



Dear Well Wishers of DBAI,

Cordial greetings to you and your families from Don Bosco Anbu Illam during the happiest season of the year - Christmas. Indeed the universal festival of Christmas brings to mankind a whole plethora of positive feelings like joy, hope, promise, peace, trust, sharing, caring, oneness, forgiveness, faith, celebration and many more. But if I have to give you in one word what Christmas brings to all mankind, it would be Love. Let me explain this: God so loved the world and all of His creation that He sent His only Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ to come into this world, live an ordinary life, suffer for our sake and die a painful death so that we as a human race can be liberated from the sin of Adam and can look forward to an eternal life in Heaven. It is this love of God that symbolizes the spirit of Christmas for all humanity irrespective of religion, race or nationality. Christ is for all mankind, Christmas is for all humanity, salvation and eternal life is for those who believe in God and seek to reach God through the path that the Son has shown for us by the power of the Holy Spirit. In Christmas, the Trinity comes together, for the salvation of all God's creation.

This very thought fills us with a lot of confidence in our future - a promise of an eternal afterlife with God. During the recent cyclone and floods, we in Chennai suffered a lot, but God kept us safe despite the flood waters entering our homes. At Anbu Illam, God kept our children safe despite our rooms, our clothes, our beds, our vehicles and our food getting flooded by the gushing waters. Friends, let us offer our troubles and tribulations up to God this Christmas. Let us be grateful for the people and things we have in our life, they are God given, so cherish it. Let us share with our less fortunate brethren who don't have enough, let us bring the cheer back into life, let us live the true Christmas spirit and most important of all, let us remember the Holy Family who had to fight against a tyrant king and difficult circumstances to bring the Son of God into this world.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a splendid new 2024.

Lovingly,

Fr. Andrews Stephen Raj, sdb.





Bosco Illam Scout (open) Troop conducted Safe Diwali Awareness Campaign in support with Fire and Rescue Station, Vysarpadi on 11th November 2023.



On 14th November, Scout (Open) Troop, Bosco Band and shelter home staff participated in “Walk For Children” awareness rally organized by Directorate of Social Defense in view of National Children’s Day (14th), International Children’s Day (20th) to propagate protection for children from abuses. Awareness rally covered District Collector Office and nearby locations.



Don Bosco Anbu Illam Scout troop received memento of honor from Mr. Rajkumar Kaushik, Director - Bharath Scouts and Guides, New Delhi during Don Bosco Scouts and Guides District Association Silver Jubilee celebration held at St. Bede’s School on 18th November 2023.

Token of appreciation



Mr. Ashok Bosco, Don Bosco Anbu Illam Scout Master received award for Social Interest in Scouting conferred by Don Bosco Scouts and Guides Association during its Silver Jubilee celebration held at St. Bede’s School on 18th November 2023.

Birthday celebration of Fr. Andrews Stephen Raj



Happy Birthday Fr. Rector!



Hooray.....it's Talent Fest!



Bosco Illam children participated in 31st ROTA TALENT CONTEST organized by Rotary Club of Madras T. Nagar & NEETA Memorial Charitable Trust held at Raja Annamalai Mandram on 22nd November 2023. Our boys gave spirited dance performance and actively took part in other events.

Parents meet regarding U19 Zonal match



Thuraiyakkam Police Boys and Girls Club Kabaddi Girls team participated in the U19 Zonal match and have won in the district level. The team have been selected to represent the District tournament scheduled to held at Coimbatore. A meeting has been conducted for the parents of players who will be participating in the district tournament.

Police Visitation



On November 3, Police official at Kodungaiyur visited the club and interacted with the club students. Also, he inspected the sports ground at Kodungaiyur. On November 8, Thiru. Deshmukh Shekhar Sanjay, IPS., Deputy Commissioner, Triplicane District, Greater Chennai Police, visited the Chindatripet Police Boys and Girls Club and interacted with the club children. He also appreciated for the activities effectively carried out in the club. The Inspector and Sub Inspector of Police were also present in the visit. On November 27, met Mr. Manohar, the Joint Commissioner of Police, Nodal officer – PBGC, to discuss about land acquisition of Police Boys and Girls Clubs. Also presented him the MoU photo frame.

Session on moral values and craft classes



On November 4, Moral values and craft classes have been conducted at Pallikaranai Police Boys and Girls Club

Skill Rath Vehicle Visit



On November 4, Greysim Learning Foundation Skill Rath Vehicle visited the New Washermenpet Police Boys and Girls Club and gave awareness on IIT and NANO Technology.

ISL Football League



On November 5, the club children of Chindatripet Police Boys and Girls Club went to Nehru Stadium to witness the Indian Super League (ISL) Football match.

SFC Excellence Sports Bus visit



On November 8, DBAI – HCLF Excellence Sports Bus visited the Chindatripet Police Boys and Girls Club and Triplicane Police Boys and Girls Club and shared about the importance of sports and feature of our Excellence Sports Bus. Around



140 students participated in the visits. Ms. Indumathi, Sub Inspector of Police was also present during the visit.

Recognition for achievement



On behalf of Kannagi Nagar Police Boys and Girls Club, Mr. Dhayalan, Inspector of Police rewarded Ms. Santhiya with Rs. 9000/- to who have been selected to represent the National SGFI.

Diwali Celebration



Diwali was celebrated at TVK Nagar, Kodambakkam, Chindatripet, Perumbakkam, Thuraipakkam, Pallikaranai, Arumbakkam, Kannagi Nagar Police Boys and Girls Club. The Police officials of the respective clubs celebrated the festival with club children by bursting crackers and distributed sweets.



Children's Day



In honor of 134th Birth Anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Children's Day was celebrated

with the theme "For every Child, every Right" at Pallikaranai, Thuraipakkam, TVK. Nagar, Elephant Gate, New Washermenpet, Chindatripet Police Boys and Girls Clubs to raise awareness on child rights and welfare of children.



Phonics and English Reading Classes

On November 16, Dr. Thiruveni, wife of Mr. Josh Thangiah, Superintendent of Police visited Perumbakkam Police Boys and Girls Club. She conducted 5 days of session for the club teachers and Alumni of the club. The class was effective in enhancing the Reading ability of children and also provided Phonics related books to the teachers. Also, Spoken English classes have been conducted on a regular basis in Arumbakkam Police Boys and Girls Club.



TOT – Refresher training on Life skills



A Refresher session on Life Skills was organized for the participants who took part in the previous Life Skills training on November 18, 2023. 14 Police Boys and Girls Club participated in the session actively. In conclusion, the participants gave feedback and stated the challenges faced for conducting Life Skills sessions in respective clubs.

Scout Masters Meeting



A Scout Masters meeting was organized at DBAI Central office to discuss the Q1 and October month activities. 19 Scout Masters and Care Takers participated in the meeting. The MoU photo frames of their respective Commissionerates were handed over to the clubs. Ms. Kanishri, Asian Para Games Chess Player, was honoured for her exemplary performance at the Asian Para Games 2022. Also, the Scout Masters and Care Takers shared their feedback and requirements of the clubs.

SGFI National Selections



Varshini and Thanigai Sree from Kasimedu Police Boys and Girls Club participated in the SGFI National Selections at Erode and have been selected to represent in National games. On November 27, Varshini participated in the Republic Day Boxing Championship held at Don Bosco School, Egmore and secured gold medal. Also, she has been selected to participate in the BDS State level Championship. Our sports scholar, Yuvaneshwaran participated in the All India University Boxing Selections.

World Children's Day

On November 20, World Children's Day was celebrated at Chindatripet Police Boys and Girls Club as a



remembrance of the Declaration of the Rights of the Child by the UN. In this event, the Inspector of Police, Egmore and Sub Inspector of Police were present and greeted the club children. On behalf of DBAI – HCLF, the Inspector of Police handed over the mats and emergency lights to the club.



Sports Bus Exposure visit



On November 21, the SFC Excellence Sports Bus visited the Pallikaranai, Semmanchery and Thuraipakkam Police Boys and Girls Club. The club children engaged in various games showed great enthusiasm and relished their time observing the Sports Bus. Around 300 students participated in the visit at Semmanchery Police Boys and Girls Club.



Life skills session



As discussed in the previous Life skills TOT Refresher session, the coordinator conducted their first life skills session on November 22, in their respective clubs. 5 clubs have conducted life skills session on Ground Rules, Introduction, Ten Core Life skills, ice breaking session and activity. The students also shared their feedback on the session.

Parent meeting



A Parents meeting was organized for the parents of Grade 8 students at Arumbakkam Police Boys and Girls Club.



Exposure trips to Police HQ and Academy



In an effort to provide students with an educational experience, a group of 41 students from Triplicane and Mylapore Police Boys and Girls embarked on an exposure visit to Police Museum, Egmore to witness the various types of explosives and pistols, Model of Commissioner's cabin, historical statues, fake currency notes and even



participated in a GK quiz.

Pratham Sopan Training & Testing Camp



Pratham Sopan Training & Testing Camp organized by the HCLF- Hope Foundation, on November 5-7, 2023. Along with 07 Scouters and 08 Guiders, there were 27 Scouts and 35 Guides present at the camp.

Parents meeting and students workshop



On November 4, Parents meeting for cricket players was conducted and the session was led by Mr. Newton, HCLF Manager and a workshop was organized for Football, Ru(g)by, Kabaddi and Volleyball players. Mrs. Prema, Headmistress Avadi Girls School addressed the gathering.



Coaches Workshop



On November 24 to 27, Coaches Workshop was held at Bangalore. Overall, 4 staffs and HCLF - DBAI Sports Consultant Mr. Robin was also present in the meeting.

BSG National Director Meeting



The BSG National Director Mr. Rajkumar Koush Meeting was held at Pallavaram on 19th November, 2023. The main goal of the meeting is to implement scouts at the National level and also discuss MOU Signing with BSG and HCLFoundation

RDG Boxing Championship



On November 27 to 29, Republic Day Boxing Championship was held at Don Bosco School, Egmore. Ms. Priyadharshini participated in Under 19 category and got second place.

Don Bosco District Association Jubilee



HCLF – DBAI Scout group participated in the Don Bosco District Association Jubilee on 18 November 2023 at St. Bede's AIIHS School, Chennai.



Eye Camp



HCL Foundation and Don Bosco Anbu Illam jointly conducted the eye camp in Chintadripet Police Boys & Girls Club. Mr. Rajaram, Inspector of Police and Mr. Chandrasekar, Sub- Inspector of Police from F1 Chintadripet police station inaugurated the event in which children, their parents



and people from the community greatly benefitted.

Diwali Celebration



New Generation Media Corporation Private Limited (Puthiya Thalaimurai News Channel) Chennai team celebrated Diwali with our boys and girls on 4th November 2023 at Bosco Illam. Celebration included fun games and talent show. Crackers and gift boxes were distributed at the end of the program.

Life Skill and Counselling Workshops



Saranalayam – Girls Home children underwent workshop on art therapy and mental wellbeing assessment during the months of November and December 2023. Ms. Sandhiya Joy and Ms. Meera respectively conducted these programs in which 38 girls participated.

Yoga Training



Our girls participated in 15 days training on yoga and meditation certification program organized by District Child Protection Unit, Chennai in partnership with Child Welfare Committees.

Chutties Christmas with SUN Network



SUN TV Network celebrated Christmas with our children on 16th December 2023 at Bosco Illam. Celebration included fun activities, dance and color numbers by our inmates. At the end of the celebration, festive gift boxes were distributed to each child.



Children Christmas Celebration



On 22nd December 2023, children from Bosco Illam and Saranalayam celebrated Christmas happily at Bosco Illam. On behalf of the management, new dress and gift kits were distributed to each child. Children staged special numbers during the celebration.

Visit to Pallava's Land



On 26th December 2023 children and staff of Saranalayam – girls home went to Mahapalipuram as part of one day winter picnic.

Coastal Santa Christmas Celebration



Christmas celebration at Thiruvottiyur evening study centre held on 23rd December 2023. Tmt. Sheela Mary, Inspector of Police, H8 Police Station graced the occasion. Thiru. Prabu, Vinayaga Enterprise consented to be special invitee along with Thiru. Durai, Founder, Seva Priya Trust and Fr. Nelson, Assistant Director, DBAI



Educational Recreational Camp

Three days (27th - 29th December 2023) Educational Recreational Camp was jointly organized by HCL Foundation, DBAI Police Boys and Girls Club and HOPE Foundation. It was inaugurated at Kannagi Nagar by Thiru. Dhayal, Inspector of Police - T15 Kannagi Nagar Police Station. Fr. Andrews Stephen Raj, Director, DBAI and Mr. Srinivasan, Program Manager, HOPE Foundation were presented during the event at Kannagi Nagar by Thiru. Dhayal, Inspector of Police - T15 Kannagi Nagar Police Station. Fr. Andrews Stephen Raj, Director - DBAI and Mr. Srinivasan, Program Manager - HOPE Foundation were also present during the event. A total of 100 students from 8 Police Boys & Girls Clubs namely Semmenchery, Kannaginagar, Perumbakkam, Thuraipakkam, Mylapore, Pallikaranai, Saidapet and Ezhil Nagar participated.

Feast of Bl. Philip Rinaldi



Salesian Lay Brothers' day was celebrated on 5th December 2023 at Bosco Illam. Children wished Rev. Br. Kulandai Yesu and received blessings from him.

Friendly Match



In view of Children's day, friendly football match was held at Bosco Illam on 14th November 2023 between aftercare boys and boys home inmates.

Get ! Set !! Go!!!



On 26th November 2023, VLive Foundation conducted career guidance and exam preparation workshop for board exam candidates. A total of 30 children participated in this event and got benefitted. Workshop included topics such as time management and tips for neat presentation.

Kabbadi Kabbadi !!



On 26th December 2023, children from Bosco Illam were taken to Nehru Indoor stadium to witness kabbadi match between Puneri Paltan and Patna Pirates.

Deep into Woods



On 27th December 2023, boys from Bosco Illam and Aftercare were taken to one day outing to Vandalur Zoo.



Salesian Lay Collaborators Christmas



On 3rd December 2023, Salesian Lay Collaborators from Lourdes Shrine, Perambur celebrated Christmas with our children at Bosco Illam. Members of lay collaborators team gave exciting gifts and shared the festival joy



Staff Christmas Celebration

Staff Christmas Celebration was held at Bosco Illam on 23rd December 2023. Rev. Fr. Praveen Antony, sdb, Vocation Promotor for the Salesian Province of St. Thomas - INM brought festive message and celebrated holy communion along with other religious.



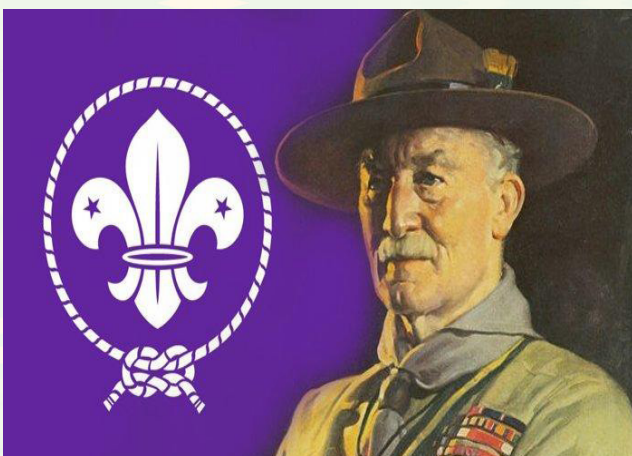
Michaung cyclone

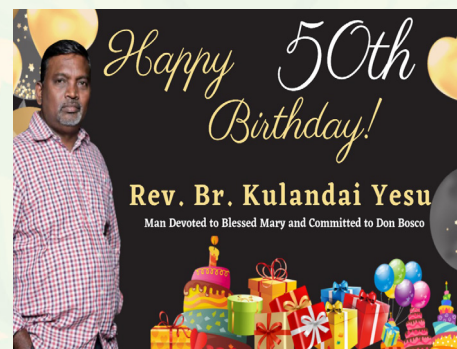
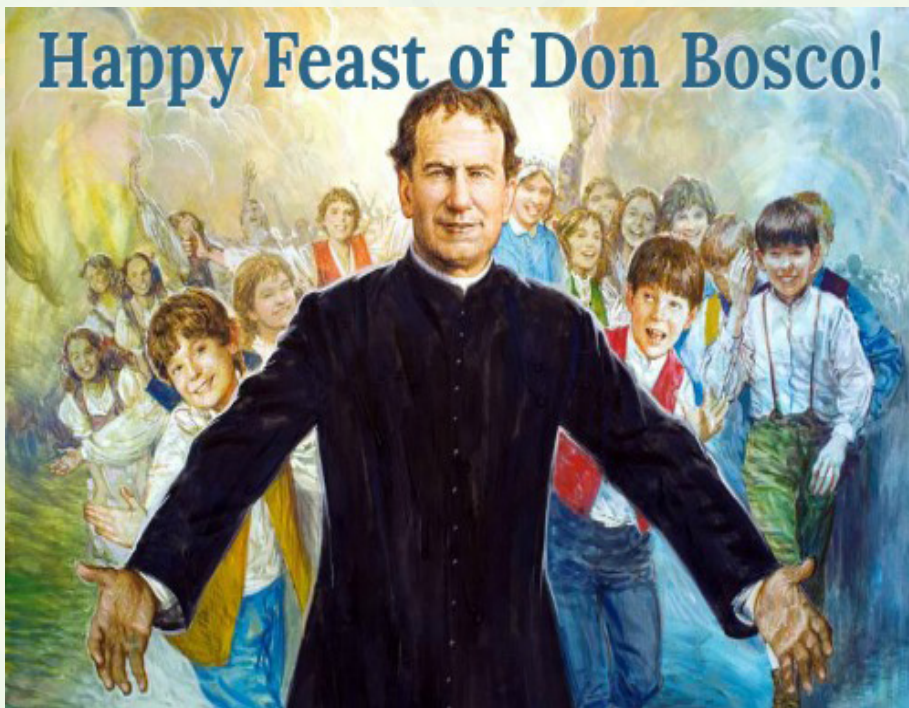
As you are very much aware, the recent cyclone Michaung has badly affected the lives of Chennaites especially people residing in low areas, near marshlands and canal banks despite the fact that this cyclone was meant to disappear in the state of Andhra Pradesh. Michaung gave unprecedented rainfall causing severe flood which resulted in severe damages in households. According to the Greater Chennai Corporation source, 18 people have lost their lives in various fatal accidents during flood and rescue operations and many houses got completely vandalised.



This being the city's current picture and unfortunately our Bosco Illam was badly affected by this heavy down pour. In order to safe guard the children, we immediately shifted the boys to St. Bede's Anglo Indian Higher Secondary School campus and stayed there until the water drained on 10th December 2023. The inundated water caused damage to the infrastructure, furniture and documents of Bosco Illam. During this hard time Salesian province St. Thomas immediately acted to rescue the children and keep them in safer place. We thank beloved Provincial and his Council for their time being support. We also thank Don Bosco SURABHI Project Development Office of INM and its Director and Members of the Staff for extending their huge support for relocation process. DBAI Park town community is ever grateful to Rev. Fr.Sagayaraj Devadoss., Rector, St. Bede's and his community for accommodating our children with warm love and care. At last our sincere thanks to funding partners, volunteers, well-wishers for their prayers during this tough time.

Events & Celebrations





Thank You Readers

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