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Vidya Mandir goes to the Young World quiz Finals

If October 17 was a D Day for the politicians as it was the local elections day in Tamil Nadu, it was also a great day for the 700 plus students who were part of The Hindu Young World Quiz.

After the preliminary round, the board came alive with square maze, which had a picture of a celebrity hidden behind it. The top 6 teams had to do the quizzing simultaneously guessing the personality behind the maze.

While none of the teams knew 'Jack and Jill', the popular nursery rhyme in full, ending with 'vinegar and brown paper', they did know the person behind the square. All six teams got it right as Novak Djokovic at various points with one more round to go. They also

knew Chomolungma, the Tibetan name for the Himalayas!

The six teams that made to the regional finals were the teams from Bhavan's Rajaji Vidyashram, Kola Perumal Chetty school, Sethu

while new entrants to the quizzing circuits in Chennai, the team from Sethu Bhaskara bravely attempted the buzzers too.

The team of Pranav Ananth and Vrshank Subramanian both from class

9, Vidya Mandir school emerged as the regional winners while the enthusiastic team of Tinu Hareeshwar and Kiran Bharadwaj became the runners up at close margin. The team Aditya Padmanabhan and M. Sri Vatsan from Bhavan's Rajaji Vidyashram came third.



Bhaskara Matric Hr. Sec. School, Vidya Mandir, all from Chennai and two schools Ida Scudder and Srishti both from Vellore.

The team from Kola Perumal put up a great competition with Vidya Mandir

Vidya mandir, the regional winners will represent Chennai in the all-India finals, scheduled to be held in Thiruvananthapuram on Nov. 14, 2011.

It was a different experience for me...

It was a new experience for me to go to the quiz alone with my friends to Teynampet. The quiz started at 11.30 a.m. and we had to reach there before 10 a.m. Over 700 teams (nearly 1500 students) from different schools came to participate. There were nearly 40 sponsors for the quiz and the hall was very big to accommodate all of the students.

There were two rounds for the quiz. The first round was a written one and only 6 teams could be selected out of 700 plus teams.

The second round was conducted after the lunch. The lunch was provided by Marrybrown and Sree Krishna Sweets. The second round was like a rapid fire round. The winning team could shake hands with the famous music director Devi Sri Prasad.

We were not selected for the finals but to participate in these events was a proud occasion for us and our school. All the participants got a certificate each and I can never forget this event in my life.

- Ramsudharsan.M, Kendriya Vidyalaya D.G.Q.A, Chennai

Footpath—dumpyard

By Prerna Subramanian
Student reporter

It is very natural that children get exhausted after a tiring eight hours of action in school.

From studying to playing to talking and with all the extracurricular activities, one is expected to be tired, be sweated and exhausted. That is why there are small Kwality Walls or AMUL Ice Cream shops outside schools so as to help children relish some coolness after the hard day inside school.

But what we found outside Chettinad Vidyashram was horrendous!

Along the long sidewalk outside Chettinad Vidyashram campus, if one gradually looks in between the park lot and the footpath, here is what they see -



When the whole world is depending on the youth, expecting a revolution and a change to make India better, students are so ignorant and impatient that they don't have time to dump their "ICE CREAMS" in proper dump bins. But then, where are the dump bins?

A heap of dump is seen on the other side of the road, next to which is a huge residential area and an office.

Where are the steps against the smelling dump, which can also give rise to pollution and diseases?

One of the oldest areas in Chennai, R.A Puram, which also houses the Ayyappan temple close to Chettinad School is not as clean as one would expect a temple area to be. And any area outside school is expected to be clean, and an example to what an ideal India should be.

Steps should be chalked out and properly implemented.

Proper dust bins should be added around the canteens. Change is severely needed.

And the young should be educated to dispose off the waste properly.

Will the change ever come?

>>> Are you concerned about the civic conditions around your school? Has your school done something unique to tackle the issue? Share with YOCee readers. Mail to editor@yocее.in

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Display Day at Calibre School

Harsaa S. Guest Reporter

Calibre Academy (Mrs. YGP School), Mylapore celebrated the display day on Oct. 10, 2011. Work done by the students over the first term was displayed for parents to view.



The displays were set up in the classrooms in three floors at their Royapettah branch from where classes 4 to 10 of the school function.

The ground floor had displays of projects on Robotics and Literacy depicting Prepositions, Famous Proverbs and charts based on the curriculum.

The class rooms in the first floor had wonderful models describing Tyndall effect, volcanoes, sea animals, structure of tooth, coal formation, all about intestine etc. Students of French , Hindi , Tamil and Sanskrit Languages had displayed models connected with their lessons.

The second floor had models of lessons from History , Geography and Mathematics.

The field of Games was also not left behind . Students had created miniature of stadiums like the Mohali Cricket Stadium in Punjab. There was an integration of subjects namely Physics and Literacy wherein proverbs had to be matched with the help of a battery



portraying the principle of anode and cathode. The students enthusiastically displayed their skill.

The primary students at the Krishnaswamy Avenue campus had their display day before the school closed for the



Pooja Holidays. There again it was an array of colourful displays like the Alphabet train, My Family, My House, Gadgets used in the Household Then and Now. The students sweetly narrated the Rhymes and songs that they had learnt.

The feedback received from the parents was really encouraging to the students.



PARTICIPATE AND WIN!

Register before **Nov. 4, 2011**

Not only prizes but many hearts too!!

Contests in music, science and photography

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Open to children in the age group of 6 to 15 years.

Proceeds will be donated to a NGO working with needy children

**Details on Page no. 6**

## Leading the young for a cause

**Smruthi S**  
**Student reporter**

Want to become spiritually fit? Here is a splendid place to check out which not only makes you mentally strong but also does not pinch your pockets.

Generally many parents focus in their child being academically and physically strong. But how about some attention is given to spiritual aspects of the child's life too?

The Balavikas classes conducted at Lakshmipuram, Royapettah aims at promoting the essence of Indian culture, imparting moral values, and also reduction of stress.

The class is conducted by Ms. Latha, a social worker and a Balavikas guru who is associated with the Sri Sathya Sai Seva organisation. Mrs. Latha has been conducting these classes for quite a few years now.

As soon as one enters the room, one gets mesmerised. The room is filled with colourful charts made by the students accompanied by the pleasant aroma of the agarbathi.

The class is divided into three groups- Group I, Group II, Group III. The class and study materials are provided free of cost to all students, in order to ensure that moral education reaches every student. The class commences with an 'OM' chanting followed by the veda chanting. Then the class moves on with the prescribed syllabus for each group.

For Group I (age- 6-9 yrs), there are

value based moral games and role plays in which all the tiny tots take part with gay. Small slokas, moral stories and bhajans too are taught to them in a fun filled manner.



For Group II (9-12 yrs), interactive discussion on topics like festivals of India, health and hygiene and suprabhatham go on. Quizzing on epics of India and many more interesting subjects are also done.

And for Group III (12 -15 yrs), active talks about lives of great men, time management, ceiling on desire, sayings of great men, Bhagawad Gita etc. go on.

Following this is the Jyothi Meditation in which imagining a flame in the centre of our eyebrows cleanses all the chakras in our body. During the meditation spiritual instructions are given in order to enable concentration of students and to minimize distraction. This meditation has been scientifically proven to reduce stress

levels and increase concentration power. A musical bhajan session marks the end of the class. There after vibuthi and prasadam are given to all the students.

Every weekend there is a 'Butter Milk Distribution' done in the local area in which each student donates curd or milk. Then the buttermilk is distributed to the poor people, mostly comprising of the down-trodden section – labourers, construction workers, auto drivers and other needy people. Senior most students

are taken to remote villages and are trained to serve the masses. A few students also volunteer to work as scribe for the blind.

The Balavikas classes not only make the child spiritually fit but also help in overall personality development and serves as an opening for social exposure to students.

"These classes also help the child in tackling tough challenges with mental courage and gives a scope for the upliftment of the downtrodden", says Ms. Latha. The Balavikas classes are not only conducted in India but all over the globe.

For further details, contact Ms. Latha at 9884236979.

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**workshops for kids**  
**in Chennai**

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## A model conference

**By P.S. Nandini**  
**Student reporter**

If you are someone who is really interested in the relationship between countries at the international level and how disputes are solved between them, you would have surely been a part of this year's CHEMUN (CHennai Model United Nations) conducted by the American International School, Chennai.

The CHEMUN website (<http://www.chemun.org/>) says

that the Model United Nations is "an annual conference for high school students who come together to caucus, negotiate, debate, support and pass resolutions to solve global issues. It is a simulation of the United Nations where students play the role of UN delegates representing countries assigned to them."

The fifth annual CHEMUN was spread across three days— from Oct. 14 to 16, 2011 with an active participation of 350 plus students from 28 schools. Many schools from other countries such as Italy, Israel, Myanmar, Oman, Palestine, and UAE too had participated.

After the inaugural session which was graced with the presence of Jennifer McIntyre, Consul General, United States Consulate, Chennai.

The six committees (General Assembly, ECOSOC, Environment Commission, DISEC, Security Council, and the Special Conference on Women and Children) began their proceedings. Each committee was assigned with different topics and the delegates had to come up with comprehensive and sophisticated resolutions on the same.

Over the second and the third days the resolutions were amended and voted for or against.

On the second day, a guest speech was delivered by Dr.

Purna Shankar from Karna Prayag, an organisation that nurtures abandoned infants and babies. The CHEMUN team had been involved in a fundraising program for this organisation.

The evening of the second day witnessed the most awaited event - the Social Night! All delegated were bussed to Hotel Asiana, on the OMR where they enjoyed dinner and dancing.

On the third day morning the delegates were back to resolutions and voting.

CHEMUN Charter- a newsletter exclusively covering the proceedings of the three days' event was printed and distributed to all.

Participating in this MUN had definitely helped everyone with their public speaking, negotiation, dispute solving, social

and conflict resolving skills, said the participants.

After the closing ceremony at the General Assembly Hall, the delegates went back with fond memories of this MUN and with a resolution to come back next year too!



## Go there, do this ...

### Contest : Creative Xplorers

Here is an opportunity for you to win and make a lesser privileged child also win.

One cause. Many Connections is an event put together by Vedika, a group of individuals working to empower the needy children.

Under this event, many contests on various skills are hosted for children in the age group of 6 to 15 years, categorised into three groups. (6 to 9 years, 10 to 12 years and 13 to 15 years) on Nov. 6, 2011 and P.S. Hr. Sec. School campus in Mylapore.

If you are a talented kid in music, science and photography, register for the contest.

For all the age groups in the music contest the rule is – only classical songs (geetham, varnam or keerthanam or bhajan) are permitted and strictly no film songs.

Children of 13 to 15 years can click a photo and join the Photo Writing contest. The themes are Eyes see you, Humour, Colours of Hope and Freedom. Mail your photos to [vedika.creativexplorers@rediffmail.com](mailto:vedika.creativexplorers@rediffmail.com) before Nov. 4, 2011.

Be at the contest venue on Nov. 6, 2011 to write a few lines on your photo on the spot.

If you are a budding scientist, mail an abstract of your scientific study to [vedika.creativexplorers@rediffmail.com](mailto:vedika.creativexplorers@rediffmail.com) before Nov. 4, 2011 on any of the following topics:

(For 10 to 12 years) Health & Food Scinces, Biological sciences. Environmental sciences.

(For 13 to 15 years) Environmental Sciences, Biological, Bio-chemical & Bio-technological sciences.

Registration fee is Rs. 30 per participant. All the proceeds will be donated to Maitri Trust Children, who are from economically weak family background.

Last date to register for the contests – Nov. 4, 2011

Need more information? Contact Ms. Srikala on phone number 98410 04588 or Ms. Deepa on 98407 26308

### Workshop : Pottery

As part of the Weekend at the Park series, Sundaram Finance will organise a Pottery and Paper Craft Workshop at the Nageswara Rao Park on Nov.5, 2011 at 3.30 pm.

Open to children in the age group 8-12years, the pottery workshop will help them improve their creative skills and expand their imagination.

The children will be guided by a potter on how to make artistic and creative pots. They will be able to learn right from handling raw clay to creating aesthetically beautiful pots. There will also be a paper craft workshop on the same day evening.

The workshop is restricted to 40 children. Registration is free. To register, call 99414 98698

### Contest: Arivukkalanjiyam

MTS Academy, Mylapore hold the 17th Arivukkalanjiyam award competitions for children on November 13, 2011.

Open to children of classes 1 to 10. Various competitions like recitation, oration, story telling, mono - acting, fancy dress and essay writing in Tamil and English will be held. The toppers will be awarded with a title and a cash prize of Rs.2000 in each category of age groups.

Venue of the competitions is Sree Karpagavalli Vidyalaya, No. 4, Mangollai, East Mada Street, Mylapore

Register before Nov. 7, 2011 at phone number 2495 1415

### Workshop : Science

Vidhyapika is hosting a science workshop for children from Nov. 6, 2011. This edition titled 'GRASP' is open to children studying in classes 5 to 8. Kids will get to spend eight days over eight weekends to understand and appreciate scientific concepts relating to Gravity, Air, Sound and Pressure.

For Registration, Contact Deepa on phone number 98403 47670. Vidhyapika Learning Center is at No.3, Srinivasa Avenue, Park View Street, R.A. Puram.

### Event : Eureka Run

The second edition of Eureka Run for Children will be held on Nov. 12, 2011 from 6.30 a.m. on the Marina Beach.

The run is being organized by Eureka Child Foundation in association with ADIUS - LIBA's outreach wing.

The event is open to all who can run/jog/walk a 5km distance along the Marina beach to show support for the cause of quality education to children. The run will be flagged off by the Inspector General of Police, Dr. Shailendra Babu from Gandhi Statue on the Marina Beach.

The registration fee is Rs. 250 and will give a child 3 months of academic help through the Eureka SuperKidz program. All registrants will receive a T-shirt and those who complete the run will receive a certificate.

Contact Selva : 9790951652. Website: <http://eurekachild.org/run2011>

### Event: Music in park

As part of 'Music in the park' series, a Keyboard concert by H. Sai Prasanth will be held on Oct. 30, 2011 from 7 a.m. to 8 a.m. at the Chennai Corporation park, 5th Cross Street, CIT Colony, Mylapore.

Sai Prasanth will be accompanied by Parur M.K. Anathalakshmi on the violin and D. Karthik on the mridangam.

The series is organised on the last Sunday of every month. Open to all.

# YOCee

## E PAPER

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## Did your parents vote?

**Deepika Mahesh**  
Student reporter

The local body elections were held on the Oct. 17 and 19, 2011 all over Tamil Nadu.

And for this reason the days were given either as a day off or a half day so that the citizens can do their bit by voting. The AIADMK party emerged victorious in these elections. But this is not what I would like to highlight.

The voters' turnout has been a major concern since some time.

I personally went around and surveyed the voters in my neighbourhood. The statistics was shocking as well as sad-denying.

Out of every ten people, four had no voters' ID cards and hence their names did not feature in the list; another four had a voters' card but did not vote for whatever reason known to them. Only two people managed to vote out of the 10.

The total voters' turnout in Chennai was reported to be 48%, which is lesser as compared to the previous 55%. A few first time voters, when came to the polling booth, thought they had gone to the wrong place as there was no crowd at all!

One of the election officers, thought she had the wrong time or place or date. She was thoroughly shocked with the small numbers who came to vote.

Right to vote is the only fundamental right that the framers of the constitution had no debate or question about. Last year too the government had given a holiday in the hope that the citizens would utilize this and go and exercise their vote.

At least in the next elections, ask your parents to take out five minutes and go and vote, every single vote counts.

Else, endure all the dumps, battered roads, stagnated water during the monsoon, the power-cuts and never complain...

## Culturally proud

**By Anisha Mahtani**  
Student reporter

Chinmaya Vidyalaya is like any other school. They love to enrich the knowledge among the students. But they stand to be different by enhancing the talents by compelling the students to take part in many cultural activities.



Every year, a cultural competition is held among the three Chinmaya Vidyalaya branch schools in Chennai. It is called 'Chinmayam'.

There are many writing competitions, dance competitions, singing competitions, quizzes, ad zaps, cooking without fire among many others.

Every year it is held in a different school, this year it was held at Chinmaya Vidyalaya - Virgumbakkam.

Students from all the three schools in Chennai city are taken to the host school and after the event Chinmayam is declared open, the competition starts.

Some events are onstage and the others are off-stage and some win and some loose, but it's all a matter of hard work and practice the kids put in.

The students seem filled with enthusiasm and energy on the stage and when their events were over, they joined their classmates in cheering for their friends. The motivations that the students receive

help them perform well in their events and it was hard for the judges to declare the winner.

Cultural Competitions help the students to open up and reveal their talents. They help in opening up the student's mind to healthy competitions, make them tough and strong and teach them that winning or los-

ing doesn't matter, say the organisers. It gives them courage and team spirit and it is a good way for children to open up to the world.

So when you get a chance, do take part in many cultural activities, you would make your school proud and it is also a lot of fun!

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- Should know basics of handling emails.

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## Toys for fun learning

Haven't you wished you had a new toy everyday to play with? But what to do with them when you outgrow? Or when you get bored of them?

Well, if this thought puts you off and makes you settle down with repeat sessions of playing with the same old toys, here is an option.

Bambaram, a toy lending library is in town. You browse for the toys, order them online and get them delivered at your home.

Interesting?

"The toys we offer are all based on the theory of Multiple Intelligence," says Santhosh Kumar, one of the promoters of Bambaram.

The toys are classified on the basis of intelligence and skills that any child possesses - language & vocabulary, music, arts, communication, mechanical assembly and so on, making the selection of toys easier according to a child's interest.

And there are toys for different ages from one year olds to 12 years plus children.

The membership plans allow you to choose one that suits your requirement. If you like a particular toy and want to have it for your own, you can even buy it from Bambaram.

"We care for quality and hygiene since these products are for kids. Cleaning and disinfecting is done af-

ter every use as appropriate for the particular product," says Santhosh.

Apart from toys, there are also books and CDs that can be rented, read, used and returned.

When you become a member, you will be updated periodically with the latest toys that come into the kitty of Bambaram.

Though you can enjoy using any toy as long as you want, you are encouraged to use it smart and return within a reasonable time so that you could experience more varieties of toys. Others kids too get a chance for a toy that is liked by many kids.

And if you have outgrown your own toy, there is opportunity for you to donate it to a lesser privileged child. Bambaram works closely with Vidyarambam, a trust whose "aim is to provide enjoyable quality education to rural primary level children and prepare them to take the challenge of facing higher education."

### Featured kits

**Maisto Assembly Line Bike Benelli** is a unique build your own bike kit that will keep you entertained by creating your own bike. The model thus created would be a 1:12 replica of the bike itself. It's an awesome feeling to put together a bike yourself and brag about your creation!



The MRP of this kit is Rs. 575. You can rent/buy this from Bambaram Toy Library.

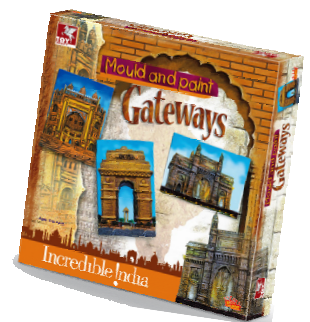
### Mould n Paint Craft Kits

A do-it-yourself kit enables you to make models of 3 famous Indian Monuments - Taj Mahal, Red Fort and Amber Palace fort as a reminder of Incredible India! They are made by moulding them from plaster of Paris and painting with vibrant colours and finally mounting on a printed scroll to portray and enhance their historical importance.

(MRP - Rs. 199)

Visit Bambaram's website -

<http://bambaram.in>



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