



## Poorna Learning Centre

### Newsletter

September-October 2017

#### No answers, just stories...

Training under Santosh and Punith from Ninasam, the students of the theatre activity group have been putting up monthly performances in school.

Their latest offering was about the magical world of stories. Posters extolling the virtues of storytelling adorned the walls of the school and students vied for the best spot in the balcony, diving into the worlds the young performers built for them.



#### a LIVE insect zoo

The budding entomologists and arachnologists of Poorna have been captivated by the insects they encounter every day.

A visit to the insectarium at Indian Council for Agricultural Research-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (ICAR-NBAIR) was organised to understand their life and world better.

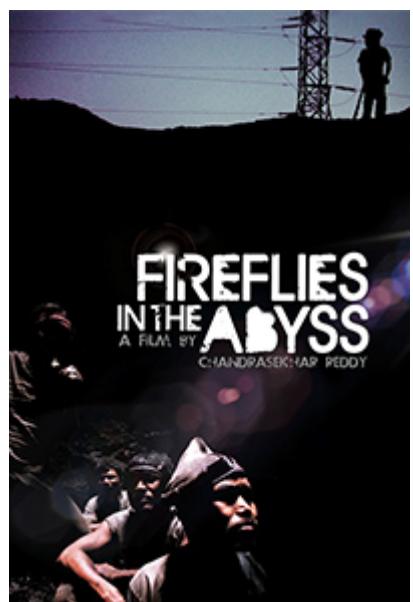
The live displays were fascinating and we learnt a lot about the insect world - from the Indian stingless bee to the dung beetles we last saw at the ragi farm. Dr. Joshi, Ms. Shashikala, Ms. Lalitha and Mr. Arvind at ICAR-NBAIR shared stories and trivia about the insects on display; from their role as biocontrol agents to their medicinal properties.



Thank you, Dipika and students of Zeta for organizing this visit for us!

### **Documentary Screening: Fireflies in the Abyss**

Award-winning filmmaker, Chandrasekar Reddy (also a Poorna parent) was amongst us for a screening and discussion of his documentary, *Fireflies in the Abyss*.

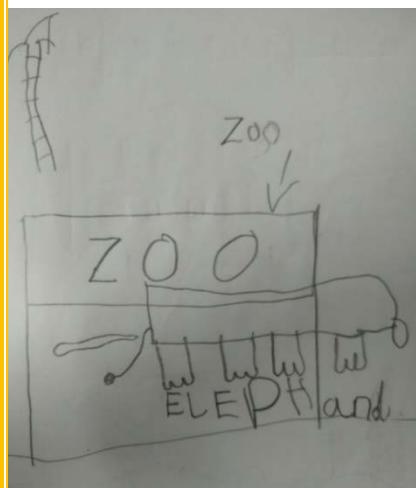
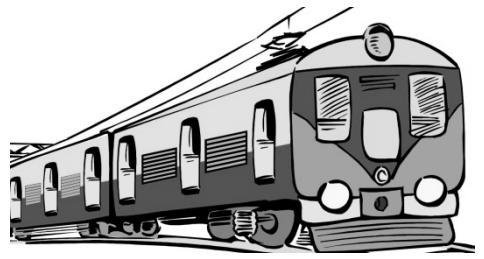


Set in the Jaintia Hills, the movie traces the journey of Suraj and others as they descend day after day into the coal mines.

## Making memories...

Travelling the length and breadth of the country, this year, like every year, students explored different parts of the country during their school trips.

Here, we bring you some highlights from different destinations:



### *Majestic Mysuru!*

The youngest groups; Eta and Theta packed their bags for their first ever school trip to the beautiful city of Mysuru. They loved the giraffes and the elephants in the zoo and enjoyed the railway museum too.

*"Do you know, we went on a boat to a mangrove forest?*

*P-p-pichh..Pichavaram!"*

Rho and Kappa visited Puducherry and Mahabalipuram.

Their happiest memories were being close to the water and visiting the beach.



*"I loved swimming and camping, it was so adventurous!"*

*I miss Honnemaradu."*



Zeta and Alpha visited Honnemaradu, the land of the *Honne* trees. They spent close to a week learning to swim and paddle in the beautiful, pristine waters of the Linganamakki reservoir.

### **Wah, Taj!**

Epsilon and Gamma travelled up north to discover the rich history, architecture and culture of Delhi and Agra.

*"I loved the inlay work at the Taj Mahal. We couldn't see the peacock throne but it would have been amazing if we had!"*



Some of their favourite moments were at the Qutub Minar and the Taj Mahal, playing in the lawns of Humayun's Tomb, celebrating their peers' birthdays and shopping at Janpath.

### **Odisha; temples, beaches and new friends**

Omega travelled to Bhubaneshwar, Chilka lake, Puri beach and the Agragamee school in Kashipur.

The highlight of their trip was an inspiring and humbling walk, crossing streams and walking 7km alongside students from Agragamee (a trek some students of the school undertake every day!)



### An Ashram, a Film City and Tigers

Psi, Omicron and Lambda travelled to Maharashtra with a short stop at Ramoji Film City in Hyderabad. Their trip was a combination of fun, learning and experiencing nature and wildlife at close quarters.

Amid claims of leopard and tiger sightings at Tadoba, one student cannot forget the number of spiders they spotted... *“there were more spiders than tigers at Tadoba!”*

The visit to Baba Amte’s ashram inspired many students, *“I loved this quote I saw at the ashram; The language of kindness is heard by the deaf and seen by the blind.”*

