“Out of the mouths of babes… come words of wisdom”. Anyone who has children knows the truth of this! During our May Intensive, the Voice of God has spoken often through the young participants.

One of the “Bull’s Eye Enlightenment Points” (BEEPS) I tried to inculcate was “Do your Dharma!” Dharma was defined as “Responsibility”. The real meaning of responsibility was defined as “ability to respond”. This in turn demands alertness, awareness. And what was the consequences of failing to do one’s Dharma? One received Dandanai! Dandanai in Tamil means punishment. Punishment has always been mental out with a stick, which was an essential piece of equipment for any teacher in older time. If you didn’t do your Dharma, (your studies) you got punished by getting hit with a stick! (Though this is banned today as cruel, it had its basic effectiveness and pupils learned quickly. Even today Indian students who migrate abroad shine in their studies. The “Dandanai” has penetrated into their genes and makes them alert and awakened). A “Danda” is actually a “stick” or a “walking stick”. Hence, Dandanai has come to mean punishment.

Back to Dharma. The point was: if one doesn’t do Dharma, one get “Dandanai”, who gives the Dandanai? Why, the Lord Himself! What is this Dandanai – it is sickness accident, unhappiness and failure! The discussions were raucous and filled with laughter and fun. But the best point of all was made by little Dhivya Priya. When I asked “How does God give the Dandanai?” She responded very truthfully, “With a very long stick!” Yes! God’s “stick” is very long indeed! That is why it takes so long for us to “feel the blows” of our refused to perform on our ignorance of Dharma! But the blow eventually falls, and then we know something is wrong! But, because of the time to takes to hit us, sometimes it is difficult to feel the connection between mistake on lapse in Dharma and the punishment!

The closer we get to God the shorter his tick becomes! This has a big advantage, because we feel the blows almost immediately after making the mistake! Hence, we become more aware of cause – effort and we learn faster which actions, words and thought are “A-dharmic” and hence to be avoided!

All these thoughts sprung from a six year’s old observation that God carries a very long stick! Truly – A Bull Eye Enlightenment Point hit home on target!