

Mudhiyor Balar Kudumba Grama Pannai

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News Letter

April - June 2007

Mr. P. GEORGE THOMAS
Treasurer
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"Generous people themselves will be blessed, for they share their food with the poor"
Proverbs 22:9

IN MEMORY OF JANICE WORK :

Our newly completed centralized dining hall will be dedicated in the memory of Janice work, a woman of faith, integrity and courage.

A REFLECTION BY KENDRA WORK:

The greatest leader I had ever known was my mother, Janice Work, who had a huge impact on my life and on the lives of countless others. As a teacher and later an administrator, she made many crucial improvements in education for our community. Also as a mother, she was a wonderful role model for me and my two younger siblings while we were growing up. She also possessed immense personal strength, which was apparent during her battle with cancer. She was a strong, influential leader from whom I learned an incredible amount.

In November 2005, my mother was diagnosed with a rare cancer of the bile ducts of liver. For the next four months, she fought the disease with everything she had, but in March she passed away. During her illness, she was incredibly brave. Her resilience continually astounded me; I remember her helping my 11 year old brother with his home work with an oxygen tube in her nose.

She was always thinking of her family and our well being. Even from the hospital bed she was our leader, giving us comfort and strength. We were not the only ones whose lives she touched; she was a true leader in the community. I have always aspired to emulate her compassion and strength. Throughout her life, my mother, Janice Work, was a leader in her community and family, demonstrating kindness, strength and bravery even during illness. She changed the lives of countless people for the better, inspiring me to cultivate within myself similar characteristics, so that I, too, may be as a great

THOUGHTS FROM THE TREASURER:

We have made it through another financial year, and the MBKG Pannai family would like to thank all of our sponsors, both in India and overseas, for their constant financial support and prayers in all our endeavors during the past year.

We hope and pray that our sponsors will continue to support us so that we can nurture the children through their childhood and adolescence, to be worthy and responsible citizens devoted to God. Our children who are pursuing higher studies after school are totally not supported. We solicit donations to educate the children so that they can find suitable employment and settle down in life.

With God's blessings, your prayers and the sincerity of the Principal and teachers of King's Matriculation School, our batch of tenth graders have done well. Our twelfth graders have also performed extremely well in their examinations, and we pray for further success in their higher studies.

I would like to invite all our well wishers in and around Vellore and especially the CMC hospital community to visit our home during the end of every week when you are looking for a break from your hectic day life. You will appreciate the tranquility of the campus and enjoy nature undisturbed. Children can look forward to rock climbing, playing on the swings



Mr. P. George Thomas
Treasurer

A visit once may soon become regular as has been the case with many others. As our Secretary mentioned in the last news letter, the older children require interaction with you because you can inspire, advice and help them, improving the quality of their lives.

HOME NEWS

Annual Staff Tour

On 1st May, the staff of MBKG Pannai and King's matriculation school gathered together for an annual staff tour and had fun at Queen's Land Amusement Park, Chennai.

VBS Program



The highlights of this summer holidays for many of our children at MBKG Pannai was the annual Vacation Bible School (VBS) program conducted by Scripture Union, India. This year lived up to previous years' standards in terms of quality, education and entertainment. Each day, the VBS Director Mr. Ravikumar and VBS leaders Mr. Clements, Mrs. Deepa Ravikumar and Mr Rakesh led the children in time of praise and worship during which the children were enthusiastic to learn new songs and recited the Bible verses they had memorized from the previous day. The VBS was a great success, and we were happy this year to include approximately 25 of King's matriculation school's day students as well. We hope that this number will grow in the near future.



Time with Families

Children went home to visit their families from 6th to 13th May. They returned with strengthened connections to their relatives and a renewed appreciation for the facilities offered at MBKG

Annual Tour



During the final week of summer holidays (May 26- 31), MBKG Pannai children had their annual tour to Yercaud, a hilly region situated above 1600 meters from the mean sea level. Children stayed at House of Peace Society and enjoyed the chill weather of the hills during the hot and humid season. It was, in the words of Avinash, an older student, who was with us in this tour said "Fantastic!" The tour highlights include daily devotions and prayers, games, new songs, a visit to the botanical gardens, boating and site seeing expeditions and a closing campfire.



Newcomers

The boys entering 4th standard have been shifted over to the boys hostel and the small children entering 1st standard have been moved from the nursery to different cottages. We have begun new admission of children in nursery, and had employed two women as mothers for the nursery kids. Our shortage of mothers for the home children has not been solved, but the two newcomers are helping to reduce the burden over other mothers.

Emerging Stars

It was with great joy and pride that we would like to recognize the achievements of Peter Solomon, Vinithra, Dhatchayani and Venkatesan, our four 12th standard students. All four students passed their 12th standard board examinations with Peter Solomon scoring a remarkable 1006 out of 1200 possible points. Each of the four has started their process of applying for medical and engineering under graduate courses at a number of reputed institutions in and around Tamilnadu. We were so proud of them and the hard work they put in to their studies over the last twelve years. We pray that God would continue to bless them as they pursue their further education.



KING'S MATRICULATION SCHOOL NEWS



Mr. Samuel N.J. David

New Correspondent

Mr. Samuel N. J. David, the senior personnel manager, Christian Medical College & Hospital, has been nominated as the new correspondent of the school. It was with great respect and enthusiasm that we had welcomed him to the family of MBKG Pannai.

Annual Examinations

Annual examination came to an end on 13th April, and the end of this year promotion meeting was held on 30th April in the presence of Mr. Samuel N. J. David. The new academic year began with Teacher's Retreat on 1st June led by Mr. Durai Jasper, CMC hospital and the classes were resumed on 4th June.

Zonal Sports Meet

Preparations are being made for the upcoming Zonal Sports Meet, to be held at King's Matriculation School, by order of the Tamilnadu Education Board. The budget for this event is a staggering Rupees 150 thousands and we are working to raise these funds from donors and well wishers. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all those well wishers who provided gifts and donations and had given their handful of support in the general preparations and fund raising activities of this sports event.



Academics

This year the 10th standard pass rate had increased up to 64%, especially, 100 % success in the following subjects such as Science practical, English, Tamil and History. We hope and pray that in the forthcoming year, the teachers and students will improve the academic statistics still better.



Teachers' Workshop

On 28th June, Destiny Education, an educational consulting agency from Mumbai, came to our school and conducted workshop for three days. The workshop had the theme "The Janice Work memorial initiative for improvement in quality of life and learning at King's Matriculation School." The teachers have learnt the various aspects on phonetics, curriculum planning and developing skills in communicating in English which were informative, interactive and interesting. They gained a great wealth of knowledge which they would apply to their daily teaching programs and projects in the school. We extend our gratitude to Clyde Work family for sponsoring this workshop. With the co-operation of the teachers, staff and other well wishers, we are working to provide the best education possible at this time in our school.

K 2007 Year of Faith in Action

*These children are in need of sponsorship.
Put your faith into action by sponsoring a child today!*



Ajithkumar



Jayanthi



Joanna



Bhavani



Kumaravel



Thandiwe, Harriet & Tessa

Visitors and Volunteers

We have been blessed yet again with the presence of two vivacious, energetic young women from the UK. Harriet and Tessa contributed of their time by living among the children of MBKG Pannai, playing with them and

developing friendships and relationships with them, for two months. They also assisted the students in learning the art and crafts in the school. We are sad to say good bye to Thandiwe, an intern from Global Ministries, USA, who left us after her 9 months stay at Kasam. She has been helping to improve the school's library and office and assisting the child sponsorship administration and other children activities at home as well.

Mary Clare Carpenter arrived from the USA on 23rd June and is teaching music to the children at school and lavishing love and affection on all children at home.



Thanks : Again, we wish to thank the Clyde Work family for sponsoring the Destiny Education workshop. We extend our thanks to Mrs. Anna Hunter for donating twenty new computers for the computer laboratory at King's Matriculation School.



Computer Lab

A special word of thanks to those who are supporting us in preparations for the Zonal Sports Meet. Thanks to Larry Morris family for donating water cooler to the new dining hall.



Destiny Education Workshop



Water Cooler Dedication

Wish List

- Pay a visit and spend time with our children who crave for love and affection.
- Support our emerging stars and other students studying at the tertiary level by contributing to our Scholarship Fund.
- Support to King's Matriculation School to assist with preparations for Zonal sports.
- Sponsor a day student's education at King's Matriculation School to enable them to continue their studies here.
- Sponsor a meal for all our children during your family functions, anniversary, birthday, festivals and other special occasions (Cost - Vegetarian meal Rs. 2500/- and Non vegetarian meal Rs.4000/-).
- Keep us in your prayers.

MEMORIES: QUOTES FROM OUR VISITORS

"Love is all around. Thank you to the staff and all the children." Mrs. Movita Denina, the UK.

"It was a great privilege to spend time with you all. The staff is so committed and the pupils happy. May God bless you as we continue in this wonderful work." Mrs. Pat Jackson, the UK.

"Service to poor is service to God. Best of Bulk" Mr. M. Paulraj, Indian Oil Corporation, Chennai.

"It has been a pleasure to be here. An extra special thanks you to the mother, Helen, the amazing children, the Koshis and the staff at school, especially Mrs. Vijayakumar. What superb people!" Miss Charlie Farquharson, the UK.

"I very much enjoyed my visit and felt welcomed by the staff and the children. May God bless your work." Miss. Diane Faires, the USA.

"Very organized a lot of good work done here. Happy children." Mrs. Eileen Drury, the USA.

"There are no words to express my gratitude. I have been taught so much about myself, about what it means to be a family. Thank you. Pannai will be in my thoughts & prayers always and I look forward to the next time I will come!" Miss. Thandiwe Gobledale.

"We had a really wonderful time and met so many amazing people. Thank you for looking after us so well & letting to learn all about this great place, its people & culture." Miss. Tessa Cumming Bruce, the UK.

"Thank you so much for having us. I will never forget Pannai or the wonderful children that made us so welcome here." Miss Harriet Steger, the UK.

"Well this is my third visit to Pannai, much shorter than I would have lived but I love this place and the people. I will always hold a special place in my heart for the children who grow quickly and the support which is overwhelming." Caroline Benson, the UK

Yes ! I want to keep the light of hope alive by :

- Sponsoring a child for Rs.1350/US\$30 per month.
- Sponsoring a grand parent for Rs.1350/US\$30 per month.
- Helping in white-washing and painting of the cottages and Nursery for the amount of Rs. _____.
- Making a special gift of _____ to be used for _____.

I wish to make my gift by Credit Card (Overseas)

Type of card: _____

Name of Bank: _____

Card No: |_|_|_|_| |_|_|_|_| |_|_|_|_| |_|_|_|_|

Name (as on card) _____

Date of Birth: ___/___/___

Card Expiry Date: ___/___/___

Signature _____

Personal Details :

Mr./Mrs./Ms

Address :

Phone :

Off :

Email :

Cheque/DD

For Rs. _____

(Make gifts out to M.B.K.G. Pannai)

A CONTRIBUTION TO MBKG PANNAI IS EXEMPTED UNDER SECTION 80(G) OF INCOME TAX. ACT 1961