

Highlights of Mandatory Parents Meeting on 1/27/08

1. **Bylaws amendment**: The board members have recently completed tedious process of amending the bylaws. The new structure has Advisory Board consisting of 5 veteran Balvihar members- Jawahar Patel, Kumud Shah, Gira Mehta (Honorary Cultural Sec), Naini Kuber (Honorary treasure) and Rupa Shah (Honorary Education Sec). Pravina Ghodasara who was the assistant treasurer will now be Treasurer and Officer of the Board. Board welcomes two representatives- Nisha Pandya and Satish Rao who will join Jayesh Shah as parent representatives on the board. New Board structure and Roles and Responsibilities will soon be available to all on our website and will be emailed to all the members.

2. **Annual Day Update**: Annual Day will be on **May 10th**. Annual day practices will start from Sunday February 3 2008. This year after taking input from parents and all the teachers the Annual Day Committee recommended changes to Annual Day structure and Balvihar timing. This year we will have performances by Culture classes and next year Language classes will get a chance to perform. Balvihar schedule starting Feb 3rd will change as follows to insure minimal interruption in educational activities.

- Arrival 1.50 pm-2 pm
- Prayers 2pm- 2.10 pm
- Language classes 2.15pm-3pm (45 min instead of 50 min)
- Culture classes 3.05pm-4.50 pm (45 min instead of 50 min)
- Snack Break 3.50pm- 4pm – **Snacks will be provided by Balvihar**
- Annual day event practices- 4pm-5pm

Need to vacate the facility at 5 pm sharp

3. Upcoming Events and projects:

- a) ***Prayer Competition***- As a motivational initiative we will hold prayer competitions during prayer time at Balvihar starting February 10th. This will be according to culture classes. Culture M and all 1st year students will be expected to know first 5 prayers, culture 1 and 2nd year students 10 prayers and all other students all 15 prayers. There will be motivational prizes for participants. Details will be emailed to parents by Prayer teacher Niranjana Samant.
- b) ***Parent Discussion***- will start soon. Anyone interested in participating can contact me.
- c) ***Sponsoring Events at Balvihar***- we had generous sponsors this year for most of the cultural events at Balvihar- Garba, Diwali and Makar Sankranti/Pongal/Lohri. We welcome members sponsoring cultural events at Balvihar in memory or honor of their loved ones or just as a way to give back to the community.

Library Barcode software- Balvihar Library team- Jhansi Devarapalli, Kalpana Rao and Rajyalaxmi Pidugu are doing a great job of maintaining library at Balvihar. Vice President Gopi Ganeshan with the assistance of Swarna Chigullapalli will be adding

Library Barcode software to improve and upgrade the existing system and to integrate it with the registration piece.

4. Communication Reminders: All communication is via email. If you know of any member who is not receiving yahogroups email please have them contact Gopi Ganeshan immediately.

- Check the website regularly for agenda which is posted by Wednesday and for Snow closings by Sunday Noon.
- Parent feedback- We have been receiving some parent feedbacks on line. Your feedback is very important to us in improving Balvihar for our kids. Your feedbacks are reviewed by Education Secretaries on a regular basis and communicated to the teachers. If parents have any issue that needs response from us please make sure you give us your contact information so we can get in touch with you.

5. Ekal Vidyalaya Fundraiser: Akhil and Akshay Jindal from Bharatiya Temple Youth Group were at Balvihar and presented a video clip about Ekal Vidyalaya. Many students and parents watched the video and decided to participate in the fundraiser. Akhil and Akshay will be back to talk to Balvihar students and parents again about their project. If you would like more information about this please contact Niranjana Samant at niranjana.samant@gmail.com.

6. Annual Budget: Please refer to the excel file sent by email to all members for annual budget information. Please note that projected revenue from events held outside TBI – Garba, Annual Day, Annual Picnic and donations from matching contributions and affinity accounts are not included in the budget. Also note that there is no money budgeted for Mothers Day due to date change for Annual Day.