AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL CHENNAI

November 29, 2015

Recently, Wilbur Sargunaraj, Youtube's Simple Superstar, spent a week at our school working with our students.

He engaged students in a number of different activities from student assemblies, after-school workshops, and a short service-learning trip to a local orphanage. As a musician, Wilbur worked with our student musicians to create an original song while at our school. As a Youtube personality, he lead discussions on developing a responsible and socially responsible online presence. Wilbur's enthusiasm for cultural awareness and service were evident in his student assemblies and the culminating event he presented for the entire school community. Most importantly, Wilbur infused everything he did with a spirit of positivity, collaboration and fun.

The entire week of activities during Wilbur's visit connected to a central theme of being a "Simple Superstar". According to Wilbur, a "Simple Superstar" is someone who is confident, empowers others, and engages in service. Whether directly through his presentations or indirectly in his interactions with our students and staff, Wilbur encouraged all of us to be daily advocates for positive social change.

Additionally, Wilbur left us with a great souvenir of his visit in the form of a music video that underlines all the values he promoted during his stay with us. In the video. Students were an integral part in performing the song and the music video. Wilbur managed to not only include not only faculty and students, but he also got the support staff dancing in the music video.

Wilbur is affable and flexible. He tailored his message to mesh well with our school's mission. He worked with students in a friendly way, and he pushed them to think about big issues like poverty and prejudice. Wilbur encouraged the students to find ways in which they could affect these issues personally, on a small scale. Wilbur's message of Cultural Intelligence, living simply and valuing all cultures and peoples is invaluable to any school environment. I would personally welcome the opportunity to work with Wilbur again in the future.

Ross Connelly
Teacher
Grade 8 Team Leader