சான் ஆண்டோனியோ தமிழ் பள்ளி

இலாப நோக்கற்ற வரி விலக்கு பெற்ற 501 (C) (3) அமைப்பு

SAN ANTONIO TAMIL SCHOOL Inc.

Non-Profit Tax Exempt 501 (c) (3) Organization

Issue 1 , Jan 2016

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பாரே போற்றும் பைந்தமிழ்
இன்பம் பொங்கும் இனியதமிழ்
பொற்றமிழ் அறிஞரின் நற்றமிழ்
கலப்படம் இல்லா தூய தமிழ்
சங்கம் வளர்த்த இன் தமிழ்
இலக்கண நிறை இலக்கியத் தமிழ்
பொய்யாமொழியானின் அழியாத் தமிழ்
கற்கண்டு சுவையுள்ள கம்பன் தமிழ்
பெருமைமிகு தகுதி கொண்ட
செம்மொழியாம் நம் தமிழ்மொழி !

அடுத்தவர் மொழியை நாம் தடுக்கவில்லை
அன்புத் தமிழில் பேசினால் தவறேயில்லை !
பிறந்தவுடன் சொல்வது அம்மா எனும்
நம்மொழியே
வளர்ந்தவுடன் வெறுப்பது ஒதுக்குவதும்
மடமையே !

இந்நிலை வளர்ந்தால் அடுத்த தலைமுறைக்கு
தமிழ்மொழியின் அருமை பெருமை புரியாது !

நன்றி பழனி குமார்
Www.எழுத்து.காம்

Vanakkam. Welcome to our SA Tamil School's first edition of newsletter.

I am Mrs. M. Malini Mariappan, PhD, a research scientist and a Project Manager by profession. I am proud to be one of the founding members of SA Tamil School. It is my great pleasure to meet you all through this newsletter. San Antonio Tamil School is in it's 11th year of existence. It was started with 10 students in 2005 and it has grown to 71 students this year with classes from kindergarten (Mazhalai) to Level-7 (Nilai-7). Nilaigal Mazhalai to Level 2 are considered Elementary level education; Level-3 to Level-5 is considered as Middle School education and Levels -6 and -7 are equivalent to High School Foreign language credit requirement. Level-8 will be College level education.

It is a great privilege and honor for SA Tamil School to be supported by highly motivated, dedicated and enthusiastic parent volunteers as regular teachers and as substitute teachers. A school cannot function without them and other volunteers who are serving as program coordinators, committee members, technology support and as ambassadors of SA Tamil School objectives.

This school year started with the search for a venue and formation of many committees like school admin., non-profit initiative and accreditation committees. We are thankful to the management of Shenandoah Congregation, Community of Christ Church, 11910 Vance Jackson, San Antonio, TX 78230 for renting their facility to conduct Tamil classes. The announcement for student registration was made in July, 2015. Registration was done during the month of August. 08-29-2015 was the first day of school for 2015-16 school year.

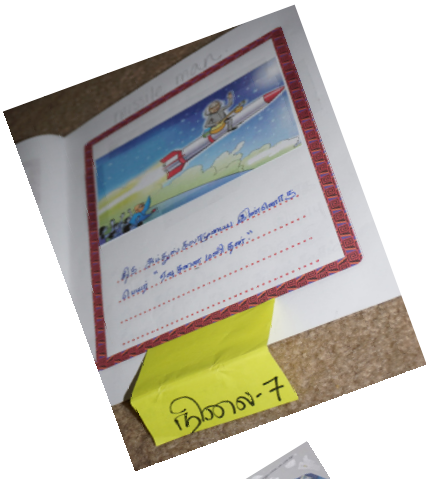
We thank the management of Shenandoah Congregation, Community of Christ Church

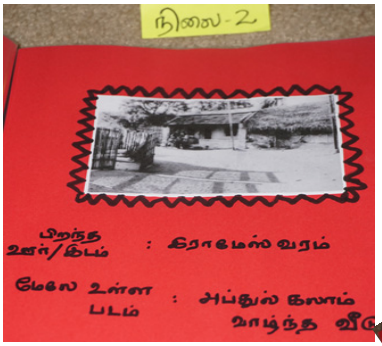
Extra curricular activities

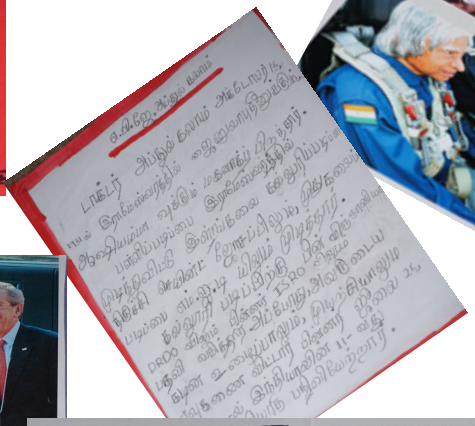
Project on

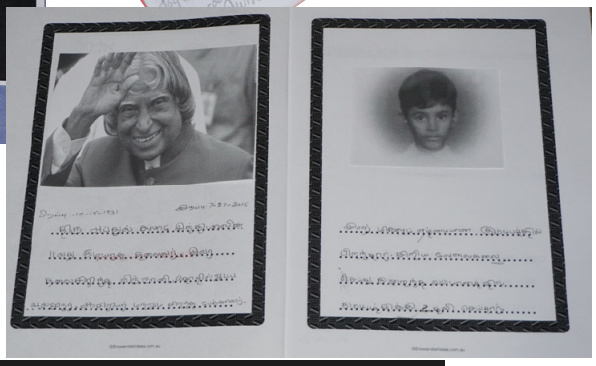
Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam

The first project of our school was creating a booklet as a tribute to our beloved Honorable Former President of India Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. There was very good response from students and the parents. There were about 35 participants across all levels/grades. Most of the projects were done in Tamil and was very impressive. All the participant's and winners were presented certificates by Thiru. Arulmani Periyasamy, one of the founders of San Antonio Tamil School.

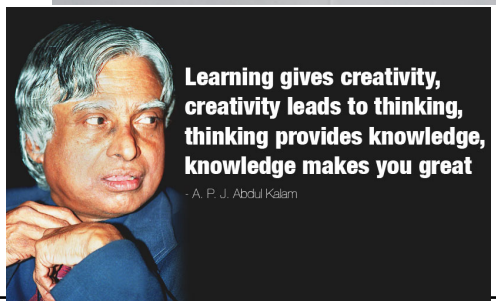








Level	Name
Mazhalai	Sindhu Selvakumar Vishnu Kannan
Level 1	Suprathik Rameshkumar
Level 2	Harini Logan
Level 3	Vishal Vijayakumar Seema Srinivasan
Level 7	Radhika Kannan



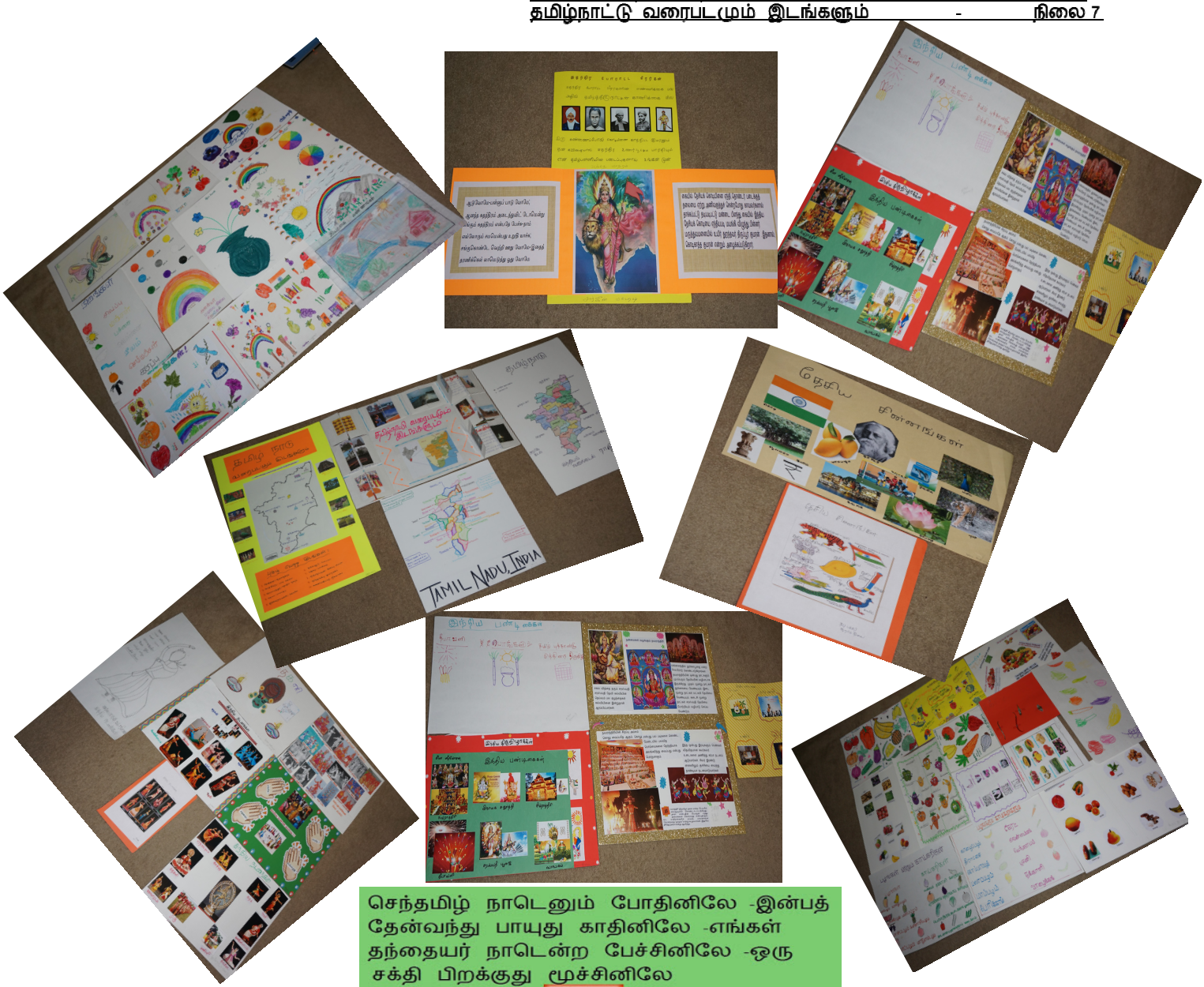
Poster competition

The second project was more interesting since the topics were picked based on the level. 51 students participated across all levels and show cased their talents through the posters they created. All the posters were equally good. It was really challenging for the panel to pick best ones in each category. All the participants were presented with certificate of appreciation and the winners were presented with medals.

Competition Topics

Tamil school competition for school year 2015 to 2016:
Competition 2: Poster competition:

Colors	-	Kinder
நிறங்கள்	-	மழலை
Fruits and vegetables	-	Level 1
பழங்களும் காய்கறிகளும்	-	நிலை 1
Indian dances	-	Level 2
இந்திய நடனங்கள்	-	நிலை 2
Festivals of India	-	Level 3
இந்திய பண்டிகைகள்	-	நிலை 3
Freedom fighters	-	Level 4
சுதந்திர போராட்ட வீரர்கள்	-	நிலை 4
Names of relationships	-	Level 5
உறவுகளின் பெயர்கள்	-	நிலை 5
National symbols of India	-	Level 6
தேசிய சின்னங்கள்	-	நிலை 6
TamilNadu map with important cities	-	Level 7
தமிழ்நாட்டு வரைபடமும் இடங்களும்	-	நிலை 7



செந்தமிழ் நாடெனும் போதினிலே -இன்பத்
தேன்வந்து பாயுது காதினிலே -எங்கள்
தந்தையர் நாடென்ற பேச்சினிலே -ஒரு
சக்தி பிறக்குது மூச்சினிலே

மகாகவி பாரதியார்

POSTER COMPETITION: Certificates and medals were distributed to the students by our special guest Dr.L. Neethialagan, Diabetologist and Anesthetist from India. He is the father of one of our partner Mrs. Nithya Mohan, who has served as cultural coordinator of San Antonio Tamil School in the past.

51 students participated in the poster competition. The winners are listed here:

Mazhalai	
Naveenraj Karthikeyan	1
Saadhana Sivasakthi	2
Ananya Baskar	3
Level 1	
Dhiyasri Thirumurugan	4
Sahana Babu	5
Level 2	
Harini Logan	6
Harrishraj Murugan	7
Level 3	
Ishani Eniyan	8
Level 4	
Arjun Mahesh	
Level 6	
Uma Srinivasan	9
Level 7	
Cherubina Ruban	10

SA Tamil School Inc., :

A registered non-profit organization. We are currently processing 501 (C)(3) tax exemption status.

Goal: To teach the Tamil language and nurture Tamil culture and heritage in children growing in San Antonio.

Parent volunteers: Quality teaching by passionate parent volunteers. Our teachers are all non-paid volunteers , who dedicate their time and effort to promote and teach Tamil to our children.

Tamil culture enrichment: Students perform various cultural programs like songs, dances, skits, etc…

American Tamil Academy syllabus: Tailored and formulated for kids living in USA. (www.amtaac.org)

American Tamil Academy's mission is to inspire and educate the K-12 students and adults by immersing them into the richness of classical Tamil language and thus make them earn language credits.

SA Tamil School is in pursuit of Accreditation of Tamil as a Foreign Language credit for High School students who complete up to Level-7 in Tamil school curriculum. Accreditation is a process of assessing and recognizing schools adhering to a set of educational standards. SA Tamil School is seeking accreditation guidance from AdvancED – a global organization dedicated to advancing excellence in education. Accreditation follows a well-documented and structured process. AdvancED standards and their corresponding indicators are used by the school board to gather and analyze statistical data regarding our SA Tamil School. Parents don't need to know every standard or indicator. The questions administered will be more from Parents' perception of school. We rolled out our first parent survey, to obtain the feedback from parents regarding the functioning of SA Tamil School.

We have formed an executive team to approach AdvancEd and the K-12 School District and get recognition for Tamil as a foreign language. We are in the process of collecting all the supportive documents towards this task.

Join us! Be part of SA Tamil School by volunteering and supporting!

In order to know how to support us please contact us via email

satamilschool@gmail.com

Deepavali Celebration

San Antonio Tamil Sangam hosted the annual Deepavali celebrations on Saturday Nov 21st, 2015.

The celebrations began with an extraordinary rendition of Tamil Thai Vazhthu (Prayer to Tamil) by Tamil School children. All the kids sang together in one voice with utmost dedication and harmony!

Later, Our kids presented a spectacular program that not only captivated the audience but also spread the essence of Deepavali to everyone in the gathering. The parents and volunteers invested a lot of their time and creativity to choreograph the show and prepare the kids over several weeks before the performance.

Kids from Mazhalai, Level 6 and 7 performed a skit highlighting the importance of sharing and caring. The Level 1 kids danced to the patriotic tune of Vande Matharam, and Level 2, 3 and 4 kids danced to the songs reflecting Tamil culture. It was yet another proud day for SA Tamil School!

Picture Day:

Picture day was on December 19, 2015. Thiru. Thamizheniyan, one of our parent partner, provided his photographic expertise to take some great pictures of students and teachers. We take great pleasure and pride in introducing our teachers and students through this news letter.

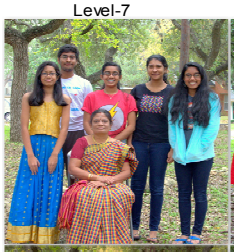
Mazhalai

Level-1

Level-2

Level-3

Level-7



Teachers

Level-6

School

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to all the teachers and substitute teachers for their sacrificial contribution as volunteers to teach the children our language Tamil, and to impart knowledge about Tamil culture and heritage.

Our special thanks to **Mrs. Sudha Madhavan**, a Higher Secondary School Tamil Teacher from Chennai, Tami Nadu and mother of Mrs. Mathangi Sathyan. She is our Level-7 (Highest grade in our school) teacher during this academic year.

Last but not the least, our thanks are due also to our cultural event coordinators and choreographers, who have been a continuous source of encouragement and inspiration to our children. They worked tirelessly to train our children to perform various Tamil culture oriented programs during the celebration of Deepavali, Pongal and Tamil New Year organized by SA Tamil Sangam.

நகைச்சுவை: கணவர் 5 ஸ்டார் ஹோட்டலில் சமையலர். மனைவிக்குப் போன் போடுகிறார். இருவருக்கும் இடையிலான உரையாடல். கணவர்: ஹாய் டியர். இன்னிக்கு என்ன டின்னர் ?மனைவி: Steamed fine long grain white rice hand-picked in the emerald green lap of the Vindhyas, accompanied by a golden lentil spicy soup that was gently simmered with the choiciest handpicked southern spices and the smouldering tang of organic tamarind கணவர்: ஹோல்ட் ஆன்.. ஹோல்ட் ஆன்.. என்னடா சாப்பாடு இது... ?மனைவி: ம்.. ரசம் சோறு!

Announcements and Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events of SA Tamil School Inc.:

- Cultural performance in Pongal celebration by SA Tamil Sangam on January 23rd, 2016.
- Release of FIRST EVER newsletter of SA Tamil School in SATS Pongal function.
- Launching of SA Tamil School website (https://www.satamilschool.org) in SATS Pongal function.

Upcoming Projects for Students:

Celebrating Grand parents project - Students will collect pictures, information's, events and especially memories from their grand parents to make a scrapbooking project. This will enable students and their parents to look deep in to the lives of their grand parents/parents.

Upcoming programs for Students:

- Republic Day celebration in SA Tamil School will be held on January 30, 2016
- Second semester Exam on February 13th, 2016.
- Thirukkural Recital by each level of students will be held during the month of March after the Spring Break.

General body meeting for stakeholders:

SA Tamil School Inc. stakeholders general body meeting will be held on February 6th, 2016. We invite and request all the parents, volunteers, coordinators and committee members to be present.

Logo for Tamil School: We solicited LOGO for our SA Tamil School and we received about 8 logos from our parents partners. We will finalize the logo for the school in the coming weeks.

Special thanks to our Volunteers, Coordinators and committee members

ATA Coordinators
Mrs. M. Malini Mariappan
Mr. Ilangovan Udayar

ATA - Online LMS coordinator
Mr. Murugan Manickam

Newsletter Team

Mrs. Dhayalini Goutham

Mrs. Vimala Perumalsamy

Mrs. Lakshmi Inbamuthiah

Volunteers list: *All the parents*

Committee Members:

Accreditation Task Force

Mr. Saravanakumar Sarvareddy

Mr. Sundar Kothandaraman

Mr. T. Bhuvanesh

Mr. Magesh Raghunandan

Mr. Ravi Thinnatti

NPO Committee

Mr. Arulmani Periyasamy

Mr. Ruban Thangaraj

Mr. Gowdhaman Rajan

Mr. Vijay Parthasarathy

SA Tamil School Inc.

Board of Directors:

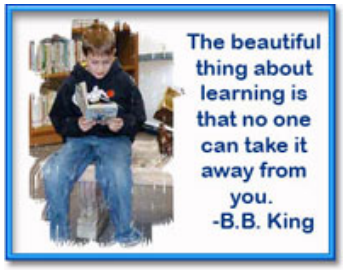
Mrs. M Malini Mariappan (President)

Mr. Vijay Parthasarathy
(Vice-President)

Mr. Arulmani Periasamy (Secretary)

Mr. Kannan Thirumalai
(Joint secretary)

Mr. Ilangovan Udayar



San Antonio Tamil School

Shenandoah Congregation,
Community of Christ Church
11910 Vance Jackson Road
San Antonio Texas 78230
satamilschool@gmail.com

Motto: Ulluvadhellam Uyarvullal

உள்ளுவதெல்லாம் உயர்வுள்ளல்

We Will be on the web: https://www.satamilschool.org

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School statistics:

Total number of students: 71

Principal
Mrs. M Malini Mariappan
Vice-Principal
Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Ulaganathan
Teachers list

Mazhalai
Mrs. Harini Srinivasan
Mrs. Prabhavathy Baskar
Mrs. Mathangi Madhavan
Mrs Aarthi Sathyamurthy
Mrs. Malarpriya Thirumurugan
Level 1
Mrs. Vidya Farook
Mrs. Ambika Ilam
Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Ulaganathan
Level 2
Mrs. Geetha Ramakrishnan
Mrs. Lakshmi Inbamuthiah
Mrs. Sangeetha Gowdhaman
Level 3
Mrs. RamPriya Logan
Mr. Panneerdoss Subbarayalu
Level 4
Mrs. Gunalakshmi Srinivasan
Level 6
Mrs. Pama Kannan
Level 7
Mrs. Sudha Madhavan

Substitute teachers list

Mrs. Anandhi Saravanan
Mrs. Vanitha Elango
Mrs. Thamaraiselvi
Mr. Kalicharan
Mrs. Rajapriya Murugesh
Mr. Rajakumar Mariappan
Mrs. Vimala Perumalsamy
Mrs. Anbu Arulmani
Mrs. Thamilkodi Tamilraj

Cultural events coordinators
Mrs. Vinutha Ganapathy
Mr. Kalicharan