

CHINMAYA PRADĪPIKĀ

CMSD QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



IN THIS ISSUE

Chinmaya Mahāsamādhi Ārādhānā Celebrations	2
18th Annual Summer Youth Camp	8
Refreshing Return to 2022-23 BV/SV Program	20
Mahātmā Visits Our Āsrama	21
Guru Pūrṇimā Celebrations	22
Śrī Kṛṣṇa Janmāṣṭami	26
Celebrating Gaṇeśa Caturthī	30
New CMSD Members Speak	33
Meet and Greet for New Member Families	34
CMSD Ongoing Events	36
CHYK Corner	37
BV/SV Corner	38
Navarātrī Begins...	41

The key features of this quarter are tribute to Pujya Gurudev on the 29th Chinmaya Mahāsamādhi Ārādhānā Day and CMSD's 18th Annual Summer Youth Camp. Also included in the issue are *Guru Pūrṇimā*, *Śrī Kṛṣṇa Janmāṣṭami* and *Ganesh Caturthī* celebrations. Reflections from the Eighth Annual Alumni CHYK Meet on “The Power of *Satsaṅga*” and messages from new CMSD members are also portrayed.



THE MASTER SPEAKS

“In all worthwhile undertakings, there will be risks of failure, of disappointments, even of disaster. To face them all with inner poise and firm faith is to discover the glory of final victory. A Conquest, without facing dangers, is as dull as Victory without a shining glory. A game without a prize!”

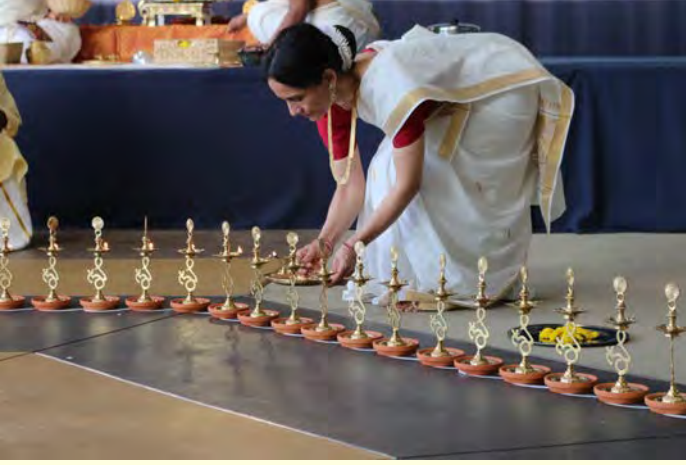
Chinmaya Mahāsamādhi Ārādhānā Celebrations



August 3, 2022, marked the 29th Chinmaya Mahāsamādhi Ārādhānā Day and the ninth Anniversary of *Chinmaya Jyoti āśrama*. The entire courtyard at CMSD was glowing in white with all members dressed in traditional Kerala outfits. As per CMSD tradition, Chinmaya Jyoti lamp was lit at 5:45 PM, the exact time Pujya Gurudev left his mortal body 29 years ago in San Diego.



Chinmaya Mahāsamādhi Ārāadhanā Celebrations



Lakshmi Aunty performed *pādūkā pūjā* with melodious chanting of *aṣṭottaraśatanāmāvali*, and the *aṣṭalakṣmīs* concurrently lighted the 108 jyotis.



Chinmaya Swaranjali offered various compositions and *bhajans* in honor of Pujya Gurudev. Children were invited on stage to partake in the special *pūjā* by offering their *sevā*.

Chinmaya Mahāsamādhi Ārādhana Celebrations



On this auspicious day, **Lakshmi Aunty** shared the news of the arrival of *Śrī Dakṣiṇāmūrti* to our āśrama on **July 20, 2022**. CMSD is grateful to Drs. Prasad and Vinoda Kaipa (from Bay Area) for this extremely generous gift.



Chinmaya Mahāsamādhi Ārāadhanā Celebrations

Yet another special announcement was made to welcome the newly appointed CMSD Board members, **Prem Venkatesan, Senthil Chelladurai and Hema Subburaman.**



Swami Swaroopananda's message on this special day touched all the hearts. “Even if we eternally keep on writing the glory of our *Guru* - it would not be exhausted. When we feel that indescribable glory - then truly we have become HIS glory. Such a *Guru* never departs but HE remains alive in all our hearts transforming our lives. Pujya Gurudev lives ever - everywhere, in every part of the mission, in the hearts of all those who serve!”

The celebration culminated with *ārati* and sumptuous *mahā prasādam*, prepared by all the *sevikā*-s.

Chinmaya Mahāsamādhi Ārādhana Celebrations



Kauvery Bhalla, a special guest from Chinmaya Mission - Mumbai observed, “When Chinmaya Mission was founded in 1953; for the initial 10 to 15 years there was no *ācārya*, and yet the mission blossomed to such a magnitude. Pujya Gurudev’s secret recipe was to inspire householders to take up to the path of spirituality, undertake spiritual study classes and do *sevā* for the mission. Today *Chinmaya Jyoti* resonates with similar enthusiasm! Under Pujya Gurudev’s grace and blessings, so many householders play various roles and take an active part in doing *sevā* - making this special day a grand event.”



Chinmaya Mahāsamādhi Ārāadhanā Celebrations

Bose Babu recollected, “I started with Pujya Gurudev’s first lecture in Chicago in 1979. My spiritual growth is only because of Pujya Gurudev. My great reverence and gratitude to Chinmaya Mission and Pujya Gurudev.”

Hanumanth Rao shared, “We have been with CMSD since 2005. We are really fortunate to be associated with the mission - learning and growing. The *pūjā* was excellent, and the message from **Swami Swaroopananda** was wonderful. We bask in HIS glory and should do more *sevā* and achieve more together.”

Jayantibhai Patel reminisced, “Chinmaya Mission has changed my life completely and I will not miss this special day no matter where I am in the world!”

For **Swarna Navubothu**, “It was a blessing to attend this event at CMSD. Swami Swaroopananda’s message on Pujya Gurudev stayed with me. If I see *Guru’s* glory everywhere, I also become HIS glory.”

Vrja Kaabra, who recently moved to Escondido from San Jose, expressed, “ My experience was divine. This was my first time attending this event, and I was completely lost in the melody of the *bhajans* and the whole event was beautiful from start to finish.”

Rajasekar Vaidyanathan experienced a feeling of awe and gratitude on this special occasion. He further added, “The longer I live, the more I realize that my own ability is really limited, it is only through the grace of *Guru* and the Lord all good things happen in my life.”

CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp

In anticipation of the five-yearly grand *mastaka abhiṣekam* worship of Lord *Hanumān* at Sidhbari on **October 10, 2022**, CMSD conducted its Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp titled “**Superman Hanumān.**” The one week Summer Camp commenced with an orientation on **August 7, 2022**, and concluded on **August 12, 2022**.



Children were immersed in inspiring stories of *Hanumān*, from his birth through all of his great endeavors and achievements. It was an insightful learning week to see how Auntie gauged children’s thinking by posing apt questions, and then extracting answers from them; thereby making the learnings their very own! The entire *gurukula* way of learning created a deeper impact on the minds of all, and children were transported to *Hanumānji’s* era reliving all HIS adventures and exploring HIS superpowers! This experience enabled the possibility of Transformation and not just gathering Information.

CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp



All the campers chanted chapter 15 of the *Bhagavadgītā* during lunchtime, and proceeded for a wholesome lunch. The *mantras* from *Taittirīya Upaniṣat*, *annam na nindyāt...* were also recited daily. **Lakshmi Aunty**, by explaining their purport, brought everyone's attention to how our scriptures guide us in our everyday living. There were responsibilities allocated to various children for cleaning the dishes and clearing the tables after lunch, which reinforced the values into actions.



CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp



CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp

Throughout the week **Aunty** creatively brought in the different values of *Hanumānji* and weaved it through in depth discussions, active storytelling, impromptu activities, *bhajans* and crafts. Afternoon time involved free play, arts and crafts activities. This year the art and craft projects included creating *pavan cakra* that symbolizes the harnessing power of wind, poster making and coloring.



CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp

Everyday children gathered around **Aunty** for a fun-filled courtyard story time.



CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp



For **Saatvic Mahesh**, “An experience that I enjoyed at summer camp is when we enacted *Sūrya devatā* and *Hanumānji*. In order to receive the highest knowledge, *Hanumānji* had to face his *Guru* and keep moving backwards as *Sūrya devatā* moved. What I learned from this is that we should always be determined to learn at the feet of our *Guru* despite the obstacles we face!”



CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp



Pujya Gurudev's vision resulted in the most striking feature of the Sidhbari *āśrama* - a unique 25-foot high idol of Lord *Hanumān*. The son of the Lord of the Wind successfully kept at bay the strong winds that flew throughout the region, allowing the construction of the *āśrama*.

During the summer camp, children enjoyed watching the video presentation of the *mastaka abhiṣekam* of Lord *Hanumān* performed in **October 2017**.

Achintya Puttur shared, "This year's camp was all about *Hanumān* – super energetic and so much fun. My favorite part was when we did *bhajans*, especially when I got to play *Mṛdaṅgam*. The food was not only super good tasting, but also very nutritious." For **Devadarshini Rajendran**, "I really liked the *bhajans* because they were beautiful and easy to memorize."

Isha Popat added, "I learned so many new stories about *Hanumānji* and how I can be more like him. Through learning more about him I have started loving him even more!"

Anshika Hariharan expressed, "This is my third camp at CMSD and so far, this is my favorite summer camp.... Learning about Sidhbari *āśrama* was close to my heart."

The summer camp culminated with a beautiful *Sundarakāṇḍa pūjā* on **August 20, 2022** wherein all the campers along with their families participated in the *Hanumān Aṣṭottaraśatanāmāvali*, followed by chanting *Hanumān Cālīsā* and *Saṅkaṭa Mocana Śrī Hanumān Aṣṭakam*. It was a delight to watch all children actively participate in the *Sundarakāṇḍa pāṛāyaṇa* followed by singing, dancing, *ārati* and delicious *prasādam*.



CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp



In **Hema Rajendran's** words... "Superman *Hanumān* summer camp was an extraordinary experience.... we went into depth about the subtle meanings and representations behind the stories, and how they can apply to our daily lives. *Hanumānji's* humility, devotion, and eloquence of speech are all just a few of the many qualities we learnt. After this camp, I am truly inspired by Lord *Hanumān's* miraculous feats and aspire to become like him."

Gira Pandya, BV Teacher, observed, "The most important thing I am taking away is the teaching quality from **Aunty**, how to engage children each and every moment without losing them mentally for even a second. And the special quality of *Hanumānji* - being a good student."

Sandhya Srinivasan, BV Teacher, shared, "When I heard about the camp theme, I was very curious as to what could be planned about *Hanumānji* for a whole entire week. Being there during the week, I saw for myself how wonderful the whole program was planned and executed. There was never a dull moment, each activity - be it stories, *bhajans*, lunch time, outdoor walk or enacting was a great source of inspiration and learning. There is much more for each one to take home and keep reflecting upon."

CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp

Children enjoyed free play during the afternoon hour.



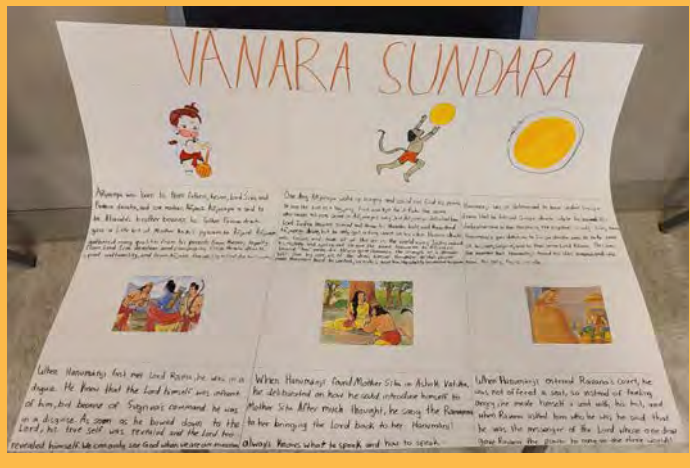
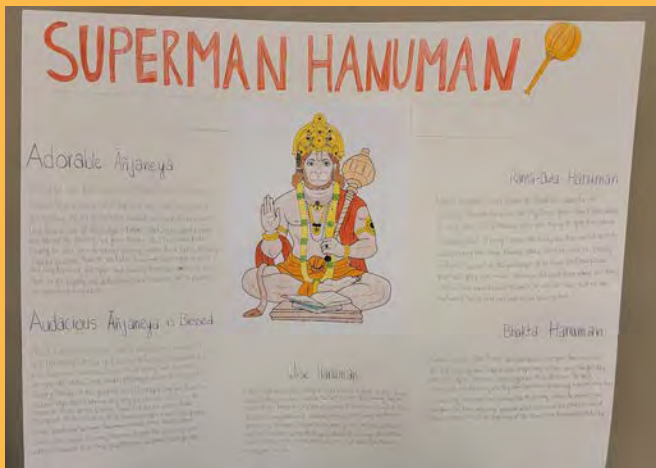
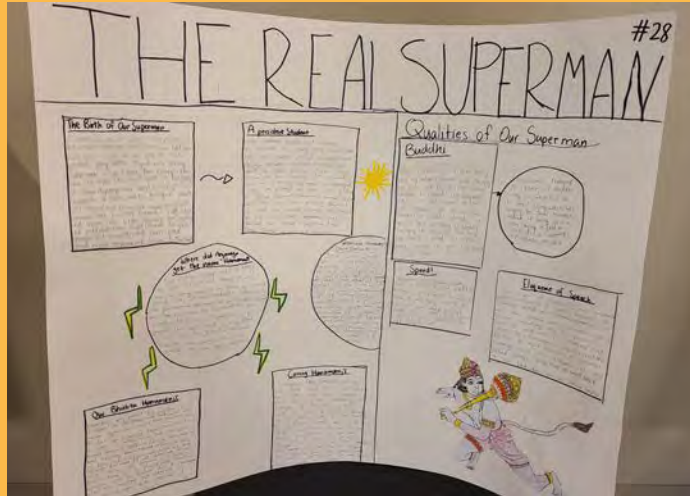
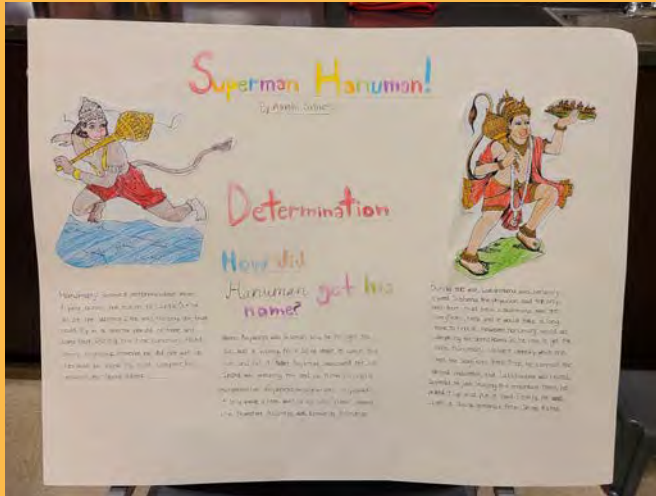
CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp

Outdoor hiking, yoga, āraṭi and pledge.

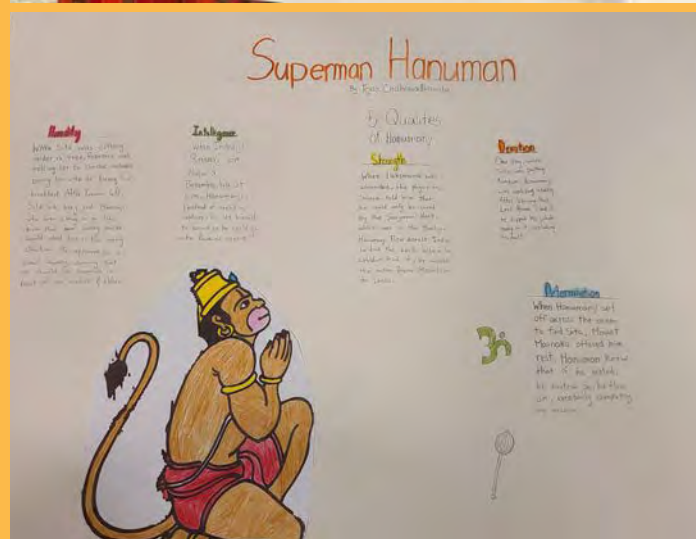
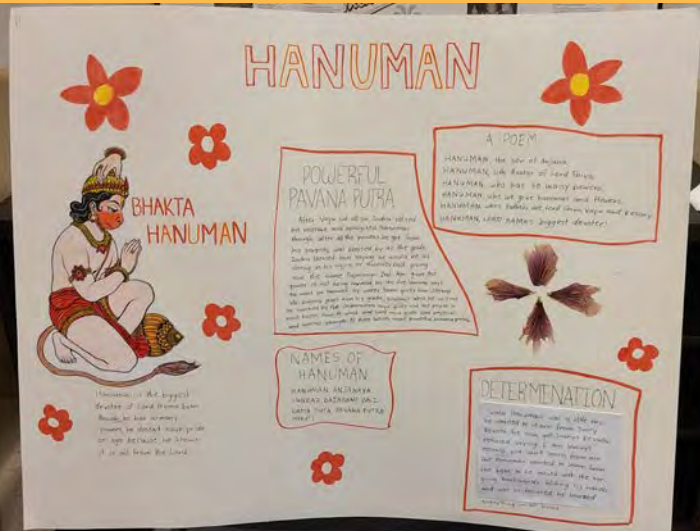
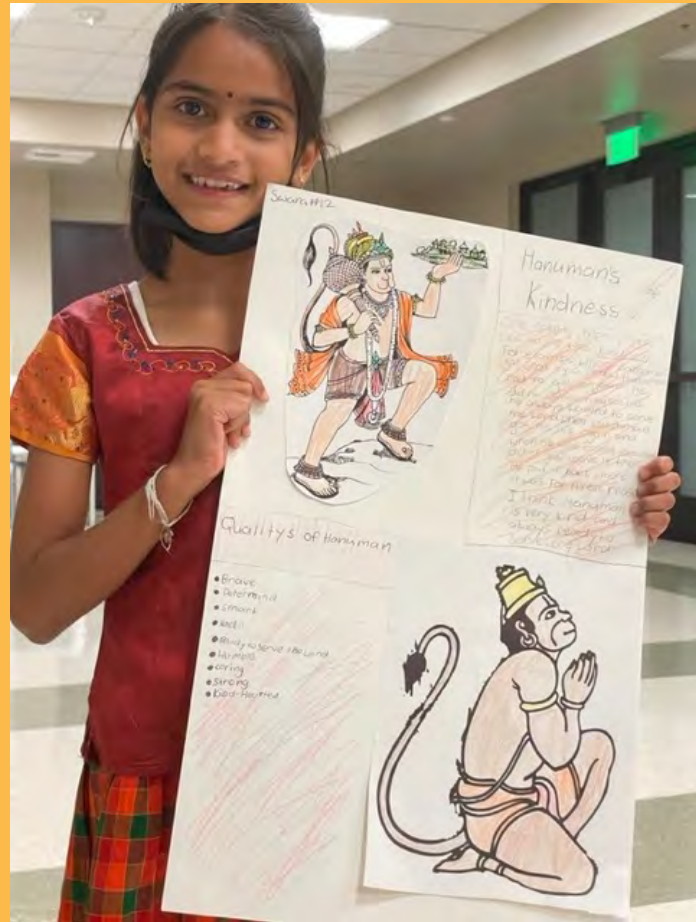


CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp

Summer Camp Art/Craft Presentation



CMSD Eighteenth Annual Summer Youth Camp



Refreshing Return to 2022-23 BV/SV Program



Refreshing Return to 2022-23 BV/SV Program



Bala Vihar, Shishu Vihar, and adult sessions at CMSD commenced on **August 21, 2022**, beginning with *jayati jayati bhārata mātā*, a tribute to the glorious and compassionate Mother India. **Lakshmi Aunty** addressed the audience with a welcome note followed by a question: “What do you want the most in life?” The audience responded with “freedom” and “happiness.” All the summer campers, in their bright red camp T-shirts, portrayed the true meaning of freedom and happiness through stories about Superman *Hanumān* and sang “the Blessed Son of *Añjanā*.” Always at the service of *Bhagavān Rāma*, this superhero experiences true happiness.

Arushi Bharadwaj, Grade 11 student from the audience expressed, “After learning about Superman *Hanumān* from all the campers, all of us are inspired to find our inner superpowers by attending Bala Vihar!”

Mahātmā Visits Our Āśrama

In **July 2022**, a couple of CMSD Member families organized a *Śrīmad Bhāgavata Saptāh* in the local San Diego area by "Thakurji" Shri Krishna Chandra Shastri of Vrindavan. Thakurji fondly remembered meeting Pujya Gurudev many years ago and enthusiastically visited *Chinmaya Jyoti āśrama* on **July 3, 2022**.



Guru Pūrṇimā Celebrations

The special day of *Guru Pūrṇimā* was celebrated on **July 13, 2022** in the presence of **Swami Keshavananda** of Sanatan Seva Mandal, Dwarka. Swamiji was ceremoniously welcomed with *pūrṇa kumbha* and garland. Pujya Gurudev's *aṣṭottaraśatanāmāvali* was offered with utmost faith and reverence to Guru *pādukā*-s. Swamiji glorified Pujya Gurudev's achievements and how he was inspired by his Advaita philosophy. He felicitated **Lakshmi Auntie** and **Sukumar Uncle** with a shawl and a divine tapestry. Swamiji's simple yet powerful message about love, compassion and kindness towards all touched everyone's heart.



Guru Pūrṇimā Celebrations



Sri Bose Babu Mandava and Sukumar Uncle honored Swamiji with a shawl and **Lakshmi Auntie** presented him with Pujya Gurudev silver coin.

Guru Pūrṇimā Celebrations



The celebrations concluded with *bhajans*, *ārati*, *prasādam* and *bhikṣā*.

Nita Halker shared, “Swamiji's simplicity and purity of heart was evident in his speech. Pujya Gurudev's presence could be felt as he quoted *Bhagavadgītā* verses. Apart from the delicious food, Swamiji's words of blessings and guidance felt like the ultimate *prasādam*.”

Śrī Kṛṣṇa Janmāṣṭami



The tiny footprints of *bāla Gopāla* lead all to the beautiful and melodious *Kṛṣṇa Janmāṣṭami* celebrations at our *āśrama* on **August 19, 2022**. **Lakshmi Aunty** and *sevikā-s* - **Lavanya** and **Priya** offered *arcanā* to *bāla Kṛṣṇa*, adorned on a lotus-like seat. The Lord was offered delicious *naivedyam* including his all-time favorite homemade butter.

Śrī Kṛṣṇa Janmāṣṭami



Chinmaya Swaranjali offered beautiful *bhajans* loved by all including *Gopāla Gopāla*, *Śrī Rādhē Govinda* and *he muralī sṛīdhara*. Songs were also offered by the children present.



Everyone danced to the all-time favorite *Cilaṅga Keṭṭi*.



Śrī Kṛṣṇa Janmāṣṭami

Late into the night, **Lakshmi Aunty** narrated the story of the Lord's birth to the children who eagerly surrounded her. Little children as well as adults rocked the *Jagadguru* to the singing of *Lāli*. May the beloved *Guru* of the entire universe protect us all!



Madhu Bathija shared, “Śrī Kṛṣṇa Janmāṣṭami celebrations at the āśrama this year brought back all the sweet memories from “Kṛṣṇam Vande Jagadgurum” production...It is always an honor to witness the entire *pūjā vidhi* and the stories from **Lakshmi Aunty** that keep kids engaged. The *prasādam* was just perfect, with the right amount of sweetness and the fresh butter was so good.”



Śrī Kṛṣṇa Janmāṣṭami



Ramya Balasubramanian recollected, “The whole atmosphere felt charged with *bhakti* and the children and adults spontaneously danced *Garbā* around the Lord. As if to welcome the Birth of the Lord, there were fireworks in the sky.....and the celebrations concluded around midnight with children and adults gently rocking Baby *Kṛṣṇa* to sleep.”

Sumathi Iyengar added, “My toddler daughter enjoyed the *bhajans* and rocking baby *Kṛṣṇa* to sleep. She loved eating lots of butter *prasādam*.”

Celebrating *Gaṇeśa Caturthī*

CMSD conducted Clay *Gaṇeśa* Workshop on **August 27, 2022**, in the festive spirit of celebrating the birth of Lord *Gaṇeśa*.



Celebrating *Gaṇeśa Caturthī*

The *Gaṇeśa Caturthī* experience at CMSD on **August 31, 2022**, was inclusive and diverse, highlighting different traditions and languages. The Lord was adorned in *Rakta Raṅga* against a backdrop of beautiful purple and white flower garland.



Lakshmi Aunty explained each step in the *pūjā*, which helped understand why we do what we do, making it a unique experience.

Celebrating *Gaṇeśa Caturthī*



The children's involvement was an icing on the cake. The collective chanting of *mantra*, *bhajans*, and dancing was a fun and relatable way to celebrate Lord *Gaṇeśa's* birthday.



New CMSD members, **Vivek & Raakhee**, shared, “Our son made his first *Gaṇeśa* idol and it certainly piqued his interest in this celebration.... It was so nice to see our future generations holding to our roots of traditions, which will instill values to help them grow up as good contributing citizens of any community.”

Another new member, **Suchira**, reflected, “...the vibrations in the room created such a peaceful and serene atmosphere. My daughter was so immersed in listening to the *bhajans* and songs while clapping throughout the performance. It is always so special to celebrate *Gaṇeśa Caturthī* back home and today I felt so happy to celebrate along with this very welcoming Chinmaya family.”

For **Subha and Balaji Subramanian**, “Our experience of celebrating *Gaṇeśa Caturthī* this year at CMSD was one of complete bliss. We are grateful to the *sevak-s* and *sevika-s* who give so selflessly and help us soak in the oneness of our extended Chinmaya family under his divine grace.”

Chitra Ramu expressed, “During the *pūjā* the amount of energy and contentment that I felt inside of me was tremendous. I believe that was only possible because of the united positive energy...The more we chant, the merrier we can ever be!”

New CMSD Members Speak

Classroom orientation for all BV parents was held on **September 18, 2022**. All the parents were welcomed in their child's classroom, and following are some of the reflections shared by new CMSD Members:

Raga Marupilla, “I am so grateful that we are here.....my kid is able to identify with other kids from our culture...I am certain my kid will be proud to say I am a Hindu and promote Hinduism.”

Poonam Tiwari, “....We face so many daily challenges and CMSD is helping with guarding our pure thoughts through the knowledge provided here. I am sure in the future our kids will say we are proud to be Hindus, and CMSD will take us towards that journey.”

Meera & Prem Sinha, “We just started this year....Fantastic experience so far...We wish we were already part of CMSD earlier.”

Bhamini Gobiraj, “I was going through the teachings of Hinduismwhen I learned that for one on a spiritual journey, association with spiritual people is required. Since I was in CMSD a decade earlier, I knew I had to re-register.”

Akanchha Kesari, “We have been associated with Chinmaya Mission for the last six years at a different center. Chinmaya Mission is part of our life and we cannot imagine a day without talking about Gurudev and his teachings...”

Ruchitha Rao, “It is a great place for my daughter to learn about our culture and values that will help her grow and use them in her life. My daughter is having a great time listening to the stories, chanting and doing crafts.”

Shobhna Srivastava, “I feel it is an opportunity for my family to get connected with Chinmaya Mission. I can already see a lot of difference in my kids..... I look forward to growing with Indian Values and Culture as a family through Chinmaya Mission.”

Preeti Sadhu, “We truly believe that *Chinmaya Jyoti* participation will help us with our inner transformation. We are so happy to be a part of the Chinmaya Family.”

Akshit, “.....there is a lot to know, learn and embed in our daily life for all. We as a family must utilize this opportunity to refine our lifestyle, instilling values of our own culture. I regret joining here late, but as you said “**Better late than never.**”

Anita Sarkar, “...We felt at peace and learned from Lakshmi Aunty as she spoke about *Rāmāyana*. Thank you for this valuable experience.”

Divita Garg, “Shreya, my daughter, has started enjoying Bala Vihar so much that waking up on Sunday is not as difficult any more. She is also learning *mantras* and *bhajans*.”

New CMSD Members Speak

Aneel Maheedhara & Rajya Lakshmi Penumarti, “We are blessed to be part of Chinmaya Mission San Diego. We are learning so many teachings, scriptures, values and culture of our rich *Sanātana Dharma*.”

Ritu Chandiramani, “It is exciting as I have transitioned from learning with my child in SV to now learning the teachings of our valuable scriptures from Lakshmi Aunty. These come in handy to conduct ourselves in our daily lives.”

Dr. Manoj Hariharan, “The time I spend in *Praṇava Nilayam* feels like being so close to the Lord and I eagerly look forward to being there every Sunday...I also hope and wish that I can take time out of my daily routine to spend more time at the *āśrama*.”

Meet and Greet for New Member Families

On **September 18, 2022**, all the new CMSD Member Families were invited to the *āśrama* for a “Meet and Greet” with **Lakshmi Aunty** and **Sukumar Uncle**. It was an informal session open for Q & A. It indeed takes a whole village to raise a child, and the feeling was equally embraced by all present.



A new CMSD member, **Dr. Manoj Hariharan**, shared, “Right from the orientation session, we felt the positive energy of the *āśrama* and the commitment of the Teachers, *Sevika-s* and *Sevak-s*.....we were truly gratified to see our children come out excited and happy...”

For **Padma and Priyatham**, “The interest and dedication of the core team, **Sukumar Uncle** and **Lakshmi Aunty** is visible everywhere in the *āśrama*. We were able to get a clear picture of various classes being offered. We feel we found the right place for our kid to learn ethics, values and immerse in Hindu culture. Being new to San Diego we also felt, *Chinmaya Jyoti* provides an opportunity for support for the entire family!”



CMSD Ongoing Events

Monthly *Sundarakāṇḍa Pārāyaṇā*



July 30, 2022



August 20, 2022



September 24, 2022

CMSD Ongoing Events

Saṁskṛti Pālakās Meeting

The first Saṁskṛti Pālakās meeting for 2022 -23 year was on **September 25, 2022**. This month's theme focused on "**Strī Śakti - The Power Feminine**" on the occasion of *Navarātri*. The discussion focused on how Mothers play an important part in imparting dhārmik values within a family. The center of the discussion was beautiful examples of how mothers should inspire and encourage their children to be creative, and how various challenging situations can be optimized to strengthen a child's faith in the Almighty.

In **Anu Rajasekaran's** words, "We the Bala Vihar parents, if we enrolled in CMSD for the primary goal of the spiritual well-being of our children, **let us think twice**. We enroll our children here to get the REAL foundation in life. Attending the *Saṁskṛti Pālakās* gathering since Session 1, has opened my eyes as to how I could take some ownership of this process by equipping myself to play the roles as a good mother/teacher/friend/counselor/guide/companion, etc. in the true sense. We fancy being our child's best friend, which we should be (not an easy role to play forever), but we cannot forget/delegate the other roles. In my sincere attempts to fulfill the various roles, quite often they seem to become a huge burden I carry on myself. I realize that attending the *Saṁskṛti Pālakās* gathering gives me access to what in our healthcare world we refer to as the "Best Practices Protocol" (BPP), the "tried & tested" practices of my peers and more importantly, to validate it against the backdrop of our scriptures. **Lakshmi** in her expert style, weaves in the BPP tested over the millennia. Would this equip us with an unwavering action plan? Would this encourage us to better ourselves little by little? Would this lighten the burden we carry on ourselves? Would this benefit me? Would this benefit my family? Would this help my house become a home? Would this benefit our environment? We have an opportunity to find answers to a myriad of other questions that have been on our minds for a lifetime. I implore everyone to come explore!"



CHYK Corner

Eighth Annual CMSD CHYK Meeting

The theme of the CHYK Annual Meeting on **August 14, 2022** was **The Power of *Satsaṅga***. *Satsaṅga* means being in association with the Truth. It is different than *susaṅga*, which means being in good company or associating with goodness, while the focus of *satsaṅga* is higher.

Śrī Kṛṣṇa explains, in the *Bhagavadgītā*:

*dhyāyato viṣayān puṁsaḥ saṅgas teṣūpajāyate
saṅgāt sañjāyate kāmāḥ kāmāt krodho 'bhijāyate
krodhād bhavati sammohaḥ sammohāt smṛiti-vibhramāḥ
smṛiti-bhramśād buddhi-nāśo buddhi-nāśāt prañāśyati*

This verse describes how the fall begins with *viṣaya-saṅga* or association with the world and worldly objects. This leads to *kāma*, desire, which then results in *krodhā*, anger, and then *sammoha*, delusion and loss of discrimination to know right from wrong, and so on.

Śrī Ādi Śaṅkarācārya illustrates the rise of man in *Bhaja Govindam*:

*satsaṅgatve nissaṅgatvaṁ
niḥsaṅgatve nirmohatvaṁ*



CHYK Corner

From *satsaṅga* arises disassociation from attachment and *viśaya-saṅga*, and from this disassociation arises clarity of mind. Through *satsaṅga* the individual can rise. Bala Vihar students get to be in *satsaṅga* within their classrooms, listening to stories, learning the deeper symbolism, and pondering about the ultimate Truth. Even simply being in the class, listening to their teacher and peers, regardless of how much they absorb every week, the children will gradually inculcate good values and begin to introspect. That is the power of *satsaṅga*.

Aditi Puttur shared, “I learned about the power of *satsaṅga* and how it is shown in the fall and rise of man. I am happy that I got the opportunity to learn and discuss *satsaṅga* while being in *satsaṅga* at the Annual CHYK Meeting. I encourage all recent graduates, CHYKs, and alumni to join us next year!”

BV/SV Corner

BV Teachers’ Workshop

Lakshmi Aunty conducted a BV teachers’ Workshop on **September 5, 2022**. The workshop is a good reminder that all the teachers are *sevak-s/sevikā-s* of the noble mission that Pujya Gurudev started and it is a privilege to be able to serve here at CMSD. The first half of the workshop dealt with some of the things that have worked well in Bala Vihar and some things that need fine tuning and ways to improve. One of the most important takeaways is that this journey is about individual inner transformation and through this transformation, one can become an inspired *sevak/sevikā*.

Shishu Vihar Activities



BV/SV Corner

Shishu Vihar Activities



BV/SV Corner

Shishu Vihar Activities



Navarātrī Begins...



The nine nights of *Navarātrī* festivities commenced from **September 26, 2022**. All gathered at the *āśrama* on this day to chant *Gītā Dhyānam* and the first two chapters of *Śrīmadbhagavadgītā*. What a wonderful way of starting *Navarātrī* - chanting two chapters of the *Bhagavadgītā* each day!

For **Swarna Navubothu**, “*Gītā* Chanting is always an unexplainable experience for me. It is even more enhanced when chanting at our *āśrama* with all other sincere devotees of Lord *Kṛṣṇa*....I am ever thankful to Pujya Gurudev for giving me this opportunity and experience.”



On the fifth night of *Navarātrī*, **September 30, 2022**, CMSD families gathered for a special night of melodious *Devī Bhajans* offered by **Chinmaya Dhvani** and **Chinmaya Swaranjali**, followed by *ārati* and *prasādam*.

Navarātrī Begins...



Chinmaya Pradipika Team

Coordinator and Publisher: Manasi Popat and Parag Kelkar

Contributors: Smita Bhatia, Arushi Bharadwaj, Aditi Puttur, Sumathi Iyengar, Vivek Gangadharan, Madhu Bathija, Mona Pandya, Ritu Chandiramani, Deepa Rungta, CMSD Photography Team.