

*Report for the year 2011-2012  
Sumavanam School*

*Started the school on the first week of June 2011.*

*The local govt. school had fewer children enrolled in the primary sections. Hence there was a pressure from the education officer (who visited our school) to send away the 5 year old children to the govt. school. There is also a new govt. rule that all children between the ages 5-14 should be in schools recognised by the govt. (and ours is not recognised,so we had to send away the little ones). We were allowed to continue with the rest of the children.*

*So we ended up with 4 children in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade,9 in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade and 11 in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.*

*Jyoti another teacher also got married and left the school. Seena,another teacher who had cancer died. So we three teachers (Usha,Chinna and I) were left teaching in the school.*

*We continue giving a glass of butter milk in the morning and a glass of milk to the children and teachers.*

*Tim, a son of our friend from England, spent two weeks in the school. He was helping the children in the classes and also took them on a hike to the nearby hillock. He also helped the children in doing handicrafts .*

*There were also visitors from other schools and we were also involved in training teachers of some NGOs in the teaching methods we adopt in our school.*

*Children also planted some seeds and set up a drip irrigation system using empty mineral water bottles. Using a metre scale they measured one kilometre and realized that in one kilometre there are 1000 metres. They made a decimetre cube and poured a litre of water and realized that it can hold 1 litre of water. They made an abacus using simple card (used for note books)and beads. Even in languages a lot of work sheets have been given.*

*We invited the parents of the children and showed them their note books,handicraft work etc.*

*Ramachandra an ex-student of Neel Bagh passed on to us some money from a French lady. We used part of the money to take the children on a trip to a nearby Hill station.*

*Mrs.Lakshmi Srinivasan,from USA visited the school and took some photographs to be mailed to the donors. She has been helping us by communicating with the donors about our activities and about the finances.*