
PRAKRUTHI BADI NEWS

Timbaktu Collective | Chiguru | Oct, Nov 2015, Newsletter

In October the school team continued their work on conducting the first assessment of the children in the current academic year. The assessment was carried out in early October facilitated by Dr. Subba Raju. It was found that except three all the children had reached the learning and other goals set for them. The assessment was done in a friendly and non-threatening atmosphere using worksheets and informal discussions with the children. This was an enjoyable experience for the children too.



Post the assessment, Dr. Subba Raju conducted a two days training session with the school team on setting appropriate next steps and supporting slow learners especially in learning maths. He came up with some critical matters for improvement of the school. The teachers also received a two days training session on spoken English with

Walter Mendoza as the resource person.

During these two months, the five differently abled children were supported systematically by Mahesh and Nani from the Home Based Therapy team of Militha working group of the Collective (Militha works with persons with disabilities) who conducted weekly speech and physiotherapy sessions for the kids. By and large, all the children kept good health except one child who has chronic anemia.

PRAKRUTHI BADI NEWS

Timbaktu Collective | Chiguru | Oct, Nov 2015, Newsletter

With continued rains, children were able to keep their vegetable gardens going. A larger garden plot was planned and initiated. The weekly tabala, dance, chekkabajana and kolattam classes continued during these two months also and as usual the children had ample opportunities for performances. They performed at various celebrations held like Children's day celebration, Gandhi Jayanthi, Deevali and Moharam. Besides the children attended and enjoyed the senior children's 'attala panduka' (sports festival) held before Children's Day. The children continued to visit the CRC (Children's Resource Centre) on a biweekly basis where they enjoyed reading books and children's magazines and watched documentaries mostly on Indian history.



The Children's Day was celebrated at the CRC with 300 children from the balala sanghas. The Children's Day, November 14th, happens to be the day Prakruthi Badi was started and the Collective was registered. This November 14th Prakruthi badi completed

23 years and the Collective 25 years. Hemanth from Prakruthi badi took lead in conducting the celebrations. Besides performances by the children of Prakruthi badi and balala sanghas a dance group from Anantapuram presented



enchancing folk dances and the Navayuvatha, young leaders group, performed a street theatre. One surprise performance of the day was kolattam by residents of Timbaktu.

PRAKRUTHI BADI NEWS

Timbaktu Collective | Chiguru | Oct, Nov 2015, Newsletter

Gandhi Jayanthi was celebrated at CRC with essay writing, songs, dances etc. Moharram was celebrated at the school with special food and a presentation by parents of Roja and Shafeek who run 'Roja Dhaba' at the Timbaktu junction. They narrated the story behind Mohram and demonstrated Karasama, a form of martial arts using a long staff. This fascinated the children. Hanumanthu, our senior teacher, who also happens to have this skill joined in the demonstration.



Deepavali celebration started off well with children lighting a number of oil lamps and candles followed by special dinner. For the first time the school had special candles prepared by the Pratibha Cooperative of people with disabilities. However, the fireworks had to be postponed due to the rains. The crackers and flowerpots are still waiting for the next amavasya (no moon night).



The parents and teachers had a meeting at Timbaktu on the 26th November. Besides sharing matters like studies, attendance, clothing etc the need for getting and keeping identity cards / certificates of the children was also discussed. The school team also got done a few jobs related to the school recognition like getting structural soundness certificate. A few modifications were done at the children's dormitory in this regard. While all this was going on, the school also kept its commitment to ex students like providing accommodation during holidays, extending critical fellowship support etc.
