

SUMMER CAMP 2023

DR. AMBEDKAR CULTURAL ACADEMY

Mandela Nagar, Madurai-22, TN, India

A SHORT REPORT

I. INTRODUCTION

The residential Summer Camp 2023 of DACA was organized for its children from 1st May to 25th May, 2023. More than 195 Children both boys and girls enthusiastically participated from classes 6th to 11th. First time in the history of DACA's Summer Camps, we had two different Camps for both boys and girls - 10 days Camp for boys and 15 days for girls.

Fun filled activities and events for the anxious children during the summer vacation, was a delightful treat. It gave them an opportunity to learn new skills and motivated them to instill an interest and perseverance to continue their school education without drop. These Summer Camps aimed at keeping the children engaged & provided them an even platform to explore and express their creativity, in different forms. We could say that our children spent this summer vacation in a more meaningful and useful manner.

II. MODE OF CAMP

The mode of Camps is residential. Every day of both the camps began at 6am in the morning and ended at 10pm in the night. In-between, the children were engaged in various activities - class room activities like academic and motivational classes and out-door activities such as play-way methods of learning, games, martial-arts, campus cleaning, etc. The volunteers were assigned to accompany the children in different activities. The enthusiastic children zealously participated & showcased their diligence in all the planned events. Throughout the Camps, they were provided with sumptuous meals and refreshments. Every day before going to bed, a short review was conducted for both children and volunteers separately.

III. THE DETAILS OF VOLUNTEERS AND THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS

SN	NAME	CLASSES HANDLED
1	Fr. Arul	Teaching English Conversations
2	Sch. Sahayam	Teaching Basic English, Awareness songs
3	Sch. Pradap	Teaching Games and Action songs.
4	Sch. Praveen	Teaching Basic Tamil and awareness songs.
5	Sch. Selva	Teaching English Grammar
6	Mr. Joseph	Teaching Basic Maths
7	Mr. Azhagumuthu	Teaching Maths and Petition drafting
8	Mr. Murali	General Knowledge and Quiz
9	Mr. Robert	Goal settings and Time management

10	Ms. Jenifer	Regular prayers
11	Ms. Nathiya	Monitoring regular works
12	Sch. Rejoy	Teaching art-crafts and drawings
13	Sch. Sam	Teaching basic vocabularies and Computer
14	Fr. Vargheesh	History of DACA

IV. EXPOSURE PROGRAMMES

The most awaited programmes of the summer camps were the picnics. During the Camps, the boys were taken to Madurai Airport and they had an exposure to control room of airport and conversation with officials therein. It was an exciting learning programme, since many of them came from very remote villages. Some even saw the flights first time in their life. Similarly, the girls went for one-day outing to Ramashwaram town, which is one of the coastal tourist places in our state. The village girls were extremely excited and kept singing songs in the bus till they reached the venue. They have visited some of the historical places there in the town. These two programmes made the children happy and built a sense of unity among them. All the children expressed a desire to revisit the places again. Indeed it was a great day for all the children and volunteers.

V. FINAL CELEBRATIONS

At the end of each Camp, we had valedictory functions, wherein our children exhibited their learning in the forms of cultural programmes like acting, singing and dancing, etc. This programme indeed inculcated among the participants a strong feeling that they are second to none and a positive attitude - yes we can. The essence of these camps was to develop a sound character of each child & ultimately the motto concretely seen in the final day celebrations. This year, the Summer Camps were earnestly appreciated not only by the participants but also by their parents. The overwhelming acknowledgement through their reviews and feedbacks was a motivating factor for the entire DACA family.

VI. GRATITUDE

I express my sincere gratitude to STIFTUNG JESUITEN WELTWEIT for its continued support to our Children. It is because of your magnanimity and generosity, we have been able to conduct Summer Camps constantly and are able to provide a suitable ambiance to our children, wherein they could spend their summer vacation meaningfully, learn life oriented skills and instill perseverance to pursue their education.

Be it during the planning stage of the camps or when the camps were in progress, the wholehearted efforts of all the volunteers made the Summer Camps a success. We are especially grateful to all our volunteers.

Report by

SCH. PRADAP, SJ

Co-organizer of DACA's Summer Camp 2023