

Highlights of Activities of Karma-Yoga Leadership Experiential Project during Jan-Mar 2014

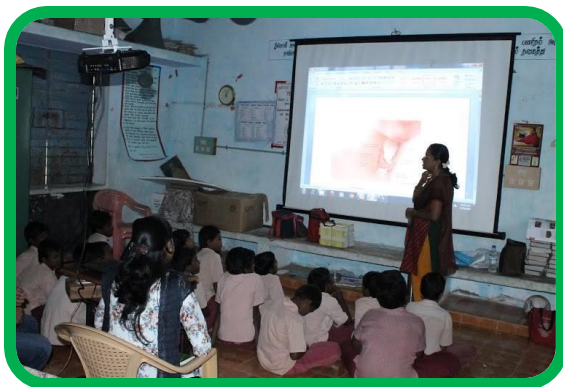
Great Lakes Institute of Management (<http://greatlakes.edu.in/>) became a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact's Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) in 2013. This quarterly newsletter is published with the objective of sharing with others the way in which the institute inculcates responsible behavior in students.

Great Lakes win Innovative ideas for rural development award at Rural Marketing Forum



Great Lakes received an award by Rural Marketing Forum, under the category of “Innovative ideas for rural development”. Mr. Avinash Oza, Chairman, Rural Marketing Forum 2014 & Group Director Brand Communications, DDB Mudra Max, Mumbai presented the award at the Rural Marketing Forum and Awards function, held at Taj Lands’ End, Mumbai. Karma-Yoga team submitted a paper in the 'Organizational Award Category' under topic 'Innovative Ideas for Rural Development'. This paper highlighted the unique Karma Yoga Leadership

Experiential project of Great Lakes and dealt with Kitchen garden initiative as one of the examples. The title of the paper was 'rural development through Karma Yoga Leadership experiential project: A case study example of Kitchen garden initiative.



Health & Hygiene awareness sessions – Pattikkadu

It is quite often seen that health and personal hygiene education is ignored when it comes to educating adolescent female students. Considering the gap in education Team Pattikkadu decided to organize a session on health and personal hygiene for female students within the Pattikkadu school premises. Mrs.Megla from Tamil Nadu Science Forum conducted a session where she illustrated various hormonal and physiological changes female body goes through. Moreover she educated them on the importance of yoga as a part of healthy life style.

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Workshop with the Tamil Nadu Science Forum



The Karma yoga team conducted an event cum workshop under the guidance of experts from the Tamil Nadu Science Forum. The event witnessed good participation by facilitators from three villages, and representations from other villages. The TNSF team interacted with the villagers and explained the relevance and importance of logic and observation through simple snippets such as time-distance, geometry etc. The TNSF team also encouraged the participants to be more creative and promote the same in their respective villages. They also demonstrated and taught the village representatives the art of Origami and how they can utilize the limited resources to create new things.

Karma Yoga Kitchen Garden Event- Echankaranai



The Karmayoga team of Great Lakes Institute of Management organized an event on Kitchen Gardening along with Mr A. Sami from the Centre for Culture and Development (CCD) on 16th February 2014. 50 people from 6 villages participated in this event held at Echankarani village. Mr. A.Sami kick-started the event and highlighted the efforts of Great Lakes students in spreading the organic farming initiative to the other surrounding villages. Sami was successful in arousing the interest of the audience. The momentum was continued by Mr. Kalaiselvan. The villagers have now got a tremendous amount of motivation to become self-sufficient and to lead a healthier life style by growing a kitchen garden and adopting organic techniques of farming.

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Science Club Inauguration – Nallur



When we informed the kids about the idea of forming a Science club in the village, the kids were very excited about the whole idea. We roped in a group of 20 kids to kick start the club. Post registration we invited officials from the Tamil Nadu Science Forum to formally inaugurate the “Kalpana Chawla Science Club” at Nallur. The kids had an interactive session with the officials and clarified many of their doubts. The officials were much impressed by the interest shown by the kids and as a follow up we conducted a Star Gazing event organized by the TNSF on the 21st of March.

Star Gazing Event – Poonthandalam



A star gazing event has been conducted by Mr. Parthasarathy from Tamil Nadu Science Forum. Mr. Sada Sivam, Teacher at Poonthandalam Mother Teresa Tution Center, was instrumental in organizing this camp in the village. The event started with a brief given by Mr. Parthasarathy (Member of TNSF) on what the TNSF club is all about and what all activities they are planning as part of club activities for the student. He discussed with the students their understanding of the solar system, stars and constellations & then initiated with the process of star gazing. The event was a great success forming a strong bond between the Tution Center and TNSF.

Eye Camp – Kunnathur



With the help of Uma Eye Care Clinic, Kunnathur team has been able to conduct one specialized eye camp for the villagers on 9th March, 2014. Total 109 patients attended this camp for primary check up and 33 of them were diagnosed with the problem of cataract including some young children. However as a follow-up of this camp, the team of Uma Eye Care Clinic promised to take these patients to their hospital and assist in getting operated at subsidized rate. Many patients were provided spectacles and medicines free of cost. The event was preceded by massive campaigning of around 2-3 days by the team to make people understand the importance of this camp, which paid out well when the number of participants crossed the mark 100.

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Republic Day celebration & Science Club Inauguration – Kothimangalam



Kothimangalam team inaugurated a science club, named 'C.V. Raman Science Club' for the secondary students in their village with help and assistance from Tamil Nadu Science Forum. Twenty kids from the school volunteered to be the part of the science club. A leader and a treasurer were appointed to carry on the activities of the club every week. The event of inauguration on republic Day started with TNSF people showing basic science experiments on physical pressure difference to the kids. Then it took a form of workshop on different scientific principles and their representation on our daily life. The event observed spontaneous interaction from the part of the students and ended with distribution of sweets.

Tree Plantation – Kuzhipanthandalam



With the aim to contribute to the nature and create awareness among children, the Kuzhipanthandalam village team organized a tree plantation drive in the village on Republic Day. With all the members dressed in green color to resonate with the theme of the visit, around 25 saplings were planted in the school compound. An essay writing competition was also organized on the same day and some of the students also gave a speech on the various visionary leaders like Mahatma Gandhi, Dr. Abdul Kalam and others. Prizes were distributed to the winners and participants. Also there were many cultural dance forms and other plays organized by the students

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General Medical Camp – Vasavasamudram



A general health check-up camp was organized in vasuvasamudram with the extended coordination and support from Ponnaiyah Ramajayam Institute of Medical Sciences (PRIMS). Team arranged this camp at the school premises for which they got spontaneous help from the headmistress and the teachers of the school. The medical team from PRIMS consisted of two doctors, three medical coordinators and a group of medical students and interns. More than 70 people attended the camp and all of them were distributed free medicine. Before the camp, the Vasavasamudram KY team made a strong door-to-door campaigning for the event with distribution of pamphlets scribed with details.