# CHALO CHENNAI

Good Shepherd Convent School, Karjat - 2022

Good Shepherd Convent School Karjat organized an exposure program to Chennai. This educational tour was planned to enhance the knowledge of the students and improve interaction between the two schools. Forty-one students and six staff from Good Shepherd Convent School Karjat visited Chennai from August 5th to 9th 2022.





### Day 1

How delighted we were to see Chennai, especially the vast school campus and enjoy the warmth and hospitality. The day was filled with adventure and learning as we engaged with the students from Chennai and visited the heritage centres at Mahabalipuram. Dakshinchitra is a living history museum in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu dedicated to South Indian heritage and culture. The visit to the Crocodile bank was a great learning on saving the environment and respecting the value of crocodiles in the food chain. Mahabalipuram, with its brilliant sculptures, stone carvings, temples and architecture took us back into history of the Pallavas. Indeed a day well spent!

#### J Team Camp

The evening at the school campus was eventful thanks to the camp organized by JTeam Ministries. Through a series of fun activities and experiential learning, we were energized and continued building the team spirit with our Chennai siblings. The bonfire, praise, and worship, accompanied by singing and dancing was a great feast for all of us.







#### Day 2

Breathing in the fresh air makes everyone healthier and wiser. As the new sun came at our door we decided not to ignore the blessings that every morning offers us. We woke up full of joy and hope to experience another day filled with adventure sports. There were many life lessons to take from the v-slack and rope climbing, apart from learning to encourage each other. Bringing God at the center of all that we do, was one of the biggest takeaways from the experiential activities.

### **Exploring Pondy Bazar**

In the evening we went to St.Thomas Mount, one of the historical shrines in India. The visit to Good Shepherd Pallavaram is another fond memory of love and hospitality from our Sisters. Chennai visit would be incomplete without walking down the famous Pondy Bazaar. Our excitement had no limits but our pockets had limitation.



Hospitality is the mother of every virtue





## Day 3

Every new day comes with new joy, new thoughts, and a new life which makes our life a valuable life. This day carries many fond memories for each one of us as we entered the Chennai School, escorted by their Students Council and welcomed by the staff and all the 1200 students! We all felt as though the king's officials have come to take us. Each one of us were welcomed and embraced as a member of the Good Shepherd family.



We transported the Chennai school to Karjat by showing them the best of the culture of Maharashtra, through music, dance and drama. We can still remember the sound of claps, wows and encouragement! Srs Annie Thomas and Amala, shared their powerful messages with us. The next treat that awaited us was the visit to the classrooms and interaction with the students. This day is very special as we remember that we are members of the large Good Shepherd family, with Gurus and siblings in

Chennai too!

#### **Gratitude Journal**

That afternoon, we visited the important monuments at Marina Beach and the Santhome Church as well. The students from Chennai escorted us and continued sharing about the rich history of Chennai. Marina Beach is another spot that we will cherish in our memories – the vast stretch of sand, the beach, the hot bajjis, the fun games, and the culminating gratitude journal that we created on the sands of the Marina, sharing our love, gratitude, best lessons and friendships which we had woven together!



Our hearts are filled with love and gratitude towards Sr. Annie, Mrs. Sashi Natarajan and the Chennai Girls for their love, care, and support. You all are blessings to us. Your thoughtfulness and accompaniment touched us beyond our words. We just keep thanking you and thanking you for each and everything. Really we love you and pray for you! Dear Sr. Amala and teachers, thank you for this memorable journey of learning. Thank you for making our exposure a memorable and cherishing one.

