

Annual Report 2012-2013- Verna Goa

Date 09/05/2013

Introduction:

The New Academic year began on 4th June 2012 with a prayer service imploring God's blessings on all children and staff, followed by 2 days seminar, motivational talks by Fr Lester (Redemptorist priest).P

Cottage mothers were called a week ahead from 28th May to 2nd June for planning and for a session of cooking.

We had this year 137 students, 13 cottage mothers, one prefect under Administrator, Supervisor, One nurse and 8 helpers.

This was a year of all round development, growth and well-being for all our Balgramites. Besides the regular academic studies, we had various other activities, like sports, varied competitions, outings and seminars/workshops.

Two volunteers, MsRaphaela from Austria and Ms Kristina came from Germany for 2 months with our students in the Balgram.

We had a pleasant meeting and interaction with all the Austrian benefactors in the month of February. On this occasion we organized a variety of programme for them and also had a Thanksgiving Mass.

Students that is from IX to XII standard were kept at the beginning of Summer holidays for 20 days for special training in spoken English, Maths and some work experience.

We concluded the year with a thanksgiving Mass on 6th of April 2013, prepared by all students and mothers.

Activities of the Academic year:

1. Education
2. Faith Formation
3. Sports
4. Workshops/seminars for students and Cottage mothers
5. Health
6. Outings
7. Celebrations/Cultural Programmes/Entertainments

1. Education:

On week days after Mass Students are in the School. From 8.30 a.m to 1.30 p.m all children go to school. After lunch weaker students attend coaching classes conducted by School Teacher in Maths and English. All the cottage mothers and prefect assist the remaining students in their studies. The

academic progress is daily supervised by the Administrator assisted by the supervisor.

2. Faith Formation:

Every at 7.15 am all students and cottage mothers participate in the Holy Eucharist and at 8.00 pm we pray the Rosary in their respective cottages. On Sundays, the Catholic students attend Catechism classes conducted in the Parish Church. The remaining students of other religion spend time in the Library under one special Tutor. On First Friday of the month we have a special prayer service of one hour Adoration and meditation in the Chapel.

3. Sports:

Every evening student have one hour of games where they enjoy playing Football, Basketball or any other outdoor games. Periodically competitive matches are organized. Our students are selected to represent our school at State level and National level. There are 2 coaches who give training to our students. The Football coach trains the students in the morning from 6.00 to 7.30 and the Basketball coach comes thrice a week in the evening.

4. Workshops/seminars for Students and Cottage mothers:

Various workshops were held for mothers and students.

● Mothers:

- Cooking Interchange Experience (28th May to 2nd June)
- Workshop on “Free Teen” by DrNanditaD’souza (26/8/2012)
- “Handling Children” by Percy, a professional councilor (18/09/2012)
- “Learning Disability” and “study skills” by the Resource Teacher MsJolland and Shaila (Twice 9/11/2012 and 17/04.2013)
- Craft by MrsAnuradha (23-25/11/2012)
- “Investment and different ways to save money” by MrKenkre (17/01/2013)

● Students:

- Motivational Talk by Fr Lester (06.06.2012)
- Creative games and animation were taught by a secular group Focolarini. (9/06/2012)
- The talk on Values by Redemptorist priests (31st September and 1st October 2012)
- “Ganesh Festival” by Prof Josi (16/09/2012)

- Bible Quiz (4/11/2013)
- Craft – flower making and seashell art by MrsAnuradha (3/12/2013)

5. Health:

Health of the students is checked regularly by Nurse Mrs Laura Monteiro and DrArwin Almeida, a pediatrician. Twice a dental camp was conducted by a volunteer team of Arch diocese. In general the health of the children was very good and there were no any major health issues.

6. Outings:

Students as well as mothers were taken out to watch Konkani drama, attend Feast of St Francis Xavier in Old Goa, Feast of FrAgnel in Pilar, to attend Balmela (children's fest), and were taken to a special Talent Show organized by an Engineering College students in Vasco.

7. Celebrations/Cultural Programmes/Entertainments:

On fortnight Sundays students of 2 cottages get together and put up a creative talent show of their own.

Ganesh Festival of Hindus was celebrated with special prayers, skits and sweets. Christmas was celebrated with a solemn midnight Mass, various competitions like Crib, Star, Decorations and traditional Christmas, were prepared by cottage mothers and helped by children

Regularly good motivational movies were shown to the children. Students watch various TV Programme during recreation after the dinner.

A special Goan cultural programme was presented by our students on the occasion of the visit of benefactors from Austria.

Conclusion:

The Academic year 2012-2013 was indeed a gift of God, that all our students besides their academic studies, enjoyed good health, they learnt team work, responsibility, discipline, and values through various activities and sports. The encouragement and support of the priests, committed service of all our mothers and staff towards these children brought lot of happiness and well-being to our children. We are indeed grateful for the economic support given by all our benefactors which facilitated our efforts in conducting so many activities beneficial to our students. Our special thanks, prayerful and good wishes to each one of them, who have really contributed to all our children's physical, intellectual and spiritual growth. May God bless each one of you.

