THULIR TRUST

5/971, Kaliyankottai
village,
Velanur PO, Sittilingi Panchayat,
Theerthamalai SPO, Harur Taluk,
Dharmapuri Dt., TN
636906
Phone :+91 96554 82919

Website: www.thulir.org
Email: thulir@gmail.com

Annual Report 2021-2022
It has been a difficult year as we, along with the rest of the world, struggled to step onto the road towards normalcy after the historic pandemic! Difficult times often bring out our strength and creativity. Many new creative initiatives sprung up at Thulir too.

**Reopening after pandemic**

To the utmost relief of children and teachers, the school reopened on November 1st after almost two years of lockdown.

The need for a space where children could learn freely was very evident. There was tremendous growth in their learning curve within two months compared to the time when they could only attend village classes.

**Village classes**

During most of 2020 and 2021 our teachers conducted decentralised classes in 7 village centres. Dadampatti, Naikuthi, Palakuttai, Sittilingi, Kaliyankottai, Thanda and Rettakuttai. Almost 140 to 200 children attended. Children from government and other private schools also attended these classes.

**Transport to school**

The parents found it difficult to bear the transport costs in the aftermath of the pandemic. The school had to support their transport costs.
They had requested a private minibus which operates in the valley to help bring the children. This worked for a few months but eventually it stopped. After that parents have taken initiative to find ways to bring children to school despite their financial hardships.

**Workshops for mothers**

A workshop was conducted to address the ever increasing parental anxieties regarding students’ learning. It was a hands-on workshop that covered aspects of child development, age appropriate learning, and activities to be done at home.

The response was very encouraging and there were requests to conduct more of these.

**Tree-planting**

Indigenous and endangered tree saplings were planted all over the campus by teachers, students and volunteers from Marudam. It was also accompanied by bird-watching and sharing notes with each other on local ecology.

**Rain**

The valley looks green and lush and beautiful thanks to the abundant rain in the last two years. Unfortunately most of the rain was unseasonal and very heavy; many farmers, our teachers and parents among them, lost their crops.

**Children with special needs**

Thulir now caters to three children with developmental delays. A one-day session followed by two week-long training in development paediatrics at CMC Vellore, has equipped the school to understand and help these children in a meaningful way. Two children underwent physiotherapy and occupational therapy at CMC Vellore for a longer duration.
Illam Thedi Kalvi
This scheme was introduced by the Tamil Nadu government during lockdown to address the learning gap. Volunteers from the village are appointed to teach children in the neighbourhood every evening.

Unfortunately, the graduates appointed as volunteers had no prior experience and struggled to teach a multi-level class. With permission from the CEO, we conducted training workshops for the volunteers from Sittilingi, Nammankadu, Palakuttai and Velanur villages. The guidance and resources were also provided via WhatsApp.

Interactions with government schools in the valley
Library materials were offered to government schools across the valley. It is a small step towards continuing support for quality education in government schools.

Classes in government schools
Teachers take turns to conduct weekly classes in two government schools in Nammankadu and Palakuttai.

Each school has around 50 children from classes 1 to 5. Our sessions include songs, stories, maths and science activities.
### Evening class in Palakuttai village

Suresh conducts evening classes every day in Palakuttai village for government school children. Around 12-15 students attend this Scholarship Fund.

Many students from Sittilingi are now going outside the valley to pursue higher studies. The fund supports a few deserving students who cannot afford the fees. Three girl students were supported this year. Two are studying nursing and one is doing engineering.

### Thulir alumni

A few of our alumni conducted sessions for various durations and on a variety of topics. Their personal growth and the willingness to give back to the community was very reassuring.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tamilnadu Education Network meeting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Six of us attended the two day meeting hosted by Payir Trust attended by 35 educators from all over Tamilnadu. We discussed our work and the challenges faced during the pandemic.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Government Approval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We had submitted our application to the Education Department in 2019. Our school was duly inspected and a positive report given by both the BEO and DEO. The office of CEO in Dharmapuri has asked us to get the DTCP (Department of Town and Country Planning) approval. The pandemic has delayed this process which is still going on.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trip to Marudam School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The teachers went to Marudam School to participate in their ecological projects. A group from Marudam then came to Sittilingi to follow the course of the Valathampatti Kombai waterfall and stream. This exchange and appreciation towards nature renewed the love and value for nature instead of taking it for granted.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Folk song and dance workshop

Thiru. Manimaran conducted a week-long workshop. He taught folk songs, dance and also multiplication tables through songs.

The event hosted by Runner’s High was a great learning opportunity for our children to interact with a community different from their own in many ways.

We have been able to bounce back with renewed vigour from the lockdown only because of the resilience among children, teachers and others from the community. And because of your continued support.

Thank you for helping us keep this spirit of giving and sharing alive and healthy.

Computer classes

Varun conducted classes to teach a basic programming tool for children called Scratch.

Anandayana Run

A group of 18 children attended an event inclusive of people with disabilities.
Donations can be transferred directly to Thulir's State Bank of India accounts.

**Indian donations:**
Account no: 31799396966,
Bank: State Bank of India,
Branch: Kottapatti Branch
IFSC code: SBIN0006244

Donations in India are tax exempt under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act. For donations from foreign countries, please mail us for details.

Please visit our website [http://www.thulir.org](http://www.thulir.org) for more details of our programmes.

Regular updates of our activities are also made in the blog site [http://www.thulir.org/wp/blog/](http://www.thulir.org/wp/blog/)

We welcome your comments; please mail us at thulir@gmail.com