



Mythological characters emerge from the book



Imagine walking into a book store and witnessing Gods and Demons descending to earth, hearing the sound of the conch, the shower of arrows and the voice of sages. Well, this happened on the April 15.

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Science Expo on Astronomy

By S. Sruti, Student Reporter

Bharathi Vidhyalaya School in Medavakkam

conducted a Science Expo at their campus recently. Astronomy was the theme of the expo.

Primary students explained heavenly bodies, Solar System, Planetary Influence of Man and Milky Way.

The middle school students displayed projects on Astronomical geometry like Escape Velocity, Sun's Gravity, gravity on the moon and other planets.

Seniors showed a power point presentation on Chandrayaan. Puppet show conveyed the message ' Planet Earth - the best place to live in'

Students had designed interesting quiz programmes on the computer and demonstrated various aspects of Astronomy.

The expo was inaugurated by M. S. Sundara Rajan, chairman & managing director, Indian Bank.

Mrs.K. Alamelu correspondent & director of the school welcomed the gathering and R. Krishnaswami, chairman, Vidya Bharati Trust, released the School Magazine.

Rajani Seshadri, vice president, TCS presided over the function. She emphasised the importance of Science and Technology in modern life in places like industries and businesses as well as domestic life. She added. "to become a scientist, one needs professional practice and interest from early schooling." She appreciated the school for making the event an annual affair.

Mr. Sundara Rajan advised the students to aim for a goal in their life and work hard. He spoke on the availability of different avenues in the present education scenario. He said that the students should channelise their skills and talents for the benefit of the society.



Leading the Leaders

By Saniya Surana, Student Reporter

The leadership programme, an endeavour of the Global Education and Leadership Foundation (tGELF) has been introduced in the PSBB school curriculum for the students of std. IX.

The students are given training to develop skills, essential for effective leadership like creative and lateral thinking, analysis, problem solving etc.

This year's sessions spanned over the entire academic year, have helped the students understand the deeper meaning of leadership and identify the leaders in themselves which was non-existent to them, a year ago. Strong values like tolerance, discipline, integrity, faith, humility and honesty have been imbibed through various activities in the twelve sessions conducted.

This programme has been helpful to the students for developing positive attitude and also skills specific to leadership like logical thinking, tact, discernment, decisiveness, and most importantly stress and time management, an essential skill for one's success in today's world.

Continuous assessments and monitoring by the specially trained teachers will identify potential young leaders and these students, rather leaders, will be awarded the tGELF scholarship, to complete their studies anywhere in the world.

At the end of this year's programme eight students were awarded a Gold Medal for their commendable abilities and performance through the year. They are: Saniya Surana, Amrith Bhargav, Ekta Kapoor, Chandana Seshadri, R.Praveen, Shrishti Saini, and Madhavi.

In short, the leadership initiative of the Nand and Jeet Khemka Foundation introduced at PSBB School, Nungambakkam, aligned with the school calendar and syllabi is highly beneficial for the leaders of tomorrow.

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NAMRATA the rider

By Ankita D'Souza, Student Reporter

This is for the kids who love riding a horse on the Marina Beach for fun!

And here is a girl who has learnt the skill well and adapted herself to the sport - horse riding.

Namrata Kishore, a 13 year old student at Lady Andal school, is not only a horse rider but a swimming champion too.

She took interest in the sport of horse riding from her mother. Namrata was afraid at first to take on this daring sport but got to know the techniques quickly.

She was even scared of getting on the horse at her first session. She did have a fall too. But she gained courage and got the hang of the sport soon.

The unique thing about horse riding is that the exercises are not done in the beginning, but only in the end after the practice session, says Namrata. The exercises include a few stretches. Namrata also said that when she first fell she was told to take deep breaths and also do a few stretches.

There are no tracks as such on the field; there is only an arena which is 20m by 60m. She has a trainer and six other people in her school to help. She trains at the Madras Riding School, Guindy.

When asked which sport she would choose later as she also trains in swimming, she immediately said "Horse riding".

The way Nameata manages her time is unique. She has a hectic schedule, in the morning she completes her horse riding practice and in the evening she catches up with her swimming. And of course, her academics during the day time.



Namrata is very hardworking and her hard work has paid off. She has won many awards in both horse riding and swimming and has made her parents and coaches proud of her.

You can contact namrata at email - pavithrakishore@hotmail.com



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Kilpauk, Chennai -10.



Share your old toys

Pantaloons is holding Toys For Joys fest from April 24 to May 31.

This fest is aimed at lighting up underprivileged children's life with old toys. You can drop in your old toys in any of the Pantaloons outlet at Nelson Manickam Road or Spencer Plaza and get a gift voucher of Rs.50 for every toy.

All the old toys that are collected will go to an NGO called SOS Care.



Birla Planetarium now has a new look

The B.M. Birla Planetarium at Periyar Science and Technology Centre now has a new full dome digital image projection system that can project animated pictures on to the dome and enhance the viewing experience. The imported projector was inaugurated on April 25.

Permanent park on Island Grounds for adventure sport

The Tamil Nadu Tourism Development Corporation (TTDC) along with Rohini Group has created a permanent park at the Island Grounds. Adventure sport such as zerbing, bungee run, quad bike and inflatable wall climbing are already on at this park. The promoters are planning to introduce bungee jumping, hot air balloon, magical bull ride and obstacle course soon.

Automatic rain gauge stations will be ready in a year

The Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC), Chennai will soon install a network of 25 automatic rain gauge stations across the city. After installation, the network would help in accurate collection of rainfall data from various parts of Chennai.

Recently the centre has installed global positioning system to measure vertical profile of water vapour in vertical atmosphere. This data help to figure out distribution of water vapour in air. The sudden rise of moisture content in the atmosphere is one of the deciding factors for formation of thunderstorms, the centre says.

Stone laid for reconstruction of the church at the Sacred Heart Shrine

Member of Parliament Dayanidhi Maran laid the foundation stone for a church on the premises of the Sacred Heart Shrine at Egmore recently. This 160-year-old church will be reconstructed at the cost of nearly Rs.10 crore, with car parking facility. The new church will be ready in two years. The church conducts blood donation camps periodically and provides educational scholarship to deserving students.

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HANGOUT *of the month...*

Sivan Park

Vasudha Mishra, Student Reporter

The Sivan Park, located in K.K.Nagar is a beautiful park in Chennai.

Sivan Park is an ideal place for a stroll if you happen to be nearby.

This park has a playing area for children with swings, slides and other playing equipments to suit the children of all ages.

Varieties of trees and plants grown in the park give a lot of shade and also provide a healthy breathing space.

An important and distinct feature of the Park is the huge statue of Lord Siva. The statue is 15 feet tall and is in the posture of Siva meditating. Water flows from the head of the statue to the entire body and makes it very beautiful.

The park is well lit at night by lights of different hues. There are neat and well defined sidewalks. It serves as nice walking and jogging areas for the visitors. Hundreds of



kids come here to play especially from 5 to 7 in the evening.

There are two entrances to the park, near either entrance there is plenty of space for parking vehicles.

The park also has a small nursery that sells various ornamental plants and pot flowers. Various kinds of trees grounded in the park include Petophorum, Rain Tree, Gulmohur, etc that provide a green and natural environment to be in.

Small eateries and ice-cream stalls are aplenty outside the park. While the parents can enjoy themselves walking on the neat sidewalks, the kids can have a great fun time at the play equipments.



Mythological characters emerge from the book

By V. P. Ishan, Student Reporter

'Evam' conducted a book dramatisation of the Amar Chitra Katha at Landmark, Citi Center on April 15.

Evam is a theatre entrepreneurship fuelled by youngsters for the youth of India. It was founded in 2003 by Sunil Vishnu K and Karthik Kumar. Evam stages

English plays, corporate workshops, student interactions and theatre festivals and their aim is to make people's lives happier and to fill their lives with lightness and a sense of purpose, say the promoters.

Members of Evam include Pavithra Ramaswamy, Vijay Saravanan, Bhaargav Ramakrishnan, Lakshmi Priya, Vijay Karthik and Aparna Narayan.

On that day, a few members of Evam read the oft-told tale of Ghatotkacha to the children gathered and passerby's. The actors included Suchi, a Radio One RJ as the narrator.

Karthik Srinivasan and Shakila Arun, the director of Applause were the two voices. The characters of Ghatotkacha, the Pandavas and the Kauravas came alive.

These talented artists interacted well with the audience using their voices and simple instruments to achieve great sound effects.

A much appreciated moment in the narration was when sweets were thrown on the children to symbolise stones being pelted at Karna. The interactive session at the end had young children mimicking the Rakshas and singing a song.



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dramatisation was held to promote the two plays that Evam staged on the 25th and 26th of April at the Music Academy. They are 'Pathala Bhairavi' (a love story from the Mahabharata) and 'Maya bazaar' (an Indian Alladdin folk tale) respectively.

Nippon Paints sponsored these events and when asked about the unique choice of sponsors, Aparna said, "Nippon has recently launched a campaign - 'Emotions of colour' and since our plays have lots of colours and eye catching costumes they have decided to sponsor us."

When asked if there would be future projects like this, Aparna said, "Yes, Evam is an entertainment company and works in a fun way. We hold workshops and events like these throughout the year. We are also holding dramatics classes in the summer for teenagers."

Aparna had this to say about ticket sales, "Evam sells its tickets through different deals. We donate some tickets to NGO's to be sold to the poor families. Children are given concessional tickets but these events are not only child centric. The two plays were made into movies about fifty to sixty years back. So even our elders can enjoy them and reminisce."

The actors kept the audience enthralled and they themselves seemed to enjoy every moment of evil laughter and sound effects.

The young kids did not want the show to end and one bright spark said, "I wish I was a super hero like Ghatotkacha".

All you big kids out there, who gave this event a skip thinking it was too childish, make sure you catch their next

event. It's fun for all. Evam is at www.evam.co.in



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Summer activities you may want to check

Lectures for senior school students

If you are in class 10, 11 or 12, you should check this out. The Children's Club, Mylapore will be organising a series of lectures on aeronautics and aerospace engineering at the department of Aerospace Engineering, IIT-Madras from May 4 to 15. Topics on air traffic control, remote sensing and weather forecasting will be covered in these lectures.

Contact the Hon. secretary of the Children's Club at phone no. 2847 4140 (before 4 pm)

Theatre Workshop for children and Young Adults

Theatre Y's summer theatre workshop is for the young people of age group 8 to 16. This 14 day training begins

from May 1. Theatre person Yog Japee has designed the programme which includes basic acting, story telling and writing. The sessions will be held at StudYo, 35, Mandaveli Street, Mandaveli.

For details mail to theatrey@gmail.com or contact on phone no. 98840 70796

Summer Reading Challenge

The Great Tale Chase is a summer reading challenge organised by Landmark and Hippocampus and is until May 22. On registering for the challenge, kids will get a Reading Passport to enter the names of the books borrowed from Hippocampus or bought from Landmark during the period of contest. Children of ages 5 to 14 are eligible to participate. The last date for submission of passports at Landmark or Hippocampus is May 19.

For details contact Landmark at phone no. 4214 4444 or Hippocampus on 94440 49175

Science Educational tour

Nehru Children's Cultural Association has organised a seven day educational tour to Bangalore and mangalore this summer. From May 17 to 23. Children will visit the Indian Institute of Astro Physics, ISRO and other science related places.

For registration and more details contact the association on phone no. 2445 3014.

Aero modelling workshop

The Hobby Club is organising a summer workshop where participants would be taught the art of building and

From the editorial desk



Hi young friends!

Is summer all about camps, classes, tours and games?

No, says a 7 year old girl. Aditi wants to stay indoors with her Mom and Dad. But her Mom sent her to a summer camp.

Another eager parent calls up YOcee to find out if there was a personality development camp for a ten year old kid.

Do we need to go to a camp during the holidays? If so, why summer, why not Christmas holidays in December? These are the questions from Rahul, a 12 year old boy. He also goes for a camp this summer.

So, what are summer camps for?

Do you learn a new activity? Do you get to find out your hidden talent in arts, crafts, writing, music, theatre?

Do you come to know of a hobby which you had never been in so far?

But certainly, you get to know and make friends with young people like you, who you have not met so far.

And you go to a place other than your school.

Now tell us what makes a summer camp special. What would you like a summer camp to teach you? Or how do you like just being home during summer?

Mail your thoughts to editor@yocee.in

Maybe the organisers of summer camps will get an idea out of the box!

And your parents too.

Revathi
Editor

*Do share this newsletter with your friends.
They too would love to read as you do!*

flying model aeroplanes. Anyone above the age of 8 can join. From 27th April - 15th May. At 1359/1, 11th Street, 18th Main Road, Vallalar Colony, Anna Nagar West

Contact 92831 98818 for details.

Camp Neuve - performance camp

Masquerade Youth Theatre will hold Camp Neuve, a summer performance camp. From May 4 to 22. For children in the age group 12 to 19 years. Theatre person KK holds this camp which combines Creative Dramatics, Movement Theatre, Story performance, Public Speaking and Debating. Last date for application April 28, 2009

For details mail to masquerade.madras@gmail.com



Varieties of fish and birds

By Saniya Surana, Student Reporter

Flower horns, Catfishes, and other beauties, floating in silence, in their tanks, were a sight to see at the Ornamental Fish Expo at Valluvar Kottam, Nungambakkam.



Yes, yet again Valluvar Kottam was the venue for fish and bird enthusiasts. Prinszone Expo Private Lid. organised this fish and bird expo from April 8 to 14. The objective was solely to take ornamental fish trade to new heights, develop breeding techniques and display systems and accessories.



The show featured almost 50 stalls with several varieties of ornamental fish species along with aquarium accessories and pet food. Besides these, pigeons, love birds, sparrows and quails moved about their little cages, disturbed with the numerous cameras flashing at them every other second!



On the whole, the show was extremely informative and educational with the key themes being proper care of pets and animal and environment protection.



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