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Fortnightly

Electronic edition

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## P.S. Nandini and S. Simran receive national honour



**P.S. Nandini**

*Two young people from Chennai are among the recipients of National Bal Shree honour for the year 2012. The award is given annually by the Government of India to 60 children in the age group of 9 to 16 years who excel in creative arts, creative science, creative writing and creative performance categories.*

**P.S.Nandini**, a student of Class 11 at Sir Sivaswami Kalalaya Senior Sec. School, Mylapore received the Bal Shree Award under the Creative Arts category.

She was selected for the award after city, zonal and national rounds where she proved her talent in sketching, painting, collage and paper and junk model making, clay modelling among other activities.

Nandini had earlier won the State Level Painting competition conducted by the Art and Culture Department of the Tamil Nadu Government. She also had won the first place in the senior level of The Hindu Young World Painting Competition 2011.

Nandini also learns classical music. Her interest in writing got her the honour of Star Correspondent at the Times of India Student Edition in the year 2012.

Nandini is a student reporter of YOcee since 2007.

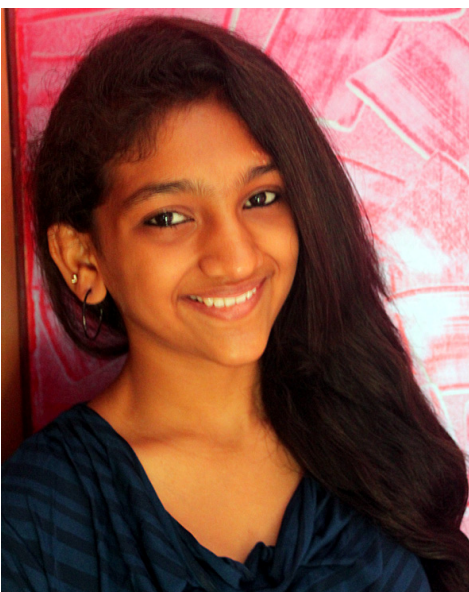
**S. Simran**, a class 9 student at PSBB, KK Nagar received the Bal Shree Award under Creative Performance category.

Simran is a disciple of dancer- guru Sheela Unnikrishnan and has been learning Bharathanatyam from the age of five. She has performed at various dance festivals including the Natyanjali in Chidambaram, Thanjavur and other places, Mamallapuram dance festival, Kala Ghoda festival in Mumbai among others.

She has earlier won many state level competitions and the first prize in the popular TV dance show 'Thaka Dhimi Tha'.

She has performed solo in many sabhas in Chennai, Chidambaram and Kannur. She has performed at the Birmingham 'Balaji' temple in the U.K.

Simran has been part of the group that performed at the Bandstand for the London Olympics 2012.



**S. Simran**

# This fortnight for you ...

## Workshops at Kalpataru, Tiruvanmiyur

### Public Speaking and communication:

For age 9-14yrs  
From March 19-22, From 4.30-6.30pm;

### Origami Workshop:

Age-7-14yrs.  
From March 19-24.  
(10 am-12noon) and from March 25-30 (5-7PM)

### Fun with Phonics:

Age-3-5yrs. From March 20-30.  
(9-11 a.m)



## Composting Workshop

Now turn all your kitchen waste to manure. Children's Space is conducting a Composting workshop on March 30, 2013 from 2 - 4 p.m.



The free session will be conducted by Priya Gopalen of Restore Gardens.

Session 1: Children (ages 8-12): PPT presentation followed by a demo by Priya. Only first 15 entries.

Session 2: Children (ages 5-8): Hands on demo. These kids need to bring their own small to medium size pot and that day's kitchen peels. Only first 10 entries.

Contact Children's Space at Shop No. 7, Mookambika Complex (basement), Alwarpet.  
Phone: 87544 70178

## Science and Technology Workshops



Inquisitive Minds offers workshops on Science & Technology for children aged 7-10 years, focusing on Experimental Learning

through FUN based 'Do It Yourself' Activities.

From March 18 - 23, 2013 (4- 6 pm)  
At Inquisitive Minds, Pallikaranai  
Contact 9500046144 ; Mail -  
suryakkvalli@yahoo.com

## Junior Radio Jockey Workshop

A seven day Junior Radio Jockey Workshop with RJ Sano and RJ Jane will be held from March 25 to 31, 2013 in association with Chennai Live FM (104.8).

At the end of the session, children will go on air with the RJs on Chennai Live FM radio channel and get a chance to present their skills they learnt at the workshop.

For details and registrations contact 98409 55556, 97899 79996

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## YOCEe

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([www.yocce.in](http://www.yocce.in) - news website for  
Chennai's young people)

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## A trip to Hyderabad

**Varun Chandrasekar**  
**Student Reporter**

We, the students of Chennai Public School, Anna Nagar, got an opportunity to visit the city of Pearls, Hyderabad.

On the First day, as soon as we reached the Hyderabad station, we took off to the hotel, the Central Court. After a bit of rest, we proceeded to the adventurous Salarjung Museum. We had a chance to travel back the past to various parts of the world. We got to see the sculptures of Roman woman in each season. There is a collection of chessboard that were made from different materials. There were a collection of Christian sculptures. In one section, they had weapons that were made of ivory and steel. There were also paintings of Indian kings and queens. Salarjung Museum definitely deserves to be a wonder of Hyderabad.

After travelling to the past, we came back to the present. We returned to the Central Court for lunch. After lunch, we all turned ourselves into a bunch of holy people and went to the beautiful Birla Mandir. The cool part is that the whole of Birla Mandir is made of marble. In front, there was a gigantic statue of Vishnu that was also made of marble. We even got see of group of falcons fly right above us.

After the calm and peaceful Birla Mandir, our destiny told us “Fasten



your seat belts, it's time to have fun”. We immediately flew off to the adventurous Lumini Amusement Park.

The next day, we set off to the Ramoji Rao Film City. We had loads and tons of fun at the amusement park in the “city”. There were many rides like twister, bull ride, Ferris wheel, and even bungee jumping was there.

Outside the amusement park, we got to see the film setups they had in the film city. They had built an international terminal with a replica of a real airplane. Movies like Ra.One were shot in this airport. We also saw a train station. They also built Taj

Mahal, Hawa Mahal, and even a garden. We enjoyed a lot in Ramoji Film City.

The next morning, after breakfast, we set off to Golconda Fort, which was a terrific experience for everyone. They have an excellent speaker system in which if you clap from one gate, all other gates will hear the sound!



The fort showed a huge historical account of the past. Aurangzeb, a Mughal emperor, later said to have conquered the fort.

Then we went shopping and left for the train back to Chennai. This trip was definitely a very memorable one. Now, I'll ask you one thing. Don't you feel like visiting Hyderabad?



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[editor@yocee.in](mailto:editor@yocee.in)

## Seshadri, the best teacher for many years

**Anirudh Madhavan**  
**Student Reporter**



S. Seshadri, principal of Sri Ahobila Math Oriental Higher Secondary School, West Mambalam, has received the 'Best Teacher Award' from Lions Club International and Lions Club Chennai. He received the award earlier in 2008 and 2010 also.

He tells children, "To come up in life with excellence - work hard, follow the advice of parents and teachers,

concentrate in studies and above all be a good citizen of India. Do not involve in unwanted activities. Behave well, be disciplined, this will lead to success".

He has a few words for teachers also. He says, "Be faithful and loyal to the institution and render justice to students - this will gift you blessings of god."

After an unblemished service of 36 years, Seshadri is on the verge of retirement, that is due on March 31, 2013.

>>> *Do you have a memorable story with your favourite teacher? Share it! Mail to editor@yocee.in*

## Summer Camps @ H&G



### Juniors (3 yrs- 6 yrs)

Dance, Drama, Storytime,  
Sing-along, Puzzles, Etiquette,  
Art & Craft, Cooking and more...

### Seniors (7 yrs - 12 yrs)

Public Speaking, Etiquette,  
Creative Writing, Dance, Drama,  
Art & Craft, Cooking and more...

Pick your Start Date and Duration...

Between March 11 2013 and August 31 2013;

Air-conditioned, Kid-friendly Venue; Snacks Included;

Camp Certificate & Gift;

Half day / Full day option

Call 04428152549 or 9840431549 for details.

### Hosting events for kids?

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**Hansel & Gretel Kids Centre**  
11 Jagadambal Street  
T.Nagar, Chennai 600 017  
<http://www.hanselandgretel.in>  
Phone: 044 - 2815 2549  
Alt Phone: 98404 31549  
[hanselandgretel.kids@gmail.com](mailto:hanselandgretel.kids@gmail.com)



# A Scribe for the visually challenged

**S. Shraddha**  
**Student Reporter**

visually challenged people. She is a scribe (Reader / Tutor) for the visually challenged children, aged 6-18 years.

Every Sunday, from 10 a.m to 1pm is the time she has carved out of her regular schedule. The students assemble at a local college near Arumbakkam, where Padmavathy with fellow scribes guide the students by reading out (or

today's youngsters are very enthusiastic in doing social service and said that this a good sign.

Besides being a scribe, she actively participates in other community activities such as helping senior citizens by counseling, arranging donations for underprivileged people, conducting social awareness camps etc. She is attached to the Prerana Helpline Foundation and Lions Club for Chennai Golden Roses.

As the proverb goes, "Service to mankind is Service to God" and we have inspiring role model in Mrs. Padmavathy.

Those interested in volunteering as scribes can contact Padmavathy on 9444287463.

Padmavathy Anand, a homemaker turned social worker is actively championing the cause for the

writing) passages in English and Tamil.

She is very happy to note that



## **J** **STREET BITES** Food on Chennai Streets

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*Photos by Adrian Joseph David, Student Reporter*

## Time to go organic

R.R. Senji Laxme, Student Reporter

Organic food is becoming very popular nowadays. Scientists are emphasizing the use of organic products in daily routine. But we common people might still have some questions like, Why organic food? Is organic food really healthier? Is it more nutritious? Why is it so expensive?

The exhibition cum sale held at C.P Arts Centre, Alwarpet on Feb. 26 and 27 organised by National Bank For Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and Centre for Indian Knowledge System (CIKS) gave the answers.

Mrs.S.Jayanthi, DGM of NABARD inaugurated by lighting the *kuththuvillakku*. There were 15 stalls exhibiting varieties of organic agricultural, handloom, handicraft and medicinal products. Homemade snacks and vadams by women self help groups from various villages were one among them.

Mrs. Subashini, Program director of CIKS explained the methods and need for organic agriculture.

“Pesticides that are used in conventional



agriculture pollute our agro fields and their residues remain on the food we eat. The health hazards caused by them are very dangerous and hence the use of organic techniques in farming becomes the need of the hour.”

“Organic agriculture is fully dependent on our ancient traditional farming techniques and so the crops grown are natural and healthy to consume. The crops are grown without the use of harmful artificial fertilizers and hence the nutritious content of the crops is well preserved. But the farm yield in organic agriculture is less compared to inorganic agriculture and this is the reason for the high price of organic food”, she added.

Reducing the use and consumption of polythene bags is important. Jute and cloth bags can be used as good alternatives. Handmade cloth bags from old sarees, waste cloth and newspaper bags were available for sale.

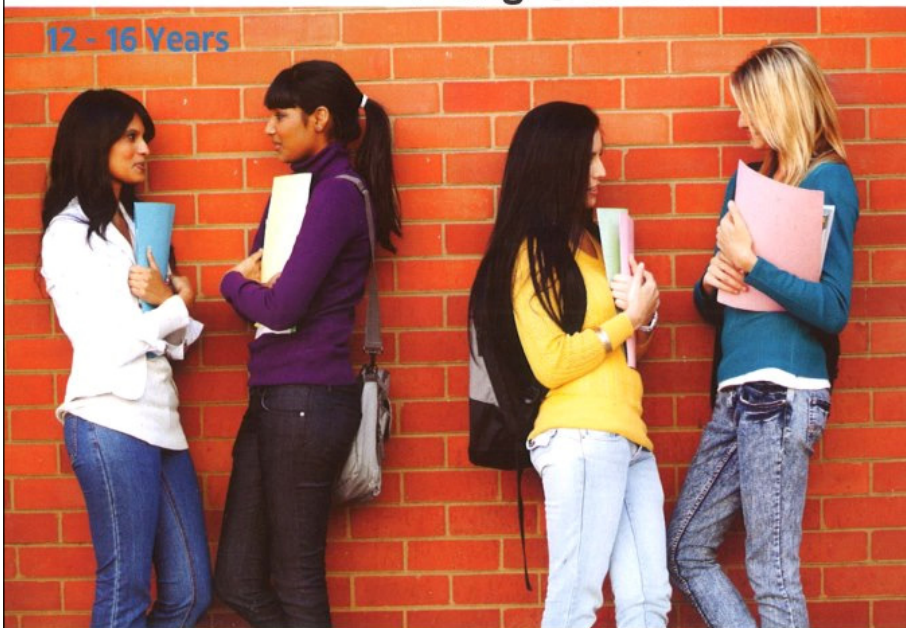
A wide range of traditional varieties of rice, grown by employing organic farming techniques, special snacks made from healthy food grains grown on organic farms, a large collection of pickles and millet based products were exhibited.

Various horticulture, apiculture, vermiculture and sericulture products like pure Wild honey, cashews, medicinal products, herbal plants, natural silk sarees, cotton sarees, towels and vermicompost were sold.

Books on organic agriculture methods, preserving our traditional crop varieties, roof gardening, vermiculture and many other useful books on farming were a part of the exhibition.

## German for Teens Young Goethe

12 - 16 Years



29.04.2013 - 01.06.2013 ( 5 Weeks )  
MONDAY TO FRIDAY / 10 00 AM - 02 00 PM  
COURSE FEES - Rs. 9500/- ( including text book & CD )  
Examination fees of Rs. 1500/- to be paid separately

Registration starts on 05.04.2013

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## Listen to a story

Hippocampus, in association with Karadi Tales and The Book Lovers' Programme for Schools, is hosting a storytelling session on World Storytelling Day.

On March 16, 2013. At Hippocampus Children's Library, 4/11 Third Avenue Indira Nagar, Adyar. Between 11 a.m and 12.30 p.m.

The story and the Song is based on a South Indian folktale of the oral tradition about sharing stories and music. It emphasises the importance that art and stories play in our lives. In its own subtle way, the book breaks gender stereotypes among children.

This book is now distributed throughout North America and widely recommended in libraries, schools, and parenting journals for its multicultural values.

This Tamil folktale adapted for children by Manasi Subramaniam is illustrated by Ayswarya Sankaranarayanan.

## Become an author

Love writing? Then this is for you.



The Young Authors' Hunt is a programme that recognises and rewards the kids' writing talent.

The igenius Young Authors' Hunt is open for all children between ages 8-15, studying in government recognized schools including private, public or national open schools all over India. There are 2 categories: Juniors (Age 8-12 years) & Seniors (Age 12-15 years).

40 winners will receive grand first prize. Creative writing submissions will be published in a book by Rupa Publications India and win Kindle e-book reader each.

60 winners will get the 2nd prize. The submissions will be published in a children's publication or an igenius e-book and Young Authors' Scholarships of worth Rs. 5000 each.

More details and registration at [www.igenius.org/YoungAuthorsHunt/About-YAH.aspx](http://www.igenius.org/YoungAuthorsHunt/About-YAH.aspx)

# YOCee

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### Tharakamm..

After School  
begins Summer Work Shops.

25th to 31st March 2013 ( Hall - Mylapore; )

#### 1. Theatre Workshops

Time: 9 am to 1.15 pm  
Max 25 Children per workshop.

March  
25th to 28th  
Age 10 to 12 yrs  
Rs.1950/-

March  
29th to 31st  
Age 7 to 9 yrs  
Rs. 1650/-

March  
29th to 31st  
Age 3 to 6 yrs  
(Jungle Jangle -  
Drawing & Theatre)  
Rs. 1650/-

March  
27th and 28th  
Age 3 to 6 yrs  
(Story bags - Story  
Telling & Art Making)  
Rs. 1150/-

3 to 6 year old kids can stay 2 hours  
longer without any extra cost.

#### 2. Enhance your Skills

Interactive Workshop Time: 2 pm to 5 pm  
Max 15 Children.

On General Awareness and Current affairs.  
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March 28, 29 & 30th; Age 8 - 14 yrs  
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## Science celebrations at Vidya Mandir



Nehru Children's cultural Association a Thiruvannamipur based organisation in association with Royal society of Chemistry, South India Section and Chemistry Club, Vidya Mandir celebrated National Science Day at Vidya Mandir, Mylapore.

Mukundan, School pupil Leader welcomed the gathering. He emphasized the importance of chemistry and also elaborated the role of solid state chemistry and its application in nanomaterial synthesis. Dr. P. Selvam, President of Royal Society of Chemistry, South India Section and professor of Chemistry, IIT-Madras presided over the function.

Dr. S. Balasubramanian, Secretary,

Royal Society of chemistry, South India Section and Professor of inorganic Chemistry conducted the Chemistry quiz based on experiments. The activities of Royal Society of Chemistry was explained to the students by Dr. S.

Balasubramanian. He indicated that the members of the Society will be visiting many schools and colleges and explain the importance of Chemistry. He said that the students should come forward to carry out research work and also encouraged the students to choose Chemistry as their career and become Scientists.

The major activities of Royal Society of Chemistry is to organise seminars, workshops and lectures besides educating the students in safe

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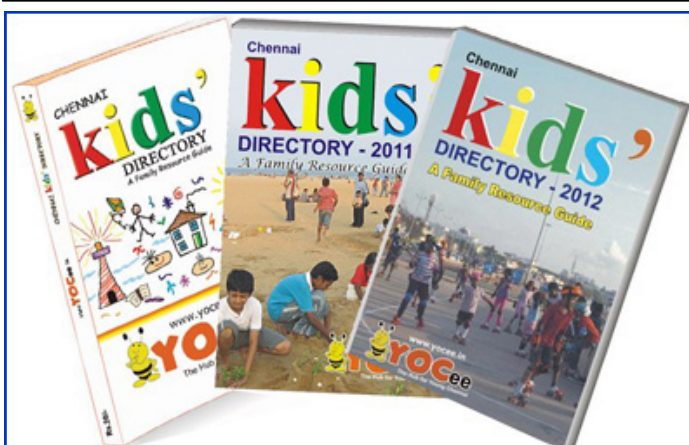
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method of handling apparatus and chemicals to emphasize the importance of practical training in schools and colleges and the significance of doing research work in Chemistry for making new inventions and create awareness among students about the job opportunities in Chemistry. Teachers and students who pursue their research in Chemistry can join as a member in Royal Society of Chemistry.

Smt. Shobha Jayakumar, Vice Principal, Smt. Kanchanamala, P.G. Teacher of Chemistry, Vidya mandir organised the function.

M.R. Sugumaran, President, Nehru Children's Cultural Association said that majority of the girls won this Quiz competition and the prizes will be distributed at IIT-Madras during 1st week of April.

Miss. Subiksha, student Assistant Leader proposed vote of thanks.



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