



DBAI NEWSLETTER



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Director's Desk

"What can you do to promote world peace? Go home and love your family."

When I read this magical sentence, I could not but admire the profound Wisdom that's hidden behind that wrinkled face of Mother Teresa. Those were not mere words of advice but practical way to start the World Peace right within the four walls of our homes. She thinks globally but acts locally. Her plans of works of mercy spread worldwide but she starts caring for people right under her roof. It's the most powerful work strategy Mother used all through her life. She invites all of us to start being humane right from where we are. We don't need to look for occasions to help but 'want of our care' is in need galore. We need to be little more open to our surroundings that can put us right in contact with the people who deserve our kindness especially the abandoned children. Her kindness was



utterly simple and incredibly powerful in achieving her ends. She said very often in her meetings with Donors and Benefactors that at the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. But we will be judged by our acts of mercy and love.

Thus Mother invites all of us together to work for children who are abandoned and vulnerable to the predators in the society. It's our moral responsibility and conscious commitment to work with the same zest and predilection as Mother had.

We, at Don Bosco Anbu Illam, recollect with nostalgia the visit of Mother Teresa in the year April 1997 at Royapuram. With the inspiration of St. Mother Teresa we shall work together to protect the abandoned and vulnerable children.

Fr. Joseph Leo
Director



National YaR Meet at Trichy

National YaR Forum Governing Body and Annual General Body meeting was held at Tiruchy on 13-14 September 2016. Respective coordinators and members from all over India were the participants of this two days workshop in which Fr. Joseph Leo, the province YaR coordinator for the Salesian Province of Chennai, Fr. Joe Prabu, Fr. Bosco Francis, Fr. Edwin Vasanth and Fr. Edward Michael, the YaR members of the province were present for the meeting. The Home link Network released its "Data Analysis Report (2010-2014)" and Hub Annual Reports, 2015 at the event.



TRAINING IN TRADITIONAL FOLKLORE ART FORMS

One week of training on Folklore Art forms were offered to the Shelter Home children during their Quarterly Holidays between 25– 30 September 2016. Presenting you the interview taken with the children concerning about the event.

1. Who trained you in Folklore Arts and what were the art forms taught?

Priya: In Saranalaya Mrs.Jenifer trained us in traditional art forms like Karagam, Oyil, Parai, Kummi, Kurumbarattam and Leism.

2. How do you look at the training?

Priya: It was useful and interesting. I learnt a lot. I liked Lesim among the other art Forms that were taught to me.

3. What do you like to do with the learnt art forms?

Mohana: During the training itself, I helped those who were slow in picking up. Now that I have mastered them I shall do stage performance in School and in comepetions.

4. What is your personal experience about the event?

Shankar: Mr. Manikam our Master in addition to the art forms taught gave us also sessions on Street Theatre, Mime, Yoga and self-awareness. They were very informative.

5. What would you like to share with the readers?

Shankar: Though I am a die-hard fan of Western dance still, having gone through the training, I prefer folklore Art forms to Western because folklore arts forms are unique to tamil culture and I feel one with it.

6. What is the overall feedback of the shelter home children about the training?

Children: We thank the management for having helped to spend the vacation in a very useful manner. While we will continue to practice, we have decided to improve these Art Forms in the upcoming cultural events either at the school or in the shelter homes.



Provincial Visits DBAI

Rev.Fr. Jayapalan, the Salesian Provincial of Chennai province made the Annual visitation for the academic year on 22-23 of September 2016. On the first day of his visit, he interacted with children in Saranalaya and Bosco Illam. Various documents were presented to the provincial during the meeting with the staff and management, who took stock of the activities, carried out in and through the Anbu Illam and learnt about our future plans. He was very appreciative of our dedicative service towards the vulnerable children and encouraged us to leave no stone unturned when it comes to care for children especially those at risk.



A HELP IN NEED – DBAI CHILDLINE JOINS HANDS WITH THE POLICE

Ganesh Chaturthi began on 5 September 2016 and lasted for 11 days in the city. On 11 September, one of the days meant for Ganesh Visarjan (immersion of the idol) thousands of devotees gathered in the beach at Pattinambakkam, Chennai. Keeping in mind the safety of the public, the city police had made the necessary preventive measures and in line with this, Child Line unit of DBAI joined hands with the cops to ensure the safety of the children in the mega event. Our child line staff did a self-sacrificing job in ensuring childrens' safety. They were quick to find children who went missing at the event and reunited them back with their families. The city police were very appreciative of our service.



SEMINAR ON EFFECTIVE WAYS TO PREPARE FOR EXAMS



A seminar was conducted on the 14 September 2016 to help the shelter home girls in Saranalaya to face the upcoming quarterly exams in the best way possible. Inputs on time management, preparation of the study timetable, techniques to memorize and retain the subjects, the art of presenting the answer sheets were presented to them in a down to earth style. The children were very attentive right through the sessions and have started practicing the tips offered.

CHILD FEST AT LOYOLA COLLEGE

The MSW department of Loyola College, Chennai organized 'Child Fest - 2016' on 10th of September in which around 45 children from the shelter homes were active participants. The event was conducted to bring out the talent of the children. Party games, track and field events, singing and Cultural programmes were the means used to achieve this end. Our children participated in events of their interest and won many medals and certificates.



VAZHIKATTI SHOWS THE WAY FOR OUR SHELTER HOME

Don Bosco Vazhikatti which is the job placement and career guidance centre of the Salesian province of Chennai extended their services for our shelter home children in their quarterly vacation. They dealt with them sessions on Self-awareness, Personality Development, Soft Skills, Spoken English and reading skills. Their active presence and creative measures employed in teaching were much appreciated by the children.



SPEECH COMPETITION IN ANNAI SATHYA NAGAR

Speech competition for Evening Tuition children was conducted on 2 September 2016 in Annai sathya Nagar. Children from different classes delivered their well prepared pep speech on freedom fighters of their choice. They were also dressed like the leader about whom they wanted to speak. After the competition the children were given prizes and refreshments.



BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF OUR DIRECTOR



SUCCESS STORY OF AMUDHA

Suffering remains as part and parcel of every one's life but suffering alone has remained as constant companion in the travelogue of a few. One such series of continual miseries have decorated the early childhood of Amudha who has been reunited with her relatives after 9 long years. Yes. Amudha, the only child in the family was born on 19 March 1999 in Salem. One of her very first memories of childhood is the passing away of her mom when she was barely 2 or 3 years old. Ms. Rajeswari her aunt volunteered to care for the child but it did not remain longer. Owing to financial constraints she left her in a hostel. Amudha did not like the hostel life and so came out of the hostel in the same year. She was sent as maid to a family but was not treated fairly there. On a fine day when she was not even ten, she walked off from the place. With the help of a woman who gave her ten rupees, she managed to reach Egmore railway station in the city with the intention of getting back to her grandma. When she enquired a lady police on duty as to which train she should take to reach Salem, the police got to know the intention of the child, rescued her and referred her to Anbu Illam. The child was produced before the CWC and was given to the care of DBAI. Since then the Amudha resides with us and is now doing her X standard in St. Anne's Hr. Sec. School, Royapuram. Although more than once she expressed her desire to be reunited with her relatives, owing to lack of details it was not possible for a long time. Of late when this desire grew strong, efforts were resumed and an opportunity also came her way. 'Puduyugam' channel that organizes programme on the title Uravai Thedi restoring the lost children with their families, offered to help Ms. Amudha and Ms. Priya from our shelter home. They shared their experiences to the media personnel details to the best of their knowledge and efforts were launched to find their relatives in Salem. Providentially they were found for Amudha and in a show organized on the 24 September 2016 she met her relatives now after 9 long years. Fr. Joseph Leo, the director, Sr. Jayaseeli the shelter home in charge for girls and Ms. Preethi were also present on the sets for the event. Amudha was a happy Child in the world upon being restored to her family and her happiness could never be measured or sufficiently described. To know further details please check out the youtube link.

<https://youtu.be/ZyAWYEwnoaM>



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