

# 10th anniversary of St. Joseph's Pre-school, Mutwal

by Lakshika Benjamin

My gratitude and thanks to the Almighty God for helping our school complete its 10 years successfully. I firmly believe that the Lord's method to accomplish His goal on earth is always a man. The Almighty God has been very merciful in blessing our school in the form of the Catholic De La Salle Brothers (teaching order) who are managing many leading schools in Sri Lanka.

It is interesting to go through memory lane and find out how this school started. Way back in 1998, God planted a vision in the heart of Rev. Bro. Peiris Rajendira to start a nursery in Mutwal. Although the St. Joseph's Novitiate (the Mother House of the De La Salle Brothers) had been naturally endowed with scenic beauty, he had the challenging task of finding a suitable location to get his dream going. The present beautiful nursery was then a changing room of the brothers and also a poultry farm. Although it looked a formidable task, Bro Rajan took up the challenge and relentlessly pursued his dream, leaving no stone unturned in his venture to clear the place. The Rock House Army camp gave him a helping hand with the special unit of the CCMP. After much effort and toil, in the year 1999 (February 22nd), the school started with nine children on roll.

Today, the school has nearly 80 students, with a three year programme for the children - beginning with the playgroup (Toddlers) The medium of instruction is English. The children start with play school and gradually go onto reading and writing. In the second year, they are introduced to a Second Language of their choice. The school emphasizes more on a confident personality, character formation and an enjoyable time of learning. Spiritual values are taught to the children, giving an equal share of respect for each other and all religions, regardless of caste or creed. Although it is a Christian school, admissions are open to all. Cultural values and respect for all is fostered from a tender age in the form of celebrating many religious functions, beginning with Vesak, Ramazan,

Deepavali and Christmas. The parents of the respective religions organize these functions with the school, along with the co-operation of the other parents. It is a truly touching sight to see all the parents and children unitedly joining with fervour the many religious functions that are celebrated on a grand scale.

Other important functions are Mothers' Da, Fathers' Day and Teachers' Day where the children honour these very important people in their lives. Every other

walk in shy and timid, walk out confident. Cleanliness, personal hygiene and a good rapport with peers and teachers is fostered in the class. The school closes with a year - end Charity / Christmas programme. The children are taught to share and care for the needy and less privileged children. It is heartening to see the wholehearted participation of all the parents in the form of dry rations, childrens' stationery and many other useful items which are shared on a one - to -

hundredfold the prestigious position that the school has reached today. His warm smile and easy disposition drew the hearts of most parents and children. His love for children and dedication to the cause has resulted in many parents clamouring to get a place for their kids in the now famous "St. Joseph's Pre-School".

After a period of nine years, the present Director Rev. Bro. Nimal Gurusinghe, also a former director of St. Benedict's College, has taken over the school since the last year. Bro Gurusinghe, too, possessing the special quality of loving little children, has, within a short period done his utmost with continuing the good work started and has also extended the boundaries of creating a friendly and comfortable atmosphere for the kids. I'm sure the Lord saw him a fitting candidate to take over and expand the ministry of educating little children. I wish him every success in his future plans in improving the nursery.

The school is thankful to the loving and supportive parents who have co-operated and extended more than a fair share of helping hands to improve the quality of the school. I wish them and their families God's choicest blessings. A special word of thanks to the two Provincial Visitors, Rev. Bro Baptist Croos and Rev. Bro Henry Dissanayake, for their wholehearted support during the 10 years that we completed.

I pray that God brings many more young people to serve under the Ministry of the De La Salle Brothers to reach out and touch the lives of many children.

Once again I thank God the Almighty for blessing the work of many hands as it is rightly said in His word.

"Unless the Lord builds the house, they labour in vain who build it" Psalm 127 verse 1.

We give all the glory and all the honour to the Lord for the great work He has done through His Creation.

I wish St. Joseph's Pre-School many more years of success and fruitful ministry in the field of childhood education.



From the 10th anniversary celebrations

year the children participate in a concert where they display their talents. They are also trained to face a public speech exam twice within the three years, the main aim being to master the art of confidently facing an examiner at a very young age. The curriculum is interspaced with relaxation, such as dancing and music. The natural landscaping, with its shady trees and a beautifully laid out garden, has many pets in the form of birds, rabbits, tortoises and a friendly dog. From the entrance, any visitor would be drawn instantly to the natural settings, blessed by mother nature, to the kids. Children, who

one basis with less privileged children who are invited for this programme.

The school is blessed with a team of dedicated staff who take utmost care to ensure that the childrens' stay at school is an enjoyable and memorable one. Lots of love and care is showered on the children, along with the foundations in learning, so that kids face their grade I interviews with comfort and ease.

We thank God for blessing this school with Rev. Bro. Raj as the founder who selflessly dedicated himself, striving to maintain very good standards. His hard work and toil has reaped in



War heroes: Samantha, Nuwan and Sandun



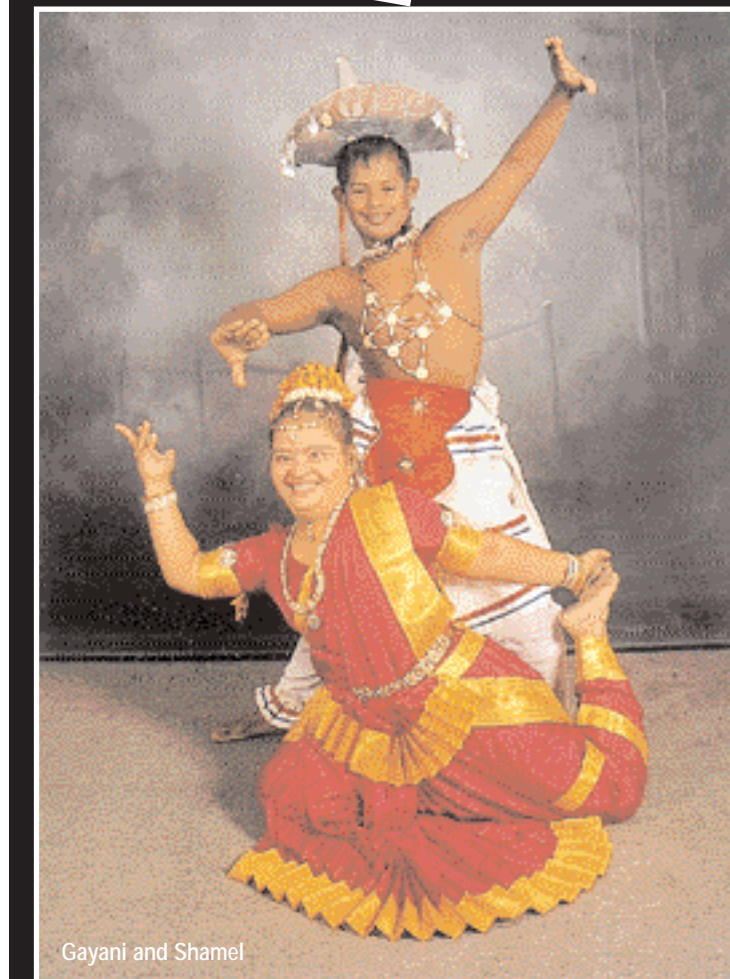
Thilina Siriwardane

## 'Thisara Geethaya' at Janakala Kendra

In aid of the Thidora theatre to uplift the communication skills of children with autistic spectrum disorder and multiple disabilities, 'Thisara Geethaya' directed by Ramani Damayanthi will be held on March 12 at 6.15pm at Janakala Kendra Auditorium, Pelawatte, Battaramulla.



Directress Ramani Damayanthi



Gayani and Shamel

## TV GUIDE

### CHANNEL EYE

A.M.	06.29 Station Opening	10.15	Udaya Dharisanam - Contd.
06.30	Talk for the Day	11.00	Kana Kanam Kalangal Kaimanam (Tamil)
06.45	Cartoon Programme	11.30	Noon
07.00	Sampath Raitha	12.00	Lunch Time Music
07.15	Development Lottery	P.M.	
07.30	Naledugall Intru	01.00	Enthozhi En Kathal En Manavi (Tamil)
08.00	Variety New Songs	01.30	Afternoon News
08.30	Kalai Vanakkam (Tamil)	01.45	Tamil Feature Film.
09.30	Udaya Dharisanam	04.30	Cartoon Series (Tamil)
10.00	Udaya Dharisanam "A Baur" (Tamil)		

### SWARNAVAHINI

A.M.	06.00 Ehi Passiko	03.00	Diriya Doni
06.30	Mul Pituwa	04.00	Joevithaya Lassaral
07.00	Loka Sithiyama	05.00	Anne
07.30	Never Ending Story	05.30	Mini Toons
08.00	Hello Sri Lanka	06.00	Musik
10.30	Channel D	07.00	House Full
11.00	Mahajana Seyaya Pinalai	07.30	Gaja Muthu
Noon		08.00	Live @ 8
12.00	Live @ 12	09.00	Abhimaan
P.M.		09.30	Hima Kandulu
12.30	Rasa Liya	09.30	Shadow Star
01.00	Hada Rendil Peya	10.30	Dwi Thibena Thuru
02.00	Lansu Thiyana Mal	01.00	Close of Transmission

### ETV

A.M.	06.00 Prime Time Morning	08.01	Online That 70's Show
06.45	Channel News	08.30	3rd Rock
10.00	Asia	08.55	Lanka Business
10.30	Telemarketing	09.01	Online
10.30	Channel News	09.01	The Bold & The Beautiful
P.M.		09.45	Lanka
12.00	YA TV	09.55	Business
12.30	Telemarketing	10.01	Online
01.00	VH1	10.01	Lanka Business Report
02.00	Idol Gossip	10.30	Pimp My Ride
02.30	Channel News Asia	10.55	Lanka Business
04.30	Telemarketing	11.01	Online
05.00	As Told by Ginger	11.01	VH1 Specials
06.00	Channel News Asia	12.00	End of Transmission
07.00	VH1		
07.45	Debrief		
07.55	Lanka Business		

### MTV

A.M.	05.25 Station Opening	05.00	Comic Strip
05.30	Voice of America	05.30	Thunder Cats
06.30	News First	06.00	Highlander
07.00	Good Morning Sri Lanka	06.30	TV South Asia
08.00	Fox News	07.00	Tiny Toons Adventure
P.M.		07.30	Tom & Jerry Kids
12.30	News	08.00	Crickit Classics
12.45	VOA	09.00	News
01.15	Fly Tales and Untalkative	09.30	Malcolm In The Middle
Bunny Fillers		10.00	Jake In Progress
01.30	Fox News	10.30	Top Story
04.30	Angela Anaconda	10.32	Fox News

### DERANA

A.M.	05.55 Station Opening	04.00	Dragon Tales
06.00	Cartoon	04.30	Derana Cartoon
07.00	Derana Aruna	05.00	Bid To Win
08.00	Suba Dawasak	06.00	Magic Factory
08.30	Eka Dawasak Ude	07.00	Dream Star Academy
10.30	Teledrama	07.30	Visurunu Renu
11.00	Sithi Gimana Hala	08.00	Ada Derana
11.00	Saraa	08.30	Saraa
P.M.		09.00	Doo Kumariyo
12.00	Ada Derana	09.30	Awakashaya
12.15	Sinhala Songs	10.30	Bid To Win
12.30	Sathulu Wila	11.00	Vanija Viththi
01.30	Mix Songs		

### SIRASA TV

A.M.	04.00 Pirith & Jayamangala Gatha	04.00	Cartoon
04.30	Mahamalawa	04.30	English Lesson
05.00	Bana	05.00	Scobby Doo
05.30	Cartoon	05.30	Tom & Jerry
06.00	English Lesson	06.00	Magic Box
06.30	News 1st	06.30	Rasala Rasak
07.00	Inspector Gadget	07.00	News 1st
07.30	Sonic	07.30	Sita Gedara
08.00	Jeevithayata Eda Dema	08.00	Mahagedara
08.30	Game Show	08.30	Kinurungana
09.00	Kavya	09.00	Praveena
10.00	News 1st	09.30	Kavya
10.30	Kalin Kathawa	10.00	News 1st
11.00	Diganthaya	10.30	Kalin Kathawa
12.00	Lunch Time News	11.30	Final Cut
P.M.		A.M.	
12.15	Lunch Time TV	12.00	Diganthaya
01.00	Nonawaruni Mahatwaruni	01.00	MTV News
01.30	Movie		

### RUPAVAHINI

A.M.	05.48 Station Opening	03.30	Tele Drama
05.50	Homage to the Triple Gem & Karaniya Metta Sutta	04.00	News
06.00	News	04.05	Cartoon
06.06	Sivdesa	04.30	Sanda Waruna
06.30	Pajithara Sirasthala	05.00	News
07.00	News	05.05	Havasa Paya
07.05	Aadaraneeya Yavuvanya	05.30	Defence News
08.00	News	06.05	Sanga Puwath
08.05	Nuga Sevana	06.30	Sri Lanka New Vision of Archeology and Creative Skills
08.05	Nuga Sevana	06.58	Vismitha Charika
09.05	Nuga Sevana	07.26	News Headline
10.00	News	07.27	Sihina Kumari
10.05	Nuga Sevana	08.00	News (Sinhala)
11.00	News	08.30	Pasubima
11.05	Aluth Sri Lankawak	08.35	Tele Drama
Noon		09.05	Tele Drama
12.30	Siri Siri Mal	09.30	Sakura Mal
P.M.		10.00	Jayawiru & Suvasetha
12.30	News	10.05	Sandha Vasana
01.00	Hiru Viyana	10.10	News
02.00	News	10.27	Viyaparika Viththi
02.05	Tele Drama	10.30	The X Files - Series 8 - Ep.
02.30	A Documentary	11.30	Bollywood Gee Mini
03.00	News	12.00	End of Transmission
03.05	A Documentary (Cont.)		



HOLLYWOOD

### ART TV

A.M.	06.30 CNN Today	05.00	Adventure of Professor Th.
08.30	Talk Asia	05.30	World News Asia
09.00	International	05.57	State of Business (3 min)
09.30	Inside Middle East	06.00	Telescreen Marketing
09.57	State of Business (3 min)	06.30	World News Asia
10.00	Telescreen Marketing	06.57	State of Business (3 min)
10.30	CNN Today	07.00	Top 10 Hits
10.57	State of Business (3 min)	07.45	World News
11.00	Telescreen Marketing	08.15	The State of Business
11.00	Telescreen Marketing	08.30	Business Class
11.30	CNN Today	08.57	State of Business (3 min)
11.57	State of Business (3 min)	09.00	Fashion House
Noon		09.05	State of Business (3 min)
12.00	Telescreen Marketing	09.57	State of Business (3 min)
P.M.		10.00	Larry King Live
12.30	CNN Today	11.00	The State of Business
12.57	State of Business (3 min)	11.30	Your World Today
01.00	World Sport	12.00	iReport: Caught on Camera
01.30	CNN Today	A.M.	
01.57	State of Business (3 min)	12.30	Quest Means Business
02.00	World Business Today	01.30	World News Europe
02.30	World News	02.30	Back Story
03.00	World Report	03.00	World Sport
03.30	Larry King Live	03.30	World News Europe
04.30	3 Friends & Jerry	04.30	The Situation Room
04.57	State of Business (3 min)	05.30	CNN Today

### SHAKTHI TV

A.M.	06.00 Breakfast News	01.15	Movie
06.15	Filler	04.00	My Dear Bootham
06.30	Good Morning Sri Lanka	04.30	Gijo
08.00	Caller Galatta	05.30	Kutties Choise
09.30	Priyamana Thozhi	06.30	Shakthi Chat
10.00	Vasantham	07.00	Kolalangal
10.30	Sivashakthi	07.00	Kalassam
11.00	Anandam	07.30	Sinran Thirai
11.30	Kasturi	08.00	News 1st
Noon		08.30	Selvi
12.00	Penmanikkaga	09.00	English News
P.M.		09.30	Lakshmi
12.30	Pennagal Neram	10.00	Thirumathi Selvam
01.00	Madiya Seithigal	10.30	Nejnam Marappathalai
		11.30	Putham Puthusu



AVATAAR

A.M.	04.30 Station Opening	03.00	Peyan Peya Puwath
04.35	Pirith Deshanaya	03.03	Sinhala Film - Cont.
04.42	Jayamangala Gatha	04.00	Peyen Peya Puwath
04.46	Davase Sithuvilli	04.03	Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
05.00	Thakshilawa	04.30	Dedunu Hendewa
06.00	ITN Puwath	05.00	Peyen Peya Puwath
06.15	Davase Paththara	05.03	Dedunu Hendewa
06.55	Jeevithaya Jayaganna	05.30	Lama Puwath
07.00	Halfveni Peya	05.45	Theruvannamadamu
08.00	Peyan Peya Puwath	05.50	Jaya Piritha
08.05	Pahan Dora Magazine	06.00	News - Tamil
08.30	Sal Mai Yaya	06.30	Ritzbury Journey Day
09.00	Peyan Peya Puwath	07.00	News & Current Affairs
09.05	Batti	07.30	Atalapatama
10.00	Peyan Peya Puwath	08.00	Kopli Kade
10.05	Nimthera	08.30	Ithin Eeta Passel
11.00	Discussion	09.00	Rupees & Sense
Noon		09.30	News
12.00	Noon News Bulletin	09.45	Blz News
P.M.		09.50	News - English
12.30	Sihinayaki Oba - Tele Drama	10.05	Aluth Para
01.00	Sinhala Film	M.N.	
02.00	Peyen Peya Puwath	12.00	News - Sinhala
02.03	Sinhala Film - Cont.	A.M.	
		00.20	Pirith Deshanaya