

# VIDYA DHWANI

**VIDYA  
MANDIR**

News Letter

Vol 12 Issue 2

NOVEMBER 2008

## Editorial

**Hey!!**

I hope you enjoy our Vidya Dhvani Workstation pictures. Now you know a little more about us. Look out for the 'Reporter's Diary' and the 'Mantra for Success' columns!

Please send in your comments, and any ideas you might have, to vidya.dhwani@gmail.com.

We're looking forward to hearing from you!

Have a fantastic year!!!

Cheers!

**- Poornima Kumar**

Learning, a perennial process, takes place with such ease at this 'Temple of Learning', VM, as acquiring knowledge is a ceaseless phenomenon with various fun activities. VM-ites, effortlessly, have faltered, halted and altered themselves to obtain this practical and priceless education.

Adding on to this existing list of activities, the 'Life-Skills Club' will soon be introduced, leaving little time for life's digressions.

Bravo, VM-ites!!

**- Vijayasri Sarath**



**Work is Fun at  
Vidya Dhvani  
Work Station**



## Letters to the EDITOR

*On visiting the Blue Cross, we were emotionally moved to see the neglected animals. We promised to shower all our love on them.*

**-Sanjana,9A - Sandhya, 9B**

*Most of the P.T. equipment is found to be in a bad shape. The students must handle them with care.*

**- Preethi, 7B**

*The Maths lab looks so good from outside that I feel it will be much better inside.*

**- Srikirshna M.S., 7D**

*I love the new English lab. It is filled with lots of activities like Scrabble and other word games. It has helped me improve my vocabulary.*

**- Sharada, 5C**

*Scholastic held an interesting workshop. I liked it. I also bought a few books.*

**- Nikhil, 5C**

*The scout camp was a good learning experience. We lived in tents surrounded by huge trees, which was exciting. I hope to attend many more camps like this.*

**- Gaurav Ganti, 8A (Assistant Patrol Leader)**

## Editorial Board

Vijayasri Sarath, Kamala Rajshekar, Padmini Chandrasekaran

Poornima Kumar, Aarthi Krishnan,

Anjanaa, Ashwath, Shambhavi, Divij, Dhvani, Charulatha, Ahana, Jayadev, Harshavardhan, Nayantara, Chaaya, Pallavi, Siddharth, Mahima, Nivrith, Jyotsna Vilva.

"And the award goes to S.Bhavna" was the refrain that echoed long after the prize day was over. Students from the middle school actually expected Bhavna back on stage for an encore, long after she had walked away with 28 prizes. However, Jayadev Bhaskaran of class 11 who bagged 14 prizes was close behind. The chief guest for the event was Mrs.Ranjani Manian. Ms.Manian spoke about the importance of practice and hard work and illustrated this by a few interesting exercises.

Kudos to all the prize winners for their wonderful performance! The junior batches have to work hard to keep up the VM standard.

# PRIZE DAY - Dhvani



# REFLECTIONS

- *Shambhavi*

VM's Annual Cultural Extravaganza 'Reflections' was held on the 4th and 5th of July 2008. The Chief Guest for the event, Mr.Sikkil Gurucharan, the famous Carnatic musician and an alumnus of our school, inaugurated the Culturals with an enchanting song. Twenty-six schools from various parts of the city gathered to fight it out for the Shield for the Best Performance. Eventually P.S. Senior Secondary School took it away just beating Bala Vidya Mandir at the post. Oliver Antonio Simon from St. Bede's walked away with the 'Star of Reflections' award for entertaining the crowd during the Variety Entertainment. The smiles on the faces of teachers and students alike, truly 'reflected' the roaring success of Reflections '08. Hats off to Class 11 for working tirelessly to organise it!



# THEATRE AT ITS BEST

- *Jayadev B.*



**PRADEEP** (Best Actor) **DHWANI** (Best Actor-female)



**RADHA**  
(Best Director &  
Best Music Director)



**SHAMBHAVI**  
(Best Music Director)

After weeks of practice and endless rehearsals, the big day finally dawned. The 19th of July was a memorable one for the High School students of VM - the day of the much awaited Inter-House Dramatics.

The four houses - Kailash, Kanchenjunga, Nanga Parbat and Nilkant all presented wonderful plays that were a treat to watch, in spite of a few technical glitches. The actors impressed the audience and the judges with their eloquent dialogues and powerful acting.

At the end of the day, 'The Boor', by Kanchenjunga was adjudged the best play.



**VANDANA**  
(Best Supporting Actor-female)



**HARSHAVARDHAN**  
(Best Supporting Actor)

# ENTRENOUS

- Ashwath

Entrenous 2008 ... a melange of colour, humour, competition and memories served in a glorious flavour of Vidya Mandir. Entrenous was on 9th August, 2008 with the offstage events being conducted during the week. Talented students participated in all the events ranging from Quiz and Dumb Charades to Shipwreck and Adzap. The high point of the day though, was the Variety entertainment where singers, dancers and actors all entré dans le style with brilliant song and dance routines not to mention the maverick performances like 11C's human puppet performance that with sheer audacity had the audience spellbound. The variety was bagged however by 12D and 12A who brought the roof down with their comedy and dance acts. The overall winner was 12D whose backdrop for Variety entertainment stole the show, followed by 12A and 12C. There was good cheer and celebration all around. However, some of us from Class 12 paused to contemplate on the poignancy of the moment, one that we will cherish in the years to come.

## Reporter's Diary

### A Fine Example

*Three rather over - enthusiastic reporters walked in to help with the middle school English play for the school day. They sternly told the children, "Be serious- or else!" At the end of the zero period that day, one of the cast remarked - "And they were supposed to make us work!", for the three of them had turned into primary school children, playing "chi-koo-li-baa" and giggling away, while the cast indulgently smiled and continued practice.*

# LIGHTS, CAMERA, SCHOOL DAY!

- Nayantara

A stranger passing by Vidya Mandir on the 7th of August would have been surprised by the line of cars outside and the noise and frequent cheers emerging from the school. A VM-ite would have been able to tell them that it was the much-awaited School Day.

It began with the Orchestra which provided the usual rousing start to the evening. The dance drama had the school's best dancers take the stage and they proved that they certainly deserved their title. The Middle School English play, was scripted and produced by the Vidya Dhvani team. The winners of the Inter-house Dramatics, Kanchenjunga, performed the High School English play, which brought the house down with its polished acting, and comic relief.

The three language (Hindi, Tamil and Sanskrit) plays were extremely well planned and the amazing extra effects and music made up for any language barriers that might have otherwise existed. Teachers were given awards for their long service in the school-10, 20 and 30 years. The fillers were both melodious and original and the comperes did their bit by adding clarity and lucidity to the flow of the items. Almost all the students played a part - whether onstage or offstage and it all added up to make the evening a grand success!

## SALUTATIONS TO THESE VETERANS

SUDARSHANA NATHAN  
D. SUBRAMANIAM  
T. MAHALAKSHMI  
PADMINI CHANDRASEKARAN  
HEMA NATARAJAN

20  
Years

30  
Years

M. KOTHANDARAMAN  
P. SELVARAJ  
S.N. MURTHY  
PADMAVATHY. S

MILESTONES OF SERVICE  
IN VIDYAMANDIR

# INDEPENDENCE DAY

- Shambhavi

The anniversary of the most important milestone in India's recent history was celebrated on the 14th of August (due to Varalakshmi Vrattam falling the next day). The piece de resistance of the morning's programme was the jugalbandhi of



Vande Mataram rendered by Rishabh on the piano, Keshav on the flute and Jayadev on the mridangam. The speeches by Bharadan P.S and Nayantara in Tamil and English respectively added to this spirit of patriotism. And finally the singers of class 12 gave a soul-stirring rendition of Raghupathy Raghava Raja Ram, Gandhiji's favourite bhajan and Aaduvome, an equally moving composition of Bharathiar's.

Well done guys! It's to be hoped that the Independence Day celebrations truly did arouse the patriotism in all your hearts!



## SPORTS DAY 2008

- Siddharth

*'We had joy we had fun we had seasons in the sun.'*

The 53rd Sports Day of Vidya Mandir was held on 26th August 2008 at the Anna University grounds. The day's proceedings began with the March-past. All the houses put on very good shows and so did the impeccable RSP.

The March-past was won by Nanga Parbat house, closely followed by Kanchenjunga. The various races and field events took place soon after and the athletes were seen running up and down the tracks for their various events. No matter who won the events, the School Mascot, the duck, won our hearts and made us all smile. With his most non-duck-like tail and weird antics, he strutted up and down even when his house was losing.

At the end of the day Kanchenjunga came out as the winner, with Nanga Parbat in the second place. Aarti Anand and Pradeep Bharadwaj were declared the Champions for the Super Senior category and Raghav Ramesh and Shebani P. in the Senior Category. Anwitha Rangan and Sai Raghav were the Junior Champions.

## Reporter's Diary

If it's Tuesday, it must be Maths

*We may think the teachers don't suspect a thing, but they deserve more credit. One very clever person "bunked" three tough math tests in a row and came up with various reasons as to why he couldn't be present. One fine day, when this person was absent for a genuine reason, the teacher asked the rest of the class why this student had not turned up even though there wasn't a math test that day. The entire class replied "We have a Chemistry test today!"*



PRADEEP

## Mantra for Success

- Poornima Kumar and Anjanaa V

*Hear it from the proud 12th grade torch bearers...*

**Pradeep Bharadwaj:** *I run because it makes me feel good.*

**Kailash Siddhartha:** *Hard work and training are essential to succeed.*

**Monisha Mohan:** *Confidence is what helps me achieve success.*

**Ramya:** *Dedication, hard work, determination to achieve my goals, and confidence helps me succeed.*

**Satyanarayana Rao:** *To succeed, it's important to have a good attitude and a lot of interest.*

**Pradeep** is known for his National Karate - black belt, Kailash for National Rowing champ, Monisha is a National Table Tennis champion, Ramya is a champion in National Athletics and Sathyanarayan is a **National Badminton player.**



KAILASH



MONISHA



RAMYA



SATHYANARAYANA

# TAKE 3 *(An interview with the R.S.P.)*

- Ashwath R

The Vidya Dhvani took an opportunity to catch up with our student policemen and women - the RSP or Road Safety Patrol. We spoke to HB Keshava of 12D, Shankar of 11A and Aishwarya of 11 D, senior members of the RSP on their times with the Patrol.



**VD: What made you join the R.S.P.?**

**Keshava:** I joined the R.S.P. in Class 8, as I wanted to serve society in some way. The R.S.P. proved to be the perfect thing for me and I have really learned so much over the last few years, being a part of the R.S.P.

**Shankar:** Yes... I remember how it started in a simple way, and how it has grown so much. It really became special only after I entered class 9 though. We started taking pro-active measures to be a part of the growing awareness of road safety in the city. We began taking part in the various seminars and campaigns also.



**Aishwarya:** The seminars on road safety were eye-opening experiences for me. It was then that I realised how crucial road safety is, especially today. The campaign against usage of mobile phones while driving also made a huge impact on me. Watching Keshava and Rohit marching in the Republic Day parade made me realise what a powerful force the RSP could be if it were used well.

**Keshava:** I should really take this opportunity to thank Viswanathan sir and Head constable Subramaniam sir for their undying support, encouragement and training. The R.S.P. grows and furthers itself on their energy and enthusiasm.

**VD: And how it has grown!! We have one of the best RSP contingents in the city and if I'm right, it hosted the Inter-school RSP competitions this year.**

**Shankar:** Yeah, that was a high point for us! Marching as a separate contingent during Sports Day with our own flag was also a big step towards becoming a major part in the school's activities.

**VD: Tell us about the toughest times you've had. What challenges have you overcome in this quest for road safety?**

**Aishwarya:** Arguing with parents has always been difficult. There is a very thin line that one should never cross, but sometimes we have crossed it, and things have gotten sticky. It's all turned out for the best though...

**Keshava:** We still have a long way to go. We have so many plans - plans to train the younger cadets, to conduct regular seminars and to become a bigger part of the city's road safety community.

**Shankar:** Keshava's leaving this year. Aishwarya and I will be leaving next year. But we mean to be involved in the activities of the RSP and in service activities wherever we are.

**Keshava:** Absolutely. The R.S.P. has really taught all of us patience and given us a keen desire to serve society - something that we're sure to take with us wherever we go!

**VD: Thanks for your time! We've had a lovely time talking to you and we wish you the very best in your endeavours both for yourselves and for society.**



## CULTURAL REPORT

- Harshavardhan

On the 31st of July and the 2nd of August, Class 11 was all geared up to participate in their first-ever culturals, that of National Public School. With butterflies in their stomachs Class 11 set forth and (wonder of wonders!) won the Overall Trophy. After that, they attended the P.S. Senior Culturals held at Bharathiya Vidya Bhavan. Wanting to keep up the good work, and start a winning streak, the 11th graders once again gave it their best and (eureka!) won the Overall Shield for the second time in a row. On 27th August the 11th standard students were once again geared up and ready to make it three in a row, with a clean sweep at the Lady Andal culturals. But Fate

thought otherwise, as they came up a little short and were placed 4th overall. And not forgetting to recognise the worthy, we must mention that the 12th standard participated in BVM's as well as CV's culturals and just missed the overall first position by a few marks!! Class 11 Students of the Commerce Dept participated in the Sishya, 'Stockwar' and in true Vidya Mandir Spirit earned the magnificent trophy that signified their overall 1st position.

# CAMPUS NEWS

## CBSE Clusters - Basketball

This year the CBSE Clusters for Basketball was hosted by our school on the 21st and 22nd of October. The winners, Hindu Sr. Secondary school and Chettinad Vidyashram boys and girls respectively will attend the nationals at Nagpur.

## 6.022x10<sup>23</sup> DAY

The 23rd of October was a holiday due to untimely rain. However, Mole Day was celebrated on the 24th with the doors of the Chemistry lab opening at 10.23 am.

## THEY PLAYED WITH NUMBERS...!!

The Math Dept took students to Dakshin Chitra for a treasure hunt and also staged a skit "The Power of Powers", which was well appreciated by everyone.

## BORN 2 WIN... Were You?

A special programme initiated for the students in order to manage their time and resources so as to become efficient beings was organised recently. They were spoken to about the various ways to become efficient.

## Was it Kaun Banega Crorepathi?

Students of classes 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th participated in a science quiz. They used remote controlled devices to answer the questions and were introduced to the modern technology.

## Down Green Lane

Members of the Nature Club captivated the school with descriptions of our campus plants and trees. By dwelling on our green past and present, the Nature Club has imparted zeal to preserve our green future. It was a pleasure to wander into the world of nature for a few moments every morning.

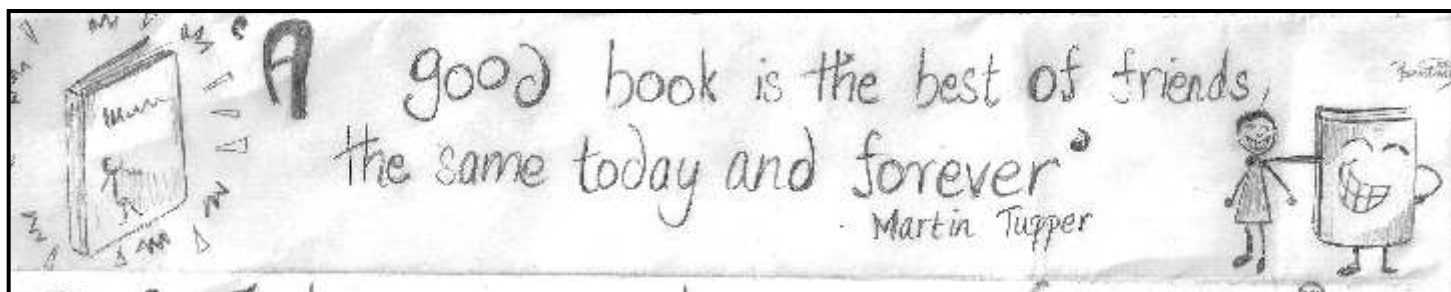
## Labs on the Move

The world economy might be going through a slump but Vidya Mandir is certainly on the move. The Maths Lab with its new equipment has been relocated to a more convenient location at Room #30 on the second floor while the Social Science Lab and the Language room have swapped places.

## A New Reporter

Ajit of class 9, a new student who joined us this year in Vidya Mandir from PSBB has already showcased his talents as a reporter for the Tamil magazine "Chutti Vikatan". An editor from the magazine visited our school campus and lauded Ajit on his selection. "It's an honour to have received such a coveted position", said the blushing reporter.

- Mahima and Nivrith



## Destination Singapore! A Trip to the Lion City

In July, six students from the tenth, Juhi, Nayantara, Pallavi, Saranya, Sushma and Vaishnavi, along with two teachers (Ms. Vidya Vageesh and Ms. Uma Balasubramanian), went to Singapore for a week. They attended the Regional Youth Conference and spent three days at the Methodist Girls School attending their classes.

## And Now, Japan!!!!??

Mr. Viswanathan, our RSP Head as we all know him, went to Japan under the aegis of Japan-East Asia Network Exchange for Students and Youths between the 16th and 26th of June, to accompany a delegation of 50 students from all over India. There, he visited the Miraikan National museum, the A-Bomb Tomb and the Peace museum in Hiroshima, and had a fabulous time learning about the Japanese, their culture, and education!

## R.S.P. COMPETITIONS

In the Road Safety Patrol competitions



held last month, H.B. Keshava outshone the others and won the first prize for the elocution contest. Shankar of 11A was judged the best boy cadet in marching while Tamarah of 8A bagged it for the girls. "It was a great experience and I enjoyed it!" said Shankar and Tamarah.

### New Teachers!

Ms. Revathi S. Sanjeevkumar (RS), Ms. Kamala Rajshekar (KR) and Ms. Ranganayaki Sampathkumar(RNS) joined our faculty in the high school; Ms. Chitra Vivekanandan and Ms. Vijji Aravind in the primary section; and Ms. Hemamalini Murali in the KG to teach the tiny tots. We also have a new manager- Mr Santhosham.

### Heritage Walk

The members of the Heritage club viewed a presentation on the Indian heritage and also had an early morning heritage walk on the Marina Beach. They multi-tasked in the process - exercised, took



in fresh air and learnt about the monuments on the beach!! They participated in a workshop conducted by Shruthi Parthasarathy and learnt how to preserve stamps.

### BUDDING FILM MAKERS

Harshavardhan Ganesan and Dhvani Sabesh of Class 11 have been trained to shoot a short film by the professional cameramen of NDTV. This show is called "I Spy with my Digit Eye" which will be shortly telecast in a new city-channel called METRONATION, Chennai.

### NEWS FROM THE TINY TOTS

In the KG, Navrathri was held with the routine Golu display, which was visited by the CEMD group. The KG sports day was a blast, spread over FOUR days, and included a colourful drill apart from many other fascinating things. The kids were also taken on a mini tour of the school!!!



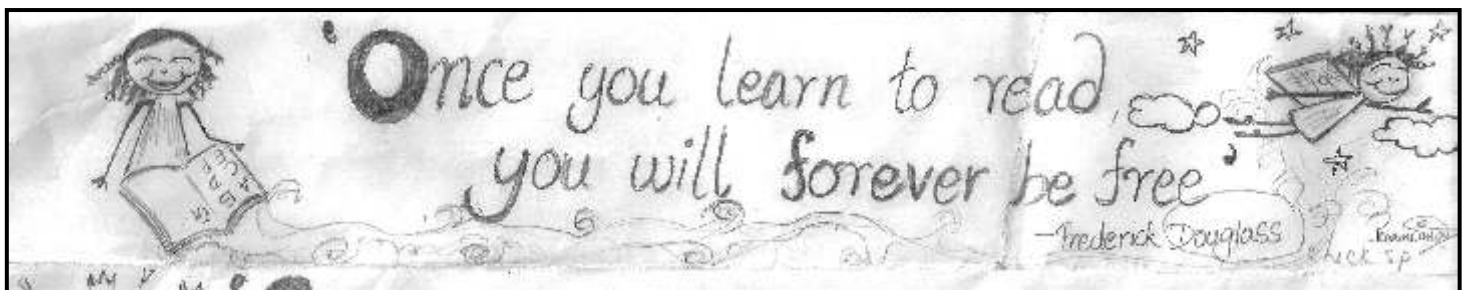
## PRIMARY PROGRESS

Two new labs - English and Hindi - were inaugurated last term. Ananth



Ananth - Sports Champion

of the 5th grade participated in the CBSE table tennis clusters along with a 12th grader. The primary students also attended many interschool competitions at BVM like dance, recitation, fancy dress etc. The colourful Sports Drill was held on the 5th of September and the prize distribution followed. Ananth was declared the Sports Champion of the academic year 2008 - 09.



# CLUB REPORTS '08

- Ahana and Divij

This year, Rotarian Ahlu Walia inaugurated the Interact club. The members visited Karna Prayag, and spent a wonderful afternoon cuddling the orphaned infants. They also took a trip to Blue Cross and sharpened their sensitivity to the plight of the abandoned and unwanted animals whose numbers only increase each day. A special mention needs to be made about Mythreyi of class 11D for selling the maximum number of tickets and contributing Rs 3000.

Mrs. Radhika Krishnakumar inaugurated all the other clubs.

## WHEN IT RAINS MUSIC...

The SPAM club helped the Y.A.C.M. (Youth Association for Classical Music) build rasikas in the latter's innovative program. They also put up a stall in the Y.A.C.M.'s annual music carnival. Their second major activity was when they attended "Svanubhava", a festival exclusively conducted for students of classical music and dance. They also took a tour of Kalakshetra, the venue of the festival.

## CEREBRAL REACTIONS

Effervescence (our chemistry club) too made sure the chemicals in the brains of its members were used to the maximum. They kicked off their activities with "Chemistry Sudoku", followed by "Chemistry Crossword" and the brain-stimulating "Chemistry Quiz". Truly reactive, we must say!

## ACCOUNTING AND PAYROLL

The Commerce club members visited the IGP factories and learnt quite a bit about management. There was a lecture by Mr. Ramaswamy on academic and career prospects in their chosen field.

## PLAYING WITH NUMBERS

The members of Concurrence – the maths club, attended Mr. Sadagopa Rajesh's lecture on the interesting properties of mathematics, which they felt was fascinating.

## SCRABBLE, PLAYS AND DRAMAS

The Literary and Dramatics Club had a pretty amazing time this term too. They had a word- scramble contest for class 11 and 12. They also watched the hilarious play by EVAM, "The Odd Couple". Class 8 had an inter-class dramatics competition which was judged by the PTA members for which they even had to script their own plays. Budding dramatists indeed!

## SPLASHES OF PAINT!

The Arts Club attended two workshops- one on watercolour techniques and the other on quilling techniques conducted by Mr. Ilango Adigal. The paintings by the members were later displayed, and we must say, they were really exquisite.



## THE WILD NATURE

The Exnora, having decided that charity begins at home, cleaned up the school campus after surveying the cleanliness of our school (thanks guys!). They also witnessed garbage processing in a dump at Velachery, and went on an MRTS ride from Velachery to Marina Beach.

## AT THE CAMP

The scouts of Vidya Mandir attended the camp held at the Theosophical Society from the 1st to the 4th of October. The scouts had a unique and exhilarating experience surrounded by wilderness. Vidya Mandir emerged as the winners of the scout camp. The leader of the patrol - "foxes", Ajay Immanuel (9C) and Arun Kumar (8A) were rewarded for their victory.



# OBITUARY



எங்கள் குடும்பம் பட்டம் கற்பிக்கு  
 சூழி களஞ்சியமாம்  
 நல்லம்மையாசிரியர்  
 இன்றுவளடி சேர்ந்தார்  
 - மாணவர்கள்

உன் சிரிப்பு இகம் எம்  
 சிந்தனையை விட்டு  
 நீங்கிமோ?  
 - மாணவர்கள்