

SRM COLLEGE OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

SRM Medical College Hospital & Research Centre

Kattankulathur- 603203

World Occupational Therapy Day–Community Outreach Programme

THEME: *Creating Awareness on Autism Spectrum Disorder*

Date: 20-11-2024

Venue - Euro Kids Preschool, Guduvanchery

The SRM College of Occupational Therapy has been on behalf of celebrating World Occupational Therapy Month October 2024 with a community outreach program that has focused on "*Creating Awareness on Autism Spectrum Disorder*". Teachers can play a crucial role in recognizing signs of autism, especially since children with autism are often observed in the classroom setting for long periods of time. Creating awareness for autism is essential to promote understanding, reduce stigma, support early intervention, and stand-in a more inclusive society for individuals with autism spectrum disorder.

The Outreach program was held on 20th November 2024 for parents and teachers in "*Euro Kids Preschool, Guduvanchery*". A total of 15 teachers and parents participated. This event was organized under the guidance of Mr. D. Anbarasu, Associate Professor at SRM College of Occupational Therapy and Mrs. Sreelekha S, Assistant Professor at SRM College of Occupational Therapy and the sessions were conducted by the occupational therapy internship students Jayashree S, Janavi sree R, Gokul Ram S and Dayanidi SK.

This was followed by event focused on topics such as autism and its signs and symptoms, roles and routines and the role of occupational therapists for the children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. The session also included a question-and-answer segment where teachers and parents could ask for advice and suggestions. This interactive part of the event with teachers and parents by Mr. D.Anbarasu sir, gave a personalized guidance and practical thoughts that can be implemented at school and home to support their children with autism.

Overall, the event provided an opportunity to learn more about autism and connect with professionals offering expert support and recommendations. The program emphasized active

participation and encouraged valuable feedback from teachers and parents based on their personal experiences.



