

# Newsletter

January '24



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Chettinad  
**Vidya Mandir**  
VASUDHAIVAKUTUMBAKAM

To educate individuals to become compassionate and responsible global citizens who contribute towards sustainable development.

# Sports Day



The Annual Sports Meet (2023-24) was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January. The event began with a marching parade of all the four teams, with the captains carrying their respective team flags. The flag's colors emphasized the sport meet's goals of sportsmanship, teamwork, togetherness, learning, and guiding others. All the events, including the sports torch lighting, flag hoisting, inaugural dance, mass drill display, with pyramid formations, final track meet, and competition for parents were enthralling for the audience. Yellow House won the sports championship and took home the trophy.



# Pongal: Celebrating Differences



The most important part of Pongal Celebration is the Pongal. Grade 7 learners along with Ms. Meera Senthilkumar, a YouTuber, explored interesting ways to cook Pongal as a pre-event activity. Learners discussed differences in the recipes used in their homes and the nutritional value of the ingredients combined in pongal. Ms. Meera introduced them to 11 varieties of Pongal. Learners watched a demonstration on cooking Varagu Pongal and Chocolate Pongal. They also had a chance to taste Kalkandu Pongal and Ven Pongal. It was a joyful learning experience.

# School Pongal Celebrations



Pongal Celebration at Chettinad Vidya Mandir is a grand affair. This year too, we put in a lot of effort to ensure that authentic cultural and traditional practices were followed. There was a martial arts parade from the temple to the place of celebration. Learners from grades KG to 11 participated in collecting firewood, displaying Uttarayanam and Dakshinayanam, and decorating the school premises. Singing devotional songs, chanting mantras, dancing, performing skits, drawing rangoli, and playing native games was part of the celebration. Lighting the stove, Cow puja, and Suryanamaskar was performed along with temple music with great pomp and show. The celebration gave learners an opportunity to decode the science, value, and significance of the harvest festival.





# Republic Day Celebration



The 75<sup>th</sup> Republic Day was celebrated with a fine and resounding arrangement in the school premises on January 26. Learners from the High School participated. The National Flag was unfurled by the Principal. The 'Diamond Jubilee', as India became a republic on this day in 1950, was commemorated by a finely tuned agenda that comprised a learner's speech, song, dance, and Principal's Address. The celebration ended with the National Anthem.



# Setu Bandhan



Role-playing is a method in which learners can easily be inspired by the characters they play. Grade 3 learners, as part of UTSAV, performed a portion of Setu Bhandhan that conveys the significance of equality, Dharmic endeavors, and Presence of Mind.

# Hostel Day Celebration



Hostel Day holds a special place in the hearts of the hostellers, who spend a lot of time with Acharyas and their peers both during and beyond school. The hostellers stunned the guests with their talents in dance, music, and venue decoration. Junior hostellers presented handmade gifts to the outgoing Grade 12 learners. This celebration was emotional and gave the hostellers unforgettable memories to be remembered and rejoiced in the future.

# Utsav Field Trip to Thanjavur



Field trips are one thing that no one dares to miss. A trip to the Tanjai Brahadeeshwarar Temple was organized for Grade 7 learners as part of their UTSAV topic "Temple Architecture". The vimanam, kalasam, tower, shrine, murals, idols, statues, saints, mantras, songs, devotional chants, and charming scenery were well-admired by the learners. The historian-guide and temple officials discussed the temple's history, astonishing facts, and several of its amazing secrets. It was an educational and an informative field trip for the learners.

# Utsav - Temple Art and Architecture



UTSAV is an event that enables learners to appreciate and figure out the hidden marvels of Temple art, architecture, ancient manuscripts, and scriptures. Middle school learners attended the sessions representing these topics. Mr. Ramachandra Sekar, who has a wealth of knowledge on temple architecture, helped Grade 7 students comprehend various terminologies such as the Kalasha, Amalaka, Garbhagriha, Shikhara, Antarala, Mahamandapa, Mandapa, and Pradhakshina Patha. Learners also found the history of Raja Raja Chozha mesmerising. Grade 8 and Grade 6 learners explored various scriptures and manuscripts and their influence on the history of our country. Learners were blown away by the facts presented by the facilitator.

# Eye and Dental Camp



CVM-Wellness Committee organized an eye camp with Sathish Eye Care & Hospital and a dental camp with Vivekananda Dental College, for all the learners on 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2024, in the school campus. All the learners and school members took advantage of this opportunity.

# Pretend Play



Early-year learners get excited the topic is related to 'animals'. During the Pretend Play, learners discovered the animal sounds related to the masks they wore. Through this interactive activity, they gained a better understanding of wild animals and their distinct sounds.

# Recording Data



Data handling is no longer a concept for higher grades. Grade 1 students, with eagerness, investigated the skills required for a sorting-out activity. They gathered all the available countable materials in their classroom and sorted them according to their types. Proper tabulation was used to record the sorted materials, which helped them develop the techniques required for organizing. Finally, they presented the tabulation-full-of-data on the sorted materials, to their peers in groups.

# Understanding Change



“Change is one thing that never changes”. Grade 3 learners used discussion with peers to reflect on changes they have experienced over time. Learners compared their days with those of their grandparents’ and opined on how science and innovative technology has reformed lifestyles in the past three or four decades. To better understand how their actions can lead to change, learners participated in an activity titled “Capricious”. They experimented with actions like erasing drawings, breaking twigs, melting candles, sprinkling water, mopping floors, and drying clothes, to observe the relationship between action and change.



# Perimeter and Area



Measuring objects is an interesting. Grade 4 learners experimented with measuring various materials and objects. By measuring and adding the sides of an object, learners calculated the perimeter. They did this both at school and at home. They chose many different objects, such as flooring tiles, wall separation tiles, pillars, furniture, a play area-maze, water tank lid, trees, and stone benches.

# Light and Shadow



The relationship between light and shadow is intriguing. Learners of Grade 4 used torches, an assortment of materials, and toys to create shadows. They correlated the objects in their hands, the light in proportion to the screen distance, and organized the shadow images on the screen. Learners decoded a lot of nuances involved in dealing with shadow properties. Furthermore, they collaboratively crafted the images to match their group's stories. Learners were able to zoom in and out appropriately to mirror the effects required for their shadow puppet story presentation during this experiential learning activity.

# Simple Machines



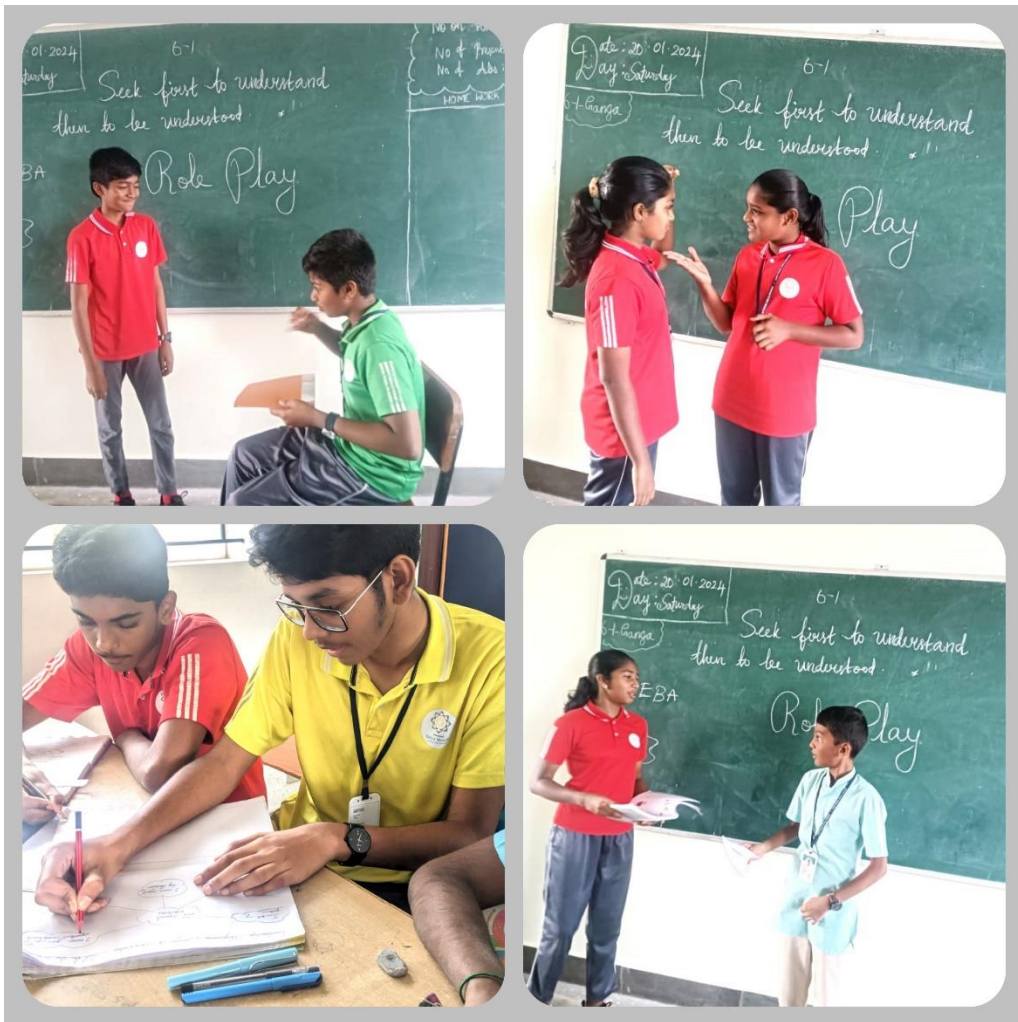
Learners unravelled 'The Secret of Machines' in a novel way. Grade 5 learners created models of simple machines such as pulleys, wheel and axle, syringes, wedges, and levers. They experimented with their simple machine to demonstrate its functionality and real-world applications. This process of manipulating the components of simple machines and visualizing their use enhances conceptual clarity and solidifies understanding.

# Purna Vidya



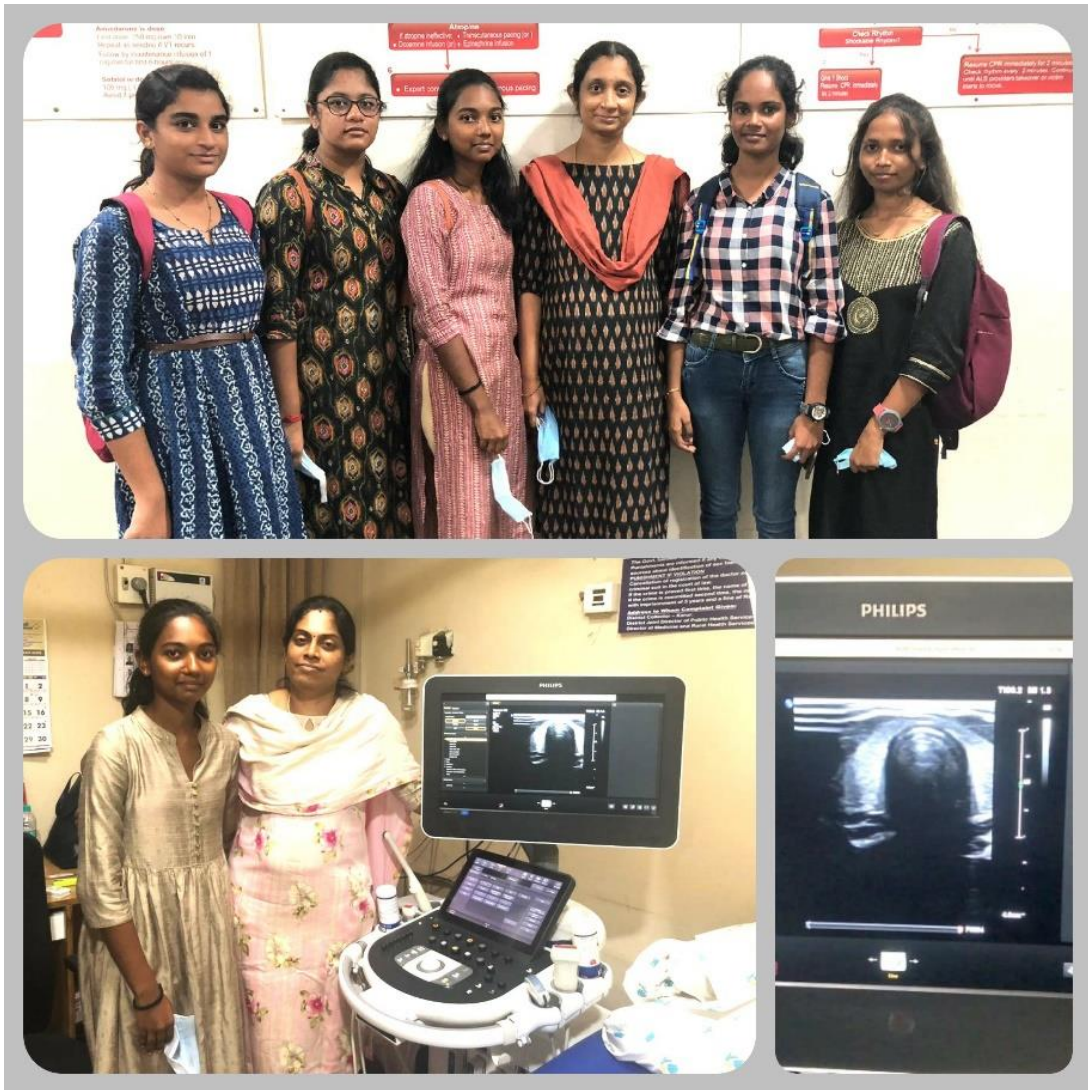
Learners of Grade 5 explored historical facts, science, and the significance of the sun in ancient Indian civilization through stories from the epic Mahabharatha. To better understand why Bhismacharya waited for Uttarayanam for his (Ichha Mrityu) death, learners studied ancient methods of recording the movement of the sun and its influence on the classification of months. They explored time periods named Uttarayanam and Dakshinayanam, and the reasons why our ancestors considered showing gratitude to the sun and nature important. Learners enthusiastically created a model based on these discussed points. Learners further connected the facts they had learned to the celebrations and festivals that occurred during Uttarayanam.

# Leadership Programme



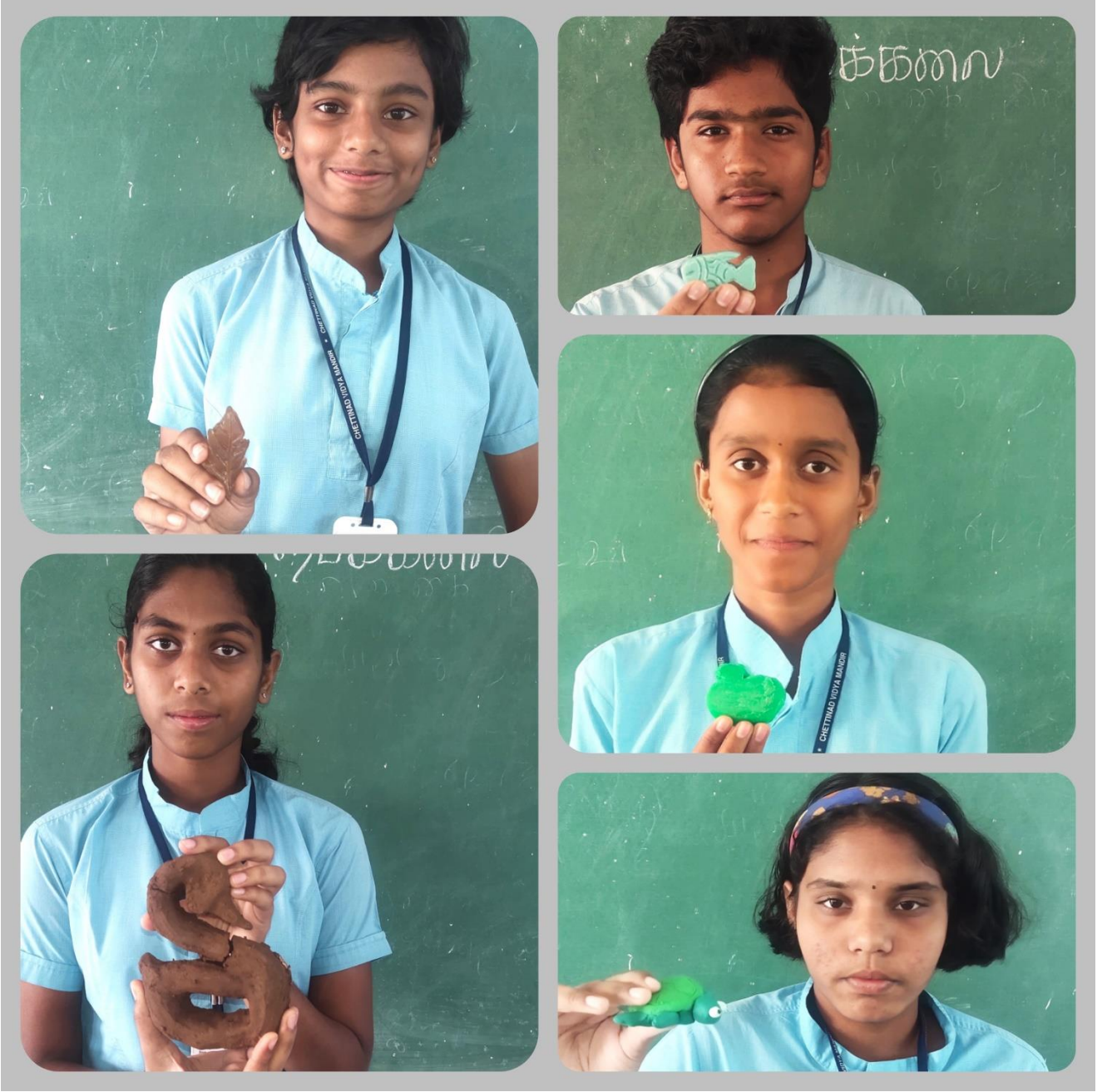
Learners of Grades 6 and 9 examined the habits - Seek First to Understand and to be Understood and Think Win-Win through role-play and web-chart. Grade 6 learners framed situations and decoded some basic and easy ways to be successful communicators. They realized listening to speakers attentively is an essential part of effective communication. Grade 9 learners prepared a self-analyzing web-chart titled "My Special Attributes" in which they recorded all their appreciative and to-be-improved characteristics. They also shared that recognizing one's own character strengths makes it simple to understand others', and this understanding is a crucial aspect of Think Win-Win.

# Internship Programme



Internships for Grades 9 and 11 were organized during the winter holidays at various organizations. For example, learners who were interested in medicine were introduced to the Apollo Hospitals in Karur for a weeklong program between December 23<sup>rd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Facility visits, discussions with doctors and officials, viewing and operating the machines, learning the correct terminology, and observing the process throughout the day enabled learners to explore the various opportunities available in the medical field.

# சிற்பக் கலை



தரம் 9 மாணவர்கள் சிற்பக்கலை பாடத்தை நன்கு கற்று உணர்ந்து தமிழர்களின் சிற்பக் கலையின் பெருமை உணர்ந்து மகிழ்ச்சி அடைகின்றனர். அதன் நீட்சியாக தங்கள் வீட்டில் உள்ள சோப்பு, களிமண், சுண்ணக் கட்டி ஆகியவற்றைக் கொண்டு தாம் விரும்பும் உருவங்களை உருவாக்கினர்.

# Comic Strips



Grade 7 learners created comic strips on "Growing up as Girls and Boys". They analysed the challenges that one faces due to their gender at different stages of life. During this activity, learners discussed gender differences and the advantages and challenges they face in public due to their gender. At the end of the activity, learners presented their comic strips and reflected on equality and respect for other genders. The learners were able to demonstrate their creativity, analytical thinking, problem-solving, and Think Win-Win traits through this activity.



# தமிழர் திருநாள்



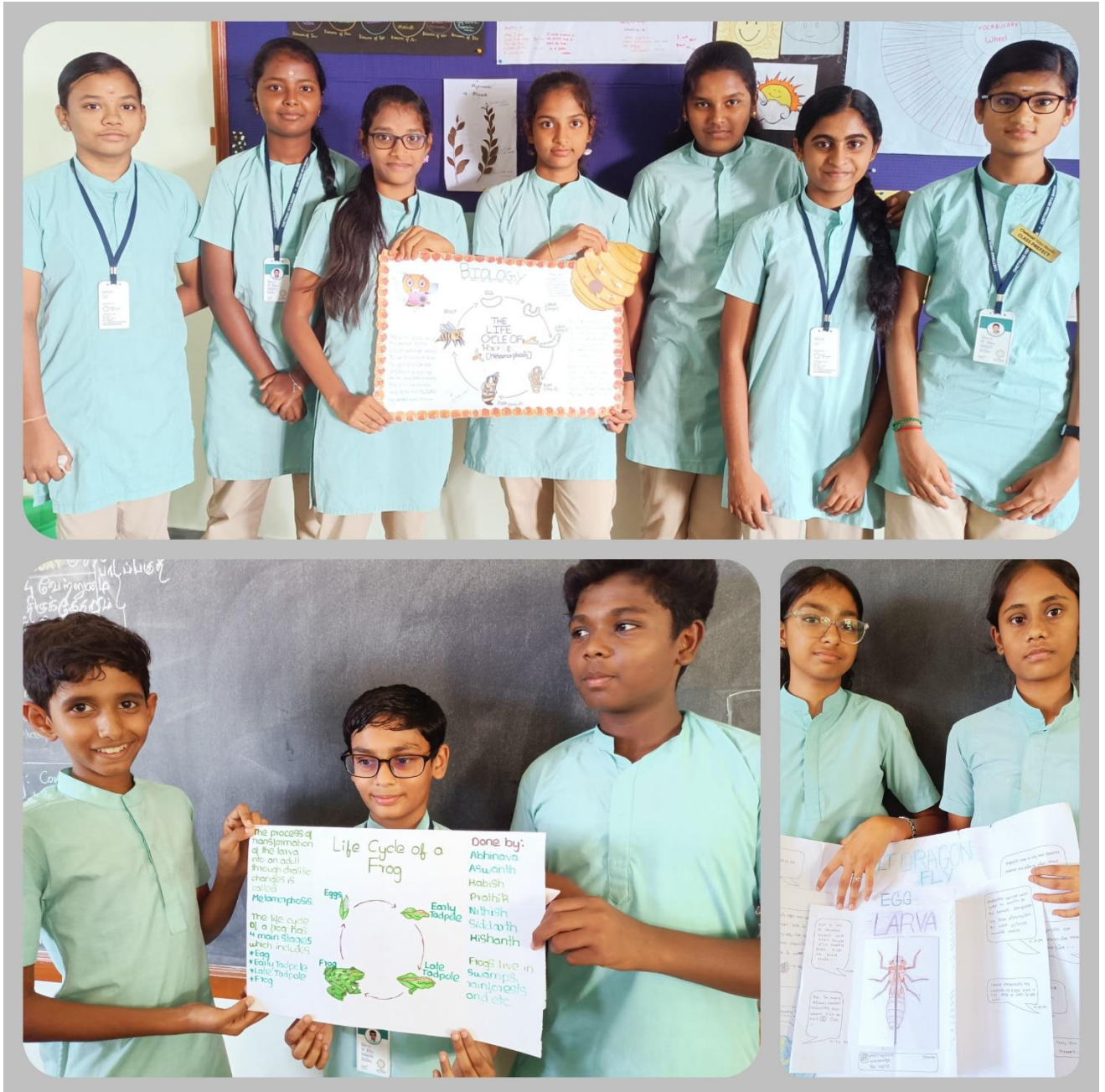
தமிழர் பெருவிழா என்னும் பாடத்திற்காக ஆறாம் வகுப்பு மாணவர்கள் பொங்கலின் பெருமையை உணர்த்தும் விதமாகவும், மற்றவர்களுக்கு தமிழர் திருநாளின் முக்கியத்துவத்தை உணர்த்தும் வகையில் பொங்கல் வாழ்த்து அழைப்பிதழ் அட்டைகளைத் தயாரித்துப் பகிரந்தனர். இதன் மூலம் அழைப்பிதழ் தயாரிக்கும் முறையினையும் அழைப்பிதழை வடிவமைக்கும் திறனையும் பெறுகின்றனர்.

# Mother Nature Leaf Dress



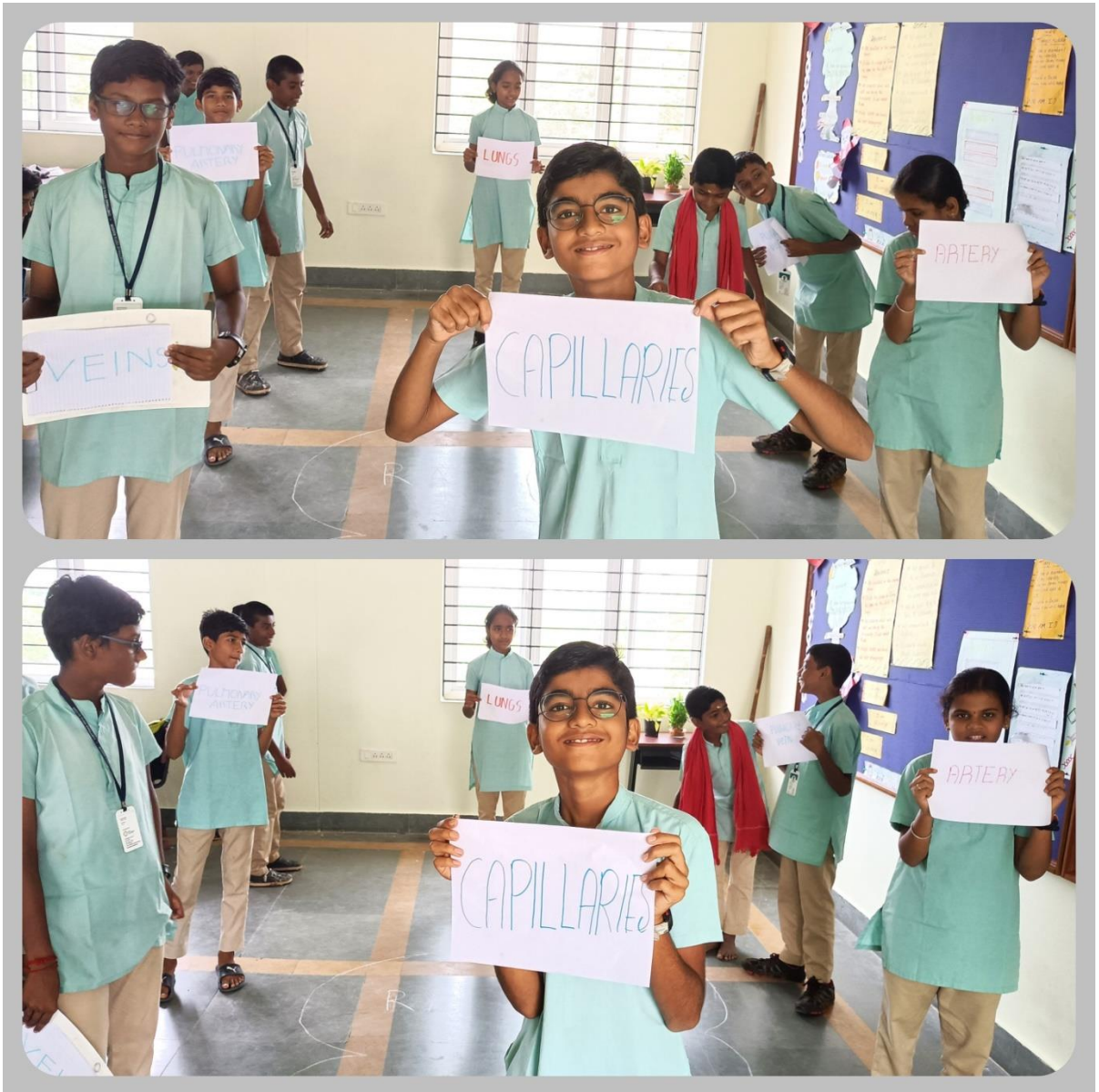
Nature Club members, during the weekend activity time, explored fashion designing dresses using new leaves, twigs, and threads. Learners were very creative and crafted crowns, necklaces, chains, and waistcoats for their peers. At the end, a catwalk was organized to model fashionably designed leaf-wear. Along with creativity, values such as zero waste, sustainability, and a love for nature were instilled.

# Storyboard



A storyboard activity was used for Grade 8 learners to introduce Metamorphosis during the Biology class. The learners meticulously prepared a storyboard that displayed the entire process of metamorphosis. Creativity, group discussion, teamwork, delegation of tasks, and interacting with peers were the objectives of this activity.

# Circulatory Relay



The Circulatory Relay activity for Grade 7 helped promote effective experiential learning in Biology. Learners used cue cards and relay to identify the topology of the blood pathway in the double circulatory system. As they ran along the pathway they had framed, the entire double circulation process was naturally clarified.



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