



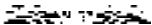
TI TIMES



Newsletter from T.I. School, Ambattur, Chennai - 600 053.

(For Private Circulation only)

JAN. 2005



- ACADEMICS
- CAREER FOCUS
- SPORTS
- EXTRA CURRICULAR
- TRAINING & WORKSHOPS
- ADMIN NEWS
- YOUNG ACHIEVERS AND MUCH MORE



*A chance to
debate!*

Tamil Pattimandram
is scheduled on
8th Jan
for classes
IX to XI

From the Principal's desk

Dear Reader,

I very much hope that, by the time this first issue of TI Times reaches your hands, the Tsunami panic has subsided. The entire world is concerned about bailing out the tsunami victims from their misery. This genuine concern must manifest into action.

T I School has already started participating in the relief activities and two consignments of clothes, generously donated by our parents, students and public, have already been dispatched to the needy.

As "TI School community" our immediate concern is about the systems operating in the school which contribute to the academic, social, physical and spiritual growth of the members of the community, be it students parents or teachers.

Though all of us have some concern or other about the functioning of the school, there is no sufficient space to communicate and share our concerns amongst ourselves. I am sure that TI Times will serve as a two way communication channel that will help us come together to do our best to the children who are committed to our care Hence this endeavour to bring out a newsletter.

Thanks to my Secretary Sarada and team member Gayatri for making it happen in a short time.

I wish to convey my good wishes for a 2005.... with no panic, less worries and more happiness and peace.

Eagerly looking forward to your feedback.

Until next month.

Venkatakrishnan.

OUR GOAL - EXCELLENCE



ISO 9001 : 2000 CERTIFIED INSTITUTION



SPORTS TALK

The following TI athletes and players have qualified for State Level Games and Sports to be held at Dhindigul and Tindivanam during Jan. 2005

TT Singles	Jayashree R, XII Std.
TT Doubles	Sundaramahalingam R and Muthukumar P, XII Std.
Badminton Singles	Dinesh G, X Std. Deepak Narayanan B, XI Std.
4 x 100 Mts. (Girls), Relay team	Monisha Babu, IX Std. Nishanthi P, IX Std. Saranya V S, X Std. Nithyakrupa, IX Std. Archana G, VIII Std. Aarthi Venkatesan, VIII Std.

Panchapakesan of Class IX represented Tamil Nadu in the National Cricket Tournament held at SIRSA, Haryana between 4th Nov. and 9th Nov. '04.

SCHOOL'S PRIDE SCOUTS AND GUIDES

19 Scouts and 7 Guides from classes VIII & IX will be participating in the prestigious Tamil Nadu State 'Rajya Puraskar Award Test' in Jan. 2005. Details in the next issue.

OF ARTS & ARTISTS

**Ayshwarya, Parthiban, Kamalesh, Vivek
Chander of VIII Std. and
Raj Prathab of VII Std**
will be presenting a musical puppet show,
'Patti Sollai Thattathey'.

Parents, You're welcome to
watch the show!

Prize Winners of Medimix inter-school essay writing contest on the topic "Healthy Food"

SRIRAM of class X received a cash award of Rs 2000/- (Health is wealth!?) and **HARIKRISHNAN** of Class VIII, a gift hamper.

"CAREER BY CHOICE, NOT BY CHANCE"

– A special report by our Career Correspondent

A three day career guidance programme was conducted in the school by The Institute for Career Studies, Lucknow on 17th, 18th and 19th Dec. '04. **Dr. Amrita Das**, Director of the Institute and her colleague Mrs. Mala Mukerjee counseled, individually, 90 students from TI School, 12 students each from Sir Ramaswamy Mudaliar Higher Secondary School, Ambattur and Vellayan Chettiar Higher Secondary School, Thiruvottiyur. Students were tested in logical, reasoning, numerical, social, perceptual, business, design and mechanical skills.

As a part of the programme, a comprehensive career identification exercise was taken by the students which comprised an aptitude test, interest identification, multiple intelligence survey and learning style inventories. The entire process was automated through a customized artificial intelligence software.

At the end of the session each student was given a comprehensive career planner. It was observed that many of the students were recommended Humanities, Arts, Mass Communication and Management career options and a few students were identified with an aptitude for Medicine, Engineering and Design.

The session with parents on 18th Dec was an eye-opener, wherein a lot of misconceptions with regard to choice of subjects and careers were dispelled.

ICS will continue to provide on-line support to all the students as long as they need. The students can write / email queries to institute@icscareersonline.com.

In short, all of us had to agree with Dr. Das' statement, **"If you have a job you like, you don't have to work a day in your life"**.

ACADEMICS

Learning made more meaningful

An update on the substantial changes in the teaching methodology

Currently the Principal and the middle-school teachers are in the process of evolving micro level lesson plans for all subjects to make learning more meaningful, relevant and interesting. Every step of the teaching process is analysed and modified, so that complete learning takes place.

Question papers take new form

Interesting changes are being made in assessment pattern for all classes. Breaking the convention, Half-yearly examination Dec 2004 question papers included a number of interesting and innovative questions that demanded understanding and critical thinking while answering.

Students of classes VII & VIII are given an opportunity to score 100 + through 'BONUS QUESTION' system. The bonus questions are additional questions to be answered within the stipulated time for which bonus marks are allotted.

We hope to include more and more such questions in the forthcoming examinations. The trend will continue and extend into every type of assessment - class work, home work, work sheets etc. This shift has become the need of the hour to equip the students to face the entrance exams like AIEEE, PMPD, IIT and IIM.

STUDENTS TURN HI - TECH TEACHERS

During X-Mas vacation, XII Std. Biology students Arvind, Asha and Vibin turned teachers for two days. Through power point presentations, they taught 'Integumentary System and Skeletal System' to XI Std. students, under the guidance of Mr. D. Senthil Kumar.

**Did you know that??
Peer teaching has been happening in a number of classes in the school.**

Micro level Lesson Plans and Student Presentations will be classified, documented and stored in CDs in the School Resource Centre for future use.

Toddlers' day out!

Small feet pitter-pattered to MGM and VGP when LKG and UKG children went on their outing on 10th and 17th Dec respectively. '04. Needless to say, they came back tired out after thoroughly enjoying themselves!

Scaling New Heights!

15 Nature Club members from classes IX & X went on a 4 day study camp to **Eravikulam National Park and Chinnar Wild Life Sanctuary**, along with Mrs Gayatri. The majestic Western Ghats provided the backdrop for trekking in the Sanctuary and the National Park. The spectacular photographs they took are proof of the trip that had some very adventurous and exciting moments.

Weathermen in the making

First batch of class IX students will be trained to read weather instruments and record data as a part of Weather Club activity in Jan.

From the Chef's Kitchen

Sandwiches and fruit salad prepared by members of Cookery Club will be on sale on Jan 29th between 2 and 4 p.m

FAREWELL TO.....

Mrs R Manjula, our accountant... who has been with the TI family for the last 17 years. She joined the school in Feb 1988 as a young graduate and over the years rose to become an expert accountant. The image of any organization rests a lot on its accounting systems and it is a matter of great pride for TI School that our accounting system has been very efficiently and diligently maintained by Mrs Manjula.



Mr R Narayanan, our Sanskrit master, who is joining Madras University to pursue his project work.

We wish them success in all their future endeavours.



WELCOME TO....



Mrs Alamelu, Accounts incharge, who has taken over from Mrs Manjula, on deputation from **AMM Foundation**. Starting her career in 1985 as an accounts assistant with Nagarjuna Finances, Mrs Alamelu joined **AMM Foundation** in July 2000. She has two young children and reading is her favourite pastime.

Surfacing leadership roles

Mrs Rathnam took charge as the school's **Administrative Officer** in Nov 2004.

While **Mr D Senthilkumar** will be extending his help to Physics and Chemistry in Lesson Planning and Support Materials for VI, VII, VIII, **Mrs Meera Bai Gopi** will be co-ordinating the activities of the Primary Section.

We wish them all success in their new roles.

Best Practices Shared

On Dec. 3rd three teachers from KG section visited Srimathi Sundaravalli Memorial School, Chrompet to study the Montessori methods adopted in pre-primary classes.

Subject Enrichment Programme

While senior Physics and Chemistry teachers attended an in-service training programme on the New XI Std. syllabus organized by the Department of Education, T I School organized a subject enrichment programme for Biology teachers from all AMM Foundation Schools. A few schools from Ambattur were also invited to participate in the programme.

As the revised XII Std. syllabus includes a lot of information 'Diseases and Causes', there was a need to view the topics from the perspective of medicine.

Dr. Easwar Prakash, a senior medical practitioner from the City and an old friend of TI volunteered to help us. He had a three-hour interactive session on 'Diseases' with teachers on 08.10.04.

Drop your feedback in the box,
in the main building lobby.

or e-mail to

rvkti@ammfoundation.org

Visit us at www.tischool.org

Visitor from the land of Shakespeare....

Students of Std VIII and IX get a taste of native English!

Ms Kate Shepherd, a finance lawyer by profession, from London, during her recent visit to India, spent some time with our students, building on their language and theatre skills. Children were exposed to different reading styles, particularly the finer nuances of poetry reading- tone, intonation, rise and fall of the voice...by a native speaker of English.

She also conducted a theatre workshop for members of the Theatre club, which culminated in 3 enjoyable skits in English.

On the last day of Ms Kate's visit, her mother, **Mrs Margaret Shepherd**, a teacher by profession, spent some time with the teachers and demonstrated the effective use of the voice in reading.

Parents, Know your parenting styles !!

Parenting today is much more challenging than what it was 20 years ago. It is an awesome responsibility and probably the hardest job in the world. Child behaviour is a challenge for many parents to understand and respond.

A series of workshops are being conducted in the school for all parents by **Mrs Vidya** and **Mr Shankar**, a husband and wife team from the **Relief Foundation, Chennai**. The workshop aims at empowering the parents to guide their children in the right direction through all stages, smoothly and effectively without being overly critical, controlling or demanding. At the end of the sessions the parents understand the different 'Parenting Styles' and are able to evolve their own individual parenting style.

Over the past three months, about 200 parents have participated in the workshop.

Some excerpts from feedback given:

"Unique program, first of its kind..."

"An eye opener...a wonderful experience"

"Parenting is a continuous learning process..."

"I learnt my parenting style..."

A Recipe from the Sangam Age!

Dr. Prema Kasthuri, Reader in History, Prof. & HOD (Retd.), shared an ancient recipe of Dal and Rice flour similar to our Idli-Sambar. Speaking in a workshop on 'The need to preserve our Culture and Heritage' on 30th Oct. 2004, **Dr. Prema** and **Mrs Padma**, a dancer, shared many interesting aspects of ancient cuisine, tradition and culture. **Dr. Suresh**, an eminent archaeologist and travel writer, spoke on Heritage Preservation of monuments and showed students his collection of ancient coins from Roman Times.
Look for the recipe in the next issue!