coir Industry, Ultimate Cocos offer good quality coconut fibre, coco peat which can be used as an alternative for soil. They also make and sell curled coir, coconut husk chips, coir compost, coir hanging baskets etc. Their garden articles include articles made from Coconut Coir. The articles vary from Hanging Baskets, Planting Pots, Poles for creepers and Garden Pith Manure. They export their products to Europe and Australia as well.

Visit <http://ultimatecocos.com/> for details.

Photos : Prerana Thota



Informative Green Efforts

J. Benita Georgina Mary, Student Reporter

I cherish every moment of my visit to the Green Bazaar on Sep. 7, 2014. I could get an overall glimpse of various efforts taken by individuals and organization to promote nature and protect our environment. There were different types of stalls each of which had a unique concept behind it. The stalls selling vegetables grown by organic farming were the attractions. The spices grown by organic farming, though expensive, highlighted the richness in terms of nutrition. The Millets, Grains, Honey and savorys made from natural fruits were a delight to the eyes and very informative.

Some of the traditional items like Red Rice, Kudiraivalli, and Maize which are long forgotten reminded me of our indifference to traditional food. There were stalls which displayed clothes made from natural handlooms, Hair & Skin wash powders, Detergent powders made out of natural products. There were many individuals from Auroville in Pondicherry who put up their stalls which was mind enthralling like Artifacts made from waste papers and scrap materials, sanitary napkins made from natural cloth material instead of the conventional pads available in the market and playing cards on the theme of 'waste management'. The workshops on Permaculture, Kitchen Gardening, Natural Handlooms etc., were very interactive and informative. It was a kind of eye opener to many new facts of which I was ignorant all along. Even the 'Story Telling' session by 'Once Upon A Time Group' were very carefully based on the concepts of 'Recycling' and 'Saving Trees'.

It was a very memorable and knowledge enriching experience to me.

For a Green Home

Toran was one of the most colorful and attractive stalls at the Green Bazaar. The toys and furniture displayed were beautifully made out of paper mache and waste clothes. The toys like Reindeer, Elephant, Chest box and stool are made very attractively. The toys have paper as their core and the multi colored waste clothes are wound around the paper, like a rope in an artistic manner. The prices range from Rs. 800 – 20,000. It is produced in Jodhpur, Rajasthan and they have a retail outlet in Chennai. The outlet is visited by both European and locals. Toran is at No.5, Damodaran Street, Kilpauk. Phone: 044-4202 6660, 9841946300. Email: info@toran.co.in

Truly Organic

Mr. Cross Rajan welcomed with a warm smile at the Stall TruBio Organic Spices and patiently replied to all the questions. He simply defined 'Organic' as something grown without the use of pesticides, synthetic fertilizers, sewage sludge, genetically modified organisms or ionizing radiation. Interestingly, I gathered that converting a land to Organic status is a three year process. They have 17 products which are packed in bottles or pouches. Some of the interesting items displayed were Pepper in brine, White Pepper whole, BP Grinder, WP Grinder etc., They also have 'Asian Palmyra' Palm leaf box wrapped with a ribbon for gifting these items. The handmade gift box is again made from organic, re-usable, sustainable and eco-friendly materials.

Mr. Rajan made the conversation warmer by giving a cup of hot 'Golden Milk' which was very tasty and delicious. Golden milk is a mixture of Almond milk, Organic Coconut oil, Turmeric paste and few pods of TruBio Cardamom. TruBio spices are certified organic on Japanese Agricultural Standards (JAS). It is run by Peermade Development Society (PDS), a voluntary organization headed by Rev.Fr. Arackle. The



organization is based at Idukki in Kerala.

The organization works for the integrated and sustainable development of the rural poor irrespective of religion, caste or creed. They have an outlet in Chennai at Regus, level - 3, Shyamala Tower, 136, Arcot Road, Saligramam. Phone: +91-9441074844. Email: info@dianafaraway.com

Rainy Filters

Mr. Srinivasan was up with a new concept in the Green Bazaar. The main concept of his rooftop rainwater harvesting filter was to harvest the terrace water and re-use it for domestic or commercial purposes. The water harvested is not recommended for drinking but can be used for all other purposes.

The FL-500 system appears to be a simple apparatus of about three feet height made of Poly Propylene material and costing about Rs.8000. When the rainwater enters the filter it has an in-built self cleaning mechanism through a vertically placed filter element, which automatically flushes out dirt and debris. There is a gate valve system at the drain side. There is an option for various sizes and cost. This is produced by the Kontakt group which was seeded as back as 1976 as a conglomerate of companies serving wide range of industries ranging from electrical and mechanical to renewable energy and green products.

They can be accessed at www.rainyfilters.com and contacted at 080- 26766252. Their Head Office is at 64, 11th cross, 7th block, Jayanagar, Bangalore - 560082

Krya

Mrs. Preethi and Mr. Shreenivas, the founders of Krya greeted us warmly. Just like the Sanskrit word Krya meaning 'mindful action', their efforts to showcase products like soaps and detergents reflect their concern for eco-friendly products for our daily use.

The concept behind this effort is completely natural, no artificial agents used and of course not even water. It was quite an interesting thing to know that in case of liquid based preparations like the ones we buy in the commercial market, we pay money for 80% of water as well as the preservatives in them which are needed to keep the bacteria off. Not only that, we also pay for the materials to keep the fragrance in such liquid preparations to keep the bad odour under check. In a place like Chennai, conserving water is undoubtedly a matter of concern too.

Krya's products include Face wash powder, Hair wash powder, Organic soapberry powder for clothes and natural dish-wash powder. The peels of Soap berry, called 'Sapindus trifoliatus' in Latin, is used by Krya for making detergents. Krya's Hair wash powders has 'Boondhi kottai' as its main ingredient and not the 'Shikakai' popularly sought by people. Their face powder is made from shrubs and herbs while the commercial soaps make the skin alkaline and also contain 'Sodium Loryl Sulphate (SLS)' which have deleterious effect on the skin. Another nice policy they adopt is that being animal lovers themselves, Krya does not test their products on them. Only certified organic ingredients are used and the products are either bio-degradable or compostable. You could find more details in their website www.krya.in and they can be contacted at 09176612023.

Kitchen Garden Workshop

Presented by Ms. Priya Gopalan and Ms. Anitha Balasubramanian, the workshop dealt with Permaculture and Kitchen gardening as something which can be managed at Household level itself.

Creating soil by simple methods at household level is something possible. The demonstrators said they have established a very good model in the Adyar Cancer hospital with many volunteers in their group.

The key steps are to make a six layered stuff which will turn into soil. The bottom most layer is sticks upon which pressed-out sugarcane fibre received free from the juice vendors is placed. This is further layered with dry leaves followed by compost and finally topped with dry or green leaves. One bucket of these layers would get reduced to one fourth of organic rich soil.

River bank soil is porous but it is not nutritious and again to be avoided as it leads to exploitation of natural resources which may result in erosion.

To make a compost, kitchen waste, leaves including Tea is good but a bowl of cooked rice is not good at all. Lemon and Sweet Lime peels take a long time to decompose and are not suitable, they informed.

Some tips here - When growing Home Garden, pots should not be over-watered as it would drown the seeds. Greens like Pasaalai Keerai, Peerkankai and Mint leaves are excellent for stem cutting and planting.

Photos : J. Benita Georgina Mary



School Buzz

Vintage Car Rally in Don Bosco School

Roshan L Mehta, Student Reporter

Madras Heritage Motoring club organized a heritage car rally in Don Bosco School, Egmore on Aug. 24, 2014.

The MyTVS Heritage Car Rally of the classic and vintage car and bike club had cars from the 1920s to the 1960s participating in the rally. The Madras Week Celebrations, marking the 375th year of the founding of Chennai city had brought the cars out for this event, sponsored by MyTVS.

This is the 10th edition of Madras Heritage Motoring Club's Rally and was flagged off by Mr. Vinod Dasari, Managing Director, Ashok Leyland Limited at 9 a.m. from Don Bosco School, Egmore, Chennai. Mr. R. Dinesh, Joint Managing Director, TVS & Sons Ltd, was the Guest of Honour for the event.

The vehicles went on a city display drive through Spur Tank Road, College Road, Pantheon Road and then back to the school grounds. The vehicles were on display for the public till 1 p.m. The winners of the various categories including best car and best bike received prizes. Mr. Sudhir Rao, Managing Director, Skoda India Ltd, gave away the prizes.

There were many old cars and bikes. Visitors enjoyed taking photographs with cars and bikes.



Cultural festival at Sri Sankara Senior School

Ananya Balaji, Student Reporter

This year Sri Sankara Senior Secondary school, Adyar hosted its annual inter-school cultural competition 'Smaraneyam and Comvision' on Aug. 7 to 9, 2014.

The fest was inaugurated by the chief guest, distinguished Toast Master Sastharam Ravendran. The guest of honour was the acclaimed singer Naresh Iyer. Around 21 schools across the city participated in a number of events conducted over three days like Jam, Shipwreck, Light music, Group Dance, voice over, Adzap, quiz, classical music etc. The judges were eminent personalities from different fields.

The team from Bala Vidya Mandir, Adyar won the overall title of Smaraneyam and in Comvision, the winners were the team from Vidya Mandir, Mylapore.

The winner's event was won by Nikhil Venkatesh



of P.S.Senior Secondary School who was awarded The Mr. Smaraneyam title and got a grand prize – iPad mini and it was sponsored by a school teacher from Sri Sankara school.

Both the host school and the participant schools seemed to have enjoyed the day. Student volunteers of class 11 and 12 of the host school, Sri Sankara Senior put in a lot of efforts to organise the fest and also brought in lots of sponsors like the Winners Academy, BSA cycles among them.

Reading Spree

Aishwaraya Kalro, Student Reporter

The sun shone brighter than usual, energy ran high amongst tiny Bhavanities as they steadily walk towards T.A.G. Auditorium situated in the campus.

Readathon, a name derivation and combination of 'Reading Marathon' organised by Bhavan's Rajaji Vidyashram in an association with Aban Scientific Reading, Fast For Word and Reading Assistant is aimed at promoting and inculcating good reading habits and nurturing readers.

Ms. Tahsin Chacko, General Manager of Scholastic India, was the chief guest of the event. She laid emphasis on the importance of reading. Ms.Sriranjani Srinivasan one of the main teachers-in-charge, exclaimed that the teachers were as excited as the students were.

The team efforts of primary teachers encouraged the 1200 little students, who enthusiastically read aloud a short story in perfect synchronisation with one-and-other. The event was kick started by students of class 3 to 5, followed by the reading session of 1st and 2nd graders.

The mass reading held on Sep. 2 was an interactive event and the reading session was followed by a video, enjoyed by all children. While the faculty of Bhavan's eagerly waits to conduct the same next year too, young students seem equally thrilled about such a fun-filled event.

Inter-School Cultural at the Hindu Senior, Adyar

Anirudh Madhavan, Student Reporter

The Hindu Senior Secondary School, Adyar hosted its annual inter-school cultural titled Kalavaibhavam on August 1 and 2, 2014.

The electrifying cultural had 16 of the city's well known schools participating. The first day started with the inauguration of the cultural followed by various events such as JAM, Shipwreck and Quiz. There was also a light music event for buzzing Mozarts to bring out their talents.

Day two opened with a bang with events like Channel Surfing and Group dance being held while interesting events like Salad dressing and



Dumb Charades were being held off stage.

The event concluded with a Winners Event won by Shiv Shankar Ganesh of PSBB KK Nagar who won the title of 'Star Kalavaibhavam'.

The overalls were lifted by St. Brittos Academy, Velachery. The prizes were given by Sai Shravanam, renowned musician who worked on the creation of the music for Life of Pi and who, incidentally, was an alumnus of the Hindu Senior Adyar. He spoke at great detail about following with passion, one's dream. The glittering function was wrapped up with the school prayer and national anthem.

Truly, this cultural was a perfect platform for unleashing talents with the participant schools echoing the enthusiasm of the host.

This fortnight for you ...

Fairy Tale Plays

Sep. 19, 2014

5.30 p.m.

Wonder Years Play School is bringing three fairy tale plays for children, from Mumbai. Little Red Riding Hood, Three Billy Goats Gruff, Hansel and Gretel will be played inviting children from the audience to take part in the show. Suitable for kids of 2 to 8 years of age.

At Museum Theatre, Egmore. Tickets available at Wonder Years' branches at 74, Giri St., T. Nagar and 7, Harrington Road, Lady Andal School campus, Chetpet.

Contact +91 86082 62626

Science Experiments Show

Sep. 20, 2014

4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

ThinkDiff School's first anniversary is celebrated with an Science Experiments Show by Dr. T.S. Natarajan, Physics professor at IIT Madras.

At Springfield Matric School, 49th Street, 9th Sector, K.. Nagar. Open to all. Register at +91 80561 00293

Dussehra Camp

Sep. 22 to Oct. 1, 2014

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Hansel and Gretel Kids, T. Nagar is conducting a camp for children of 3 to 10 years of age with activities like craft, story, dance, cooking in Jungle theme.

Contact 98403 31549 for registration

Golu Doll Painting workshop

Sep. 20 & 21, 2014

9.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

DakshinaChitra is organizing a two day workshop on painting a Dasavadharam Golu set for children. The workshop on Terracotta Dasavadharam will include a story telling session on incarnations of Lord Vishnu and the characteristic of each incarnation. You can take home the painted doll set.

Fee: Rs. 1000, inclusive of materials, refreshment and transport. Register at 98417 77779

Group Singing Competition

Last date to register: Sep. 22, 2014

Bharat Vikas Parishad, Anna Nagar is conducting National Group Singing Competition for students of class 8 to 10. Groups need to present patriotic and folk songs. There are four categories - Tamil, Hindi, Sanskrit and Tamil folk.

Each team should have 6 to 8 participants, excluding the accompanists.

the competition will be held on Oct. 11. Interested schools can register with K.S. Parthasathy at phone no. 94441 67635. Email: ksparthasathy001@yahoo.com

DaSaRa Music with Kids

Sep. 23 to Oct. 3, 2014 - 5.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

Mantra Events and Gallery Sri Parvati are organising classical music concerts by children and young artistes on all days during Navarathri.

Vocalist Gayathri Girish, N. Balasubramanian, Secretary Brahma Gana Sabha and Chandrasekara, Managing Director, Info Career will inaugurate the festival on Sep. 23 at 5.30 p.m.

Schedule of concerts:

Sep. 23, 2014

5.30 p.m. - Nandita Sri and Nivedita - Vocal
7.00 p.m. - Iyer Sisters - Sudha and Srividhya - Vocal

Sep. 24, 2014

5.30 p.m. - Sadhna, Anirudh, Akshanth, Ananya, Amruthavarshini - Vocal
7.00 p.m. - Kalpalathika - Vocal

Sep. 25, 2014

5.30 p.m. - Vibha & Sapna - Vocal
7.00 p.m. - Vishal sapuram - Chitravina

Sep. 26, 2014

5.30 p.m. - Harini Rangarajan - Vocal
7.00 p.m. - Janani Iyer - Vocal

Sep. 27, 2014

5.30 p.m. - Asha Ramanujam - Vocal
7.00 p.m. - Rajiv - Vocal

Sep. 28, 2014

5.30 p.m. - Sri Nadhavarsha, S. Srinidhi, R. Vidhya - Vocal
7.00 p.m. - Anahita & Apoorva - Vocal

Sep. 29, 2014

5.30 p.m. - Advait & Srishti - Vocal
7.00 p.m. - Yoga Keerthana - Vocal

Sep. 30, 2014

5.30 p.m. - Sriram & Srividhya - Vocal
7.00 p.m. - Srividhya - Vocal

Oct. 1, 2014

5.30 p.m. - Asmitha & Aparajitha - Vocal
7.00 p.m. - Karthik Iyer - Vocal

Oct. 2, 2014

5.30 p.m. - L. Vaishnavi - Vocal
7.00 p.m. - Nikhil - Vocal

Oct. 3, 2014

5.30 p.m. - Nandita Sri, Niveditha, Anagha Kesav, Sri Vidya Sivaganesh, Subhasree - Vocal
7.00 p.m. - Sunil Gargeyan - Vocal

**Venue: Gallery Sri Parvati,
28/160, Eldams Road,
Alwarpet.**

The event is supported by Logic Information System, Rotary Club of Vadapalani, CanFin Homes Ltd, the.auditor.in. Dial2travel.com, insurewithram.com, InfoCareer, Adyar Ananda Bhavan, Yocee.

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Tracing the Emden

Pranav Kritivasan, Student Reporter

We hear people referring someone in Tamil as, "Avan periya Emden." But do you know who the Emden is? It is a German cruiser which attacked Madras on Sep. 22, 1914, during World War I. The cruiser attacked Chennai late in the night at 9.20 p.m. and moved away the shores quickly. V. Sriram, city historian explained all this and more at the heritage walk organised for the Madras Week on Aug. 31, 2014 at Madras Port.

About hundred people assembled at the Reserve Bank of India at around 6.30 a.m. and the walk ended at 9.30 a.m. The Royal Madras Yacht Club (RMYC) organised this event. The name 'Royal' was given because, the British usually went in the yachts. Only two cities in India have the term 'Royal' in their yacht club. One is Madras and the other is Mumbai. The RMYC is inside the Madras Port, which is a high-

security area due to the presence of Navy and coast guard.

"The harbour was near Fort St. George and was later shifted to the current place." There was no Marina beach till 1850," Sriram said among many interesting facts. "Srinivasa Ramanujam and Anatharamakrishnan of Amalgamation group had worked for the Port Trust," he continued his stories about the place. The walk was full of energy, fun and information.

V. Sriram is passionate about Chennai's history and Carnatic Music. He has written several books and conducts heritage walks regularly in Chennai. He has conducted more than forty walks in the city and aims to complete a hundred. He blogs at <http://sriramv.wordpress.com>



Agatha Christie at the museum theatre

Gopika Kumaran, Student Reporter

The oldest English theatre group in India, the Madras Players presented a play based on Agatha Christie's popular novel, And Then There Were None, directed by its youngest director, Tanvi Patel. This was held from September 12 to 14 in the Government Museum Theatre, Egmore.

As you enter the 19th century theatre, you are taken back in time with its Italian-style architecture. The seats are full and the atmosphere is bubbling with excitement and expectation. Many have read Agatha Christie's novel and are waiting to see its adaptation on stage. When the play starts, the audience becomes quiet and everybody looks onto the stage. A creepy tune plays in the background as a creepy voice starts off the play.

Ten people with apparently no connection are brought to a house on an island and each accused of murder. Just as they



recover from that, one of them drops dead on the floor. Every moment after that keeps the audience in rapt attention as everybody begins to suspect each other. The people keep dying one by one as they keep wondering. Now and then, some subtle humour sets the audience into a wave of polite laughter. The climax scene approaches fast and the play ends just as fast and the audience is shocked.

The audience is satisfied and some are even delighted at seeing such a gripping mystery portrayed on the stage. As the actors are introduced, everybody claps and the applause for some popular actors is more than the others. The old British-style costumes help set the mood and the costume designer does get a round of applause.

Be Alert. Always.

Dhanvee B, Student Reporter

On the occasion of World First Aid day which is celebrated on Sep. 13 every year, ALERT (Amenity Lifeline Emergency Response Team), a non-governmental organization conducted a mock drill and a scenario of an accident in the Service Lane of Marina beach last Saturday. They demonstrated on how to provide first aid and how to save the life of the victims. They along with the onlookers took a pledge to be an ALERT being.

ALERT's founder trustee and president Ms. Kala Balasundaram actively interacted and monitored the whole team with positive commands.

Mr. Rajesh R. Trivedi, the Managing Trustee of ALERT, who is a management professional



executed the project.

Mr. Kandaswamy Bharathan, an independent Trustee of ALERT and the CEO of DLM Digital studios Pvt Ltd took part in this event.

All of a sudden two people rode their bike in such a way that they got dashed by a car and went on skidding. The car dashed against the barricade and the driver got hit on the steering wheel and went to an unconscious state. The bike slid and the two riders were severely injured. ALERT team performed the first aid to the victims, that is to check the breathing rate, pulse rate, and do the CPR method. They immediately informed the 108 ambulance. They provided the first aid like tying the broken hand with a shawl; they cleaned the wounds with water and antiseptic solution. They informed the 'victims' that they are safe and will get the medical help quickly.

Ambulance was struggling a lot to get into the



accidental zone since the traffic is very heavy and the vehicles were unable to leave the way for it. The traffic police cleared the traffic and then the ambulance reached the spot and secured the persons who were injured. The trained volunteers of ALERT organization did the first aid for those victims. This scenario looked real because the stunt people did it as real as the accident occurs on the roads.

The death rate due to accidents in India is 17 per minute and the death rate is higher in Tamil Nadu. The high court justice gave a speech on accidents occurring in India and he encouraged people to learn first aid and to do first aid and he asked the public to help the people who helps the victims as leaving way for ambulance, giving call to 108, informing police, and giving hope for the injured person that he will be alright.

Rajesh R. Trivedi thanked the stunt people, volunteers, and the students from Anna University, who made this event informative. He made everyone take pledge to be an ALERT being and learn to provide first aid for the near and also dear those who are injured in any circumstances like accident, disaster and fire.

ALERT also conduct workshops based on first aid for the public without charging any fee. The public can utilise this opportunity and learn first aid and use the skills in daily life.

ALERT is at New no 10, Old no 68, 1st floor, Kasthurba nagar 3rd Cross street, Kasthurba nagar, Adyar. Phone: 99440 66002

Seniors sparkle at The PSBB Millennium's Sports Day

Prerana Thota, Student Reporter

It was a much awaited day for the students of The PSBB Millennium School. On the bright and sunny, the perfect weather for a sports event on August 1, 2014, all the students across classes 6 to 12 assembled in the school ground by 8.a.m.

It was a day for students to showcase their talent in the various track and field events and also different games. Basketball, throwball, football, table tennis matches were held a week before.

The day began with the March Past by the students of the 11th and 12th grade. The students marched according to their houses and were judged based on their performance and were given points. After that the torch was lit and was carried by the students around the ground.

The chief guest for the day Mr. Thyagarajan, a cricketer who plays for the state of Tamil Nadu witnessed the mass drill displays and



the track and field events. The drill displays included a short march drill by the senior boys of std 10, a display of aerobics by the girls of std 9 and 10, a free hand drill display by the students of class 8, a drill display with dumbbells by the students of class 7 and a cute display with beach-balls by std 6.

All the students were divided into 4 houses and were each given a house t-shirt. Students wore their t-shirts with pride. Those who didn't participate in the events were there to cheer for their house-mates.

The battle of the houses was a nail-biting one. Even though only one house had won, all the students were proud of their efforts.

There were many food stalls for the parents, teachers and students to indulge in.

After all these spectacular events, the school's Assistant Sports Secretary thanked all those present and the chief guest was presented a memento. While addressing the gathering, the chief guest said, "Sports is not about winning or losing, it is about teamwork. Sports teaches people how to work as a team and understand each other."

Isn't that true?

Sailing Prodigy Chitresh



The youngest sailor to represent India at the Asian Games 2014 is Chitresh Tatha, from Chennai. Twelve year old Chitresh is a student of Bhavan's Rajaji Vidyashram, Kilpauk. He sails in the Optimist Dinghy category.

The 2014 Asian Games will be held from Sep.19 to Oct.4. Incheon, South Korea.

Tatha was selected after an outstanding performance during the selection trials when he won eight of 15 races and finished among the top five in the remaining races.

Priyanka, a chess champion

The Dept. of School Education and NKT Girls' School, Triplicane recently conducted an inter-school chess competition. Priyanka Devi, a student of class 10 of Sindhi Model Matric School, Chetpet won the first prize.

Priyanka is a regular at Chess competitions and is a high rated player in the Under 16 Girls category.



CRICKET TOURNAMENT

Last date register: Sep. 18, 2014

The Seven Star Cricket Association league (u-13, 17) 40-over tournament begins on September 26, 2014.

Entries close on Sep.18.

For details call Lakshmipathy at 98407 94865, 98403 20752

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