



# Newsletter ~ Vallabh Vidya Mandir ~



Publisher – VVM

Volume Number 2

Issue Number 6

Date: Sept 2006

## An Expression...

The month of July was shaped by American Independence day celebrations while August was shaped by Indian Independence Day. While both of them involve picnics, fireworks, and parade; at some point there is a salute to the flag and our national anthem is sung. It is a time for remembering heroes and for giving thanks.

Who are today's heroes: I think of dedicated public officials, peacekeepers and volunteer workers, and teachers who find time for each child. As Peter Gomes of Harvard University said,

*"The choosing of heroes...is a very important thing, for by that choice the character of a people may often be determined. To deprive people of heroes, or the opportunity to choose them, is the ultimate form of conquest."*

In our own lives, who are our heroes and how do we honor them? The heroes are rarely on a pedestal. They are people of prayer, although seldom public prayer, people of deeds, although

whose deeds are seldom done with much public fanfare.

The future will be determined, not by inventions and intellectual discoveries, but by love, kindness and fellow feeling, and by turning with inspiration in everything we do. As a parent, educator and adult guardian we have a great responsibility. To understand our responsibility there must be love in our hearts, not mere learning and knowledge. As J. Krishnamurti has said

*"The greater our love, the deeper will be its influence on Society".*

### VVM:

Welcome to the first edition of VVM's 2006-2007 newsletter. The end of summer means going back to school, or starting school for the first time for many children. After the vacation, family gatherings, movie nights and just reading & relaxing it is time to grow, learn and contribute to the society by becoming wonderful citizens.

We hope that our VVM families also got chance to relax and catch up with family & friends. VVM staff has been working hard preparing a

balanced curriculum for our students. For VVM it is not about awards or mission statements. It's about people who care about what they do and how they do it. VVM team members take pride in everything they do- quality, teamwork and dependability. That's what VVM is all about!

*Phalguni Kikani*

## VVM Picnic

September 9, 2006 – Pecan Park,  
New Territory – 4pm-8pm  
(RSVP Required)  
Pls contact **Priti Parikh** at  
281-277-0903 for details)

## Announcements

- **Free Workshop** – "Women's Health" – Dr. Kokila Parikh -  
Sept 17<sup>th</sup> at 12 Noon  
(Pls Register at the Front Desk)

## March Goes On...

VVM is entering its second year of education. This infant organization has taken solid steps forward but like any other infant its steps become wobbly at times. We will



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have to continue to work hard to remove barriers to a stable forward march. With the help of our dedicated volunteer teachers and staff members we are confident of achieving this goal.

At Vallabh Vidya Mandir our motto is - "*Preparing our Children to Face the Future*". This is not an ordinary assignment. It means not only teaching prescribed courses and helping our students learn certain skills or to help them get better grades but it entails matters of real value. It means helping our children to build solid foundation of character, discipline, good manners, inquisitiveness, volunteerism, and desire to help others. It means inculcating in them, the dangers and pitfalls of greed, and appreciation for the pleasures of personal sacrifice and selfless service. This requires subtle but conscious effort on part of our teachers and all those who are involved with VVM. It requires setting personal examples and being role models for the young minds. If we do this for them it will be learning without us teaching. This will help them build their value system that will shape their lives.

We continue to identify our strengths and weaknesses. In future newsletters we will discuss and address issues affecting our organization so that with collective efforts from all of us we continue to move in the right direction.

Jay Shree Krishna.

*Suresh Patel*

## VPSS Youth Group

There is a common adage that says - *our future lies with our youth*. Keeping that in mind VPSS proudly presents its youth group. This group is formed with enthusiastic children who

- want to help those who are in need,
- -want to have a social group and
- -feel connected within the community.

We invite all young adults age 14 and up to join the youth discussion forum as a respite from the hectic chores of daily life. This program gives teen-agers the opportunity to mingle with one another, the freedom to explore various controversial topics & chance to

have fun together in a safe environment. So whether one likes football or prefers watching a film, book review, the youth forum has something to offer to everyone. We hope that the youth group will teach young adults that everyone has a responsibility to help others and that it is a rewarding experience.

*For details please contact: VVM office.*

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## VVM Academic Schedule (2006-2007)

Time	Subject									
	Girls Dance (age 5-9)	Boys Dance (age 5-9)	World Religion (age 10-14)	World Religion (age 15-18)	Religion (Adult)	Kirthan/Bhajan	Bharat Natyam (age 5+)	Pre-K (age 3-6)	Advanced Cooking (Adult)	SAT (9 <sup>th</sup> Grade+)
9-9:50 AM										
10-10:50 AM	Gujarati (advanced)	Indian history & geography (age 9 & up)	Girls Dance (age 10-13)	World Religion (age 6-9)						
11-11:50 AM	Arts & Crafts (age 7+)	Yoga (age 12+)	Junior Cooking (age 9+)	Key board (beginner)						
12-12:50 PM	English (Adults)	Girls Dance (age 13-18)	Boys Dance (age 10-15)							
01-1:50 PM	Tabla									
	\$7 fee per class									

\* \$100 registration fee per student for the entire year  
 \*\* Schedule Subject to Change in first 4 weeks