

Ashwini Charitable Trust Newsletter

JULY 2003-DEC 2003

OVERVIEW

Sports activities, origami, public speaking, outdoor activities, health and immunisation programs, computer literacy programs and fundraising - these are some of the exciting and enjoyable activities that we at the Ashwini Trust have been conducting for our children.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL CONDUCTS AN IMMUNISATION PROGRAM

Soroptimist International has conducted a complete immunization program for our children. This included MMR, Hepatitis B, Typhoid and deworming. Dr. Nalini Subbaiah of Soroptimist International, Dr. Chengappa and Dr. Khatib of Lakeside Nursing Home were instrumental in conducting this for us. They also conducted health check ups and performed ear surgery for a needy child. An ENT specialist will be conducting ear check ups for all the children.

FUN AT FUNWORLD (SEPT 7TH, 2003)

33 kids were loaded on to the big bus with booming music amidst a lot of excitement. At Fun World we were joined by more volunteers, so in all we were 33 kids and 15 volunteers. The kids enjoyed the rides on the Tora Tora, the giant wheel, the Columbus boat, as well as the 360 degrees space ship to name a few. They enjoyed the trip tremendously.

TRIP TO THE RANGANATHITTU BIRD SANCTUARY (16TH NOV, 2003)

The children were taken by bus to Raganathittu and they were made to explore the sanctuary, guided by an expert bird watcher. It was a full day trip and lots of fun and a good experience.

TOASTMASTERS PROGRAM IN PUBLIC SPEAKING

The public-speaking program is an ongoing program held every Saturday at National Children School between 1:30 pm to 3 pm. The children have progressed well, setting aside their stage fear and confidently speaking in front of the audience - using gestures, emotions, language and voice modulation to brilliant effect.

Modules covered in this program include:

- How to prepare a speech (Writing, sourcing information, editing)
- Elements of Speech Rehearsal
- How to stand in front of an audience
- How to overcome nervousness
- How to introduce oneself
- How to organize your thoughts
- How to use voice modulation
- How to use gestures
- The art of storytelling
- Impromptu speaking

This is a 4 month program.

ORIGAMI SESSION (DASARA BREAK)

A volunteer and well wisher of the trust, Mrs. Shailaja Iyengar, along with trustee Priyanktha conducted an origami creative workshop for the children during which the kids made origami birds, baskets and lots of things using printed paper. They learnt to make greeting cards using the concepts of finger painting, collage etc. The mothers of the children also had a parallel camp at the same time and made paper bags, cloth bags and learnt a lot.

HOCKEY TRAINING AT ASHISH BALLAL-DHANRAJ PILLAI FOUNDATION

The Hockey training program is held at Karnataka State Hockey Association Stadium, Langford Town. Held every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday between 7 am to 8:30 am. Guruprasad, Nandkumar, Kumar, Gopi have been selected to undergo the hockey training program conducted by Ashish Ballal.

A COOKERY DEMONSTRATION AND FUNDRAISER (NOV 7TH 2003)

This Fundraiser was conceptualized by one of our trustees Radhika Seshashayee and two of our volunteers . It was attended by 50 ladies and was well appreciated. It raised a substantial amount of money for the trust.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- 6 children appeared for the Class 7 public exams. Revathi, Kumari, Praveena and Lakshmi got first class and Guruprasad and Nandini secured second class. All of them got admission in the A.G.C.C.(Ambujamal School)

- The evening classes are going on regularly. 4 dedicated volunteers along with 3 trustees are conducting classes twice a week. And from the past 2-3 months we are providing nourishing snacks for the children before their classes.
- Volunteer Vinita has catalogued the library books.
- Trustee Radhika S has been issuing the books to the children.
- On weekends, remedial classes are held for children who need them.
- We have also started celebrating the children's birthdays on the last working day of every month.
- The houses of the children are visited every Sunday. It was observed that gradually some mothers are beginning to share their problems with us.
- Dr.Bhavani conducts life skill programs with the children. This is done through role plays on the aspirations of the children. She is also counseling their parents.

SOME ACHIEVEMENTS TO BE PROUD OF:

- The children attend computer classes conducted by the Surabhi trust. We were shown some of the work done by our children at the computer institute. They have designed travel brochures, a Powerpoint presentation on themselves/their family, designed birthday cards, invitations etc. Now they are doing live projects and Mrs Sheila Gayathri of the institute has been so impressed by the progress made that she has extended the programmed by another module.
- Shashikala who is in class IX in Ambujamal School won laurels for her school in an inter-school quiz.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 2 computers were donated by C.G.I. One of them is installed in the N.C.S. The second is for the ACT children.
- 30 color paintings were donated for sale by an artist Mr. Manohar. 8 oil sketches have been donated by Mrs.Madhurita.Ghosh
- 4000 New Year cards were donated by a well wisher Mr.RameshVenkataraman

"Ask what we can do for India and do what has to be done to make India what America and other Western countries are today"

--Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam.

