



## New Year Greetings from Eureka Superkidz!

*As 2012 brings new hope and cheer to children in Eureka villages in 11 districts, we thank all of you who have renewed your support to your adopted villages. We also welcome all the new donors of 2012 into the Eureka family. Your long-term support and commitment to these*

*villages is making a huge impact in children's lives. Over the last one year, more than 100 donors have visited their adopted villages and interacted with the children they support. We share with you narratives of some of these visits in this report. We hope all of you will get a chance this year to visit your villages, meet the children and the Eureka team and help us make a better impact in children's learning.*

*Each one of us would surely remember at least one favorite teacher from our school lives who played a role in making us what we are today. In this report we bring you some stories of dedicated Eureka tutors who are forming deep bonds with the children they teach. Their affection and strong belief that every child can learn and will learn will make a huge difference to these children in the long run.*



## Mohankumar learns to speak!

Mohankumar is 8 years old. He is hearing impaired. His parents are daily wage weavers. From when he was a small child, no one, including his parents spoke to him since he could not hear. Assuming that he would not be able to speak, they used gestures and signs to communicate with him.

Mohankumar joined our Eureka center in RK Pet block. His Eureka Tutor Mohana took a special interest in him. She says, "It took me three months to understand what was going on with Mohan Kumar. Whenever I found extra time I would speak loudly to him. I soon realized that whenever I spoke to him directly he would keenly observe my lip movements. Slowly after 6 months, he started making attempts to speak! I decided then that my main priority would be to first make him speak and then teach him other things."



Mohankumar has attended the Eureka center regularly for the past one year. He has now started speaking well! His parents were extremely moved to see him talking to the other children in the center. Now Mohankumar can read aloud English alphabets and small words in Tamil. His parents are filled with gratitude for Eureka Tutor Mohana whose efforts and confidence in their son has changed his life forever.

## Sudha: Pursuing her passion for teaching...

Sudha is the Eureka Tutor in Vinayagapuram village of Tiruttani. She lives with her mother, sister and brother, none of whom have regular income. Sudha had a polio attack when she was a child and cannot walk. Despite her physical disability, Sudha was very keen to teach children and became the Eureka Tutor in her village.

Sudha has been taking Eureka classes for more than one and a half years now. She is now enrolled in a B.A. English correspondence course and is very keen to get all the children in her class to speak English well. She does not let her disability hamper her enthusiasm and attends all the Eureka events in the block regularly using her wheelchair. We are touched by her dedication and love for teaching children in her village.



## Rick Sadle takes a long trip to meet Eureka children of his adopted villages...

Rick Sadle runs a restaurant called Salvador Molly's in Portland, USA. The restaurant often organizes fund raisers for different projects. Last year Rick raised funds to support 2 Eureka villages in Dharmapuri district. Inspired by the thought of visiting children in his adopted villages, he planned the details of his visit many months in advance. In November 2011, Rick caught a flight to India to spend time to fully understand the work he is contributing to. He spent a week in Dharmapuri visiting Eureka centers, talking to tutors, parents and interacting with children.

Before coming to India, Rick collected videos of children in an American public school, and asked them to write letters to children in his adopted villages in Inida. The Eureka team translated these letters to Tamil for the children in the villages to read. Rick also got Eureka children from his villages to record messages for their newfound friends across oceans. Children enjoyed recording songs and stories for their friends in America, including one little girl's story about how much she misses her cow since it died a few weeks ago.



A keen and gifted photographer, Rick put together videos and pictures of his experience so that he could showcase them at his fundraisers and gather more support for these villages. The compilation of his pictures is accessible here <http://rsadle.smugmug.com/Children/Eureka-SuperKidz>. He also conducted a photography workshop for the Eureka team.

Rick Sadle sums up his experience saying, "We will continue sponsoring our two villages again this year, and hopefully for many more years to come. I plan to come back to visit my villages as soon as I can. The kids really touched my heart."

## Chinnadamalcheru gets a new Learning Center!

Ajay Ramachandran was one of the first Eureka donors to adopt a village. Last month, he supported the construction of a learning center in his adopted village in memory of his father Sri S. Ramachandran. Last month, he inaugurated the learning center in the village. He observed the activities of the class and interacted with the children. Parents in Chinnadamalcheru are very happy that their children now can learn undisturbed in an enclosed space.



## Citi volunteers give children a fun day out

Citibank volunteers in Coimbatore conducted a workshop on 'What is a bank' for Eureka SuperKidz children in Thondamuthur block. Children played games where they were given play-money and asked to buy the things they liked and save some of the remaining.



The volunteers then converted the venue into a mock bank and children were asked to fill in deposit forms and write cheques. They learnt how to fill these forms and give them at the 'counter'. At the end of the day, each child was given an 'hundial' (or piggy-bank) which they could use to save money. Children returned to their villages in the evening, full of stories about what they had learnt that day.

