



VIVEKA DARSHAN

NEWS LETTER

(FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY)

AUGUST 2013

DARSHAN 25

40 Memorable Years!

Expansion is life.

The Saga Continues...



VIVEKANANDA EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY

"Sri Paduka", H-Block, Krishna Apartments, 1053, Poonamallee High Road, Chennai - 600 084.

“God is a circle whose circumference is nowhere and whose centre is everywhere”



Sri Srinivasa Kalyanam

“Sri Srinivasa Kalyanam” is performed with the belief that the entire humankind would be bestowed with peace and prosperity. Ceremonious Thirukalyanam were performed at Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Ambattur, Agaramel and Perambur on the advent of the Tamil New Year “Vijaya”. Divine idols were brought from Tirupati. Mass Chanting of Vishnu Sahasranamam, Bhajans and Hymns literally took the devotees to Sri Vaikuntam. TTD Devasthanam sponsors and supports such cultural activities.

Margazhi Veedi Bhajan

Devotional singing of Bhajan songs is a spiritual abhyasam of those practising Sanadhana Dharma. It is only through Nama Sangeerthanam one can reach God. When many abhyasis sing together, it creates a holy and a divine atmosphere. In Marghazhi, divine processions were organised in a number of our schools. Thiruppavai and Thiruvembavai singing by the students stimulates energy to all devotees. The procession culminated in cultural programmes like singing, dancing and recitation. The performance of the students enthralled the audience and brought peace and tranquility.



Karthigai Deepam

Karthigai Deepam is celebrated in the Vidyalayas to imbibe in the minds of the students the rich culture and heritage of our Motherland. On this occasion the students sing devotional songs. The earthen lamps illuminate the entire atmosphere. Public and parents are invited to participate in the Deepam festival and the significance of the programme 'lead us from darkness to light' thereof is highlighted.

Tirupati Paada Yathra

A devotional Paada Yathra provides both physical strength and mental peace. It makes one ethical and religious and transforms one from materialistic life to spiritual life. Simultaneously strengthens the social and religious harmony among the people. Sri.L.Ramamoorthy Joint Secretary, VES, Sri.S.Ramachandran, Correspondent and staff of Perambur Vivekananda Vidyalaya climbed the Tirumala Hills on foot.

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Homams

Ganesha, the Lord of Ganas, represents the power of the Supreme Being that removes obstacles and ensures success in human endeavour. Homams are performed in all the Vidyalayas of our society to beget happiness, prosperity and good health. Ganapathi homam, Navagraha homam, Dhanvantari homam and Vasthu homam are performed in all the Vidyalayas.

Aksharabyas- Initiation into learning

Children at the age of three begin their primary education by inscribing 'ॐ' on the paddy. This special function for the Tiny Tots is being conducted in three of our Vidyalayas.

Vilakku Pooja



Parents, Public, Students and Staff participated in the Villaku Pooja conducted in the temples and Samskara Kendras organized by our Vidyalayas. Devotional hymns created a spiritual ambience.



Vidya Pravesh

“Vidya Pravesh” a unique programme conducted for the students of VI standard in all our vidyalayas.



Karma Yoga

VES officials, Principals, Vice-Principals and Incharges of all vidyalayas attended a discourse on “Karma Yoga” at the Chinmaya Heritage Centre, Chetpet. Swami Mithrananada guided the teachers to be Sthithapragnan in the practice of Karma Yoga. ***Karma Yoga is good intention and good action with detachment to the result.***

Kalpatharu Day

On 1st January every year, Kalpatharu day is observed in our vidyalayas, in remembrance of Guru Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa with the belief that he is an incarnation of God. When Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa touched his disciples they experienced ineffable bliss and felt the rush of spiritual power within their bodies. He had, in effect become Kalpatharu, 'the wish-fulfilling tree.' Pushpanjali is performed to seek his blessings.

Go Vandana



Go Matha Pooja was performed to mark the respect and love to all animals at Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chitlapakkam.

Kanya Pooja

As a part of the Initiative for Moral and Cultural Training (IMCT), a special programme, 'Kanya Pooja' was conducted in January at Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Kundrathur. 100 kanyas from KG classes participated in the same. The students of higher classes offered Nalangu and presented the kanyas with sweets, flowers, mehendi and bindis. An inspiring speech bringing out the qualities of the women of our nation - love, kindness, respectability, patience, modesty etc was rendered. Women, who are adorned with all these jewels, have always been venerated by the Hindu Society.

Teacher and the Taught... the Eternal Relationship

We may read books, hear lectures and talk miles, but experience is the one teacher; the one eye-opener said Swami Vivekananda.

The programme conducted by Swamiji Poojyasri Brahmayoganda Maharaj of Yogashanthi Gurukulam awakened the teachers to realise the eternal relationship between the teacher and the taught. Swamiji also demonstrated a few exercises on yoga which would lead to a sound and healthy mind. Participants were delighted to have a copy of "Ramayana Navaham" authored by Swamiji.



Special Spiritual Experiences

Saradha Devi Jayanthi and Hanuman Jayanthi were celebrated at Vivekananda Vidyalaya Panjetti. The students narrated the story of Ramayana and recited *Rama Pattabishega Saragam*. *Maha Shivarathri* pooja was conducted by Dharma Rakshana Samithi at Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Mathur. Mass chanting of *Vishnu Sahasranama* in all Vidyalayas on the occasion of Vaikunta Ekadesi.

God has given a spark in every one and what needs is a platform to exhibit and excel.

Club to Share and Nurture Creativity



Club activities help the children to gain the tools necessary for understanding human experience, adapting to and respecting different ways of working, thinking, developing, creating and solving skills. Clubs like maths club, social club, science club, quiz club, health club, music club, eco club, english club, tamil club, and karuna club help the students to develop their skills.

Activity Day

Students exhibited their talents under the programmes titled *kids expo, activity day, prathibha pradarshan utsav* etc. The students participated in “*Practise Vivekananda*” organized by Ramakrishna Vijayam.

Talent Display

All Vidyalayas give opportunity to exhibit their students’ talents under the banners *kids day, kg day, bala kala dharshan, balautsav, bala booshanam., surabhi and hari chinthanam suhrudam*. Every child is given an opportunity to participate and portray the talent in variety cultural programmes.



Competitions

The Heritage Competitions of the Hindu Fair

- ❖ Various competitions were conducted in the 5th Hindu Spiritual and Service Fair organized at AM Jain College Campus, Meenambakkam. Students of 12 Vidyalayas bagged various prizes.

TV reality show

- ❖ The students of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Ambattur gave a Bhajan performance in Reality show Audition in Sri Sankara T.V.

Kavi Bharathi Sammelan

- ❖ Kum. Kiranmayee IIIA and Lakshmi Priya IVB of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Thiruvottriyur, won the II and III prize in the music competition conducted by Bharathi Pasarai.

Patriotic Chorus

- ❖ Students of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chitlapakkam won the first prize in Inter School Patriotic Group singing competition conducted by Aravinda Bharathy.

Chinmaya Elocution

- ❖ Inter school Elocution and Essay writing competitions were conducted by Chinmaya Vidyalaya. Vaibhavalakshmi of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Ambattur won the Third prize.

Vallalar Vaaku

- ❖ Students of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Thiruvottriyur participated in Tamil Oratorical competitions conducted by Vallalar Arutpani Sathsangam. Vijayarajan of XI and T.Sri Vadivu of IX won the first and the second prize respectively.

Dinamalar Manavamani

- ❖ Dinamalar conducted competitions to tap the creativity and to meet the challenges of the present day scenario. Students of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Thiruvottriyur participated and won prizes.

R.Aishwarya and S.R.Vinesha won the first prize and second prize in drawing competition.

M.Sai Ganesh and R.Saran Raj won the first prize and second prize in oratorical competition.

Pooja Roy and R.Gayathri won the first prize and second prize in essay writing.

“Competition is the catalyst that drives you to the pinnacle of glory and helps to sustain the fire in your heart.”

TCS Insight Programme

G.Annapooranni, S.Lavanya, V.Nivetha and S.Poojithaa of Vyasarpadi won the “Best Presentation” award in the Insight (Igniting Young Minds) programme conducted by TCS for students of Std XII.

Cash Awardees

Nancy Mishra



- ❖ NSE and History TV 18 jointly organized young pioneers competitions for innovative business idea. A cash award of Rs. 1 Lac was given for presenting a business idea through SKYPE communication.

S. Dharini



Nancy Mishra and S. Dharini of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Vyasarpadi were the recipients of the award.

Navin Sridhar



- ❖ A cash award of Rs. 25,000/- was given for the winner of Science Quiz Competition conducted by Sathya Bama University.

J. Sai Prasath



Sai Prasath and Navin Sridhar, students of XII std, Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chromepet won the Sathya Bama University cash award.

D. Sneha



- ❖ Selvi D. Sneha of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Kundrathur received a cash award of Rs. 150/- from Ramakrishna Mutt in appreciation for participating in the 'Practice Vivekananda' organized by Ramakrishna Vijayam.

Meritorious Performance

- ❖ R.Abinaya and S.V.Karneeshwar of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Korattur were awarded a scholarship for higher education by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India.



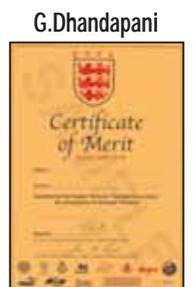
- ❖ S. Jugal Kishore Kumar of Vyasarpadi was awarded a Gift Voucher of Rs.1500/- in Youth Health Mela – 2013 organized by Cancer Institute & Madras Medical College, Chennai.



- ❖ Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Vyasarpadi received the cash award of Rs. 10,000 and a Merit Certificate from Sri. Vineeth Joshi, Chairman, CBSE and Swami Santhateman for the excellent work done to commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.



- ❖ G.Dhandapani of IX std, Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Vyasarpadi won the “Inspire Award” of Rs.5000/- in cash and a Merit Certificate presented by Dept. of Science and Technology, Government of Tamilnadu.





Vivekananda Jayanthi Celebrations



All the Vidyalayas initiated the year long celebration of Swami Vivekananda's 150th Birth Anniversary to pay homage to the patriotic saint by offering flowers to his portrait, organizing grand processions, cultural programmes, film shows, planting saplings, blood donation camps, conducting exhibitions, seminars etc., involving parents and public.



In collaboration with Initiative for Moral and Cultural Training (IMCT), a tableau Ratham of Swami Vivekananda travelled across Chennai and sub urban areas spreading the messages of Swami Vivekananda.



Ramakrishna Mutt, Mylapore organised a walkathon from Kannagi statue to Vivekananda Memorial House. The students of Vivekananda Educational Society participated and took an oath to follow the ideals of Swami Vivekananda.



Essay writing competition on the topic "Swamiji and Spiritualism" and Rangoli - theme "Vision of Vivekananda" were conducted for the parents of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chitlapakkam. Thirty Six parents and three teachers took part in the Essay writing competition and Thirty groups (3 members each) actively participated in Rangoli competition. Winners were awarded prizes.



Deeksha Camp

“Courage has never been known to be a matter of muscle; it is a matter of the heart.”

A camp for X standard students is conducted every year to initiate them into a life of value based ideas. The activities enable the students to be self supportive and to become a complete personality. Students are taken to nearby villages to know about the topography, population, basic amenities available etc. Students take up services like *uzhavarappani*, cleaning, taking survey of the village, visiting old age homes, orphanages and medical camps. The children are focused and inculcate the spirit of sharing and caring.



NCC Inauguration



Swamiji injected patriotism in the minds of the youth and there by inspired India's freedom movement. He said, “What we want are some young men who will renounce everything and sacrifice their life for their country's sake.”

Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chromepet inaugurated NCC. 30 students were selected for NCC Army Signal Wing.

Scouts and Guide Camp

Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chromepet, Vyasarpadi, Ambattur and Tiruvottriyur organized Scouts and Guide camp in their respective schools, inspiring the students to take initiative in nation building activities.

Trekking



Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Kundrathur organized trekking programme at Nanmangalam Forest Area. Children trekked to the hill top and cleaned up the areas. The programme gave the children an insight as how they should live in tune with nature and how they can manage themselves during crisis. It was a wonderful opportunity for the scouts and guides to live up to their motto “Be Prepared”.

Pidi Arisi Thittam

Pidi Arisi Thittam is a regular feature of all the Vidyalayas. The rice contributed is donated to Temples, Adyar Cancer Institute, orphanages and old age homes.

Relief for Uttarkhand

The students and teachers of VES raised to the occasion when their brethren suffered due to natural calamity at Uttarkhand. Rs. Eleven lakhs was donated to support the victims of Uttarkhand.



Parent Seva

As a natural follow of Swami Vivekananda's 150th Year Jayanthi and with the blessings of Jagadguru Sri Sankarcharya (Bala periyava) the parents of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chromepet have taken up the task of reviving Nithyakala Pooja in all the ancient temples of Thirukalukundram Taluk in Kancheepuram District. This is an year long programme, every sunday a visit to the temple is undertaken.



The temple premises, dieties, vessels, vasthram and furniture are cleaned. Kolam and drawing competitions are held for the villagers. Patha pooja, GO pooja and Villaku pooja are performed involving the village people.

Abishekam, Archanai and Arathanai are performed for the dieties. Ruthratcham is tied to all the devotees of the villages. Aathur, Vazhuvathur, Pandur, Mullikulathur, Puliur, Aanoor, Pulipurappu, Kothimangalam, temples are visited and uzharappani is being performed.



RYLA Camp



A two days Camp was conducted at Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Ambattur and Korattur where in the students of class IX & XI got an insight about the importance of total personality development.

AMTI Conference

Staff & students of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chitlapakkam and Korattur attended the 47th Annual Conference of Association of Mathematics Teachers of India (AMTI) held at Samalkot in Andhra Pradesh and presented papers which paved way for the students to enhance their mathematical skill.

You Vs You

Smt.K.Sujatha, Vice Principal, Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Thiruvotriyur interacted with the students of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Jyothi Nagar on handling conflicting situations – profession vs friends/mindset/challenges/powers, etc. She inspired the students by saying they are unique and they can make a difference in their life.

Teacher Enrichment - Vidhya Bharathi

Vidhya Bharathi Teachers Camp was organized at Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Korattur for ten days. Teachers from various schools across the State participated. The camp was organized to enrich their teaching and other professional skills. Principals and Education officers of VES were the resource persons and they also presented papers. Topics highlighting heritage, culture, yoga, etc. were a boon to the participants.

School Parliament

Students of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Perambur had a feel of democracy in their school under the banner School Parliament. Students from classes IX to XII cast their votes to elect the members of the school parliament.



Opportunity for the Aspiring Scientists

Meeting a scientist and listening to his words is a blessing for all science students. XII standard students of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chitlapakkam had the privilege of meeting Dr. Prof. Vipul Singh, Ph. D., Department of Chemical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Indore. He gave a lecture on polymer of organic substances.

Professional ethics for teachers



Teachers and Students are oriented regularly to attain perfection. Vivekananda Educational Society organises programmes at different venues. Resource persons are invited to give lectures.

- Sri. T.Chakravarthy Secretary VES addressed the teachers on Professional Ethics.
- Smt. Prema Mahadevan Principal Vivekananda Vidyalaya Chromepet threw light on the role of teachers.

Vishesha Pradeepana Samithi



Resource persons from various CBSE/ State Board schools guided the students of XII std to excel in the board examination confidently.

Felicitation for High Achievers



Felicitation function was organized to recognize the high achievers of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Chromepet, Korattur and Vyasarpadi in the board examination.

Student Counsellors

As child centered education is the prime motive of Vivekananda Educational Society, two teachers from each unit were trained under professionals to take up the counselling work at their respective units.



Surya Namaskar Yagna



Exercises are like prose, whereas yoga is the poetry of movements. Once you understand the grammar of yoga; you can write your poetry of movements.

As a part of 150th year birth anniversary celebration of Swami Vivekananda 'Surya Namaskar Yagna' was conducted in all our Vidyalayas. Significance of Surya Namaskar was taken to neighbourhood schools. Energetic participation of parents, teachers and students made the Yagna successful.

Performance

Students	-	16,810
Teachers	-	459
Parents	-	525
Total Surya Namaskars	-	14,92,825

Annual Sports Meet

The sports day gives students opportunity to learn to be competitive. Eminent sports personalities are invited to motivate the students. A spectacular display of march past enthral the audience. Activities like mass drill, yogasana and pyramid showcase their creativity.



Vidya Bharathi - National Competitions

Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Korattur- runner up in Yoga competitions

D.Sai Hari Kishan of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Ambattur won first prize in discus throw.



G.Nikesh and G.Kavya of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Perambur won gold medal in the Taekwondo competition.



CBSE National Athletic meet.

U.Arthi from Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Korattur won the gold medal in Long jump and silver medal in High jump.



CBSE West / North Cluster Sahodaya

❖ Swimming

- M.Mithra of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Vyasarpadi bagged first place in freestyle and relay and second place in back stroke. She won the third place in IV mini fencing – national level competition.
- M. Keerthana, Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Vyasarpadi won the first position in relay and third position in freestyle and backstroke.

❖ Volley ball

- Girls of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Vyasarpadi were the runners
- V.M.Akshaya of Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Vyasarpadi won the best player award in CBSE West Cluster Sahodaya Volley Ball Tournament.

❖ Kho-Kho Tournament

- Girls, Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Korattur – West Sahodaya winners
- Girls, Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Thiruvottriyur – North Cluster winners
- Boys, Vivekananda Vidyalaya, Korattur – winners



Mananeeya
Suriyanarayana Rao



Sri N. Gopalswami, IAS (Retd.)



Sri S. Gurumurthy



Swami
Vimurthananda Maharaj



Swami
Mithrananda



Glimpses of

VES FAMILY GET-TOGETHER

08-01-2013

**Ethiraja
Kalyana Nilayam
Chennai**