



Sastha Tamil Foundation

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**Plano Tamil School Annual Report
2018-2019**

Contents

Contents	1
About US	3
Year in Review – A Recap	4
Curriculum	4
E-Learning	5
Teachers Training & Staff Enrichment	5
Competitive Events	5
Community Service and Social Events	6
Tamil School Annual Day	6
Vaaram Oru Thuli (VOT)	7
Enhancement to Website	7
STF and PTS Events in Media	8
Communication	8
About STF Charity Programs	8
Reading Program and Library Activities	9
Tamil Library	9
Reading Log Program	9
Accreditation	10
Survey	10
University Language Credits via UPenn	11
Acknowledgement and Credits	11
The Journey Continues	12
Plano Tamil School Team	14

Teachers	14
Room Volunteers	14
Administration Staff	15
Staff and Volunteers Team	15
School Staff Photographs	17
School Volunteers Group Photographs	18
Class Photographs	19
Mazhalai A	19
Mazhalai B	19
Level 1A	20
Level 1B	20
Level 2A	21
Level 2B	21
Level 3A	22
Level 3B	22
Level 4A	23
Level 4B	23
Level 5	24
Level 6	24
Level 7	25
Level 8	25

About US

Welcome all to the 18th year of Plano Tamil School, a 100% volunteer run organization, a subsidiary of Sastha Tamil Foundation - www.stfnonprofit.org, a registered 501(c)3 non-profit organization with over 60+ volunteers as teachers, facilitators and administrators.



Year in Review – A Recap

We started 2018 – 2019 academic years with a record enrollment of around 360 students. This is our 18th year of service towards providing quality Tamil language education. This is our second year of concurrent enrollment at Frisco ISD, through which children who are enrolled in Frisco ISD and pursuing Level 7 and Level 8 at our school get 2 world language credits, considered towards their graduation plan from ISD. Our first set of children are graduating with LoTE credit and we are so proud of them. We thank our Teachers, Volunteers, Parents, Students and all the patrons for the unstinted support.



Venue

Plano Tamil school continues to run its operations from 2 buildings - one in Hedgcoxe Road and the other in Rasor Blvd.

Student Volunteers

We had 6 student volunteers volunteer with us. They are students who have graduated from Plano Tamil School and are continuing to volunteer with us in an effort to give back to the community.

Curriculum

There was no change to the curriculum plans and Plano Tamil School continues to follow a blended curriculum that combines the best of ATA (American Tamil Academy, www.amtaac.org) one of the versatile Tamil language boards in North America and our in-house curriculum which has been refined and adjusted based on students, teachers and parents feedback.

The school is continuing to provide report cards to all the students at the end of each unit. Students' Attendance, Homework and their Unit Test grades are taken into account in generating the report cards for each unit.

E - Learning

In the effort of enhancing the technology usage, the school has introduced the **GSuite** platform for communicating with the students and parents by providing a new student/teacher email ids. All students, teaching volunteers and non-teaching volunteers were provided with a stfnonprofit.org email ID. Quizlet was introduced for all the classes.

Introduction of online homework using the tools like **Quizlet, Tamil keyboard typing** made the students more enthusiastic to learn the language. The students in the higher grades had an opportunity to use these technologies in the classroom settings as a E- learning tool.

2018 - 2019 : Technology Integration Launched

- Google ID for Tamil school : 100 % All Levels : @stfnonprofit.org
- Google Classroom setup : 100 % All Levels : Mazhalai - 8th
- Quizlet Online Assignments : 100 % All Levels : Mazhalai - 8th
- Record Management : 100 % All Levels : Mazhalai - 8th
- In class Interactive Learning : 45 % Level 5, 6, 7 & 8 - Kahoot/ Quizlet Live

- Minimum of 1 Online assignment per Unit
- Online activities carry separate score and impacts overall grade
- Expanded adoption of 'G Suite for Education' platform

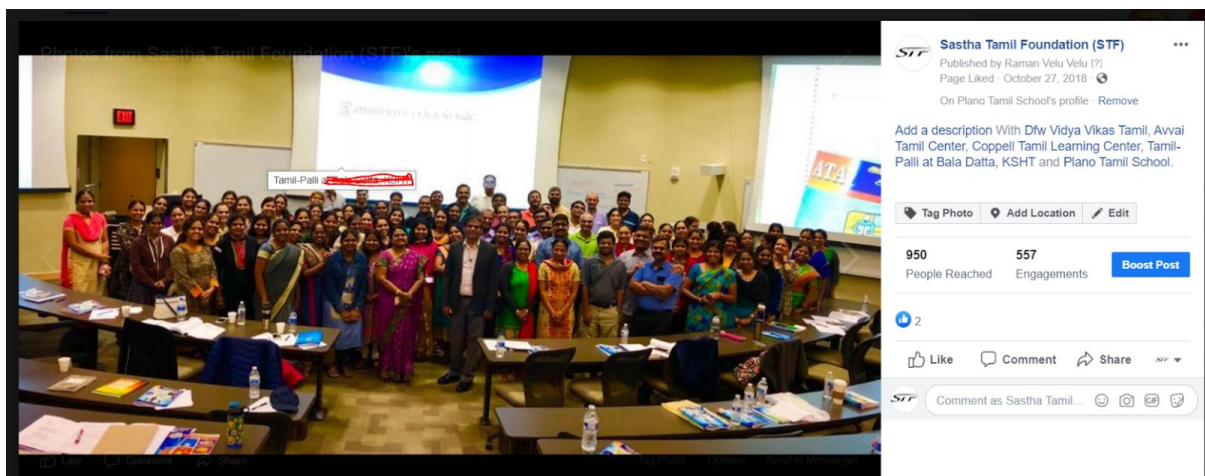


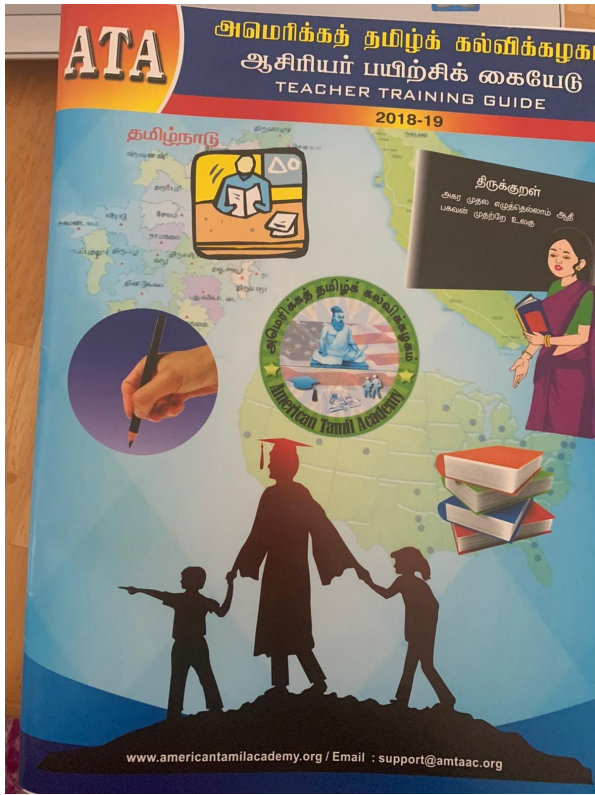
CURRENT DIGITIZATION STATUS



Teachers Training & Staff Enrichment

During the summer vacation, in the month of July and August, PTS teachers and the syllabus review committee reviewed the ATA books and PTS books thoroughly to finalize syllabus for each level. The committee also prepared weekly lesson plans and spread them over the calendar year with 5 Units of 6 weeks each.





Teacher training this year was conducted by Thiru. Vasu Renganathan - Lecturer in Tamil, Dept. of South Asia Studies, University of Pennsylvania. PTS has been ensuring ongoing collaboration between parents and the school through the 6th week mandatory Parent Participation and Teachers Conference. This provided the bridge between parent, teacher and student.



Updates from STF & its activities :

Participation in community events are an integral part of the Plano Tamil School program. The parent non-profit organization – Sastha Tamil Foundation – is a strong support for motivating and conducting these events at the school level and outside of the DFW and Texas State level. One of the main goals is to bring out each student's potential. Also, STF treats every participant as a winner to encourage him or her, so that next time they can perform better and improve their skills.

For this academic year Plano Tamil School jointly participated with STF events as below:

- Thirukkural Competition
- Aathichudi
- Pechu Potti
- Katturai Potti
- Competition Ceremony (தமிழ் ஆராதனை விழா)

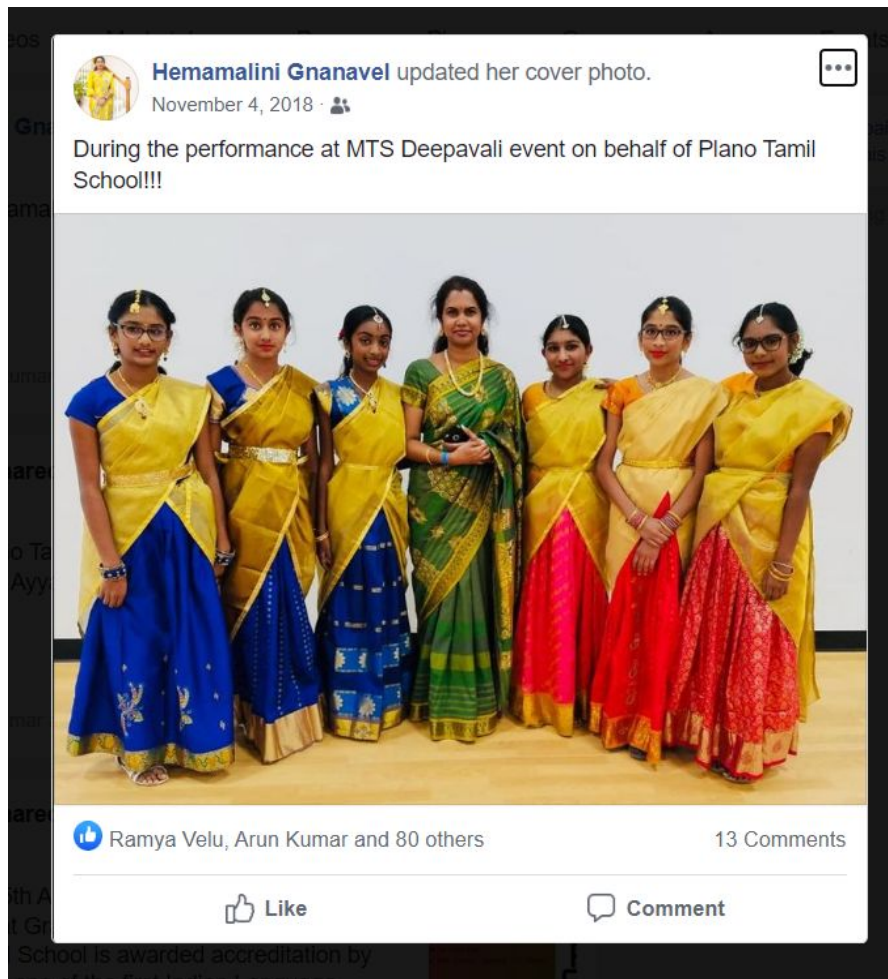
The Plano Tamil School students and parents participated in these following events.

- ❖ STF Basket Brigade. <https://www.anthonyrobbinsfoundation.org/basket-brigade/76/>
 - o This is a local event during every year Thanksgiving day.
 - o Details for 2018-2019 can be found here <http://stfnonprofit.org/Basket-Brigade-Volunteers>

- ❖ STF's Annual Charity Fundraiser – “**Ennangale Ennippadigal**,” a dance performance and a motivational speech.
 - o This was an annual charity fundraising program to support Udavum Karangal. More details can be found here:
<https://stfnonprofit.org/charity-events/stf-annual-charity-fundraiser-event-2018>

Community Events

The Plano Tamil School also participated in community events, in partnership with STF. Though these events were optional, there was an overwhelming support from the students and the parents. These events provided a great platform for the students to learn the significance of community service as well as helped them to learn the outside world interaction.





Children participating at Metroplex Tamil Sangam Deepavali Vizha



Children participating at Metroplex Tamil Sangam Pongal Vizha

Tamil School Annual Day

Plano Tamil School's annual day showcases our children through Iyal Isai Nadagam. Each class showcases their talents in their own creative ways, through acting out plays with different themes, with morals and values, or to portray our rich culture. This also aids the children to build their public speaking skills.

When: Feb 16, 2019 at 3.00 -7:00 PM

Where: Centennial High School, Frisco, TX

Participants: Mazhalai, Level 1, Level 2, Level 8

When: April 7, 2019 at 2.00 -8.00 PM

Where: Granville Arts Center, Garland, TX.

Participants: Level 3 - Level 8

The grand 18th year Annual Day celebration of Plano Tamil School was held on **April 7th 2019, at the Granville Arts Center, Garland TX**. This event was beautifully performed by the students, thanks to the meticulous preparation by our teachers and volunteers. Our audience appreciated various aspects of each performance.

School Staff Photographs





School Volunteers Group Photographs



Class Photographs

Mazhalai A



Mazhalai B



Level 1A



Level 1B



Level 2A



Level 2B



Level 3A



Level 3B



Level 4A



Level 4B



Level 5



Level 6



Level 7



Level 8



Our Chief Guest for Annual Day - Dr. Malathi Swaminathan



A section of our audience during annual day



Level 5 project poster boards on display during annual day



Children proudly displaying their trophies

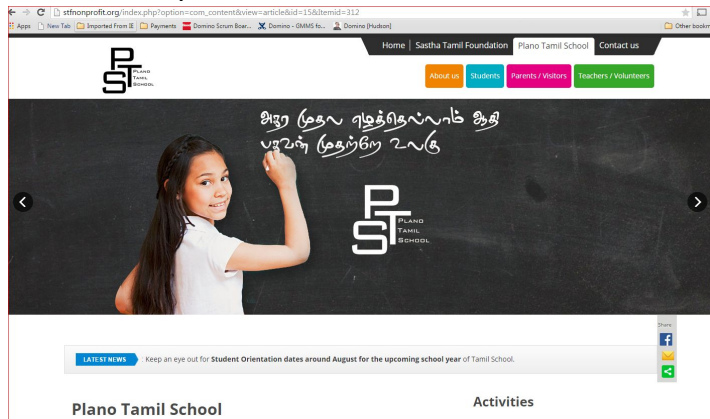


Since the motto of the school is to provide stage presence to all (360+) students, the event is conducted over a span of 6 hours, split into two halves.

A team of 50+ volunteers including the Teachers, Assistant Teachers and Room Volunteers are directing, scripting and choreographing the programs.

Website

We continue to use our portal www.stfnonprofit.org and the site is being updated and maintained by www.flobile.com



STF and PTS Events in Media

STF continues to maintain its facebook page : facebook.com/sasthatamilfoundation

STF also has a YouTube link : youtube.com/sasthatamil

Please subscribe to our facebook/youtube pages for latest updates from us.

Communication

School updates are sent out to each student's family every week. Our communication includes school news, a calendar of events and other useful information. Vaaram Oru Thuli, containing interesting facts, is also sent every week. Parents may keep a close eye on the communication to be fully informed of PTS' happenings. School annual report will be sent out annually. You may also receive emails about class progress and any other general information from your respective teachers.

Reading Program and Library Activities

Tamil Library

The Plano Tamil School Library is one of the attractions for the students and their parents. In the academic year 2018-2019, few changes were introduced in order to accommodate the student growth and demand since year 2010.

At the beginning of the year, the Library was operated only in Hedgcoxe AMH location. Since the new location was opened, the Students from Level 4 – Level 7 moved to new location Rasor AMH. It was inconvenient for the students to come and check out books from one Library location. So we have introduced a new branch in the new location for the benefit of the students.

More than **50 new books were added** as part of this academic year due to the student growth.

This academic year, we had a substantial growth in registration with over **300 registered library members**.

Initially we started this Tamil Library with only 40 books, now we have around **1600+ books**. This collection includes Children's story books, Bilingual books, Novels etc. Our children's books collection has many different varieties. We have books that are suitable for children of all ages, especially the younger children who are just starting to read. We also maintain around 250+ storybooks and magazines for the adults.

Reading Log Program

As part of this reading log program, Library books were given to each class based on the level. These books were distributed and exchanged every week to the students with the help of Room Volunteers or Teachers.

Around **370 level wise books** were distributed for this Reading log program.

During every 6th week presentation, one student from each class was selected for the reading log winner and awarded with small gifts like pencil, highlighter, bookmark, medals etc during the presentation. Around **56 winners** are recognized in this academic year.

The students were awarded with free Ice-cream coupons on their effort of reading with the minimum of 30 mins each week for 6 weeks. This enticed and encouraged the students to read more.

Also during the Annual day celebration, from each Level, one **grand prize winner was recognized** for the whole academic year.

Mazhalai A - Anindith Srinivasan - 4290 minutes
Mazhalai B - Guhan Arul manikandan - 2200 minutes
Level 1A - Neerav Arush Jeyasaravanan - 3205 minutes
Level 1B - Arjun Krishna - 5021 minutes
Level 2A - Pranav Selvakumar - 3361 minutes.
Level 2B - Sidharth Adishesan - 3875 minutes
Level 3A - Poojashree Balasubramani – 5407 minutes class
Level 3B - Vethanthikaa Karthikeyan – 3350 minutes class
Level 4A - Shree Sundar – 3535 minutes class
Level 4 B - Mounish Sekaran – 4575 minutes class
Level 5 - Vidyuth Srinivasan – 7587 minutes
Level 6 - Sai Navneedh Narayanan - 1835 min
Level 7 - Jerusha Rose Abraham – 6109 minutes
Level 8 - Prakruthi Dwarakanath - 5652 minutes

Vaaram Oru Thuli (VOT)

The Vaaram Oru Thuli (வாரம் ஒரு துளி) is distributed to the Plano Tamil School members throughout the year, every Friday.

This email covers mainly the interesting articles about the Tamil language heritage, culture, famous Tamil leaders, world leaders, moral stories and any other topics which are useful to the students and parents. Along with this any school related important upcoming schedules/reminders are announced as needed : [Subscribe Link](#)

Acknowledgement and Credits

Plano Tamil School has been a pioneer in providing quality Tamil education to the Dallas-Fort Worth community. The sustained success has been made possible due to the untiring efforts of parents, teachers and the students.

The School is **thankful to American Tamil Academy for their** efforts to bring all Tamil schools together in USA, and for providing a platform with a standard syllabus and colorful textbooks.

The School is **thankful to the Alpha Montessori School & Kidz Camp Montessori** for providing the venues for weekend classes for several years.

The school is **thankful to all teaching and non teaching** volunteers for their time and effort in this school continuous development.

The School is **thankful to the parent volunteers** for their tremendous support.

The Journey Continues...

As the journey continues, Plano Tamil School continues to be steadfast in its vision to be a leading provider of quality education in Tamil language and to be a Platform for Students, Teachers and the Tamil Speaking community to Protect, Promote and Preserve the richness of Tamil language and culture.

Our Staff & Team



Plano Tamil School Team

Teachers

We are ever thankful to our amazing talent pool of teachers who dedicate their time and effort in making our Plano Tamil School a unique learning environment.

Mazhalai Nilai A

Mrs. Meera Lakshmanan
Mr. Rajesh Kanna Durairaj

Mazhalai Nilai B

Mrs. Janani Manickam
Mrs. Manju

Nilai 1 A

Mrs. Uma Muthiah
Mrs. Anandhi Raja

Nilai 1 B

Mrs. Divya Vijayakumar
Mrs. Kavitha Venkatesan

Nilai 2 A

Mrs. Hemamalini Gnanavel
Mrs. Priya Narayanasamy

Nilai 2 B

Mrs. Theja Arun
Mrs. Preethi Mohan

Nilai 3A

Dr. Deepa Rajakrishnan
Mrs. Maria Lourdusamy

Level 3B

Mrs. Radha Raghavan
Mrs. Kavitha Srivatchan

Nilai 4A

Mrs. Vanitha Selvaraj
Mr. Jayaraj Velayutham

Nilai 4B

Mrs. Priya Venkat
Mrs. Maha Satya

Nilai 5

Mr. Raj Radjasamy
Mrs. Nithya Murugaiyan

Nilai 6

Mrs. Priya Sriram

Nilai 7

Dr. Anand Chellamuthu
Mr. Senthil Jayaprakasam

Nilai 8

Mr. Subramoni SV
Mr. Govardhanan Ramachandran
Mrs. Udhaya Sriram

Room Volunteers

We are ever thankful to our dedicated Room Volunteers for helping our students along with the teachers who dedicate their time and effort in making our Tamil School a unique learning environment.

Mrs. Narmadha
Mrs. Viji Govardhan
Mrs. Anitha Kasiviswanathan
Mrs. Sudha Kumar
Mrs. Gayathri Ravi
Mrs. Anuradha Sathiyachalam
Mrs. Rashmi Dwarakanath
Mrs. Sowmya Venkatachalam

Student Volunteers

Mr. Akilan Gnanavel
Ms. Vaishnavi Sathiyamoorthy
Ms. Shanmathi Venkatesan
Mr. Hrithikeshwar Sriram
Mr. Arjun Venkat
Ms. Nandhini Elangovan

Administration Staff

We are ever thankful to our amazing talent pool of Administrative and Back office staff for dedicating their time and effort in making our Tamil School a unique learning environment.

Plano Tamil School Non-Teaching Volunteers:

Mr. Velu Raman
Mrs. Visalakshi Velu
Mr. Sriram Krishnan
Mr. Jayaram Thigarajan
Mr. Rajesh Khanna
Mr. Vighnesh Balasubramanian
Mr. Muthiah Subash
Mr. Sathyamoorthy Shanmugam
Mr. Senthilkumar Palanivelu
Ms. Ramya Velu
Mr. Ravi Calyanakoti
Mrs. Radhika Narayanan
Mr. Venkatesan Ellappan

We also have our most dedicated Library volunteers:

Mrs. Poornima Rajagopalan
Mrs. Uma Chidambaram