



LOVE ALL SERVE ALL

Love 3 **Sevalaya's News Letter - August 2008** Serve 5 Price-Re.1

Dear Friends,

The month of July saw many extra curricular activities being introduced to the children of Sevalaya. Education can come in many forms, it may be through art, dance, music, sports etc. Such avenues are available to the city children very easily. But what about the village children and that too, poor and destitute children...? Help comes from all directions.

Sevalaya's friend and a well known artist, Mari Anand came forward to have his select paintings displayed in Sevalaya for a day. This art exhibition was open not only to the children of Sevalaya, but also for all children studying in nearby schools. We had children of all ages visiting the art exhibition whole day and Mari Anand was personally present to explain each painting and also to answer any questions on paintings and art. It was interesting to note that he had also written small poems for each painting. This event, we are sure, would have evoked some interest in the young minds to appreciate the art form and also to try painting themselves. Apart from this, artist Mari Anand has offered to donate all his paintings to Sevalaya – we will be organizing an art exhibition in the city shortly and make this paintings available for sale. The proceeds from this sale will be used for the construction of our second school building. As reported in our previous news letter, we completed the land purchase transaction early this month and now the land is ready for construction. The final blue print is getting ready, and very soon we will be starting the construction activity.

This program was followed by an invitation by Ms. Revathi, noted film star and social activist, to our children, to witness the dance programs organized to celebrate the 70th annual function of Saraswathi Gana Nilayam, of which she is a student. Select children from Sevalaya, who are interested in dance came to the city and

watched professional dancers perform, for hours together. This was a rare chance for our children, who have seen such programs only on TV. The children were very happy and kept discussing about what they saw for the next few days.

There was one more program this month – a musical discourse, an art form, which is almost disappearing, by a young girl, performed at Sevalaya. The way she inter-wined a story with songs and presented it was very interesting and new to the children of Sevalaya. The various ragas of classical music was flowing like the Cauvery on 'Adi 18'. To see another young girl performing like this would have kindled interest and confidence in the minds of the young artists of Sevalaya.

To bring in education in different forms is a great challenge and to make it interesting to the children is a bigger challenge. Art, dance and music, we are sure, will be interesting ways of educating children and the feedback from children on all these programs prove that they enjoy such programs.

Thanks & Regards
Murali





**Kamarajar Birthday Celebrations
Prize Distribution**

Camps & Tours

On 17/07/2008 a trip to Anjaneya Temple, Kakkalur was organized for 2nd standard students. On 28/07/2008, another trip to Lord Muruga Temple, Kundrathur was organized for 3rd standard students.

Club Activities

In the Tamil Club meeting on 01/07/2008 Mr. P.Sounder Rajan spoke on Tamil Folk Songs. English club students concluded the phonetic reading development skills with a reading competition conducted on 17/07/2008. Ms. Kanika Gupta, Volunteer from Canada, was the judge on the occasion. Prizes were distributed to the winners by Ms. Kanika Gupta. The Mathematics club met on 09/07/2008 and 18/07/2008. Students were asked to solve problems involving time and work. Ms. Vijaya has explained about White & Red Blood cells and also explained the uses of 'Stethoscope' in the Science Club meet on 09/07/2008 and about Newton's 3rd Law on 17/07/2008. In the Social Science Club meet on 17/07/2008 there was a discussion on students' ambitions guided by Mr. R.Vijayaragavan. In the club meeting on 19/07/2008 Prof. Swaminathan, the special invitee explained about compiling a Cultural Atlas for Thiruvallur District. The Social Science club has taken up this project under the guidance of Prof. Swaminathan.

Co – Curricular and Extra Curricular Activities

Mr. Dhayalan of Mittanamallee conducted Sanskrit Classes on 06/07/2008, 13/07/2008 and 20/07/2008 for the hostel students. On the same days Mr. M.Chelladurai conducted Music Class.

Events

Sevalaya celebrated the birth anniversary of former chief minister of Tamilnadu Thiru. K.Kamaraj on 15/07/2008. The chief guest was Mr.S.Thulasi, Tamilnadu Fire Services. Thirur. He gave away prizes to the winners of the different competitions (Music, art, Essay writing and elocution) organized as a part of the Kamaraj day celebrations.



Eye Camp Inauguration

Shanthy Sri Asramji Seval Mandali, Chennai presented a programme of Ram Amthe Bhajans on Shri.Kabeer Pandit on 18/07/2008 on the occasion Guru Pournima.

Sevalaya hosted an Art Exhibition "WINDOWS" displaying the works of artist Mr. Mari Anand on 21/07/2008. Ms. Revathy, noted film personality and social activist inaugurated the exhibition. Ms. C. Vijayalakshmi, the Chief educational Officer of Thiruvallur district was the special Guest on the occasion. Children of Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School and children from nearby schools visited the exhibition.

External Events

Sevalaya was selected as the Best Institution for Value Based Management by Pegasus Institute of Excellence at a meeting on 11/07/2008. A cash Award of Rs 3 lakhs was presented to Sevalaya.

Sevalaya's Mobile library visited Kaliyanur Kandigai Village on 16/07/2008.

30 children were taken to the 70th Annual day celebrations of Saraswathi Gana Nilayam at Narada Gana Saba, Chennai on 27/07/2008.

Medical Camps

A 15 day eye camp in Kasuva and the surrounding villages was conducted by Sevalaya in association with Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai from 07/07/2008 to 23/07/2008. 1300 people were benefited from 17 villages. Free cataract surgeries were performed for 197 people.

A Siddha Medical Camp by Jaya Indian Medicine Pharmaceutical Pvt. Ltd. was organized on 27/07/2008. 300 villagers were benefited by this camp. Free medicines were distributed.

Students from Ramachandra Dental College visit Sevalaya every Monday to conduct periodical check up of all the students.