

GLOVIS SANGAMAM PROJECT REPORT – JAN 2015

Glovis Sangamam project is continuing to support the 8 schools in Thiruvallur Dist. Here is a report of the various activities that took place during the month of Jan 2015.

Term 3 Started

Term 3 started on Jan 2nd at all the schools. The month had a lot of holidays because of the Pongal and Republic Day holidays. The other major academic event in the schools was the SSA in Tamilnadu conducted a State Level Assessment Survey at schools across TN. Two of our schools at Thomur and Pattarai Perambudur also had these exams.

Teacher Training

The Maths training with Mrs. Meena Suresh of Ramanujan Centre for the third term was organized on the 3rd Jan at the Olcott Memorial school. Most of the teachers from the Glovis Sangamam project also attended the training. The focus this time was on the lessons that all the classes have in the Third term.

In continuation of the evaluation of how our teachers are teaching, I finished all the Project Sangamam schools with visits to Allikuzhi and Placepalayam on Jan 8th.

On Jan 31st I visited the Thiruvallur office to train the teachers on various Maths concepts. Particular focus was on fractions.

Marriages and Hiring

During the December holidays one of our teachers Asha resigned as she was going to get married. Another one of our teachers Anitha Devi got married on Jan 24th. She got married to another person in Placepalayam and intends to continue teaching. On Feb 9th yet another teacher of ours Hepsibah will be getting married. While she would like to continue teaching and working with Asha, she will be moving to Pandur which is far away from her current school Placepalayam. Therefore we will have to find her an alternate school. We are working towards that.

Due to these resignations we also conducted an interview on Jan 8th. 8 teachers turned up for the interviews. Out of these we selected two of them as they were the only ones who met our standards in Maths and English. Unfortunately only one of these two teachers joined. She will be going to a Project Sangamam school (not under the Glovis Sangamam project) where our existing teacher resigned because of pregnancy.

Technology and Education Effort

Asha provided laptops to three of our teachers, two of whom – Santha Sophya and Gayathri are part of Glovis Sangamam. We are also in the process of getting them data cards and Wifi hotspots. They will then be able to use the computers and the Internet at their schools.

We have also started the process of fixing the computers at these schools. Many of the government computers at these schools have some minor problems. We are fixing them and getting them ready to be used regularly.

Upcoming Events

We have started the construction of the kitchen shed at Placepalayam. We will be finishing that and then starting the construction at Gandhigram.

The computers at all the schools will be repaired and at least three of our schools (Kuppammal Chathiram, Pattarai Perambudur and Thomur) will be able to effectively start using all their computers and the Internet.

We will start the 2nd round of Black board painting, purchasing materials for the schools (tumblers and plates, mats, educational materials etc.)

We are also in discussion with Madras Dyslexia Association to have a Dyslexia awareness camp for both the Asha and the government teachers at Thiruvallur. This has been dragging on for a while. We hope to conduct this soon.