

DON BOSCO ANBU ILLAM

NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the latest edition of "Voices of Hope" the official newsletter of Don Bosco Anbu Illam, Chennai. This publication serves as your comprehensive source for the latest updates, initiatives and progress at Don Bosco Anbu Illam. Our mission is to empower communities through impactful programs that promote well-being, education and sustainable development, making a meaningful difference in the lives we touch.

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About us

Don Bosco Anbu Illam Chennai is a Child Rights organization Started by Salesians of Don Bosco in 1985 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, South India. It's a globally well-networked organization which serves the young at risk, drawing Inspiration from Don Bosco, a Catholic priest from Italy. It Offers Residential care for street and working children and family-based care for vulnerable children in the slums and pavements. It is Registered under Tamil Nadu Societies Registration act 27 of 1975 S. No. 34/1986. Income tax exemption is available under 80G. The home is registered under JJ act 2015. Don Bosco Anbu Illam operates multiple shelter homes dedicated to providing care and protection for children. Our organization extends its reach through various community centers, offering support and intervention to children in underserved areas. Through these initiatives, we aim to create a positive impact and foster a safe environment for children in need.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Well-wishers of DBAI,

I trust this note of love and blessings finds you and your loved ones in good health.

When the Reader's Digest conducted a worldwide survey to rate the 50 most respected professions in the world, do you know which profession was No. 1? It was Teaching. Yes my friends, teaching is the most respected profession in the world beating even IAS officers, doctors, architects, engineers, lawyers and scientists. Why is teaching considered more respectable than any of the professions mentioned above? Because it was the teachers who made them what they are. If not for teachers, there would be no IAS officers, doctors, architects, engineers, lawyers and scientists. That's why when God became man in order to save the world, He chose to become a teacher. The sermon on the mount is widely recognised as the greatest, most inspirational beyond life lesson ever given in the history of the human race.

This month, let us salute with gratitude to the numerous teachers who have shaped our lives. From our parents and grandparents to all teachers who shaped our minds and hearts from KG to PG, let us remember them in our prayers, thoughts, words and actions. Let us live the ideal principles taught by great teachers so that we can all live as true embodiments of God's lovely creation.

May you always be blessed with a good clean conscience to do the right thing every time, every day of your lives as a teacher and role model to everyone who looks up to you.

God bless you all.

Lovingly,

Fr. Andrews Stephen Raj, SDB.

BOSCO ILLAM & SARANALAYAM

MEETING FOR BETTERMENT

On 23rd July 2025, an Home Management Committee (HMC) meeting was held at Bosco Illam. The session was marked by the visit of Mr. Ajay, Social Worker from the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), who interacted warmly with both the staff and the children. During the interaction, Mr. Ajay shared valuable insights and suggestions aimed at the overall growth and well-being of the children. He emphasized the importance of creating a nurturing environment that balances education, discipline and recreation. The staff members appreciated his constructive feedback and assured their commitment to implementing his recommendations for the betterment of the home. The meeting was fruitful and inspiring, reinforcing the collective responsibility of staff, management and child protection authorities to provide a safe and supportive atmosphere for the children of Bosco Illam.



NAKSHATRA SPORTS

On 27th July, 2025, thirty-five children from Bosco Illam enthusiastically participated in the Nakshatra Sports Event, organized by Bhumi NGO in Chennai. The event provided a wonderful platform for the children to showcase their talents and sportsmanship across various competitions. Our boys displayed remarkable energy, discipline and determination, securing several prizes in different categories, including Chess, 100 meters and other track and field events. Their active participation and achievements brought pride and joy to Bosco Illam, highlighting the potential and spirit of our children. The event was not only a celebration of sports but also an opportunity for the children to build confidence, teamwork and a sense of accomplishment.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF FR. SIMOLIN & BRO. DEEPAK

On 27th August 2025, Don Bosco Anbu Illam joyfully celebrated the birthdays of Fr. Simolin Frek, SDB, Director - DBMS and Bro. Deepak Roshan, SDB. The day began with a special morning prayer, thanking God for the gift of these two wonderful members to our community and for their dedicated service among the children. Around 11 a.m., the birthday celebration was held at Bosco Illam, where the children, staff and community members came together to greet and honour Fr. Simolin and Bro. Deepak. The atmosphere was filled with joy, laughter and heartfelt wishes.



A HELPING HAND FOR EDUCATION

On 7th July 2025, Dr. Sheela and Mrs. Elizabeth Visalakshi visited the Saranalayam to distribute the books for NEET preparing Student Ms. Harshini, who has started attending online NEET classes.



UNDERSTANDING TWO DIFFERENT FEELINGS

On 19th July, 2025, another session was conducted for the girls by Ms. Kawya on the topic of Fear and Anxiety. She explained the difference between fear and anxiety which made the children to understand the emotional responses clearly.

SESSION ON EMOTIONAL REGULATION

On 6th July 2025, A session on Emotional Regulation was conducted by Ms Kawya, in Saranalayam. The session aimed to help them understand what emotional regulation is, why it is important, and how it can positively impact their daily lives.



SEE WITH EYES, FEEL WITH HEARTS

A group session was conducted for the girls by Ms. Kawya, on the topic of Empathy, aiming to enhance their emotional intelligence and interpersonal skills. The session began with defining empathy as the ability to understand and share the feelings of others, followed by a discussion on the three main types of empathy: cognitive, emotional and compassionate.



“THE ROOTS OF EDUCATION ARE BITTER, BUT THE FRUIT IS SWEET”

-ARISTOTLE

BORN TO WIN

On 20th July 2025, Mrs. Elizabeth Visalakshi gave a motivational session for the children in Saranalayam, On the topic "You Are Born to Win," focusing on self-confidence, positive thinking, goal setting, overcoming challenges and believing in one's potential.



MARIAN MONTH INAUGURATION

The Marian Month was joyfully inaugurated on 20th July 2025 with the theme "Behold Your Mother." The celebration began with a prayerful moment of veneration to our Blessed Mother. Fr. Regan Jude, Vice Rector, inaugurated the month and shared an inspiring message, encouraging all to grow in devotion and love for Mary. Students were divided into four teams and took part enthusiastically in various games, activities and tournaments, which added a spirit of unity and joy to the occasion. The event set a meaningful and lively start to the Marian Month celebrations 2025.



CARROM BOARD COMPETITION

On 22nd July 2025, Bosco Illam organized a Carrom Board Competition. The competition witnessed enthusiastic participation from the students, who displayed great concentration, sportsmanship and joy throughout the games. The matches were keenly contested and the children encouraged one another with cheerful support, creating an atmosphere of excitement and togetherness.

SETTING HEALTHY BOUNDARIES

On 27th July 2025, an awareness session on 'Boundary setting' was conducted for the students by Ms. Nithyashree in Saranalayam, emphasizing healthy relationships, self-respect, saying 'no' when needed and respecting others' personal space.



COLOURS & CREATIVITY



On 31st July 2025, A drawing competition was conducted. Four team members actively participated in the event, showcasing their creativity and artistic talents. Each participant contributed meaningfully to their respective teams and their enthusiastic involvement helped secure valuable points for the overall team scores. The competition reflected both the devotion and the artistic spirit of the children.

CHESS TOURNAMENT

An Inter-Chess Tournament was conducted at Bosco Illam on 2nd August 2025. The event witnessed an enthusiastic participation from the children, who displayed remarkable skill, patience and focus throughout the competition. The tournament was organized in four rounds, giving each player the opportunity to showcase their strategies and talent in the game. The children played vehemently for their respective teams, determined to secure victory through their best efforts.



ART OF MOVEMENTS

On 3rd August 2025, a classical dancer with the referral from 'Invisible Girl Project', met the children and performed Bharathanattiyam in front of them. The children thoroughly enjoyed the performance and learnt few basic steps from the dancer. It was an energetic and refreshing event.

EASY ENGLISH

On 10th August 2025, Ms Kriti from iVolunteer conducted a session on spoken English class for the students in saranalayam focused on speaking skills, pronunciation, accent training, listening skills and grammar.



INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

The Independence Day was celebrated with great joy and patriotism at Bosco Illam. The program began in the morning with the hoisting of the national flag by Rev. Fr. Regan Jude SDB, who also delivered an inspiring message to the students. His words encouraged the children to grow as responsible citizens with love for their nation. In Saranalayam we celebrated Independence day with great joy. The program began with flag hoisting by Sr.Sujitha, followed by singing of the national Anthem by all the students. The atmosphere was filled with unity and pride.

Following the flag hoisting, the community joined together for the Holy Eucharistic Celebration, making the day spiritually enriching. A special highlight was the blessing of the newly renovated Savio Hall, which added a festive spirit to the occasion. This day was truly a twin celebration, as it marked not only the 79th Independence Day of our nation but also the Feast of the Assumption of Mother Mary. The children actively participated in the events with joy and enthusiasm. It was a memorable and meaningful day, filled with both national pride and spiritual devotion.



CRICKET MATCH



Cricket match was organized on 16th August, 2025. The game brought together four teams of enthusiastic players, who displayed both energy and team spirit on the field. The students participated with great zeal, giving their best in batting, bowling and fielding. Every run scored and wicket taken filled the atmosphere with cheer and excitement, reflecting the joy of the occasion. The match was not only a display of sporting talent but also an opportunity to strengthen teamwork and friendship among the children.

CELEBRATION OF MARIAN NITE

The grand Marian Nite was celebrated with great joy and enthusiasm on 22nd August 2025 at Bosco Illam, marking the conclusion of the Marian Month celebrations. The evening was filled with a variety of competitions that tested the creativity, intellect and teamwork of the children. Events included Quiz rounds such as Rapid Fire, Connections, Individual and Group rounds, Yells, Advertisements and Relay Drawing, which kept the audience entertained and the participants highly engaged.

The children exhibited their skills, talents and intellectual capabilities throughout the competitions. Their lively participation made the evening not only vibrant but also a true moment of togetherness and excellence. The celebration was graced by Rev. Fr. Yesu as the Chief Guest, along with Bro. Joe and Bro. Akash as Guests of Honour. Their presence and encouraging words inspired the children to continue nurturing their gifts with dedication and devotion.



MAKING THE BEST LEADERS

On 27th August 2025, Mr. Selva, Ms. Prathiksha and Fr. Yacob SDB from Niraiyagam Psychological Service Center, Conducted group session on leadership focused on Goal setting, Empathy, how to use the opportunities and also fun activities for children.



SELF-ESTEEM MATTERS

On 30th August 2025, a special session on the topic of "Self-Esteem" was conducted at Don Bosco Anbu Illam for the Class students of 9, 10, 11, and 12. The session was animated by Mr. Mugilan, our counsellor, who guided the students with practical insights and reflections. The resource person emphasized the importance of developing a positive self-image, highlighting the values of self-respect and self-appreciation as key aspects of personal growth. The students found the session highly enlightening and motivating, as it helped them gain a deeper understanding of themselves and encouraged them to recognize their own strengths.



MEANINGFUL INSIGHTS BY CWC

On 30th August 2025, Mr. Lawrence, a member of the Child Welfare Committee (North Zone), visited Bosco Illam. His visit was a valuable occasion for both the staff and the children, as it reinforced the importance of education, discipline and holistic growth. During the visit, Mr. Lawrence motivated the children to focus on their studies with dedication and to make the best use of the opportunities given to them. His words inspired the students to believe in themselves and to work hard toward building a bright future.

ANNUAL YaR CAMPAIGN

On 30th August, 2025, both Saranalayam and Bosco Illam children actively participated in the online YaR Campaign, which was organized by the Don Bosco National Young at Risk (YaR) Forum. The session was animated around the inspiring theme, "Uphold Our Hopes and Unfold Our Dreams." for the Academic Year 2025-26. With the guidance and support of staff the children were able to join the online program and engage meaningfully with the discussions.



"You can teach a student a lesson for a day: but if you can teach him to learn by creating curiosity, he will continue the learning process as long as he lives."

- Clay P. Bedford

FUN-FILLED HEALTHY RECREATION

On the evening of 31st August 2025, the Yathum Oorey Team visited Bosco Illam and animated the children through a series of fun-filled and meaningful activities. The program created a lively atmosphere where the boys actively participated and enjoyed themselves. The team organized a variety of party games, which brought great excitement and joy to the children. These activities encouraged teamwork, friendship and healthy recreation. In addition, the children were given a career guidance session, where the team shared valuable insights about future opportunities, personal growth and the importance of education in shaping one's life.



EXPRESSION OF GRATITUDE



At this juncture, we would like to acknowledge and extend our heartfelt thanks to Ms. Roselin Mary for her tremendous support and dedication to our children over the past three years. As she steps into her fourth year with us, we remain deeply grateful for her unwavering commitment and the positive impact she continues to make in the lives of our little ones.

BIRTHDAY WISHES TO OUR BELOVED BOARD MEMBERS



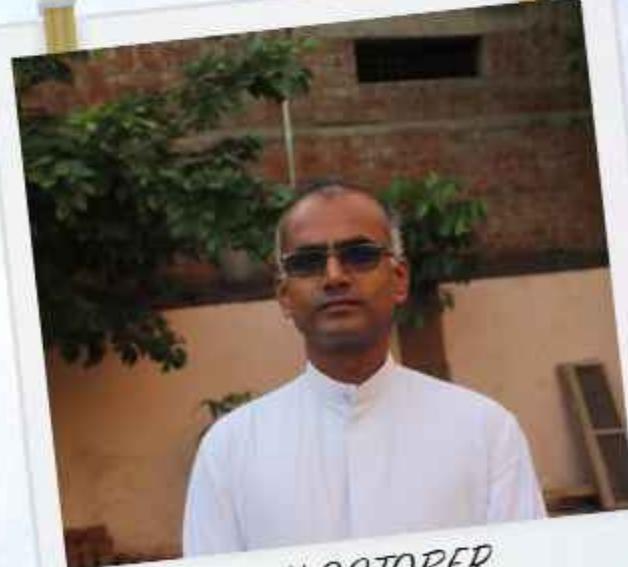
2ND SEPTEMBER
FR. JOHN ALEXANDER SDB



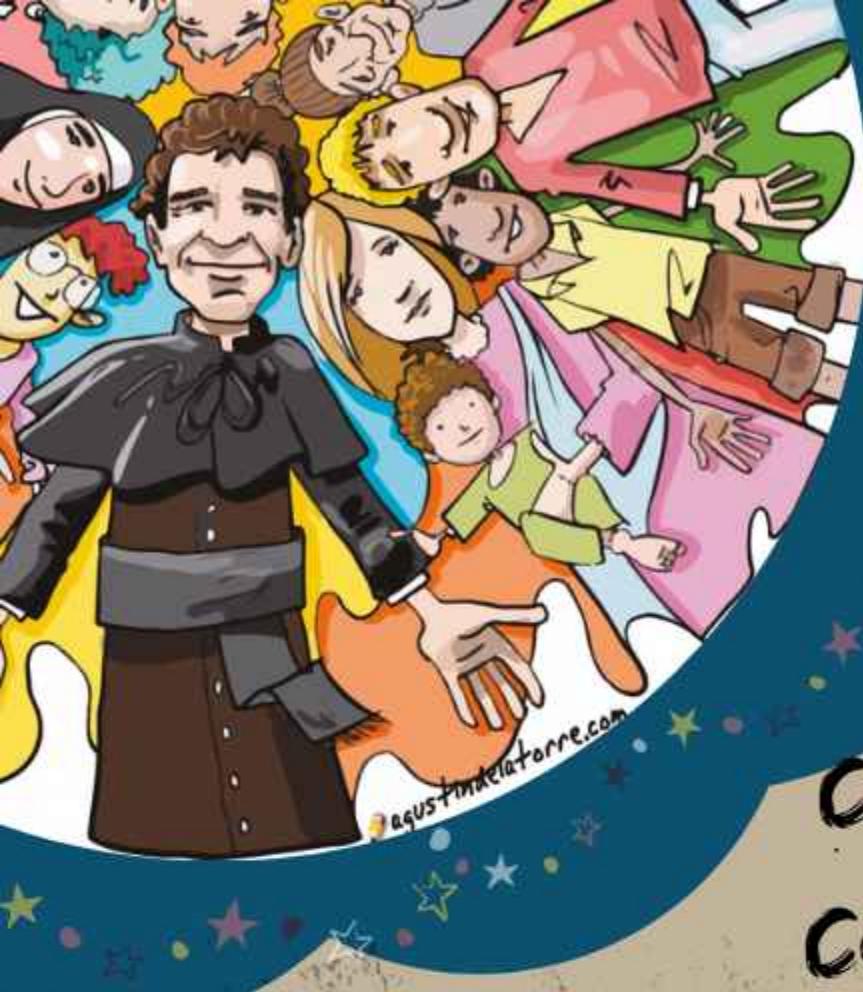
2ND SEPTEMBER
FR. ALBERT NELSON SDB



28TH SEPTEMBER
FR. JOSEPH LEO SDB

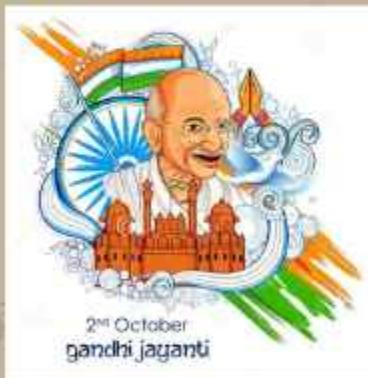
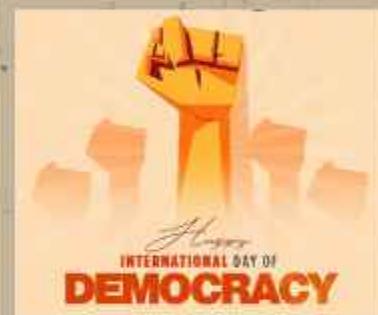


5TH OCTOBER
FR. REGAN JUDE SDB



*It is not Enough to Love
the Young; they must
know that they are Loved.*
- St. John Bosco

CELEBRATION & COMMEMORATION



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