

BALSHALA NEWSLETTER – Oct.23rd 2016

“A child’s smile is worth more than all the money in the world.” I had this sudden, warm surge of happiness upon seeing the children last week in Balshala. Thanks to the many souls that held Balshala together during my absence. My heartfelt thanks to the teachers, parents and the temple community!

Balshala T-shirts for this year should arrive on Nov.13th. Sorry for the delay!

Special thanks to Seema & myself :) for the healthy Prasad distribution for all students present on Oct.23rd.

There is NO Balshala class this Sunday. Happy Diwali to all of you!
May the lights brighten up your homes with happiness and prosperity!

On Sunday, Nov.6th we will have regular Balshala classes with morning assembly followed by group classes.

Nov.6th Balshala Prasad & clean-up volunteers: Meghna Patel (m/o Adway Patel) and Pushpa Kumar (m/o Tanish Kumar)

Morning Assembly –Teachers: Surekha Prasad & Anna Ramanathan

Reminders: Please arrive on time for the assembly at 10:30am. Students who arrive late need to quietly and quickly find their groups and be seated with them. Teachers will be seated with their classes. Parents of the Vanara group (Pre-K) are requested to be seated with their children. All parents who are not teachers are kindly requested to be seated in the back. The prayers and Aarti procedures will be perfected in the upcoming weeks. Upon arrival, please remember to put your footwear neatly on the metal racks on the side of the temple building.

Student of the week presentation for Oct.23rd assembly: **Anand Prasad** (Yuva Group)

Vanara (Pre-K) – Teachers: Nandi Shetty, Girija Subramanian, Jagruti Patel

Children worked on “Krishnam Vishnum” bhajan. They colored a Krishna picture.

Homework: Practice the bhajan and shloka learned in Balshala and encourage them to talk about what they learned in class.

Bala (Kindergarten) – Teachers: Shobha Umapathy & Amisha Amin

Students learned about Lord Krishna and answered questions. They chanted the mantras and sang the bhajans in class.

Homework: Complete coloring of Krishna picture neatly and learn Shanthi mantra-3.

Lava (1st Grade) – Teachers: Hetal Acharekar & Falguni Patel

Students practiced shlokas and bhajans repetitively and were able to demonstrate mastery in reciting at least one on their own. Great job! The class discussed about facts of Lord Krishna and listened to a story about HIS courage.

Homework: Students need to be able to recite 1 shloka AND 1 bhajan for next class.

Kusha (2nd Grade) – Teachers: Neha Gupta & Mukti Patel

Students learned stories and discussed about facts of Lord Krishna. They also practiced the focus shlokas in class.

Homework: Students need to practice the mantras learned in class.

Dhruva (3rd & 4th Grades) – Teachers: Kiran Karanth & Asha Patel

Students learned and discussed about Lord Krishna. They practiced the Rama namo bhajan. They also chanted the Lingashtakam and listened to Ganesha Pancharatna stotra.

Homework: Practice the first 3 stanzas of Lingashtakam (3rd grade). Practice the 1st stanza of Ganesha Pancharatna (4th grade). Learn about 7 rishis and 7 swaras.

Guha (5th & 6th Grades) – Teachers: Vidya Sridharan & Srinivas Akella

Students practiced the Rama namam rigorously in class. They have completed the Balakhandam and Ayodhyakhandam in class.

Homework: Practice the Aranyakhandam, kishkindakhandam and sundarakhandam.

Yuva (7th Grade) – Teachers: Srinivasan Thiagarajan

Students discussed about the presentation at the morning assembly and reflected on its glows and grows. They did a popcorn reading on Krishna and Sudama story. Gita dhyanam first and fifth verses were rehearsed and practiced. Mantra Pushpam and Radhe Radhe bhajan – first verses of each were repeated, rehearsed and practiced.

Homework: Practice the shlokas and bhajans learned in class along with your daily prayers. Try to memorize them before next class. Prayer monitoring sheet needs to be signed by parents daily. Cash reward awaits them for best recital and successful completion of prayer monitoring sheet.

Thanks,
Team Balshala