**A Day in the Life of a Devagokulam Student**

**Narrated by a Anand at the end:**

What do they learn at Devagokulam?

Do they learn Slokas? Yes

Do they learn Bhajans? Yes

Do they learn Yoga? Yes

Do they do Arts and Crafts? Yes

They learn all that. There is something even more important. They learn what it means to be a Hindu in their every day life and they acquire a spontaneous and natural affinity for Hindu customs and practices.

One very unique feature of Hinduism is the understanding that all of creation – people, animals, nature- everything is interconnected and interdependent. This understanding and belief requires us to be thankful and grateful to everybody and everything and no one person or entity is more or less important.

This profound belief is practiced in simple ways throughout the day. The Devagokulam children will demonstrate this with the skit that follows:

**Skit starts:**

**Eesha, Shourya, Meera,Vaidehi,Akshay**

* **kids start rubbing their hands and start to say the Karagre Vasathe ….. slokam**
* **Couple of the kids look up to them in surprise**
* **What are you doing?**
* **Oh. Doing our morning wakeup prayer..**
* **I did not know there was a prayer you do right after waking up.**
* **Yes , there are prayers for everything you do in a day.**
* **Our teachers say you have to be thankful and grateful to everyone and everything in life.**
* **Where did you learn all these?**
* **Oh At devagokulam.**
* **We will show you everything we have learned.**

**Sloka 1.**

**Karaagre Vasathe Lakshmi, Karamadhye Saraswati  
Karamule sthethe Gauri, Prabhaate Kar Darshanam ||**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher)*

*As you rub your hands together you are waking up the deities residing in the palm of your hands – Lakshmi, Saraswathi and Parvathi. You are praying to the Devis to bless all the activities you will undertake during the day.*

**Sloka 2 – Samudra-Vasane Devi Parvata-Stana-Mannddale |  
 Vissnnu-Patni Namas-Tubhyam Paada-Sparsham Kssamasva-Me ||**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher)*

*Just before you step out of the bed on to the floor, you pray and ask Mother Earth to grant you permission to walk on the ground and also ask her for forgiveness for touching her with our feet – again acknowledging the presence of Bhagavan all around us.*

**Sloka 3-** **Gange Cha Yamune Chaiva Godavari, Saraswati |  
  Narmade, Sindhu Kaveri, Jalesmin Sannidhim Kuru ||**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher)*

*As you take a bath you invoke all the waters of the sacred rivers of Ganga, Yamuna, Godavari, Sarasvathi, Narmada, Sindhu, Kaveri to flow through the taps to cleanse you and bless you – expressing your gratitude to Bhagavan for the gift of water*

Preparatory pooja slokas:

**Pretend lightning a lamp**

**Sloka 4 - Deepajyothi Parabrahma Deepajyothi Janardhana |**

**Deepo Me Hara Tu Paapam Deepaa Jyothir Namosthuthe ||**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher)*

*The lamp signifies knowledge and you pray that the light of the lamp removes any papa phalas resulting from anything you did or did not do.*

Pretend to take a spoon of water and zip it three times one time after each of the achamanam

**Sloka 5 - Achyutaya Namaha ||**

**Anantaya Namaha ||**

**Govindaya Namaha ||**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher)*

*In order to be prayerful, one invokes an attitude of purity within oneself by doing Acamana which involves chanting the name of Bhagavan 3 times and sipper water with each chant.*

**Sloka 6 Guru Brahma Guru Vishnu Guru Devo Maheshwara |  
 Guru Sakshat Param Brahma Tasmai Shri Gurave Namah ||**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher)*

*The Guru(teacher) is Brahma, Vishnu and Maheshvara. The Guru is ultimate Truth. Unto that we pay obeisance.*

**Sloka 7 Shukla-Ambara-Dharam Vishnum Shashi-Varnnam Chatur-Bhujam |  
 Prasanna-Vadanam Dhyaayeth Sarva-Vighno pashaantaye ||**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher)*

*A prayer to Lord Ganesha who is the remover of all obstacles*

**Sloka 8 AgamaarThantu devaanam gamanarThantu rakshasam |**

**kurve Ghanta ravam tatra devathaahvana lanchanam ||**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher)*

*One rings the bell. The sound of the bell is considered auspicious and welcomes the deities and is also said to ward off negative influences from the place of worship.*

**Sloka 9**  **Gange Cha Yamune Chaiva Godavari, Saraswati |  
  Narmade, Sindhu Kaveri, Jalesmin Sannidhim Kuru ||**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher)*

*You invoke the water from all the sacred rivers to flow into the kalasa and use that water to purify all the utensils that are used in performing the Pooja.*

**Step 10 – Do a small Ganesha Pooja. Chant the following asthotram. After each line ganesha/Krishna kids will say the second line**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher)*

*In the Pooja, Bhagavan is treated as a revered guest. He is offered a regal seat and his feet and hands are washed. He is then given a ritual bath and offered clothes and ornaments. Flowers are offered along with salutations accompanied by various names of Bhagavan extolling his beauty and glory.The process of Pooja involves the body, mind and speech. The forms, colors, fragrances and sounds all help in evoking devotion within us. It is an attempt at connecting with God.*

**Om Gajaananaye Namah ||**

**Om Ganeshaya Namah ||**

**Om Vakrathundaya Namah ||**

**Om Ganeshaya Namah ||**

**Om Herambhaya Namah ||**

**Om Ganeshaya Namah ||**

**Om Soorpakaranaaya Namah ||**

**Om Ganeshaya Namah ||**

Show doopam ( pretend)

**Slokam 11**

**Perform Naivethyam – Slokam said by Ishwara kids**

**Om Bhuur-Bhuvah Svah Tat-Savitur-Varennyam |  
 Bhargo Devasya Dhiimahi Dhiyo Yo Nah Prachodayaath ||**

**Kids perform a quick bhajan- short version of Amba Parameshwari**

**Slokam 12**

**Show deepam (pretend) - Slokam said by Ishwara kids**

**Om Ekadantaya Vidmahe Vakkratundaya Dheemahi |**

**Tanno Danti Prachodayat ||**

**Slokam 14**

**Pretend to start reading.**

**saraswati namastubhyam varadé kāmarūpiṇi |**

**vidyārambham kariṣhyāmi, siddhirbhavatu mé sadā ||**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher)*

*You pray to goddess saraswathi to provide you with her blessing to attain the boon of knowledge.Through the boon of knowledge, you can get whatever you wish.*

**Slokam 15**

**Pretend to get ready for sleep**

**Kara-Charana Krtam Vaak-Kaaya-Jam Karma-Jam Vaa |  
 Shravanna-Nayana-Jam Vaa Maanasam Va-Aparaadham |  
 Vihitam-Avihitam Vaa Sarvam-Etat-Kssamasva |**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher).*

*You perform so many activities in the course of a day. So you ask for forgiveness from the lord for any sins that you may have committed by you with your hand,legs,eyes,or even through your mind.*

**Slokam 15**

**Pretend to get ready for sleep**

**Ramaskandam hanumantham Vynatheyam Vrukodharam |  
 Yonayecha paten nithyam dhuswapnam cha nashyathe ||**

*To be narrated by someone( kids or teacher).*

*After all everyone needs a peaceful sleep after all the duties during the day. You pray to Hanuman, Garuda and Bheema to wipe out bad dreams and have a peaceful sleep*