



## *Poorna Learning Centre*

*Newsletter- August 2017*

### **The Ragi Project**

Students of Alpha went ***insect hunting*** with *Dr. Seena Narayanan*, an entomologist. With high levels of enthusiasm, insect sweep nets, forceps and vials the children scoured the farm. Every few minutes, Seena was called to identify and confirm names.

While heading back to school, one student quipped, *“These days I want to be so many things! One day I want to be an archaeologist, another day I want to be an entomologist...”*



***The wonders of organic farming*** interested students and budding farmers visited Narayan Reddy’s farm in Doddaballpur to exchange notes and learn from his organic farming experience.

The day was spent discovering and spending time with wonderful fruits and trees; the passion fruit creeper, never-ending fields of *huli soppu*, chikoo trees and butter-fruit ready to be plucked any time!



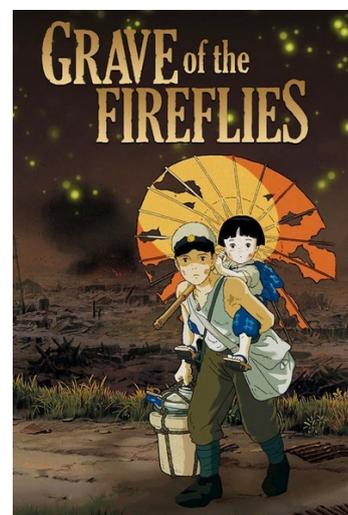


## Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki

Mr. Swanand Kulkarni (a Poorna parent) spent a few hours with students of Omicron, Lambda, Psi and Alpha making Origami Paper Cranes. Students also shared the story of *Sadako Sasaki and a thousand paper cranes*, a Japanese girl who was only two years old when the atom bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

### Movie Screening: *Grave of the Fireflies*

The students of Gamma watched the *Grave of the Fireflies* a powerful and moving Japanese war movie about two siblings during World War II. After witnessing this cinematic wonder, one student wrote, *“The movie is a bomb of emotion and at the end, you don’t know whether to be happy, sad or just empty... I believe that slightly older children would greatly benefit from watching this movie.”*



### FRLHT visit

Students of Gamma and Omega got an opportunity to learn about plant physiology. They had a session on identification of medicinal plants. Students learnt about the biodiversity around the FRLHT campus and measures taken for local habitat conservation.



## Oral History Exhibition at Vidyashilp Academy

Omega and Psi were able to experience a presentation and exhibition by students of Vidyashilp which was a culmination of a year spent researching different communities in Bengaluru. Students engaged in extensive research in different locations like Yelahanka, Jakkur, Malleswaram and Hebbal. They were able to present their work like the journey of a weaver family from Andhra Pradesh through documentaries, plays, charts and collages. Our students came back with interesting anecdotes and some have been inspired to embark on similar projects. One student new to Bangalore said, “*I learnt about Vidyashilp’s history- from changes in uniforms to their evolving logo. I did get to learn a lot about Bangalore’s history and that was interesting.*”

## Making Music !



Students of Psi attended a workshop organised by the Indian Sonic Research Organisation at Mallya Aditi School. The students enjoyed exploring and experimenting with apps like *Ableton Live* and *Garage Band*; “*We made music!*” On the last day of the workshop the students made a robot that reflected their learning over the course of the workshop.

## Janmashtami

Janmashtami celebrations at school created a lot of excitement among the students. Three *handis* filled with goodies were up for grabs and all students tried their luck at breaking the beautifully decorated pots.



## Celebrating 70 years of Independence

Independence Day saw everyone ready to discuss what freedom meant to them; remembering the unsung heroes of the freedom struggle and celebrating symbols of India's independence. The day witnessed a puppet show, students dressed up as freedom fighters, dances and a beautiful rendition of the bhajan, *Vaishnava Jana To*.

