



Newsletter #34

January 2023 – December 2023

Dear Readers,

Wish you a happy & a meaningful 2024. We have had a good year and we are always thankful and full of gratitude for our donors, supporters, well wishers and friends for standing by us through out the last year.

January

We visited Bannerghatta National Park along with our children on 9th January 2023. The children were given free entry to the zoo under special needs category. Though the zoo was a little disappointing we enjoyed the safari at Bannerghatta National Park. The staff and people working at the zoo were very helpful.



A team from Trellix visited WARDS on 10th January 2023 and gave away the New Year gifts to children



Rtn Kavita Kekre, Community Service Director, Rotary Bangalore, Indiranagar, Rtn. Narssimhan, Club Service Director, Rotary Bangalore, Indiranagar, Ann. Varsha Koppikar and Rtn. Sanjay Koppikar visited WARDS on 12th January 2023 and donated blankets for our children and support staff.



Our Sankrathi celebrations began on 12th January with Rangoli competition for all the classes. It was a great day to see creativity at its height. On the 13th of January we celebrated Sankranthi with our children at school.



Our children visited the Jeevan Bhima Nagar Police Station on 19th January as a educational visit to know and learn about the working of it. They were received and shown around the police station. We are very grateful to our Police for allowing us to visit and also for protecting us.



We celebrated 74th Republic Day at WARDS along with our children. Mrs. Sunanda Hegde was our chief guest. Our children performed march past, drill & danced for chak de. It was indeed a great performance by our children. Prizes were distributed for the sports conducted on 24th Jan 2023.



February

On 1st February 2023 children along with staff visited HAL Heritage Centre & Aerospace Museum, Bangalore, a virtual wonderland for Aviation enthusiasts and history buff and enjoyed themselves.



March

We celebrated International Women's Day on the 8th March 2023.



April

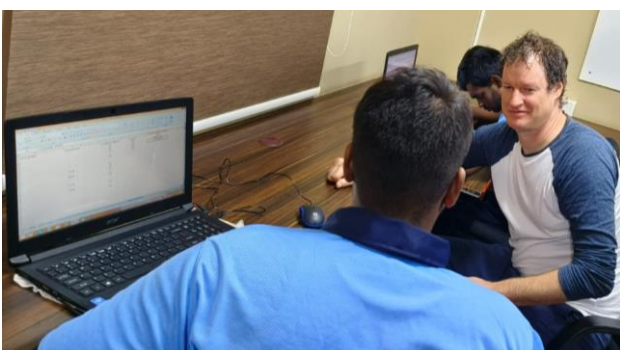
"WARDS celebrated its "30th Annual Day " on 1st April 2023. The program was a great success with electrifying performances by our dear children. They also held a science exhibition on the same day and surprised our guests. The parents, staff and well wishers thoroughly enjoyed the program.



We celebrated World Autism Day (2nd April) on the 3rd April 2023.



A group of inspiring expat leaders through CGI visited WARDS on 27th April 2023 and experienced firsthand, the transformative digital training program we offer children/adults with special needs. Their kind presence and encouraging words truly touched our hearts.



June

Our children were warmly welcomed back to school on the 1st of June 2023 after their summer vacation.



We celebrated 'World Environment Day' on 5th of June by visiting Lalbagh Botanical Garden along with our children.





We celebrated Our Beloved Founder Late C M Kathavarayan Sir's birthday on 15th June 2023.



Our children celebrated Father's Day by making handmade cards for them on 18th June 2023.



We celebrated International Yoga Day on 21st June 2023.



July

We celebrated Doctor's Day on the 1st of July 2023 by making handmade cards and by giving it to our health care professionals.



UDID- Unique Disability ID camp was held on 1st of July 2023 at WARDS Special School with the help of Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities and the doctors from K R Puram General Hospital, Bangalore. Around 25 children benefitted from this camp.



August

We celebrated Our 77th Independence Day at WARDS ON 15TH August 2023. Mr. Nithin Shanbhag was our chief guest. Our children did the march past performed a drill with the help of balloons, performed two dances to 'Etthara Jenda' and 'Phir Bhi Dil Hai Hindustani' wonderfully well.



Our children went on a educational visit to 'Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum on 16th August 2023. It was a very informative visit . The staff and children were amazed to see the museum.



We celebrated Varamahalakshmi festival on 25th August 2023.



We celebrated Onam on 29th August 2023.



We celebrated 'Rakshabandhan' along with Brothers and Sisters from Bramhakumari on 31st August 2023.



September

We celebrated "Teacher's Day" on 5th September 2023. Our children performed 2 beautiful dances for the teacher's.





We celebrated Gandhi Jayanthi on 2nd October 2023 the occasion of Mahathma Gandhiji's Birthday!!!



A special prayer was held on 12th September 2023 in remembrance of Our Beloved Founder Late C M Kathavarayan Sir on his 5th death anniversary.



November

WARDS-Vocational unit put up stalls for Diwali in Nuware, Trellix & CGI on 8th & 9th of November 2023 showcasing and selling their products.



We celebrated 'Ganesh Chaturthi' on 20th September 2023 along with our children.



WARDS Celebrated Diwali and Children's Day on 10th of November 2023. Children's Day was made extra special with a lively dance performance by our teachers. Their energetic and joyful routines brought smiles to the student's faces, creating a festive and inclusive atmosphere. Children enjoyed setting off fireworks displays.





WARDS celebrated its "Annual Sports Day " on 22nd November 2023. All the children participated in various creative games and won prizes. It was a day filled with so much fun, enthusiasm and sportsmanship. The exciting part of the day was the well awaited cricket match which was worth the wait. It was a joy to see our children play and show their talent. Well the day came to an end with "Red House" being the CHAMPIONS.



Our children participated drawing & dance competition at Sambhrama for World Disability Day on 24th November 2023. WARDS also sponsored for this competition by distributing 600 drawing kits.



Our children participated in Sports Day at Kanteerava stadium for World Disability Day on 28th November 2023.





Mrs. Vasanthi, Principal & Ms. Sylvia, Coordinator from WARDS attended the Gratitude Gathering on 28th November 2023 at CGI office for former President for APAC, George Mattackal, who entered his well-earned retirement from CGI in September 2023.



December

WARDS- Welfare Association for Rehabilitation of Disabled and Society received "The State Award" for "Best Institution" for "Unique Achievement under Disabilities" by Department of Women and Child and Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, Bangalore on 3rd of December 2023, on World Disability Day at Kanteerava Stadium, Bangalore.

The felicitation was done by Shri Siddaramaiah, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Govt of Karnataka, Smt Lakshmi Hebbalkar, Minister of Women and Child Development of Karnataka, Dr. G.C.Prakash (I.A.S) Secretary to Government and Sri Siddeshwara N, Director, Directorate for the Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens, Bangalore.



Mr. Ramesh Shah from USA visited us on 9th December 2024. He has an NGO called Joy of Helping who are engaged in various initiatives such as child welfare, assisting physically and intellectually challenged individuals, empowerment of women, education for young girls, healthcare for children and women, elimination of needless blindness and vocational training and income generation for the impoverished. He gave us a presentation on vocational training and spent some time with our children.



A group of girls from Sacred Heart Girls PU College, Jeevan Bhima Nagar visited us on 13th December 2023. They sang a few carols and also distributed cake to our children along with their faculty Mr. Sanjay Christopher and Mr. David.



WARDS participated in the Sports Day organised by Mahalakshmi Educational Trust & Sanjeevini Foundation. They took part in cricket match, musical chair and soft ball.



We celebrated Christmas at WARDS on 22nd December 2023. Father Chinnappa was our Chief Guest. Our children performed "Birth of Jesus" tableau and a very peppy dance to "Jingle Bell Rock". Ms. Aarti Kathpalia performed the puppet show for our children. Our children enjoyed the show thoroughly. Gifts were distributed to children & staff & the day ended with a sumptuous lunch.



Mrs. Aruna, Secretary and Mrs. Vasanthi, Principal of Welfare Association for Rehabilitation of Disabled and Society (WARDS) visited the tribal families in Tamil Nadu, Gingee taluk and distributed clothes for the community on 23rd December 2023.



Our children along with their teachers visited Phoenix mall on 28th of December 2024.



A team from 'Train the Trainer' from National Association for The Blind (NAB) visited us on 29th December 2023 and spent some time knowing about the activities of our children and working of the school.



Internship

Riya Singh, Shachi Singh, Shitabh Singh, Adarsh Kumar & Rajendra DalaBehera from Xavier Institute of Management & Entrepreneurship (XIME) interned with WARDS for Socially Useful and Productive Activity (SUPA) from 10th January to 31st January 2023.



Glen Moses from St. Joseph College of Commerce interned with us from 5th June 2023 to 4th August 2023. Their college encourages students to undertake social/start-up internship in order to gain practical exposure and real world experience.



Aathira Nair a student of Army Public School, K Kamraj Road Bangalore spent a day at WARDS on 4th August 2023 for her project on Intellectual Disability assigned by the CBSE board for 12th standard students.





It was a lively year buzzing with various activities. The highlight of 2023 was WARDS receiving the “Best Institution Award” for “Unique Achievement under Disabilities” by Department of Women and Child and Empowerment of Differently Abled and Senior Citizens. We will strive harder this year too to grow to greater heights. We look forward to learning, growing and achieving more in 2024.

Thanking You,
WARDS News Desk

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