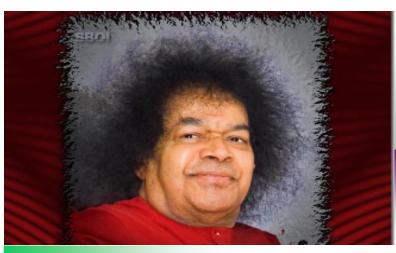
Sai Spiritual Education Newsletter

Satxya's Message

Now by SSE Children - Group 3

Issue 1





First, tend your parents with love, reverence and gratitude. Second, speak the truth and act virtuously. Third, whenever you have a few moments to spare, repeat the Name of the Lord, remembering the Form in your mind. Fourth, never indulge in talking ill of others or try to discover other's faults. And finally, never cause pain to others in any form. – **Baba**

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SSE Activities

Classes From

10.30am - 12.15pm

Soar Valley Community College

Ages 4 to 15 Years

Weekly Assembly

Monthly Library

Study Circles

Workshops

New term starts on Sunday 11th January 2009.

Enrolment of new children in January.

Parent's Teacher meeting in the new term

We wish you all a happy, joyful and prosperous NEW YEAR and we look forward to seeing you in the new SSE

Festivals and Events

Diwali - 28th October

Akhand Bhajans - 8th to 9th November

Swami's Birthday - 23rd November

Eid - 20th December

Christmas - 21st December 08

Makara Sankranti – 14th January 2009

Maha Shivaratri – 23rd February

LOTUSS

Life's

Opportunity

C

Understand

Self &

Spirituality

New programme for teen youth aged; 15 – 18 Years



"To attain"J-O-Y", you must put Jesus first, Others Next, You Last. This is the secret to live joyfully!" - Baba

Deepavali Delights

Deepavali is here, Deepavali is here
That grand festival of Lights
That ends evil after a protracted fight
When good with all its might
Leads us from darkness to Light.

Deepavali is here, Deepavali is here

That great festival of sound When crackers and laughter abound

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When crackers and sparklers light up the sky

When delighted children jump with joy.

Deepavali is here, Deepavali is here That gorgeous festival of snacks and sweets

Where everyone enjoys a royal feast When old and young with delight meet With love and affection all hearts beat.

Diwali is here, Diwali is here That gracious festival which celebrates victory

The ancient festival of myth and mystery That is mentioned in both mythology and history

The festival that signals Triumph over Tragedy.

SSE Exam Presentation: Sunday 2nd November 2008

All children you took the exams last year in July 2008; aural or written were awarded a prize, either; 1^{st} , 2^{nd} , 3^{rd} and runner up by their Guru for their efforts in the following;

Attendance & Punctuality
Behaviour & Enthusiasm
Class work & Projects
Homework & Spiritual Diary
Final Exam Marks
+ Participation in Centre Celebrations



Children in Group 3 Year 3 (Aged 15; Year 10 of Secondary School) were presented with a certificate on successfully completing the Sai Spiritual Education Programme. They now will be moving on to the LOTUSS programme which is catered for young adults between 15 and 18 years of age on a regular basis. The new children who joined in the new term; September 2008 were also awarded with prizes.

We held a Rangoli and Arati Competition where many children entered and also received prizes depending on the content, effort and creativity. There was also ANKUT for everyone and all the children had a nice lunch to celebrate their exam results and Diwali with friends and family \odot

AKHAND BHAJANS

This year Akhand Bhajans was celebrated at Ram Mandir. As always anyone that was there could feel the energy and the presence of Swami inside the hall. It all started

off on the 8th November at 12:30. The singers really lifted the atmosphere and the Bhajans started off with a bang. All throughout the day 100's of devotees sang and many others came for support. All these Bhajans was backed up by the Sevadal men and women working in the kitchen. They provided

a lovely lunch and through the day kept on giving warm cups of coffee and tea to energise everyone. By this time the moon rose and the night set. Everyone was

beginning to tire but the energy in the Bhajans was really lifting. The wonderfully spiritually charged bhajan session was concluded on Sunday 9th November 2008 at 12.00pm. Everyone present was fully charged to go home and draw from their recently acquired energy to carry on the daily routine life.



SSE children also had the opportunity to participate in this greatly beneficial yearly event before Swami's Birthday for World Peace.

SONG OF DIVINITY

LOVE IS MY FORM



TRUTH IS MY BREATH

BLISS IS MY FOOD

MY LIFE IS MY MESSAGE

EXPANSION IS MY LIFE

NO REASON FOR LOVE

NO SEASON FOR LOVE

NO BIRTH, NO DEATH - BABA



Swami's 83rd Birthday

Children's experience of Swami's birthday Celebrations



Sunday 23rd November 2008 was the mark of Sri Sathya Sai Baba's 83rd birthday. The theme for the day was transformation and how knowing Baba has changed the way you are. I think that the day changed me because I learnt several valuable lessons. The day helped me to become calmer and more respectful to others. The drama plays were very good and rather inspiring. Their messages were put across well. I learnt that you should always have faith, stay positive and Baba is always there for you. He is always listening to your prayers so long as you pray with your heart. Also that there is only one god; no matter who you are or what religion you follow, Baba is always there but may appear in different forms. There were several events throughout the day. The procession demonstrated how different people worship but really they are worshipping one God- this was another lesson for me as I

was part of it. Many people contributed to this energetic day. The atmosphere was fantastic. I think all the people who took part performed with love and were passionate about it. I'm sure all those who attended felt the same, "why fear when I am here" says Baba in order to stay positive.

It was Baba's birthday on 23rd November and we had a massive celebration on that day and there were many celebrations around the world too. The message was global transformation and it was clearly spread throughout all the plays and video dairies that people did. The day was absolutely magnificent, the holy vibrations were in the air and I felt that all of it affected me somehow. In the monologues people shared how they were affected by God and how they have carried on the message of God through their transformation. I thought that, why can't I carry on the message of god in the same way...

Sathya Ghelani (age 13)

On The 23rd November we celebrated Baba's 83 Birthday at Prajapati Hall. As the day went by, amazing things went on. The theme for Baba's birthday was on transformation. First we started with a warm welcome to all the audience. Both Leicester centre and Narbourough centre took part in the procession. There were kids performing in the procession of all ages and I was Meera Bai, I had to dress up in white. I was a young Meera Bai so I wore a white and pink saree. All I had to do was hold a banner and walk, and lead the group of Meera Bai's. Later as the day went by, we watched Dr Chun talk, it was really good. Then we heard three people singing and they were playing the Sirtar and Tabla and the table sounded fabulous. Then our host Amitbhai introduced the characters of a play about a Mexican lady and a Brazilian student and how their life changed and why. Afterwards we watched our video diaries, my friends and I were on there. Finally we watched a play performed by the youth, I really enjoyed it, it was really funny, and everyone was laughing. Lastly we sang the birthday song and the programme finished at five.

Bijal Desai (age 15)

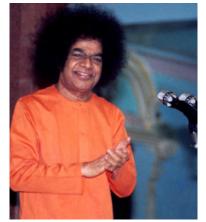
I have changed during the course of Swami's Birthday because I used to think it was ok to forget about my prayers but then Dr Chun talked and he talked about how God changed his life because he pretended to impersonate God. Now I really admire Dr Chun because he talks the truth, he pretended to be God and then god would answer the questions and he said the famous quote which boosted my confidence. "Why fear when I am here" and how that changed his life. I really liked Baba's play because it was my aunt's (foy) birthday on Baba's birthday and it was a surprise party and then I thought we were going to be late and then we got a call saying, "It will start ten minutes later," and that relieved me we got there on time.

Aakash Patel (Age 12)

On Sunday it was baba's birthday. To celebrate it this year, the whole center did a procession. I was one of the deciples of Shankracharya and our job was to walk around reciting the Bhaghavad Geeta (3 verses). The day started with a few bhajans from both gents and ladies and then next came our possession. Our group was about seventh or eighth in line. We walked around the audience once, but the hall was big enough to take us half an hour. There were about 9 or 10 different groups. But every group was based on TRANSFORMATION. Then video diaries were shown. These were of us describing our experiences beforehand. The whole thing was hosted by Amitbhai. The experience for me was amazing. The day was 5 hours long but it seemed like 1 or 2 hours. Overall it was great and it will be a memorable day in my memory.

Akshay Ruparelia (Age 13)

On 23rd November, Baba's birthday was held at the Prajapati Hall, Leicester. The theme of the



birthday was "Transformation." The celebrations were superb and it was great fun being there. There were over 1200 people and everyone enjoyed the celebrations. There were many guest speakers that were there and one of them was a dentist called DR Chun. Also at the celebrations there were videos on how people feel they have transformed after going to SSE and after knowing swami. At the celebrations there were also some plays on how swami helps people all over the world like Mexico and Zambia There was also a procession on that day. People walked around the hall, singing bhajans, dancing and chanting prayers. Overall the day was a great success. I felt that I was transformed and I am sure many other people would have felt the same.

Anand Kanabar (Age 13)

Baba's birthday, celebrated in Prajapati Hall on 23rd November was very big. I was taking part in the procession - we were doing dandia raas, which was going to start at 11.00 am. We had to get there at 10.00 am to get ready. We quickly got changed and the procession started. It went well actually however we could not hear the music well. After the procession, it was lunch time. The food was really nice. After lunch, there was a music programme, performed by three people. Then there were 2 plays, 1 about people from south india talking about swami – the play was hilarious. At the end we cut the massive cake, and you wont believe this, although the cake was really big they had to cut it into smaller pieces because their were more people then expected.

Harshini Jogia (Age 12)

Baba's birthday was very special yet spiritual I enjoyed the plays because they were very funny. I took part in the procession and the finale and the part I enjoyed playing the most was Krishna. The theme was on transformation. The cake was really big and delicious. The food at lunch was yummy too. The part I liked the best was the villupattu, I also had a laugh when it was a break and Amitbhai said "I am at the back of the room, the first one to find me gets a prize." Everyone stood up and looked at the back. I was one of them. Then, he opened the curtains and he was at the front on the stage. He said "This was the first time I have ever fooled so many people". I can't wait till next year!

Trisha Patel (Age 12)

Baba's birthday was very inspirational to me because I saw videos on people's personal experiences. The cake was very big and tasty, it was so big, and therefore I'm still wondering if it all got finished. There were so many people that the whole of the hall was completely crowded. When it was time to leave we waited for ages to get out of the door otherwise we would have been squashed!! Everyone put in lots of effort to make this happen and I'm very glad and grateful for this brilliant opportunity. I will never forget that day! I advise everyone who didn't come this year not to miss out on this opportunity. It's amazing!! I can't wait till next year...

Aarti Patel (Age 13)

Baba's 83rd birthday was amazing and the Theme was on 'Transformation'! I enjoyed every bit of it but the part I enjoyed the most was the cake. It was huge yet yummy and appetizing. I'm sure it must have taken ages to make and a big size oven!! The funniest part was when Amitbhai said,"I am at the back of the hall, first one to find me gets a prize". Everyone looked back, including me, but Amitbhai wasn't there. We then all looked at the front and saw the curtains opening and Amitbhai was there saying, "This was the first time I have fooled a numerous amount of people!" I also enjoyed the plays the children acted out and the procession that was performed. I can't wait for Baba's 84th birthday next year!



Kajol Jutha (Age 12)

On Swami's Birthday after the procession, there were stories about transformation. These stories were about people from all around the world. There was a Mexican in New York who told a story about how Baba cured his daughter by just a small amount of Vibuthi. Another story was about a student in Zambia who had no future and just messed around with his friends and sometimes skipped school. But when he joined Sathya Sai School, he said the teachers were strict about everything but he felt as if they cared about their students doing well and how now he is a famous lawyer in Zambia! These and many more stories inspired me and I thought that the people who know Swami are very lucky to know him. I can't wait till next year and hear more stories that inspire me.

Hiren Tailor (Age 12)

FAITH GAME

<u>Buddhism</u>



Christianity





<u>Hinduism</u>





<u>Islam</u>





<u>Sikhism</u>





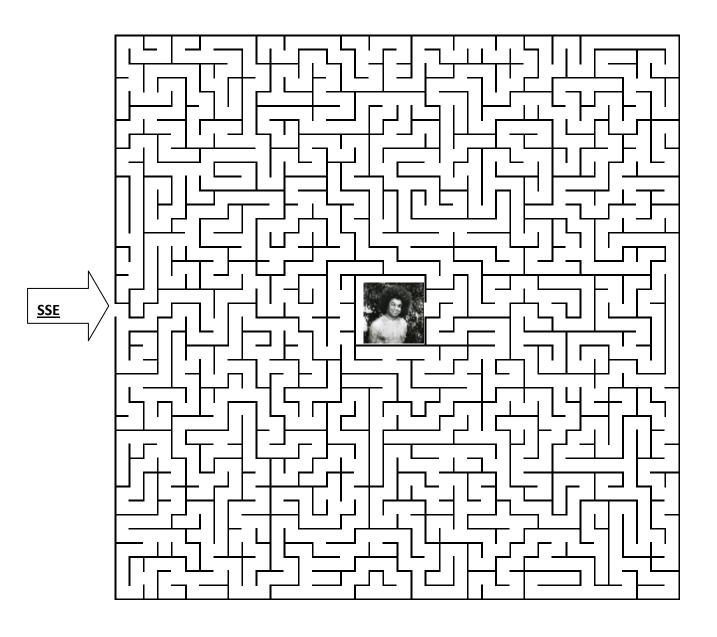
Draw lines to match the Religion with the Gods and Messengers of God with the religion symbol.

Prayer Game

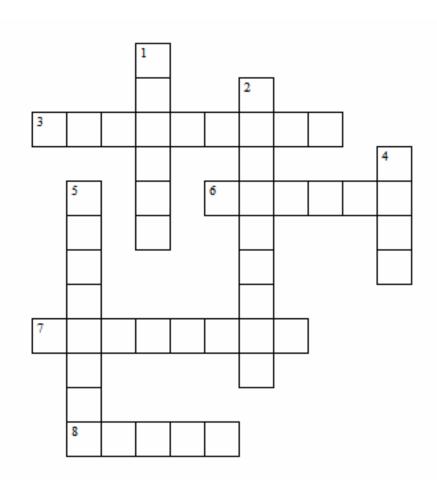
Unscramble the tiles to reveal a message (Print this Page)

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Try and reach Baba as quickly as possible!



SPIRITUAL CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 3 Birth place of Jesus
- 6 Festival of light
- 7 Baba's 83rd
- 8 Saint Nicholas

DOWN

- 1 24 hour bhajans
- 2 Birth of Jesus
- 4 Used to symbolise light at Diwali
- 5 Another name for SSE

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

There are 6 differences between both the images see if you can find them!





JAI SAI RAM

And

HAPPY NEW YEAR