

SNEHAVAANI

Voice of Children, Snehagram - Sneha charitable trust



DIRECTOR'S NOTE



Perseverance is the beacon that guides us through life's darkest storms, illuminating the path to our dreams with unwavering resolve and unyielding determination. It's the relentless pursuit of our goals, even when the odds seem insurmountable and the journey ahead feels daunting.

Consider the story of Thomas Edison, who famously said, 'I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work.' Despite facing countless setbacks and failures in his quest to invent the light bulb, Edison persevered, refusing to be deterred by adversity. His unwavering commitment to his vision ultimately led to one of the most transformative inventions in history, forever altering the course of human civilization.

This remind us that perseverance is not merely about enduring challenges; it's about embracing them as opportunities for growth and self-discovery. Embrace the challenges that lie ahead with courage and conviction. Let us remember that every obstacle we encounter is an opportunity to learn, grow, and become stronger. And let us never forget that with perseverance, dedication, and a steadfast belief in ourselves, there is no goal beyond our reach.

BY FR. SUNIL,

NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

On January 1st, 2024, Snehagram embraced the New Year with a celebration filled with joy, reflection, and anticipation for the opportunities ahead.

As the clock struck midnight, marking the beginning of the new year, the community gathered for a special church service. Together, they prayed for blessings and guidance, setting the tone for the year ahead. Following the service, amidst the warmth of a barbecue, conversations flowed, reflecting on the challenges and triumphs of the past year. It was a moment of shared growth and collective resilience.

The afternoon was dedicated to relaxation and enjoyment, as the community came together to watch an uplifting movie. Amidst the laughter and entertainment, there were moments of quiet contemplation, as individuals reflected on their aspirations for the coming year.

As evening approached, the community gathered once again for prayer, seeking divine guidance and pledging to uphold values of kindness and compassion throughout the year.

The New Year's celebration at Snehagram was more than just a party; it was a poignant reminder of the importance of togetherness, faith, and purposeful reflection.

BY THIRUMAL



REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS

Snehagram commemorated Republic Day on January 26th, 2024, with pride and reverence, paying tribute to the day our nation's constitution was enacted. The morning commenced with a solemn mass, where prayers were offered for the success and unity of our nation. Following this, the entire community gathered at the school area for the flag-raising ceremony, symbolizing our allegiance to the country and its ideals.

Amidst singing the national anthem and reciting a pledge to uphold the principles of justice, freedom, equality, and unity enshrined in our constitution, the flag was hoisted by Mr. Alijhan, coordinator and trainer of Magic Bus Skill building Program.

A brief yet poignant speech underscored the significance of Republic Day, honoring the sacrifices of our forefathers for the cause of freedom and rights. It inspired a collective commitment to uphold our rights and responsibilities, fostering a shared vision for a better and more equitable society.

BY SOWANDARYA



BENGALURU MARATHON

March 10th was a day of excitement and camaraderie as Snehagram students enthusiastically participated in the Bengaluru Marathon. The event held special significance as it coincided with the Karnataka Police Run, marking their golden jubilee and raising awareness against drug abuse. The presence of Honorable Chief Minister Siddaramaiah added prestige to the occasion, emphasizing the importance of health.



Transitioning to interview techniques, the trainers underscored the significance of viewing interviews as conversations aimed at mutual understanding. They highlighted the importance of active listening and thoughtful responses, along with practical tips on attire, grooming, and document preparation.

A poignant moment occurred when a young woman shared her inspiring life story, demonstrating resilience and determination in overcoming challenges. Her narrative served as a powerful source of motivation for the youth, illustrating the importance of perseverance in pursuing career goals. The event proved to be a significant learning experience, equipping attendees with essential skills and inspiring them to pursue their aspirations with determination and resilience.

Under the dedicated coaching of Santhosh Sir and Babu Sir, we embarked on the marathon journey with determination and resilience. Throughout the marathon, we drew strength from the support of our teammates and community, encouraging one another through every stride.

Capturing joyful moments with selfies along the way, we celebrated our collective triumphs amidst the bustling atmosphere of the event. Upon crossing the finish line, we were rewarded with a well-deserved breakfast, symbolizing the culmination of our hard work and perseverance. Reflecting on the marathon, we realized that it was more than just a physical feat—it was a testament to unity, determination, and social responsibility.

BY RANJAN

CAREER GUIDANCE WORKSHOP

On February 11th, Snehagram hosted a career guidance workshop aimed at empowering its youth with valuable skills and insights for their professional journeys. The one-day program featured three distinguished professionals from Bangalore, experts in human resources and career guidance.

The workshop kicked off with introductions from all participants, revealing a collective lack of knowledge about resumes and interviews among the attendees. With a focus on resume building and interview skills, the workshop emphasized the importance of crafting resumes that authentically showcase one's strengths, achievements, and experiences.

BY GANGAMMA



BEGINNING OF THE SUMMER

As the summer sun ascends, casting its relentless rays upon us, we brace ourselves for the sweltering days ahead. While the promise of vacations and mango delights tantalizes our senses, we also prepare for the challenges that the scorching heat brings. Summer, with its unforgiving heatwaves, demands gallons of sweat as we seek refuge from its fiery grip. Yet, amidst the discomfort, we find solace in the anticipation of rain, a rare and cherished relief from the relentless sun.

Each sunrise and sunset becomes a mesmerizing display, offering respite and beauty amid the summer's harshness. Despite the heat, summer holds a special allure, beckoning us to embrace leisure and create lasting memories. From lazy movie days to joyful gatherings with friends, we seize the opportunity to revel in the simple pleasures of life. Rising temperatures also exacerbate drought conditions, leading to water shortages and agricultural losses, further impacting communities and ecosystems.

BY RAJU



MATTU PONGAL

Celebrating Mattu Pongal at Snehagram is a delightful experience filled with joy and tradition. The highlight of Mattu Pongal is the worship of cattle, which play a crucial role in agriculture and rural life. Students and staff gather in the courtyard, adorned with colorful decorations, to honor these beloved animals. With flowers and garlands in hand, they lovingly decorate the cattle, expressing gratitude for their invaluable contribution to farming.

After the worship ceremony, a special feast is prepared, featuring traditional dishes made from freshly harvested crops. Students and staff gather together to enjoy the meal, sharing stories and laughter as they celebrate the bond between humans and animals. Mattu Pongal at Snehagram is not just a celebration of agriculture; it's a celebration of life, gratitude, and the timeless bond between man and beast.

BY MANOJ



PONGAL



In the serene surroundings of Snehagram, nestled in the Tamil Nadu, the celebration of Pongal takes on a special significance. Students and staff alike eagerly participate in the preparations, adorning the campus with colourful decorations and traditional motifs. The aroma of freshly cooked Pongal rice wafts through the air, signalling the beginning of the festivities.

For many students, Pongal represents a time of bonding and camaraderie, as they come together to partake in age-old customs and rituals. From decorating the kolam (rangoli) with vibrant colors to offering prayers of gratitude to the Sun God, each activity is imbued with a sense of reverence and tradition.

The highlight of the celebration is the communal feast, where students and staff share a meal of delicious Pongal rice. Amidst the chatter and laughter, bonds are strengthened, and memories are forged that will last a lifetime.

BY RAMESH

FR. BABY'S BIRTHDAY

Excitement filled the air at Snehagram as students eagerly prepared to celebrate Fr. Baby's birthday. They secretly planned a special birthday program for him, with the help of Fr. Sunil, the school's director.

Despite the busy day with preparations and plans for Easter, students were thrilled for the evening's celebration. At 7:00 PM, they gathered in the chapel for a quiet mass, holding candles and offering prayers. We also had Fr. Joy and Fr. Aditya for the mass celebrations and for the short program. The peaceful atmosphere set the tone for the birthday festivities.

A short program kicked off with lively dances by senior girls and energetic performances by the boys. Laughter filled as students joined in program and danced with enthusiasm. Ranjan, representing the students, thanked Fr. Baby for his kindness and support in a heartfelt speech. The celebration ended with a special dinner, featuring delicious grilled chicken, enjoyed by all.

Fr. Baby's birthday celebration was a beautiful moment of unity and appreciation, showcasing the warmth and affection within the Snehagram community. It reminded everyone of the importance of togetherness and gratitude, strengthening the bonds among all its members.

BY NIRMALA



SKILL TRAINING

The Magic Bus India Foundation spearheaded a collaborative skill training initiative aimed at empowering individuals with essential skills crucial for personal and professional growth. Participants delved into a diverse array of learning modules encompassing English language proficiency, goal setting, interview preparation, and computer literacy. Moreover, engaging activities such as festive celebrations and marathon participation provided additional avenues for skill enhancement. Under the guidance of dedicated facilitators including Mr. Alijaan, Ms. Prathima, and Mr. Lazar, participants received invaluable support, ensuring access to vital resources.

The program's culmination witnessed numerous participants securing job opportunities, showcasing its transformative impact. In essence, the Magic Bus training initiative was tailored to empower individuals with the necessary skills and confidence for success in both personal and professional domains.

The fourth batch of Magic Bus training at Snehagram, conducted from December 1st to January 31st, commenced with participants acquainting themselves with mentors, rules, and foundational life skills. Transitioning to online sessions from December 5th, participants delved into various topics, including English proficiency with Mr. Alijaan and goal setting with Mr. Lazar.

Emphasis was placed on practical job skills such as interview techniques and resume building. Following a refreshing Christmas break, participants resumed learning, including visits to the Magic Bus office for computer training and interview practice. Republic Day activities further enriched the educational experience. By February 1st, all participants secured jobs, underscoring the efficacy of the training. Overall, the program offered a dynamic blend of education, enjoyment, and workforce readiness.

BY AMAR



EASTER CELEBRATION

In March, the Easter festivities commenced at Snehagram, observing age-old traditions while embracing new ones. Celebrating Easter at Snehagram was truly memorable. We started with fasting and prayers, preparing our hearts for the solemn occasion. On Palm Sunday, we commemorated Jesus' entry into Jerusalem with songs and prayers. Maundy Thursday was a time for reflection as we washed each other's feet, following Jesus' example. Good Friday brought solemnity as we walked the Way of the Cross and observed moments of silence.

Easter Sunday, reverberated with joy as believers celebrated the resurrection of Jesus Christ. A candlelit night mass, readings, and heartfelt prayers marked the occasion, accompanied by joyful dances in honor of Fr. Baby's birthday. The Easter celebration at Snehagram ended with a delicious dinner, bringing everyone together in friendship. It was a special time filled with tradition, thinking, and happiness, echoing the message of hope found in Jesus Christ's resurrection.

BY SRIDHAR



DELHI MARATHON

Our journey to the Delhi Marathon began on February 22nd, as we embarked on a train ride to the bustling city. For me, it was a thrilling first experience of long-distance travel. Amidst the camaraderie of friends, we filled the journey with laughter, songs, and friendly banter, making the hours fly by.

The morning of the run dawned with a mix of nerves and excitement. As a first-time participant in a big city event, I felt a touch of fear. However, I held onto hope and determination. The experience of running the marathon was both exhilarating and demanding. However, the cheering crowds and the camaraderie among fellow runners provided a constant source of motivation.

With each kilometer conquered, I pushed myself further, fueled by determination and the desire to reach the finish line. Completing the 10-kilometer run was a moment of triumph. The sense of accomplishment that washed over me as I crossed the finish line was indescribable. It was a testament to months of training, perseverance, and sheer grit.

Meeting former Indian cricketer Irfan Pathan added an extra spark to our day, as we admired the presence of a sports icon in person. After the run, we explored iconic landmarks like the Indian Gate and Red Fort, soaking in the rich history and culture of Delhi.

Looking back, the journey from apprehension to triumph taught me valuable lessons about resilience, perseverance, and the power of the human spirit. It reinforced the importance of setting goals, pushing boundaries, and embracing challenges head-on.



FR. SUNIL'S BIRTHDAY

Excitement filled the air at Snehagram as students prepared to celebrate Fr. Sunil's milestone birthday. With clandestine assistance from Fr. Baby, the school's administrator, students meticulously orchestrated the festivities, recognizing Fr. Sunil's invaluable three-year tenure. Throughout the day, they toiled behind the scenes, ensuring every detail was perfect to make Fr. Sunil's day truly special. As evening descended, anticipation mounted in the dining hall, where students, alongside Fr. Bijoy, Fr. Teji, and Fr. Besal, eagerly awaited the celebration.

Led by Soundarya, heartfelt speeches expressing gratitude and admiration for Fr. Sunil punctuated the evening, underscoring his profound impact on the community. The sentiment was reciprocated by the Fr.s, highlighting Fr. Sunil's esteemed position within the community. A delightful dinner, courtesy of Fr. Sunil, concluded the evening, fostering laughter and cherished memories. Overall, the celebration served as a poignant reminder of the significance of love and unity at Snehagram.

BY RAMU



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