

Olcott School Chennai Site Visit Report

Date: July 15th , 2023 8.30pm CST

Medium: Zoom meeting with the Olcott Management, Teachers and Students

Attendess: Chidu Subbiah, Mohan Chellaswamy, Sasikala (Director, Olcott), J.Lalitha (Asst HM), Padma Hari (AHM), Rama Vasudevan (volunteer), and Lalitha Rajamani

The School is adapting well in the post covid world and the management shared the results. The pass percentage for Class 11 was 80 percent and class 10 was 70 percent. The students in Tamil medium fared better than the students in English medium. The management said they were overall satisfied with eh performance keeping in mind what these kids went through during the Pandemic. In class 12, out of 43 students, 40 have passed. The school topper is Thameena who got 570 out of 600. All students in the Science and Commerce stream have passed.

The school is been giving out Scholarships for a few years now. All kids have utilized the amount and only one kid is dropped out thus far. One teacher is in charge of this effort.

The school is also partnered with the TVS skill center for vocational training and six students are part of it this year. There is a similar program at Toyota and they are trying to see if they can establish a relationship there.

The digital initiative with tablets that was started a few years back is being utilized by teachers for online classes and students from 8th and 9th grade are also being considered for tablets. The school is setting aside 30 to 35 thousand dollars for WIFI access to the tablets. 36 tablets have been condemned and they have about 100 plus tablets that are being serviced and in usable condition.

The local rotary club is helping the school for 9th grade students.

In general, students are struggling in English medium and school is working on a plan to address this. English medium is available as an option from 6th standard.

All teachers are B.Ed educated or Montessori trained. This was an initiative that was started a few years back and it is been a huge success.

A smart board is been installed in the school and teachers have been trained on how to use it.

The school is conducting Professional development days for teachers with outside speakers and it is been a success. This was over five days and teachers benefited from this training.

The school is now serving breakfast for students. It is sponsored by Aksyapatram an NGO. The school already supplies lunch for students.

Overall the school is back to meeting in person post covid and everyone including both students and teachers are adapting well to the post covid world.