



DBAI NEWSLETTER



Issue 6

(November, December - 16)

Editorial

We believe that every child is a precious gift from God of immeasurable worth and significance, including the unborn, children with disabilities, those with emotional and behavioral dysfunctions and every other condition, which may impact them from conception to the end of their natural life. Every child needs to be celebrated. We have dedicated the month of November for celebrating their life and rights.



Every child needs to be respected and his/her rights to be protected. Not every child has a home, but every child has a birthday. These children need love and care and it is given to them through birthday gifts, ornaments, new dresses and presents on their birthdays. Thus every life of a child is respected with dignity and DBAI tells them they are not alone but with a family.

Not every child's birth becomes a boon and gift to others. But the birth of Jesus has become a blessing for many and thus we celebrate the birth of Jesus with full enthusiasm and happiness. He lived for others and not for himself. Christmas becomes more meaningful if we realize that our life too should give happiness and peace to others.

I thank the almighty and all those who helped to celebrate their life in a grand manner in the boys home at MKB Nagar and girls home at Kodungaiur. I thank in a special way the sponsors and donors who willingly donated for the welfare of these children. I wish that the coming year may bring lots of peace and prosperity to all our children and all the readers.

Happy Christmas and New Year 2017.

Fr. Joseph Leo

Director



YaR Day celebration at DBAI Chennai

"Let's put the Lost Child First"

On 20, Novemeber 2016, we celebrated YaR (Young at Risk) Day together with Children's Birthday Celebration at Saranalaya, Kodungaiyur, on the theme **"Let's put the Lost Child First"**. Fr. Johnson Bashyam, the former Director of DBAI, was the Chief Guest. Through his speech on the occasion he encouraged the children to be more participative and to be more loved.

Later Fr. Joe Prabu explained about YaR day theme very perceptibly by giving some related example to understand very easily. Children enacted an 8 minute dance on the theme which was really innovative and heart touching. Finally all the care takers joined their hands together with the children, assuring **"we are there for you my dear children"**.



On the same day YaR day was celebrated at Bosco Illam. The inauguration of the new football posts followed a match between staff v/s children. Interview was taken with 3 children who were recently home placed. The parents thanked DBAI for reuniting them back. Then the children were divided into four groups and made to perform their cultural items. Children enjoyed the festive meal. Fr. Joseph Leo

animated a seminar on YaR day theme to the Students of theology at Don Bosco Becchi, Kavara-pettai on 23, November 2016. He also celebrated Holy Eucharistic at St. Joseph's Church, Erukancherry and explained the theme to the parishners through a video presentation.



- Jyothi Priya

Creating Young Kalam – Science Exhibition

On 18, Novemeber, 2016 twenty of our Thiruvottiur Boys and Girls Club children participated in a Science Exhibition on the theme of "Creating Young Kalam." The event was held at HCL Kandanchavadi, Chennai and was supported by Aide-et-Action.

Our Children took part in the Sub Junior, junior, senior and Super Senior category and were awarded with participation certificates as a token of encouragement. The Children had kept for display Mini-Projector, Magnetic, Diffusion, Air Pump, Pepper and water science trick.



- Malini

Children's day celebration @ Thiruvottiyur Boys and Girls Club

On 28, November 2016 our Thiruvottiyur Boys and Girls Club celebrated children's day with enthusiasm. The Theme of the programme was 'Dr. Abdul Kalam.' The Celebration began with



an welcome dance. Mr.Durai, the in charge of Seva Maiya Priya, gave a motivational speech and encouraged the children to have frequent access to the library. The speech was followed by colourful dance by Primary School children. The children narrated the life history of Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam highlighting the important events of his life, achievements, contributions to science and his special concern for children and youth. The programme came to an end with cake cutting, distribution of sweets and concluded with National Anthem.



"Dream is not what comes to you in sleep; it is that which doesn't let you sleep".

-A.P.J Abdul Kalam

Talent Show by Rotary Club and Neeta Memorial Charitable Trust

On 22, November 2016 a Talent Show was organized by Rotary Club supported by Neeta Memorial Charitable Trust at Kamaraj Hall, with a aim of making the special children and the vulnerable ones to feel that they are important and wanted.

Eighteen students from our shelter home had the privilege of taking part in this mega event. It provided a platform for our students to exhibit their unique talents. Our children performed in group rounds, individual rounds and drawing competition and won prizes. Our children won third prize for the mime. They were awarded with memento and cash prize. Mast. Sadique was also awarded for his beat boxing performance in individual category. It was a wonderful opportunity for our students to mingle with the other children and learn from them.



- Br.Susairaj

Visit of Ms. Silvia from DB Mondo, Germany

On 26 November 2016 Ms. Silvia from Don Bosco Mondo, Germany along with his friend visited the evening tuition centre at Annai Sathya Nagar. The guests were welcomed to a catchy English number by our children. The guests were taken up by surprise with the enthusiasm of the children. To commemorate her visit, a drawing competition on the theme "Nature is our Friend" was conducted and the winners were given Prizes. Finally Ms. Silvia was lead through the maze of the slum by one of the children.



-Ms. Sheela Janet

Awareness Programme at Pallvan Salai



On 9 December, 2016 an awareness programme was conducted by Students of Loyola College. The event was co-ordinated by Mr. David our DBAI staff. Around 60 children from the slum were the participants of the programme. Mr. Arul Das, professor of Loyola College and Ms. Annal Cironmani from Grace Freedom foundation were the invited guests for the occasion. Mr. Arul spoke about the importance of education and highlighted the important schemes from the government for education. Ms. Annal in her turn spoke about the ill effects of HIV and Cancer explaining its symptoms, prevention, impacts and cure.

- Sheela Janet

Workshop on Intensive Journal

On 4 November 2016 Mr. Nathan conducted a workshop on 'Intensive Journal' a Psycho therapeutic technique which involves writing technique as chief tool in the form of dialogues with a self on various aspects of one's personal life. Writing of journal helps to gain knowledge about diverse aspect of one's life. He mainly concentrated on self-awareness of both the conscious and the sub-conscious mind. At the end of the course he asked the children to light candles individually and the following morning observing the shapes of the burnt out candles he counselled the children accordingly.



- Sr. Jayaseeli

Birthday Celebration at Saranalaya

Life is important and it needs to be celebrated. Not every child has a home, but every child has a birthday.

This year birthday celebration of the girls was celebrated on 20 November 2016 at Saranalaya. The celebration began with special Eucharistic celebration to thank God Almighty for the gift of life. It was followed by a cultural program. The girls then cut the cakes in 4 groups such as juniors, sub juniors, Inters and seniors. The benefactors were honoured by the Saranalaya family.

- Sr.Jayaseeli



Birthday Celebration at Bosco Illam

The birthday of our shelter home children was celebrated together on 22, November, 2016 in a very grand manner. Many surprises that awaited them from dawn to dusk made their birthday this year a very special one. In a meaningfully organized morning prayer, the children thanked God for the gift of life and another year of life added to their span of life. After a sumptuous breakfast special games were organized by our staff and again in the evening a special volley ball match was played between DBAI staff and students in which the children won. Around 6.30 pm the birthday celebration proper began. In the presence of the Salesian community, wardens, benefactors, well-wishers and special invitees the boys performed their cultural items. The climax of the event was the cake cutting by the Sub Juniors, Juniors, Inters and Seniors respectively. During the function donors were felicitated and honored. A grand dinner was hosted to give a fitting conclusion to the celebration. The day made the boys feel happy about so many good souls around them who are interested in their well-being.

- Br.Elanchezian



A Session on Study Methods for Shelter Home Children



On 2 December, 2016 a group session, with the aim of helping children face their upcoming Half Yearly exam was conducted at Bosco Illam by Ms. Kanmani our DBAI Counsellor. She highlighted on the methods of preparing for the exams and on the art of presenting the answer sheet. Tips were also offered on ways to improve their memory power. SQ3R (Survive, Question, Re-Write, Revive and Recite) was presented as methodology towards effective preparation for the nearing examination.

- Ms.Kanmani

Visit to B.M Birla plutonium

On 2 November 2016, Sr. Sabina along with a group of 15 children went to B.M Birla plutonium for science tour. The children were taken by surprise looking at the exhibits on display. They clarified their doubts on various exhibits. The outing encouraged the children to understand and appreciate the world of science.



- Sr.Sabina

Anger Management Seminar at Bosco Ilalm



On 3 December 2016, Fr.Paulraj, Asst.Director of Niraivagam (DB psychological Services) gave a seminar on 'Anger Management'. In his session the resource person dealt extensively on methods involved in controlling one's anger. Anger as an emotion is good in itself and should be expressed according to the situation. Visual aids and short clippings on the theme helped to understand the session effectively. The children were educated to control their anger.

- Br.Elanchezhian

**"Angry people want you to see how powerful they are...
loving people want you to see how powerful You are."**

- Chief Red Eagle



Signature Campaign



Suraksha Bandhan



Out Reach Programme



Childline se dosti week was celebrated – A week long programmes covered, 1200 general public, Medical professionals, Government Officials, Protection officers, Police department, College Students Volunteers, children, youth and women.



Movie Screening



Human Chain



Recreation Activities



Cyclone “VARDAH” affects Chennai

On 12 December 2016, Vardah cyclone hit the coast of Chennai making a large scale of distraction in and around the city. Our shelter homes and community centres suffered worse hit causing great devastation. Power cut, lack of network, lack of water, shortage of supplies caused great inconvenience. Decades old trees fell to the grounds. Water filled in the low lying areas. DBAI rose to the occasion and reached out the near by slums making survey of the loss suffered due to the unexpected cyclone.

- Mr. Prabhakaran



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