

TEACHERS AND PARENTS ASSOCIATION OF SARADA (TAPAS)
ANNUAL REPORT
1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024

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A. BACKGROUND

1. In 2002, several parents took the initiative to form an association that could allow them to play a more constructive role in the activities and objectives of Sarada Kindergarten. The association intended to find ways to participate and support the kindergarten actively so that they could assist in inculcating the strong values of Sarada Kindergarten and allow children who leave Sarada to maintain their bonds of friendship and affinity to the school.
2. February 2003 saw the first meeting of some 15 parents and kindergarten staff. It was a humble beginning but the burning desire to create an organization which would be a pivotal support group for Sarada Kindergarten was too great to ignore.
3. The group registered as a society on 9th October 2003. On 29th August 2004, it was officially launched as the Teachers and Parents Association of Sarada (TAPAS) with much fanfare by our then Minister for Education Dr Tharman Shamugaratnam.

B. OBJECTIVES

From its inception, TAPAS has tirelessly strived to achieve its objectives which are:

- (a) To provide scholarships, prizes and financial assistance to students and teachers of the kindergarten.
- (b) To promote the welfare of the kindergarten, its students and teachers.
- (c) To facilitate the active interaction between the parents and students in various activities of the kindergarten.
- (d) To undertake various fund raising and other activities for the support of the kindergarten and/or association.
- (e) To promote the advancement and improvement of its members physically, intellectually, socially and morally.
- (f) To develop a true spirit of loyalty and love for the Alma Mater.
- (g) To secure the co-operation and active interest of pupils in carrying out the aims and objectives of the kindergarten.
- (h) To promote the ideals of true citizenship and to promote the feeling of comradeship among the races.

C. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Patrons of TAPAS are:

Swami Samachittananda	- President, Ramakrishna Mission
Swami Satyalokananda	- Manager, Sarada Kindergarten

The Management Committee (25 Nov 2022 – 20 Dec 2024) of TAPAS consists of:

Ms. Shantini Kumarasamy	- President
Mr. Giridhar Nayak	- 1 st Vice President
Mr. Ravichandran Subramaniam	- 2 nd Vice President
Ms. Kalavathi Periasamy	- Honorary Secretary
Ms. Gnaanasambanthan Lakshmi	- Asst Honorary Secretary
Ms. N. Pushpavalli	- Honorary Treasurer
Ms. Rennuka d/o Naranisamy	- Asst Honorary Treasurer
Ms. Sulochanah d/o Kanapathy	- Member
Mr. K. Muthusamy	- Member
Ms. Suchitra Vipin Chandran	- Member
Ms. Virgie R. Orlino	- Member
Ms. Shamala Rajendran	- Member
Ms. Alice Winata	- Member
Ms. Nirmala d/o Prabakaran	- Member
Mr. Satish Krishnan	- Member
Ms. Lavanya Shanmuganathan	- Member
Ms. Punam Shekhawat	- Member
Ms. Uma Samadarmam	- Ex-Officio (Principal)

The Honorary Auditors are:

Mr. Saravanan s/o Kumar
Mr. Veeramani

D. MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH

Membership Strength (as at 31st March 2024):

Honorary Members	Nil
Life Members	200
1-year Ordinary Members	4
3-year Ordinary members	323
Associate members	Nil

E. ACTIVITIES FROM 1ST APRIL 2023 TO 31ST MARCH 2024

1. 2023 Bursary Awards

On 1st April 2024, 3 students received bursary awards which were donated by Dr. Ponampalam's family, parents of one of our ex-students in the memory of their daughter. We express our gratitude to Dr. Ponampalam's family for their continuous support of our TAPAS Bursary Awards.

2. Nature Walk

On April 15, 2023, a nature walk at the Botanic Gardens was organized, with 45 families taking part. Participants enjoyed a leisurely stroll, followed by games and a chance to interact and bond over breakfast. It was a delightful opportunity for families to connect and strengthen the sense of community.

3. Nursery Workshop – Developing Children's Focus and Memory Skills

On May 6, 2023, a workshop on Developing Children's Focus and Memory Skills was held for Nursery families. The session was led by Ms. Kala, along with the Nursery and senior teachers. A total of 30 families participated in the workshop, gaining valuable insights into supporting their children's cognitive development.

4. Family Day

On March 2, 2024, a Family Day was organized for the families of current Sarada students. The event featured games and activities for both children and parents, and a total of 128 families participated in the fun-filled morning. It provided a wonderful opportunity for families to bond, connect, and strengthen the sense of community within Sarada Kindergarten.

F. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

An online TAPAS membership drive was conducted in February 2023 and January 2024. Some Nursery parents signed up as new TAPAS members during this membership drive and some parents signed up during the activities.

G. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

TAPAS acknowledges with gratitude the invaluable support from all our donors, Ramakrishna Mission, Ramakrishna Old Boys' Association, volunteers, teachers and staff of Sarada Kindergarten, members and all well-wishers.

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