

TEACHERS AND PARENTS ASSOCIATION OF SARADA (TAPAS)
ANNUAL REPORT
1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025

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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 (27 December 2024 – December 2026) of TAPAS consists of:

Mr. Giridhar Nayak	- President
Ms. Lavanya Shanmuganathan	- 1 st Vice President
Mrs. Yamini Thote	- 2 nd Vice President
Ms. Ms. N. Pushpavalli	- Honorary Secretary
Ms. Kalavathi d/o Periasamy	- Honorary Treasurer
Ms. Shantini Kumarasamy	- Member
Ms. Sulochanah d/o Kanapathy	- Member
Ms. Suchitra Vipin Chandran	- Member
Ms. Virgie R. Orlino	- Member
Ms. Nirmala d/o Prabakaran	- Member
Ms. Uma Samadarmam	- Ex-Officio (Principal)

The Honorary Auditors are:

Mrs. Ramaiya Banajah
Mrs. Punam Shekhawat

D. MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH

Membership Strength (as at 31st March 2025):

Honorary Members	Nil
Life Members	203
3-year Ordinary members	74
Associate members	NIL

E. ACTIVITIES FROM 1ST APRIL 2024 TO 31ST MARCH 2025

1. 2024 Bursary Awards

In January 2025, 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. Fancy Dress

On 6 July 2024, a fancy dress competition was organized. 21 children from Nursery, 34 children from K1 and 46 children from K2 took part in the competition. The children were dressed as the characters they chose, according to the themes given. Parents and families attended the event to cheer and support the children.

3. K1 & K2 Workshop: Nurturing Lifelong Readers

On 18 May 2024, TAPAS organized for 'Nurturing Life Long Readers' workshop for K1 & K2 parents and children. This workshop was conducted by Ms. Pushpa and the Sarada Team. About 33 families participated in the workshop. Families learnt and practiced skills to inculcate reading habits in their children during the workshop.

4. TAPAS Walk

On 8 March, 2025, a nature walk at the Botanic Gardens was organized, with 63 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.

F. MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

An online TAPAS membership drive was conducted in January 2025 and January 2026. 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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