My visit to Olcott Memorial

By Ananya Radhakrishnan

Age: 11

We got there a little before nine when all the kids were arriving. As soon as the youngest kids saw my camera they all wanted their picture taken (wow those kids were so exited by a little thing like getting their picture taken!) They all only spoke Tamil but some knew a few words in English. At the time most of the older kids were either playing in the large field or finding their friends. At nine o clock the school assembly started. First everyone said the school pledge, then the teacher made announcements (one of them was about us), then finally to wrap it all up the older kids were repeating lines of a famous Tamil poem. After all the students left the assembly hall my parents started talking to the principal. My brother and I wandered around to explore the school a bit more.

The assembly took place in a blue, (my favorite color) large, open, hall (it looks like the building in which the fake Athena Parthenon is being kept to me.) Other than that there were two little yellow buildings for each grade, one kitchen where the kids lunch could get cooked (it is free in many schools in Chennai), and one large pink building which holds the principals office. Other than that the school has a lot of trees and one large field. Both the the girl’s and boy’s uniform consists of a white shirt and blue pant, except the girls also had two white bows in their hair.

We talked to some of the younger grades. They were too shy to ask many questions but eager to show us the songs they had learned. Fourth grade was learning about past, present and future tense verbs in English (it was weird seeing kids learn the language I am used to.) I feel kind of bad for the kids but at Olcott they were getting treated well. If we make a blog with the kid’s photographs in it that would make them very happy. I also think people like Artists or musicians should show the kids some of their work. I know I need something new every once in a while at school and that is what field trips are about. These kids should have something new every one in a while too!