



"End of education is character."

~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba

Dear Friends,

Loving Sairams!

Trust you and yours are doing well.

With Bhagawan's grace and blessings, we are happy to bring to you "Seva Sethu", our new quarterly newsletter that will bring to you the news and updates of all the action, achievements and accomplishments from Prashanthi Balamandira Trust.

Through this newsletter, we hope to keep you abreast of the projects and other developments in Sathya Sai Grama.



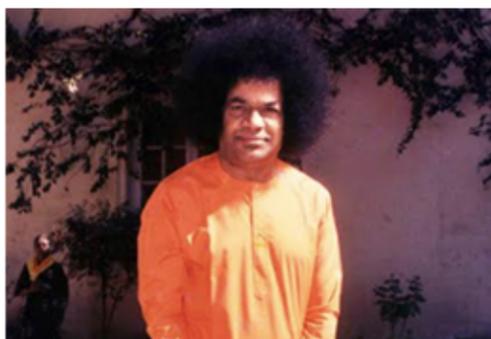
MESSAGE OF THE LORD | GOD SPEAKS | LISTEN

BEAUTIFUL TIMES ARE COMING...

In His landmark Divine Discourse on the occasion of Sai Spoorthi, the Annual Alumni Meet in Muddenahalli, Bhagawan spoke about the upcoming Sai Yuga, calling it as glorious chapters in the history of mankind. He also reminded everyone about the great honour bestowed by Him upon us.

Bhagawan emphatically asserted that we are all cast in His image and commanded us not to undermine or underestimate ourselves to anything lesser or lower than that.

Listen to the discourse [here](#).



BIRTH OF THE SRI SATHYA SAI LOKA SEVA GURUKULAM

Bhagawan has always given tremendous importance to education. His students are His property, He has said time and again! With Bhagawan's guidance, all our schools would

now be shifting gears and focusing on the dissemination of **Para Vidya**, education of the soul and **Apara Vidya**, education of the mind.

Education of the mind without cultivation of the heart, or focusing on just the heart and not the mind would make education incomplete. A balanced approach to education that enriches the mind, cultivates the heart and feeds the soul, therefore, is a must. To enable this, our schools are transitioning to a new schooling system as per the standards and norms set under the National Institute of Open Schools from the current academic year.

Why NIOS?

In keeping with Bhagawan's vision of education for life (and not just for living), the move to NIOS would give us more flexibility to tailor the curriculum and bring in the much-needed blend of spiritual (Para Vidya) and material education (Apara Vidya) such that we can work with each child to bring out the best in them. An ideal learning space gives equal importance to the physical, intellectual, emotional and spiritual aspects of a child's development.

What is NIOS?

NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling), governed by MHRD (Ministry of Human Resource Development), Govt. of India, was established in 1989. It is the largest open schooling system in the world, offering a variety of courses up to pre-degree level. NIOS reaches out to learners through a network of 23 regional centres and more than 7400 study centres, spread all across the country.

Visit the website [here](#).

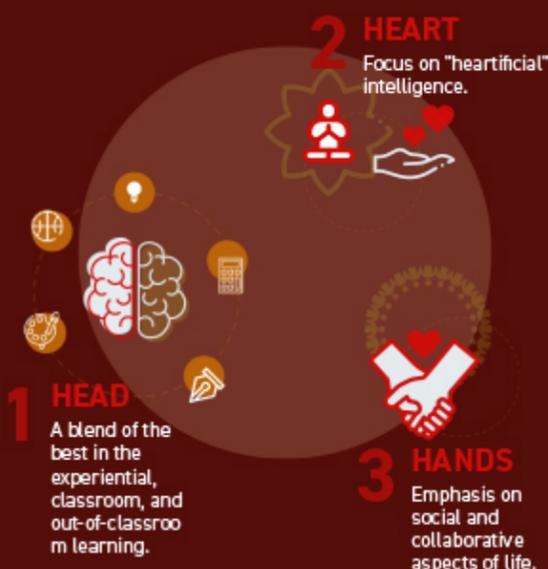
With the adoption of NIOS standards, we hope to give our students an ideal environment to learn and grow. The Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Gurukulam is, therefore, the starting point of the journey of experiential learning, centered on the belief that children can be self-aware. A post-pandemic world may only accentuate the need to redefine learning environments. Our students perhaps may even have a slight edge when it comes to adapting to change.



A HOLISTIC PERSPECTIVE OF THE SRI SATHYA SAI LOKA SEVA GURUKULAM SYSTEM

Well-being of the child at the core and periphery

The 3H philosophy of education focuses on the well-rounded development of the Head, Heart, and Hands. When the heart guides the head, which further instructs the hands, we achieve a completely integrated personality.



WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR OUR STUDENTS?

Education, for one, would become a lot more fun and interesting! No more cramming up of concepts. No more forced learning of subjects they have no interest in.

Under the new system, our students would be exposed to a new range of subjects that will teach them to cultivate a way of life that is spiritually advanced, encourage friendship with the natural world, and would bring their hobbies into the classrooms. There will also be significant change in examination schedules, increased focus on the study of scriptures, participation in study circles and group discussions, and outdoor activities, leading to lesser pressure on homework and deadlines.

HOBBIES? NOT ANYMORE.



- » **Beekeeping**
- » **Baking**
- » **Doll-Making**
- » **Painting**
- » **Bamboo Craft**
- » **Farming**
- » **Woodworking**
- » **Vermiculture**
- » **Goshala**

Students would have the freedom to pursue their passion in the new educational system.

THE FOUR PILLARS OF EDUCATION

Every student of the Sri Sathya Sai Loka Seva Gurukulam will be encouraged to study the four pillars of education.

- ◉ Knowledge of all the matters of the World
- ◉ Repositories of Good Qualities
- ◉ An Understanding of Bharatiya Culture
- ◉ Engaged in Welfare of the World



NEW COURSES OFFERED AT THE SRI SATHYA SAI UNIVERSITY FOR HUMAN EXCELLENCE

The Sri Sathya Sai University for Human Excellence, in keeping with our educational philosophy, will be introducing three new courses this academic year. The students would get the opportunity to delve into the depths of Vedic studies, Music, and Dance in a more concerted and fruitful way.



WHAT'S NEW?

- ◉ Bachelor of Arts in Vedic Studies will allow the students to specialise in the learning of the rich Bharatiya culture
- ◉ Bachelor of Fine Arts in Music will enable the students to delve into the rich heritage of music.
- ◉ Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance will help the students to hone and pursue many dance forms.



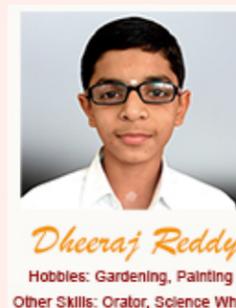
SPOTLIGHT

STUDENT ACHIEVER

This little boy you see in the picture is a shining example of what a good learning environment and school can do to ignite the minds, hearts, and heads of children. Meet Dheeraj Reddy, a tenth-grader from Sri Sathya Sai Sharadaniketanam, Mandya, who topped the state of Karnataka in the Board Examinations, scoring a perfect 625/625. Did you know more than 8.48 lakh students wrote this exam this year?

Dheeraj credits his score to the school environment, good teachers, and hard work.

"It was my long cherished dream to join Sri Sathya Sai School since 2015. Whenever I would visit Sathya Sai Grama, Muddenahalli to see my elder brother Manoj Reddy studying in the PU College there, I was deeply attracted to the students, teachers and beautiful nature. I developed deep desire to study in Sathya Sai Grama.



On the 10th August, 2020 the day of the announcement of SSLC results, I was nervous and

curious. When I came to know that I had scored 625/625, my heart was full of gratitude to my teachers, parents, institution and Swami. Swami had fulfilled my desire of making Him feel proud of me. As a gratitude to all that I have received, I want to serve my country with all sincerity."

An inspiration to his classmates, Dheeraj wants to become an Indian Administrative Service officer and serve his country.

While we are extremely proud about his academic achievements, what makes us happier is that he has set his ambition at serving his country and fellow citizens. His success is a testimony to how education that balances the head, heart and hand (based on Bhagawan's 3H approach) is slowly but surely transforming lives and the future of this nation, one child at a time.

Every child needs a champion. Let's be their 'forever' champion.

[Give Children their Best Chance to Succeed.](#)

PROJECT MONITOR

This month we bring you updates on the hostel at Sri Sathya Sai Sharadaniketanam, Mandya. We are happy to share with you that the Mandya campus will soon house a new hostel for its ever-growing number of students. The latest to join the Mandya squad is the Sri Sathya Sai Saraswathi Pre-University College students. While their college is under construction, all the students will be accommodated in the newly-built "Sri Sathya Sai Chaya Hostel". The hostel, spanning over 68,000 square feet can house almost 500 students, and will be fully equipped with all the latest amenities.



TRUST PROJECT UPDATES – EDUCATION FOCUS : MANDYA CAMPUS

Project Name : Sri Sathya Sai Chaya Hostel
Location : Sri Sathya Sai Sharadaniketanam,
Mandya campus
Expected Date of Completion : March 2020
Total Cost : INR 24 Cr
Total Area of the Project : 68,753 sq ft
Dormitories : 22

Prayer Hall : 1
Students per Dormitory : 22 students
Total accommodation for: 484 students
The Sri Sathya Sai Chaya Hostel is in the final stages of construction to house nearly 500 boys studying in the Sri Sathya Sai Sharadaniketanam campus located in Mandya, Karnataka.

[Make a difference in the lives of children.](#)

Stay tuned for more such updates. Thanks to your continued help and patronage, thousands of rural and underserved children are getting a chance at life. May your tribe grow!

**Warm Regards,
Team PBMT**



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ABOUT PRASHANTHI BALAMANDIRA TRUST

Prashanthi Balamandira Trust is a public charitable trust set up in 1981 with the aim to offer education that focuses on academic as well as human excellence. Based on the philosophy of Educare and the sound pedagogy of Integral Education, our education system draws its life breath from the five universal and secular human values of truth, righteousness, peace, love and non-violence.

Registered Address:

Prashanthi Balamandira Trust, Sathya Sai Grama, Muddenahalli Post – 562101,
Chikkaballapur Taluk and District, Karnataka, India

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