



**SHRIRAM**  
Foundation

**Reach Out**

Newsletter Issue 2, November 2012

## Dear well wishers and friends of Shriram Foundation

As we place our next issue of newsletter before you, we bring with it joys of pleasant events of the last quarter.

Our schools and colleges entered a new academic year. To brace up for the next year, we have already launched our search for teachers of high calibre for our schools, offering them training fellowships for various subjects and co curricular activities, besides Montessori training for upto 12 year old children.

Few changes in existing portfolios with new additional responsibilities for our unit heads has chartered a new course of activities in our projects. Expectations among our donors and well-wishers have scaled up rightfully, due to the track record of past years.

Enrolment for our community college courses reached a higher number thanks to our various measures of publicity and word of mouth, on the authenticity of courses we offer. Parent meetings and outreach programs began last month, increasing our dissemination of information on responsible living for families and children within our fold.

As the festive season draws near, we sincerely hope your hearts and purses will flow into our coffers and help us provide the much needed support to our projects. We hope you will find this issue interesting and reassuring.

With seasons greetings and a hope on your support to fulfill the donation needs of our projects, we sign out for now, waiting to hear from you on your offering and encouragement.

*Board of Trustees*  
*Shriram Foundation*

## New Developments

**Shriram Foundation entered into partnership with Agastya Foundation**, an organization specialized in setting up Science Resource Centres for children. Through this partnership, Shriram Matriculation School will have a full-fledged Science Resource Centre in Thiruneermalai covering various experiments in Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics. The centre will also be used by other partner schools of Shriram Foundation.

**Exploring Science through Exhibitions (ESTE)** is a new programme launched at the Sri sri vidya mandir school to research the hypothesis that regular science exhibitions can increase interest in science among students. The theme for August was environmental awareness and more than twenty models were displayed on August 31st, 2012 on the school campus. The real impact of this program on interest in science can only be assessed over a period of time. However, a beginning has been made.

## Highlights

### Shriram Vocational training Centre-

42 new students joined the agriculture course offered by the Centre. Since the community college scheme is under review, the college chose to admit students through the vocational training centre as many students wanted to join with the promise of a good career in the field of agriculture. Students were duly informed about this procedure. Unlike last year, students were chosen on the basis of written test to assess the writing skills and subject knowledge.



**Sri Sri Vidya Mandir (SSVM), Anakoil- Committees were set up by teachers** to take care of the everyday activities of the school. This initiative was taken to create a sense of ownership and responsibility among the teachers and to co-create a culture of team spirit at the school. Currently, there are 14 committees that take care of a gamut of responsibilities.

**Dietetics-** In an effort to ensure that learning is happening across the school, an initiative to further the knowledge of the cooking staff has been undertaken by a teacher who has a background in Nutrition. The five members meet at least once a week to learn more about the science behind cooking.

**Shriram Matriculation School, Thiruneermalai-** Two workshops were organized on Effective Parenting for parents of 6th Std. students on 8th and 29th September 2012. Ms. Saras Bhaskar and Mrs. Gauri Krishnamurthy of CCF facilitated the workshop. Parental concerns, Parenting styles, behavioral problems, conflict resolving, marital problems, and possible scenarios of referral to School Counselor was taken up.

**VSR, Reddivaripalli-** Proper toilet facility was made available for the students at VSR School ensuring their safety and hygiene. Earlier there were no doors for the toilet and windows were wide open but now proper toilet gates have been fixed and windows have been covered. Work has started to make a proper entrance for the school.



## Students' corner

Children at VSR are exploring nature along with their curriculum. They have learned to make organic manure, how to plant seed and how to nurture a plant.



## Teacher Training

Teachers & staff members from Shriram Matriculation School, Sri Sri Vidya Mandir and Community College attended a 3 days workshop from 11 to 13th July on Sexuality Education conducted by TARSHI (Talking About Reproductive And Sexual Health Issues), an organization based in Delhi. Objective being that trained school staff are equipped with information and skills to address sexuality and gender related issues in the classroom.

In collaboration with CCF (Chennai Counsellors Foundation), "We Care; We Can" workshop was organized for teachers of 3rd to 6th Std. of Shriram Matriculation School on 18th August 2012. Resource person, Mrs. Saras Bhaskar, Counseling Psychologist took sessions on what is barefoot counseling, how to identify students who may need guidance and counseling, about support system to teachers regards effective and efficient student management in the classroom.

Shriram Foundation was established in 1993 as the charitable arm of the Shriram Group, a pioneer in financial and investment services, to work for the underprivileged focusing on Education, Orphan and destitute care.

For more information visit [www.shriramfoundation.org](http://www.shriramfoundation.org)

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