



# Green Award for Rosary Matric

*By Lavanya A, Student Reporter*

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Rosary Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Santhome received the Green School Initiative award from the CPR Environmental Centre recently as an appreciation for their efforts to keep the school clean and green.

The school has a well maintained medicinal garden. Solar lamps and CFL bulbs are used in all classrooms. All the waste materials are disposed in compost pits.

The credit goes to the Eco Club members of the school.

<<< Read the full story and a gallery of photos on [www.yocce.in/schoolbuzz.php](http://www.yocce.in/schoolbuzz.php) >>>

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## From the editorial desk



Hi young friends!

With the festive season catching up, there is a lot of colours on the streets, at the shops, handbills, newspapers... On the emails and Facebook too.

There are frequent holidays and ironically there is homework to do on all these days!

On one side, the country is easing the pressure on studies by introducing grades, making the public exam optional at class 10; but on the other side, there are frequent tests and mounting homework.

What do you think will bring in a balance between these two?

Do you wish more time was available to explore the other side of learning and entertainment?

When the technology has come to stay, should there be more meaningful content online and on the TV screens?

This was the idea of YOCEE, when it launched the website in Nov. 2006. The learning is aimed through sharing of information

and news relevant to the young people of Chennai. The by-products are the vocabulary and presentation skills, communication and time-management ability and a team work finally.

This newsletter is a preview of the larger content on the website. So don't miss more pictures and upto-date information on events for you on the website [www.yocee.in](http://www.yocee.in), which is updated daily.

After the festivals in October, it is celebration time for YOCEE in November.

The Team YOCEE is working on a grand anniversary issue.

But, you have to wait for four more weeks to pick up a free copy of it!

**Revathi**  
**Editor**

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

## For the very Young



### At Hansel & Gretel, T. Nagar:

- Baby Bounce and Rhyme Time for 1 yr to 2.5 yrs
  - Story Time & Craft for 3 yrs to 6 yrs.
  - Read, Rhyme & Sing Along - for 4 yrs and above
- Contact - 2815 2549

### At Vanilla Children Place, Mylapore:

- Mommy and Me - learn with mom. For 1 to 2 yr olds.
- Contact - 45534146

### Toddler Trails:

- From Oct. 2 to 4 organised by Storytrails. Contact - 96000 80215 or email to : [kids@storytrails.in](mailto:kids@storytrails.in)

### At Glow Worm Club, Shenoy Nagar:

- Art and craft, Story telling. Drawing and Coloring. For 3 yr olds and above.
- Contact - 42170507

### At Little Angels, T. Nagar:

- Music, arts, handwriting, chess, mallakhamb. For 3 yr olds and above.
- Contact - 98843 90540

>>>>More events and fun places for the very young, at - [www.juniors.yocee.in](http://www.juniors.yocee.in) >>>>

News

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Health & Hygiene

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The nook for the young kids

# Green I Contest

By C. Madhumathy, Student Reporter



Sri Sankara Vidyashramam Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Thiruvannamiyur took part in The Green I Contest organised for school students conducted as a part of the International Green Building Congress 2009 held in Hyderabad from September 9 to 12, 2009.

The National Level contest was based on evaluating measures to find out about the 'carbon footprint' of a school and innovate ways to reduce the footprint. Three students, Gourav Sinha, Vinodhini. A and Sahana Mohan of class XII worked on the project.

Sri Sankara Vidyashramam's entry was one among the five entries chosen at the National Level among 129 schools that participated in the event.

The students visited Hyderabad to give a presentation on their work. They also participated in the inaugural programme of the International Conference & Exhibition on Green Buildings on September 9, 2009 and received a trophy and certificates from Mr. K. Rosaiah, Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh.

The audience comprised of several entrepreneurs working towards Green Buildings and delegates from UK, Australia, Austria, Canada Hong Kong, Netherlands, Singapore and Thailand who had come to participate in the programme.

This newsletter is available  
for free pick-up at these places.  
Tell your friends too!



#### ADYAR:

- Book World, Shop no. 3, 55/1, Bridge Road, (Opp. Aavin Park), Adyar. Ph: 2445 2088
- 3Bs School of Music, 78, Tarika's Nest, Venkateswara Nagar, Adyar. Ph: 4211 4171

#### ALWARPET:

- Peek-a-boo Patterns, 16, Kasturi Rangan Road, Alwarpet. Ph: 2499 2365

#### ANNA NAGAR:

- Thapasya Art School, AE 113, 10th Main Road, Anna Nagar, Behind Post Office. Ph: 2620 5371

#### KILPAUK:

- Enchanting Elves, No.26, Ranganathan Avenue, Sylvan Lodge Colony, Kilpauk. Ph: 94440 85903

#### K. K. NAGAR:

- Bookworm's Library, 334/B, Lakshmanasamy Salai, Near PSBB School, K. K. Nagar. Ph: 2489 9779

#### MYLAPORE:

- The Children's Club, 212/96, V. M. Street, Mylapore.

#### NANDANAM:

- Hippocampus Children's Co. Old No. 7, New no. 4, 12th Street, Nandanam Extn, Chennai - 35. Ph: 94440 49175

#### NANGANALLUR:

- P.K. Srinivasan Mathematics Library at 14/20, 25th Street, Thillai Ganga Nagar, Nanganallur. Ph: 22670754

#### NUNGAMBAKKAM:

- Sweetie Pies Pre School and Day Care, 10, Avenue Road, Nungambakkam. Ph: 96000 85716

#### R. A. Puram

- Bamboola, 73, Venkata Krishna Road, R. A. Puram. Ph: 24611779

#### ROYAPETTAH:

- The Madras Terrace House, 15, Sripuram II Street, Royapettah. Ph: 2811 0259

#### T. NAGAR:

- Hansel & Gretel Kids Play Centre, 11 Jagadambal Street, T.Nagar. Ph: 2815 2549
- Tooth Fairy, Clinic for li'l teeth, 4/11, Vidyodaya 1st Cross Street, T.Nagar. Ph: 2834 4778

#### VELACHERY:

- Brainy Einstein Educational Academy, No. 13, Third Main Road, Vijayanagar. Ph: 9444514733
- Akshara Toy Library & Funland, 9, 9th Street, Sri Devi Karumariamman Nagar, Opp. Lakshmi Vidyalyaya Nursery and Primary School, Velachery. Ph: 94443 21113

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Age group

4-9 yrs & 9-16 yrs

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**9962875326**  
**9841551855**

3/498,  
Lakshmana Perumal Nagar,  
Kottivakkam,  
Chennai 600 041.

# Whats **UP** in October

## Wildlife week celebrations at Madras Crocodile Bank

Day Camps on Oct. 6: Guided tour, a presentation/  
wildlife film, games, group photograph, certificate  
distribution

Age: 10 to 14 years, Time: 10 am to 5 pm

Half day camps on Oct. 1, 2, 4 and 7 for children of ages 5 to 14 years.

Drawing Competition on Oct. 3: The topic of the competition will be given on the spot. Students need to bring their own colors. Drawing sheets will be provided by us. Age: 5 to 14 years

Craft Competition on Oct. 3: For the competition the students can create an animal or animal related model using scrap/eco-friendly materials, which they will be required to bring along. Age: 5 to 14 years

For further details contact by email:

education.mcbt@gmail.com or call 9176035880

## Card Modeling Workshop for children at DakshinaChitra

On Oct. 4: Learn the art of building scale models of aircraft, buildings, ships and many other real life objects taught by resource person 'Poochi' Venkat.

Contact - Lakshmi / Vishalam on phones 9841777779, 24462435, 24918943.

## Story telling and Quiz at Oxford Bookstore

On Oct. 2 and 3 : Story telling and Quiz competition for children in the age group between 8 years to 15 years.

Contact - 28227713, 28227712

## Math Club, Chess & Scrabble camp

CATALYST Mylapore will start a math club for kids of 10 years and above to enjoy Maths with games, puzzles, sums and real life examples

Kids special camp for Chess and Scrabble to improve the memory and vocabulary skills to start in October .

Contact - 86/2 MK Amman Koil street, Mylapore. Behind Sanskrit college. Phones: 9003072315 or 9445179847

## The Hindu Young World Painting Contest

For children of classes 4 to 7 and 8 to 10 in two categories.

Juniors to select one topic from - Computer Lab, Morning Assembly. A scene in the kitchen or Outside my window.

Seniors to select one topic from Book Fair, Inside the Examination Hall, Adventure Sports Camp, Time out with Friends.

Your painting in a sheet of size 26cms x 27 cms to be sent to The Regional Manager (Cir), The Hindu, Kasturi Buildings, 859/860, Anna Salai, Chennai - 2 before Oct.15. Selected participants will be invited for the prelims to be held on Nov. 15.

## Drawing contest at GlobalArt

Kolor Champ is a drawing contest hosted by GlobalArt India annually. This is for the kids of age 5 to 15 years. The contest will be held on Oct. 24. Selected finalists will compete at the national level. Contact 98410 03232.

## The Hindu Young World Quiz

For students from classes 7 to 9. Any two students form the same school can form a team. The schools to submit registration to the Regional Office, The Hindu. In Chennai, the prelims will be conducted on Oct. 12.

For more details look up the website - [www.hindu.com/ywquiz/](http://www.hindu.com/ywquiz/)

## Science events at The Children's Club

On Oct. 4, a talk by Mr. Indranil of IIT-Madras on Nano Technology. On Oct. 11, discussion of Question Paper at the International Chemistry Olympiad.

On Oct. 18 a Power point presentation of a talk on Big Banf by Prof, R. Sudarshan of R K M Vivekananda College and on Oct. 25, a discussion on Nobel Prizes 2009 in Physics and Chemistry. Open to students and all those interested in the topics. Contact the hony. secretary at phone 28474140

>>> Know uptodate list of events and contests organised for kids in Chennai. Visit [www.yocee.in/whatsup.php](http://www.yocee.in/whatsup.php)>>>>



# Ashta dhikku Alankara Golu

By P. S. Nandini, Student Reporter



People have been thronging the Sri Kapaleswarar Temple for the past few days. The reason apart from prayers is the mandapam decorated with a huge golu there.

The concept, creation, and execution was by the Mylapore Trio, S. Surendranath, S. Amarnath and S. Aparna, while the sponsor and organiser

was Pankaj Bandari, from Smart Creations. The theme of this interesting golu was 'Ashta dhikku alankara golu' which means a golu that faces all the eight main directions. This golu was a seven step golu with a gopura kalasam on the topmost step. The golu steps were setup in the four main direction, north, south, east and west. Each side was given to one deity and all the dolls kept in that side was related to that deity.

S.Surendranath said that most of the dolls were new, while some were dolls made by him, such as a set of stuffed dancing dolls, kolam design in a plate, etc.

In the four sub-directions, northeast, northwest, southeast and southwest, models of temple gopurams and mandapams coated in 24kt gold were kept.

Surendranath was happy that from little kids to adults, all had said that this was a new concept of keeping in the temple, because we would not be able to invite everyone to our house for golu, but anyone can come to the temple for viewing this golu. He said that more then 5000 people viewed this golu everyday.

Read the full story and view the gallery of pics at [www.yocee.in/cityroundup.php](http://www.yocee.in/cityroundup.php)

# Fun with Cartooning

By Shrishti Susan Mathew, Student Reporter

A cartooning workshop was held at the Vanilla Children Place Between the Sep 21 and 28 for an hour daily. This workshop was meant for children between 3-8 years age.



On the 23rd September afternoon, there were 8 children at the workshop busy drawing cartoons like 'Miffy the bunny' and dolphins.

"Drawing helps small children get eye and hand control" says Ms. Dayanie Ananth the teacher who has ten years of experience in teaching art for small children!

"But what we are doing here is cartooning which is one step away from drawing", she said.

Children are taught to draw sample objects like cats, dogs, and rabbits in 3-4 steps. Ms. Dayanie Ananth said that her method of teaching was showing the children the basic steps and then letting add their own creativity. She said that smaller children have a sense that tells them to obey.

The children appeared to be enjoying themselves thoroughly. Even a mentally challenged child who was basically scribbling with his pencil seemed very pleased with himself.

"Of all my drawings I like my fish the best!" said four year old Veda. "I like pink birds so I have colored my bird pink" said Ujjesha who is also four years old.

Today when even a mess of scribbles that a child makes can be called art learning the art systematically does help the young to express their feeling through art better when they grow up.

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# Jus Pizzas

C. Madhumathy, Student Reporter



Pizza Corner, Adyar is an all time favourite hangout for kids in Adyar and neighbourhood. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays are usually crowded .

Do you know why the kids hit this place very frequently?

Its ambience and the ball room set up exclusively for the kids; good listing of events conducted here, its location

close to Adyar signal with enough parking space and satisfying customer service.

The events list for the kids includes birthday parties, painting competitions, singing competitions and fancy dress competitions. These competitions are mostly held on Children's Day and Independence Day. Pizza making competition is held for ladies.

The kids enjoy their outing with their parents, friends, cousins at Pizza Corner. Pizza Corner not only attract kids but also people of all ages.

Want to know what food item attracts the kids?

It's the Conizza! It is available both in veg and non-veg. While the veg Conizza has the combination of onions, tomatoes etc. and the non-veg Conizza has onions,

tomatoes, chicken tikka and more.

Watch out kids! Pizza Corner is introducing a new food item called the 'ROLLIES' which is also available both in veg and non-veg. The veg rollies have the combination of onions and barbeque cottage cheese and the non-veg rollies have onions and chicken tikka.

Pizza Corner was started by Mr. Fred Mauward in August 1996 at Annanagar. There are totally 9 branches in Chennai and about 43 branches all over India. In Chennai, Pizza Corner is located at Nungambakkam, Annanagar, Nandanam, Tambaram, Alwarpet, Adyar, Velacherry, Meenambakkam and Old Mahabalipuram Road.

Its head office is at Bangalore. There are about 25 staff working in Adyar branch.

If you have not visited this place yet, do so now and rush at once to taste the Conizza.

# Chennai, my new hangout!

Madhumitha Sriram studying in class 5 at Chettinad Harishree Vidyalayam shares her experience on coming to Chennai from the United States for the first time .

My family and I lived in the United States since I was a child and last year we had to come to India due to a visa issue.



When I came here, I was really scared to walk on the roads which were over crowded. The vehicles were not stopping for kids like in the U.S. I didn't feel good about the trash being thrown on the streets. It made me so nervous to see the bugs and mosquitoes all over.

I started nagging my parents to take me back to the United States. But my parents told me that there are also good things about India and they told me to wait for a year to go back to the United States.

Things started to change for me when I joined Harishree Vidyalayam. This is the first time I am ever studying in a school in India and I felt so great on the first day itself. My classmates were very kind and friendly. All the teachers were very kind too. They were able to understand me and didn't scold me when I didn't do well in Tamil or Hindi at the beginning. Even though I was able to understand the languages, I struggled to read and write. With the help of my mom, I started doing well in those subjects very soon.

I even passed the Pratham exam conducted by the Hindi Prachar Sabha in August 2009. I am very happy that I learn classical Bharatanatyam, Carnatic music and violin and I get to spend time with my cousins and relatives. I also get to play with my friends very often here than in the U.S, because it's always sunny here.

Even though I miss a lot of things from the United States, India is not bad at all as I thought earlier. But I still want to go back to the United States and visit Chennai often.

**To reach YOCEE**

- [www.yocee.in](http://www.yocee.in)
- [editor@yocee.in](mailto:editor@yocee.in)
- **4205 4377 / 98405 44629**
- **YOCEE**  
**New No.15B,**  
**Karpagam Garden**  
**First Main Road,**  
**Adyar, Chennai - 600 020.**



# Weekend outing, not far away from Chennai...

By Lavanya A, Student Reporter

Have the amusement parks and theaters bored you? Wish there were a different place you could visit. If the malls and hotels are too expensive for you, lose heart not. Here is a quiet nook around the Chennai's map.

Located on the east coast road (ECR) near MGM, a sign board reading DhakshinaChitra guides you in to a steep path with greenery at one end and traditional crafts at the other. DhakshinaChithra (started by Madras Craft Foundation MCF) was opened on December 1996. The place looks different from the other recreation centers and amusement parks.

The place is known for playing host to many foreigners who want to learn about the culture of the diverse people of India. If you are a person who loves culture and heritage, peace and calmness, the place will interest you too.

There are two storied house built of laterite and timber representing the 18th century middle class homes in Kerala. The Merchant's house, the Potter's house, Mud houses, Basket weaver's house, Agriculturist house, Village Ayyanar shrine, Agraharam Brahmin house, Coastal Andhra house, Cattle shed and Granary are the highlights of the place. Traditional activities like Pottery, Grinding rice, Palm leaf decoration, Kolam, Pounding paddy, Puppet making, Pot making, Pambaram, Golikundu, Terracotta dolls, Block painting, Basket making, Pallanguzhi, Thayam, Kalamkari, Paper mask, Peepul leaf painting entertains the visitors. Puppet shows and workshops are also held here.



So, if you are looking to laze at a place or develop your skills and learn the crafts of India or enjoy peacefully with your family, this is the place to be. DhakshinaChitra is a place that makes you forget your busy urban life.

## Story Cards in Tamil

Want to learn and read Tamil, the story way?

Here is a set of 100 Tamil story cards library in a bag - Kathai Aruvi.



The story cards were produced by Chatnath Trust to make Tamil reading attractive for children by making each story separately in a laminated card. So 100 children can read at the same time and each card can be exchanged with another 100.

The 100 cards neatly packed in a jute bag is now available with Aseema Trust. This bagful of 100 attractively illustrated (in colour) cards is available for Rs.600.

You can buy it for yourself or even sponsor a set for rural schools. Contact Aseema by email at aseema123@yahoo.com or call Vasantha Parthasharathy 9841009927



## Think big books

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- \* Fiction
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**Contact:** Acton Lodge, No:38, Mc Nichols Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600 031.

**Phone : 2836 2723, 2836 3633** <http://www.thinkbigbooks.in/>



# Short films on heritage and culture in the making

By C. Madhumathy, Student Reporter

INTACH (The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage) in coordination with Helen Hamyle Trust-UK have launched a programme titled Filmlt.

The inaugural function of this programme was hosted by Sri Sankara Vidyashramam on 7th September 2009.

Dr. S. Suresh, Convener, INTACH-Chennai Chapter, Mr. Andy Huntington from UK, Ms. Purnima Dutt from INTACH, New Delhi and Dr. Prema Kasturi, INTACH, Chennai were present on the occasion.

As a part of this programme video cameras have been given to Sri Sankara Vidyashramam Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Thiruvanmiyur and four other select schools in Chennai.

The members of Heritage Club have taken up the project and about five short films based on Family, Festivals will be produced and posted on a specified web site, so that it could be shared with children from partner schools in the UK. The best entries would be featured during the film festival to be organised in February 2010.

The members of Sri Sankara Vidyashramam's



Parampara Heritage Club also had a surprise in store for them. The club received a certificate of commendation in recognition of the Outstanding Contribution for the promotion of Heritage Conservation, Heritage Awareness and other causes dear to INTACH ever since the inception of the club.

It was presented to Mrs. Kalpalatha Mohan, Principal of the school by Dr. S. Suresh. Sri Sankara Vidyashramam is the First city school to receive the commendation.

## Remember Gandhi on a blog

Tulika Books are launching an interactive blog for children on Gandhi on Oct. 2. Called the 'Our Gandhi Scrapbook', this blog will be hosted on [www.zapzany.com](http://www.zapzany.com).

On this webpage, you can also join the well-known children's writer, Sandhya Rao's presentation 'Cat in the hat' - an audio-visual interactive session with snippets from her three popular books on Gandhi.

Also, the three unusual books on Gandhi for children – a photobiography, a scrapbook, and a read and colour book – will be on sale at a discounted price of Rs 275 for the set during the section. The package will be available in all major bookstores and on the website – [www.tulikabooks.com](http://www.tulikabooks.com).



## New Children's Furniture Boutique

Vanilla Children Place, has opened their second Exclusive Children's Furniture Boutique at Ispahani Centre, Nungambakkam recently. The store has children's room furniture and furnishing, a nursery collection, toys, mother care products and many more.



Started in 2007, Vanilla Children Place aims to create an atmosphere where parents and children can come and share quality time together and meet other parents. Vanilla specialises in designing and crafting children's room furniture and furnishing. These products are designed keeping in mind the durability and safety issues, say the founders.

Contact Vanilla Children Place at phone no. 45534145, 45534146



# Stealing the limelight

By Ishan V P, Student Reporter

An honest thief in this dishonest world. Sounds intriguing, doesn't it? Well, 'Charandas Chor' portrays the trials and tribulations of such a personality.

Masquerade Youth Theatre staged its first play, 'Charandas Chor' (written by the late Habib Tanvir) in the last week of August.

The shows were held at the Top Storey, Alliance Francaise. Amitash Pradhan made his directorial debut and Dushyanth Gunashekhar was the producer and guiding force behind this production.

Masquerade, is a performance group, dedicated to the growth of theatre in Chennai. It was founded by Mr. S. Krishna Kumar (fondly known as KK) and a group of enthusiastic theatre buffs in 1994.

"We realized that over the last eight years, we had



been steadily promoting children's, tween and teen theater. It was a matter of time we looked at the idea of a young adult brigade of our own. Thus, MYT was born", says KK.

Habib Tanvir's 'Charandas Chor' is one of India's most popularly performed plays. "The chasm between truthfulness and thievery was completely destroyed when Habib Saab took up the pen and proved that the pen is indeed mightier than the sword", says the director, Amitash.

With his sharp wit and alarming honesty, Charandas managed to outsmart the havaldar, get out of dangerous situations and at the same time, charm the audience.

>>>Read the full report on [www.yocee.in/cityroundup.php](http://www.yocee.in/cityroundup.php)>>>





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# HANGOUTS

## you may want to check

### Government Museum, Egmore

The Children's Gallery at Government Museum, Egmore is must-visit place. It houses exclusive galleries on civilisation, science, transportation, technology, costume dolls gallery with displays of different costumes of Indian states. The Kids Corner has curios, articles and dolls made of porcelain, lacquer, glass apart from the traditional toys made of clay, wood and metals.

The museum is closed on Fridays and National holidays. Contact phone no. 2819 3238



### Ramakrishna Math Universal Temple

Best place for peaceful atmosphere and to come out rejuvenated. Situated close to Mylapore tank, this is an all-religion temple. Open during specific times of the day.

Contact no. 24615409



### Madras Crocodile Bank

Not just crocs, this Bank maintains 12 endangered species of turtles and tortoises, five species of snakes and many reptiles. The importance of reptiles in the eco-system is one which everyone needs to get an idea of. Open on all days except Mondays, there are weekend special shows like puppet shows and crocodile night safari to check out. Situated at Kelambakkam on the ECR Croc bank can be contacted at phone no. 27472685. Website: [www.madrascrocodilebank.org](http://www.madrascrocodilebank.org)



### Cholamandal Artists' Village

This is for those who love arts, paintings and sculptures.

An exclusive village for artists. There are two gallery halls here. Many types of arts are exhibited and available for sale too. There are sculptures of different themes. You can walk along the road and see the houses of the artists. An art book shop, a craft shop and an exotic cafeteria are also housed in this village.



Cholamandal Artists' Village is on the ECR at Injambakkam, Chennai - 41. Phone: 2449 0092 Website : [www.cholamandalartistsvillage.org](http://www.cholamandalartistsvillage.org)

### Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre, Kotturpuram

Science enthusiasts should be at this place whenever they are free in Chennai. It houses well maintained Science City, Birla Planetarium, and Energy Park. There are informative exhibits such as Solar System, Cycle of stars, Sky and Seasons, Comets, Man on the Moon. Open on all days except National holidays. Contact phone no. 2441 0025



### Top of St. Thomas Mount

Apart from the shrine dedicated to 'Our Lady of Expectation' built in 1523, the view panoramic view from the top of the mount is fascinating. Climbing to the top of this small hillock on a cool morning and leaning the history on the 160 steps leading to the top is to be experienced. Photography enthusiasts can mark a weekend for this tiny expedition!







The Turn Off Lights Campaign by the students of PSBB, K. K. Nagar held on Sep. 9 organised the Eco Club of the school.  
Photo by Vasudha Mishra

Bamboola Play School had a thematic golu at their campus with the theme Tulsi. The story of Tulsi's marriage to Vishnu and various forms of worshipping the sacred plant Tulsi was displayed at this golu.



R. Muralikrishna's concert in the park under the umbrellas on a rainy day. Accompanying him are Sriram Sridhar on the violin and Kaushik Rajagopal on the mridangam. The kutcheri was organised by Sundaram Finance. If you want to perform at this monthly concert series contact 94440 40748 for registration and audition.



A working model of a bicycle at Appar's exhibition of art made of wood held at Injambakkam last month.  
Photo by A. Lavanya



Grand Krishna Jayanthi celebrations took place at Gita Bhavan. This is one of the many displays at this celebration.  
Photo by S. Sruti.



# Not just another writing task

The story Vasudha Mishra, Student Reporter of YOcee wrote for the Scholastic Writing awards won the 5th place in the contest and the story was published in the anthology 'For Kids By Kids' released recently. She shares her experience of imagining and writing the story.



Remember the Mumbai attacks last year? I was a little petrified after that. I wondered what if something like that terrorist attack happened in Chennai? What if terrorists captured or hijacked my school?! That's when I started working on this story titled "Just Another Day at School".

The protagonist, Smriti Naresh is a character in whom I have infused my feelings of what I would have done in such a situation. The other characters especially Smriti's friends and teachers are characters who are inspired by my own friends and teachers.

When I started writing, I didn't exactly know what happens at the end. I just had an outline of my story sans the climax. As I started writing my story, I got various ideas of plots and sub plots and climaxes. And the one which sounded the best was what you will find in my story.

I don't really like the idea of knowing the entire outline of the story and then writing. It just restricts my creativity – all I have to do is to expand it. It doesn't sound like my idea of fun and creativity! So once I had written my story, I reread it a couple of times, rephrasing the sentences, replacing some words, looking for grammatical errors before finalising it. And the last stage was reading it as a third person – not as somebody who has written the story. This way I can spot many errors and correct them.

I think I developed a flair for English and writing because I love reading. I particularly like the Nancy Drew Series and also the Harry Potter Series and authors like Agatha Christie, R.K.Narayan, Roald Dahl and Caroline Funke.

Well, story writing is not a child's play or a Herculean task. But all you need is a flair for language and loads and loads of creativity!



## ORTHODONTICS IN CHILDREN

Orthodontics is the specialization of dentistry, which deals with correcting the malalignment of teeth, improper bite and irregularities of the jaws thus improving the smile and function of the teeth. The corrective treatment is carried out by a Dental Specialist called "Orthodontist".

### Indications that need Orthodontic treatment

- Babyteeth not falling out when they are expected to
- Protrusion of upper front teeth
- Cross bite and crowded teeth
- Spacing in between the teeth
- Mouth Breathing habit
- Thumb and finger sucking habit

- Unusual facial profile
- Swallowing problem issue when smiling
- Upper and lower teeth not meeting properly (Openbite)

### Why is it important to have orthodontic treatment?

- Orthodontic problems can disfigure the face and mouth.
- Orthodontics can improve the appearance of the teeth and face.
- Normal speech and chewing can be made possible by orthodontic treatment.
- A bad bite can make biting or chewing difficult or even impossible, and can cause the teeth to wear down.
- Crooked teeth are very hard to brush properly.
- If teeth are not kept clean, this can result in tooth decay and loss of teeth.
- Orthodontic problems can damage the gums and underlying bone structure.
- If the jaws are not properly positioned, pain in the jaw joints can result.
- Orthodontic problems can get worse if they are neglected. They will not just "go away".
- If not treated in time, a problem can become more difficult and more expensive to treat later on.

### Why should orthodontic treatment start when the child is young?

There are many good reasons for early orthodontic treatment:

- When the jaws and teeth are still growing it is much easier to move teeth and influence the position and size of the jaw.
- Early treatment will shorten the treatment time.
- Treatment of thumb-sucking and abnormal swallowing patterns is more successful in a young child.
- Protruding front teeth are easily damaged when children fall down, so the sooner they are corrected the better.
- The space left by the early loss of a baby tooth must be maintained by means of space maintainer appliance. If left untreated, this space will close, as adjacent teeth will drift into it. The permanent teeth may then not have enough space to grow into and may become impacted. Early treatment can keep the space open and allow the permanent tooth to erupt normally. Insufficient space for permanent teeth often results in crowding.

### When should I have an orthodontic consultation for my child?

- The American Association of Orthodontists recommends age seven as the optimal time for a child to have his or her first orthodontic screening by a specialist.
- By age seven, the permanent first molars and incisors have usually come in, and enough jaw growth has occurred that the orthodontist will be able to identify any current problems, anticipate future problems, and alleviate parents' concerns if all seems normal.

### How is treatment carried out?

Orthodontic treatment can be done by many sorts of appliances like

- **Removable Appliances**
- **Functional Appliances**
- **Fixed Appliances** : These have brackets and bands temporarily stuck to the teeth. A flexible wire joins all the brackets and allows the teeth to be moved. It is not possible for the patient to take the appliance out and so it is called a fixed appliance.
- Brackets are made up of **Metal or Ceramic or Plastic**. Ceramic braces made of translucent material, are most popular with adult patients, due to their cosmetic appeal.
- **Invisalign**: Clear, plastic aligners that straighten your teeth without noticeable, bulky materials.

### How long will the orthodontic treatment take to complete?

The length of treatment depends on how severe the problem is, and may take anything from a few months to two and a half years. Most people can be treated in one to two years. Co-operation by the patient, or lack of it, can affect the length of treatment. Orthodontic appliances usually need adjusting every 4 to 6 weeks.

### Is orthodontic treatment painful?

- When braces or other orthodontic appliances are first placed in the mouth, some discomfort or pain is experienced, but this soon passes.
- Adjustments to appliances may cause temporary pain or discomfort.
- The appliances may initially irritate the lips, teeth or tongue, but the orthodontist will adjust them to minimise any discomfort.

### Can the child play sports while wearing braces?

Absolutely! The child is advised to wear a protective mouth guard while engaging in any sports activity.

### How to take care for the Braces and Teeth?

- Clean your teeth carefully daily after every meal, including between your teeth where you can.
- Appliances are delicate and you need to make sure you clean them carefully so that they do not break. The dentist will be able to show you the special techniques to use depending on the appliance you are wearing.
- Avoid 'snacking' on foods or drinks containing sugars, and on fizzy drinks. Also, sticky and hard foods may damage the orthodontic appliances.
- Brush your teeth twice a day with fluoride toothpaste and, if necessary, use a mouthwash. The dentist may recommend a fluoride toothpaste or application for you to use.



#1, 1st Floor, 3rd Cross St, Raja Annamalaipuram, Chennai-28.  
E-mail : arunsdentalart@gmail.com, Website: www.dentalart.in

**Ph : 044-24351004, 9382666369**  
(Clinic Timings : Mon- Sat-(9am- 9pm), Sunday –Only By Appointment)