



MADURAI SEED
Annual Report
2016 - 2017



During Living Fabrics art workshop on 26.02.2017



18 years of service

MADURAI SEED

Annual Report

2016 - 2017

MADURAI SEED is a voluntary organization to support and empower the underprivileged children and young people



Report by: A.S.Karthikbharathi, M.Mansurali, V.Mariammal, V.Elavarasi, C.Arunkumar, K.Muthupandi

Arjun Shanmuga Illam, 439/1, East Street, Karumbalai, Madurai – 625020

0452-2537670, 94425 37670, maduraiseed1999@gmail.com, www.madurai-seed.org

- Melli Annamalai
- E. Annamalai
- Eveline Masilamani
- Laura Villiger
- John Potts
- Paola Pappone
- Martin
- Patricia Jegher
- Martina Frei
- Ursula Villiger
- Peter Fuchs
- Eliane Suess
- Niklaus Schatzmann
- Sylvia Fust
- Clive Oxen Den
- Susanne Grossman
- Christina Latham
- Andrea Wilson
- Keith & his friends
- Vinoth
- Muruges & Viji
- Gudem Prasad
- Prabhakar Vedamanikam
- P.V.Rajagopal-ji
- Thanaraj
- Asha- Boston, USA
- Friends of MADURAI SEED, Zurich
- Kantonsschule Freudenberg School Students & Staff
- Dalyan Foundation
- Vizhuthugal
- Friends of MADURAI SEED, India
- CESCO



**WE ARE GRATEFUL
TO YOU
THANK YOU**



Learning is awesome!



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From The Managing Trustee



"A.S.Karthikbharathi, the founder of Madurai Seed works for more than 17 years for the betterment of underprivileged in Karumbalai, where he grown up. He extensively works to identify, educate, and liberate children and young people. Together with like-minded people, his combined efforts make a difference in the lives of many. Here he reflects upon some questions about his journey."

Your very first dream about SEED when you initiated the organization?

To tell about my dream about Madurai Seed, I have to start from my family. I am a sixth child to parents who are not school educated. Poverty haunted me during school days. I have managed to

do many part time jobs and took care of my high school and college education. The environment in my area lacked economic wellbeing, opportunities and guidance. From my childhood I joined myself in many social service forums and my college has broadened my vision. I wanted to do something to the children of my area which helps them to taste the fruit of education. I created a space for children where they can come and read books, and it was further extended to evening centers with teaching volunteers, resource persons to come and share, and my dream became real and flourished.

How do you explain SEED has changed the lives of many children and young people?

We think we've become a sophisticated society, progressed a lot but the complexity, violence, inequality have increased a lot. I think the process like going to school; continue to study in school, getting into colleges, settling in a job through education is a big change. Many parents started to think giving education to children is a step to get out of poverty. I've seen many families tasting the economic development at least in a minimum level through education. In 1997 only two people went to college. Now the number of children finishing 10th std and 12th std, number of students getting into colleges and young people's job profiles, and young people's confidence and their ability to skillfully leading their life in society explains the change.

Why do you think “the locale needs an organization like SEED”?

The problems when I started Seed have taken different faces. You can't see all problems with eyes but can be felt by heart. Violence in street and domestic violence are still there. Economic and gender inequalities are there. In schools, we lack quality education. Children aren't seen as valuable resources. They lack physical, emotional, educational, and guidance needs which is not at all good for their growth and development. So, Madurai Seed has a strong need and responsibility to support the children and young people in this locale.

The happiest moment you felt?

I can share some stories of former children and young people. O.Manikandan is connected with Madurai Seed since childhood. He was a student, then volunteer, and now a prominent alumnus supporting Madurai Seed with a small monthly donation. He is earning good as an engineer and leading a responsible life for family as well as society. Saranya Devi was a former volunteer, is now working as a teacher. She donates a part of money from her first month salary of every year, and uses to come to visit us whenever possible. Professors who taught me are my inspiration even now. They appreciate my works and participate as resource persons in various events. Another thing is the myth of last benchers, schools and parents use to tell them as useless, they can't study, they can't settle well in life. But I have guided many of them, even final exam fails to pass their exams, encouraged them to study further. When they share their stories, when I see their progress, when they are leading a good life I feel very happy.

About future plans/ next year?

There are some dreams that keep me going. At first, we've managed with rental buildings and rooms for many years. It would be great if Madurai Seed has an own building it will decrease many practical problems and economic assistance that the organization face. Further plans are to reach more and more children and young people beneficiaries, to extend our model to other places, to accommodate more young people in volunteering, and to enrich young people in leadership skills to become community leaders.

Your message to the supporters?

Madurai Seed wouldn't be what it is today without your support. You are the driving force and backbone of our activities. We thank each one of you for believing our mission and supporting us. We respect and value your efforts. We assure you that we continue to do our best for the benefit of children and young people.



About Us

MADURAI SEED is a grass-root level nonprofit organization founded in 1999, aims to promote underprivileged children and young people through education. “Seed” refers to our belief that every child has great potential, when disadvantaged children and young people are supported with adequate resources and opportunities, just as a plant they can grow and achieve great heights.



Our Mission

To provide a supportive, nurturing environment for socially economically disadvantaged children and young people to discover and develop their mental abilities to enrich their sense of self esteem and empower them with emotional stability to promote personal and social responsibilities

Program Overview



Formal Education



Skills and Personality
Development Programs



Scholarship



Regular assistance for
school subjects



Seminars, Workshops,



Children from single parent
family



Support for slow learners



Saving Bank



Endowment prizes for
meritorious children



English Classes



Club Activities



Scholarship for college
students



Educational Guidance



Exposure Visits



Stipend program for
volunteering



Young People Resource
Center



Library & Journals

Glimpses of 2016-17

Change is a process, not an event

- **361 children and 23 young people** have been benefited directly from education centers in Karumbalai. 125 children have received supplementary education support in Sevalayam Hostel.
- Approximately **200 families** from the socially economically disadvantaged areas like Karumbalai, S.M.Nagar, P.T.Colony, Indira Nagar, Corporation Colony are benefited.
- In 2016-17, **22 college going young people** have travelled with Madurai Seed as teaching volunteers.
- Former students' turning into Volunteers is a significant of Madurai Seed. **6 young people have become volunteers this year.**
- **100% result** in 10th and 12th std. 34 students of our 17th batch of tenth standard, and 30 students of twelfth std have passed the exams.
- Youngpeople like Nagarjun, Karthik, Surya, Sharmila, Jensi Rani, Manikandan, and Shenbaga Muthu Muniyandi have **completed their college studies.**
- Nagarjun, Karthik, and Manikandan have **got private jobs.**
- 26th Pudhuyugam children's magazine is published as **girl children's special edition.**

- **Vizhuthugal Alumni Meet** was conducted in October 2016. 15 former volunteers took part in the program. 32 people have provided their annual subscription.
- 20 young people benefit from the **Monthly Stipend Program** of Asha for Education.
- Rs. **5,15,600** was distributed to very needy school children and college young people as **scholarship**.
- Children's saving in **Thenkoodu bank** in the year 2016-17 was **Rs.24080**, Madurai Seed is providing the interest money of Rs.4696. We have distributed Rs.265709 + Rs.51791 (interest) of children's saving in the past years.
- **Rs. 20,000** is being circulated in young people's saving scheme as rotational fund.
- The **Vasantham Summer Camp** was conducted as a residential one for 6 days at Kambam.
- First time in Madurai Seed, an **young people's play** was produced. To commemorate Shakespeare's 400th year, Madurai Seed young people produced of **Macbeth** in Tamil. 25 young people took part in the drama.
- **Thedalgai Young People Resource Center** is being developed outside Karumbalai.



Community
 Progress Development
 Future Share
 Leader Empowerment Chance
 Society Guidance
 Care **Youth** Change Potential
 Teach Capable
 Join
Education
 Experience Welfare Capacity
 Discover Responsible Choice
 Constructive Process
 Channelize Positive Learn



Holistic Education Centers

“The highest education is that which does not merely give us information, but makes our life in harmony with all existence” – Tagore

Background of the area: The children attending our centers are from needy and underprivileged areas of the city. Madurai Seed functions at the hub of their dwelling places such as Karumbalai, SM nagar, PT colony, Indira Nagar, Kamala Nagar, Tallakulam, Managiri, Goripalayam and Mathichiyam. Struggling to earn their basic needs, their fathers work as daily wage laborers like scavengers, small vendors, auto-drivers, painters, construction labors and their mothers also earn a little as domestic workers. Illiteracy and alcohol addiction of the parents may results in poor and stagnate development of the children. We work in preventing this and enabling a peaceful and joyful learning environment to them.

Background of the children: Children belonging to the urban slum get very meager support from their families and government. As they go to government schools nearby, their exposure to outside world is not possible. They live in small houses with no facilities to study and have fun with their friends. Private tuitions, spending valuable time and caring for their children's progress are difficult for the low income earning parents. Schools lack to provide a variety of kindling life skills for the children and young people. Lack of motivation to schools, difficulties in doing school work, low academic performance, puberty, adolescent issues, and poor relationship with surroundings may lead them to stay isolated in the society.

What we do: For Children and young people Madurai Seed creates “A place for everything to learn and shine in their career”. We look after every child to find out their need, stimulate their inner potentials, and motivate them to strive hard for success and support morally and financially. According to their age levels, we operate at four satellite centers to give them supplementary education in the evening. Colleges going young people who are former students of Madurai Seed turn as volunteers and teach children for monthly stipend. The special activities like library, saving bank, exposure visits, scholarships, endowment prizes, skills and personality development programs and other co-curricular activities are there to enrich their leadership skills, creativity, aspiration, and communication and to help molding their whole personality.

List of benefited children through Education Centers

Benefited Children	Age	Boys	Girls	Total
Vandugal Arangam	5 to 9	51	36	87
Vergal Arangam	10 to 13	47	35	82
Kanavugal Arangam	14 to 17	41	26	67
Sevalayam Hostel	11 to 17	125	00	125
Total		264	97	361

Vandugal Arangam

Play, learn, and grow together

Benefited children

Standard	Boys	Girls	Total
I	15	09	24
II	10	08	18
III	12	09	21
IV	14	10	24
Total	51	36	87

Vandugal Arangam creates a joyful learning environment for the young children from 1st standard to 4th standard (ages between 6 – 9 years).



Std: I



Std: II



Std: III



Std: IV

Vergal Arangam

Every child has a different learning style and pace. Each child is unique not only capable of learning but also capable of succeeding.

Benefited children

Standard	Boys	Girls	Total
V	12	10	22
VI	10	08	18
VII	09	11	19
VIII	16	06	22
Total	47	35	82

This center is specifically meant for the children from 5th to 8th standards (10 years to 13 years). This center is named as Vergal (roots) to establish the significance of staying strong in the path of education.



Std: V



Std: VI



Std: VII



Std: VIII

Kanavugal Arangam

Education is a liberating force

Benefited children

Standard	Boys	Girls	Total
IX	10	08	18
X	13	06	19
XI	07	04	11
XII	11	08	19
Total	41	26	67
Details of First Generation Hr.Sec. Students			
XI	2	2	4
XII	6	6	12
Total	8	8	16

This center is for children from 9th to 12th standards (14 to 17 years). This center is named as Kanavugal (dreams) to encourage setting up goals for the future.



Std: IX



Std: X



Std: XI



Std: XII

Sevalayam Hostel Program

Education is kindling
of a flame

Standard	Boys
VI	24
VII	30
VIII	18
IX	33
X	20
Total	125

Sevalayam is a free hostel for village children (boys) from poor economic and social background. The children are from 64 villages in 8 districts of TamilNadu. All the students are studying in a nearby corporation school. Volunteers help them to improve their basic skills. 10th and 12th standard students are provided with help in Math and English subjects.



Volunteers teaching in classes at Sevalayam Hostel



Harvesting the hard work

12th std results of 2015-2016 batch

Board exam result was released on **17.05.2016**. 30 students wrote the exam. 100% result was achieved. 90% of them are first in their family to finish 12th std level. All of them studied in government and aided schools and scored good marks. Here is the toppers list from the 17th batch of Madurai Seed.

- **Muthulakshmi** has scored 991 out of 1200
- **KavinKumar** has scored 951 out of 1200
- **Sudha** has scored 942 out of 1200
- **3** students have secured 991 to 942
- **9** students have secured 894 to 817
- **11** students have secured 776 to 706
- **7** students have secured 676 to 607



10th std results of 2015-2016 batch

On **26.05.2016**, Exam result for secondary school was announced. **34** students wrote the 10th exam. All of them have passed in all subjects showing 100% results. Many of them are first person in their family to finish 10th std level. They have scored high marks and continue to study 11th std. Here is the toppers list of Madurai Seed for the academic year 2015-2016.

Name of the student	Marks	Percentage
A.YuvaVickram (Sevalayam Centre)	460	92%
R.MadhanKumar(SevalayamCentre)	429	85.8%
K.DhavaKrishnan(Sevalayam Centre)	429	85.8%
S. Gopinath (Karumbalai Centre)	425	85%
S.Vijayalakshmi (Karumbalai Centre)	413	82.6%
M.S.Aadhavan (Karumbalai Centre)	408	81.6%
N.Ganeshmurthy(Sevalayam Centre)	406	81.2%
S.Karthick(Sevalayam Centre)	403	80.3%

- **A.Yuvavickram** has secured 100/100 in Social Science and 99/100 in Science.
- **S.Karthick** has secured 96/100 in Tamil.
- **1** student has secured 91% to 100%
- **7** students have secured 81% to 90%
- **7** students have secured 71% to 80%
- **11** students have secured 61% to 70%

- 8 students have secured 51% to 60%

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Thedalgai Arangam

Be the change you want to see in this world



Year-wise details

S.No	Year	Male	Female	Total
1	First Year	06	02	08
2	Second Year	04	00	04
3	Third Year	05	02	07
4	Fourth Year	03	00	03
Total		18	04	22

Thedalgai Arangam consists of college-going young people. They teach children at the education centers, and organize extra-curricular activities for them. They are the backbone of our activities. They also get benefits from separate programs.

- 10 young people are first graduates.
- 7 have finished college education in the end of 2016-17 year
- Nagarjun, Shenbagam, Manikandan and Karthik have joined in private jobs
- 22 people involved teaching the children in our education centers.

Specialization wise details

Degree	Specialization	Male	Female	Total
B.A	Tamil, English, Economics	6	1	7
B.A	Tamil (Completed)	2		2
B.Sc	Mathematics, Pharmacy, Tourism	4	2	6
B.Com	Commerce	2	1	3
B.E	ECE, Computer	2		2
B.L	Law	1		1

Diploma	ECE, Mechanical	1		1
Total		18	4	22

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Education Guidance:

Guidance is more important than instruction

Higher Secondary and College Admission:

After the 10th and 12th std results, students need guidance more than before, at that time they have to choose their course and institution which is very important for their future academic path. We provided them guidance about various courses and colleges they can choose. We also talked to parents about their child's choice and encourage the parents to support them. Volunteers also helped them in filling up the applications, accompanied them in counseling and admission process.



Education New Year: 01.06.2016: Volunteers provided chocolates to the school going children on the first day of school reopening after the summer vacation. They stood at 6 entrances of Karumbalai and thus encouraged school children on their first day of the educational year.



Parent's Meeting: 02.02.2017: Guidance was rendered individually for all students. Making right choices to reveal their potentials is important while guiding them. Assisted them in the course best suited for, for a better outcome of their learning, for the intellectual development and in making progress in it. Secondary & higher secondary students with their parents took part in the guidance program conducted by Karthikbharathi.



Exam tips: 02.03.2017: 10th and 12th std students were given tips for their final exams. They were advised about planning the study holidays, dos and don'ts in presenting the answers. On the first day of exam they were given breakfast. Wishes from all volunteers

and staff would surely boost them to write well.

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English Classes

Elavarasi: During the months of **June to October 2016**, Interpersonal and presentation



skills have been focused with different teaching techniques by Elavarasi for 20 volunteer teachers. Stimulating vocabulary practices, creating an effective learning through workshops, training programs for language skills was being carried out for them. Today's competitive world needs strong skill in Communicative English, it is practicable by admitting classes through OUP books, audio

visual aids, resources, links, articles and I Pads. They develop strong confidence not only for a particular skill, they learn as a whole needed for writing and speaking.

Immanuvel: 20 hours from **June to October 2016**, Josiah Immanuel, a student of



English from the American College, undertook English classes for volunteers at Madurai Seed for 10 Saturdays from 7 to 9pm. The utmost care of FMS sent him for MS to help in developing communicative English of young people. His observations, teachings and materials used added life to the language skill.

Andrea Wilson: Ms. Andrea Wilson from Ireland, volunteered our young people for three



weeks to develop their English Language Skills and Personality. In the **month of July 2016**, her workshop on strategies in teaching children gave those repeated drills on vocabulary, grammar and phonetics. It was very interesting for our students to learn the phonemes directly from a native speaker. She also helped in framing English syllabus. Her methodology met each

student at his/her ability level and she worked out from there. Using teaching aids like IPad, Smartphone, a teacher can make classes interesting was understood by the workshop participants.

Teacher Training

Teaching Language, 12.06.2016



A.S.Karthikbharathi gave a training for teaching volunteers on **how to teach Tamil language skills** (LSRW) for children. He talked about introducing Tamil alphabets, strategies to improve their reading skills, writing skills, selection of

story books, also he emphasized on beginning from simple, learning in and out, and progressing to complex things. Learning step by step will improve their confidence and retain their enthusiasm. They also surfed for Tamil teaching aids available online and added it to their lesson plans.

Welcome teachers, 19.06.2016



Elavarasi facilitated an orientation program for teaching volunteers. 6 new teaching volunteers joined this year. Totally **18 young people** took part in this workshop. She elaborated on teaching techniques and behaviors of children. She

talked about how to talk and deal with children. She drew a plan for every teaching volunteer. They came up with the time table for the quarter. Teaching will improve young people's personality and study habits also. She explained about preparation which is very crucial for teaching. Young people were advised to spend at least 30

minutes every day for next day's class. The orientation held was helpful to build volunteer-student partnership.

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Teacher's Meet, 20.08.2016



With appreciation and motivational talk of Prof.Dr.E.Annamalai, a meet with government school teachers, educationists, nonprofit leaders like Madurai Saravanan, Kalagalavaguparai Siva, Dhanraj, Parvathavarthini, John Browney, Head Master Thennavan, Araiaravelan, Trustee Mariammal and Madurai seed young people was held. The agenda for the meeting was to discuss and generate some **action plans for the children who can't read, write, and count**. They go to school regularly but they lack basic literacy skills. They are very vulnerable to dropout, become child labors, etc. But if we could help them they can also acquire the skills, and continue their educational track. People from various background participated in the meeting. Eminent personalities working in the area of education gave their opinion to overcome this problem. They also discussed about quality of education in government schools, opportunities for giving special classes for these children.

An Interactive Classroom, 25.01.2017



Mr. Andreas Gross from Zurich began the workshop with a Swiss Yoga, then his session about the power of a teacher involved in the development of a student, his concepts on self-regard for a better growth of both student and teacher and the activities beyond textbooks were infused into the young people during the workshop. The whole day

workshop brought an interactive classroom through many questions of young people and its explanations of Andreas.

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Strategies in teaching Phonemes, 12.02.2017



Prof. John Potts and **Dr. Laura Villiger**, from Friends of Madurai Seed, Zurich prepared the young people in teaching phonemes for children. With their wide teaching experiences, the workshop was so productive and helpful for the volunteers. The step by step role of a teacher in classroom such as use of a black board and flip flops, eliciting answers from students, two-way interaction of a student and teacher were shortlisted by John and Laura. Phonemes - the basic foundation for pronunciation and reading is not achieved by many schools. The phonemes chart, connection of words and sounds, its usage were illustrated in the workshop. The ideas learnt will be taken to the children in the coming academic year by our young people. They created a Lesson Plan for English Language teaching. The follow up of this workshop will be taken by Elavarasi, Arun and Volunteers here.

/ teach

I listen, I speak, I read, I write,

I play, I plan, I think,

I understand, I encourage,

/ learn

Young People Development Activities



Youngsters opinion on Law & Order in TN | Nam Viral Nam Kural

In the Limelight: Madurai Seed young people were interviewed by the reporters of Junior Vikatan, a popular magazine. The youngsters made a remarkable discourse about the caste system which has been deeply rooted in the minds of many. They voiced against the anti-social and perpetrated act of some public servants. Their interview was published in the

magazine dated **16.04.16**. You can see the video in this URL https://youtu.be/U3LQAI1kfIM?list=PLuUWy6NQLoCUh7fvRnGNHxSgg4TE_2ZSw



To Crack Competitive exams: We encourage young people to study and attend competitive exams for government jobs like TNPSC, TET, SSC, Railway, Postal, TNUSC, IBPS, Bank exams etc. Young people use Madurai Seed's internet facility to apply and study for these exams. Our library has a separate section for

competitive exam coaching books. TNPSC Group IV classes were conducted during the months of August, September, and **November 2016 for 48 hours**. . Karthikbharathi, Elavarasi, Muthu Pandi, Ramki took classes on topics like Tamil literature, reasoning, applied mathematics, English, general awareness, etc.



Learn a New Language: From **28.08.2016 to 30.09.2016** Jakub Pawlowski, a Polish volunteer taught Russian Language to our young people. He imparted them basic knowledge to communicate in Russian. Our young people learnt Russian alphabets, words, and managed to frame simple sentences in Russian. This 30 days intensive course

will surely highlight their profile.

Action & Research, 28th of August to 1st of September



Our volunteers Wasim Khan and Srinath took part in the workshop on **“Teaching strategies to improve language and arithmetic skills of children”** organized by Pratham foundation in Chennai. They were given training on framing syllabus, making teaching aids and handling slow learners. Their learning was exercised in Madurai Seed

and Sevalayam hostel. 20 volunteers drew a 40 days plan and focused slow learners.

Youth for justice and peace, 10th to 12th March 2017



4 of our young people participated in the leadership camp **“Youth For Peace And Justice”** conducted by Ekta Parishad and Catamaran at Pondicherry. Senior social leader P.V.RajaGopal facilitated the workshop. Leaders, volunteers, and social activists from all over TamilNadu took part in the workshop. Young people had a chance to interact and learn from each other. “Peace is possible only after the achievement of justice, so what we should do is fighting against injustices” said Rajaji. The workshop provided tools to work with community, democratic practices, and how to advocate

social problems. Many social problems of Tamilnadu and possible solutions were discussed.

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A Resource center for young people:



A open terrace (50*20 feet) above the Kaleidoscope center is being developed as a Thedalgai Resource Center For Young People. We find a strong need to equip the young people from underprivileged background. The resource centre will act as a fertile ground where **knowledge sharing, social interest activities, leadership development and self enhancement activities** will take place.

Who will benefit?

- Young people who are teaching the children in Madurai Seed's education centers
- Young people from both rural and urban areas
- Young people from other non-profit organizations

What activities will take place?

- Creative self-expression workshops
- Personality development training
- Debates, group discussions
- Classes on political awareness
- Classes on social activism
- Training on film-making
- Digital and Media literacy
- Education and vocational guidance programs
- English classes & Teacher training for volunteers

The construction will be finished soon, and the center will be active from June 2017.

Scholarship Program

Children and young people overcome the financial obstacles with the scholarship provided by **KFR School and FMS** through Madurai Seed. KFR scholarship distribution program is being conducted to reach every child's needs. They receive scholarship money with their parents during the event. It supports each child to pay their school fee and buy notebooks.

Number of students received scholarships

Arangam	Standard	Male	Female	Total
Vandugal Arangam	1 to 4	10	07	17
Vergal Arangam	5 to 8	11	15	26
Kanavugal Arangam	9 to 12	15	15	30
Endowment Prizes	Top Marks in 10 th ,12 th	6	7	13
Total No.of Children		42	44	86
Thedalgai Arangam	College Young People	16	04	20
Thedalgai Arangam	Coaching Classes	2	-	2
Total No.of Young People		18	04	22

Accolades for the toppers:

To encourage the toppers of 10th and 12th std, Madurai Seed organized this program for the tenth year. Madurai Seed children and young people, awardees and their parents, Trustees Karthikbharathi, Ms. Mariammal and Mansurali, Mr. Murugesan and Mrs. Viji took part in the program conducted at Gandhi Museum on **26.06.2016**. Toppers from Madurai corporation school level, Karumbalai level, Madurai Seed and Sevalayam centers were honored with certificates and cash prizes. The awardees interacted with the children and shared about their study techniques, secrets of success, etc. Director Elavarasi gave the vote of thanks.



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Details of Endowment Prize Awardees

Asha-Boston award for toppers in Madurai corporation school level S. Anitha, 12 th std, 1156/1200 B.Banurekha, 10 th std, 493/500	Teacher Mariammal Endowment Prize for toppers in Karumbalai A.Pavithra, 12 th std, 1038 /1200 P.Ramkeethiga, 10 th std, 479/500
Mr.Krishnasamy Endowment Prize for toppers in Madurai Seed Centers Muthulakshmi, 12 th std, 991/1200 G.Sudha, 12 th Std, 942/1200 S.Gopinath, 10 th std, 425/500 S.Vijayalakshmi, 10 th std, 413/500 M.S.Aadhavan, 10 th std, 408/500	KFR Endowment Prize for toppers in Sevalayam Hostel Center Yuva Vikram, , 10 th std, 460/500 Madhan Kumar, 429/500 Thavakrishnan, 429/500 Ganesh Murthy. 406/500



Hardwork + Dreams + Dedication = Success



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Senthamizh Library

World Book Day: *Read and Share*: 22.04.2016, A new set of books was introduced to



the children and young people on the World Book Day and many books were recommended to read in their weekends. Also they shared about the books they had read and ensured their pleasure in reading books. The celebration of reading continues making bonds with books every weekend.



Visiting Book Festival: *Feast for eyes and mind*: During the first and second week of **September 2016** Children and young people visited Madurai Book Festival and visited stalls of many publications. They listened to the speeches of writers, book release programs happened there.

They also selected books for our library.



Reading Night: *Life is a hand full of short stories*: On **17.12.16**, 25 young people engaged in reading and analyzing 25 famous short stories of various authors in Tamil. Discussion continues till midnight about the writers, plot of the story, comparisons with current issues, etc., The literacy night with



diverse books would make them sure to read more.

World Poetry day: *Thoughts that breathe and words that burn*: On **21.03.2017**, Children were introduced to the taste of poetry. Young people have read aloud poems to children. Famous Tamil poems from Sangam age to contemporary age were selected and read. Elavarasi has read English translations of Rumi. Poetry books from the library were introduced to children.

Puduyugam Journal

A journey of a journal: Girl Children's Special Issue
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On **18.11.2016**, Overwhelmed by the presence of eminent guests Prof. P.Sumedha, Prof. T D Ponmalar from Fatima College, Journalist Ms Indhu Loganathan, Tr. Ms Malathy, Dr Usha, Mrs Viji Muruges and Tr. Ms Mariammal, the launching ceremony of our **26th Puduyugam Journal** release, sowed remarkable inspiration in Children.

A short gist from the speech of our guests:

"Seek for Self-development" quoted by Ms Indhu, Journalist

"Let be independent, be strong, be loved" elucidated by Ms T D Ponmalar, Professor

"Let us give effect to the rights of women" discussed by Ms P. Sumedha, Professor

"Nothing is impossible when you have courage" briefed Ms Usha, Doctor

They appreciated the excellent writings of girl children in the journal. Particularly, one of the guests marked that "Literature has love in itself, and Madurai Seed children and young people have love for the literature!!" and added "It's happy to see the kids

here are growing with contemplating art and literature thoughts. A kind of wish and dream come out in the form of words from the children like you show your thirsts for creativity". Children were enthused by their speech, driven to the fields of journalism and literature. Their talk instilled a strong attitude that nothing is elusive to achieve. The gathering, journal launch, speech of guests and kids, ended with presenting gifts and taking selfies.

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Thenkoodu Children Bank

The children bank aims to develop saving attitude among children; we pay back the saving of children with **20% interest** in the beginning of next educational year, so they can spend that money for school expenses. In this way they help their parents by taking self responsibility.



Savings of children 2016-17

Arangam Wise Savings

Arangam	Classes	Amount
Vandugal	I to IV	4358
Vergal	V to VIII	6762
Kanavugal	IX to XII	17551
Total		28671

Children with the Highest Savings

Name	Class	Amount
Sathish Kumar. S	IV	2701
Loganayagi. S	VII	1925
Makath Nilavu. R	XI	2880

Saving Distribution Program for 2015-16

A habit of Savings is a driving force and the best gift we Madurai Seed provide for children from their childhood till they are grown up. A little money in each child's Thenkoodu (Beehive) account grows everyday which teaches them money management and strengthens for a burden less days ahead. Interest rate was fixed as 20% and gifts for the best money saver were handed over by our teaching young people Karthik, Muthuganesh and Jensi during the money disbursement function held

Classes with the Highest Savings

Class	Amount
IX	5588
X	4629
XII	3848

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Skills and Personality Development Programs



Vasantham Summer Camp



Everlastingly Madurai Seed provides a delightful feast of academic and co-curricular activities for the Children and Young People of various levels. To unleash the budding and salient features of them, ever since 1999, Vasantham Camp is being held during every summer with life skill lessons and personality development activities.

Children Federation

Youth Federation

Mutram Literature Club

Vanmugil Cultural Club

Galileo Science Club

Aagaya Gangai Social Science Club

Suvadugal Sports Club

Annai Medical Club

Learning is more than paper, pencil, and books

The Children in Madurai Seed study in corporation schools, govt & govt aided schools. There is a very little chance for them to step outside their schools and families. They live in a small

circle surrounded by school teachers, family members and a few friends of their age. Their circle enlarges at Madurai Seed, at the same time they develop skills and personality through various activities, seminars, workshops, etc., Apart from indoor sessions, Summer Camp is designed to let them experience more than learning and to let them explore the world outside Karumbalai.

Madurai Seed is in its 18th year organizing Vasantham camp for children & young people and it is our 10th residential camping outside Karumbalai.

Prior to get packed to camp, instructions were given to the campers about this residential camp rules and duties.

From **30.04.16 to 05.05.16**, the six days residential camp created memorable moments. We camped at St. Mary's Matriculation School at **Kumbum**, Theni which is located between coconuts trees on one side, river on the other side. Imagine how far we are from the local hassles and how close we are to the nature.

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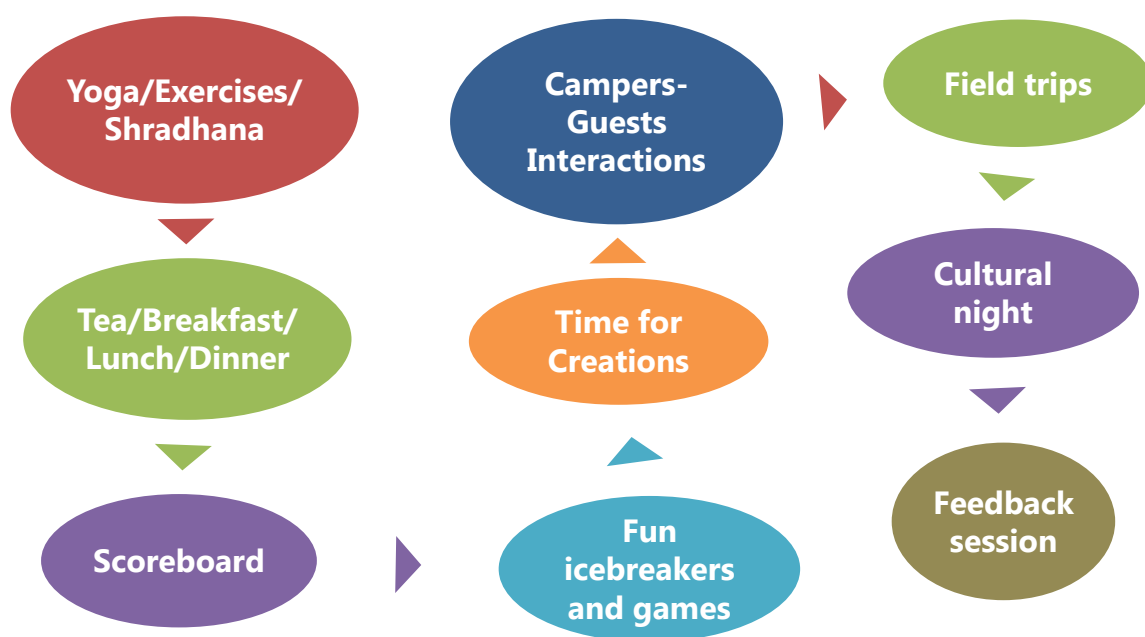
The campers are **totally 100 from 9 to 21 years age** group and they found unlimited joy in those six days of residential camp.

The objectives of this residential camp are

- To develop personal and social skills of children through participation in programs
- To bridge the gap between them and the outside world
- To unlock their innate potential
- To strike a chord for becoming a wholesome individual
- To create a spark on their field of interests
- To establish life skill lessons apart from academic subjects
- To perceive a different world outside books
- To experience how life would feel while away from the normal reality at home
- To feed up the creative hungers
- To provide dynamic and varied experiences through camp.

Enthusied children and young people wake up at 5am and go to bed at 10pm. A typical camping day has an early morning refreshing walk, Yoga, breakfast, life skill sessions, and lectures, scores, creativity sessions, lunch, games, and ice breakers, tours, cultural nights, dinner and feedback hour.

Typical things followed in Vasantham Camp:



Let me get you to the six days' fun learning at the Vasantham Camp.

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30.05.2016, Children and young people got ready to fly with wind, to reach the camp site as fast as they could. Each one was given a cotton towel to tie up around their head. Their luggages were kept in a separate truck and they started traveling by bus towards Kumbum at Theni district. They enjoyed the travel by singing, and dancing in the bus. It took not so long; we reached the campsite "St. Mary's Matriculation School" around 5pm.

Children were separated into six teams with 15 members in each, with volunteers as leader and XII std boys as leader assistants. Children selected their team names, and leaders. As it was sunset, they had tea and snack to refresh.

The first day of the Vasantham camp was inaugurated by the kids. They lit the lamp and sang the camp song. The Principal of the school, Sister. **Jessy Mathews** gave an energetic talk on "How to build up our Positive Attitude". She spotted light on the healthy benefits of positive thinking and hard work.

After dinner, teams involved in making identity cards and discussed writing song to describe their team names and symbols. Created with team spirit, they pinned identity cards and sang their team song. The very first day of the camp was over by nights fall.



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Let's interact

- Guests talk
- Input sessions
- Informations about site

Let's create

- Warli Art
- Paper lanterns
- Arts & Crafts
- Puppetry

Let's visit

- Mullai periyar river
- Trekking
- Suruli falls

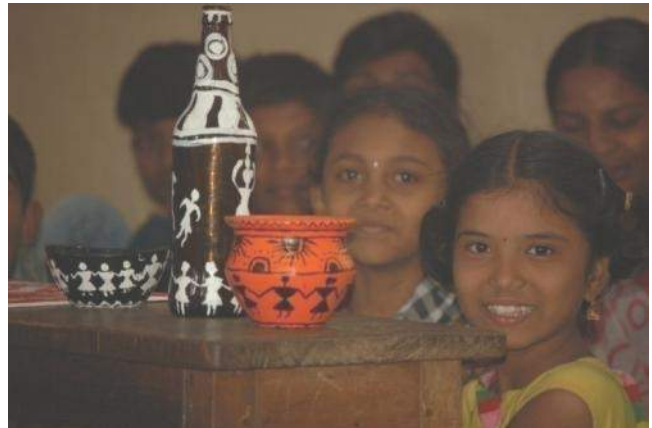
On 01.05.16, The second day of the camp was begun with ice breaker activities. **Mr. Karthik bharathi**, gave the first session on the history of Theni district & Kumbum where we camped.

As it was time for creativity, the brush strokes of young artists made traditional patterns with rich colors to create the magic of **WARLI ART** on canvas, urns, mud pots, bottles, umbrellas, charts and bowls. Their paintings depicted social life and were beautifully executed to the

Principal and teachers of St. Mary's Matriculation School. Their master pieces added elegance to the Summer Camp!!

Mr. Manuvel, an English teacher, visited the Warli art stalls of children. He spoke about "Youth and Politics", he accentuated the youth with examples from the history emphasizing that youth should come forward in politics for the reformation of the society.

During feedback session, teams wrote and read their feedback. Marks were given for each team for their team spirit, creativity, and participations.



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On 02.05.16, they all went trekking over **Suruli mountain**. They laid down while trekking and played some fun games. Mr. Arunkumar, an English teacher from Kumbum, briefed the history and famous places in and around Suruli. There, Kowsalya and Vindhiya of XII std gave information about famous Indian rock cut architecture temples in Suruli. And explained about many herb trees, valuable medicinal plants, and temples in Suruli. After that, we went to the cascade in Suruli. We took shower in the astounding waterfalls.

While returning back along the dense forest, we discussed stories for the next day's puppet show. The nature kindled the narrator in us. After trekking and fun at the waterfalls we returned to the campsite and had some rest. In the creativity session, the aesthetical and

artistic interest of campers ignited a bright rhythm. They made sky lanterns using glass sheets, charts, paper cups and color papers. The children and young people created Sky Lanterns of diverse patterns. They displayed those intricately shaped paper lanterns to the Guests. Also it lighted up the dark night in the camp!

Mr. Sathyaraj, an English teacher, saw the handmade lanterns of children and expressed his admiration in words. He also gave lecture on "Space for Creativity in Education" He was honored with a lantern by our student Nisha. Children were given half an hour to practice dance and drama with folklore arts as concept. The day ended up with cultural performances of each team.



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On 03.05.16, the day bursts out into colorful fragments of activities. They played football, volleyball and went through some laughing therapies in the morning. After breakfast, some energizer activities boosted them up. They involved in making impressive chart works about their experiences in the past three days of the camp. They portrayed it through drawings, paintings and art works.

In **Mullai Periyar River**, they all took a splashing bath for the hot summer. They swam in the river till evening with lots of fun.

In Crafting there are no mistakes, just unique creations". During creativity session, the little hands created beautiful Crafts using materials like cups, water bottles, cardboards, paper plates, old CD's, paper cups and paints. The arty-crafty children of Madurai Seed perceived, created and enjoyed the art of hand making in the camp and arranged for the guests view. That day was winded up with cultural night mixed with dances, drama and comedy shows of each team.



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On 04.05.16, they played team building activities, outdoor games and energizer activities in the morning. They were given black charts to prepare puppet characters for their stories. Children made their own fairy tale, cut-out every character, set the puppet theater, acted out the story and enjoyed doing their own **Puppet Show**. They made the figures appear to walk, dance, fight and talk. It was very poetic, impressive and fascinating by the interplay of kids between light and shadow. Shadow Puppetry proved to be a great experience for Madurai Seed on 4th of May. The puppet stage was set. Each team narrated their own stories in the Shadow Puppetry. Ms. Mariammal, Teacher Mr. Baskar, came as judges, gave marks for the best teams. The evening was colorful as they had Fashion walk with traditional costumes. Then they brought all lanterns to the camp fire and the darkness wiped off by lighting out camp fire, they danced, shared their past 6 days camp experiences.



On 05.05.16, even the last day of the camp kept them excited. They played traditional and childhood games. After tea and snack, They involved in expressing their experiences in the camp using charts about activities done and places they visited and happiness they shared. The Principal of St. Matriculation school Sister. Jessy Mathews, teachers of the school, our trustee Ms. Mariammal, Mr. Sathyaraj, Mr. Baskar were welcomed to preside over the final day of the camp. Children shared their experiences by singing, narrating their experiences o the guests. Guests appreciated their creative art works. We thanked everyone who helped to organize such a life skill developing camp. We returned with loads of sweetest memories from the campsite.



Theatre



Acquisition of Skills: In the month of April 2016, **Mr. Anand**, a dramatist hosted interesting drama techniques and skills for 38 young people of Madurai Seed for 8 hours. They learnt the various aspects of drama through his classes.

Role of drama in education, 04.12.2016: **Shri. Prasanna**, a playwright, Gandhian, and former director from National School of Drama, interacted with our children and young people about various elements, techniques in drama. He spotlighted on the importance of Drama in Education. The meet was very informative. He answered to various questions of our budding artists.



A Live and Rich Experience, 24.02.2017: Young people went to Thanjavur to witness a south Indian level **theatre fest** conducted by Tamil Nadu Progressive Writer's Association. They watched 6 dramas speaking various social issues like farmer's suicide, custodial murder, gender discrimination, intolerance, etc. Armagedan, the Greek play in Tamil was a new experience. They also visited the famous Brigadeshwara temple, Archeological museum, and Bharathanatyam festival in Tanjore. They experienced both fine and performing arts there.



Theatre Games, 20.03.2016: "**Three Poses**" game was conducted by Elavarasi. Children should enact a story, or an incident in just three poses. "**Statue...Release**" game, "**Fast, Slow, Faster, Slower, Still**" game and some other games were conducted as warm up activities which required quick action, reaction, body movements prepared the children.



Theatre is a Mirror- a sharp reflection of Society:



On **27.03.2016**, **World Theatre Day** at Madurai Seed was full of creations, directions and actions. This year world theatre day specialized Mono-Acting and Story Telling. Young people took stories from literature, children books, everyday life, news papers, and some created their own stories. A Volunteer teacher at Madurai Seed "**Surya**" performed the iconic story of Asokamitran "Pulikalignan. **Vasim** who teaches XII here, saddled upon the beast of creation, brought us different characters in his one act play. Our girl volunteers **Sudha**, **Jensi** and **Sharmila** performed individually on various fable stories for children **Muthaiya**, carried out the character "Ganesan " in the story "Eli"(The Rat)", a Tamil story of Asokamithran, **Vikki**, an amateur photographer and a teaching volunteer, emotionally quoted the last words of a Dalit student and PhD scholar Muthukrishnan "Where equality is denied , everything is denied". His soliloquy looked as if it is real about a true incident which shook the country. **Mathan**, who is a theatre student from his childhood, saddened the audience with his performance on "Farmers and Agriculture". **Srinath**, a first year volunteer, acted out "A citizen and the Demonetization giant" His humors cooled down the temperature. **MuthuGanesh**, an engineering student and teaching volunteer spontaneously judged through his acting about digital addicted youngsters. He was smiling throughout play. **Anand**, took the monoacting weapon against Jallikattu ban with his serious and thought provoking monologues. **James**, played a dual character in the story "Khadhavu"(The

Door) by Ki.Ra. **Vasanth**, brought back the memories of India-Pakistan separation through his one act play. Books they read, theatre games they played, speeches they heard during the whole year elicited and proved their potential on this day.

Voice for Vote, 13.05.2016: Our young people have conceptualized and enacted a



street drama "**My vote is not for sale**" slashing the bad practice of voting for money. Our democracy has become a mockery by this practice. Young people took the vow not to accept money from parties. Also created some awareness to public.

Staging Shakespeare:



On 17.07.2016, Macbeth was staged for the first time at **CESCI**. The costumes, lights and music took the play to a different level. The actors, back stage persons everyone put their cent percent effort and commitment. The audience enjoyed the play very much; Many of them gave their comments. Thus the first stage of Macbeth earned applause from all.



On 14.08.2016, Macbeth was staged second time in **Gandhi Museum**, this time it was indoors. Dr. Melli Annamalai, Madurai Seed children, young people, and many outside friends watched the play. The learning and experience from the first stage helped them

a lot. Drama is a team work, and the team gave a superb performance again.



Executing women empowerment:



On 12.04.2016, the street play advocating the rights, equality for women was staged in the **East street of Karumbalai** for public. The powerful dialogues, red scarfs, songs, satirical tone in the play got every one's attention. The play questioned gender discriminations in family, violence against women, etc.

On 14.08.2016 the play again staged at **Gandhi Museum** along with Macbeth. It was unique in the tone and language. Rhetorical phrases evoked the feelings. The actors executed the play in a great manner.

On 04.12.2016, the play was staged at **CESCI** on the occasion of Maja Koene Award Ceremony. Many social activists, reporters, theatre artists were among the audience. After lots of staging, the actors effortlessly enacted the play and earned lots of respect and appreciations for what the play has spoken.

Theatre Workshop

11th to 15th July 2016



MADURAI SEED is unique in developing three domains of educational activities such as Cognitive, Affective and Psychomotor skills of Children and Young People. They get variety of exposures through, field trips, summer camps, club activities, and visits of foreigners and so on. Likewise, there are skills and

personality development programs to elicit the innate potential of each child. Storytelling, poem writing, book reading, short movies making, theatre acting are included in their routine weekend activities. Those programs focus mainly to identify their hidden talents and to pass a beam of light in their path.



There is always a need for tools to take the literature knowledge to the children. These tools are theatrics, dramatics and street plays which stimulate their mind to obtain literature knowledge and also they act as a catalyst in learning literature and arts.

Last year, a group of young girls and boys

in Madurai Seed presented a theatre act on "Women Empowerment" at the American College. Six groups of children from I to X std staged Six dramas in front of Prof. Ilango on world theatre day, in the same year. Those dramas were the stories from the famous English and Tamil writers. Children spend every weekend with bilingual books, translation novels, leaders' biographies, comics, short story books, and poems. They first read and then narrate the story to their peer groups. Sometimes they read in groups and act it out to the audience. They develop creative skills by narrating their own stories. When they find their own stories in Madurai Seed journal, they find unlimited happiness.



During a reading session in Madurai Seed library about Shakespeare and his role in English literature, we came across reading summary about his various plays like Romeo-Juliet, Macbeth, Julius Ceaser, and Merchant of Venice. We also came to know that it was Shakespeare's 400th death anniversary. So, MS young people

took interests to stage a play of him.

To commemorate **400th death anniversary of Shakespeare** and to take his plays on the hands of our children, Madurai Seed organized a theatre workshop to stage one of the famous tragic plays of him, "MACBETH". **From 11.07.16 to 15.07.16, Theatre Workshop** was given to 23 young people in Madurai Seed. Four days and five evenings, they took part in the workshop actively.

This theatre workshop was organized and carried out by **Mrs. V. Elavarasi, Mr. Vadivel & Mr. A.S. Karthik Bharathi.**



Introducing a Play:

The plot of the story was narrated to the group of young people and then they begun reading about each character in the "Macbeth" book (In our library, we have Shakespeare's books on various levels according to readers. We selected level 3 to read and understand easily.)

The theme:

"Macbeth, a brave Scottish general, manipulated by his wife, kills Duncan and takes the throne. Afterwards, his guilt and fear leads him to commit murders to secure his power, which leads to his downfall and finally he was killed by Mac duff and the throne was back in the right hands"

Analyzing the characters:

After reading and understanding the characters of the play, the drama techniques were discussed and they plunged into action. Castings for this play were selected based on their performances, given character names and proper information about the sequence of the play.

An English play in our Mother Tongue: Through dialogue, soliloquies, and directions, characters of this play were analyzed. We explored Shakespeare's play with scripts in Tamil. Executing his play in Tamil would create curiosity and closeness to English plays. So, dialogue sheets were given to them in Tamil. Since, dialogue gives information about the past and subsequent events, more time was provided for them to recite and deliver.

Practice makes performance perfect:



Regular practice was given to the young people (artists) to deliver dialogues, to use props, to use stage and to show development throughout the play. They were given dialogue sheets individually. After they read it, they were given practice to act out the dialogue spontaneously. The reactions for other character's actions were also included while

practicing spontaneity. As this was a big play with much number of scenes, visualizing the sequence of scenes was important to produce the play without cuts and intervals. For that, the artists practiced the whole play again and again to remember the sequence. Between each scene,



the wooden boxes (sets) on stage have to be changed according to the place where the scene happened. Six boys practiced to keep the boxes in right position, as to show where the actors meet and talk. Apart from the stage settings, actors were given practice to use swords and daggers. The play begun with soldiers fighting in

the battle field, where they had to fight with swords and the play ends with Macbeth and Macduff fight scenes. Though fighting with swords was difficult, with regular practice it seemed that they fought not acted. Body language and stage awareness are more important for an artist. Drills on how to stand on stage, how to keep eye contact with the other character, how to deliver dialogues with correct intonations, how to enter and exit from the stage were given. Soliloquy and monologue were the two main elements in this play. Both were practiced by solitary speakers Kowsalya as Lady Macbeth and Wasim as Macbeth. Though it was a new experience for them, they impressed like the real characters of this play. All these, took five days to produce "Macbeth".

Production:



Properties in the play: The main thing a play can be unique by the usage of props on stage. In our play, we used six rectangular wooden boxes (sets) of white and black shades. These gave a different view scene by scene. For example, if it was a palace, two wooden boxes were placed to look like a throne. If it has to be look like three witches' place those six boxes were arranged like pillars to hide and sing "Foul is fair, fair is foul..." Along with the actors, these static props impressed the audience.

Music in the play: To bring the difference between a usual drama and a stage play like this, a collection of music from various sites was played lively. As this is a tragic play, the background music with sad violin could score the audience. But, additional to that, music using parai was played in between each scene. In fact, that evening was thrilling when the witches entered with high pitches of devil music and sounds of thunder.



Costumes for the actors: It was very interesting to design the costumes for the actors in the play. Designing soldiers' dresses, witches' black gown, especially King's costume was challengeable because Shakespeare period's protagonist and all other actors were dressed differently. And it was little difficult to show our Macbeth

character as a real Shakespeare's Macbeth. But, we managed and it came out very well. We went to the garments, selected materials and designed perfect costume for every artist in the play.



Stage: All the elements of a play like background music, dialogues, costumes can work together very effective when executed on a stage with proper view of the audience. Also, it would enhance the performance. For that, we planned to stage it in CESC, where there is a big space to perform.

Targeted Audience: Staging a play is definitely for the audience view. It may be peer groups, experienced theatre artists, cine directors, etc., but for this play, the audience were mixed group of people, Ms. Andrea Wilson from Zurich, Prof. Prabahar from The American College, Mr. Thanraj Radhai, Teachers, Kids & so on.

Rehearsal: After continuous practice during the workshop, all young people had a run-through at CESC ON 16.07.16. They stayed there for two days and two nights. They took one day for rehearsal, and next day for dress rehearsal and that evening to stage "Macbeth". During rehearsals, they corrected their mistakes, they measured the stage with their eyes and they used swords made of steel for fight scenes. Fun gone and seriousness came in their face during dress rehearsals. Full run through with their costumes brought confidence that there hides an artist in every one.

Executing "Macbeth" on stage: Young People staged it first at CESC on **17.07.16**. The big



auditorium with various levels of spectators welcomed the artists in the evening. The play begun from the battle field where soldiers fought, then the scene becomes interesting with the witches entry, the play moved on with the success, guilt, fear

of the protagonist, his defeat and the victory of Scottish Prince. Audience appreciated the performance of the actors, the stage settings, fight sequences, music, and very much impressed by the soliloquy of Kowsalya as Lady Macbeth and the performance of Wasim Khan as Macbeth. Our first staging of "Macbeth" play was really an appreciative effort and so it received big rounds of applause.

Art and Craft



Toy Workshop, 23.07.2016

Children participated in the toy making workshop organized by **Cuckoo Forest School** at Gandhi Museum. They explored toys made from waste things, plastics, cloths, and paper.



Mask Making, 09.10.2016

Volunteers **Vigneshwaran and Anand** gave mask making training to children. They explored various ways of making masks from news papers, balloons, card board, paper plates, etc. They made masks of human faces, animals, birds, fruits and vegetables. They also acted a role play by explaining the character in the mask.



Making Art, 06.09.2016

This training was conducted at Madurai Seed by **volunteers**. Children and young people together worked on arty crafty ideas and made colorful, visually pleasing arts using clay, canvas board, charts, and glasses.



Living fabrics workshop, 26.02.2017

A needle and a yarn turned loads of pieces of clothes into beautiful visual arts by the arty-crafty children and young people. Mrs. **Nesa**, an artist from Switzerland delivered the art of recycling old pieces of clothes. Enthused children grabbed her ideas to make use of the waste materials. The workshop held for the whole day to experience teamwork, to explore hidden skill and to express one's self.

Vanmugil Cultural Club

Cultural Event at CM Center, 30.07.2016



Children gave cultural for foreign visitors to CM center. Traditional folk dances packed with full of energetic dance movements synchronized the visitors. After a series of traditional dance and music cultural, children and guests interacted.

In the world of magic, 05.09.2016



"OMG! The table is flying" 12th std Meena excited and felt like a kid. Mesmerizing tricks and incredible performance of the **Magician Shyam** will stay for long in the memory of our children. He received non-stop claps when objects moved by his tricks. Eyes forgot to blink when Children too did magic with him. The children and young people were in the Magic World for more than 60 mins.

Food Festival, 24.09.2016



The little chefs collected provisions, prepared their dishes, and sold for public on the Food Festival of Madurai Seed in Karumbalai. The public visited all the stalls with colorful **dishes cooked without fire**. It was a healthy evening for all. The money collected from selling was used for the children in Nandhanar

hostel, an orphanage. Kalagala Vagupparai Siva, Madurai Saravanan, Jakub Pawlowski, Suresh Kumar and Teacher Mariammal took part as guests.



The 5 guests from outside Karumbalai tasted and judged 15 varieties of fireless cooked food by our kids. Nutritious and healthy recipes created curiosity among public they also wanted to try these recipes at their home. The event placed a hub of food and traditional beverages stalls, little chefs explained the healthy benefits of

food items. It was exciting for the kids and delighting for the guests and public.

Dance and Music evening, 01.10.2016:



60 children and 16 volunteers went to Karumathur-Arul Anandhar college to watch the dance show of "**Preethe Aathreya's** dance and music evening". Children were introduced to new team of dancers and choreographers. It was a musical evening for all.

Photography Class, 23.10.2016



The class was taken by professional wedding and event photographer **Mr. Senthil** for the young people. He explained about various options and manual settings in the camera, and taking in the available light. He said it is all about lighting. Then young people took some interesting photos in Karumbalai streets.

Children Movies, 30.10.2016

Mr. Ravikumar who is a painter and designer, gave a session on "Introduction to world cinema – Children Movies". He explained the concept and dramatic elements in which a movie is elevated to global citizens. He told brief story lines of some children movies and also presented his book on children movies.

Cultural Program at CESC's Maja Koene Award Function, 04.12.2016



CESCI conducts an award ceremony to recognize and motivate the people involved in serving community. Madurai Seed took responsibility for cultural performances, translations and hospitality to the awardees in the function. Our young people staged their play and dance troupe gave cultural.

P.V. Rajagopalji of Ekta Parishad, Shri. Prasanna from National School of drama and so many appreciated the role of Madurai Seed in the ceremony.

Dance and Music Workshop, 25 & 26.12.2016



The music and dance workshop was organized by Madurai Seed for one and a half-day at CESC provided the dance students a variety of contemporary dance lessons and a mixture of styles. With their eyes closed, the participants of the workshop listened to the instrumental music, and then they were asked to explain what aroused in their mind while listening to it.





This was how the workshop begun and spontaneously the participants engaged in the dance- music sessions. Around **35 children from class IV to IX** took part in the workshop. They were split into 9 teams with dance teachers and given time to

practice. Volunteers Mathan, Surya, Anand, Vikki, Prem, Elavarasi facilitated the workshop. A positive energy, a friendly environment, excellent dance instructors made the children dance non-stop. Songs for the dance conveyed culture, festivity, agriculture, and nature. Music videos of

famous composers/musicians were screened and discussed by all. They learned new styles for both western and folk songs and delivered a wonderful cultural in the run through at CESCO. Children brought the dance lessons and excited the audience in the Margazhi Utsav function.

Watching a live cultural show, 18.12.2016

Children and young people took part in the annual cultural program of a local FM radio. They were amazed by the stage, audio, and light settings. They enjoyed watching many dance programs and light music event.

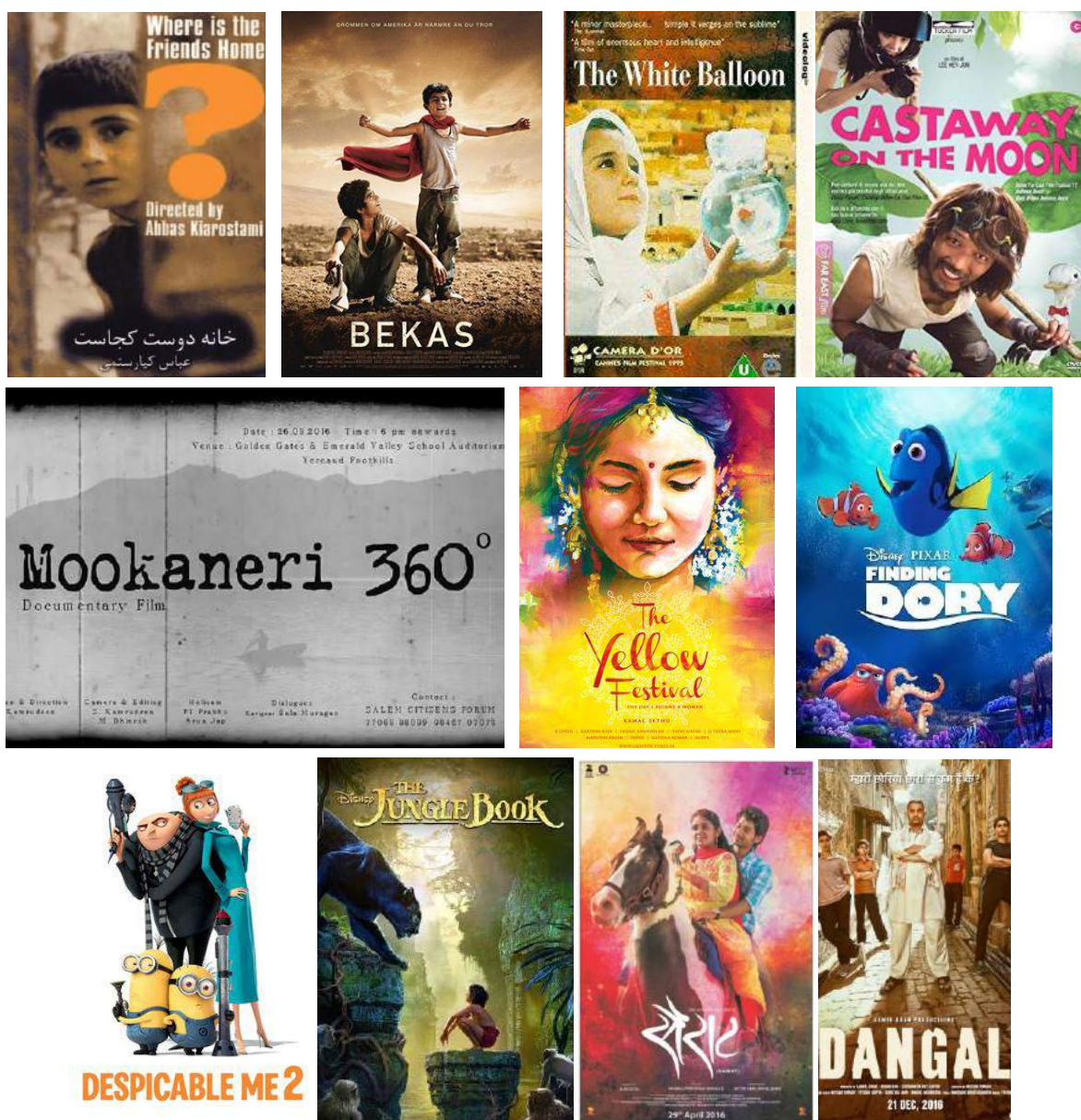
Movie maker and Photoshop introduction, 28.01.2017



Volunteer **Vigneshwaran** gave an introductory session about windows movie maker, power director, Photoshop, and other photo and video editing software and Apps. He also showed some model videos and photos. He invited participants to explore the options in the software.

Screenings

Films provide a platform to refresh and inform oneself in various dimensions beyond boundaries. Madurai Seed screens various films to make young people aware of directions, screenplay, artists and film tools. It also entertains children letting them forget school and domestic holds. They spend their Sundays and public holidays by watching world movies. All they watch reconstructs and recreates them in a few hours at Madurai Seed. Science fictions, drama movies, documentaries, rebellious movies of women directors, girls' empowerment in movies are screened every weekend to fill the mind with rich experiences. Here are the posters of some movies we've seen.



Mutram Literature Club

A healthy argument on Tamil New Year, 14.04.2016

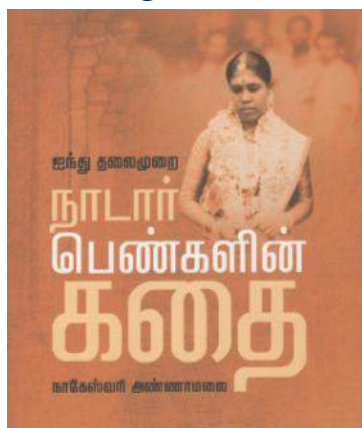


Debate on topical issues like "can children have mobile phones, positive and negatives of social media, is grading system effective and some other topics were discussed. There were three teams with six debaters each. They debated for their own side and rebutted the other side with strong points. They mastered the basic parts of debate - brief content, clarity, tone and eye contact. We bestow them this kind of activity to improve the art of speaking

Women Personalities in Literature, 11.06.2016

Volunteer **Sharmila** gave a seminar on "Women Personalities in Literature". She quoted women authors and their books. She derived examples from Tamil literature, Indian literature, and world literature, some of the authors she included were Arunthathi Roy, Kamala Das, Anita Desai, Jumba Lahiri, Maya Angelo, and J.K.Rowling.

Listening to the writer, 18.08.2016



Our young people took part in the book introduction meeting with the author Mrs. **Nageshwari Annamalai**, who wrote the book "*Ainthu Thalaimurai Nadar Pengalin Kathai*". This is a story cum experience of five generation women in a family. It portrays a social cultural scenario of women years ago. The program was organized at Kaleidoscope Centre for Arts and Culture.

Tamil Folk songs, 06.11.2016



Volunteer **Surya and Mathan** gave a session on "Tamil Folk Songs". Folk songs reflect a culture and tradition. They collected songs and videos from Madurai Seed's collection and on internet, played them for children. They also practiced and enjoyed singing some songs.

Creating, expressing in my own words, 20.03.2017

World Story Telling Day: *Everyone is a story teller, everything is a story.* Volunteers told stories to children. The stories were from many genres Maharastran folk tale, Tamil modern short story, Oscar Wilde's The Happy Prince, Tolstoy's Two Old men.



.....
**Literature is
humanity
talking to itself**
.....

Galileo Science Club

Me and Science, 18.06.2016:



Dr. Maruthanayagam, A former seed student cum volunteer who is a doctorate in Marine Biotechnology took a seminar on “Lakshadweep” for the children of Madurai Seed. He screened a short video on the life, custom, and occupation of the people living in 30 islands in Lakshadweep. He explained about his work in the

lab. Children acquainted knowledge about the coral reefs, dolphins, tuna fish, etc., their benefits and the immediate results of the extinction of these sea creatures. His seminar gave a broad spectrum about Marine and fisheries. He portrayed the importance of Marine Bio-technology.

Light Experiments, 14.10.2016: **Devaki** student of Lady Doak College took a session about light and it's related experiments. The experiments were simple and informative about reflection, scattering, refraction, and focus. She also explained about famous scientists researched on the field of light and gave static facts about light.

Aavin Dairy Farm Visit, 27.09.2016:

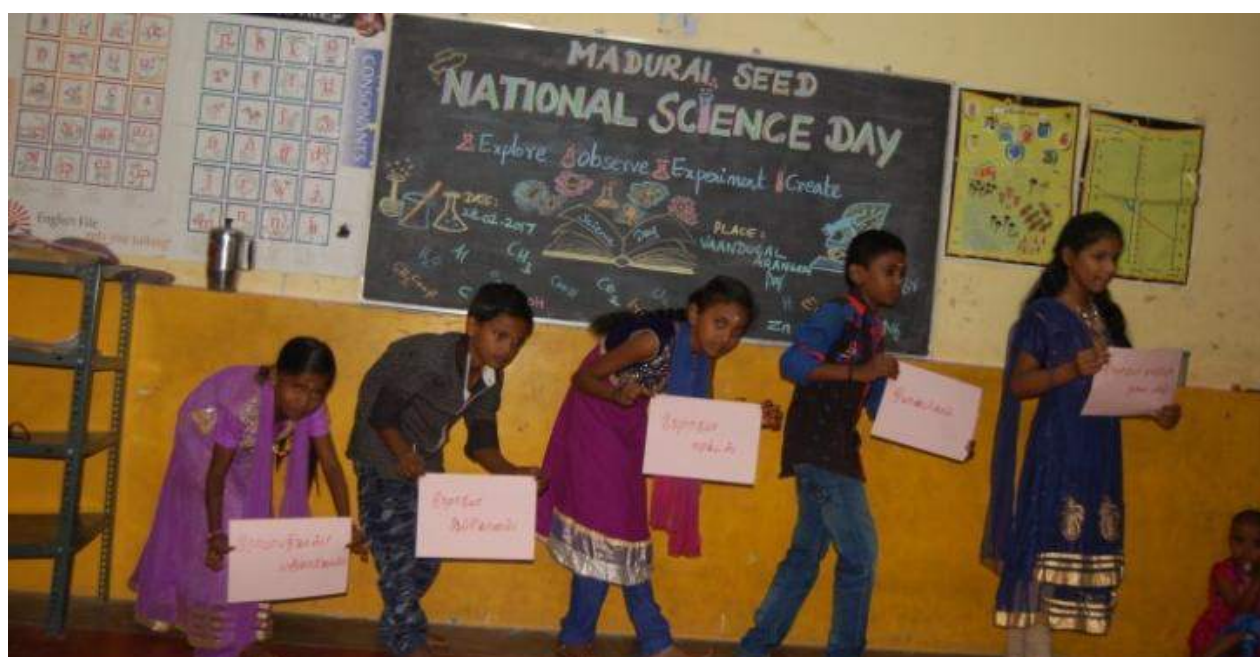


Children visited Aavin Dairy Farm. They visited the nooks and corners of the factory. Milk and its products are part of our life, and it is important for them to know about it. A worker in the factory explained about collection, research and analysis, pasteurization, value added products, packaging unit, etc.

Act the science facts, 28.02.2017



National Science Day: Dramatics, a tool become a laboratory for exploring science facts. The children and young people engaged in acting out the elements from the evolution of human species to the current issues of Tamil Nadu. Our volunteer directors tied them up with facts and stories from the books in our library. The science facts covered were deforestation, methane, and hydrocarbon projects, Ayisha"- a story based on inquisitive science student and her teacher, Solar family, Save our Earth from global warming, Natural Disasters, Evolution of Human species, "Newton's Law in everyday life". The National Science Day ended up with non-stop appreciation and applauses for the Madurai Seed volunteer directors and students.



Aagaya Gangai Social Science Club

Leaders for inspiration, 25.06.2016: After a small introductory part was given by Karthikbharathi about leaders, a quiz competition was conducted on "Inspirational Leaders". The photographs and childhood photographs of the leaders were showed, children and young people guessed those leaders.



Visiting Thirumalai Nayak Palace, 28.09.2016: Knowing the gem values of the place we live is the foremost thing before learning the world history. Children and young people went to Thirumalai Nayak Palace in Madurai city center. They visited the archeological museum, visited various rooms of the palace. They tried to read the age old stone scriptures.

Village festival Puliuran, 11.10.2016: Young people with Karthikbharathi visited the village festival in Puliuran village which is 70 kms away from Madurai. The temple festival was celebrated by the whole village without caste discriminations. They heard about the myths and legendary stories of village gods and goddesses.

Story of lives, 01.01.2017:



The hall was flooded with stories, minds were swamped with thoughts, a spark was lit up by the epitome of cool rhetorician **Prof. Dr. T. Dharmaraj**, Head of the Folklore Department, Madurai Kamaraj University. The stories he told that seeped us to think that we should speak out otherwise we would burst out with bumps of loaded memories. "What we

want would be achieved only when we ask; we should not prevent ourselves from doing what we really want. The new year message of him was motivational for the young people, informative for the kids. He shared his experiences of his doctoral research. He was honored by our children; the first day of the year became the best day.

Seminar on "An Island Nation", 29.01.2017



Mr. Muruges, an Engineer who loves to travel, shared his experiences of his recent stay at "Japan" to the children and young people. The seminar was about Japanese's reverence to their fellow human beings, their politeness, discipline, their seven-minute cleanliness tricks, recovery from natural

disasters, etc. Also, their massive development of technology starting from the public toilet to the fastest bullet train brought students to learn more from those hard working people. The museum speaking the tears of Hiroshima on the other side the tremendous growth of Kobe (a harbor city) produced goose-bumps through his photos and videos. **Mrs. Viji Muruges** added her impressions of Japanese's artifacts, she expressed how do the people there add strength to build up a nation apart from disasters, language, and religious issues. The nation we point out in the map spun around us showing its beautiful and peaceful faces.

Isreal Palestine Travelogue Release, 15.08.2016



Our young people got an opportunity to hear the speech of **Dr. E. Nageshwari Annamalai**, about one of her books , "Palestine – Israel war and Pope Francis". Her words in the book screened the sufferings of the people in Palestine. She shared her experiences of her visit to there. After her session, young people interacted with her and Melli Akka

at Madurai TTS campus.

Knowing Canada, 20.10.2016:

Edward and Kelsey, two visitors from Canada interacted with children about their country, its culture, and education system. They screened pictures of Canada and talked about the geographical, social, and cultural aspects of the country. Since the session was visual and very interactive, children asked many questions about Canada.

Suvadugal Sports Club

Sports Meet

“Success is where preparation and opportunity meet”

Sports reveal the potential, talent and the wholehearted desires in playing. The holidays after every semester are meant for indoor and outdoor sport events for children split into four teams with team captain and a coach. They practice foot ball, volley ball, cricket, Kabadi, carrom, chinese checkers, chess, and so on like a champion with team spirit for the whole day at Vandiyur park, ESI ground, Karumbalai Main street and Vandugal, Vergal Arangam. Sports meet conducted in a colorful and vibrant manner when guests honored the teams won with rolling trophy, gifts and medals.



Traditional Games were also given importance at sports meet. Children enjoyed playing the games which they don't get chance to play now. Children regardless of gender and age played in the street, which is not generally common. The team miracle squad bagged the rolling trophy. The team went on a success rally with their trophy around the area.



Annai Medical Club

The primary and desired result of this club is to provide awareness in medically related issues. Medical club educates children by means of seminars of doctors and practitioners. It also enables oneself learn through programs about healthcare. Club comprises of student representatives who collect information of recent medical innovations and post it on the board and give seminar to their peer groups.

We approach the doctors and organize a medical camp every year for free dental, eye and general medical check-up to the community. There is a need for such a camp to them inside the locality since health care services whether costs so much or consumes their time. Notices were issued to let them know of the camp. Attendees' information was collected by our volunteers from the early hours of the day in Vandugal Arangam. Then they were directed to consult a team of Doctors inside.

The doctors checked for oral and dental issues, defect in vision and infections in ears and donated the prescribed medicines and health supplements like tonics, cookies and a kit with tooth brush and tooth paste. Some of them are given slips to refer doctors for further free medical treatment. More number of children with their parents and grandparents benefited by the camp.



Medical Club Representatives 2016-17

Field trips

Pannaikadu, 19.04.2016



9 young people visited **tribal settlements** in Kodaikannal hills. They visited the villages and talked with people. We collected some bed sheets, wood, and tin constructing materials and donated to the village head. They gave great hospitality to the young people. They live simple but with great happiness. They invited our children and young people for camps and trainings in the village.

Alagar Kovil, 24.07.2016



30 Children and 15 young people went to Alagar Kovil for **trekking**. They were taught about the ecosystem. We couldn't see any butterflies since there were no rain this year. They saw various trees and had bath in the natural spring at the top of the hill. *"Always it is our favorite place to trek with friends", said Maha, 9th std.*

Hill top, 21.08.2016



15 volunteers went on a **road trip** to "Varana View", near Kadambavanam a view point at the top of a hill which is 19 kms away from Karumbalai by their bicycles. *"Past many villages and lovely scenery, it gives memorable and images of Madurai from the hill top", highlighted Vasim, college 1st year.*

Amusement Park, 26.11.2016: 24 Volunteers were taken to a refreshment trip to



Black Thunder, an amusement park in Coimbatore. For 15 of them, it was their first time visiting an amusement park. They played water games and other games there. Everyone enjoyed the trip and had more fun. *"What gives happiness more than enjoying with my friends for the first on water ride, roller coaster, and rope car" said Sudha, college 1st year".*



Tamukkam Expo, 17.12.2016: Children and young people visited Tamukkam Government Expo, visited the models of **seven wonders** of the world, they went to stalls of Marine, forestry department, numismatic stall, and handloom stall attracted the children. They played in the games area and watched awareness dramas.



Kodaikannal, 29 & 30.12.2016: A sojourn of 54 students to the hill station Kodaikanal wrapped up with so many natural surprises was a visual treat for everyone. As they have a very little chance to step outside Karumbalai, we arranged this trip for two days with a night stay amidst serene beauty of hills. Among **54 students**, it was very first time for 43 to visit there. They observed the relics of antiques, explored about endangered species, noted the extinction of man in the past million years ago, spotted venomous & non-venomous snakes, made out the characteristics of various birds, insects and animals, perceived the ancient history of Southern Indians, etc., visited forests, rocks, cascade, hills, lakes,



museum, college, church, and went on horse riding, cycling, trekking, etc., also they had fun games on meadows. They missed nothing in the hill station and returned with loads of beautiful memories.

MADURAI SEED CHILDREN and YOUNG PEOPLE FEDERATION (MSCF & MSYF)

Election, 23.06.2016



The functions and challenges of leadership are more than taught by means of elections at Madurai Seed. Trust, intelligence, team work, innovation, integrity, and values are experienced through election. The elected leaders come forward and represent their fellow peer's voice in all activities being conducted here. Election was conducted on to select presidents and representatives of class, clubs, of MSCF and MSYF.

Representatives of clubs



Children Federation (MSCF)



Vanmugil Cultural Club



Galileo Science Club



Mutram Literature Club



Thenkoodu Children Bank



Puduyugam Children Magazine



Suvadugal Sports Club



Aagayagangai Social Science Club



Senthamizh Library Club



MSYF Leader



Youth Saving Incharge

Special Days



Independence Day, 15.08.2016: 70th

Independence Day was celebrated in front of our office. Students representative **B.Kowsalya** of 12th std hoisted the flag followed by Vindhiya's speech. Sweets were distributed to all.



Teacher's Day, 04.09.2016: A small

token of love: Students dedicated the whole day for teaching volunteers of Madurai Seed to think and thank on Teachers' Day. They made cards of wishes, small gifts and thank giving messages. The evening was colorfully decorated with sharing of everything about their favorite teaching volunteers. They were honored with gift money.



Children's Day, 14.11.2016: "There is a child in everyone who loves to eat candies, play on sand, dance in rain"

Madurai Seed Kids celebrated Children's Day with cookies, candies also with a message to remember the Childhood. Rhymes, stories and fables filled them with joy and love.



Youth Day, 12.01.2017: "Be a ray of light"

Mr. S. Ravikumar, an artist, and a social activist, took part in the gathering of young people with his positive, enthusiastic, motivational speech at Madurai Seed on National Young People day. His fingers stroked out various phenomena like education, communism, agriculture, demonetization, gender equality, Russian & Venezuela revolution, etc.



Republic Day, 26.01.2017: Young people's representative **Sharmila** hoisted the National Flag and delivered a speech on "Being Patriotic" in which she highlighted the rights and duties of a citizen on Independence Day. Sweets distributed for all.



Institution Day, 01.02.2017: "Making invisible the visible: All gathered to admit a sincere thanks to the supporters, friends, staff, volunteers on this Institution Day . Articulated their love in words, children and young people were appreciated and motivated by Karthik for the upcoming years. He traced his memories from the establishment of our institution and gave a happy note to the students as the day is to remember the pillars of Madurai Seed and to recollect the success histories in the past year



Women's Day, 08.03.2017: Within her there is a power to create, nurture, and transform: Madurai Seed feels proud in taking a role in honoring the women personalities in the program conducted by Ekta Parishad on International Women's day. Hundreds of women from urban to rural took part in this occasion. Tribal activist, agriculturalist, members of women labour association, social activists working against alcohol were honored by Dr. Rajaji. Madurai Seed coordinated the program. At Madurai Seed, mothers of our students were invited and celebrated the womanhood. Girl children gave speech on the empowerment of women in the society.



Celebrations

Diwali, 29.10.2016



A festival celebrated to light the darkness. Children enjoyed firing crackers, exchanged wishes, danced for the beats, shared sweets. **Alumni** shared their experiences at Seed which added brightness to the evening. They recalled their student times and volunteer times at seed. It was a very special occasion, we cherished together.

Ramzan, 07.07.2016



A Part of academic year provided learning of different religious practices. The significance of Islamic festival, 30 day fasting before Ramzan, and how it is celebrated in various parts were retold by the students' representatives. Together we cooked **Biriyani** and shared it after the celebrations.

Christmas, 24.12.2016



While cherishing the Christmas Season at Madurai Seed, **Prof. Dr. S.J. Kala**, from Fatima College, tuned the minds of kids with a brief message. She portrayed what does our birth in this world should be for: to converse with our soul, to sharpen our intellect, to erase our sins, to make use of us to society and to leave the best impression for the coming generation. The metaphor

she used was a Pencil. Kids and Young people seemed to perceive everything she highlighted for a healthy and blessed future. She was honored and sent off with handful of Christmas wishes. G. Sudha, a volunteer dressed as Santa headed and gave surprise visits and gifts to kids. They sang "Jingle bells" and Tamil songs in praise of Lord. It was a cheery evening for all of them.

New Year's Eve, 31.12.2016



Dozens of fun games, and activities for Children created unlimited joy. Volunteers conducted fun games for each class. It was a joyful evening with cheer and laughter of children and young people. The year ended happily and they welcome 2017 with a big smile by sharing cake and sweets.

Pongal, 14.01.2017



Pongal festival was celebrated in the East street by our 18 young people with their families, as a big seed family, they cooked 9 different varieties of Pongal, thanked the Sun God in colorful attires in the early hours of morning. Pongal festival at Madurai Seed brought everyone together with hand full of gifts and heartfelt of love. Festivals make bonds between Seed, kids and their parents. Everyone exchanged wishes and shared sweet dish cooked in front of our centers. Togetherness ensured a state of happiness on this harvest festival.

Programs for public



Thanneer Panthal: During Chithirai festival (09th & 10th May 2016), we provided water and butter milk to public in Tallakulam and Anna Nagar areas. In these two events, nearly 3000 people benefited from that service. We don't do this service as a religious activity, instead the occasion as a time for working, sharing, spending time together as a family.



Camp exhibition, 09.05.2016: The Vasantham Camp begun and ended with so much of artifacts. Parents and Visitors Mrs. Viji and Mr. Muruges along with visitors from Hyderabad visited the Camp exhibition. Everyone appreciated children's creativity and efforts.



Kolam Competition, 13.01.2017

Kolam Contest is being conducted every year, to maintain a strong relationship with parents, and public. It is also a kind of cultural activity that demands creativity, and aesthetic-sense. This year approximately 100 people participated in the competition. A panel of men from young people's team judged the Kolams based on colors, size, and creativity.



A rally for harmony, 01.01.2017

The holy Bible, Quran and the book for all Thirukural projected the meaning of Children's rally for Harmony. Young people accompanied them and distributed New Year gifts and sweets to the public with a wish in the morning.

Margazhi Utsav, 28.12.2016



"Standing tall, trunk lifts fronds up to the sky, surfing airy ocean blue"- these lines about palm trees crossed our mind amidst the 18th year anniversary celebrations of MADURAI SEED, Margazhi Utsav a part of those celebrations took place on the Main Street of Karumbalai where palm trees lined us up to have a visual treat of kids and young people. Six folk songs about harvesting, women power, art and culture, and some more concepts were brought in dance by MADURAI SEED dancers. Parents amazed to see their children's performances who were all given '*kamarakat*' and coffee made from palm grounds. Not enough words to say about this big day as it cheered up everyone standing around. In traditional colorful attires, the live show of them stole the evening. Had a wonderful Margazhi Utsav under palm trees!!



Volunteering & Internships:

Usha & Jensi: Final year B.Com. Students of Lady Doak College did their internship at Madurai Seed from 10th May to 11th June 2016. Administrative work and teaching Commerce made a valuable internship for them. They learned account maintenance from Muthupandi, accountant of Madurai Seed. Every day they utilized the resources and took classes, conducted games. They highlighted in their report that Madurai Seed made it easy to understand what social work is and the need of an NGO for a better society.

Preethi, Devaki, and Swathi Interns from Lady Doak College worked with Madurai Seed for a project called "SEEDOAK", a learning tool to enhance the basic knowledge of children. With Elavarasi & Arun, they created this digital tool for learning English, Tamil and Math in a simple to concrete pattern of syllabus. After a seminar on the usage of this teaching aid, they furnished it to the college for their final year completion. Yet we have not received it, but if once it is installed, we can use it for the coming year.



Andrea Wilson: One of the members of Friends of Madurai Seed, volunteered our young people for three weeks. She actively took part in the practice and run through of Macbeth play of our volunteers. She enjoyed visiting the historical places with our volunteers. Her teaching of English phonemes, grammar, and teaching methodology assisted the teaching volunteers to go through. She guided Elavarasi to frame syllabus using some teaching methodology books. She raises funds through her stalls and contributes Madurai Seed.



Jakub Pawlowski: A volunteer from Poland, gave an useful and intensive course on "Russian Language" for 30 days. Begun with Russian alphabets, Jakub introduced vowels, consonants, words to greet, and grammar structures. Exercises and communication through English and Russian in the classroom built confidence in volunteers.

Site Visits

Melli Annamalai, 14.08.2016 to 20.08.2016



Dr. Melli Annamalai visited us during August 2016. Young people congregated to attend her at Vandugal Arangam. It was organized in such a manner for a discussion on "Freedom-in the view of youngsters", which unlocked the thoughts and images of what a real freedom is. Melli Akka begun it with great poet Tagore's poem "Where the mind is without fear", all huddled up close to listen and amplify. Young people stated their

views about freedom in society, schools, and families. The discussion winded up in the end with different perspectives of freedom in the present world. In the afternoon, young people presented two plays in Gandhi Museum. One was a big production "Macbeth" and another was a play on "Women empowerment". She appreciated and encouraged everyone.

Laura Villiger & John, 05.02.2017 to 13.02.2017



Always the visit of Laura Amma and John Sir makes us so happy. They spread love and smile on us during every minute of their stay at Madurai Seed. Lesson plan for teaching phonemes was created for the children and a workshop on teaching strategies was conducted for our young people. Development and functions of Madurai Seed in the past two years, the establishment of new project for young people in Kaleidoscope, planning for the

future was discussed in the meetings Laura and John with Karthik and Elavarasi.

Meeting Eveline and Anita, 09.03.2017



A meet and greet by Elavarasi and Karthik with Eveline and Anita at Tiruvannamalai was about the recent achievements and activities of Madurai Seed. Meeting after a long while, they spend the evening with more memories to be shared. Eveline, a great inspiration to our seed children appreciated and motivated Karthik.

Anita's love forever keeps us stay enthusiastic. Though the meet was for few hours, they refreshed our thoughts about building more good children and young people.

Visitors and Resource Persons



Connecting to the World, 30.07.2016:

Volunteers and students welcomed and interacted with the visitors from various parts of the US. The team of students intrigued about the various activities and role of Madurai Seed in developing Women education, and also they viewed the arts & crafts of our Children. Young people related our culture, education, lifestyle, and various

phenomena to theirs. This kind of atmosphere enables them mutual sharing and understanding of knowledge and everything.



Media Visit, 22.10.2016: News 18, a news channel took a video graph about Madurai Seed to flash light on its services to the society. They interviewed our founder Karthikbharathi, students and volunteers about the various unique strategies and activities of Madurai Seed to the development of children. The satellite centers, library, skills and development programs, the background of the children, their exposures outside, success histories of alumni, various programs of Madurai Seed

was covered by the news reporters. It will be uploaded / telecasted in channel in the name of "Ippaddiku Ivargal".



Exchanging cultural, educational and social concepts, 18.02.2017:

A team of German students from the Center for Modern Indian Studies, Gottingen University visited Madurai Seed to study our work for the children and young people. They were split into 6 teams, and our volunteers in each team guided them to the satellite centers of Madurai Seed where demonstrators

explained them about the various activities of Madurai Seed. They played our traditional games and danced with the kids. Our young people broke down the language barriers by interacting and exchanging ideas and thoughts. The visit proved to be effective for the studies of German students and inspiring for the young people of Madurai Seed.

Participation of trustees and volunteers

Film Making Workshop, 07.05.2016

Getting knowledge about film techniques is always useful for taking children out of text books. Elavarasi and volunteer Vicky attended the workshop on "Role of Films in Education" conducted by Kaleidoscope. The two days workshop gave hints and important concepts involved in making short films and handling film tools. Vicky retold his experiences and techniques to his peers at Madurai Seed.

Workshop on post modernism, 23rd to 27th November 2016



Director Elavarasi took part in the workshop conducted by Kaleidoscope- a center for art and culture. It was held at "Sacred Heart College" in Shenbaganoor near Kodaikanal for four days. The workshop comprised of seminars, discussions, and film screening. There were 30 participants who are teachers, professors, writers, theatre artists, designers, and students from all over

Tamilnadu took part in the workshop. The topics were discussed in detail by Prof. Dr. Dharmaraj and Prof. Dr. Prabhaha, artists, and writers. The workshop provided a chance to understand post modernism and its influences in fields like literature, cinema, education, architecture, and life style. Elavarasi shared and presented about the workshop to the young people in Madurai Seed.

Site visit to a special school, 15.03.2017



A.S.Karthikbharathi accompanied by two Madurai Seed volunteers visited Sharon School For Mentally Challenged Children in Rajapalayam. Asha for Education requested Karthik to visit the school, inspect, and submit a report. Karthikbharathi talked with the principal, visited their physiotherapy classes, talked with the school teachers. The principal updated

many things about school's financial situation and needs. Karthikbharathi gave some suggestions. Finally he submitted the report to Asha.

Networking

Working with CESC:



CESC
Centre for Experiencing Socio-Cultural Interaction (Madurai, India).



Madurai Seed is working closely with CESC (Center for experiencing socio cultural interaction), an organization working for rural development, and rights for indigenous people, cultural exchange, and peace. A.S.Karthikbharathi, our managing trustee is participating in their staff and volunteer meetings. Madurai Seed children and young people are being given chances to participate in their seminars and workshops. Our young people are from urban background, when they interact and work with rural atmosphere, they get new experiences.

Working with Kaleidoscope:



Kaleidoscope is an alternative center for arts and education. Professor.Prabhakar instituted this organization. People from Kaleidoscope center gave theatre training to our children. Mr. Vadivel from the center, gave some inputs during Macbeth, play production. Plus, Madurai Seed is planning to construct a resource center for young people in the upstairs of Kaleidoscope center. That resource center will be a ground for Madurai Seed young people and other young people of Madurai to get training on various subjects like cinema, literature, art, higher studies, etc.

Vizhuthugal (Aerial Roots)

It is the alumni association functions for former students, and volunteers of Madurai Seed. The alumni can render monetary support, knowledge support, or moral support. Children and young people of today are getting inspirations from them in studying and coming up in life and coming back to Madurai Seed. We believe this circle will expand in numbers and activities in the coming year.

- O.Manikandan contributes a small amount monthly.
- Diwali was celebrated with the subscriptions received from alumni.
- 15 members attended the alumni meeting, 32 people have paid their subscription.



Friends of Madurai Seed, India

This group envisions an effective community through like-minded people as resource persons, advisors, moral supporters, and donors from India. They will know Madurai Seed inside out. They can join with Madurai Seed in every possible way. Their resource will be channelized to the needs of children and young people.

- Engineer Vinoth Kumar, a friend of our alumnus Manikandan is contributing a small amount monthly.
- Murugesan and Viji couple encourages us by their presence in our programs.
- Prof. Prabhakar has given space for constructing Thedalgai Resource Center.
- Currently, this facebook group has 150 members.

What do others think about us?

"It was one of the best evenings in my life watching the range of students creating theatrical experience of life."

Mr. Elango, Professor,
The American College

"Feel so blessed and happy to be with all these children. Hats off to the seed management."

-Mrs. Kala, Professor, Fatima College

"Really inspiring to know that Madurai Seed is working so hard to provide these children a better future. Thank you for such lovely experience."

-Anurag Rai,
Social Work Student

"It was a nice experience. People communicated well and guided us properly. All were kind to us. You are really doing a great job."

- Intern Students from Lady
Doak College

The work you do, the hope you instill, the confidence and values you build and reinforce are truly amazing and inspiring. Your children appears to be full of joy, and this is perhaps the greatest seed of all.

- Giancarto, English Teacher, NY



Edward Edmundson reviewed Madurai Seed மதுரை சீடு – 5★

2 November 2016 · 🌐

It's a rare occurrence when you meet people who are as selfless and caring as the people who make Madurai Seed happen. My girlfriend and I had the honour of meeting them while we spent a few days in the city where we were introduced to four thoroughly charming classes of kids who were intrigued and amused by our presence. It was so heartwarming to see that the work that Madurai Seed do is making such an impact on the lives of young people.

Thank you so much for having us, guys. We are both so grateful for having the opportunity to meet you and the kids.

All the best.

Ed & Kelsey.



Finance Report

MADURAI SEED, KARUMPALAI, MADURAI RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2017

Receipts	Sch	Rs.	Rs.	Payments	Sch	Rs.	Rs.
Opening Balance	6			Programme Cost			
Cash on Hand		47,868		Children Education Centre	8		492,969
Cash at Bank		16,087	63,955	Children's and Young People Skill & Personality Development Programme	9		632,564
Foreign Contribution Received			2,526,749	Library for children & Young People	10		86,090
Donation Received			192,872	Scholarship Support for Children & Young people	11		515,600
Interest Income	7			Young People Education Centre	12		282,187
S B Interest		19,027		Administration Expenses	13		634,280
FD Interest		42,044	61,071	TDS on Interest Income			4,205
				Fixed Deposit Invested- Accrued Interest			37,839
				Capital Expenditure			
				Projector			51,445
				Closing Balance	5		
				Cash on Hand		19,215	
				Cash at Bank		88,253	107,468
							<u>2,844,647</u>

For Arockiasamy & Raj
Firm Registration Number : 006850S
Chartered Accountants



P. Arockiasamy
P. Arockiasamy
Partner
Membership No. 018348

Place : Madurai
Date : 01.08.2017

For MADURAI SEED

A. S. Karthik Bharathi

A.S.KARTHIK BHARATHI
MANAGING TRUSTEE

Managing Trustee

Conclusion

Madurai Seed have played and continue to play an important role in breaking the barriers and fulfilling the needs of children and young people that they couldn't get from their families, schools, and colleges. Everyday children and young people face struggles in the locale which some are visible and some aren't. In this scenario, Madurai Seed first of all provides a space to think, to speak, to act upon constructive means that will help their personality, skill, education and emotional development. The development of a whole youth community in Karumbalai is symbolic evidence as they enter the mainstream of the society with much good qualities and education.

Madurai Seed ensures to provide the education and guidance support and through that a transformation of life to the children and young people in the urban slums.

The magnitude of our support for the underprivileged will extend with all of your benevolence. We express our heartfelt thanks to each one of you who join hands in this journey of creating a social change through education. Your generous support indeed makes a difference. Thank you.



Added Readings

Site visit Report

Melli Annamalai for Asha-Boston/MIT , August 14 and 15, 2016



I visited Seed Narpanigal on the eve of Independence Day. Seed Narpanigal organizes discussions on contemporary topics on days such as Independence Day. Since I was visiting they requested me to lead the discussion. It gave me a good opportunity for a serious interaction with the

older students (higher secondary and college students, who are also the youth volunteers who teach the younger children).

After introductions (we went around the room and everyone introduced themselves), I proposed a topic. I quoted a few lines from Rabindranath Tagore's poem "Where the Mind Is without Fear and the Head Is Held High Where Knowledge Is Free"..... Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake."

My question to the group – after 69 years of independence, do we live in a country where knowledge is free and everyone can walk without fear with their head held high?

This led to a lively discussion. The girls (not surprisingly) talked about the hurdles they faced in pursuing their goals in education, so the question of whether knowledge is free is complicated for them. In particular they talked about several safety issues they face. Some of the boys had a comment I didn't expect. They said that given all the violence against women, as a man they felt ashamed. Though they themselves had done nothing wrong, they felt bad that people of their gender behaved so badly. Sometimes, especially in the company of women, they could not hold their head high.

Art and Social Change



Seed Narpanigal lays a lot of emphasis on creating confidence in each child. They organize many activities focused on making children confident – sports, art, dance, drama, debates and discussions,

excursions are just a few examples. Also, they believe every child has potential and each child will shine in some activity.

In the category of art they recently put together a production of Shakespeare's Macbeth in Tamil. It is a completely home grown production, starting with the translation of an abridged version of the play into Tamil, selecting pieces of music for the production, designing costumes, designing the scenes, and finally selecting actors, directing the play, and bringing it to life. There was something to do for everyone. And there was room for creativity, learning how to organize, and learning how to plan. They very proudly performed their production for me.

The venue was the community hall at the nearby Gandhi museum. The community hall is a lovely place, designed to be airy and have lots of light, and costs about Rs. 1000 for renting for an afternoon. This resource is useful, and Seed Narpanigal uses it for many activities.

In the play I saw many of the children blossom as they delivered their dialogues, enacted fight scenes, or played dead. In the crush of challenges they face, art and expressing themselves through art is a transformative experience. There is no room for hanging back or looking down or shying away, they have to deliver their dialogues and act their parts in front of an audience. And they did that with gusto, with evident enjoyment. Boys and girls work together as equals. Watching, I felt that art indeed helps their self-esteem and confidence which in turn will help them with the skills they need in the future to be successful in their chosen careers.

The girls also performance a dance they had created on the importance of education. There is an excitement and sense of achievement in creating their own thing (dance/drama/song/writing) that is so important.



Dr. Melli Annamalai about 26th Puduyugam-Girl Children's Special Issue



The special girls' issue of Puduyugam magazine brings out the struggles and challenges in the girls' own voice. It also shows the immense talent of the girls, and their confidence and creativity in questioning the world around them. They question many accepted practices. That is very impressive. The deep desire for freedom to study and work is very visible. They yearn to break free of the constraints and barriers. They want to study, have careers. I really like the way this comes through in their

voices. They are constantly told they have to be at home, but they want to break away from that. It is exhilarating to see them boldly say all of this.

My Favorite Lines:

"Saraswati is the Goddess of Knowledge, and you pray to a woman for knowledge. Why do you deny knowledge to women?"

"Women symbolically light the lamps in the house, isn't knowledge a lamp in a house?"

"Don't you remember the influence of women teachers in your lives?"

"Identifying some great educationists as women (for example, Maria Montessori)."

My Most Favorite Sections:

The 11th standard boys writing about how they will treat the women in their lives.

The two sections on advice to my brother, about how they say they should be treated the same as their brothers.

The drama created by Elavarasi is very creative!

The magazine is a great effort.

Madurai seed's 'Puthuyugam' launching ceremony on 18/11/16

By Murugesan Krishnasamy



It was a very different and spectacular eve(s)ning yesterday at Madurai seed. Though we missed a few moments in the beginning, the kids gave a rousing welcome and this warmth makes us emotionally charged every time we visit them. Karthik had come out with the emphasis/theme of 'empowering the girl child' for this year's edition of 'Puduyugam'. It was a fitting tribute to this great movement or rather a 'phenomenon' happening not just in

India, but around the world for a few decades. The guests of honor were enthusiastic, energetic and vibrant. Their influence was so strong that the meeting turned into a very informal gathering in a few minutes from its start.

Ms.Indu, a student reporter of Vikatan(a leading Tamil magazine) was the first to speak. She struck a fine bonding with the audience and shared her experiences in her journey towards taking up journalism. Then spoke **Prof.Sumedha** who articulated life of a typical Indian female with her own experiences. Her interaction was simple, humorous but very influential. I am sure her message would have left a strong impact among the girl students. She ended with a very inspiring story. **Prof.Ponmalar** was next to speak. She came out wonderfully with the practical difficulties that woman folks face especially when they travel alone/staying away from home... I felt she is one of the torch-bearers in this movement and will go places. She was followed by **Dr.Usha**. I need to introspect and check myself if I even deserve to write about her....for me personally, Dr.Usha not only stole the evening but our hearts and minds. Next was **Viji**'s turn and she went on to emphasize male's role in this whole Movement....true....., a clap is heard only when both hands come together. **Elavarasi** followed her with her experiences in life and went on to dedicate her success to Karthik. **Mariammal teacher** recollected her association with her students and wished them success. **Indu's mother** (sorry for not knowing her name) though was reluctant to talk initially, sprang a surprise with her crisp and focused talk. She is a great orator and it was heartening to know from her about 'Gender sensitization' being implemented in corporation schools in Tamilnadu.

Karthik's consistency with conceptualizing and organizing events in such a meticulous manner amazes me. His team spirit and motivational force are the driving factors behind such achievements. I am so happy for Ela as she has been playing a phenomenal role in the activities of MS. I came to understand that it was Ela's effort to bring such a wonderful line of guests for this event. I wish them both and the 'Team Madurai seed' all the best and pray God that they all be blessed.

MADURAI SEED Diwali & Vizhuthugal Alumni Meet & Celebrating Togetherness

By ArunKumar.C



Diwali: Lights, crackers, new dress, sweets. Madurai Seed alumni meet also joined on the list for the past few years. This Diwali again brought together our alumni on 28th October 2016 at Gandhi Museum, the day before actual Diwali.

It is a great joy to see the happy faces of children, which draws us back to our own childhood. This year's meet was planned in such a creative manner. There were groups divided with children and young people for each corner. The alumni went to each corner and had nice time speaking with children and young people.

Registration: Here, the alumni were given welcomed and given beautiful cloth badge. Alumni has written their job profiles and contact details.

Photo Booth: Alumni took photos behind a banner. The banner had a picture of big banyan tree with aerial roots, birds were flying towards the tree, what a perfect background.

Lighting Diyas: Alumni lighted Diwali lamps. Children gave them a smiley badge, and Diya made of clay as Diwali gifts.

Handprint Corner: Hands brushed with green colour, pressed down on paper. Here came the hand print. They have taken a photo with their handprint behind a wooden frame.

Selfie & Mehndi: Alumni took a selfie with children and young people. The children drew mehndi designs on alumni's hand.

Slam Book Writing: Alumni had written their feelings on paper about how they are feeling today and how Madurai Seed supported them.

Sweets Corner: Sweets, savouries, and tea provided to all.



This year Ganeshbabu and P.Manikandan came with their spouse and kids. It is happy to see people who came to Madurai Seed as kids coming again with their own kids again. Karpaga Jothi participated with her husband.



Muniasamy, ArunKumar, Muthupandi, Magudapathi, Ramki, Balamurugan, Suresh Kannan, Priya, Parvathi, and KarpagaSelvi took part in the meeting. (O.Manikandan and Ganesh Kumar joined on the day of Diwali after the meet)



The alumni are working in various arenas of society like teachers, engineers, manager, research scholar, accountant, content writer, and other rewarding private jobs.

32 people have given their subscriptions. (Rs. 3840)

9 people have donated. (Rs. 5130)



Ganesh Babu gave an emotional speech on how Karthik Anna and Seed helped him. He wrote 10th std exams as a private student (like home-schooling). Along with him many studied that year under the supervision and guidance of Karthik Anna and passed the exams with decent marks. He shared the

supports rendered by Seed to finish 12th std successfully. He asked the current students and volunteers to make use of the resources, and guidance and wished them all the best.



Finally, children and young people enthralled everyone with their non-stop dance performances.

It is a beautiful moment and motivation for each alumnus, seeing, talking with Karthik Anna, Elavarasi Anni, Mansur Anna, volunteers, young people, and children.



This event enhanced the relationship among the alumni and enabled them to discuss on various matters. The alumni reaffirmed to strengthen the bond between them and their alma mater. Hope, the next year the number

of participants will increase and some of them may get to participate with their spouse and babies.

I am concluding the report with “Together Everyone Achieves More” and we are here to celebrate that togetherness. Let our values and goals guide us; let friendship and kindness illuminate our paths.



Observation Report

Josiah Immanuel M

June 18, 2016

Introduction



This document describes my observation of the student trainers I undertook during the orientation class of my 'English Coaching Program' on Saturday, 18th of June, 2016 between 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. at Madurai Seed, Karumbalai. The motive of this report is to describe the happenings during the class and the topics of interaction by me with the student trainers.

Preparation:

Being my very first meeting with the student trainers, acquainting with them would be the perfect thing to do. I prepared a simple worksheet that covered basic grammar topics that could help me identify the potential of the trainers.

Observation:

I gave them a brief introduction on the English language and its significance in the Indian academia. Then I handed them over the worksheets and asked them to work it out. In the end, we discussed the right answers and considered the other answers given by others. Then I asked them to write a paragraph on their own to understand their levels of thinking. The class ended with good cheer and hope.

Post-class Review:

The students showed a positive face in learning and actively participated in discussions. At first, they were hesitant of going wrong in answering the worksheet, but later they happily lent their interest in learning the right answer. Their writing needs more clarity and grammatical accuracy. It is not impossible but attainable with such spirit and motivation.

Happy spreading the seed with SEED





Thank You



A snap during sports meet conducted in January 2017



MADURAI SEED

To Support and empower the underprivileged
Arjun Shanmuga Illam,
439-1, East Street, Karumbalai, Madurai - 625020.
Ph : 0452-2537670 / 94425 37670
maduraiseed1999@gmail.com,
www.madurai-seed.org