



LOVE ALL SERVE ALL

Sevalaya's News Letter

Love 1

JUNE - 2006

Serve 3

Price Re. 1

Dear Friends,

When we go for shopping, we always have a feeling that anything priced high is of good quality. We also say that if we want good quality we better pay for it. In this scenario, if something is available totally free of cost, we will bet that it will be of the poorest quality.

Many people, who came to Sevalaya in the initial stages, communicated to us that if we give everything free, then people will think it is of bad quality and also will not see the value in it. We have proved all of them wrong. Sevalaya school is a completely free school, there is no fee to be paid, we provide uniforms, books, note books, all stationery items, the smaller kids are even picked-up and dropped free of cost! When we started operating in that area, we realized that unless we give everything free of cost, children from the poorest sections are not going to come to school. The parents feel that by sending their kids to school, they are losing out the 'coolii' the child can earn during the day. The reality of the situation forced us to make our school totally free. Then came the theory that if it is free, it can't be of good quality and the beneficiaries themselves will not take it seriously. But the current year's 12th standard public exam results show that, the children have taken education very seriously and also quality education has been given to them free of cost. Yes, this year, Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiar Higher Secondary School is the only state board school I in Thriuvallur district to get 100% results! The children are first generation school goers in their families, many have single parents, some have lost both parents, some don't even know their parentage, and all are from poor and rural background. To produce 100% results with such children is not an easy task. That too this year we had many

stumbling blocks. The 12th standard syllabus was revised and lot of material was added. The physics paper was very tough. We could not find a proper Chemistry teacher. In spite of all this, all kids have come out with flying colours.

Many teachers forgot their own families and stayed in campus till late night and came back early morning next day. There were no weekends for teachers as they were always waiting to help the kids. People don't do such things just for salary. We normally ask the village children also to stay in the campus from 15th January every year. But this year, somehow we decided to make them stay from October itself. This decision was very helpful to the children as the month of November saw unprecedented rains in and around Chennai and many huts in the near by villages were washed away. If the children had been at home then, they would have lost all their books, notes etc., which would have been an added problem. It was an additional expense for Sevalaya to keep the village kids also in campus as there were more children to be fed everyday, every meal, but it was worth it.

There were many volunteers who came on weekends to teach the kids. All of you contributed your might to buy the uniforms, books, note books etc., like every year. Above all, the kids had the best wishes from all of you. All this put together, has brought in this transformation in Kasuva village. Better Quality education, free of cost, to the needy has become a reality. Let us all pat ourselves on our backs.

Thanks & Regards
Murali



V.KARTHICK 1068/1200



S.VANITHA 1050/1200



B.RAJA 996/1200

Students Study circle

R.Luggesh shared his views on the book You Can Win by Shiv Khera (Tamil) during the study circle meeting on 08/05/2006. Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam's biography "Wings of Fire" (Tamil) was U.Radha's choice for discussion on 13/05/2006. Mr. Ranjans "Women's Liberation" (Tamil) was discussed by D.Praveena on 20/05/2006.

Sports

It was a moment of pride for all of us when Sevalaya student Baby was selected for specialised training in Athletics by the District Sports Officer, Thiruvallur. She attended the 15 days training camp conducted at Manali from 15/05/2006 to 30/05/2006.

External Programmes where our children participated....

The Rotaract Club of Akash conducted a 3 day camp "Sangamam" at Pammal for orphanage children from 19/05/2006 to 21/

05/2006. 60 children from Sevalaya participated in the camp. Yoga classes were conducted for the participants. Many sports competitions and quiz competitions were also held. The children presented cultural programmes , which gave them an opportunity to display their talents.

Oh! The sweet taste of success!

All the students of Sevalaya who appeared for the XII Standard Board Examinations were successful. Sevalaya's Mahakavi Bharathiyar Higher Secondary School is the only Higher Secondary School in Thiruvallur District to achieve this distinction. We present a a brief report of the results below:

HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL TOPPERS LIST 2005-2006

1. V.KARTHICK	1068/1200
2. S.VANITHA	1050/1200
3. B.RAJA	996/1200





"Sangamam" camp at Pammal



SUBJECT WISE TOPPERS -TAMIL

- 1.S.BHUVANESWARI 174/200
- 2.P.ELLAMMAL&G.SELVI 171/200
- 3.P.THENMOZHI 170/200

SUBJECT WISE TOPPERS- ENGLISH

- 1.V.KARTHICK 168/200
- 2.P.THENMOZHI 167/200
- 3.K.DHARANIDEVI 160/200
& D.MANIKANDAN

SUBJECT WISE TOPPERS-PHYSICS

- 1.S.BHUVANESWARI 139/200
- 2.A.MEENAKSHI 136/200
- 3.L.ASHA 134/200

SUBJECT WISE TOPPERS-CHEMISTRY

- 1.S.KAMATCHI 160/200
- 2.S.BHUVANESWARI 155/200
- 3.L.ASHA 154/200

SUBJECT WISE TOPPERS-BIOLOGY

- 1.V.KARTHICK 170/200
- 2.V.CHITRA 161/200
- 3.E.GEETHA 157/200

SUBJECT WISE TOPPERS-
COMPUTER.SCIENCE

- 1.P.THENMOZHI 159/200
- 2.S.BHUVANESWARI 160/200
- 3.L.ASHA 142/200
& D.MANIKANDAN

SUBJECT WISE TOPPERS- MATHS

- 1.P.THENMOZHI 158/200
- 2.S.BHUVANESWARI 139/200
- 3.V.BHASKARAN 137/200

SUBJECT WISE TOPPERS-
AGRI CROP PRODUCTION

- 1.S.VANITHA 175/200
- 2.P.VANITHA 164/200
- 3.V.KARTHICK 163/200



Students at Chinnalapatti



Bharathi, the Leader of the Universe.

Mahakavi Subramanya Bharathiyar is so intimate with Goddess Shakthi that he could take the liberty of challenging her. He challenges her not to take him for one among the common run of funny people-who run after daily bread, munch it, indulge in silly small talks, entangle themselves in dire distress, cause suffering to others, turn grey, grow old and senile, and ultimately fall a prey to cruel death?

This is precisely how most of us live- or exist. Then how does Bharathi want to live? His ambition is to assume world leadership. What he expresses as a maxim in his puthiya Athichhodi (Vaiyath thalaimai kol) he elaborates in his poem "Yogasiddhi".

Yes. He challenges Shakthi. Still he seeks boons from Her only for the qualities that would make him the Leader. What are these qualities? At the physical level, they are – sturdy and strong limbs, no fatigue and disease, a hardy frame that even an axe cannot break, a face as bright as a flower in sunshine. At higher levels, what would be required? The will to conquer Cupid, gift of music and the grace to sing about the myriad joys of life. The darkness of fear, doubt and untruth should be dispelled from his mind. There should be perfect clarity in thinking.

He has set his goal as Leadership. Universal Leadership at that. A lofty goal indeed which our self-development freaks will envy. But is this goal ego-centric, like a desire that when one walks in a congregation, heaps

of garlands should be showered at him; a desire to be the Cynosure always- the bridegroom in a wedding and a corpse in a funeral? Is his goal a mere goal for its own sake or does it have a noble objective- a purpose?

Yes. It has. What does he want to achieve by winning this Leadership? Success in his ventures. Co operation from a large numbers for his venture in Industries. With these gifts, he will make the country a wonderland, victorious and trouble-free. Gravel will be made into glittering gems. Copper will be turned into bars of gold. Lowly swines will be turned into lordly lions. (Yes. He did this with his poems. Ordinary men – men of clay were turned into heroes who valiantly fought for our freedom.) This country will have countless crafts... All that ails the country will be removed .She will excel in education, valour, courage, industries and wealth. She will give a message to the world. Her glory will spread worldwide.

Ultimately his prayer runs thus:
May thy Grace save me and make me
The peer of Parth and Kannan of yore,
Mother I pray to thee a myriad times,
Make me Lord of the Universe!
Hail Mother! May thy Grace flourish!

(Translation by T.N.R.)

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