

HOME AND WELFARE

Children in 'Home'

The Home maintains 70 children at the moment. However, the figure fluctuates. It has been the trend that these children were brought in by their single parents, relatives or guardians, all of them for various reasons beyond their control. The Case Investigation Unit under the Home and Welfare Sub-Committee attends to admission of wards as well as to their discharge. They are housed in 4 dorms according to their respective age-groups and gender.

Day-Care Programme

Taking into consideration the current situation, the PLS also providing day-care facilities at its premises for 15 children. This Day care programme helps to accommodate more children who needs attention after school to spend their time in tuition classes. Activities centered on character building are also being carried out to these children while they are at PLS.

There are also 2 cases of disowned and mentally challenged persons. Up-to-date the Society has maintained about 2000 children of all races and creeds.

All children go to national or national-type schools. There are a few who have been put to vocational education.

IN-HOUSE ACTIVITIES

Yoga class

Yoga classes are conducted by two experienced volunteers from Malaysia Yoga Society. The class is conducted for two hours, once a week, for all the wards. The senior boys and senior girls have their classes on alternate weeks.

Silambam

A professional instructor conducts silambam training for 20 selected wards, once a week. Classes for the senior boys are held separately at the Boys' Wing. Two of the senior children have green belts, the others are wearing white belts.

Bharatha Natyam – Indian Classical Dance

Selected junior and senior children attend Bharatha Natyam classes conducted by a professional instructor once a week for two hours per session. There is also a volunteer instructor who gives classes for 2 hours a week.

Art Class

An instructor conducts art lessons for two hours every Tuesday at the Main Wing for selected children who are interested in art work. Children involved in the class have produced various items such as 'thank you' cards, artificial flowers and oil paintings. Re-cyclable material is also used to produce handicraft.

Indoor Games

Indoor games are played during rainy days when the children stay indoors. Play/work stations have been set up in individual dorms and closely supervised by House Mothers, the Warden and the Educational Facilitator. We have carom, chess, puzzles and crosswords.

Sewing Class

The in-house sewing instructress, teaches needle work and tailoring for children who show interest in this field. The objective of this program is to provide hands-on training for our children, in order to equip them with basic tailoring skills. Besides tailoring, handicraft-based intricate needlework is produced for sale at Charity Bazaars.

“Life in Gardening” Skills

All the senior children and some selected junior ones “become gardeners” three times a week for about an hour. These children have the benefit of learning about caring for the environment while they “green” the earth. This activity, besides giving us a good supply of vegetables for the table, helps the environment under the “Green Earth” policy.

Counselling Classes

A licensed counsellor has been assigned to give counselling to selected wards. The counselling session is being conducted every Sunday for 2 hours. The counsellor gives monthly reports on the progress of counselling to enable better monitoring of the children’s psychological condition.

HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Meals

The Home provides wholesome and nutritious vegetarian food for the children. Meals are usually served with soups and salads; home-baked bread for breakfast. Fruits and milk at supper, is a must.

Games Hour

It is not always ‘all work and no play’. Evenings, after tea, are ‘play time’ slots. Children take to the little playground in the main wing of PLS, playing football, netball, just catching and running to expend their energy. The senior boys also do the same at the Boys Wing.

FACILITIES

Laundry

Has been set up to wash curtains and bed line for all the residents and clothes of the children, 13 and below.

Library

There is a large library with a huge collection of selected books. There is also a junior library for the children, which is used on a daily basis. The culture of reading is being slowly inculcated in the children. We need more volunteers in this area.

Computer Literacy

We have 2 computer laboratories. One is in the Main Complex which was set up by one of our members who is a qualified ICT Consultant. The other laboratory is in the Boys' Wing which was funded by the German Embassy. The senior children make use of the laboratories for their school projects.

Sewing & Handicraft

All children are taught needlework in batches and the older children are taught tailoring after school hours. The Sewing and Handicraft Centre is well equipped with 12 sewing machines. This section is in charge of a paid Sewing Instructress.

Bread-making

Bread is baked twice a week at our in-house bakery for the consumption of our children and staff. The first batch of staff have been trained at a recognized bakery.

PARENTS AND GUARDIAN'S DAY

The Pure Life Society organizes a Parents' Day Celebration and Prize-giving day in December every year. The children showcase their talent and gives a few performances. Selected children also received awards for their good academic performance, skills and good behavior during the programme.

'MEET THE PARENTS' DAY

Interacting with Parents/Guardians

"Meet-the Parents" sessions had seen good turn-out of parents/guardians. These sessions were mostly interactive, with participants being briefed on PLS programmes for their children, their roles and responsibilities towards assisting the Society in children's upbringing and other relevant information. Such sessions are held periodically.

Visitation

Parents / guardians are permitted to visit their children, once a week on Sundays. They are permitted to interact with their children and even allowed to take them out of PLS for their bonding sessions. The visiting hours are from 1.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.