

First Newsletter of 2024

April - August 2024

Smt. Indrani Balan Science Activity Centre

IISER Pune

Happy Teacher's Day



**'THE BEST THING
A CHILD CAN DO
WITH A TOY IS
TO BREAK IT '**

- ARVIND GUPTA
EDUCATOR AND PADMA SHRI

SPECIAL TALK IN DEMONSTRATION SERIES BY THE
SCIENCE ACTIVITY CENTRE

***Education for the Poor - Some Experiments
(Teachers' Day 2024 Special Online Talk)
Today at 11:00 a.m.***

Watch here

In this edition, you'll find STEM (Science - Technology - Engineering - Mathematics) highlights of our major outreach events, engaging teachers' workshops, school visits to our campus, and glimpses of our summer camp. You'll also get an insight on our outreach initiatives at Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park, online engagement through YouTube live sessions, and the latest STEM activities at the Science Activity Centre (SAC). As we look back on the past quarter, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to each of you for being an essential part of this remarkable journey.

Summer camp at IISER Pune

A three-day STEM summer camp was hosted at the Indrani Balan Science Activity Centre, IISER Pune, from May 6th - 7th for students in grade 5 to 7 and from May 15th to 17th for students in grades 8 to 10.

The camp engaged students in a variety of activities, including Hands-on Science & Math experiments, exploring a STEM Tinkering DIY Kit, a Nature Walk, an Introduction to Virtual Reality, Data Gathering exercises, a Meet the Scientist session, and Sci-Art Adventures.

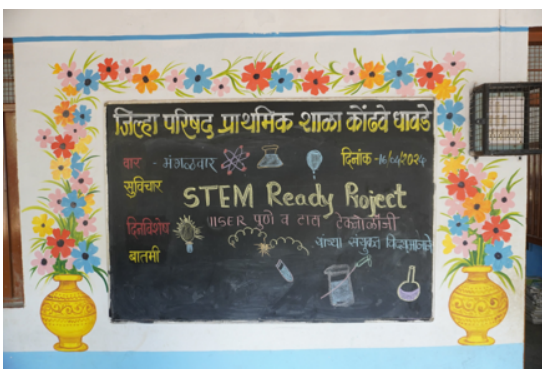


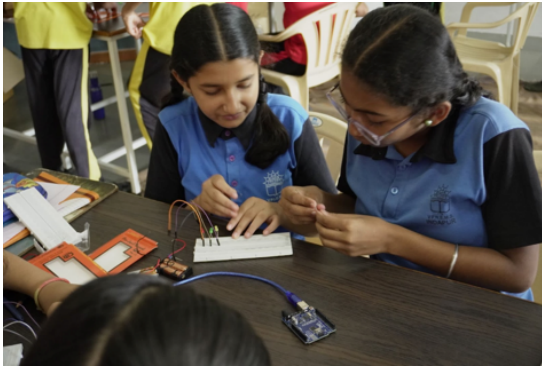


Our Director, Prof. Sunil Bhagwat, and Prof. M.S. Santhanam, Dean of International Relations & Outreach (IR&O), engaged with the students during the camp, sharing their expertise and experiences in science, research, and the significance of understanding the history of science. The students posed insightful questions, leading to a conversation that went far beyond traditional classroom learning.

Building STEM Tinkering labs in schools

Our team has successfully installed a total of 20 STEM tinkering labs in schools across the Pune region as part of the STEM Ready project. These labs are designed to provide non-ATL (Atal Tinkering Lab) schools with the resources they need to cultivate a tinkering environment for their students. Each lab is equipped with essential hardware tools, electronic components, and raw materials for quick prototyping within the school.





20 schools have actively participated in setting up their own tinkering labs: The various school locations across Pune district have been covered including Indapur, Ozar, Shirol, Karde, panshet etc.



Project activities are highlighted in this video

[Watch here](#)

Kalpakghar - Community Tinkering Centre at Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park



In a significant step towards fostering creativity and innovation, Kalpakghar was inaugurated on August 21, 2024 at Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park, Pune. This is a collaborative STEM-tinkering project between IISER Pune and Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park and is funded by Tata Technologies Ltd. under its Corporate Social Responsibilities initiative.



The inauguration ceremony was graced by Shri Shekhar Singh, Commissioner of Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation and Chairman of Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park, in the presence of Prof. S.S. Bhagwat, Director of IISER Pune; Dr. Arvind Natu, Board Member of Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park; Shri Pravin Tupe, Founder Director of Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park; Shri Sujit Dixit, Head of CSR & Internal Audit at Tata Technologies Ltd; and Mr. Siddharth Yawalkar, Assistant Manager - CSR, Tata Technologies Ltd.

In addition to schools and colleges in the PCMC area, Kalpakghar is also open to Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) students, government polytechnic and engineering students, as well as all visitors to the Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park.

Read more [here](#)

In News, can be read [here](#)

Views of Hon. PCMC Commissioner, Shri Shekhar Singh can be read [here](#)

Watch the journey of Kalpakghar [here](#)

Visit Kalpakghar

Hands-on STEM for School Students



Our Director, Prof. Sunil Bhagwat, along with Prof. M.S. Santhanam (Dean of International Relations and Outreach), Prof. Kundan Sengupta (Associate Dean, IR&O), Dr. Aparna Deshpande (Project PI), and other outreach team members, were also present to mark this significant occasion.

Project activities are highlighted in this video

[Watch here](#)

Through this project, the Science Activity Centre (SAC) will conduct hands-on STEM workshops for school teachers and students and facilitate the establishment of mini science centers in schools throughout the Pune region.

To date, the team has visited a total of 8 schools, engaging 830 students across Pune district in STEM hands-on workshops.

Celebrating National Space Day

On August 23, we celebrated National Space Day with a special online talk by Prof. Bhas Bhapat on India's space program, which was streamed live from Science Media Centre on IISER Pune's YouTube channel.



This session has been recorded.

[Watch here](#)

The Kalpakghar team at Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park also marked this special day with an innovative experience for our visitors!

Read more [here!](#)

School visits to our campus

Student groups from schools, junior & senior colleges, universities, Non Government's Organizations (NGOs), and institutes are welcome to [visit IISER Pune](#)



From April - August 2024, a total 21 schools visited our campus. More than 1000 school students, around 77 school teachers from various schools and colleges in Maharashtra and 40 UG students from Karnatak University, Dharwad visited the SAC and STEM Ready tinkering lab.

[Know our schedule](#) to participate in school visits to our campus.

[Book a Workshop](#)

Friday STEM Series

This series is an extension of our Sunday Science Series. To better accommodate schools and colleges during their regular hours, we have moved the sessions to Friday. Many schools have shared positive feedback about watching our live sessions with their students during school hours.



Episode: 77
Exploring STEM Habits

Watch here



Episode: 78
Breadboard to Working Circuits

Watch here



Episode: 79
Simple Machine

Watch here



Episode: 80
Making Mathematics Meaningful:
Magical Paper Shapes

Watch here



Episode: 81
Wings of wonder: Exploring the world of
butterflies

Watch here

[Join us](#) for more fun facts and
STEM habits!

New and Noteworthy at SAC



On IISER Pune's 14th Foundation Day on 08th April 2024, Shri. Ashok Rupner (Senior Technical Officer) from Science Activity Centre has received an Appreciation award for his outstanding contributions to the institute

On April 25, Mil ke Chalo Association from Jalgaon have visited SAC. Our team interacted with school students and discuss various hands-on activities at our STEM lab.



On June 21, Dr. Arun Kumar Sarma, Director General, North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR) visited SAC to discuss about the STEM activities for schools in North East region of our country.

On June 22, 2024 Dr. Abhay Karandikar, Secretary (DST India) visited SAC. Our team demonstrated hands-on activities and discuss various possibilities for STEM outreach across country.



Upcoming Events at SAC

LIVE LECTURE AND DEMONSTRATION SERIES

EPISODE – 82

शिक्षक दिवस

गरीब बच्चों की पढ़ाई - कुछ प्रयोग

वक्ता : अरविन्द गुप्ता (पद्मश्री पुरस्कार विजेता)

गुरुवार, ५ सितंबर २०२४

समय- प्रातः ११:०० बजे से दोपहर १२:०० बजे तक।

YouTube IISER PUNE SCIENCE ACTIVITY CENTRE



Scan the QR
code for more
details



Online talk by Padma Shri awardee Shri. Arvind Gupta ji on 5th September on the occasion of Teacher's Day celebration. The talk will streammed Live on our Youtube channel.

Watch here Live

- STEM For All YouTubeLive Session in September, 2024.
- School visits at SAC every wednesday.
- School visits and Teacher training programmes at SAC under STEM Ready project
- School visits and Teacher training programmes in different Schools under TACO project
- Regular hands-on demonstrations and Sunday Science Series at Kalpakghar, Pimpri Chinchwad Science Park.

Already a member of the SAC community? Share these resources with teachers or STEM activists who may be interested in exploring it. Attend the regular Live session on our Youtube channel or join our Telegram group if you have questions about new features and to get one-on-one support on how you can interact with the SAC Outreach community.

Join our Telegram group

Reach us at:

<http://www.iiserpune.ac.in/outreach/science-activity-centre>

If you have any questions please contact our outreach team.

Office: +91 (20) 2590 8079

To Get a quick reminder for all our coming events

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