



# SELF LEARNING CAMP NEWSLETTER | 2022

VOLUME 01, ISSUE 02 | OCTOBER 09, 2022 – October 13, 2022 | Yercaud



*One's destination is never a place, but a new way of seeing things...*

## Camp Highlights

- Outdoor Adventures.
- Team Building.
- Life Skills.
- Fun activities.
- Navigation Skills.

## Day 1

### Travel to new places imparts new vigor to the mind

Leadership and decision making are the pivotal skills that mould us into a socially conscious being. To inculcate the same, the students began their enriching journey to SELF LEARNING CAMP. Traveling is fun and it gets more exciting and fun-filled when it is with our friends. The flurry of activities started early on the fine Sunday morning, where all students of Class XI students were gathered with their respective parents in school premises, raring to start their camp journey. Our Headmaster Mr A. Ahamad Azad distributed customised bags to students and escorting teachers.

The journey, aimed at fostering the young minds started at 6:30 a.m. from the school campus. The student caravan stopped for an hour and half to load themselves up on the breakfast planned at A2B

restaurant and resumed the journey ahead with much gusto and enthusiasm. The students reached the site at 2:30 pm following a 13 km jungle ride.

Soon after their arrival at campsite, students were assembled and given detailed instructions regarding do's and don'ts of the camp by Inme campus chief. Subsequently, all the participants were served with sumptuous lunch where in the students abided by the rule of zero food wastage and washed their respective food plates.

After a short break post the long journey, the students played creative games which helped them polish their social skills followed by snacks and a mug of hot chocolate/tea. The students and teachers then wrapped up the day with soulful supper and went to sleep.

## Day 2

### One must stop worrying about the potholes in the road and enjoy the journey!

It is said that life was meant for big adventures and good friends. With the campsite serving as the perfect picture of green drenched by the overnight rains, the students woke up to a wet morning and cool breeze filled with the sweet melody of the local birds. Many of the students had woken up very early driven by the excitement to start the day's activities. Making most of the pristine weather and environment, children were engaged in campus fun activities instead of going for the acclimatization hike in wake of the wet weather. After eating their breakfast, children left for their individual activities at 9:00 a.m.

The students were divided into 2 groups and each group was assigned a set of activities planned for the day ahead. The first group was called the "Azad OP" and the second was named "Jungli Warriors". Due to the wet weather and slippery rocks, the campus chief decided to replace the rock-climbing activities with ropes course elements to ensure safety of the students and staff.

The Azad OP completed three activities in ropes course namely Commando ropes, Friendly ladder



and The Big V- Walk. The commando ropes is an obstacle course made of ropes and logs which the group had to climb and descend. The students were given protective head gears and harnesses before the climb. The activity was aimed at developing physical and mental strength to overcome hurdles. The Big V - walk was aimed at developing mutual trust between two individuals.



Wherein two group members had to hold hands and walk the V shaped tightrope without falling down.

While the Azad OP team was undergoing the rope elements, the jungle warriors were being trained for backpacking and navigation skills. The group went on a hiking expedition with one of the instructors and learnt how to navigate their route with the help of map reading and route making. The group learnt the mountain manners and decorum required during hiking in the mountains.

After their respective activities, both teams came back to the camp to have scrumptious lunch. The lunch menu included Pasta, French Fries, garlic bread and so on. The group members then refreshed and got ready for the next set of outdoor activities that were conducted at 2:45 pm. After the successful completion of all the activities, they had a snack break. After games again the groups separated to share their reflections about the day's activity with their team. After lip-smacking dinner, all of them went to their tents to sleep. Ultimately it was a wonderful day to remember.



## Day 3

### All good things are wild and free!

The drizzle continued the second night at the camp and further took shape of the heavy downpour in the morning of day 3. The students woke up to the sound of rain which seemed even louder in the absence of city noise. The children remain indoors the entire morning and did not engage in power up activities due to the wet conditions. As the campsite waited out the rain, the children ate their breakfast in the meantime. By this time, it had stopped drizzling and children could finally walk out for their activity sessions.

Today was the day of interchanging of activities performed by Jungli warriors and Azad OP. While Jungli warriors were to be engaged in high rope elements, Azad OP were to be engaged in backpacking and navigating skill session.

After their respective activities, both teams came back to the camp to have tasty lunch. Post lunch the students of both the groups got some rest and set out for Tree Jumaring activity. In Tree jumaring, students had to climb the tree with the help of ropes and descend down. This activity improves the core-strength along with the adrenaline rush of physical activity. All the students were duly prepared before the start of the activity.

Post Tree Jumaring, students came back to camp site and made some advertisements as part of group activity. The day ended with the dinner and students went to their respective tents to catch some sound sleep after a fruitful day and expectations of a new day filled with more adventure and fun.



## Day 4

### Adventure is the way of life!

After 2 days of wet and damp conditions, children woke up to a bright and sunny day on 4<sup>th</sup> morning of the camping expedition. As usual there was no dearth of energy and excitement among children. They all looked fresh and keen to go for another day full of excitement and learning.

Students completed their power up activities, ate their breakfast and left for Target Jumping activity. This activity was the favorite among children and became the highlight of the camping trip. The adrenaline rush and group support helped children overcome their fears which shall keep them in a good stead to face various challenges in life.



Post lunch, students gathered for *in me* Olympics organized by the camp wherein Helter-Skelter activity were planned. Students were divided among multiple teams for these activities with each team cheering for their group at top of their voice.

After eating their evening snack, students gathered for the reflection as it was the last night at the camp site. The reflection was followed by the talent night where students showcased their fabulous talents like singing, dancing etc. To top off the glorious day, there was a campfire session in the night. Children soaked themselves in the warmth of the campfire and called the day off by hitting the bed in their respective tents.

## Day 5

### Sometimes it is necessary to take the road less travelled

Children woke up to a bright and sunny day for their final day at the camp. As sense of disappointment of leaving the camp could be sensed on their bright faces. Students gathered for a small meeting called “Chota Hazri” at KPRD (*Khana Peena Rona Dhona*) wherein students were briefed about the course of action for the remainder of the day. After eating their breakfast at 8 a.m. it was time to implement the four days of learnings at the campsite. The most important rule and principal to survive in the wild is to leave no trace (LNT). To implement the same, students obediently cleaned the entire campus and disposed the waste properly to leave the campsite speck and span.

Post the LNT, students gathered for a session of closure and reflection.

This session was aimed at team building and sharing of experiences from the five days of camping. Students opened up about their experiences and

indulged in some serious self-reflection and key take-away from their experience in the wild. Every student reflected on their learnings and things or habits they would leave behind from the day onwards and what new habits they would develop going forward. There was a sense of calmness among students and a tighter bond among them could be clearly reflected.

At 12 noon everyone had an early lunch, students gathered their luggage and kept it at the designated area. At 1:30 p.m. it was time to bid goodbye to the campsite and with a heavy heart students loaded their luggage on the minibus. Students thanked their hosts and boarded the minibus which dropped them at Yercaud. From Yercaud, students and staff boarded another bus to Coimbatore thus taking the road back home.



The calm and serene faces of students told a story of self-learning that textbooks may not be able to impart. There was a clear reflection of transformation among students which was beautiful and amazing to watch. These 5 days made them realize the importance of organizing skills, team Play, trust building and accommodation for accomplishment in the life ahead. With these lovely memories and important life skills, students returned to their respective homes as better individuals. This indeed was a self-finding Camp.



## Glimpses of the Camp





