

Friday, May 29, 2009

EVENTS OF MAY' 2009

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Dr.Madesawaran has arrived with fresh new concepts about handling the children from 1.5 years after I week experience with AMI training centre. On May 2nd he has conducted the workshop for staff, near by person who has a new born child along with a special child. Miss. Kalaiselvi who is also going get married soon attended the workshop.

The workshop covered the main topic about pregnancy, child care from zero years to 6 years.

The various features of this age group were very clearly discussed with realistic examples.

Mr.Philip is the young student who has just finished his schooling gave out the clear picture of a Montessori environment.

We have planned to conduct this valuable workshop to Sendurai people on May 17th. We are very happy that the staffs are able to understand and lead the various age group children based on their needs. But at the same time we must also have at least 10 more children. But one of our staff has expressed that it would be difficult to handle more because of more toddlers.

But we have expressed the fact behind the freedom to move and choose the work. The children must be very independent in working without adult's intervention.

Mr.Jeyaraman has addressed about the financial crisis in America and our needs. We are planning to increase the salary of the staff very soon but not very high. But we feel it will be injustice to make them to handle more children for 8 hours with this salary.

We all respect our staffs' dedicated work and so we are planning to have shift system among the staff members. This will be well planned and implemented when Dr.Madeswaran goes to Sendurai for summer workshops for 3 weeks after May 10th.

THE MOST DEDICATED ADULTS:

Mrs.Priya Kannan is in turn leave. She has gone to her husband's place just to take leave. She said that she would be tempted to come to school if she stays in the village. I feel she is one among the best dedicated Montessori adult. Even Mallika said that she could not just stay in her home during her turn leave.

WE HAVE HARVESTED:

On 3rd May, Swetha's mother came to see us in the burning hot sun along with her baby. We thought she may want to see us to discuss about the school work. But she has approached us to help and guide her in knowing and understanding various traditions and culture of the state which will be celebrated as various festivals all over the year.

She said that she has learned a lot through her daughter from the HOC. We feel very proud to say this and share that a child can change the family. We gave her many ideas and also few story books about Indian myths.

She has accepted to join with us in summer to conduct spiritual story classes. We are also planning for free English sessions for village children and free story session.

THE LITTLE GIRL WITH GREAT HEART:

Swetha has forced her mother to light the lamps in the evening to pray to God for Ravikumar's healing. See the greatness of little children!

As Montessori said that it is only the adults who live in real life as role models can be the true guides to young children.

*** Miss.Menaka is the aunt of our student Dharun. After her schooling she has completed her 1

year diploma in nursing. She has joined with us for 1 month observation to work as Montessori adult. She will be observing and recording her views and doubts. She will be also reading various materials about Montessori education in Tamil. She will be interviewed after a month. We have said all the necessary details about our HOC to her. We are happy about her sportiveness.

On Sunday we practiced 6 stages of Sound Games. We are very firm about learning phonetics. We are also getting few children in this summer but we don't mind. Whether it is few are many children are individuals and they gain from the HOC personally.

SUMMER ADDRESSING:

On May 10th Dr.Madeswaran will be addressing children in **PUDHIYADHOOR** Institution in Ramavaram – Madras about the topic "WATER". He would also discuss about the various activities to start a Montessori class room with that foundation.

10.5.09- Dr.M.Madeswaran was given a very lovable and simple welcome by Mr.R.Narayanan. He is the founder of a trust called "PUDHIYADHOR...". This is a trust which is serving the underprivileged children of all age groups in and around Chennai.

The objective of this trust is to establish good resource centers for quality teaching and learning for new concepts and also to make the children to makes use of their evening time and holidays in constructive ways.

Now they are very keen about establishing Montessori schools for these children. So we had a very long discussion with him and Ms. Meenakshi. She had attended the AMI training course. We have suggested them how to begin the school, what are the possibilities to reduce the cost in making Montessori materials and other practical details.

After that Dr.Madeswaran gave a presentation about "WATER". This presentation was attended by 30 children from 2 years to 13 years. Children found it very different and useful.

We need to appreciate the adults of the center who were just recording the techniques used by Dr.Madeswaran.

The presentation was very much successful and children gave their feed back also.

Mr.Narayanan has welcomed him to present the same concept to a big gathering of children ranging from 6 to 15 years old in Besant Nagar in Chennai on 11.5.09.

10.5.09 **MR.ADHAVAN** [Dr.Madeswaran's cousin brother in Chennai] HAS DONATED Rs.20000 to SRISAKTHI FOUNDATION TODAY. WE THANK AND PRAY FOR HIM.

11.5.09 – Dr.Madeswaran gave the same presentation to 40 children in the community hall established by Tamil Nadu State Government in Wannan Thurai in Adyar. The children are from local washermen community. More children also travelled across 25 KM from OORAPAKKAM near Chennai for this presentation.

His presentation was appreciated and more practical learning took place. Children learned how to think about a concept with the imagination. They admired the life and work of Dr.Montessori who just lived in the place where today they are living in Adyar.

Projects about various water and land forms were suggested by Dr.Madeswaran.

Master. Saravanan came back to school after 1 week. He has undergone very horrible family problems because of his parents. The child felt very tired and stressed to settle down back to the school. His parents were called and warned by the staff. We are planning to have a meeting with them on Wednesday.

13.5.09 – INDIAN PARLIAMENT ELECTION IN TAMILNADU. HOC WILL BE CLOSED FOR CHILDREN. TEACHERS CAN PUT VOTE AND COME FOR MEETING.

12.5.09 – Mr.Madhusudhanan has handed over the Montessori materials made by himself to Dr.Madeswaran.

13.5.09 – Sewing ring, constructive triangles materials are added to our HOC. Teachers need to be practice and present them to the children.

13.5.09- Teachers arrived late to school and we have discussed about the arrival time which must be very prompt. We have linked that with the order and manners. Later we saw all the various materials brought from Madras.

Mean while Saravanan and his mother came to HOC. But the child has expressed the negative approach to us. So we have sent them back home. We are meeting the parents for their UN acceptable behavior which has upset the child's life and his actions.

Then we all sat for presentation with new Montessori materials. Constructive triangles boxes were presented with great interest and we all have enjoyed that.

We were able to understand the depth behind the Constructive Triangles Material. Teachers said that the materials are making us to think a lot and also imagine. We were also able to interpret many geometrical shapes and relate to life.

STRICT WARNING TO THE PARENTS:

We have spoken to Saravanan's parents about their cruel attitude with the children because of their personal family issues. The child was very much upset physically and mentally. Mother was given very important lessons about the family setup, mother's attitude and child psychology. The father has really changed slowly in these years based on our warnings, lessons and considering child's mental development. But the mother is taking every thing very easy and it is the context to address her very firmly. We said that the children will be taken away from the school if any more issues upset them. Then the child was called and told before them that the parents will never quarrel and hit each other and he can believe.

By 2.30 P.M Mrs.Kalaivani came to see us. She took important points about child care from pregnancy to 6 years. We believe that she is person who really spreads and working for children. She will spread the messages to many parents.

On 14.5.09 we will be observing the children. We are going to start implementing 2 things.

1. All will be talking and addressing each other in very low sound.
2. Dr.Madeswaran will be talking only in English.

*** Mean while we are going to take the sincere lessons about English phonetics also.

14.5.09- Today we gave the presentation of

1. Conversation
2. Picture conversation
3. English Noun Game

By after noon we did a very interesting practical session about "OBSERVATION". Teachers have expressed that they need more practical sessions like that which makes them to understand the methodology easily.

GOOD BYE TO SASIKALA

Today by afternoon we gave good bye to Miss.Sasikala. Saravanan honored her by offering the saffron, greetings card and salary cover. Children spoke in praise of her. Many said that they like

her because she teaches them well.

After that we had a mini staff meeting in which we spoke about her work.

Dr.Madeswaran said that she is a person of enormous patience and joy. He highlighted her great service in attending several phone calls at any time regarding the school. He too thanked her family for the support behind her work.

The school has given privilege of coming and working back at time she likes.

We observed how the 1.5 years old children are very aware about the surroundings through their absorbent mind.

WE ARE HAPPY ABOUT MISS.MENAKA'S DEDICATED WORK IN HOC.

WE ARE ALSO HAPPY TO CONVEY THAT PHILIP WHO IS WORKING WITH US AFTER HIS SCHOOLING HAS SECURED 964 MARKS IN +2 EXAMS AND STANDING FIRST IN HIS SCHOOL.

15.5.09 – Today we have started talking very softly. This has worked out well. Some times we need to insist some children to remember that rule. After the prayer we had a small story session which is based on AMI training.

After that we asked the children to choose their own work and settle down in various places as they wish. But we were very particular about sitting alone and working.

We have presented the following materials for the staff observation.

- a. Blue triangles [Manoj worked with this material with his Excellency in creativity]
- b. Cylindrical blocks [eye fold activity]
- c. Decanomial square.
- d. Secondary color tablets.
- e. Number rods.
- f. Sand paper letters in English.

*** It was a very challenging task to handle Ravikumar. Again we had very sad information about Saravanan's parental behavior yesterday. By evening the mother was called and spoken about the need of good behavior.

16.5.09- Today we worked for half day only and today is Saturday. Children were not there. We gave the presentation of Tertiary color tablets, sound boxes, presenting a real object and then we have started classifying picture cards.

We felt very unhappy about the staff attitude that they are not preparing the language well.

Even after 1 year one of our staff is unable to pronounce well with some the English words. I spoke to them and explained how it is important to prepare our self first before approaching the children. It is very important to feel the needs of parents and society from the HOC with prepared staff. I have given a week time for them to learn and practice. On next Friday we will be conducting a very serious oral exam for them with picture cards.

HARD WORK'S HARVEST.

Swetha'S mother came today for clearing her doubts about various spiritual lessons.

Dr.PradheepKumar's lessons about spirituality have served her purpose. She asked many questions and accepted to conduct the spiritual classes on all Saturdays.

Today we have handed over few spiritual books to her. She has spent lot of time with her 1.5 years old daughter with picture cards.

Mean while this gave us the opportunity to observe the child's absorbent mind with sensitive periods.

SASIKALA'S DELICIOUS DOSAI:

Miss.Sasikala use to bring good dosai with delicious side dishes. So today she has served us with the dosai and chuttny- sambar combinations.

PINE APPLE LESSON

We showed the real pine apple and gave a crisp conversation presentation about the fruit.

Saravanan, Ravikumar and Chandrakumar were there.

The school has condemned the staff for not taking the children out to show the cotton plantation, palm fruit shop and other happenings which can enrich their experiences. There is lack of commitment. But we believe that they will get back to the old interest of running the HOC.

18.5.09 – Today we have the presentations of Noun game, Verb cards, English naming game and Sand paper letters. As usual we have learned many things. By afternoon we have classified many picture cards and framed our plan for various language activities for 2 weeks.

19.5.09 – Today we have presented PAPAYA FRUIT to children and they observed a lot and learned more about the fruit. We also presented the picture cards based on our plan for the children.

We were able to see the child expressions of 1.5 years old children.

Again we have rearranged many rooms and shelves.

Many old worn-out materials were discarded.

Philip and Muthuraj have accepted to repaint the materials with respective paints by tomorrow.

Mallika and Priya practiced well with the picture cards and they are confident.

More name lessons were given and recorded by them in their observation books.

Children were seemed to work for ever even without having break with snacks.

From yesterday 1.5 years old children have started staying in HOC till 3.30 P.M. Today they had more movements and explorations.

We too had the presentation of book reading.

Because of local festival in the village Menaka took leave today.

20, 21.5.09 – We have rearranged the school. Children were directed to work alone and mingle when there is a need. Break time was altered as individual's wish to have the snack. But teachers have felt that this is upsetting their social skills and we have decided to give general break time. Most of the preliminary materials were displaced inside stock corner. Sensorial and EPL activities were rearranged and placed well and the work for the staff became easier for them with the daily recording sheets.

Children were more aware about ground rules. They were observing the orderliness, soft talking and other ethics of Montessori environment.

ONE MORE SPECIAL CHILD

Tomorrow baby Yalini [special child] is expected to join in our HOC for 1 hour with her mother. HOC have addressed her parents regarding her physical challenges and advised to approach the SPASTIC SOCIETY OF INDIA in Madras.

We believe the Montessori education will assist this special child to enrich her experiences with the surrounding and social skills. We pray to GOD for her happy timings in our HOC.

Muthuraj will not come to HOC from Monday because his school is going to reopen. We have given this message to our children. They have enjoyed more with his presence.

GREATNESS OF PRIYA AND OTHERS

Today when we have asked the staff to get ready for half day work from Monday Mrs.Priya said that they all prefer to render their great service to the children for 8 hours. The reason was very important. So we have left this to their choice.

THIS YEAR WE HAVE ENJOYED THE SUMMER DAYS WITH GOOD BREEZE AND SHOWERS.

22.5.09 – Today again we had experienced a different working condition in our HOC. We were very clear about the choice of work and the place where the child has to sit. Then we had presented flowers, name cards, verb cards, carrot peeling and mango cutting.

We need to assist the children to eat the food without spilling the food.

We need to practice the various language activities with the new grouping method.

Ms.Priya expressed that she is feeling stressed with working time and also with the 1.5 year old son. We have asked her to inform us about her decision by Monday.

23.5.09 – Today we have conducted 3 hours seminar about PREGNANCY AND CHILDCARE THROUGH MONTESSORI METHOD. Dr.Madeswaran and our staff have called for this rare workshop for our parents. We have received only 6 parents out of whole village. But we were so happy that they are aware about their children and made use of this work shop to first think about themselves.

Parents also gave many feed back about their children.

Mrs.Ganesh [Swetha's mother] commenced the very first SPIRITUAL CLASS in our HOC.

She narrated the legend of SreeKrishna and Kuchaela. After that she rendered a divine song on Lord Shiva and explained the meaning behind it. She also made us to think and discuss about “ HOW TO OVER COME THE HURDLES OF OUR LIFE THROUGH SPIRITUALITY?”

Then she took hints about MADURAI MEENAKSHI TEMPLE COMPLEX FOR NEXT CLASS. She has decided to present her thoughts on spirituality on every Saturday.

PAINTING WITH DEDICATION:

We need to thank Philip and Muthuraj for painting our Montessori materials. They have done an excellent work with great perfection. Muthuraj said that they thought the work will be tedious. But after doing for some time they have realized that they are enjoying the work and the small size materials are making them to think about their mathematical concepts in Geometry. After painting they played English Spelling Game with us and left the school.

FREE EYE CAMP:

Tomorrow SriSakthi Foundation and Madurai Aravind Eye Hospital are going to conduct free

eye checking and operation service to villagers for the third time. So the foundation members are working towards this.

- We thank Mr.Karthikayan for arranging, bringing, pasting all the required wall posters along with Mr.Panidy.
- We render our humble thanks to Mr.Balamurugan who has arrived today morning from Thiruvaaroor. He has travelled all along the villages in auto with Mr.Jagadesan and made proper communication to many uneducated people and gave the awareness about the eye care and eye camp.
- We also thank Mr.Mani's family for accepting this tough service in the absence of Mr.Jeyaraman. He has been transferred to Salem which is very far away from this village. This must be the lesson to all of us that we must not arrange for any such program without perfect man power. So we are expecting more than 1000 people from the villages for this free eye camp. We also thank all our parents for allowing us to get into the public life for service.

24.5.09 – **FREE EYE CAMP.**

Today SriSakthi Foundation and Madurai Aravind Eye Hospital has joined and conducted the third free eye camp for the villagers. 10 nurses and 3 women doctors came from Madurai. Mani's mother has arranged for the morning breakfast and by sharp 9 the eye care unit started its calm work for the real service.

The local public school has offered large desks and chairs. We received 250 people from the age of 3 to 80. People from very far away villages have arrived and checked their eyes. Among them 47 people were advised for the surgery. They were taken to Madurai through city bus and some through the hospital van. All the charges will be shared by the hospital. The villagers were happy with the service. Doctors said that this camp was very stress less for them and every thing has been organized properly.

We all said good bye to the Hospital unit and rested. We must be aware only about the food in this village. We must serve good food to the unit who ever come for any service.

Dr.Pradheepkumar has addressed the foundation members and thanked for their service.

Mr.Balamurugan left to Thiruvaaroor by night. Mr.Jeyaraman also left to Salem and Ms.Usha came back after her long leave and joined in work.

25.5.09 – Miss.Mallika did not come because of her village festival. Today also we followed the new pattern of work and we all handled the children well. Many presentations took place without abusing the child's memory.

Usha amma offered avil with jiggery to children as her snack from Coimbatore. Muthuraj recoated all the materials.

So the day has passed with more work.

Swetha's mother saw her work with bead materials till 1000. Her 1.5 years old daughter also worked in the HOC. By after noon we discussed about Vaikaase Vishkam Festival. Swetha's mother has accepted to conduct the festival.

27.5.09 – Nature walk.

Children and staff left out to buy palm fruits. Palm fruits are very good for health for summer season. Children walked in line and followed many rules while walking on the road. When they ate the fruits the science lessons were given by the staff. After that they themselves took a plastic bag and put the remains and placed aside in that shop. People felt very happy and surprised with their smartness.

Today salary was given to our staff.

Jothy akka has been asked to come only for noon session from June 1.

Jothy akka and Usha amma are getting the same payment.

Mallika's increment is Rs.100

Priya's increment is Rs.250

Menaka received her first salary.

We have interviewed a new +2 candidate. She is from a poor back ground. We spoke all the rules and regulations for the +2 passed candidates. Her mother said that she will make us to know the decision by tomorrow.

28.5.09 – Today we conducted the HOC as usual and many instructions were given to the teachers. Dr.Madeswaran left to Madras after 25 days. It is very clear that there is a need for a person to instruct the staff and observe their work. Though the teachers are good in implementing the Montessori system they need many more days of training and direction to implement the system perfectly.

Last summer went with setting and beginning of more work. This summer left with experiencing more work and efforts which have to be reframed and teachers were guided more in depth. It is always the belief that we all are good humans and we serve the best for the children.

Children said good bye to Madeswaran and asked when he will come?

On 13.6.09.

Posted by Madesh at [4:07 AM](#)