

Friends of Children Trust

Empowering through Education

FoCh Newsletter

2013-14 Quarter 3



1 Update of 2013-14 Quarter 3

Happy New Year! It's time to get in touch with you again with the updates of Q3. This quarter, we had mock campus interviews for the second year and final year degree students and our annual outing in addition to the regular academic and personality sessions on Sundays.

1.1 Mock Interviews

The mock interview was conducted for the second year and final year degree students. The interviews were conducted on the lines of a campus interview. A brief presentation, by a company representative, was made about the company and the positions offered. This was followed by an aptitude test and a group discussion. The students were divided into 3 groups for the group discussion. The discussions were monitored by volunteers. The technical interviews were conducted by our alumni with 3-4 years of work experience, while the HR round were handled by our volunteers.

The interviews ended with 6 out of 21 students being offered a position. Individual feedback was given to all the students with respect to their performance in each of the rounds to identify and work on their weaknesses.



Figure 1: Students participating in Mock Interview

1.2 Academic sessions with special focus on 2nd PU

For 2nd PU students, we held tests in all the subjects to gauge their understanding and also their writing skills. The evaluation of the test papers gave us insights on the strengths and weaknesses of each student. One to one discussions were held with the students to give them the feedback and methods to overcome their weaknesses. We have also taken special note of the weaker students and are continuously guiding them.

The degree students after their semester exams have been occupied with their aptitude and personality development sessions. One interesting session during this quarter was that of presenting a party manifesto.

We also had a session by Karun Gopinath, an IAS Aspirant to give information about the Civil Services examinations. Karun is a friend of our volunteer Divya, who is also an IAS Aspirant. She had invited Karun to talk to the students. The session was very informative and motivating for some of the students interested in taking up the civil services option.

1.3 Training

During the semester break this year we have enrolled our B.Com students for a training on accounting, the course deals in the practical aspects of accounting needed by fresh accounts executives in their jobs. The course covers practical aspects of PF, ESI, Labour laws, Payroll etc in addition to training the students on Tally and advanced excel.

Twelve final year BCom students are attending the training at Accounts House in Koromangala. The training institute offered a special discount for our students.

Four of our 2nd BCom students attended a 2-day training on life skills and aptitude organized by Prerana at Bangalore.

Salma, our student from the previous batch needed additional focus on her soft skills to handle interviews better. She is currently undergoing 3 month training at Graduate Finishing School, Dharwad to develop her skills.

1.4 Annual Outing

The annual outing to Talakad was a funfilled day. Two buses, totaling 80 students and volunteers left Bangalore a wee bit at 9 am thanks to the KSRTC bus coming in late. The first stop for breakfast was at Kengal. We had 'shavige bath' and there was quite a bit of it, 3 helpings each and we still couldn't finish it all. Then it was singing time and dumb charades in the bus till we reached Talakad. It was 1pm by the time we reached there. The sight of the river Cauvery cheered up everyone.

It was a hot afternoon and we found a shady spot to touch base and then within minutes everyone was in the water under the watchful eyes of the volunteers. After about an hour and a half in the water, which was not enough for them, we got out and had lunch – *pulao, curdrice and pineapple burfi*.

This was followed by a couple of games and then it was time to head back. The return journey was also very energetic.

The students were happy, however they felt they would have had more time if we could have started earlier.



Figure 2: Annual Outing

1.5 Joys and a new Home

This quarter is the season of celebrations with festivals like Diwali and Christmas. A group of our volunteers visit couple of homes for the needy to celebrate the festivals with the inmates. This year a few of our students expressed their desire to join us and were a part of the celebrations at Kutumba (residential home for physically challenged women) and Vatsalya (residential home for needy girls). It is heartening to see our students developing an interest in such activities.

Sowmya studying 2nd B.Com, was once again selected to represent at the NCC Camp from her college.

Another reason for joy is the regular updating of our facebook page by Rudresh, our alumni volunteer. His regular updates have ensured 153 likes. To get regular updates, like our facebook page at the following link. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/friendsofchildren/126281114066080>.

New Home: After a long innings of more than 12 years we have had to vacate the St. Teresa's school premises. The school intends to begin new activities for which they require the premises. This was an opportunity to widen our horizon and perspective. Most importantly, we have identified and established relationship with Bhavan-Bangalore Press School in Chamrajpet, a stone's throw away from St. Teresa's, and have started conducting our Sunday classes since 26th Jan. We are thankful to St. Teresa's school for their support over the years and to Bhavan-Bangalore Press School for our new home.

2 Financial Statement of Q3 2013-14

The expenses for this quarter has been Rs 70,160, and the total expenses for Financial year 2013-14 so far has been Rs 9,34,981.

We have received donations to the tune of Rs. 91,000 and a bank interest of Rs 1,855 and the balance at the end of the quarter is Rs. 1,08,159.

The summary is given below in **Table 1:** Expense Summary

Opening Balance for Q3 2013-14	85,464 Rs
Bank Interest	1,855 Rs
Donations	91,000 Rs
Total Expenses	70,160 Rs
Closing Balance for Q3 2013-14	1,08,159 Rs

Table 1: Expense Summary

The breakup of total expenses for Q2 is graphically illustrated in Figure 3

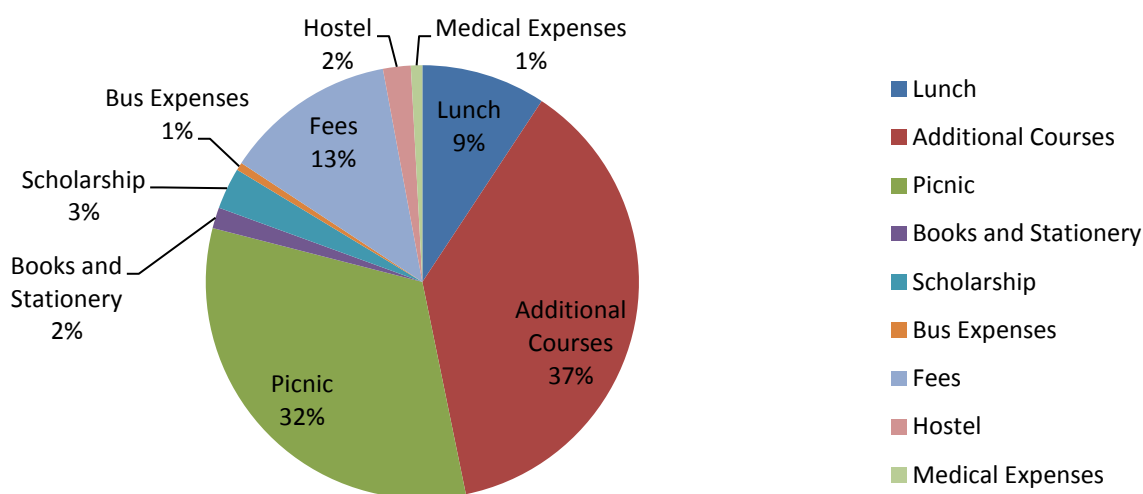


Figure 3 Expense Breakup

3 Plans for the next quarter

- Visit to Government Schools to identify new students
- Academic sessions to continue
- Presentation on Annual Budget by all 2nd year and 3rd year Degree students
- Parents Day

4 Fund requirements for rest of the year

The expected expenses for Quarter 4 will be around 1.5 lakhs, and we would need about 3 lakhs in the beginning of next financial year, as admissions will be in progress. Looking forward for your support.

Contributions can be done to Friends of Children trust either by online transfer or by issuing cheque. In either case please send a mail to contact.foch@gmail.com indicating your contribution as it will help us in tracking your contribution. Also please do mention your PAN number in the email as this is needed by Income tax department, and also helps us in issuing receipt for your contribution.

4.1 Transfer funds online

This is a preferred mode of accepting donations for us. You may transfer funds to our account – details given below. Friends of Children Trust ICICI Bank A/c number: 000201038922 IFSC code: ICIC0000002 Branch: Bangalore – Commissariat Road (also displayed as MG Road on some internet banking pages)

Imp Note: While making an online transfer, please mention ACCOUNT HOLDERS' NAME in the transaction remarks. Having a/c holders' name helps us in correctly tracking online donations and for auditing purposes.

4.2 Payment by Cheque

Send us a cheque: Mail/Courier your cheque favoring 'Friends of Children Trust' to the below address.
Friends of Children Trust c/o Akash Narayana No 3615, 6th Cross, 13th G Main, HAL 2nd Stage, Bangalore – 560008

Drop a cheque favoring 'Friends of Children Trust' at any ICICI Bank drop-box in Bangalore. Please specify the Account No 000201038922 on reverse side of the cheque.

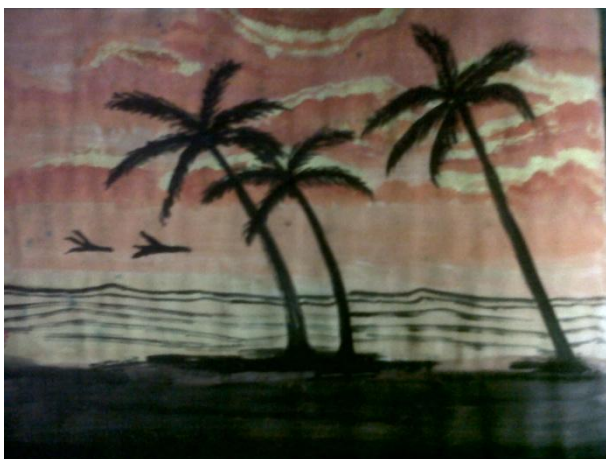
5 Get in touch with us

The best way to know more about our organization is to visit us on Sunday's between 11:00 am to 4:00 pm at Bhavan-Banagalore Press School, Chamrajpet (Google Map Link: <http://goo.gl/maps/YtpJ5>). We meet the students on every Sunday at Bhavan-Banagalore Press School.

You can also get in touch with us by either dropping an email at contact.foch@gmail.com, or calling any of the following numbers

Divya Prabhu: 9844Seven 61755
Sanjay Padubidri: 98452 One5050

6 Students Area



Paintings by Sarah Jennifer, 1st year B.Com



Artwork by Pooja L, 3rd year B.Com



"Friends of Children" Tree by Harish G, 1st PUC