

DON BOSCO ANBU ILLAM

New SLetter

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.



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.

Staff Capacity Building Program

A Staff Capacity Building program was conducted on 04th October, 2025 facilitated by Fr. Joseph Leo, Sdb, Rector, Don Bosco Perambur, focusing on child-friendly approaches within the context of the DBAI's various projects. Fr. Leo effectively used relevant examples to illustrate how these approaches can be integrated into daily practice. To encourage interactive learning, he divided the participants into two groups to analyze the respective responsibilities of children and their guardians in fostering healthy development.

In addition, Ms. Nina Oviya, Asst. Professor, Dept. Of Criminology from University of Madras provided a brief but informative overview of key laws and legislations related to child rights and protection. This legal perspective further enriched the participants' understanding of the importance of child-friendly practices. They emphasized the importance of viewing every action, policy, and program through the lens of the "Best Interest of the Child." The session was well-received, with active participation from all staff members. By the end of the program, it was clearly understood that child-friendly approaches are not merely optional practices but are essential and mandatory in ensuring the well-being and rights of every child.



Celebrating the Gift of Life of Fr. Administrator

DBAI Community has celebrated the Birthday of Rev. Fr. Regan Jude, sdb, Administrator of DBAI on 05th October, 2025. The children put on a vibrant cultural program, and the entire community, staff, students, and family members were gathered to express their affection and wishes. The festivities culminated in a festive lunch, making it a truly memorable day for Fr. Regan. It was a wonderful moment thanking God for the gift of Fr. Regan to DBAI mission and wished a fruitful and blessed journey ahead.



Awards for DBAI

Happy to share that Don Bosco Anbu Illam has won the Don Bosco National Young at Risk-DB YaR Forum Social Media Award 2024-2025 for the 3rd consecutive year! Also Best Homelink Coordinator 2024-2025 was presented to Mrs. Jyothi Priya from INM Province. Congratulations to the entire DBAI team for their consistent dedication and commitment to spreading the mission of Don Bosco through social media!



Celebrating the Success



We are very happy to share that our student Mr. Manimaran has completed his Printing Course in SIGA. His convocation was graced by the presence of Fr. Andrews Stephen Raj, sdb and Fr. Joseph Leo, sdb, both of whom have been a constant source of support and guidance throughout his journey. We wish him the best for his future endeavors.

Bosco Illam & Saranalayam

Feast of the Nativity of Our Lady

The Feast of the Nativity of Our Lady of Good Health was celebrated on 8th September, 2025 with deep devotion and joy at Bosco Illam. The morning began with a solemn Holy Eucharist celebrated by Fr. Yesu Raj, Dean of Studies. Children actively participated in the Mass with hymns, readings and offertory processions, expressing their love and faith in the Blessed Mother.

The day also included special prayers for the well-being of the children, staff, and benefactors. The celebration helped the children to grow spiritually and understand the values of gratitude, obedience, and faith. The feast reminded everyone that Mary's example continues to guide Bosco Illam in nurturing children with love and care. In the evening we had special Rosary service led by the children and the children brought variety and newness to prayer.



Expressing Through Arts

Bosco Illam and Saranalayam children showcased their creativity and imagination in the YAR Thematic Drawing Competition conducted on 14th September, 2025. The theme, "My Dream and My Future," encouraged children to visualize their aspirations through art.

Under the guidance of staff, the children enthusiastically participated, using colours and ideas to express hope and positivity. The event helped them build self-confidence and provided a joyful learning experience outside the classroom. It also highlighted Bosco Illam's focus on holistic development, where artistic and emotional growth are nurtured alongside education.

Menstrual Health Matters

On 20th September, 2025 our patrons Dr. Sheela and Mrs. Elizabeth from Y's Men International Chennai Club has conducted a meaningful awareness session on Menstrual Health and Personal Hygiene for our young girls at Saranalayam. The session focused on educating the girls about the importance of maintaining personal hygiene, especially during menstruation, and offered valuable guidance on how to prevent and reduce anemia through proper nutrition and self-care. To reinforce the message, they supplied nutritious tonics, Napkin and fresh fruits for girls. We express our sincere gratitude to the organizers for their continuous support.



Group session on Resilience

On 21st September 2025, a group session on Resilience and Teamwork was conducted for children at Saranalayam. The session aimed to help students understand the importance of resilience in overcoming challenges and the value of working collaboratively with others. Various age-appropriate activities were organized to actively engage the children, encouraging participation, cooperation and problem-solving.



Picnic to Marina Beach

To mark the end of the quarterly exams and holidays, Bosco Illam organized a recreational picnic to Marina Beach, Chennai's iconic shoreline. Nineteen children who stayed back during the holidays were taken on the outing, accompanied by the staff members on 26th September 2025.

The children enjoyed the sea breeze, played games, and explored nearby landmarks honouring Tamil Nadu's great leaders, including Perarignar Anna, Mr. M. Karunanidhi and Ms. J. Jayalalithaa. The picnic provided much-needed relaxation and strengthened the bonds between children and caretakers. They spent time in visiting the museum and light-house at the beach. The day concluded with snacks, laughter and gratitude. It was a beautiful reminder that joy and care go hand in hand at Bosco Illam.



Ayudha Puja Celebrations

Bosco Illam, in collaboration with Saranalayam, celebrated Ayudha Puja with great devotion and togetherness on 1st October 2025. The celebration began in the evening with blessings and thanksgiving prayers for the tools and instruments used in daily work. Fr. Andrews Stephen Raj and Fr. Regan Jude led the community in a solemn prayer service, invoking God's blessings upon the staff and children.

The atmosphere was filled with joy as everyone joined hands in prayer and shared festive sweets. The children participated actively and learned about the significance of hard work, dedication and gratitude in life. The event beautifully reflected the unity and family spirit that define Bosco Illam, reminding everyone to work with love and faith in their daily mission.



Volleyball Tournament & Movie Outing

A friendly volleyball tournament was conducted between the staff and children of Bosco Illam on 2nd October 2025, turning the day into one of enthusiasm and teamwork. The event promoted physical fitness, sportsmanship and cooperation among the participants. Both teams played with energy and cheer, but the children's team emerged as winners, earning applause and small rewards for their spirit and skill. The match was not just about winning but about strengthening relationships, sharing laughter and encouraging positive competition. Moments like these bring joy and confidence to the children, helping them understand the importance of teamwork, discipline and respect both on and off the field.

On the same day, the Bosco Illam and Saranalayam enjoyed a movie outing to Manali, to watch the Tamil film "Idly Kadai." The movie carried a beautiful message of Ahimsa (non-violence) and peaceful living. The outing was organized to give the children a refreshing break after their quarterly exams. The children were excited and cheerful, enjoying every moment of the movie and the outing. The experience helped them bond with each other, laugh freely and learn meaningful lessons about kindness and peace. The day ended with refreshments and heartfelt thanks to the staff who made the event possible.



Commemoration of World Mental Health Day



On 06th October 2025 Ms. Kawya, counselor at Saranalayam conducted a session to raise awareness on Mental Health. The program was designed to help students understand the importance of maintaining good mental health and to encourage a culture of empathy, support and emotional well-being within the Children's home.

International Girl Child Day.

Saranalayam celebrated the International Girl Child Day on 11th October 2025 with the focus on the theme of Health and Hygiene. The Session was handled by Mrs. Gomathi, lecturer from Government Stanley Medical College, who provided valuable insights into the importance of maintaining health and personal hygiene among young girls. Further, we emphasized the broader theme, "The girl I am, the change I lead: Girls on the frontlines of crisis," highlighting the role of girls as leaders and change-makers, especially in challenging times.



Grand Diwali Celebration at DBAI

Diwali was celebrated in a grand manner at Don Bosco Anbu Illam! The day was packed with engaging activities, including debates, party games, a special festive lunch and the lighting of crackers. The entire Illam was illuminated with lights, laughter and the joy of the season on 20th October 2025.

The Diwali celebrations were amplified by the visit of college students from the Rotaract Club of Jeppiar Engineering College. They joined our children for a celebration that included a short awareness program and a lively cultural event, fostering a spirit of service and shared joy.



Session on Expressing Feelings

Mr. Akash, our Child Welfare Officer, conducted an innovative session on expressing feelings through art and movement on 22nd October 2025. This therapeutic activity provided the children with a creative and non-verbal outlet to explore and communicate their emotions in a safe and supportive environment.

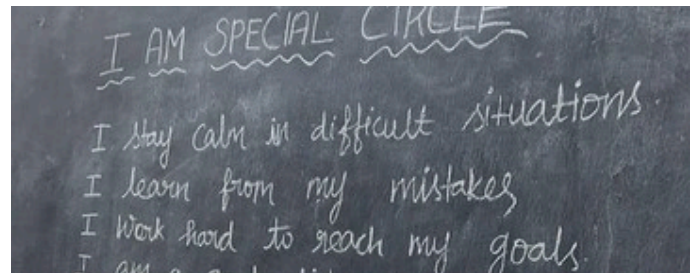


Session on Anger Management

Mr. Mugilan, the counsellor, held an essential session on Anger Management for the children On 28th October 2025. The session equipped them with strategies to understand and healthily manage their emotions, contributing to their personal and emotional development.

GROUP ACTIVITY

On 07th October 2025 Ms. Kawya, Counsellor conducted “I Am Special – Self-Affirmation Circle” to promote self-awareness, confidence and positive thinking among students.



On 08th October 2025 Compliment Card Exchange Activity was conducted for students to encourage positive peer interaction, self-reflection and appreciation for others.

On 11th October 2025 Yellow and Green Card Activity was conducted for students to promote self-awareness, discipline and positive behavioural change.



On 11th October 2025 Emotion Charades Activity was conducted for students to help them identify, express and understand different emotions in a fun and interactive way.

GROUP COUNSELLING

On 07th September 2025 Ms. Kawya, Counsellor conducted group session on Anger Management for the girls to help them understand and manage their emotions effectively. Practical anger therapy techniques such as deep breathing, relaxation exercises and positive expression methods.



On 27th September 2025 Ms. Kawya Conducted A “Trust Fall” activity for the students to enhance team bonding, trust and communication skills.



On 28 September 2025 Ms. Kawya conducted Mask Making Activity for the students to encourage creativity, self-expression and emotional awareness. Students designed and decorated their own masks using various art materials, expressing different emotions and personalities through their creations.



On 20th September 2025, a paired listening activity was conducted in Saranalayam to enhance students’ listening comprehension and communication skills. The collaborative interaction helped Children practice speaking clearly, asking questions and responding appropriately. The activity promoted teamwork, improved concentration and enabled children to express their thoughts confidently while strengthening their overall listening and communication abilities.



Do not try to excuse your faults;
try to correct them

~ John Bosco

INTEGRATED CHILD PROTECTION SCHEME

Festival of Giving

Don Bosco Anbu Illam celebrated Daan Utsav – The Festival of Giving on 8th October 2025 at the Bojarajanagar Outreach Centre. The event aimed to cultivate the spirit of generosity, compassion and sharing among children.

In connection with Daan Utsav, the children from the Centre actively participated by contributing one handful of sugar each as a symbol of sharing and collective giving. With the gathered ingredients, the staff and children together prepared Sweet Kesari and distributed to the elders in the community, spreading happiness and reinforcing the value of caring for others.

The children learned that giving does not depend on wealth but on the willingness to share and bring smiles to others.



International Girl Child Day

Don Bosco Anbu Illam organized the celebration of International Girl Child Day on 11th October 2025 at the Bojarajanagar Outreach Centre. The purpose of this event was to create awareness about the rights, health, education and empowerment of the girl child. The celebration aimed to motivate young girls to recognize their potential, build self-confidence and encourage gender equality in all spheres of life. The event also served as a platform to educate and empower adolescent girls to lead healthy and responsible lives.



“Children need freedom and time to play.
Play is not luxury;
Play is a necessary”.



VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Celebration of Onam and Teachers' Day

We are glad to share the celebration of Onam and Teachers' Day 2025 in Sathuma Nagar and Vinayagapuram Vocational Training Centers on 5th September 2025, joined by our students and YMCA officials and Local leaders. To increase the festive spirit, a variety of fun games and engaging activities were conducted, creating a joyful and memorable atmosphere for all participants.



Ayutha Pooja celebration

Ayutha Pooja was celebrated at Vocational Training Center at Mannady on 11th October, 2025 with the participation of local leaders and women from the community.

Rev. Fr. Regan Jude, sdb, Administrator graced the occasion as the chief guest and honored the program with his presence.



"Every child is a different kind of Flower,
and all together they make the world,
a Beautiful Garden"





Celebration & Commemoration



“The first
Happiness
of a **Child**
is to know
that
he is **Loved**”
–Don Bosco



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