



The Retreat's Viewpoint

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PONGAL CELEBRATION @ SPS INDIA FOUNDATION

HFH Project Volunteers Felicitation and Pongal celebration held on 12-01-2022 at The Retreat Don – Bosco, Yercaud. The program started with Thamizh Thai Vaazhthu and followed by the welcome address by Fr. Selvakumar SDB, The Project Director of SPS INDIA Foundation. Mrs. Kokila, Councillor of Thalaicholai Panchayats of Yercaud and her husband were the special invitees for this celebration. Ms. Sangeetha, Area coordinator for the Heroes For Humanity project briefed the volunteers about the programme planned for the day. The volunteers from Yercaud, Nagalur and Manjakuttai zone have performed solo and group song solo dance. Fr. Selvakumar SDB, Project Director of SPS INDIA Foundation briefed the gatherings about the achievements and work done by the volunteers. Mrs. Kokila, Councillor of Thalaicholai Panchayats has appreciated and encouraged the volunteers for the work they have done. After the HFH Monthly Assessment meeting, the volunteers were gathered and joined to cook Pongal. Meanwhile the Rangoli competition was conducted for the volunteer's zone wise. There were four teams participated in the competition, viz., Yercaud, Manjakuttai, Nagalur and Data support and Tele Support. The theme for the Rangoli competition was "Health and Hygiene Awareness". After the Rangoli Competition, lunch – a special South Indian Vegetarian Meal was given to all the volunteers. After the lunch, various games and completions were conducted zone wise for the volunteers. Fr. Michael SDB, Principal and Vice Rector of The Retreat, Yercaud were present for the valedictory function along with the special invitees for the day. All the volunteers were felicitated and they have received a gift from the guests. Also, prizes were distributed to the volunteers who won in the games and competitions. All the volunteers who were present have enjoyed the whole day event. They have shared their feedback that, it was a stress buster and relaxation day. Everyone recalled their childhood memories and in spite of their age, gender and health issues, they have participated in the games and competitions enthusiastically.



PwC SEWING BENEFICIARIES PONGAL CELEBRATION @ KALAVASAL

PwC Sewing Project beneficiaries at Kalavasal, Alangulam, Virudhunagar district have celebrated Pongal on 21st January, 2022. Fr. John Bosco, The Rector of Don Bosco Vidivelli, Kalavasal has blessed and inaugurated the Pongal celebration. Everyone joined as a team and prepared sweet Pongal. Ms. Sangeetha, coordinator of SPS INDIA Foundation has visited the project site to monitor the training session. On this day, ice breaker sessions, games and competitions were conducted for the sewing trainees. The All the trainees have participated enthusiastically and enjoyed the celebration also the beneficiaries have shared their training feedback and experience. Also in the evening, Ms. Sangeetha has visited few beneficiaries' houses at Mettur and Kalavasal villages to get the feedback of the sewing training.



THE RETREAT - DON BOSCO, YERCAUD THE ANNUAL DAY CELEBRATIONS ORATORIES & NIGHT SCHOOLS

The youngsters and children to whom the Retreat-Don Bosco community at Yercaud cater to through education and sports gathered them all together for the annual day event on the Sunday (27th February). Approximately for the event, there were 500 children and young people in number. It is an annual event organized as the culmination of the celebrations of the academic year in view of educating and encouraging the young people of the Shevaroyan Hills in sports, studies and other extracurricular activities. Eco-awareness Rally For the year 2022, after 2 long years of pandemic restrictions, the institution planned to organize a day in a purposeful and meaningful manner. It was planned to give Eco-awareness to the Yercaud town people by organizing an Eco-awareness rally from the Town Bus depot to the Retreat Don Bosco campus. With the help of the local police the rally was well organized and participated by the children and the youth of Yercaud. The rally was inaugurated and flagged by the invited dignitaries. They were Mr. Thompson, BMO (Block Medical Officer) of Yercaud, Mr. Gunasekaran, Sub-Inspector, Police Station, Yercaud, Mr. Ramachandran, President – Manjakuttai village and Fr. Arul Maran SDB, the Rector of the Retreat-Don Bosco Yercaud.. The children started gathering around 9.30am in the bus depot for the rally. They were enthusiastic in participating in order to claim their right of living with the gifted nature. During the rally all the children with one voice claimed their rights through slogans and yells. It had a dual effect of awareness to the public and an experience of social consciousness to the children and youth through their active participation. Night School Day 2022-Cultural Fest The long-awaited event of the year for the children of our neighbourhood came to the reality on the same day. Around 160 children came to obtain their prizes for the various competitions organized during the academic year. The night school centres also suffered because of the global pandemic situation. But still the enormous efforts of the teachers are appreciated in accompanying the children throughout to their maximum capacity is acknowledgeable. Every centre came prepared with a cultural programme each to stage on the annual day celebrations. The event summed up cuteness in galore from the smiles and joyful expressions of the children with lots of happiness and contentment. Around 100 children carried away prizes and gifts having the satisfaction of participating and winning out of their talents. The night school centres paved way to stage their enormous number of hidden talents of the children. The institution is grateful towards the sponsors who extended their charitable response towards the needy children of the Yercaud hills.

