



DBAI NEWSLETTER



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EDITORIAL

With our,

1 Heart

2 Eyes

5 Litres blood

206 Bones

1.2 million Red Cells

60 trillion DNAs



What we find most fearsome is the month of April. The reason is very obvious because of EXAMS. April is the month of Exams, a month which is detested mostly because of the tension it creates before the exams and the fear that is created after the exam until the results come. Needless to say, month of May is the most wanted and often desired month because of Holidays.

What is the purpose of exams?

Its aim is not to find out what we don't know but on the contrary to bring out what we learned after a year long preparation.

What is the purpose of Holidays?

It's said that holidays are for rest and recuperation, but they can also mean boredom and isolation.

Holidays are not meant for us to become couch potatoes right in front of TV's and Video games. Holidays serve as reminders of the purpose of life. Utilize some of its time reflecting on questions like, "Why am I here?" "Am I doing the right thing?" "How much have I accomplished for the purpose of being here?"

These questions do not have an easy answer. It can take a lifetime to figure it out. We tend to run away from such questions because they make us uncomfortable, even depressed. That's the reason we waste away our time in unnecessary, non-productive activities.

Don Bosco would say wisely, Holidays are not change of occupation but change of atmosphere, which implies that learning should continue to happen even after schooling. Don Bosco strongly believed that education has no walls. That's his philosophy of life. Make them RUN, JUMP and PLAY so that they don't have time to indulge in the act of sin or engage themselves with the occasions to sin.

Basic concept behind all our SUMMER CAMPS is to keep our students learn continuously in a different atmosphere and never let their minds be idle lest the devil uses them as his workshop.

So, following the footsteps of Don Bosco's pedagogy, Anbu Illam conducted camp for different groups at different places under different themes. I am indeed thankful to all the persons who were involved in conducting the camps. Let's have a glance at the details:

1. Bosco Illam - Camp for boys - Theme - "Arise and Shine".
2. Slum Camps - 5 places - Theme - "Mahizhchi" - "May Joy" - "Nature is my friend" - "To Shape my Life" - "Road and Life safety" (5 days)
3. Migrant Camps - construction sites - "School Enrollment Camp" (15 days)

Hope the holidays have prepared well our children just like any other working days. Because, Holiday is nothing but an alternate method of living our life and learning the purpose of life.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS! HAPPY LEARNING!
REST! REFRESH! RESTART!

Yours in Christ

Fr. Joseph



AIDS AWARENESS PROGRAMME IN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Ms. Gayathri from International Alliance for prevention of AIDS organized an awareness programme on 18 April, 2017 at Annai Sathya Nagar. Forty women from the community were the active participants and beneficiaries of this event. Mr. Arul Raj Louis, Project Director spoke at length about AIDS and instructed them on ARV therapy and CD4 count. The ill effects of early marriage and early pregnancy were the other areas covered.

Ms. Sheela Janet



A FEEL OF RURAL COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE FOR CITY CHILDREN



Two children from Thiruvottiyur Police Boys and Girls club attended a three days camp (21-23 April, 2017) conducted in Krishnagiri. The camp was organized by Aide-et-action and Gurukul-Arumbu Child Development collectively. Children visited places, like, Thenkanikottai and Arasamaruthukottai to gain rural experience. During the camp

they gained awareness on importance of education and the ill effects of early marriage. They were given coaching in games and firsthand experience in gardening and preparation of useful household articles out of used plastics and waste paper. In every way this camp was insightful and useful to the children.

Ms. Margaret Malini



CSR PROGRAMME BY ACCENTURE TEAM

Sixty volunteers from Accenture Chennai, visited our shelter home for their annual CSR program on 22 April, 2017. They were welcomed by Fr. Rector who explained to them the history of DBAI and the services offered. In a short in-

formal cultural programme thereafter the children staged their talent in dance, singing and beat boxing to the amusement of the visitors. The guests too performed a couple of items to entertain and educate the children. During the

programme stationery articles and prizes for the drawing competition conducted were distributed to the children. Special thanks to Mr. Pratheep, our regular educational volunteer who coordinated this event.

Br. Elanchizhian

A DAY OFF FROM SHELTER HOME FOR CITY PICNIC



On 29 April, 2017 Shelter home boys and girls who did not go home were taken out for a day of picnic to Children's park at Guindy in the city. They also visited places like St. Thomas Mount at Chinna Malai, Santhome Basilica, Our Lady of Good Health shrine at Besant Nagar, Elitos Beach, St. Bede's School and Marina Beach. Children enjoyed this day out from the routine of the day to gain new experience.

Br. Elanchizhian



DBAI CHILDREN IN LOYOLA 'EXODUS' CAMP

Loyola 'Exodus' (summer camp), an initiative of Loyola College, Chennai was attended by six of our shelter home senior boys. The month long camp which began on 28 April, 2017 was intended to help the students from deserving communities make better use of the summer vacation productively. Our children participated actively in all the events of the camp and made use of this platform to improve their spoken English and picked up soft skills shaping their personality.

Br. Elanchizhian

STAFF RENEWAL PROGRAMME



DBAI office staff, shelter home staff and representatives of the management staff took one and half day off on 05-06 May 2017. We landed out in Joe Beach Resort at Mahabalipuram for fun and relaxation. This created opportunity helped our staff beat the heat of the summer and to refresh themselves. They greatly enjoyed the stay, fresh air, lush green surroundings, food, campfire, swimming pool and clean shore of the beach. It was very refreshing. We also visited Crocodile Park and St. Antony's church at Pallavakkam.

Ms. Margaret Malini



RALLY AT ELIOT'S BEACH, BESANT NAGAR

DBAI joined the NGO's in the city demanding the implementation of SABLA scheme on 23 May, 2017. The aim of the scheme is to improve the nutritional and healthcare of adolescent girls in the age category of 11-18 years, empowering them through education and skill training. Mass rally and human chain was organized insisting the actualization of SRHR and allocation of funds and personnel in ICDS towards SABLA scheme. The rally attracted the attention of the media and the public in the beach.

Mr. Prabhakaran



ANNUAL ENROLLMENT CUM SURVEY OF THE MIGRANT CHILDREN



Chennai Migrant Desk organized the annual enrollment camp cum survey of the migrant children in the construction sites of Chennai city from 01-24 May, 2017. Its purpose was first and foremost to identify migrant children and initiate seasonal child care and possibility of primary education through learning centre near their construction sites in collaboration with SSA and secondly to survey the possibilities or the annexure of separate centers for schooling in their mother tongue and finally to gradually main stream them back to their own states. More than 100 children were reached out to through ten labor camps and construction sites. Special events like Common songs,



party games, motivational talks, spoken English and basics of mathematics, visit to migrant desk at Royapuram and a day out to Marian beach were organized to make this summer special and useful one for the children. Special appreciation to Fr. Francis Bosco, in charge of the migrant youth ministry, men and women religious, IT volunteers, resource persons and SSA officials who played their part in achieving the desired result.

- Fr. Francis Bosco

SUMMER CAMP FOR THE SHELTER HOME CHILDREN

Summer camp for the shelter home children was conducted between 03-21 May, 2017. Mr. Anbazhagan, Assistant Commissioner of Police, MKB Nagar inaugurated the camp. 45 participants of the camp were divided into four activity groups and points system was followed to ensure maximum participation and teamwork. Every day in the morning children were coached in Football, Volleyball and Athletics. The morning session of the day was dedicated to spoken English and special sessions on varied themes by invited resource persons. Afternoon time was dedicated for their hobbies. They were asked to choose between dance, band, music and computer to be trained by masters. After the matches between teams in the evening they turned up for English reading practice before tea. In the evening special programmes were conducted. Competitions like singing, dance, skit, debate, quiz, public speaking, English night were arranged. Some of the highlights of the camp are: Tour to Yercaud hills, City picnic, industrial visit to



Aavin milk processing unit in Madhavaram, magic shows, long walks, treasure hunt, camp fire, Night Olympics, Yoga classes, Art and Craft, skill training programmes, spoken English classes, personality development sessions, awareness programmes, Swach Bharath Campaign, medical camp and many more. On the concluding day, Shrimati. Nir-mala, IAS, Chairperson of TNCPCR presided over the programme and distributed to each child a school bag, jercy with their names printed and stationery for the academic year. In every way it was a summer well spent for the children.

Br. Jerome Cyril

SUMMER CAMPS IN COMMUNITY CENTRES

1. NAME OF THE CENTRE: **ANNAI SATHYA NAGAR**

THEME: "Nature is my friend"

NO OF DAYS: 7 (09-16 May, 2017)

NO OF PARTICIPANTS: 60

OBJECTIVE OF THE CAMP:

To build character, confidence and skills through range of activities and cultural program.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Sessions by DB Vazhikati Volunteers, quiz programs, Value education through stories, short films and street plays, community health experiences, awareness programs.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

After the camp the number of children has increased. The children as well as the parents had awareness on social issues through this camp. The area leaders and the local people have agreed to support Don Bosco Anbu Illam for further development.

Ms. Sheela Janet



2. NAME OF THE CENTRE: **OTTERI**

THEME: "Nature is my friend"

NO OF DAYS: 6 (08 – 13 May 2017)

NO OF PARTICIPANTS: 180

OBJECTIVE OF THE CAMP

To ensure maximum participation and facilitate learning experience.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Spoken English classes, awareness on child sexual abuse by DBAI CHILDLINE 1098, Singing and dance competition, session on study methods and prevention of school dropouts and rally on world tobacco day.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

The summer camp an opportunity for the less privileged children to have group learning and to gain knowledge.

Ms. Sheela Janet



3. NAME OF THE CENTRE: THIRUVOTTIYUR BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB**THEME:** "Let's Beat the Heat"**NO OF DAYS:** 6 (09-15 MAY 2017)**NO OF PARTICIPANTS:** 75**OBJECTIVES OF THE CAMP:**

- Personal growth
- To lay Emphasis on activity based learning and development of new skills
- To help them become potential leaders even from now.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CAMP:

Road safety – Stop! Look! Listen!, Talent show - Singing/Dance ,Eco Friendly Craft Best with Waste , Lets Debate, Play with colors , Mad Science Experiments ,Alternative Skills- Puppets

ACHIEVEMENTS:

Immense eagerness in participation and learning

New children from the slum community participated in the camp



Ms. Margaret Malini

4. NAME OF THE CENTRE: ROYAPURAM**THEME:** "To Shape my Life"**NO OF DAYS:** 5 (09-13MAY 2017)**NO OF PARTICIPANTS:** 45**OBJECTIVES OF THE CAMP:**

- To bring out their talents and to shape it
- To create self- esteem among children
- To create awareness on health & sanitation among the children

HIGHLIGHT OF THE CAMP:

Street play and traditional art ,Competition – Speech, drawing and GK Quiz, Talent show , Alternative media skills , Career Guidance /Spoken English Class

ACHIEVEMENTS:

At the end of the camp we reached 85% of our objectives

The children were very happy and attendance were regular



Mr. Moorthy

5. NAME OF THE CENTRE: BROADWAY (POOKADAI)**THEME:** "Road & Life safety"**NO OF DAYS:** 7 (08-15 May, 2017)**NO OF PARTICIPANTS:** 50**OBJECTIVE OF THE CAMP:**

- To provide safe and secure environment for the pavement children
- To create an environment that promotes the positive development of physical and mental health among the children
- To provide opportunity to gain the confidence/self esteem among the children.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Awareness on Traffic rules and Road safety, importance of First Aid, Dance Competition, Awareness on Hygiene and nutrition, Hand wash Demonstration, Exposure visit – Traffic Police station

ACHIEVEMENTS:

It was a great opportunity for the marginalized children
We discover their interest and brought out the hidden talents

**Mr. Ashok Bosco****For Contact:**

Don Bosco Anbu Illam,
No 25, Kulandai Street, Park Town,
Chennai – 600 003, Tamil Nadu.
Ph : 044-25352101 / 25356885 ,
Mob: 09444031098
E-mail: anbuillamchennai@gmail.com
Web: donboscoanbuillam.org
Follow us in
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A small step to save the earth is
in your hand, Do just one small
thing today!!

CORE PRINCIPLE :

*"Let children be at
the heart of
everything we do"*

Supported By : Child line ,ICPS ,DB National YaR Forum-Delhi, Chennai Corporation , Aide-et-action, Accenture Volunteers & Public Volunteers