



Editorial

DON BOSCO'S MISSION – Hope for the Hopeless



Today children love friendship. When they grow from childhood to adolescent, they start seeking friends with whom they can share every moment of their life. Having Friends is a trend in the schools and homes. They feel bad if they don't have friends.

School friends sometimes maybe the best relationships that last longer than any others because they are formed during a time when they are seeking attachment. But these friendships need to be guided and mentored in their earlier days. It can pave way for better growth or ruin. It depends on the type of friendship they develop. Thus as educators of our children in families, schools and shelter homes, we need to pay special attention to these type of boys and girls who long for friendship. We can specially notice in the shelter home children the need to belong to a group of friends because they lacked earlier childhood love and affection in the family.

Each friendship we form has special significance, but the friends we make when we're kids have a larger impact. We need to encourage our children to understand, the concept of true friendship and teach them to choose friends who can be an **energizer**, one who encourages the other to achieve more eagerly or **risk taker** who introduces to new ideas and activities to explore different possibilities and not just a **cozy friend** who does not challenge the limitations of the other person.

Let us build a home of good atmosphere of friendship and love. I am grateful to all those who contributed to the growth of our children in organizing various events, competitions, painting and for all the visitors who created an impact in the lives of the children.

Fr. Joseph Leo
Director



"Think before you speak. Read before you think."

— Fran Lebowitz,

MEDICAL CAMP

Sisters from St. Antony's hospital, Madhavaram, conducted a free medical camp for the shelter home children on 04 February 2017 at Bosco illam, MKB Nagar. A team of two doctors and three nurses treated the boys and girls separately for common health problems. Vitamin tablets and tonics were distributed to the needy children.



DBAI SCOUTS IN ACTION

DBAI Scout unit participated in State Level Training Camp held for Don Bosco District Scouts and Guides in preparation for 'Rastrapadi' and 'Raja Puraskar' awards. The three days camp was held in Don Bosco Hr. Sec. School, Katpadi, between 03-05 February 2017. Our scouts gave their best in all the scouting activities and bagged 3 awards. Thanks to Mr. Nazrudhin for guiding our scouts for every good action.

AWARENESS ON MENSTRUAL HYGIENE

On 6 February 2017, an awareness programme on menstrual Hygiene was conducted for the women group in thiruvottiyur Boys and Girls Culb. The resource person of the day Ms.Preethi Vani, Night Shelter Coordinator (Greater Chennai Corporation) dealt in detail about the care that need to be taken during the period. Proper disposal of sanitary napkins and recourse to nutritious food was instead upon. A Short film on the theme was screened for better understanding and doubts associated with it were clarified. At the end IEC were distributed.



Culture is the arts elevated set of beliefs - Thomson Wolfe

AWARENESS ON CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE



The Childline unit of DBAI, as insisted by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and Childline India Foundation organized an awareness programme on 'Child Sexual Abuse' on 24 February 2017 at St. Anne's Girls Mat. Hr. Sec. School, Royapuram. Mr. Siva Jayakumar, District Child Protection Officer presided over the inaugural session and addressed the assembly on the theme. In the consecutive sessions The POSCO Act (The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) was dealt in detail by resource persons who also used screening of relevant short movies and interactions as strategies to make them understand the gravity of the theme.



Only I can change my life. No one can change for me. - Carol Burnett

CAREER GUIDANCE FOR COMMUNITY CHILDREN

Rev. Dr. Ravindran, President of Catch Ministry organized career guidance session for the community children on 9 February 2017 at Otteri community centre. 27 students who are doing their 10th and 12th Std., were the active participants of this event. 'It was an eye opener,' commented the students, 'to study better and score more marks' in order to pursue the course of their interest in the near future.



AWARENESS AGAINST CHILD MARRIAGE

Awareness on The Child Marriage Prohibition act was offered to 62 participants of Annai Sathya Nagar Tuition Centre on 23 February 2017. The event was organized by a group of Loyola College students. Prof. Edward from Loyola College and St. Jayaseeli, in charge of Saranalaya (shelter home for girls) presided over the event and raised awareness. Mathematics table books were distributed to all the participants of the event.



YaR GOVERNING BODY MEET

The National Don Bosco YaR forum Governing Body meeting was held on 7- 8 February 2017 in Dimapur. Fr. Joseph Leo, the director attended the meeting. The forum members discussed about concerns and challenges in YaR ministry and made a statement to enhance YaR ministry in India. It explored the possibility of setting up migrants desk in 6 provinces. Common standards for Don Bosco YaR Centres were proposed & agreed by the members.



“ Every Child is Unique”

BOSCO ILLAM GETS BRIGHT

Ms. Victoria from Germany paid a short visit to Bosco illam and spent her valuable time with the children. She had earlier served the children as volunteer in the year 2012. In memory of her visit she painted in florescent, a part of the compound wall and made children paint the trunks of trees on it. She then made the children dip their hands in colours to make impressions in the place of the leafs in the trees.. The names of children were also inscribed below the impressions. DBAI is grateful to Ms. Victoria for having created a child friendly environment through the creative display of Children's talent.



AWARENESS ON CHILD SAFETY

Childline unit of DBAI spares no major occasion in the city to raise awareness on child care and protection.

1. On 11 Febrauy 2017 awareness on Childline services was given to around 500 cine artists and spectators who had gathered for the centenary birthday celebration of late Dr. M.G.R held in Raja Annamalai Mandram, Chennai.
2. On 14 February 2017, awareness on Childline activities was given to around 150 of them who had gathered for parent and teachers meet at SSA Project office in Anna Pillai Corporation School, Choolai, Chennai.
3. On 19 February 2017, a mass awareness on Childline was given to more than 3000 participants and spectators who had gathered for a 'Tree Marathon - 2017' (International Marathon). The event was organized in a big scale by Chennai Super Runners in association with Dinamalar daily at KMM College, Adyar, Chennai.



You have to fight to reach your dream. You have to sacrifice and work hard for it - Lionel Messi

VISITS

On 19 February 2017, Rev. Fr. K. M. Jose, the newly appointed Salesian Provincial of Chennai province, made his maiden visit to the shelter homes. He interacted with the children and promised his support in every way for the growth of the organization.

On 14 February 2017, Mrs. Edith from Austria paid a visit to our shelter home. The children offered her traditional welcome and presented a short cultural programme in her honor. In memory of her visit she planted three trees in the campus and presented toys and play materials to the sub-junior boys and girls.



DBAI OBSERVES NGO DAY

International NGO day which is commemorated on 27th February was locally observed at Otteri Community Centre on 28 February 2017. The event was aimed at enabling people understand and appreciate the contribution of NGO at the local, national and international level. While Ms. Annal, President of Freedom Foundation, graced the occasion and shared the highlights of her organization. Mr. David, the community organizer, presented the services of DBAI in the event.



Leadership is the capacity to translate vision into reality - Warren Bennis

EYE CAMP

The Outreach department of Loyola College in association with Rajan Eye Care conducted an eye camp on 25 February 2017 at Pallavan Salai Community Centre. Fr. Joseph Leo, the director thanked Dr. Vimal Raj and Br. Leo Charles who had coordinated the event. More than 100 people of the locality benefitted through this camp.



THANKS TO MRS. JYOTHI

DBAI expresses its sincere gratitude to Mrs. Jyothi Priya who has served the organization in the past 3 years. A Special word of appreciation for her contribution towards bringing out the newsletter. We wish her all success as she signs off from DBAI.



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