

Snehaavaani

VOICE OF CHILDREN, SNEHAGRAM, SNEHA CHARITABLE TRUST



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Administrator Speaks

By Fr. Sunil Joseph



The Children are Bundles of Talents

As I reached Snehagram, the village of Love, I have come across many students who are with bundles of talents. I have met these children years before when they were below the age of ten in Sneha Care Home in Bangalore.



And when I came to this community as the Administrator, I was really happy to see those students doing their 10th grade and 12th grade, some doing graduation and post-graduation studies and some of them are our staff in Snehagram. In the Gospel of St. Mathew 25: 14-30 we read the parable of talents. According to the abilities of each person, they were given different talents and they have multiplied them. In the same way, the students at Snehagram also are gifted with lots of talents and all are trying their best to multiply the talents given to them. Its because of their hard work, they have crossed milestones in their life. The continuous guidance, accompaniments, corrections, appreciation, respect, and love from the authorities help them to take ownership and leadership

responsibly in life. The students are always active in all the activities of Snehagram. I see in them the readiness to work and a positive attitude towards life and guidance. The daily exercise and the routine health checkups keep them healthy always. The students involve in cooking, farming and we get organic vegetables for house use and milk for daily use. I sincerely appreciate the hard work and commitments of the students. I am sure that the students are the future leaders of the country. Their compassion, dedication, hopes, and dreams will change our stigmatized society one day.

Nevertheless, student life is not easy. A hardworking student keeps in motion between exams, self-learning, and other activities every day, so we must extend our best assistance towards them as well! A little gesture of recognition, appreciation and acknowledgment goes a long way.

So, study like there's no tomorrow because if you keep putting off your studies for tomorrow, you'll probably be too late. As a student, the most important thing to remember is that laziness is your worst enemy and hard work is your best friend. Your hard work will never go in vain! Be diligent towards your dreams and you will reach there soon enough! Nothing can stop you from reaching your goals as long as you work hard. Your goals are just dedication and determination away.

**Fr. Sunil Joseph MI
Administrator**



Christmas Celebration at Bargur

by Arun



The sisters of St. Joseph organized a Christmas celebration at Bargur on 12th December 2021 and Snehagram students received the invitation along with other students. We joined the celebration and added color and vigor to our delightful dance performances.

It was fantastic to see community children staging their talents amazingly with their lovely dance performances and songs and that undeniably supplemented beauty to the program. Many from the local area had joined the celebration.



We enjoyed the scrumptious lunch that was served after the program. It was also an opportunity to distribute the food kits as part of the covid relief program to the families who are living with HIV. This was part of the covid-19 outreach program under Sneha Charitable Trust, and initiative of Camillians India.



Rejuvenated For Christmas

by Akash



A group of people planned our day on December 17, which was an enriching experience for all of us. The sessions were enlightening and several of us could experience peace and tranquility. Most students typically find it hard to sit quietly for a

long time but as for this day, the group creatively used the time singing, dancing, and incorporating various activities that helped the students to focus and further enabled them to connect with the almighty. Suhas one of the students who attended the session says; "I certainly have gained a more personal connection with the Lord God through the guided reflections.

The rich and insightful content offered me to meditate and reflect and make meaningful connections with themes in my life." The retreat helped the students to focus more on what God wants from them and less of what they personally want in their life. We received plenty of blessings such as a better understanding of God's will in our life, better temperament in dealing with problems of life and the attitude of thanksgiving.



Share your Care

by Meghana

It was my first experience of distributing the food kit and I was keenly interested in doing it. We were at the bishop's house in Dharmapuri as part of our food distribution programme. I liked the way they welcomed us. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet the bishop and to have a chat with him. It is worth mentioning the likeability of the place and its surroundings as it has been well maintained and I personally liked it.

We had a glimpse of the new church that was under construction. The food distribution took place in one of the halls in the bishop's house. The recipients of the food kits were the families who have been living with HIV. They lived with their families and I was surprised to realize that they have been leading standard lives as regular families.



All of them hailed from the local area and conversed predominantly in Tamil. The whole event was a unique experience as there were many learnings especially with regard to HIV and related concerns as the day also was observed as world AIDS day. I used the opportunity to converse with some of them and I was happy to meet them and to talk to them. It was a memorable day for me filled with lots of new knowledge.



Visit of Zion Brethren Fellowship (ZBF)

by Maria



Christmas is the festival of joy and happiness. On December 4th, we were lucky to have the members of

Zion Brethren Fellowship visited Snehagram to celebrate and share the joy of Christmas with us. The members of Zion Brethren Fellowship were the first group of people in this Christmas season who came to celebrate Christmas with the students of Snehagram. They conducted some games and activities besides helping us with some Christmas songs for which they took time to teach us.

We were happy and excited about the activities and the singing sessions. They also had a music band which was really filled with vibrance and energy. As Christmas is the time of gifts, we were fortunate to receive gifts from them and we appreciated and thanked them for their goodwill. All of us at Snehagram enjoyed the program. We had our lunch with them and after lunch, we took them around Snehagram for the campus tour.

Gearing up for Christmas

by Srinitha

Christmas is the season of joy, of gift-giving, and of families coming together. "In the month of December, we generally call it Christmas season or the month of celebration. Students of Snehagram are generally super excited in the month of December because of the holidays and celebrations. The preparation normally begins with the advent Season (Advent means 'Coming' in Latin. This is about the coming of Jesus into the world. There are four Sundays and 4 weeks of Advent preparation.)



The students formed four groups among themselves and each group focused on different duties in the preparation phase. Most of the students took part in decorating the campus. Beautiful and radiant lights encircled the main hall with the glowing multi colour papers, craft designs, christmas trees, gifts and other glittering decorative items.

It was a splendid sight to look at the hall with the exquisite decorations. Few were involved in making the crib. The boys were very creative as they came with the most natural crib with waterfalls. It looked fabulous in the night with the gleaming lights. The girls were busy baking tasty snacks for the celebration. So, the running up to Christmas was full of excitement and we readily waited for the big day.

The Festive and Joyous Christmas day

by Anu



Christmas is the day that holds all time together". The excitement of Christmas day was indescribable in Snehagram. Rev. Fr. Basil, celebrated the holy mass and his inspiring homily touched all of us as it brought forth the meaningfulness of Christmas. After the holy mass,

the crib was blessed, and everyone was happy as the crib looked amazing. Most of us took snaps in front of the crib. Next in line was the gift exchange and all of us looked forward to that moment eagerly. As the time for the gift exchange approached everyone brought their simple gifts. It was a treat to look at those beautifully



wrapped gifts accompanied by the designed cards. Revealing the Christmas friend was exhilarating and an unforgettable experience. The gathering bustled with life and energy. This exercise also promotes the attitude of sharing among the students. Fr Teji, the director, and Fr Sunil the administrator distributed Christmas gifts to all the students. We shared sweets and the celebrations took off with all of us dancing to our favourite songs.



Ranipet Marathon and the Impressive Takeaways

by Ramesh



Ranipet Marathon 2021 took place on 26th December. There were different categories such as 5k, 10k, 21.097k(Half Marathon), 42.195k (Full Marathon), and 42.095k(Cycling). Snehagram Family received the invitation to participate in the run and we trained for the run. Every student was committed to the training and the workouts. Each one competed to themselves and improved their personal best timings. On 25th December afternoon, we traveled to Ranipet and rested well as it would help us for the run the next day. The next day morning everyone got ready and started warming up for the run. At 6.30.am the 10km run was followed by a 5km run. Everyone did their best and finished excellently with amazing timings. Snehagram students took everyone by surprises. with their impeccable finish and wonderful timings. Vijay Kumar won second place in the open men 10km category

and Mallava gained first place in the women category. Saravani came in second place, Bharathi finished in third place and Meghana completed in fourth place. In the 5km category, Akhila won first place and Suhasini came second followed by Anu and Ambika as third and fourth positions respectively. It was an honored moment for Snehagram as 9 of us won the prizes. The joy and happiness the students experienced were beyond words. Snehagram was officially honored by the Jolly Boys club for its commitment and consistent training. In the same event, they appreciated and recognized the efforts of Babu Seenappa for completing the 100 day 5km challenge. We visited the nearby hill after the event and the view was enormously wonderful. We returned home with lots of memories



Persistence and Patience

by Suhas



I had to wake up early in the morning to freshen up since there were only a limited number of toilets . I was ready and I received my first 10kmarathon bib. I was nervous about the run. At 6:30 am my run started and I was in the first line but after some time so many runners passed me by but



On December 25, with my friends, I left for Ranipet after lunch at 2:45 from Snehagram. I was so happy when I was listed as one of the members leaving for Ranipet and I had been training for 10k for fairly some time. Having reached Ranipet I felt thrilled about the run the next day. Though it was a bit hard for me to sleep on the floor initially I got along with it fairly easily.

I didn't give up I kept my pace and continued. Arriving at the 8th km lap I was worn out and wanted to give up but a runner who was behind me encouraged me to run faster. As I reached the finish line, I was really surprised to see my own best timing. I felt happy for having achieved this feat and the feeling can't be put in words



Bustling New Year Celebration

by Anjali



On 31st December the PU students of Snehagram took the initiative to celebrate the New Year. The students divided the work among themselves. Each student had his or her own ideas to decorate the house. We had an adoration and prayer

session on the same night where the students shared the positive and negative thoughts that had happened to them in the year 2021. We had a holy mass at 9.30 celebrated by Fr. Sunil. The symbolic effigy burning followed just before the stroke of midnight as it reminded us of bidding goodbye to the year 2021. Rev Fr Teji welcomed the new year 2022 by cutting the ribbon.



There was a surprising element as part of the new year celebration and it was that one of the students, Manoj was selected as the lucky person of the year. Then all the students wished each other a happy and healthy new year. On 1st January, PU students conducted some activities for everyone in the campus and it turned out to be a pleasant day.



Sunny Smiles Camp Held: A Tonic of Rejuvenation

by Zunera



On 6th December, 2021, the camp under the banner Sunny Smiles (SS) began. The main objective of the camp was to bring forth relaxation and entertainment to the students in Snehagram as they were all exhausted after their semester exams. It was 6 days camp, and each day was focused on different themes namely, environment, sports, arts, creativity, fun and knowledge. The students formed themselves into 4 group and each team having a captain. Everyone had been keenly preparing for this special camp.



The first day's topic was the environment and all the activities were related to nature and the environment. It was amazing to see the students coming up with very creative and innovative ideas. The following day we focused on creativity.

It was interesting to see numerous creative ways of expression of art as every team made different and unique presentations. The third day was focused on Knowledge. We can always use knowledge as a powerful tool in our lives. There is a number of ways a person can acquire knowledge and information. The major goal of this session was about learning from the books and acquisition of study skills through various fun-filled activities. The teams were very well prepared with their speeches on the topic of the life of a student. Each team member explained and every speech had something new and thought-provoking ideas. Some good poems also came up and it was tough for the judges to declare the winners as every poem was unique and lovely.



The teams tirelessly put their efforts to bring the best in them. The day was filled with creative activities and the most amusing and entertaining event was fancy dress. It was enjoyable to watch everyone dressed up in different fashions and styles.

Team Varuna was declared the champions. The other teams did a good job as well. So, the camp Sunny Smile came to an end bringing bright smiles as the name suggests on the faces of every student. It was truly reinvigorating and fruitful on many levels.





Revising Goals and Steadyng the Vision by Shravani

TMA and Regular Study Habits by Thirumal



Revising goals may increase performance by making goals realistic. We have to plan every step and we need to review the outcomes of every step. Doing this will allow us to reflect and plan for the next to move forward. Failing to do this can cause hitches and we can easily lose track of our progress and eventually fail at achieving our goals. As the students of Snehagram we have been revising our goals every year and this year too we revised and evaluated the year 2021, focusing on the achievement, failures, learnings and we set goals for the year 2022. The vision for 2022 is "**My Health, My Responsibility**".

Tutor Marked Assignment is a project work given to the students writing their secondary and senior secondary exams. The marks obtained in this assignment will be added to their final results. Everyone completed their verifying answers and submitted. This facilitates the students to get back into the study track after a long hiatus with multiple celebrations.

*"Try to be a rainbow
in someone's cloud."*





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