

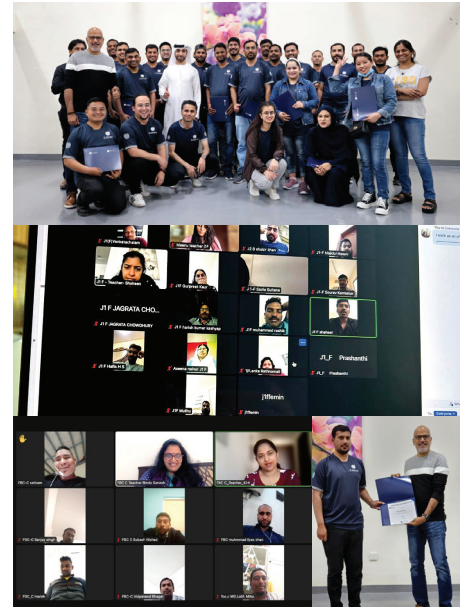
SmartReading

After hectic preparation, it was finally time for the curtains to go up for a great beginning to the 2023 H1 intake. A total of 640 students are on board; while we are aware numbers are bound to fall and a realistic count will emerge, we are still happy to toil and retain as many as possible.

For instance, the past trends have been very encouraging. When we first started the virtual model our hands forced by the pandemic, a modest 75 students graduated. The numbers soon grew with the graduates count touching a little short of 200 in the recently concluded 2022 H2 intake.

As is always the practice, the first class on 12th February was to teach them the basics of Zoom; 19th February was the ice-breaking and orientation session, and the most recent 26th February class dealt with the goals they have set for themselves and the destination they wish to reach through the program.

With such an auspicious beginning, the students alongside the teaching team look forward to a hugely satisfying and impactful intake.



SmartCamp

Having been set in motion in January 2023, SmartCamp officially launched activities with Al Ghurair's labor accommodation in February 2023.

SmartCamp is unique in its offering, in that, it emphasizes supporting and elevating camp residents at an "adopted" camp over a period of three months. During this last month, SmartCamp held an icebreaker session followed by sessions specific to 3 of our projects – the **SmartElder** team helped attendees consider needs of their retired lives while devising a relevant retirement saving plan; the **SmartReading** project delivered a mini, fun filled, interactive session during which camp residents learned English; the **SmartBuddy** team introduced their project which is aimed at helping the children of blue-collar workers.

After a productive first month at Al Ghurair's labor accommodation, we are moving forward with our plans to continue collaborating with the camp in upcoming months.



Games



English



Elder



SmartRelaxation

During February 2023, SmartRelaxation moved into the fourth month of its virtual program for Al Ghurair Group.

The multi-week program teaches easy-to-follow stretching, breathing and meditation exercises to camp participants from AG Printing and AG Cars. Attended by 30-45 workers per week, the sessions are designed so that relaxation techniques can be practiced on an ongoing basis by workers in their rooms.

Having been through 15 weeks of sessions, it has been inspirational to see the progress being made by regular attendees! We look forward to continuing our work with Al Ghurair Group.



SmartWoman

Our flagship project aimed at women, SmartWoman delivered a bespoke, hygiene-centered webinar for the ladies at MBM's camp in Dubai.

The virtual session was held by expert Nicky Mathew from KPMG who shared the importance of good hygiene and negative impact of poor habits. The attendees learned about simple habits that would go a long way in maintaining their health and were advised on symptoms that are best managed through visiting a doctor.

The session was both light-hearted and interactive with participants showing a keen interest on how they can support their own hygiene needs.



SmartDistribution

SmartDistribution, alongside our community of sponsors, were able to touch the lives of 200+ blue collar friends in February 2023.

An individual sponsor generously offered 100+ workers food packs comprising of rice, pulses, soybeans and cooking oil. Another group of generous sponsors distributed grocery bags to 35 workers who needed basic necessities. Lastly, 40 women were gifted lavish hand-made beauty products which brought huge smiles across their faces.

With Ramadan right around the corner, the SmartDistribution team is now moving into full swing to plan and support activities during the holy month.

SmartComputers

The third batch of SmartComputers ended in February and the fourth batch commenced during the same month.

With more than 20 students enrolled, the current batch is the largest one and we aim to equip every attendee in the batch with fundamental computer skills. While the February lessons were introductory, students will delve deeper into the world of computers in March 2023. This includes learning about software concepts and overall working of Microsoft Windows. Over the upcoming months, students will also be taught basic, intermediate and advanced functions in WPS Writer, a free-to-use word processing software.

We wish all our students the very best of luck for this term! Happy learning!

Summary: SmartLife enjoyed a fun-filled and productive month of February 2023, touching the lives of 300+ blue-collar community members during the month. It has truly been an exciting month with the launch of our first ever SmartCamp initiative at a chosen Al Ghurair Camp. Moreover, we also initiated new batches for both SmartReading and SmartComputers and are enthusiastic about engaging with enrolled students in the coming months.

Other activities included sponsorships via SmartDistribution and instructional webinars via SmartWomen and SmartRelaxation.
