

Chandranagar Govt Primary School

Current Status:

The school has a pretty good strength of about 120 plus. It has 2 teachers (including Mrs Padmaja, who is the head master) from last year.

Last week, an additional teacher has come on deputation. However, there is also a possibility that the deputation will be changed to another school, which will bring things back to square one.

Most children who graduated from class V are seeking admission in the Basavannagudi high school for class 6. Some of the girl children have joined another school, which is probably a bit closer.

Mr. Manjunath, the volunteer teacher who has been working in the schools with support from Asha (Karnum Shashidhar has been supporting his salary) is continuing this year. Mrs. Padmaja has indicated that his performance last year was satisfactory

The noon-meals provided by Kannada Kasturi are reaching the schools very late (as late as 2:30 PM). Because of this, the attention span of the children starts wavering from afternoon. The organization's reason for the delay is that the rice supplied by the govt has lot of stones etc, which need to be cleaned up before they are cooked. Also, apparently, these schools fall towards the end of the supply schedule for the auto-driver.

Because of the large strength and only 2 rooms being available, one of the classes is being held outside the school in the Verandah, and sometimes under the tree. The latter has problems when it rains, and both options have problems when the sun starts beating down. There is a pressing need for more rooms. The school has received a grant from the govt last year for additional rooms, but it was taken back because the school had already got one prior to that for the construction of the current rooms. There is some hope that it will be released this year.

It is expected that Reshma (an Asha-Chicago volunteer)'s mother will continue teaching basic Hindi this year also.

Sadhana will be volunteering to take the art class once a week, on Saturdays, this year also. Apparently, there is a govt directive this year to incorporate more art aspects into the curriculum.

Neelima has been going to the schools twice a week, and teaching English.

There will be a semester system starting with this year. The school year will be broken up into two, with exams in between. Earlier even if they get off to a slow start, they used to cover it in the latter half. This will be difficult this year.

Performance of Children:

Thanks to the efforts put in by Mrs. Padmaja and other teachers, the learning levels are pretty good.

It could improve if more resources are made available at their disposal, such as adequate number of teachers and reasonable infrastructure.

Requirements:

- Ensure that the noon meals reach the children at a reasonable time of about noon, as with last year. **The Kannada Kasturi organization has to be spoken to.** Otherwise, the purpose of the noon-meal program will be defeated.
- **Ensure that the teacher who has come on deputation stays on.**
- The volunteer teacher, Mr. Manjunath, who is working with support from Asha should continue. This would require us to ensure funding to the tune of $(10*1500)=15,000$ at the current compensation, or $(10*2000)=$ Rs. 20,000 if we increase his compensation to Rs. 2000 per month.
- **Secure release of funds from the govt for the construction of additional rooms.**
- In the interim, some arrangement will need to be put in place for smooth conducting of classes outside without being affected by the weather. This is expected to be a makeshift structure with a not-too-large cost. We will request Mrs. Padmaja to get a quote for the same and need to start work on that very soon afterwards.
- One of the existing rooms should be partitioned with a wooden panel so that classes can be held without interfering one another.
- Volunteer coverage should be ensured once Neelima's time availability becomes more restricted starting next month.
- The non-academic events and cultural program held last year should be repeated.
- We could get a notice board outside the school for putting up things such as photographs of school, past accomplishments etc.
- I believe the school purchased some non-academic books from govt grants previously, and these are given out to children. We should supplement it with another book packet with NBT, and CBT books.
- We should provide some sports material to the school, similar to what we provided the Kumaraswamy layout school.

- Educational visit: Visit to a place such as Bannerugatta national park can be arranged. If we can eliminate the transportation costs through use of buses of the Alliance Business Academy, this would leave us with costs of the park entrance fee and food. Will perhaps come to about Rs. 50 per child (for a total of Rs. 5000).
- Art material for the class Sadhana takes.