



FOREWORD

Warm greetings from Swabodhini!

It gives me great pleasure to share with you the first edition of Swabodhini's Quarterly Newsletter for the new academic year.

For many years, our monthly newsletter has been a way of keeping our extended Swabodhini family connected with the activities, achievements and milestones of our students and centres. As we move to a quarterly format, we hope to bring together the significant happenings of the past few months in a more comprehensive way.

This newsletter brings together some of these highlights and gives us an opportunity to pause, reflect and celebrate the progress made during the quarter.

A New Academic Year Begins

June marked the beginning of the new academic year, with our students returning to school on 10th June with bright smiles and enthusiasm. Our staff put together creative ways to welcome them back and set the tone for the year ahead.

As part of the preparations for our Annual Sports Day, a sports competition for our staff was organised on 20th June, providing an opportunity for staff members to participate and showcase their sporting spirit.

A New Vocational Chapter at Selaiyur

We are pleased to share the inauguration of a new vocational unit at our Selaiyur Centre, as an extension of Swabodhini's In-house Assisted Employment initiative.

The inauguration was graced by Mr. Nikhil Raj, President, Rotary Club of Madras Boys Town, Mrs. Mahadevan and Ms. Aishwarya Tarun from Advantage Foods and Ms. Apoorva from Grundfos Pumps India Pvt. Ltd.

Advocacy and Outreach

The Heads of Swabodhini had the opportunity to meet Thiru J.C.D. Prabhakar, Hon'ble Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. They presented Swabodhini's mission and ongoing initiatives in special education, therapy, vocational training and assisted employment for individuals with autism and developmental disabilities.

He appreciated the work being undertaken by Swabodhini and expressed his willingness to support initiatives benefiting children and individuals with special needs.

Professional Development

At Swabodhini, we place importance on the continuous professional development of our staff. Our Heads and Special Educators participated in the international conference titled "Empowerment Beyond Barriers: Global Perspectives on Education, Development and Innovation for Individuals with Disabilities." hosted by Patrician College of Arts and Science, Chennai.

The conference provided an opportunity to gain new perspectives and learn about developments in education, inclusion and disability services.



FOREWORD

Support from Our Partners

We thank the Rotary Club of Chennai ECR for donating a sewing machine to our Velachery Vocational Centre. The machine will support our vocational training and assisted employment initiatives.

We also thank Chennai Port for inviting our Tondiarpet students to visit the Port and giving them the opportunity to step inside a vessel. The visit offered our students a new experience and an opportunity to explore a different working environment.

38th Annual Sports Day

Our 38th Annual Sports Day was held on 27th August 2026 at Babu Jagjivan Ram Stadium, Tondiarpet. The event was honoured by the presence of Shri Balakrishna S., Industrialist, Educationist and Social Contributor, Managing Director of Sri Lakshmi Saraswathi Mills and President, Rotary Club of Madras, as the Chief Guest.

Beyond the Classroom

Our students also participated in events outside Swabodhini, including the Young Indians Sports Meet at the SDAT Complex Chetpet and Siragugal, a cultural event organised by the Rotary Club of United Chennai.

Visits and Collaborations

We welcomed several visitors during the quarter.

A team from SPACE, accompanied by Mr. Manjit Singh Nayar, General Secretary and Correspondent, Guru Nanak College, visited our centre, interacted with our students and staff, and learnt about our programmes and vocational initiatives.

Prof. Sudhakar Balachandran of Great Lakes University visited our Thiruvannamiyur and Velachery Centres to explore opportunities available at the Great Lakes campus in Chennai for our vocational students.

Ms. Lalitha, Managing Director, Ramana Vidyalaya, also visited to understand the range of services offered by Swabodhini to individuals with special needs.

We value these interactions as they help create opportunities for collaboration, learning and inclusion.

Celebrations at Swabodhini

Festivals and important occasions are observed at Swabodhini as opportunities for students to learn, participate and enjoy time together.

During the quarter, we observed International Yoga Day, Father's Day, Doctor's Day, Kamarajar's Birthday and Independence Day, along with the birthdays of our students and staff.

We look forward to bringing you more updates in our next quarterly newsletter.

Warm regards,

Nandini Priyakumari

Director

Swabodhini School and Vocational Centre for Special Children

A JOYFUL RETURN: SCHOOL REOPENS AFTER THE SUMMER BREAK

On 10th June, Swabodhini School warmly welcomed students back after the summer vacation. The campus came alive with cheerful smiles, laughter, and excitement as students reunited with their teachers and friends. Staff members ensured a smooth and joyful start to the new academic term, creating a welcoming environment that set a positive tone for the months ahead.



CELEBRATING TEAM SPIRIT: STAFF SPORTS DAY

Ahead of the our Annual Sports Day, Swabodhini organized a fun-filled Staff Sports Day on 20th June to celebrate teamwork, enthusiasm, and staff well-being. The event featured a variety of friendly games and activities, giving staff members an opportunity to relax, bond, and enjoy some healthy competition.



A NEW BEGINNING: INAUGURATION OF VOCATIONAL UNIT AT SELAIYUR CENTRE

We are delighted to share a significant milestone in Swabodhini's journey. On 25th June 2026, we inaugurated our Vocational Unit at the Selaiyur Centre. This unit serves as an extension of our in-house assisted employment programme, providing meaningful vocational opportunities for students who are unable to transition into external employment settings. The initiative is designed to help our beneficiaries develop practical skills, build confidence, and work towards greater independence through structured vocational training.



The inauguration was graced by Mr. Nikhil Raj, President of the Rotary Club of Madras Boys Town, Ms. Mahadevan and Ms. Aishwarya Tarun from Advantage Foods, and Ms. Apoorva from Grundfos Pumps India Pvt. Ltd.

Their presence and encouragement made the occasion truly memorable, marking the beginning of a new chapter in our mission to empower individuals with special needs through meaningful vocational opportunities.

SPECIAL VISITORS AT THE VELACHERY CENTRE

Swabodhini's Velachery Centre had the pleasure of welcoming a distinguished group of visitors, accompanied by Mr. Manjit Singh Nayar, General Secretary and Correspondent. The visitors from SPACE toured the centre, interacted with our students and staff, and gained insights into our programmes and vocational initiatives. Their visit provided an opportunity to showcase Swabodhini's work while fostering meaningful connections and potential avenues for future collaboration.



INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY

Swabodhini observed International Yoga Day by reaffirming the importance of yoga as an integral part of our students' daily routine. Under the guidance of our dedicated yoga instructors, students actively participated in a special yoga session, practicing asanas and breathing exercises that promote physical fitness, emotional balance, and mental well-being. The celebration highlighted our continued commitment to nurturing the holistic development of every student through regular yoga practice.



CELEBRATING FATHER'S DAY AT SELAIYUR CENTRE



To celebrate Father's Day, students at the Selaiyur Centre expressed their love and gratitude by creating beautiful handmade greeting cards for their fathers. The activity encouraged creativity while providing students with a meaningful way to convey their appreciation and affection. The heartfelt cards made the celebration special, strengthening the bond between the students and their families.

CELEBRATING DOCTORS' DAY

Swabodhini celebrated Doctors' Day across all its centres, where students dressed up as different medical professionals and enthusiastically enacted their roles. The activity was a fun and meaningful way to honour the dedication and service of doctors.



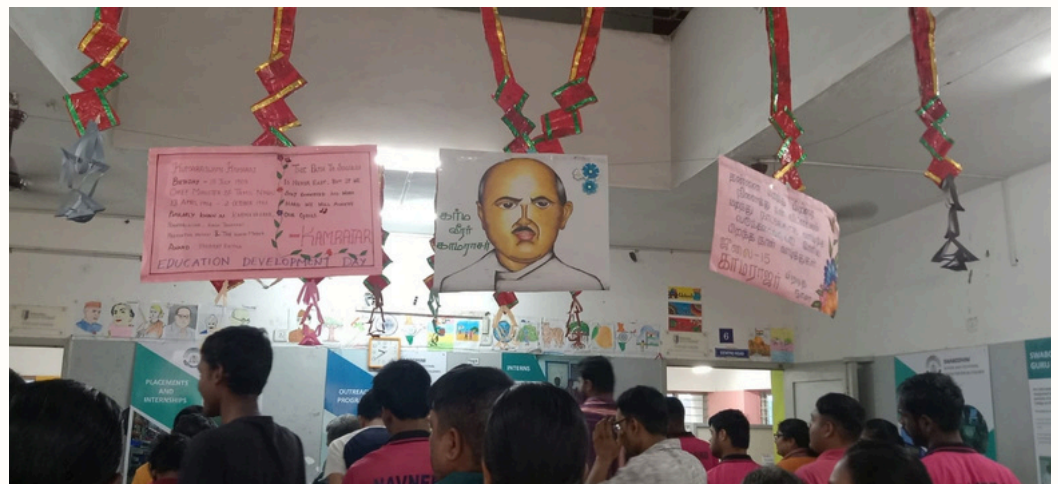
MEETING WITH THE HON'BLE SPEAKER OF THE TAMIL NADU LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

The Heads of Swabodhini had the honour of meeting Thiru J.C.D. Prabhakar, Hon'ble Speaker of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly. The meeting provided an opportunity to present Swabodhini's mission and ongoing initiatives in the field of special education, therapy, vocational training, and assisted employment for individuals with autism and developmental disabilities. It was a meaningful interaction that strengthened our commitment to creating a more inclusive and supportive society.



CELEBRATING K. KAMARAJAR'S BIRTHDAY

Swabodhini celebrated the birth anniversary of K. Kamarajar to honour his remarkable contributions to education and society. Students enthusiastically coloured and drew portraits of the great leader, while teachers shared inspiring insights about his life, values, and achievements, helping students understand the importance of education, leadership, and service.



PARTICIPATION IN THE 3RD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON COMPREHENSIVE EDUCATION (ICCE 2026)

The Heads of Swabodhini and our Special Educators participated in the 3rd International Conference on Comprehensive Education (ICCE 2026), hosted by Patrician College of Arts and Science, Chennai, from 23rd to 25th July 2026. The conference, themed "Empowerment Beyond Barriers: Global Perspectives on Education, Development and Innovation for Individuals with Disabilities," provided valuable insights into inclusive education, emerging practices, and innovative approaches to supporting individuals with disabilities. The sessions offered an enriching platform for professional learning, networking, and knowledge exchange.



DISTINGUISHED VISIT TO SWABODHINI

Swabodhini was honoured to welcome Prof. Sudhakar Balachandran, who visited our Thiruvannamiyur and Velachery centres. During his visit, he interacted warmly with our students, observed the various programmes and activities, and had an insightful discussion with the Swabodhini team.



STUDENTS' SPORTS DAY FINALS

The Students' Sports Day Finals were successfully conducted across all centres, with enthusiastic participation from our students. The events provided an opportunity for students to showcase their physical abilities, determination, and sportsmanship in a fun and encouraging environment. The competitions reflected the confidence, teamwork, and perseverance of our students, making the event a memorable experience for everyone involved.



VISITORS TO OUR THIRUVANMIYUR CENTRE



We were delighted to welcome Ms. Lalitha Chandrasekharan, Managing Director of Ramana Vidyalaya and her team, to our Thiruvanimiyur Centre. She had a fruitful discussion with our team and took the time to interact with our students. Her warm engagement and valuable insights made the visit a meaningful and enriching experience for everyone.

YI SPORTS MEET AT SDAT, CHETPET

Students from Swabodhini participated in the Yi Sports Meet held at SDAT, Chetpet, where they enthusiastically took part in various sporting events. The meet encouraged teamwork, confidence, and sportsmanship while providing an enjoyable and inclusive sporting experience.



EMPOWERING SKILLS THROUGH A NEW SEWING LAB

Our Velachery Centre had the pleasure of welcoming the Rotarians, who spent a wonderful and engaging time with our team and students. As part of their support towards skill development, a Sewing Lab is being set up at our Velachery Centre to enable our students to learn sewing and create a range of vocational products. This initiative will provide valuable hands-on training and encourage our students to develop practical skills that can lead to greater opportunities for self-employment and livelihood



CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF INDEPENDENCE

Our centres celebrated India's Independence Day with great enthusiasm and patriotic spirit. Students and staff came together for a day filled with meaningful activities and celebrations, with parents also joining us and adding to the joy of the occasion. Their participation made the celebration even more special, fostering a wonderful sense of togetherness and community while inspiring our students to cherish the values of freedom, unity and national pride.



STALL-GREAT LAKES INSTITUTE, ECR, MANAMAI VILLAGE



EXPLORING THE WORLD OF SHIPS AT CHENNAI PORT



Our Tondiarpet Centre students had an exciting and memorable opportunity to visit Chennai Port, where they explored the port and got a chance to visit and step inside the vessels. The students were thrilled to experience the ships up close and enjoyed learning through this unique visit. It was an enriching experience that gave them a glimpse into the fascinating world of maritime operations.

A heartfelt thank you to Chennai Port for welcoming our students and making this wonderful experience possible!



38TH ANNUAL SPORTS DAY – CELEBRATING ABILITY, ENERGY & TEAM SPIRIT



Swabodhini School and Vocational Centre for Special Children celebrated its 38th Annual Sports Day with great enthusiasm on 27th August 2026 at Babu Jagjivan Ram Sports Complex, Tondiarpet. The event brought together our students, staff and well-wishers for an afternoon filled with energy, excitement and sporting spirit.

The programme began with the March Past, Flag Hoisting and Lighting of the Torch, followed by Yoga, Aerobics and Drill performances by our students. The day continued with a variety of individual and group games, giving every student an opportunity to participate, showcase their abilities and enjoy the spirit of healthy competition.

The event was honoured by the presence of Shri. Balakrishna S, Industrialist, Educationist and Social Contributor, Managing Director of Sri Lakshmi Saraswathi Mills and President, Rotary Club of Madras, as the Chief Guest.

The celebrations concluded with prize distribution, a Vote of Thanks and the National Anthem, leaving everyone with wonderful memories of a day that celebrated not just sporting achievements, but the confidence, determination and abilities of every child.



OUR STUDENTS SHINE AT SIRAGUGAL

The Rotary Club of United Chennai organised “Siragugal,” a vibrant event that brought together children to celebrate their talents and creativity. Our students participated enthusiastically in various cultural programmes, showcasing their confidence, skills and joyful spirit. It was a wonderful platform for our children to express themselves, discover their talents and create cherished memories.



CELEBRATING THE SPIRIT OF ONAM



OUR STUDENTS SHINE AT THE ANBALAYA SPORTS MEET



JOYFUL BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Swabodhini celebrated the birthdays of students and staff with joy and togetherness across all centres. The celebration brought smiles, laughter, and memorable moments as everyone came together to make the occasion special

