

Newsletter- July 2024

Rev. Fr. John Suresh Social Projects

Prayerful greetings from Rev Fr Backia Regis, Rev Fr Charles and Nandhini Krishnan. I trust this message finds you all in good health and with sound minds. I am delighted to share some recent events from our school.

Dr R Arulappa Higher Secondary School

Re-Opening of School:

After one and half month of summer vacation, the schools reopened on 10th June throughout Tamil Nadu. The new correspondent, along with the retired Head Master, welcomed the students and teachers. The retired Head Master spoke about our school and the importance of education on the first day.

New Correspondent and the New Head Master:

Rev Fr Charles



The former correspondent Rev. Fr. David Nesan, was transferred to Ammayappannallur by Rt. Rev. Dr. Bishop, and a new correspondent Rev. Fr. Charles, was appointed as the Parish priest of Neerpair and correspondent of our school. It is a pleasure that our new correspondent is our old student of Dr. Arulappa School from 2002 to 2004. On the reopening day, he proudly mentioned, "I was the former student of Dr. R. Arulappa Higher Secondary School, and I never thought I would be a correspondent one day. It is a great blessing for me". Since the Head Master retired from our school Mr. Ambrose, the English teacher and a valued member of our WE group was promoted as Head Master by Rt. Rev. Dr. Bishop.

Total Student's Strength of Dr Arulappa Higher Secondary School:

This year the school strength is 762. It comprises of 422 Boys and 340 girls.

Holy Mass:

We had a holy Eucharistic Mass on 14th June in school campus, which was celebrated by our new correspondent and blessed the entire school.

Medical Camp:

On 24th June, a team of doctors and nurses from Nallamur Primary Health Centre came to our school and conducted a medical camp for adolescent boys and girls. The students benefited greatly from this medical camp.

Free Text Books Distribution:

Every year, we receive free textbooks from the government, which we distribute to all the students. This year, we applied for the books and received them on 27th June. We distributed the books to all our students on 28th June.

Speech Competition:



On the 4th of July, a speech competition was conducted by the government of Tamil Nadu in honour of Mr. Kamarajar (former Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu). Four of our students participated and won prizes.

Extra-Curricular activities:

On 11th of July chess competition conducted in school level and some of them are preparing themselves for Zonal level.

On 12th of July first academic year scout camp was conducted by the government and from our school students and teachers participated.

Painting & Girls' New Toilet Building Construction



We are very happy that our school is brighter and more beautiful because of your generous contribution towards us. The painting works are going on well and they are going to be completed soon. The girl's toilet construction works are on process.

Educational Development Day:



The government of Tamil Nadu has instructed all schools to celebrate Mr. Kamarajar's birthday (July 15) as Educational Development Day. We celebrated this day with an inaugural function for all the literary associations. Mr. Marimuthu, former Tamil teacher of our school, was invited as the chief guest for the function. We also organized a cultural program to emphasize the importance of the day. On the same day, Chief Minister's morning meals scheme was inaugurated at the same time throughout all the government schools in Tamil Nadu.

St John's Home



On June 9th, after the summer break the hostel was reopened with strength of welcoming thirty-five children back to their daily routines. Fr. Charles, Fr. Barna Boss, and Bro. Kabilan warmly greeted each child, setting a positive tone for the new school term. On June 14th, fun games and activities was organised in St. John's Home to help the children to bond within them and enjoy their presence in St. John's Home. These activities encouraged teamwork and strengthened the sense of community at Arul Illam.

On June 16th, to start the year with the almighty blessings, emphasizing faith and to promote unity among children of St. John's Home, a holy mass was organised in St. John's Home.

Total number of Students in St John's Home is 68. Total number of boys is 50 and girls is 18, still the student admission is going on. We are expecting this number will increase to 75.

True Story



I am Divya, studying in 12th standard, and I come from K K Pudur, near Maduranthagam. I am very happy to be here at Arul Illam Boarding. Here, I am getting many opportunities to make myself happy and improve. I appreciate the advice and motivational talks from the fathers and brothers. I feel very comfortable, safe, and secure. I am provided with good food and I am using my study time effectively, helping others with their studies as well. For my physical strength, I do morning and evening manual labour and play games. These are the benefits provided by this boarding. Thank you, dear fathers and staff members, for your valuable time and support.

Mr Armstrong - National Party Dalit Leader of Tamil Nadu



On July 5th, Mr Armstrong a very good friend and the dearest well-wisher of Rev Fr John Suresh and mine and a good supporter of our project was brutally assassinated and killed near his house. He was an emerging Dalit leader who fought for the rights of the Dalit as well as marginalized people. After Father's demises, he supported and encouraged in every way for all the activities that I (Nandhini) do. It was too sudden that he was assassinated by group of political members of Tamil Nadu. We really miss him and great salute for all his works and support he rendered us and praying for his soul.

Success Story

Dear friends,



I hope this message finds you well. I am Kalaivani from Thiruporur village. My father's name is Kannadhasan, and my mother's name is Chandrakala. My parents work for daily wages. Since my family is poor, I completed my 10th Standard at the Government Girls Higher Secondary School in Thiruporur, scoring 431 marks out of 500. I then completed my 12th Standard at St. Mary's Girls Higher Secondary School in Chengalpattu, scoring 558 marks out of 600. Subsequently, I joined Queen Mary's College in Chennai to pursue a B.Com degree.

My father learned about the WE group through some of his friends, and we approached Rev. Fr. John Suresh and Sister Nandhini Krishnan. After joining the WE group, my life changed significantly. Their timely support helped me in many ways with my studies. With the help of the WE group, I successfully completed my B. Com (bachelor of Commerce) degree, and now I am studying for an MBA (through correspondence – Master of Business Administration) at Madras University. Additionally, I am currently working at HDB Financial Services. The salary I earn helps support my family and my studies.

At this juncture, I sincerely thank all the good-hearted people who have helped me, directly and indirectly, especially our loving Pappa, friends from Europe, and the WE group. I am also always thankful to Rev. Fr. John Suresh and Sister Nandhini Krishnan. I always pray for you all, and I promise to help my people in any way possible.

Thanking you.

Thank you to all our benefactors in Germany Specially Pappa Dr Johannes Mispagel, Aktion Indien e.V & team, Mariano-Josephinum Hildesheim. Albert Schweitzer School, ARIVU team members, Osnaburg School Germany, Belgium (Mr. Jacque Vellut from Mercy Home, and Mr. Dirk Portier and friends), and other European friends for your heartfelt support and guidance for our project in India. Through your unconditional love and care for our children, many marginalized families are able to meet their daily needs through education.

- *From Rev. Fr. Backia Regis, Rev. Fr. Charles, Ms. Nandhini Krishnan, and the Editorial Team (Mr Ambrose, Ms Neviditha, Ms Shravanti, Bro. Kabilan)*