



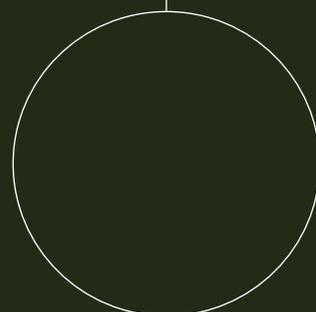
ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022



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PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Dear Friends & Patrons,

The pandemic has been a time of fear, uncertainty and many operational challenges for our school. I am happy we can look back at our responses with satisfaction and even pride - that we could do so much for our children.

Being in close proximity to the community we serve, as our contribution during the pandemic, we distributed food packets and face masks to the elderly and the children. While the challenges posed by the pandemic continued until and after school reopened, our team at Vidya Vanam put in sustained efforts to help the children learn, through online classes and many other measures. When the school reopened for different classes, the teachers breathed a sigh of relief to get an actual feel of the children's progress, needs and gaps, and devised individualised strategies and mechanisms, and worked hard to achieve the required levels.

We were encouraged by the visit of Ms. Judith Ravin, the US Consul General from Chennai, and other visitors. We are happy that our Director, Mrs. Prema Rangachary, and Vidya Vanam as a school are receiving good recognition in different forums for our unique pedagogy and for making a difference to the tribal and disadvantaged children.

When our first batch of XII standard students obtained admission into reputed colleges, it reinforced our philosophy of holistic and liberal education.

I visited Vidya Vanam in December 2021 and was greatly impressed with the art that children created using different mediums. The vocational training in automobile repair and food production that commenced recently is a major initiative in practical education.

I am proud that we are able to take care of the children's physical, mental and developmental needs. We strive for a fear-free, open and conducive atmosphere of learning. My full appreciation to all the teachers and staff who have made this possible.

Thanks to the generous donations from ZF Wind Power Private Limited and other donors, we were able to create a new indoor auditorium, an art block, a Montessori block and other classrooms.

The demands on us keep changing and we are responding suitably. We are able to rise to every occasion and are grateful for the cooperation of the parents and the large-hearted support we get from our overseas and local donors and well-wishers. It is a blessing that they share our dream to give our children and community a bright future.

We invite each and every one of you to visit us with your family and friends, interact with the children and encourage our staff. I assure you of a memorable time that you will cherish forever. We also request you to spread the word about the good work of Vidya Vanam, that is presented in this report. No words would be sufficient to describe the monumental work that is carried on here.

We are sorry to have lost a valuable Board member Mr Keshav Narasimham Desiraju in September. His support was unlimited and he was ever ready to help for any of our needs. We will miss him.

*Yours in the service of children
For Bhuvana Foundation*

*BHOOMA PARTHASARATHY
President*



ABOUT BHUVANA FOUNDATION



Bhuvana Foundation is a non-profit organisation founded in the year 2007. The Foundation is based in Anaikatti, Coimbatore and aims to provide comprehensive education and vocational training to the underprivileged and marginalised sections of society.



Vidya Vanam is the flagship project of Bhuvana Foundation. The school was started in 2007 with the aim of catering to the educational needs of the local tribal population. It is affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education and follows the NCERT curriculum. The school adopts a bilingual teaching approach, with classes conducted in Tamil and English.

The majority of the students are first-generation learners from communities in and around Anaikatti. Vidya Vanam prepares children for self-learning while acknowledging the rich cultural traditions of their village and the world in which they live. Here, each child is given the opportunity to form opinions and articulate them, thereby fostering a generation of unabashed dreamers.

VISION | To nurture tribal children to become self-confident, motivated, knowledgeable and emotionally stable adults who will be the leaders and entrepreneurs of tomorrow

MISSION | To provide a fear-free learning environment and a specially designed curriculum that integrates today's educational requirements with the community's unique needs

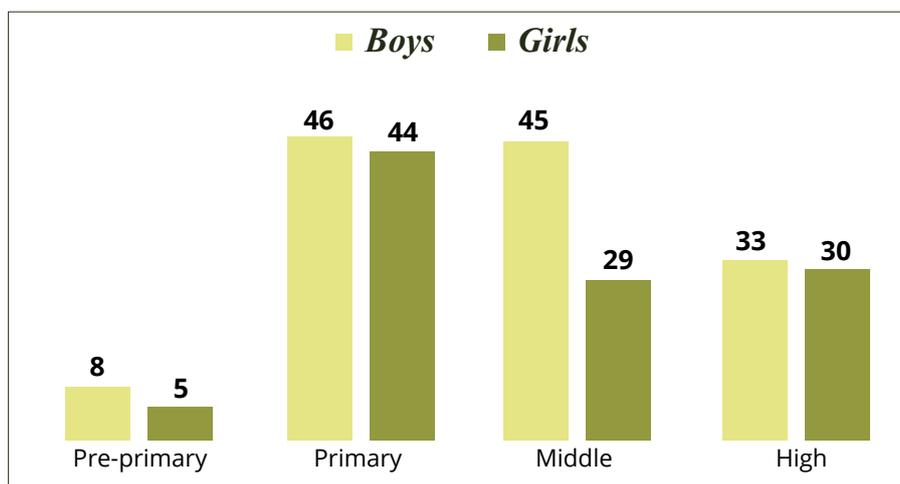
OBJECTIVES |

- To build an integrated personality; achieved only when the intellectual, emotional and the physical needs are fulfilled
- To build empathy for the environment, the community and all living creatures
- To ensure that children are free to voice their opinions, think critically and pursue their individual passions

STUDENTS & STAFF IN VIDYA VANAM

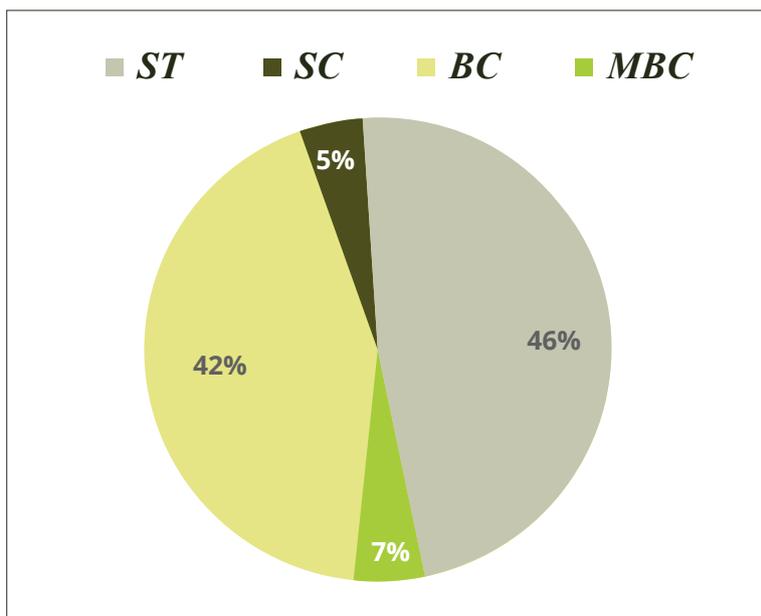
In 2007, Vidya Vanam started to function with 40 children with 4 teachers. Today, the student population at the school has increased upto 240 students. At present, the school has 29 full-time teachers and 20 non-teaching staff. Students are from the local tribal population, with a majority belonging to the Irula tribe, the Adi Dravidar communities and the OBC categories.

STUDENTS' PROFILE: GENDER DISTRIBUTION



Vidya Vanam's 240 children are distributed across LKG to Class 12, with 138 boys and 102 girls.

COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTION



Vidya Vanam has children from SC, ST, BC and MBC communities. They mainly hail from surrounding villages on both the Kerala and Tamil Nadu sides of the border.

NEW FACULTY LIST 2021-2022

NAME	SUBJECT
D. Baby	Montessori
R. Gomathi	EVS, Mathematics
J. Sajeela	Physical Education
A.K. Greeshma	Physics
V. Arockia Rajkumar	Chemistry
P. Rohini	Dance - Bharatanatyam
P.N. Arjoram	Carnatic Music
Vikash Sivaraman	Social Science
M. Lavanya	Mathematics
D. Gnanapriya	Computer Science
P. Karthikeyan	Automotive

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Excelling in Exams

In November 2021, over 40 students of Class X and XII successfully took the first set of CBSE Board exams. Both theory exams and practical exams were conducted, with students using the labs in keeping with all the COVID-19 protocols. On 1st April 2022, Class XII students appeared for the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) practical exams. In the second half of April, a second batch of Class X students appeared for the CBSE Board Exams as well.



Pursuing higher education

All the students who graduated from Class XII (2020-21 batch) secured admission in well-known institutions such as Kumaraguru College of Liberal Arts, Avinashilingam College for Women, Kongunadu College and Sri Ranganathar Engineering College in Coimbatore. They are pursuing their undergraduate degrees in Music, Food and Nutrition, Visual Communication, Engineering, English Literature and Clinical Psychology.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

The year 2021-22 was a celebratory one for our Director, Prema Rangachary. She was appointed as a member of the Indian Foundation for the Arts (IFA) committee to review the Art in Education programme. In April 2022, she also received the Women Achievers Award from the Indian Medical Association Women Doctors Wing, Coimbatore.



CELEBRATIONS AT VIDYA VANAM

Virtual Independence Day Celebrations

On August 15, 2021, India's 75th Independence Day was celebrated virtually. COVID-19 restrictions notwithstanding, students participated virtually with zeal. Their performances were live streamed to teachers, parents and other students.



Pongal Celebrations

On January 13, 2022, students and teachers celebrated Pongal, the Tamil harvest festival. The school was decorated with kolams (floor decorations made with colourful powders and flowers). Delicious Pongal was made and distributed.



Republic Day Celebrations

On January 26, 2022, Vidya Vanam celebrated the 73rd Republic Day virtually. Flag hoisting was conducted with COVID-19 related protocol in place and the National Anthem was sung. The entire event was live streamed for students to watch from their homes.

Junior School Annual Day

In April 2022, Vidya Vanam celebrated its Junior School Annual Day with students performing skits, songs and dances. Parents and senior students enjoyed the show.



Memorable Farewell Party

Students of Class XI gave their seniors from Class XII a memorable farewell party towards the end of April 2022. All the students and teachers participated enthusiastically in the program, which included music, dance, and games.



COMMUNITY SERVICE DURING COVID-19 TIMES

During the second phase of lockdown, food packets and face masks were distributed by Vidya Vanam to residents of nearby villages. Around 10 villages were covered and over 250 food packets were distributed to the elderly and young children during the pandemic.



DEVELOPMENTS AT SCHOOL

Spoken English Classes

In June 2021, Vidya Vanam organised Spoken English classes. These classes were conducted by the Director Prema Rangachary and Principal T.M. Srikanth. Three batches were held and over 50 people from across the country signed up for the class.

New indoor auditorium

On November 6, 2021, Vidya Vanam's new indoor auditorium was inaugurated. As a result of a generous donation from ZF WindPower Coimbatore Pvt. Ltd, Vidya Vanam's students now have access to a space to showcase their talent and host events. With support from other donors, we also inaugurated the art block, Montessori block and the other classrooms.



Vaccination Camp

On January 6, 2022, nurses and doctors from Primary Health Centre at Jambukandi conducted a vaccination camp at Vidya Vanam. This camp was especially targeted at students in the age group of 15-18.



Reopening of the School

Vidya Vanam reopened on February 1, 2022, after the government allowed schools to begin functioning after pandemic lockdowns. Following the COVID-19 protocols, students from all classes began to come regularly.

Art Exhibition

In December 2021, five students along with Somnath Hazra, a teacher in the Art department, went on a field trip to visit the Lokame Tharavadu in Alappuzha. There they participated in the art exhibition organised by the Kochi-Muziris Biennale Foundation.



Displaying students talents at an exhibition

In December 2021, the Art students participated in a pop-up exhibition held at Brookefields Mall, Coimbatore. They displayed their paintings, calendars and greeting cards. All the products they made were sold over the next four days.



An educational trip to Nilgiris Biosphere Nature Park

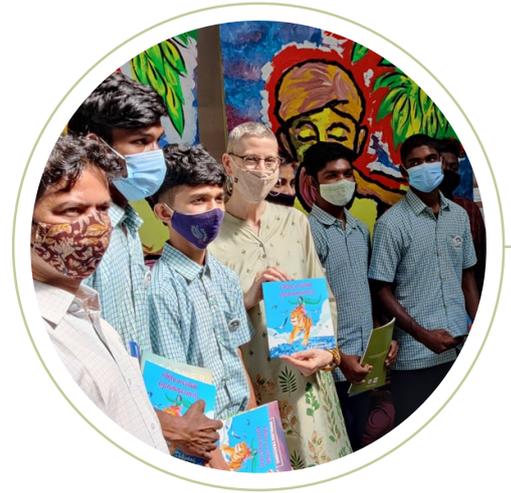
In March 2022, students from Classes VI, VII and VIII went on an excursion to the Nilgiris Biosphere Nature Park (NBNP) accompanied by the Vice Principal Prema S. During their trip, they saw different types of plants, trees, birds, insects, and herbs found in the Nilgiris.

Nature and art experience trip to Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History

In March 2022, students from Class IX went on a trip to visit the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON) for a day of nature and art experience. They were accompanied by Vidya Vanam's Science and Social Science teachers. Well known wildlife artist Lenin Raj explained the role of art in promoting conservation to the students. Through the day, the students learnt about spotting and identifying birds.

VISITS

On September 2, 2021, the U.S. Consulate General Judith Ravin visited Vidya Vanam with her team. She met the students and interacted with them. Students were happy to have a conversation with her and learnt a lot from her. She then distributed books to the students and encouraged them.



In November, the school hosted some young and enthusiastic visitors. Students from the Department of Social Work at Kumaraguru College of Liberal Arts visited Vidya Vanam to study its teaching methodology and interacted with the students and teachers.



In April 2022, school principals from across India visited Vidya Vanam. Through their visit and interactions with the students and teachers they got to know the school and its teaching methods better.



FUTURE PLANS

In the coming years, Vidya Vanam looks forward to bringing in plenty of resources to empower students. Particularly, we wish to:

- Enhance sports facilities by adding new and necessary equipment
- Introduce audio books in the library with the required infrastructure
- Expand kitchen facilities at school and augment the cooking facilities with steam cooking methods
- Equip the auditorium with a new and high quality audio system

FINANCIALS

EXPENSES	TOTAL (in INR)
Sports Articles	8708
Internet charges	33,803
Affiliation expenses	70,700
Events	91,061
Uniform expenses	1,54,014
Kitchen expenses	1,68,407
Vehicle maintenance	1,77,751
Staff welfare expenses	1,80,972
Educational training/excursion /workshop	3,00,928
Books, Stationery periodicals & examination fees	4,82,617
Building and garden maintenance	5,43,414
Food & refreshments	9,93,456
Honorarium & remuneration	22,39,730
Salary & wages	76,76,365
TOTAL	1,31,21,926

BOARD MEMBERS



**BHOOMA
PARTHASARATHY**
President



**PREMA
RANGACHARY**
Secretary



**Dr. SUBRAMANIAN
SRIRAM**
Ex-Officio President

TRUSTEES



**JAGDISH
DORE**



**NARAYANAN
SUBRAMANIAM**



**MANISH
SHAH**



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KANNAN**



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