

## A Sustainable Win: The GreenLine Audit and Awards Ceremony 2023-24

Pune, Maharashtra | 12<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

### The GreenLine Audit



the whole year's activities conducted under GreenLine related to water through SDGs and all the tasks performed by students of Grade VIII and IX such as bagless days, etc.

GreenLine, an organisation aimed towards addressing environment related issues has been organising Green Schools Campaign every year since 2010. S.B. Patil Public School participated in the GSC 2023-24 themed at 'Saving Blues'.

On 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2023, members from GreenLine visited our school to evaluate



More than 15 students participated in the audit and each displayed high degrees of interest in the activities conducted by them. They showed great potential, creativity and a tendency of learn.



Students presented their work very effectively in the form of a PowerPoint presentation filled with evidences. They showcased numerous activities such as the visit to the Pawna river and dam, the PCCoE college to understand water filtration, the rallies and nukkad nataks performed, the slogans prepared and how they encouraged society with a sense of empathy towards the marine animals. They informed the judges that all these activities are not only done by students under GreenLine but all students as well as teachers of the school.



It is evident that whilst doing all the tasks, students gained knowledge about marine life and the need to keep all our water bodies clean. They understood that in order to make this all happen, they need to turn from Ego to Eco, and have to take small steps to spread awareness about their "eco" lifestyle.

### The Awards Ceremony

Concluding the journey of a year full of green initiatives and steps, five students along with their teacher attended the Annual Awards Ceremony of GreenLine Green Schools Campaign 2023-24 at Don Bosco High School, Matunga, Mumbai.





The students: Vidhi (IX-C), Bhairavi Sarode (IX-F), Romeesa Sayyed (IX-G), Aditya Ganjare (IX-A) and Gaurav Mali (IX-A) were accompanied by Ms. Trupti Zarkar.

The ceremony was conducted in Bianchi Hall at Don Bosco High School, Mumbai and began with Ms. Keren Pereira, the principal addressing the aim of the organisation. It was followed by the judges' speeches which enlightened the students and teachers attending the programme.

The most awaited moment arrived and S.B. Patil Public School bagged the **Second Greenest School Award with a cash prize of Rs. 50,000; along with the Best Vacation Project Award.**

Bhairavi Sarode of IX-F was honoured with the Green Champ of the School Award. Bhairavi was recognised for her contribution to the school's achievement. Further, the students were engaged in a game of Scavenger Hunt and How well do you Know the Blues? The students and teachers from around 38 schools competed.



The awards ceremony was indeed an illuminating, educating yet fun event for the students and teachers alike.

We thank all the faculty: Ms. Darshana Kamat and Ms. Trupti Zarkar for mentoring our students through all the activities. We also thank our principal, Dr. Bindu Saini and vice principal, Ms. Padmavati Banda for being such great guides

and motivators.

A huge round of applause goes to all the students of Grades VIII and IX for performing so well in the audit. And finally we thank the team from GreenLine for visiting our school, conducting the audit session, and bestowing us with not just one, but two meritorious awards.



Finally, we thank the PCET management and Board of Trustees: Mr. Dnyaneshwar P. Landge, Chairman; Ms. Padma M. Bhonsle, Vice Chairperson; Mr. Vitthal S. Kalbhor, Secretary; Mr. Shantaram D. Garade, Treasurer; Mr. Harshvardhan S. Patil, Trustee; and Dr. Girish M. Desai, Executive Director for their unyielding support.

**Following is a testimonial by Aditya Ganjare of IX-A:**

*"The reward for work well done is the opportunity to do more."*

S.B. Patil Public School's 2<sup>nd</sup> year journey at GreenLine's GSC 2023-24 which was packed with eco- friendly initiatives and sustainability evoking practices, was rewarded with a sweet and motivating achievement. At the Annual Awards Ceremony of GSC 2023-24, our school marked a triumph by winning the Second Greenest School Award and the Best Vacation Project Award.

We embarked on a fun-filled trip from the school campus to Don Bosco High School. It was a two-hour drive. As we reached the Don Bosco High School Campus, we were welcomed by Ms. Neha, member of GreenLine team. We had a delightful walk around the campus. There was a majestic Christian shrine at the entrance. The campus atmosphere resonated with the echoes of the morning prayers.

We walked around for a while since we had arrived significantly early for the event. We spent our time capturing our memories in the cameras and some of us wandered about, having a talk with the students there. It seemed we had lost our way in the huge campus but the people at the school were amiable and lovely, they helped us find our way to the Bianchi Hall, where the ceremony was supposed to be held.

We reached the hall and were taken to our seats by the gaily clad volunteers. We were the first to reach there. Gradually, the Hall started filling with students and teachers from various schools across Mumbai, Lonavala and Pune. We had a great time talking to our new friends. A student from our school also took the initiative to express his feelings about the campaign.

The Ceremony then commenced; it was hosted by Ms. Neha, whom we had met in the beginning. Followed by her welcome speech, Ms Keren gave us a quick tour of the aim and mission of the GreenLine organisation via her presentation. We were also enlightened by the words of the chief guest and the judges of the campaign. The next came the most awaited moment, the announcement of the name of the winning school. The organizers took us on a roller-coaster ride of suspense and thrill when they began revealing the names of top-10 schools.

They first declared the names of top 10 schools in random order. We prayed that we get a spot in these 10 positions, but also had a feeling that we not only be in the top 10 but also in the top 5 because only the schools in the group of top 5 were entitled for a prize. When the names of bottom 5 schools were announced, we were relieved with the fact that we had secured a position in the top 5.

The next aim was to be in the top-3 because only the schools in the group of top 3 were entitled for a cash prize. Our demands to the almighty began increasing. We again were relieved with the fact that we were in the top 3, when the anchor announced the names of schools with position 5 and 4 respectively.

Our feelings of nervousness were at their peak when the names of top 3 schools were being announced. When the Third Greenest school was announced, we were in extreme pleasure that we had secured a position in the top 2. As the suspense-ride unfolded, we were greatly delighted as our school's name was announced for the prize of Second Greenest School. We could not believe that we had achieved this feat. Then, our teacher, Ms. Trupti Zarkar and we, went upon the stage to claim our prize. We were filled with ecstasy and pride.

It was at this moment that we believed we could say, "Our hard-work has paid-off." We were motivated to perform better next year and saw an opportunity to win the first prize. After the announcement of a couple of awards, the participant schools were served with snacks. The event was concluded with a presentation by students of Top-5 schools and a fun-filled game called Scavenger Hunt and How well do you Know the Blues?

The students of our school also engaged in insightful discussion with the judges, who provided advice on measures which could be taken in daily lives to save the environment. The students loved the overall organisation of the programme and the food served. It was a fascinating, captivating and an intriguing programme to be attended.

At 3pm, we began our journey back to Pune. After driving across the Arabian Sea on Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Trans-Harbour Link and via the Mumbai-Pune Expressway, we reached our respective homes at around 5.30 pm and ended our motivating yet amusing journey."

- Aditya Ganjare (IX-A)

