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TIMES

A QUARTERLY UPDATE FROM CREATIVE HANDICRAFTS



Creative Handicrafts
Women's self employment center



Baby's Day Out

The tiny tots of the Creative Handicrafts balwadis were taken for an excursion to Sanjay Gandhi National Park in Borivali on the 13th of December 2013. Their first visit to the National Park was marked with joy and excitement. The open space to run and play was a happy change from their otherwise crowded locality. The outing was combined with competitive sports events and prizes. They participated in simple races and throw ball games. All the children were gifted Tiffin boxes. The highlight of the day was the trip on the mini train, "Vani Rani". Their books came alive and they saw the many different animals that they normally only read about. The day ended with a healthy lunch and a safe trip back home. 

Sports Day at Bal Vikas Kendra

130 children of the Bal vikas Kendra (Child Development Centre) participated in a Sports day event that was organized on 21st December, 2013. The children were divided into four groups according to their age. The little ones tried to balance and walk as fast as possible in the Marble & Spoon Race while others jumped the furthest in the Frog race. Slightly older children participated in the Potato race and Sack race. Prizes and certificates were distributed to the winners. The excitement, joy and fun that all the children had, was the best reward and memory that everyone took home at the end of the day. 



A tribute to a woman of Substance and Strength

The 17th of March 2014 marked the 1st death anniversary of our Founder and mother Sr. Isabel Martin MCJ. Remembering our journey of a year without her physical presence, we acknowledged the blessing and spiritual support she continues to be for us at Creative Handicrafts. A mass was celebrated at Sacred Heart Church followed by a time of sharing of experiences as well as a meal at Cheshire home. We thank all those who have supported us in our loss and who joined us from near and far on this day. 



Celebrating teamwork

The production and preparation of the Monoprix order saw a combined effort and teamwork from the staff and women alike. It is an annual stressful event filled with a lot of passion. The mood in Creative is upbeat during this event because everyone knows how important this is to all of at Creative. We thank Monoprix, France for its loyal support to the cause of Economic empowerment of women year after year. A fellowship lunch was held on the 22nd of February 2014 to celebrate the team effort and the successful on time dispatch of the order. (b)



Salutation to the Black horse

It was an amazing experience to be a part of the "Kala Ghoda Fest", an annual sales event, in February this year. The buzz of the crowd and seeing our products being well received were a great impetus for our staff and women. Many thanks to Concern India Foundation for making this possible. (b)

Founders Day



Creative Handicrafts emerged from the efforts of a dedicated woman, Sr. Isabel Martin, who wanted that women in slums become economically self reliant. Founder's Day was celebrated on the 7th of January 2014 to mark her birthday and to celebrate the realization of her dream and its impact, in the lives of the women of the slums in Andheri. The event included various cultural programs and a heartwarming play on the life of Sr. Isabel. The 'Sr. Isabel Martin Educational Scholarship' was announced. The evening ended with a fellowship dinner. Kudos to the children of the Bal Vikas Kendra, and the children of our women, who made this event a success by their active participation. (b)

Fair Trade Workshop

On the 21st and 22nd of February, A workshop on 'Promoting Fair Trade in India' was held at Creative Handicrafts in Andheri. The participants were Ms. Shymala, Ms. Roopa Mehta, Mr. Mathew John, Mr. Pradeep from Ants, Mr. Rudi Dalvai, Mr. Johny Joseph and Mr. Vitoon Ruenglert from Greenet Thailand. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Vinita.



While acknowledging the need to increase the visibility of Fair Trade in India the participants also observed that there exists a vast scope to market and sell Fair Trade Products in the Indian market. Measures must be taken to tap this at the earliest. A decision was taken to put forth the recommendations derived from the workshop to FTF India. (b)

Atithi Devo Bhava

March was also the month of visitors who are our partners and friends. Ms Anne Brady, a designer and merchandiser for SERRV visited us for the 1st time. She monitored the progress of the new collection that our women are producing for them. Ms Sandra Enrizzi from CTM Altromacato had first visited us 10 years ago. Now she was happy to see the growth and improvement in the quality of work here at CH. Mr. Ignacio and Mrs. Paz who continue to extend a helping hand to Creative joined us for the first death Anniversary of Sr. Isabel. Mr. Christian and Mrs. Kathy visited us twice during this quarter to be part of the occasions when we reminisced the memories and contributions of Sr. Isabel. (b)



Speak Out

This Women's Day, Creative Handicrafts in collaboration with VACHA organized a short program for the women of our Cooperatives. VACHA is a resource centre for women and girls. The focus of the session was to learn to speak out against violence, especially covert domestic violence. Ms Nischint Hora and Ms Amrita De were the resource persons. A documentary titled, "Ek Chingari Ki Khoj Me" was screened and a fruitful discussion followed. (b)