

# Raspberry Pi workshop held for 3 civic schools

The mini computer is a device which can be used to design and build electronics projects that interact with real world

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**Pune:** A three-day workshop on Raspberry Pi was organised at Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) schools recently.

A total of 26 students from three PMC schools, Hutatma Balveer Shrishkumar, KC Thakare Vidyaniketan and Vasantdada Patil Vidyaniketan, attended the workshop. It was guided by Girish Arabale.

The workshop was organised by Exciting Science Group (ESG) a volunteer group of scientists from CSIR-NCL and IISER-Pune based at Venture Center. Raspberry Pi is a credit card-sized computer developed by Raspberry Pi Foundation, UK, to promote computer science basics in schools.

It is an extremely versatile device which can be used to design and build electronics projects that interact with the real world. The device has gained popularity recently as an effective means to engage in exploring STEM (Science, Technology, Engineer-



**LEARNERS ALL:** Children listen to a demonstration at the ESG organised workshop on Raspberry Pi.

ing, Maths) concepts and practices.

During the workshop, students learned how to use command line interface and how to solve problems with Wolfram/Alpha- a computable search engine on Raspberry Pi.

"Once they became a little comfortable in using the device, they were

introduced to Mathematica and Wolfram programming language that are freely available on Raspberry Pi. Students successfully learned to calculate even, odd, and prime numbers using Mathematica. Later on, they wrote programmes for simple conversions like

Farhenheit to Celsius, and more advanced ones like finding Palindrome numbers and Perfect Numbers. They also learned about GPIO and to connect LEDs to different pins on Raspberry Pi.

"They learnt how to use camera interface along with a few basic image processing commands. Stu-

dents learned how to calculate the extent of photosynthesis from images of plant leaves with a little bit of programming," said Gayatri Kshirsagar, an associate of ESG. At the end of the workshop, all students received certificates for participation.