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YOCEE

The Hub for Young Chennai

It's celebration time at Sir Sivaswamy Kalalaya

Nandini P.S.

Student Reporter

Students dressed up as saints, sages, dancers and the like were walking all around the premises of the Music Academy on the evening of July 22, 2011.

Yes, it was the Annual Day of Sir Sivaswami Kalalaya. The theme for this year was 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam - Universal Brotherhood'.

The celebrations began with the choir followed by a play in Sanskrit.

The play was about Shakuntala and how a sage advises her to go back to her husband. Shakuntala is dismayed to leave her sisters, the trees, birds and animals she had known for so long. But in the end, she accepts the sage's advice and goes back to her husband.

The next in the show was the English skit that portrayed the life of Aurobindo Ghosh, his meeting with the Mother, Meera Richard, and how Auroville at Pondicherry came into being.

How would it be if Thaayumanavar, Kunnakudi Mastan Saheb, Vallalar, and Veeramamunivar met each other?

This was the central theme of the play in Tamil. It began with a young man named 'Dhayanidhi' who lives in the city and hates his, according to him, old fashioned', name.



A scene from the dance drama. **Photo: Nandini P.S.**

He happens to hear certain incidents from the lives of Thaayumanavar, Kunnakudi Mastan Saheb, Vallalar, and Veeramamunivar. He then learns the importance of showing love and kindness to every creature, and realises the meaning of his name too - 'Dhaya' means 'karunai' or unlimited love, and 'nidhi' refers to wealth.

The meeting followed next, for which Mr. N.C.Sridharan, Lawyer, NLP Consultant and Educationist, was the chief guest. He said children must know why

they are doing about what they do. He spoke about how one book, 'Unlimited Power' by Anthony Robinson changed his life.

He said he was impressed by the performance of the students, especially two students who had played the role of a leprosy patient and of a visually challenged person in the Tamil play.

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It's celebration time ...

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He was also impressed by the lip sync and coordination of the actors and the back stage narrators doing the voice-over.

Sridharan then distributed prizes and scholarships to students who excelled

in their academic performance.

The post-meeting show commenced with a dance - drama in Hindi showing

the human need for spiritual intervention in worldly activities and the final triumph of good over evil. A Bharathanatyam performance showing certain scenes from the Ramayana, such as the death of Jatayu, Vibhishanan-Ravana's brother joining Rama fol-

lowed. The school Principal Smt. R.Aruna brought the curtains down by thanking all the students, parents and critics

for their valuable feedback.

This year's Annual Day of the school, a massive effort by 365 students, teachers and entire faculty, came to a close with the National Anthem.

- - - More photos on www.yocее.in

The new leaders of Vani Vidyalaya



Hamsika R
Student Reporter

The elections for the academic year 2011-2012 to choose the School Pupil Leader and his team of office bearers were held in Vani Vidyalaya, Virugambakkam on July 6, 2011.

Students filed their nominations and voluntarily contested for the posts of Asst. School Pupil Leader, Asst. Sports Secretary, Asst. Cultural

Secretary and Asst. Leaders of various houses.

They were allowed to campaign for a

week. These Assistants will become main leaders of their respective portfolio next year and a fresh set of Assistants will be elected.

The voting rights are granted for students of class 8 to 12 in the school. Teachers from the Social Studies Department guided the students in voting. One of the teachers said, "This is a small demo of how to vote when you have to vote in the assembly elections, when you

grow up."

When the results of the elections were announced, Sivarama Krishnan (Class 11) was elected as ASPL, Balaji Prasanna (Class 11) has become the Asst. Sports Secretary and Naveen (Class 11) got elected as Asst. Cultural Secretary.

The Asst. Captains of the four houses all from class 9 are:

Diamond House – Subramanyam, Ruby House – Anand, Emerald House – Minupriya and Sapphire House – Nilavan

Bala Vidya Mandir has a new team



From left to right – Shruthi Bala (Asst. Sports Secretary), Diya Naresh Rao (Asst. Head Girl), Shraddha B (Head Girl), Siddarth Shrikanth (Head Boy) and Ishan Venkat (Asst. Head Boy). Principal, Mrs. Sasikala Sriram (seated)

A Fortnightly Newsletter from

YOCee

(www.yocее.in - news website for Chennai's young people)

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Sishya students reach out

By Aditya Karekatte
Student Reporter

This term, students of 10B of Sishya School were sent to the Sava Samajam in Taramani for Social Work. Two teachers, Ms. Abha Jajoo, and Ms. Nalini Priyadarshiee accompanied the section.

The syllabus prescribed by the Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE) includes SUPW and Social Work, compulsory for classes 9, 10, 11, and 12.

The objective of SUPW and Social work is to increase student's awareness about life. Activities offered under SUPW (Socially Useful and Productive Work) include tyre changing, glass painting, cooking, first aid, and many, many more.

Social Work involves sending a section outside school campus, to orphanages, and other organizations for the differently abled. This allows students to interact with those less fortunate than themselves,

and appreciate what difficulties others have to go through. These interactions often end with donations to the organisations in kind by the students.

There are five SUPW and Social Work sessions per term, which totals 15 per year. The Seva Samajam is an organisation, and a school for underprivileged

children.

Many of these children include those whose parents are in jail, and children who have been abandoned by their parents.

Sishya students mostly interacted with 2nd, 3rd and 4th grade students of the Seva Samajam.

Sessions such as origami, mehendi, and nursery rhymes singing were conducted by Sishya students. The boys seemed to love physical activity, and insisted on playing tag, soccer, and even begged to be spun around in circles, apart from demanding a seemingly endless number of piggyback rides.

Interacting with the children at the Seva Samajam was a fruitful experience for all. Says Vijay R. of class 4, "I like it when big kids come to play with us. They teach us new things, and even carry me upside down." Or one could even ask some of the Sishya children. Just ask Pranav Nair,



Students from Sishya at Seva Samaj Photo: Arthi Rangaraj

10B. "The visit to the Seva Samajam was very enriching. It has given us an opportunity to interact with those less fortunate than ourselves, and given us a

fresh perspective towards human rights and values.

All said and done, SUPW and Social Work should not be seen simply as another fruitless exercise simply to get a good grade. Rather, it should be seen as an eye-opener - a glimpse into the outside world.

Capture Chennai

Photowalk for children

Explore two neighbourhoods in Chennai

The oldest railway station in Chennai, the fire temple, museum for the math genius Ramanujan, the quiet green campus of Krishnamoorthy Foundation, Adyar Poonga, Brodie castle . . .

Bring along your cameras and walk with us.
Best pictures will be displayed at an exhibition.

Walk led by N. Ramaswamy, photo blogger.

Hosted by YOCee

Walks on Aug. 13 and 14, 2011

Open to first 20 registrations.

Contact 98405 44629 (Revathi)



A Madras Day initiative.

Check out all Madras Day events at

www.themadrasday.in

Budding Table Tennis star of the town

I settle down at a corner of the class to have a good conversation with

Rathnawali. S of class 8 D in Sri Sankara Senior Secondary School, Adyar, who reached the Pre – Quarter Finals

of the State Level Tournament held at Nehru Stadium on June 10, 11 and 12 which was sponsored by Center Court Table Tennis Club. Her friends pull us to the middle of the class, where I started asking questions.

Where do you learn Table Tennis?

I learn Table Tennis at

Ransa Table Tennis Club in R.A Puram.

I went to this tournament through my club.

How many hours of practice does it require?

The club is open from evening 5 to 8 and I play during those 3 hours for 5

days a week.

Then, how do you manage to finish your homework?

I come home and study till

10.30 in the night. If there is too much of homework, I get up early in the morning and study.

Have you gone to levels higher than Pre – Quarter Finals?

I have reached Semi Finals 2

times and Quarter Finals many times

before.

What were you awarded to reach the Pre – Quarter Finals

I got Rs. 150 as a prize. But the experience was great.

Interview

Kavya K.G, student reporter of YOCee, meets Rathnawali S, a talented TT player



How often is this tournament held?

It depends on the sponsors, who hold tournaments.

>>> **Want to share your achievements with our reporters? Send us a mail in brief to editor@yocce.in. We will reach you.**

The selfish Voldemort kills Snape for owning the Elder Wand and before dying, Snape reveals the secret said to him by Dumbledore that Harry himself is a horcrux.

The scene, in which all wizards cast their spell to protect Hogwarts, was amazing. Harry then decides to sacrifice his life for killing the evil Voldemort.

After Harry surrenders to Voldemort, he casts a spell on Harry through which the horcrux in him is killed and Dumbledore gives him a final chance, whether to live with him or get back to life. Harry chooses to go back and act as if he's dead until reaching Hogwarts.

Voldemort asks the Hogwarts wizards to surrender and says them that Harry is dead when Harry regains consciousness and attacks Voldemort and finds out, that only after killing Nagini, the last horcrux Voldemort can be killed. Ron and Hermione with the help of Neville kill Nagini. Back in the battle, Voldemort loses his power and is killed by Harry.

At the end of the battle, Harry gets to know that he is the owner of the Elder Wand, which is the most powerful wand ever and due to frustration he breaks it and throws it in the bridge near Hogwarts.

The story then goes forward, to a few years later where Harry, Ginny and Hermione, Ron are married and have kids.

If you are a true fan of Harry Potter you shed a tear toward the end. We

await to get back there with fingers crossed with help of Albus Severus Potter (Harry's son).

MOVIE REVIEW

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Part 2

By Nikila Raman
Student Reporter



Love reading Harry Potter series of books? Then watching the story in the form of a film in 3D should add to your excitement.

The film starts when Harry, Hermione and Ron set out for the final search

for the horcruxes in order to kill the evil Voldemort. It is this search, which takes them into dangerous terrain and caves and what not, to destroy Helga's Hufflepuff cup, Rowena Ravenclaw's Diadem. My god! Everyone in the theatre was yelling and cheering during the scenes when Ron and Hermione get in to a lip lock.

When the dragon arises in the cave, due to the 3D effect. The scene in which the objects double by a touch, the picturisation was simply superb.

When the trio go in search of Rowena's Diadem towards the end and finally seek help of the Hogwarts student and professors for the final battle against Voldemort and the other death eaters, everybody was on the edges of the seat.

MADRAS DAY EVENTS FOR CHILDREN

Compiled by Team YOCee

Every year Madras Day is celebrated on August 22 and the week covering the weekends before and after this date is celebrated as Madras Week.

Various organisations / individuals come together to host events relating to Chennai.

There are many contests, interesting exhibitions, walks that kids can be part of.

Here is a list. Choose your day and the event and be part of the celebration.

Photowalk for children



Aug. 13, 2011. From Royapuram Railway station to Ramanujan Museum in Royapuram. Starts at 7 a.m.

Aug. 14, 2011. From Iyyappan temple in R.A. Puram to Greenways Road Railway station. Starts at 7 a.m.

Register at phone number 98405 44629 for both the walks.

Best pictures will be displayed as exhibition in various venues.

More details on <http://yocce.in/2011/08/photowalks-for-children-aug-13-14-2011/>

Contests – Costume, art, kolam, oratorical

Aug. 15, 2011

Oratorical contest for students of class 9 to 12. In English and Tamil.

Topic : Speeches by famous personalities in Chennai.

Costume Galore - Traditional bridal

costumes of different communities (native or migrated) of Chennai.

Art Contest - Collage on theme 'Chennai - Netru, Indru, Naalai'. For children of age group 8-12yrs

Pulli Kolam contest. Open to all in the age group of 15-25years.

Contact The Yellow Bus at E-35/2, 2nd Avenue, Besant Nagar. Next to ICICI Bank. Phones : 45511819; 98845 49688

Traditional games and Paatti Kada Sole...

Aug. 16, 17, 18 and 19, 2011

At Bamboola, 73, Venkata Krishna Road, R.A. Puram. Phone: 24611779

Grandmas will tell 5-6 minutes' short stories to children in Tamil. Children can join in and play traditional games.

Kolam Contest

Aug. 19, 2011 at 5 p.m.

Open to mothers. Bring out your colours and shapes, and spread some cheer to celebrate Chennai

At Bamboola, 73, Venkata Krishna Road, R.A. Puram. Phone: 24611779

Map Ur Way – Map Workshop / walk / competition



August 20, 2011 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Learning session on how to construct and read maps followed by a walk in the neighborhood

and a presentation contest. Open to first 25 registrations only. For children of 12 years and above.

Conducted by Kalaa Manjari After School Activity Centre and Bambaram Toy Library

Register at Kalaa Manjari, 6/12, First Street, Venus Colony, Alwarpet, Chennai - 18 in person on or before August 18, 2011. For more details, Contact 99623 87624.

Art contest

Aug. 21, 2011 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.



Conducted by Kalaamanjari.

Two different themes for two age groups:

Ages - 5- 10

years - Theme: Clean Green Chennai

Ages - 11 - 16 years - Theme: Places of Interest in Chennai

Contact Kalaa Manjari at 6/12, First Street, Venus Colony. Alwarpet. Phone: 24312676

Performances & Finale

Aug. 21, 2011

Finals of Oratorical contest

Villupattu - Netru, Indru, Naalai

Kootu - Lecture Demonstration.

'Influence of folk elements in today's art and culture in the capital of Tamil Nadu

Contact The Yellow Bus at E-35/2, 2nd Avenue, Besant Nagar. Next to ICICI Bank

Phones : 45511819; 98845 49688

Multimedia Presentation contest – Heritage of Chennai

Aug. 23, 2011. From 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Open to teams of three from schools.

Public are welcome to be audience during the presentation.

At Srinivasa Sastri Hall, Luz, Mylapore.

More details at <http://themadrasday.in/2011/07/heritage-of-chennai-multimedia-presentation-contest/>

Contd on Page 6

MADRAS DAY EVENTS FOR CHILDREN (Contd from page 5)

Madras – experience your cultural heritage



Aug. 27, 2011. From 3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Spring and Zoom, KK Nagar, an activity centre for children, welcomes

children to experiment and create exquisite products using the potter's wheel and palm leaves.

Supported by resource persons from DakshinaChitra; open to children five years and above. Also, 'Madras: Then and now', a poster presentation by students.

At Hotel Green Park, Vadapalani. Contact 9940450495 / 9940286740.

The Madras Quiz in Tamil

Aug. 27, 2011. From 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

At P.S. Higher Secondary School, R.K. Math Road, Mylapore, Chennai - 4.

Open to students studying in Tamil medium.

Teams of two from school. Register at 98405 44629

Madras 372 – Quiz for school students

Aug. 28, 2011. From 2.00 p.m. to 6 p.m.

At Lady Andal School's Venkata Subba Rao Auditorium.

Organised by Quiz Master Naveen Jayakumar and the Quiz Foundation of India.

Drawing and Painting Contest

Aug. 20, 2011. At 9 a.m.

Theme - Namma Chennai

Category 1 : For children of age 5 to 9 - drawings can be made by using Crayons, colour pencils

Category 2 : For children of age 10 to 15 - drawing and painting using water / poster colours

Participants should bring all the materials required for their drawing & painting.

Children's Club will provide drawing sheets. Bring your own writing / drawing pads.

Register at the Children's Club, 213 (96), V.M. Street, Mylapore

Last date to register Aug. 18, 2011.

Talent show at the Kalanjali Ventures



By Ishan V P
Student Reporter

Bala Vidya Mandir conducted its annual cultural extravaganza, 'Kalanjali Ventures' on the June 24 and 25, 2011. Schools from all over the city were invited, and the students participated in various events such as Shipwreck, Cartooning, JAM and Light Music.



The students of class 12 organised the event in the school campus, and were ably guided by their teacher-coordinator Jayanthi Palani. Comedian Crazy Mohan and Playback Singer Krish were the chief guests for the grand show.

The cultural fiesta began on the first day with an invocation to the almighty, followed by speeches from the chief guests. Participants dispersed to the preliminaries of their events after a dance performance by the host school.

Food stalls were installed in the school ground, keeping the students occupied when they weren't involved in anything else.

With certain events being completed on Day One, students returned on the next day to compete in the finals of the other events.

Teams of PS Senior School won the Dumb Charades and AdZap events. Arjun of Bhavan's Rajaji School came out on top in the Shipwreck event, while Udith from Chettinad Vid-yashram emerged victorious in the Jam event.

The final event, 'Ultimate Venture' put the best performers of the day against each other.

Siddhanth of PSBB KK Nagar delivered the goods to take home an Apple iPad, the ultimate prize. However, Vidya Mandir, Mylapore, who consistently performed in every event, bagged the Overall Winner's Trophy.

All good things have to come to an end eventually, and the show ended with a prize distribution ceremony.

The organisation and the interesting judging by various celebrities left everyone looking forward to next year's Kalanjali.



Mahindra World School celebrates fourth anniversary

By Oviyaa T
Student Reporter

Founded in June 2007, with 240 students, Mahindra

World School celebrated its fourth anniversary on June 20, 2011.

The students of classes 1 to 10 wrote a letter to the school about their experience in the school. Also among them were the 'Thank you' letters. And dropped in a box kept in the re-

ception.

The children of the Kindergarten celebrated the day by making cards and collage works.



Situated around 40kms away from Chennai city, lies Mahindra world city, where a number of companies popped up during the

past 3 years and the place has now got a name New Chennai.

Mahindra world school serves the children of the neighbourhood

employees.

The school is now grown to be a 390 students strong. Ms. Nirmala Krishan, the principal of the school is a dynamic person with lot of enthusiasm and spirit to lead the children.

The school has also received the International School Award for the year 2010-2011.

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Vibrant cultural at D.A.V Girls

By Smruthi S
Student Reporter

A mélange of ebullience, enthusiasm and talent marked the two day Inter- School Cultural festival of D.A.V Girls Senior Secondary School, Gopalapuram conducted on July 15 and 16, 2011.

Aptly named, 'RHAPSODY - RHYTHM REDEFINED', the fest was organised with the help of the combined efforts of the Management, Principal, Staff and students of the school.



While, Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Swaminathan, Managing Director, Woodpecker, Furniture presided over the ceremony as the Chief Guest, Shri. Jaidev, Secretary, DAV Group of Schools, Ms. Parmila Gauhar, Joint Secretary, D.A.V Schools Gopalapuram and the esteemed Principals and Headmistresses of all DAV Group of Schools were the other dignitaries of the dais.



The event also saw participation from esteemed schools such as Lalaji Memorial Omega International, BVM, Shishya, Maharishi Vidya Mandir, SBOA, Sri Sankara, Lady Sivaswamy Kalalaya and PSBB K.K Nagar with students of every school displaying bringing their best talents to the fore.

The spectacular extravaganza

began with an inaugural dance which was followed by JAM (Just a Minute) as the first on stage event and a myriad off stage events. Some of the highlights were SAPTASWARA - an enchant-

ing musical treat, MASTER CHEF - cooking without fire, DESIGN IT RIGHT - an ad-designing project and GREETINGS FROM GARBAGE - making a greeting with recyclable materials(no plastics).

Some others were FASHION 'N' FABRIC- a dress - designing competition, SEAL YOUR LIP- Dumb Charade, INK IT - an essay writing competition, CYBER GRAFFITI- a computer program designing event DESI ART- Mehendi competition, CLUELESS QUIZ and SHIP WRECK.

The next day, the fun quotient was kept high with competitions such as SWIRL 'N' TWIRL- a contemporary dance competition, BRAND POWER- ads up, SOUND OF MUSIC- light music based vocal competition, and CHANNEL SURFING which challenged the students' creativity too.

The limelight was stolen by the luminaries who attended the fiesta and acted as judges for many competitions. Eminent folk singer

Ms. Anitha Kuppuswamy presided over as the main judge for Sound

of Music, making it one of the memorable events at the fest.

The dance competition saw Ms. Dakshayini Ramachandran, a renowned Bharathanatyam dancer presiding over as one of the judges. She was accompanied by Ms. Amritha Ram, wife of the famous cinema dance choreographer, Ramji. Ms. Smrithi, a well-trained spinster in many dance forms including Kathak and Odissi was also a part of the jury of dance judges.

Lalaji Memorial Omega International School walked out victorious by bagging the prestigious Rolling Trophy for the cultural fiesta 2011 with 33 points for the outstanding performance of its students in a spectrum of competitions. Followed it closely was Bala Vidya Mandir (BVM) at the runners spot.



The icing on the cake or in this case the mouth- watering refreshments were provided by the all-time favourite SURYA SWEETS making the events all the more sweeter.

At the end of the day, the formal vote of thanks was delivered by the School's Assistant Cultural Secretary marking the conclusion of the colourful event for the calendar year.

>> View a photo gallery of this event on www.yocce.in