

The Tea Times



Issue: 31st March 2018

A newsletter by our Advanced Diploma Students

“Only a life lived in service to others is worth living.”

This article brings your attention to know about the Group Service Project of Term One. – read more on page 2.

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Keep on pushing!

Motivation is what GETS you going. Are you eager to see how TLV motivates their kids? – read more on page 3.

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A volunteer's experience at TLV!

This page describes two volunteers who visited Tea Leaf Vision for three weeks. Their visit was so beneficial and precious. – read more on page 5.

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An inspiration!

An inspiring change agent who became a teacher from 2012 batch– read more on page 6.

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Did – You – Know?

Teaching is a great feeling. Tea Leaf Vision provides an opportunity to the students to teach in the government schools once a week. This is what TLV does before they go and teach. –read more on page 5.

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Tea Leaf Vision is proudly supported by Tea Leaf Trust UK and Lebara foundation Sri Lanka



Message from the Staff:

I strongly believe that we need to be a voice for young children and also provide the opportunity for children themselves to have a voice to be change agents in their community. Tea Leaf Vision was established in this small remote area to ensure that young people who live in tea estates enhance their knowledge in English.

Tea Leaf Vision is one of the greatest examples for us to show how we celebrate diversity within the school. As a teacher I always see how it impacts their families and communities positively beyond question.

Educating the young adults who come from difficult family backgrounds and helping them to overcome their own problems is always challenging for us, but for sure all of the amazing human beings that I work with have no hesitation in giving their helping hand to them.

Anti-bias education involves creating a community that supports all human differences, including culture, race, language, ability, learning styles, ethnicity, family structure, religion, sexual orientation, gender, age, and socio-economic differences. As I believe we are the greatest example to show how we can educate the young adults nevertheless the differences they have.

In addition, it empowers our children by giving them a lucky chance to foster their confidence, critical thinking skills and so on.

Last but not least, there is nothing prouder for all of us who work here than being an inspiration in this amazing school.

Teacher – Ms. Rathnayake



Term One Group Service Project 2018

Mahatma Gandhi says “**Find yourself in the service of others**” Service is the action of helping others without any payment.

It makes us feel good and it keeps us away from being selfish. People from Maskeliya area are being supported by three different service projects that are organised by Tea Leaf Vision teachers and students. Term One Service Project finished successfully with **11,303 beneficiaries** around this communities. **176 Main Diploma Students, 12 Staff members, 1 volunteer** and **13 Advanced Diploma Students** involved in this project to serve the community. A large number of the people are surely proud about the students just because of the action that they did in the community, hence without a second thought we can say that the real changes start from Tea Leaf Vision.

There were 15 different places such as water tanks, library, bus stands, bus stops, crèches, dispensary and some schools. Nothing comes with ease; it takes a lot of hard work. Each year, people around Maskeliya benefit through the service projects which are organised by Tea Leaf Vision. We, as students are not only taught, we are also given chances to show our skills into practice.

I think if we only learn to study we actually do not learn, where as if we practice the lessons in our lives, we add a lot of values to our lives. We learned a lot of good things from the project such as teamwork, leadership, unity. We were able to talk about our school and the reputation of the school increased. Education impacts all of our lives. Having an education is what makes someone successful in life. As a student of TLV I learn a lot of good things at Tea Leaf Vision.

The quote you find next becomes true through the action we did and are doing. Yes, people will never forget how we made them feel through the service we do for them.

By: Ms. Sinduja



Term One Group Service Project - 2018

“People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

I know Tea Leaf Vision is making a lot of differences to people’s lives.

Once again, as a student of Tea Leaf Vision I believe we are given a number of chances to expose our talents and understand the real need of our community and to have an eye on them to support them.

We are all fortunate to have Tea Leaf Vision here in Maskeliya because

“Charity responds to the need, not the cause”

We are happy that we have done it and we thank you from our hearts.



The Students' View of Student Awards - 2018

Encouragement, it sounds a tiny thing, but encouragement isn't as small as we think, it can change a person's life up and down. It can lead a person to be stronger. It can make someone's life remarkable.

It's what we do with our students at Tea Leaf Vision. Students who work harder, who participate well in the lessons, who come to school every day and who are willing to overcome their barriers are recognised through our weekly awards. These student awards are discussed every Friday by all the teachers. The awards are given every Monday to encourage our kids to work harder and achieve more. It has been one of the greatest motivations for all our individuals.

A strong woman!

This student award made me think that I am as intelligent as I think. It showed me that I could be a winner among 170 students.

Thank you Tea Leaf Vision for making me aware of myself and showing how intelligent I am.

Ms. Jamuna from Passion for **Being Hardworking**

Beyond grateful!

It was a surprising announcement for me. I feel very proud of myself to see in this level. Student Award motivates me to develop my qualities and work harder in the school.

Thank you Tea Leaf Vision for motivating me.

Mr. Thuwan from Vitality for **Being a Helpful Student**

An unexpected reward!

This student award is for my hard work and dedication. I am very happy to be a student here and it motivates all the students in the school to learn more and participate well.

I love Tea Leaf Vision and I'll never forget the opportunities that I'm given here.

Ms. Keerthana from Authenticity for **Being Hardworking**

A little champ!

When I started my first day at Tea Leaf Vision I didn't even think I would get an award but today I'm standing as a champion. It made me a proud student in the school.

Thank you teachers and my friends for supporting me to get this award and making me unique in the school.

Mr. Devamurali from Vitality for **Being a Helpful Student**

The most precious gift is TLV!

Receiving an award in front of my friends and teachers made me glad. I was very happy on that day because it was my first award in my life. It motivated me to talk to everyone in the school to make a good relationship. I love TLV.

Thank you teachers and TLV friends!

Ms. Sanduni from Resilience Class for **Being a Helpful Student.**

A gift for my real hard work!

My hard work and commitment became stronger after I received a student award. It is one of the best ways to motivate the students to improve themselves.

It's my pleasure thanking the teachers and my supportive friends!

Mr. Abilash from Resilience Class for **Being a Helpful Student.**



My willingness is TLV!

Tea Leaf Vision finds different ways to help and motivate the students. I think giving student awards is the best way to make us proud and special. It makes us feel more willing to enhance our knowledge.

I love Tea Leaf Vision and I am proud to be a student at TLV 2018!

Ms. Rishanthi from Innovation Class for **Being a Helpful Student.**

A star moment!

Thank you, Tea Leaf Vision, for motivating me to work harder. I was very excited and happy when I was announced to be given the weekly award.

Student Award is important to us because it gives boost to do so much in the school.

Ms. Priyadharshani from Motivation for **Being Hardworking**

“Share your similarities, celebrate your differences.”

Having volunteers creates an English Environment in the school. We had two wonderful volunteers who came to our school to support us for three weeks.

The first person was Mr. Frankie who is a business owner in the hospitality industry (restaurant mostly), and the second one was his wife Ms. Jenny who is a fully qualified teacher of English Language, Literature and Drama.

Mr. Frankie went to the Business classes to get some ideas about the lessons and help them improve the lessons and Ms. Jenny went to the Speech, Success & Ethics and Grammar classes to help the students and the teachers in improving the lessons. She was also working with the interns to have better ideas about teaching and using teaching materials when teaching in the classes, and with some classroom management.

Both of them were eager to learn new languages, meeting new people from other countries. The below queries and answers show how they enjoyed being at wonderful TLV.

What do you enjoy about your volunteering role at Tea Leaf Vision?

Both of them said that the special thing at the school is students and the teachers are always positive and have a beautiful smile on their faces.

Students dedicate themselves to come to school to improve their English knowledge. Teachers have the habit of motivating the students in various ways. We think teachers are playing a big role in students' lives to make positive changes through teaching the subject Success and Ethics.

What have you learnt from volunteering Tea Leaf Vision?

We got a chance to spend ample time with the students it made us understand what kind of life backgrounds they have and what difficulties they pass through to accomplish this one year at TLV.

By: Ms. Shanmugapriya and Ms. Chamudini



Mr. Frankie and Ms. Jenny

Through this we thought to continue our service mind of helping people in different countries and planning to help TLV in the future.

They said, they both loved the classes that they were given to go and they were inspired teaching some lessons and sharing their experience with the students.

For all of us including the students it was such a great time having them in the school. All of us believe that their incredible helpfulness, kindness and generosity added extra energy to our TLV family.

"Faith in action is love, love in action is service."

We will be continuing the principle of Service.





Case Study/ Interview:

Mr. Gobinath

By: Ms. Shadurtha

"Do to others what you want them to do to you."

It's my pleasure interviewing one of the most committed and hardworking staff members and a great human being. Here is a short message about him and it will truly impress you.

This is Mr. Gobinath. He comes from Dee Side Estate, Upcot. He is currently working as the Employability Manager in the school. Moreover he teaches Success and Ethics where he proves himself a good counselor. He was a student in 2012 and was one of the favorite students for all the teachers and worked really hard throughout the year.

It was not easy for him to continue his studies due to his family circumstances. He had a lot of financial issues and family problems, but his aim was to complete his studies and go for a better job.

Mr. Gobinath's pride is to say that "Behind every successful man there is a woman". He has a beautiful and supportive mother to help him every time. She helped him in various ways to complete his studies. She was there for him whenever life knocked him down.

He said that his biggest fear was speaking English in the school which made him feel like not coming to school. He said that he will never forget the immense support he was given by the wonderful teachers who taught him.

Did-You-Know?

There should be a firm foundation in order to make a strong structure of something.

This idea can also be applied to other things; in order to make a good community; the children should be supported and given right guidance to gain suitable knowledge.

That's why Tea Leaf Vision thought about teaching the kids in the government school.

This article explains how the firm foundation is being made before the structure is made up.

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He had never thought that he could be a good student, but he is always thankful for the teachers at TLV and the lessons he learnt. TLV was a platform for him to show his real potential whereas he got a special award in the graduation named the All Rounder.

He says, "Tea Leaf Vision is a dynamic place it'll definitely change everyone's life positively who comes here. I'm standing here as a successful person and being a strong shadow to my family because of TLV"

For students – "Life always has a lot of thorns and stones. So, don't forget to handle it with care!"



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Did-You-Know?

Teacher Training at Tea Leaf Vision

By: Ms. Manojini

“A Good Teacher Can Inspire Hope, Ignite the Imagination and Instill a Love of Learning.”

Tea Leaf Vision creates many change agents in different communities. This school doesn't only teach the students the lessons it also makes the students into teachers.

Main Diploma students go to different government schools to teach Basic English. This is called the **Community English Programme**. The students go every Wednesday to the schools to teach the kids aged between **9-12** years old.

There is always a question, how can the main diploma students teach without any experiences and ideas of being a teacher? Here is the answer to it.

These students will be trained by teacher training lessons at the school before CEP gets started. This lesson starts through a movie named **Thare Sameer Par**.

This movie gives an idea about being a proper and improper teacher. Students get more ideas to be a proper and better teacher when they teach.



Role play on “Being an Improper Teacher” in a Teacher Training Lesson

This subject gives more knowledge to the students to improve their teaching skills. Not only they learn theory but they practice what they learn here. They find the lessons very helpful. They include:

Roles and Responsibilities, Rules of Attention, Preparing the students to learn, Rapport, Communication, The Law of Language, the Lesson and Lesson Plans and etc.....

- Donate to Support -

Tea Leaf Vision Centres for Professional Development

Are vocational education centres that focus on English, Information Technology and Employability. Our two centres are situated in the heartlands of the tea plantations and provide full-time education for young people aged 18-24.

Our vision is to up-skill the impoverished youth so that they can realise their potential and enter into the work place as confident individuals with abilities to make a valuable contribution.

“Tea Leaf Vision is the most wonderful and biggest place to learn to improve our English knowledge and learn to care for our community.”

– Koushalya, 2016 batch



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