E-NEWSPAPER FOR CHENNAI KIDS



The Hub for Young Chennai

May 13 - May 26, 2012

Free. Direct to desktop For Subscribers only.

Contact: editor@yocee.in

Connect with us online:



facebook.com/yocee.in



twitter.com/yoceekids



yoceeblog.blogspot.com

**Fortnightly** 

**Electronic edition** 

Website: www.yocee.in

# This fortnight Calendar



Cool spots

Special



Namma area *Column* 



10

3

9

# **Hussey launches Cricket Education programme** in Chennai

By Smruthi S Student Reporter

The Chettinad Vidyashram school campus in R. A. Puram saw an unusual buzz of activity for a day during the summer holidays. It was on May 3, 2012.

If one thought it was probably the X and XII graders attending special classes or the teachers doing their exam corrections, then guess again! It was an occasion for the launch of the Cricket Education Programme (CEP) by 'Namma Aussie-Chennaiite', Mike Hussey.

Dressed in a casual sportswear, with no airs of the star he is, Mike along with Martin Gleeson, CEO, Sports Education Development India Ltd., (SEDIL) and Vignesh Balasubramaniam, Founder, InsideEDGE, kick started the programme in Chennai.

Making an entry into a roaring crowd, the Australian middle order star, also called as the 'Role Model' for CEP, shook hands with some budding champs at Cricket India Academy's



summer camp where they were trained by Cricket Australia's accredited coaches.

He displayed much enthusiasm in playing some fine shots and taking up all the bowling and fielding practices that the students were taught by the coaches. He relentlessly shared some

of the secrets of his stellar career to the student champs at the camp.

What Is This CEP Program All About? How differently does it train young

Cricketers?

Martin Gleeson briefed the audience about the programme. "CEP is first of its kind. We are indeed delighted to have Inside Edge Sportainment (P) Ltd. as our first partner in Chennai. It is a structural coaching system, exclusively written by Cricket Australia, for school children. It is a comprehensive six-year

sequential development program for boys and girls of 9 to 14 years of age which has spread to about 17 centers in the country. Through CEPs competency-based training format, participants will engage in cricket development.

activities", said Martin expressing optimism about the future of CEP in Chennai.

>>> Full story and more photos on www.yocee.in

## 55 days in space

#### By Vamsi Krishna R Student Reporter

If you're an astronomy freak, you shouldn't have missed this one. Marsha Sue Ivins, a retired astronaut, cosmonaut, space engineer addressed a group of students at Birla Planetarium on April 30, 2012. She used to be more of a flight engineer in her career.

She began telling the students about space life like how they eat, work and sleep. And do you know that Astronauts move about the space station by flying because there's no gravity or G-force.

Here are some more interesting info that Ivins shared with the group.

They eat food compressed in bags. So if they eat food with their

food bags open, they'll have sauce and nuts floating all around the space station. While drinking water they usually make balls of water and gulp it up.

They sleep in cozy, comfy bags which are not too soft or too hard. Now you know that if an astronaut says that he didn't sleep well in

space, he's obviously lying. They usually work with their legs strapped to a platform. So, no goofing around during work.

Now the most important thing, gross stuff! They have bags which have to be attached to the closet before they do their gross stuff. After they are done, they have to take the bag and dump it in something that looks like a bucket. Here comes the gross part,

the gross stuff is used for making drinking water. You read that right, DRINKING WATER!

Never mind! Anyway, did you know that there can never be (well, at least for the next 20 years) a gravity generating system in space?

Ivins also said that if you want to be an astronaut, you need a Master's degree in at least something,

preferably Science. So if you think that you can just goof around in school and be an astronaut, you're WRONG!

Ivins' tips to become an astronaut:

- Study hard
- Be creative
- ♦ Never take NO for an answer!



# Read news online at

www.yocee.in

**Updated daily** 

A Fortnightly Newsletter from

YOCee

(<u>www.yocee.in</u> - news website for Chennai's young people)

Founder - editor

Revathi R

## Student reporters team for this issue

Nandini P.S. Smruthi S Sruti S Vamsi Krishna R

#### **Guest contributors**

Aravindhan P Charvee R Vishruthi S

#### Circulation

- Free circulation online at www.yocee.in/category/epaper/
- Circulated through email to individual subscribers

#### For Advertising

Contact phone: +91 9840544629

#### **Disclaimer**

Readers are advised to exercise caution and use their discretion to visit the external websites mentioned in this newsletter.

The content of the advertisements are as furnished by the advertisers. YOCee does not vouch any of their claims.

#### **Editorial office:**

New no. 15, 'Sri Padma' Karpagam Garden First Main Road Adyar, Chennai - 600 020

> Email: editor@yocee.in www.yocee.in Phone: +91 9840544629

## Your city. Your Photos

- Love to take pictures when you go around Chennai?
- Want to publish them here?
- Mail the pictures with captions to: editor@yocee.in

## Fortnight For You - May 13 to 26

### Science Workshop on Electricity and Magnetism - May 14 to 18

Construct your own motor, see what is inside an iron box, make a 2 way switch. All this, and more will be done at Power Up – A Science workshop on Electricity and Magnetism at Vidhyapika Learning Centre. This workshop aims at understanding and appreciating the concepts of Electricity and Magnetism through hands-on demos, experiments and videos.

Children in classes 7 to 10 can enroll for the workshop.

For Registration, Contact Deepa @98403 47670 or visit Vidhyapika Learning Center located at No.3, Srinivasa Avenue, Park View Street, RA Puram.

# A presentation on choral music - May 13

Heard of the children's choir songs tuned by M.B. Srinivasan?

In the Government run CBSE schools, these songs are sung regularly during the school events. Try if you can recollect – *Odi Vilaaiyadu pappa* of poet Subramania Bharathi and *Cheluvina muddina makkale* of H.S Venkatesh Murthy. They are among the favourite songs of the young in the 1980s.

Dr. Sudha Raja will present a thesis titled 'MB Srinivasan and his contribu-

tion to Indian Choral music' on May 13, 2012 at 6.30 p.m. At Aarkay convention Centre. Royapettah High Road, Mylapore.

This will be followed by choral music performance by thre groups – Sargam, children's choir, Akshayam, choir for adults and children from SOS children's village. For more details, contact: 98401 32913

## Tamil Heritage Workshops – May 19 & 20

Tamil Heritage Trust will be conducting a workshop for children on May 19 and 20, 2012 at Raga Sudha Hall, Luz Avenue, Mylapore.

The workshop will include sessions on Life & exciting Math of Srinivasa Ramanujan led by N. Balasubramaniam and Badri Seshadri, introduction to Astronomy to look up in the sky with naked eyes by R. Gopu, Kirigami, the art of cutting paper by Ramesh.

There is a presentation on plants around us with a guided tour of Nageswara Rao Park by Prof. S. Swaminathan.

A session on Hindu Iconography to identify the icons in Hindu temples and the stories behind them followed by a guided tour of Kapaleeswara temple, Mylapore by V. Sivaramakrishnan and Badri Seshadri.

The workshop is open only to 40 participants on first-come-first-served basis. Fee Rs. 100.

For details and registration, contact Swaminathan (2467 1501), Gopu (98417 24641) or Badri (98840 66566)

# Learn arts, crafts, embroidery - May 14 to 31

Summer camp for children and adults. Children can learn drawing and painting (all mediums), chocolate and candle making, folkart, textile designing, paper craft, clay modelling, and fireless cooking. Adults can learn oil and acrylic painting, 3D glass mural, 4D statues, mehandi applying, embroidery, jharokas, waterfalls, 3D clay murals, cold porcelain flowers and eco friendly gift items. For details contact 9840724819

### Money Management Workshop for children -May 14 to 25

Lets Do Something and Money Wizards are jointly conducting an exclusive money management workshop for children of ages 9 to 12 years. Children will learn about saving money and management of available funds in fun way. Venue - Lets Do Something, Velachery. To register contact - 9094728869, 9042806153.

(Continued on page 4)



For Students of Class V (going to Class VI)

Registrations are open for the **HeyMath! Summer Camp** (May 2012) on a first come, first served basis.



For registration\* and more information,

call **044 4348 1516 / 1519** 

HeyMath! 25, Steeple Reach, Cathedral Road, Chennai - 86

Every camp consists of 5 sessions of 2 hours each

Dates : 21 - 25 May

Timing: 10 am - 12 noon

Fees: Rs.3000/- per student

**Venue**: Multiple centers across Chennai

## **Chennai Kids Directory released**

#### By Sanjana Patnaik Student Reporter

YOCee launched its third edition of Chennai Kids' Directory on April 29, 2012 .

The launch was held at ARKAY Convention Centre, in Mylapore.

It was an interactive meeting with a



puppetry making session where the children learnt to make puppets with paper.

Dr. R. Bhanumathi, the managing trustee of PAVAI, Centre for Puppetry led this workshop.

The puppets were made on the theme, Biodiversity of Fauna in Chennai'.

Children made different kinds of vibrantly coloured puppets ranging from star fishes to coconut trees, from birds to sharks.

The puppets consisted of three parts - the head, the mouth and the rest of the body. The mouth was made in the manner of one of the popular paper games, Four Cups.

After the workshop got over, it was time for the launch of the directory. P.S. Nandini, one of the student reporters of YOCee briefed on the formation and the activities of the website with a PowerPoint presentation.

A video news report done by another student reporter, Sanjana Patnaik was also shown at the event.

The directory was then launched by four student reporters of YOCee – S. Sruti, P.S. Nandini, Sanjana Patnaik and S. Smruthi.
Dr. Bhanumathi received the first copy of the book. The directory contains listings of resource places for children in Chennai.

To know where you can get a copy of the directory, log on to www.yocee.in/2012/05/chennai-kids-directory-2012/

## Become a Student Reporter

## Last date to apply: May 19, 2012

The Student Reporter programme of YOCee is back for the sixth consecutive year.

Students from class 6 to 12 are eligible to apply for the programme. A maximum of 25 reporters will be taken for the academic year.

Selected reporters will get opportunity to report events from their school campuses and residential locality, interview well-known people in various fields.

Periodic sessions will be held through the year for enhancing the reporting skills. The reporters will receive a certificate at the end of the year.

The is a complimentary programme from YOCee and no fee is charged.

To apply online, visit <a href="https://www.yocee.in">www.yocee.in</a> Contact 98405 44629

## Fortnight for you ...

(Continued from page 3)

# Learn to play traditional games - May 18

DakshinaChitra is organising a oneday programme on traditional games for children of ages 6 to 12 years.

The programme will have game sessions like pot-breaking, tug of war, treasure hunt, board games like pallanguzhi, parampadam, tic tac toe and theatre games. Fee: Rs. 500. Refreshments, conveyance to and from DakshinaChitra will be provided.

For more information and registration contact 98417 77779, 24462435, 24918943

# Bake and take cookies and cupcakes - May 21 to 25

Experience the joy of baking with some kid-friendly cookies and cupcakes at this workshop. Learn how to cream, butter and sugar, measure ingredients, frost beautiful looking cupcakes.

Roll out cookies and learn to decorate them in beautiful and creative ways. Whip up some yummy cupcakes and ice them with butterscotch and glaze. Get to fill pre-baked tarts shells, make some yummy sandwiches and salsa sauce.

The workshop is for children of 6 to 8 years. Anusha Kaushik of Delicioso will conduct the workshop.

Venue: Hippocampus Children's Co. 4/11, 3rd Avenue, Indiranagar, Adyar. Phone: 9444049175,

24433544

### Carnatic music workshop - May 18 to 20

Veenavaadhini is organising a three-day Carnatic music workshop. This workshop will train children and adults in the Melakartha Scheme, and representative Bana Chakra Kritis of Muthuswami Dikshitar. Course fee -Rs.1200. Venue: Flat 12, Shanti Enclave, 25 Venkatakrishna Road, Mandaveli. Last Date for registration is May 15. For details call 9840548998.



## They read. They came. They won!

By Sara Karthik Student Reporter

Landmark at Apex Plaza was buzzing with kids on the evening of May 4, 2012.

Children were seen hurriedly flipping through fictions and novels. They were sitting on the large red mat, introducing themselves to their soon-to-be friends.

Fiction contest at Landmark, Chennai. A cameraman bustled about snapping pictures of all the children and books.

Children reading story books in large numbers and discussing: what was all this fuss about?

The answer came in soon. It was the day of the Landmark Young Adult Fiction Quiz.

The competition was open to kids aged 7 to 16. Quiz master S. Venkatesh and his associates from Nexus kept the children occupied with questions on their favourite fictional stories and comic books.

The questions were from popular titles like Eragon and The Graveyard Book, and even series books like Percy Jackson, Artemis Fowl and The Hunger Games.

The Preliminary rounds were to bewritten, with twenty questions. After about 10 minutes of anxious waiting, the eight finalists were announced.

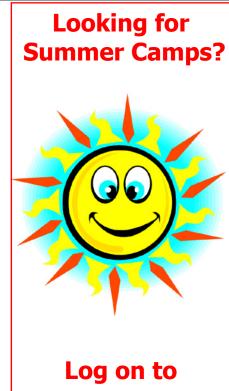
The contestants were then split into teams of two for the finals. These rounds had both oral and written parts.

Finally the team of Ikbar from Muslim International School and Roshan from Chettinad Vidhyashram emerged as winners.

They won Landmark gift vouchers worth Rs. 750. All the other finalists got gift vouchers as well.

The contest which lasted for two hours was an enjoyable event for the book lovers.

>> Landmark hosts Summer Carnival till June 1, 2012. For details contact phone: 6452 3150



Log on to http://yocee.in/summer-camps

**Updated daily** 

Reach us . . .

Email: editor@yocee.in

Phone: 98405 44620





# Rediscovering pottery this summer

By Smruthi S <u>Stud</u>ent Reporter





Looking down the memory lane, all of us would recollect our childhood days when we soiled our clothes either playing with clay or with mud. Now, in this fast-moving era, one cannot imagine an entire family sitting under a banyan tree and playing with mud and clay. But it would have seemed possible for those who had attended the pottery workshop held at Sundaram – Satya Sai Baba temple in R A Puram.

The pottery workshop, held by Malini Kalyanam of SKP Centre, Kattupakam was in association with Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation on account of Easwaramba Day, a day to commemorate Sathya Sai Baba's mother's birthday.

The three-day workshop from April 30 to May 2, 2012 was open for all Balavikas students and parents. This creative workshop encouraged family participation and saw huge participation despite the baking sun.

On the first day, the children were taught to do a pitted bowl and some decorative plates. The next day, kids were taught to do pen holders and magnetic toys. On the closing day, kids were asked to do a tea coaster and then any creation of their choice. They were asked to let their imagination run riots. Most creative miniatures won prizes too.

"Every weekday is spent checking files and sitting before the laptop, but this session has given me lot of time to spend with my family. I too was transformed into a kid and starting making haphazard toys out of clay", said a parent who attended the workshop along with her kid.

Malini Kalyanam, the host, has been a HR executive for 20 years now and is also a 'Reiki' grandmaster.

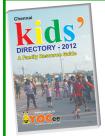
"I believe that making children handle clay at such a young age not only strengthens their muscles but also allows their hand-and-mind coordination and creativity to blossom. Not only for kids, even for adults, clay acts as a wonderful medium to relieve stress and acquire self-confidence", she says with an optimistic smile.

She adds on that, after she learnt to use clay and make pots, her blood pressure levels have gone down and she has become more patient. She even conducts soft skills training on modules such as personality development, email etiquette and stress management for Coporate Companies. Malini uses pottery as a therapy to cure various mental disorders and has conducted many such workshops all over the country.

Malini Kalyanam can be contacted at email: skpcentre@gmail.com

# Thinking of joining a hobby class this summer?

Grab a copy of CHENNAI KIDS DIRECTORY



All the places and resources of after school activities for the school going children

#### **Just Released!**

A resource guide with more than 100 pages of useful information

Details at www.yocee.in



### Fill a bag with books

### **■** SCHOLASTIC

Annual discount sale of Scholastic books are back. You can fill a Scholastic bag with as many books as you can and the whole bunch will come for Rs. 1000. The discount sale is on from April 16 to June 16, 2012 including Sundays.

At Scholastic India P. Ltd, 14, 29th Cross Street, Indira Nagar, Adyar. Contact 2445 0546 / 47/ 48



# Online Anagram Contest



Bambaram Toy Library and TicketGoose jointly conduct an online Anagram contest beginning May 1, 2012.

Parents and kids who love to play with language and words can participate in the contest. Every week, a set of clues will be posted online and the participants need to crack them fast and mail answers to nivash@ticketgoose.com

The contest will be on till May 30, 2012. For details and clues visit www.bambaram.in



# Full-day summer camps



Saddlebag conducts summercamps for children in the age group of 4 to 8 & 9 to 14 years. The activities include theatre skills, personality development, art & craft, photography, fireless cooking, magic basic. New batches commence from May 14, May 21 and May 28, 2012.

Contact Saddlebag at R 69/8, 14th Street, Anna Nagar. Phones: 96003 73033, 91765 53856



## Pogo MAD Art & Craft



A new session of art & craft workshop will start at EDFUN from May 15, 2012. There are also week-end classes once the holidays are over from June 1, 2012. Contact EdFun at F-144, 8th Street, Anna Nagar East. Phone: 98405 75999



#### Hosting events for kids?

Mail details to editor@yocee.in

We will publish in this ePaper!



## E PAPER

Published every alternate Sunday

> NEXT ISSUE WILL BE PUBLISHED ON

May 27, 2012

Read archives

on

www.yocee.in

Breads, Brownies, Celebration Cakes, Cheesecakes, Cookies, Cupcakes, Donuts, Mousse, Pies, Sugarcraft and so much more.

# oh! we're quite a mouthful!!



pronounced day-lee-see-oh-so

Call Anusha +91-98416-15232

## **Trained Sunset!**



**P. Aravindhan** shot this from the Loco Works bridge near Perambur. He captured it when he was on his way back, from an outing with his friends at about 6 O' clock in the evening in March this year.

He used a Nikon L120 camera, with the dusk mode.

Aravindhan loves photography and is just getting the hold of it. Reading and writing are his other interests.

>>P. Aravindhan is a student of Class XII , Sindhi Model Sr. Sec. School

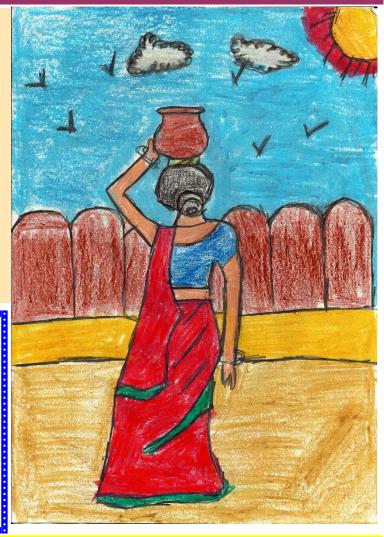
## **Quench thirst!**

Drawing by S. Vishruthi Class 4, DAV Sr. Sec. School, Mogappair

Get your photos, artwork published in



Email photo or a scanned copy of the artwork to editor@yocee.in



# Summer? Check out these cool spots!



The Children's Park is located within the limits of the Guindy National Park on Sardar Patel Road. Play for recreation and watch animal houses sheltering various animals here. Specimens of reptiles and an aviary with different species of birds is a special attraction.

Working hours - 9.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Weekly holiday is Tuesday. Phone no. 2230 1328



This is situated adjacent to the Children's Park within the Guindy National Park. It houses an impressive collection of snakes. Demonstration of the extraction of venom is an absorbing activity here. The King Cobra, Python, Turtle, Tortoise and the Monitor Lizard are some of the popular reptiles you can get to see here.

Working hours - 8.30 a.m. to 5.30p.m. Weekly holiday is Tuesday. Phone no. 2235 3623.



You can watch animals in a large open island type enclosure with simulated natural environment. The attractions are the Nocturnal House, Safari Park, a Walkthrough aviary, the Pre-historic Animal Park, Zoo education and interpretation, Prey-Predator enclosures and an Aquarium.

Battery operated vehicles are available to take visitors around the Zoo, apart from Elephant Rides and Lion Safari vehicles. You can now get a bicycle to go around

the zoo! It is located in Vandalur, 30 km south of Chennai.

Working hours - 8.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. Weekly holiday is Tuesday. Phone no. 2275 1089



This museum located inside the Fort St. George campus houses rare exhibits of weapons, uniforms, coins, costumes, medals and other artifacts and memorabilia of the British period.

Working hours - 10.00 a.m.- 5.00 p.m. Weekly holiday is Friday. Phone no. 2567 1127



The Birla Planetarium is on the Gandhi mandapam Road, Kotturpuram. This is one of the modern planetariums in the country. It houses a fully computerised projector that depicts the heavens on a hemispherical dome.

The Planetarium presents audiovisual programmes on various themes in astronomy in English and Tamil at different times every day.

For the school-going children and science enthusiasts, the Periyar Sceince and Technology Museum adjoining the planetarium has loads of exhibits.

Timing: 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Phone no. 2491 5250

Information courtesy: www.tamilnadutourism.org



#### P. S. Nandini Student Reporter with R. Charvee

Anyone who wants to know the way to our colony gets a very queer set of landmarks to follow. A road besides a canal, a wine shop on the right, and

the immediate right after a small Amman Koil on the street.

Nestled between the Visalakshi Thottam in Mandaveli and Maarwadi Thottam in Mylapore, is a quaint set of about 50 houses. There! That is Narasimhapuram for you! Laid out in the form of a square, the colony resembles a mini India with residents of different communities including Muslims,

Punjabis, Christians, Marwaaris, Hindus, Telugus, and Malayalis.

A quite evening stroll along the 4 streets with my neighborhood friend, R.Charvee, revealed quite a few interesting things about our very own colony, which we never knew before!

First, we decided to go to the house of the Narasimhapuram Residents' Welfare Association (NRA)'s President Mr. P.S.Narayanaswamy, a senior Carnatic musician and a Padma Bhushan awardee.

Having been a resident of this colony for more than 50 years, he was quite

happy to tell us his experience of living here in the olden days. "Back then, there were no tar roads in this colony. We only had sand roads, and it used to be a big problem during the rains. Neither did we have the big bridge near Sai Baba Temple. People used the smaller one, while vehicles



coming to Narasimhapuram had to come through Luz" he says. Telephones came 10 years later. Behind the colony, there were extensive panam thoppugal (Palm tree orchards).

He even had a lot of interesting anecdotes about the Buckingham Canal, which faces the colony's entrance, lays stagnated, and plays host to the teeming colony of mosquitoes. "It runs right from Andhra to a place beyond Mahabalipuram. It used to be clean and free of mosquitoes in the olden days. A small boat with a lantern

used to travel along the canal, carrying wheat, rice, coal (for cooking), veragu (sticks), vaikkol (hay), and grass, which would be sold at a sandhai (market) near Kutchery Road," he says.

Talking about Narasimhapuram, which is close to his heart, he said "It is a very calm place, where people are very attached and helpful. Our neighbors show a brotherly affection. And we have no fear of thefts here."

It came as quite surprising to us to be told by the Secretary of the Narasimhapuram Residents' Welfare Association Mr. Ravichandran, that famous cricketer Krishnamachari Srikkanth had once lived in one of the houses on the colony's west street! Astounded by this piece of information, we enquired about it

with Mrs. Revathi Venkataraman, a longtime resident of

this colony. She smiled and said she even had a photo of herself playing cricket with him!

Next we entered a house on the left, with a nameplate that read "Mr. T.C.A. Ramanujam". On being ushered in, we found out that he is a retired Chief Commissioner



of the Income Tax

Department, who contributes articles to newspapers and magazines. Being a resident of the colony right from 1989, he talked about the proximity of the colony to the Nandalala Temple, Kapaleeshwarar Temple, Sai Baba Temple, and Mandaveli Railway Station. "The colony celebrates national events such as the Independence Day, Republic Day, and New Year's Eve. We have a lot of fun with children's programs" he said.

He noted that in the past 25 years the colony has undergone several changes. "People have become modern. The streets are narrow, and there is no playground for the children. Mosquitoes are a constant menace here."

His daughter Ms. Sangeetha is a lawyer who takes interest in Income Tax and the Consumer Court. She is also a veena





artiste. A picture of her receiving the then Prime Minister of India, Rajiv Gandhi with a bouquet, during the Nehru Centenary Year Inter Schools Meet at Delhi, adorns their reception room.

We then walked up to the house of Mrs. Lalitha Vaidyanathan, who is one of the earliest occupants of the colony. "Earlier, most of the houses here were independent ones, and had only 1 floor. This place is safe, even to stay alone" she says.

Many prominent people such V.S. Raghavan, and *Vennira Aadai* Murthy, have been residents of this colony. One such persons was Mr. R. Rangasamy, who was the chief makeup artist for Sivaji Ganesan in most of his films like 'Thiruvilayadal', 'Navarathri' and 'Thillana Mohanambal'. Even the scar on Sivaji's face in the film "Theivamagan" was done by him. He is no more, but two of his

four sons currently reside in the colony. Mrs. Kalavathy, who has been a resident for the past 52 years, says "I used to see a whole lot of wigs



drying in the sun outside his house, when I used to walk to school."

Another tenant Mr. Suresh, has an orchestra. His troupe mainly performs with the play back singer S.P. tell them stories. Then for the Balasubmaniam and Mano. They have travelled to 20 countries for music programs mainly with S.P.B. His

entire family is into music!

As we walked around, we noticed yellow signboards at regular intervals all along the roads, proclaiming messages such as "Do not litter here" and "Drive slowly inside the colony". We were told that the

association had them ordered from SS International, a company that deals in signboards, and resides in one of the houses in the colony.

We then went to see Ms. Jaya Kapali, who came to Narasimhapuram when her daughter was in the 3rd Standard. "The colony was very comfortable and safe. We, housewives used to sit on the doorstep and talk late into the night. Children used to run around the colony even around midnight. It was very homely and the helping tendency was more. But now, more flats have emerged, and we no longer see that many people outside", she says. Her daughter Ms. Srimathi is now the Principal of Venugopal Vidyalaya.

Mr. Ramani, who has been a resident right from 1957 told us about the different names that the colony took on over the years. "It was initially called Parthasarathy layout. Then it

became Sai Baba Colony. And now, it's Narasimhapuram. People used to sing Marghazhi bhajans around the colony. It felt like a village. There used to be lots of coconut tress, guava trees, and bottle guard creepers. Every house had plenty of trees around it. The whole colony was green. The road was also broader," he said.

His daughter Ambika, talked about the existence of a children's library at Mr. Raman, one of the resident's house. "He used to have around 2000 to 3000 books in one of his rooms. Every child in the colony had to donate one book every year. I used to give my 'non-detail' books. The library eventually became big. Everyday from 5 to 6 in the evening, he used to gather all the children and tell them stories. Then for the next slokams. He continued these storytelling and slokam sessions for about 5-6 years. We all used to enjoy it. Some of the kids came to hear the stories even after joining college!" she smiled.

Although Narasimhapuram is situated in Mylapore, at the heart of Chennai, it is a calm and peaceful place, away from the hustle - bustle of city life. With almost no traffic, it is an ideal place for taking walks, playing and cycling.

Having two watchmen and a check post, it is quite a safe place to walk around even in the dead of night. Neat rectangular dustbins pop up on each side of the road, keeping the roads free of garbage. Sweet smells from *maramalli*, *arali*, *pavazhamalli* and *sarkkondrai* plants greet you at different points as you walk inside the colony.

With every road boasting of trees ranging from the ever popular mango and jackfruit, to neem, sapota, custard apple, and amla, Narasimhapuram is indeed a clean and green place that has managed to retain its essence amidst an ever changing city.

>>> Read the article in full with more photos on www.yocee.in

## **National year of Mathematics inaugurated**

By Sruti S Student Reporter

National year of Mathematics was celebrated at Ramanujan Institute for Advanced Study in Mathematics (RIASM), University of Madras, Chepauk Campus.

The event was organised by Nehru Children's Cultural Association.

Dr. V. Thangaraj, Director, RIASM, inaugurated the National year of Mathematics.

In commemoration of Mathematics genius Srinivasa Ramaujan, Anjan Debnath, a P.G. student of RIASM explained Ramanujan's contribution towards Number Theory. He also briefed about a few techniques on computing Numbers Fast in addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

Ms. K. Kalaivani, Research Scholar,

## Be a Guest Reporter! **Get published!**

- Do you have stories of what happens in your school and neighbourhood to share with the world?
- Do you know of an awareness campaign and think more kids should partake?
- Do the traffic and garbage in your area bother you?
- Do you enjoy the sight of a winged visitor to your balcony?

Just put it in 100 words, tag a picture and mail it to YOCee.

To editor@yocee.in





RIASM presented a lecture on Properties of Ramanuian Numbers.

The valedictory of this event will be held on May 20, 2012 at 10.30 a.m.

Mr. C. Velan, ED & CEO of TRIL Infopark Ltd., Ramanujan IT City, Mr. M. Anadan, Deputy Director General (E), Doordarshan Kendra, Chennai, Mr. C. Rengarajan, General Overseas Bank, T. Kripashankar, retired Secretary, LIC of India, Ms. Sasikala Sriram, Principal, Bala Vidya Mandir, Ms. A. Aruna, Principal, Sir Sivaswamy Kalalaya and Ms. Usha Varadarajan, Vice Principal, P.S. Senior Secondary School will be the special invitees at the valedictory on that day.

Manager, Indian

Prizes and Certificates will be distributed those who won the contest for paper presentation in Mathematics.

For more details contact: M.R. Sugumaran, President, Nehru Children's Cultural Association. Phone no. 81444 16484. Email:

ncca.ind@gmail.com

Love Math and Ramanujan's works? Have you visited this museum yet?

Ramanujan Museum & Math Education Centre,

15/9, Somu Chetty, 4th Lane, Royapuram, Chennai-600 013

Phone: 91 44 2596 0877