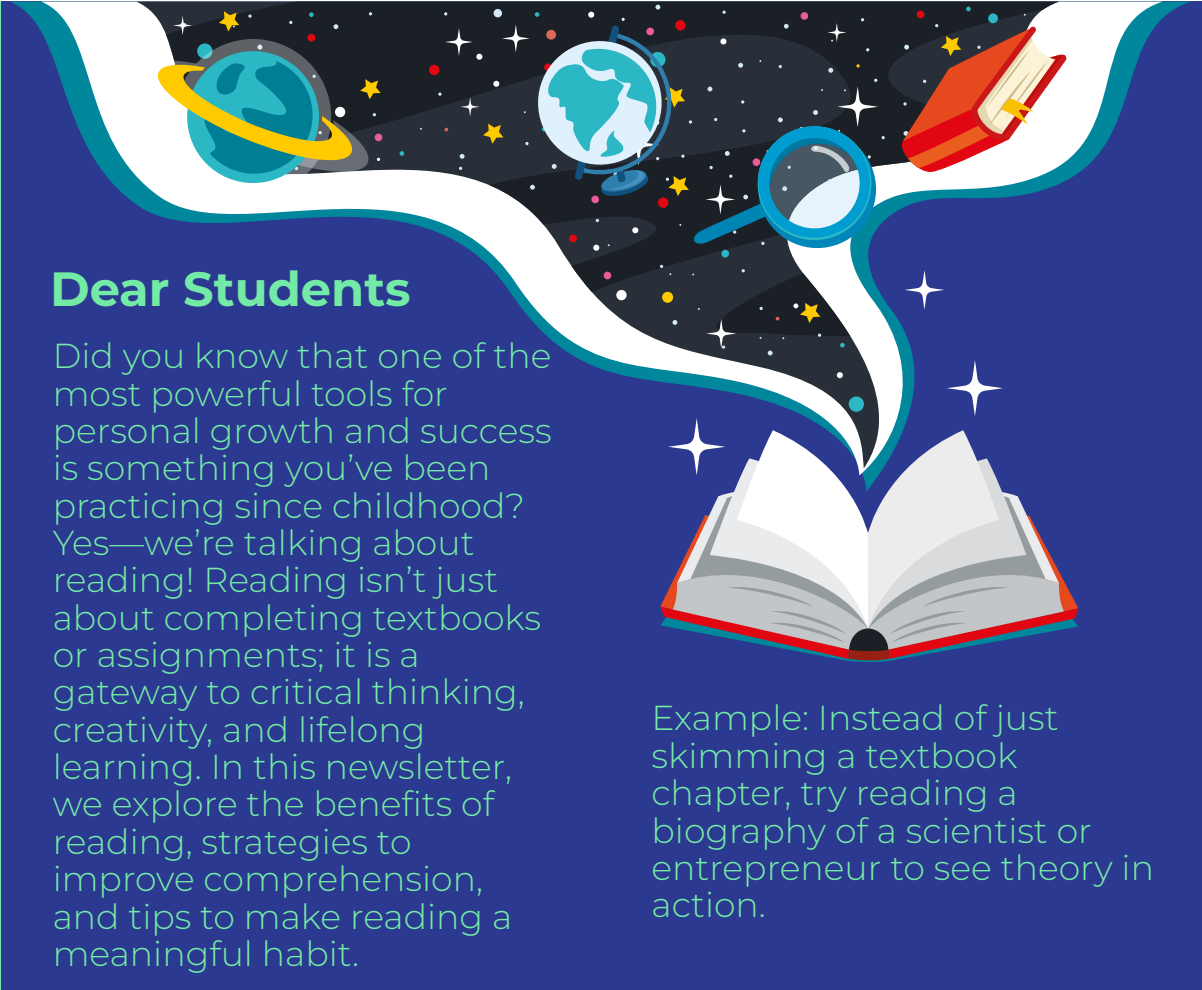


A QUARTERLY STUDENT NEWSLETTER

ConnectHUB

Turning Pages, Building Futures





Dear Students

Did you know that one of the most powerful tools for personal growth and success is something you've been practicing since childhood? Yes—we're talking about reading! Reading isn't just about completing textbooks or assignments; it is a gateway to critical thinking, creativity, and lifelong learning. In this newsletter, we explore the benefits of reading, strategies to improve comprehension, and tips to make reading a meaningful habit.

Example: Instead of just skimming a textbook chapter, try reading a biography of a scientist or entrepreneur to see theory in action.

Why Reading Matters

Reading is much more than a hobby—it enhances brain function, academic performance, and personal growth. Regular reading strengthens memory, attention, and problem-solving abilities, giving your brain a workout similar to physical exercise. It also exposes you to different perspectives, improving critical thinking skills, and expands your vocabulary and knowledge, while naturally improving writing skills. Beyond academics, reading helps manage time effectively, reduces stress, and fosters empathy by letting you engage with diverse human experiences.

*Example: Reading *To Kill a Mockingbird* enhances empathy, while *A Brief History of Time* strengthens analytical thinking.*

Benefits of Reading

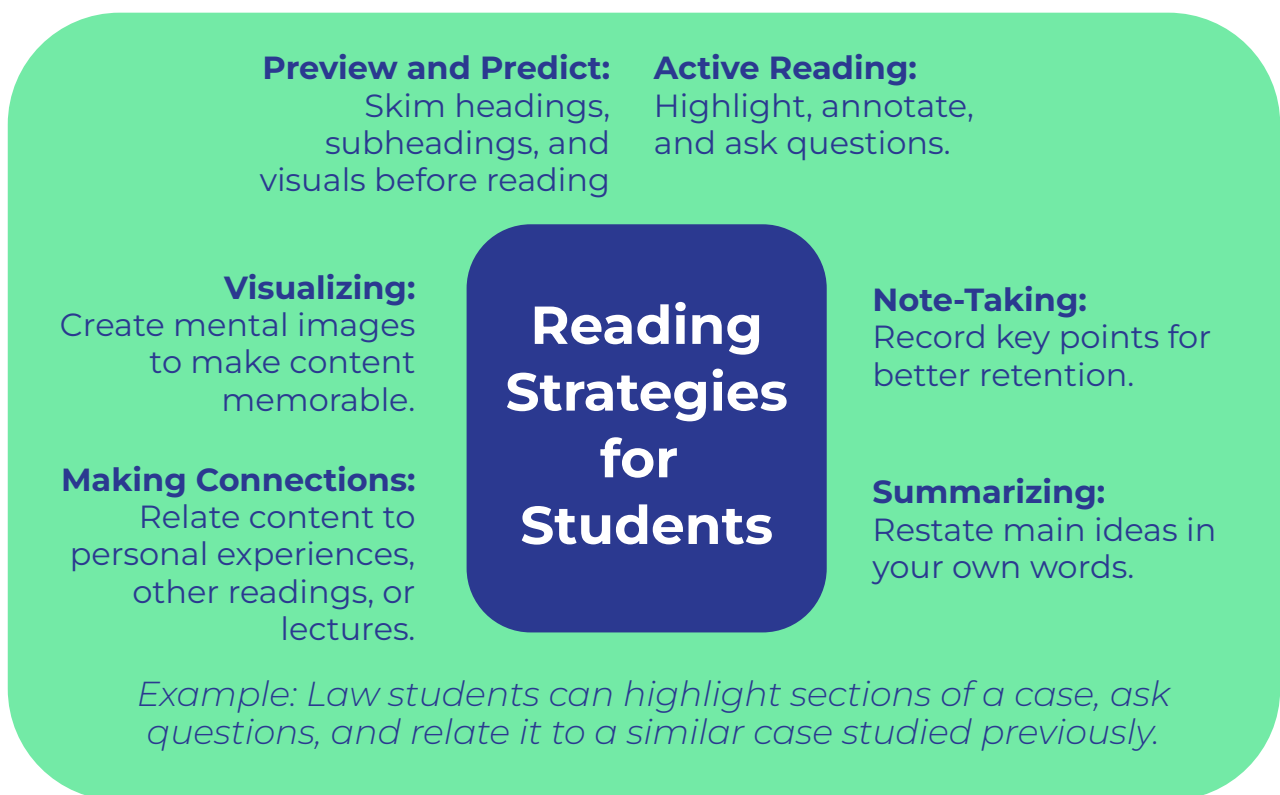


*Example: Reading *The Alchemist* inspires self-reflection, while reading a medical case study improves practical knowledge.*

Improving Reading Comprehension

If you struggle with understanding or retaining material, several techniques can help. Reading out loud helps process complex ideas. Asking pre-reading questions about the topic, your prior knowledge, and purpose ensures clarity. Periodically summarizing, explaining content to someone else, or taking notes on main ideas actively reinforces understanding. Using context to clarify earlier passages, following text with a pointer, adjusting reading pace, and taking breaks all improve retention.

Example: While reading a chapter on thermodynamics, pause to summarize in your own words and discuss it with a peer.



Academic Reading

Academic reading often involves dense arguments, technical language, and critical thinking. Textbooks explain key concepts and theories, scholarly articles introduce peer-reviewed research, research papers provide data analysis and conclusions, and case studies connect theory to real-world applications. To manage academic reading effectively, set a purpose, preview headings, break content into sections, highlight and take notes, focus on key terms, critique ideas, and summarize in your own words.

Example: Engineering students reading a renewable energy research paper can take notes on methodology and summarize findings for projects.

Reading in Specialized Fields



Engineering Students:

Technical manuals, journals, and case studies enhance problem-solving and innovation.



Law Students:

Case law, statutes, and legal precedents improve reasoning and argumentation.



Medical Students:

Medical journals, case studies, and patient narratives improve diagnostic skills and empathy.

Example: A medical student might read patient narratives to improve bedside manner and diagnostic thinking.



Six minutes of reading reduces stress by 68%.

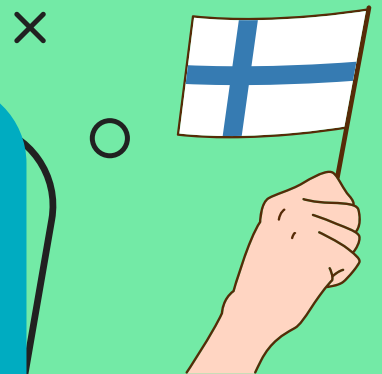


Regular readers perform better academically.

DID YOU KNOW?
Student Insights & Fun Facts



Over 45% of college students listened to audiobooks last year.



Finland credits literacy culture for national success.



Reading 20 minutes daily = 1.8 million words/year.

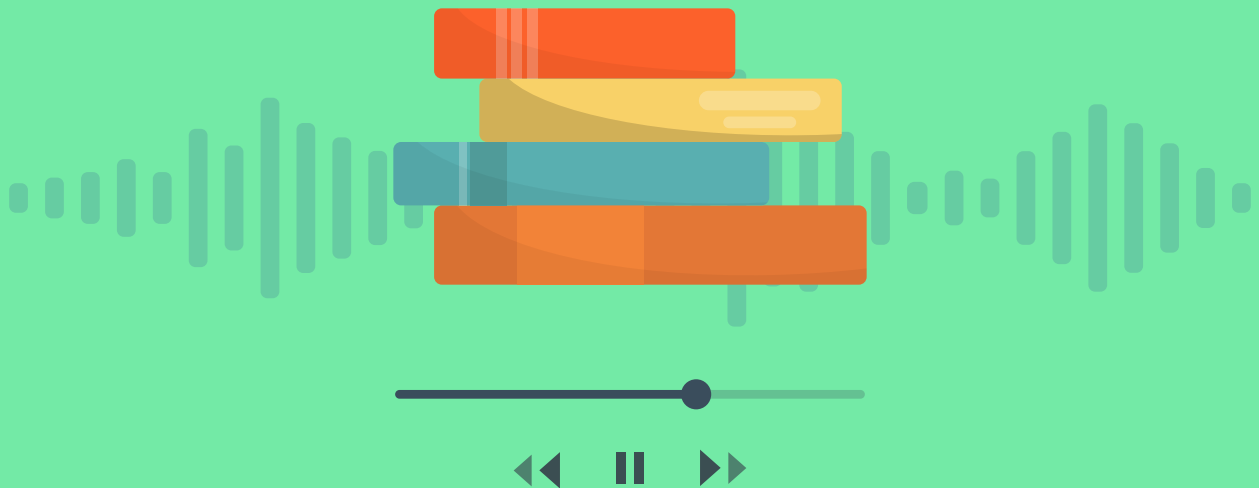
Example: Students can listen to audiobooks like The Power of Habit while commuting

Lifelong Learning Through Reading

Lifelong learning encourages students to continue reading for knowledge and practical skills. Programs like Cornerstone Online Reading allow students to strengthen reading abilities while applying learning to real-world situations. By continuing to read actively, students enhance comprehension, expand skillsets, and prepare for academic, professional, and personal success.

Example: An engineering student using online reading modules to learn project management can apply concepts directly to internships or projects.

From Paper Books to E-Books: Same Magic, New Format



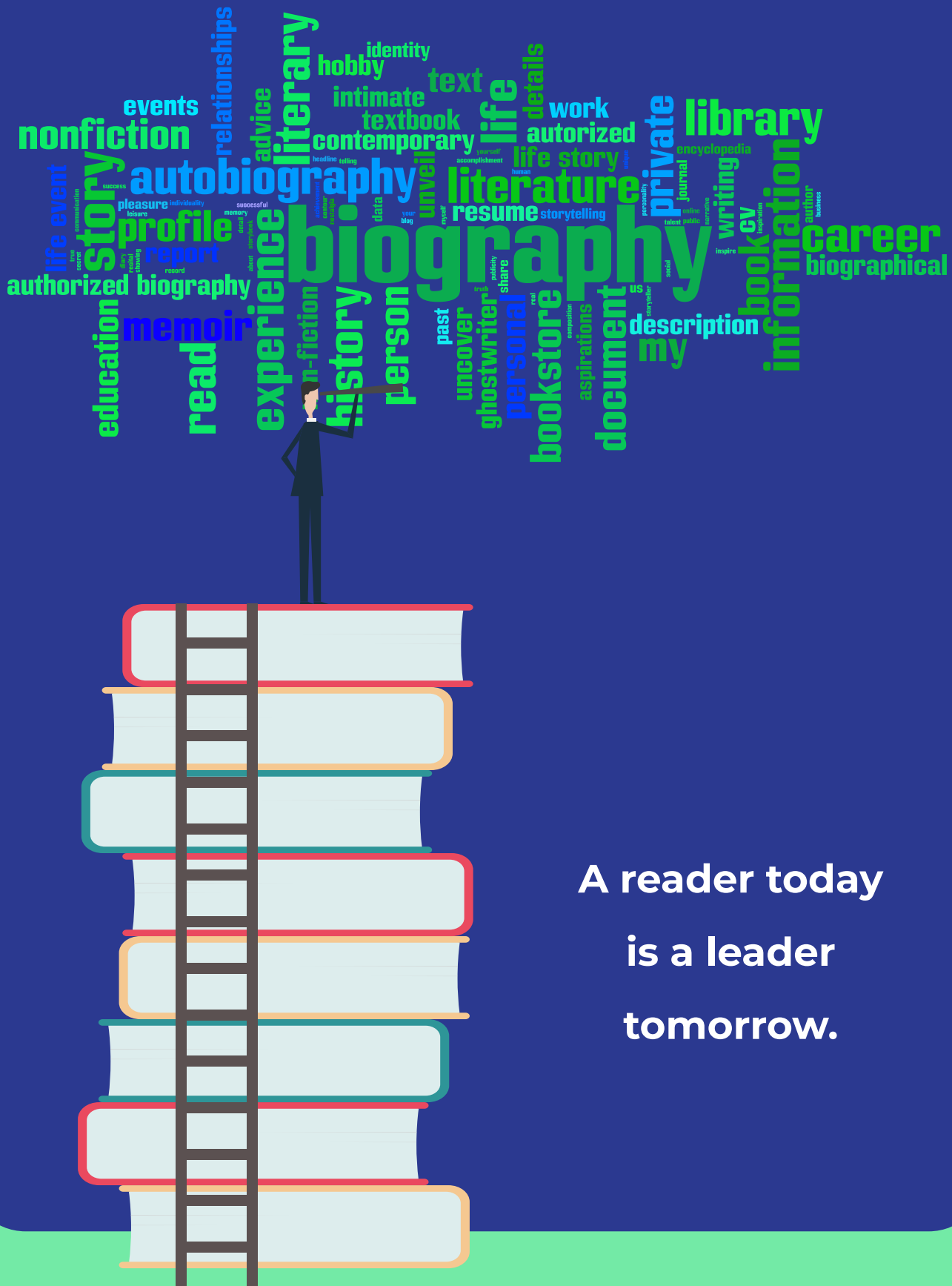
Once upon a time, the only way to read was by holding a book in your hands, turning its pages, and enjoying the feel and even the smell of paper. Books have always been our closest friends teaching us, inspiring us, and taking us to worlds we've never seen.

But times have changed. With technology in our pockets, reading has found a new home on screens. E-books make it easier than ever; an entire library now fits into a single mobile phone or tablet! No heavy bags, no extra space, just tap, swipe, and read anywhere you go.

And yet, no matter how the format has evolved, the magic of reading remains the same. Reading sharpens our minds, opens new perspectives, builds imagination, and gives us a break from the noise of everyday life. Whether it's a paper book or an e-book, what truly matters is that we keep reading—because every page helps us learn, grow, and dream bigger.

Final Thoughts

Reading is more than an academic skill—it is a life skill. From sharpening the mind to nurturing empathy, building technical expertise to relaxing the spirit, reading supports holistic growth. Whether through textbooks, novels, articles, or audiobooks, every page contributes to your journey toward becoming a thoughtful, knowledgeable, and successful individual.



**A reader today
is a leader
tomorrow.**



Training & Placement update:

The Baseline Assessment for **3,477 2nd-year Scholars**, supported by Capgemini, got completed.

Based on Baseline scores, **2,432 2nd-year students** started with the EnglishHelper program.

The current **3,372 final-year cohort**, supported by MSDF, completed the Endline Assessment.

Currently, **3,458 3rd-year cohorts**, supported by MSDF, are undergoing Midline assessment.

Post Midline, **3rd-year students** will start Hi-Touch English and Technical courses offered by Coursera.

Law and Pharma:

20 Pharma and Law scholars completed the AI-Based Mock Interviews and are currently undergoing Endline Assessment.
Soon these students will start Coursera courses.

5 Medical students, supported by Mr. Babu Joseph, are undergoing the Hi-Touch English program.

Other Skilling Initiatives:



FLY :

A 12-day workshop, conducted by CMI - Competitive Mindset Institute Inc., is designed to teach non-cognitive skills for students' personality and character development that started in 2021. The last FLY orientation was conducted on 10th July 2025 with 262 scholars showing interest. 390 Scholars have participated in the program so far in 25-26.

NPTEL:

117 Scholars successfully completed the course and received certification for the Jan-May 2025 batch. NPTEL orientation for July 2025 was conducted on 2nd July 2025 and 249 scholars have shown interest for July 2025. NPTEL is a certified online technical training program initiated by the Govt. of India.

English Helper RCA program

RCA is an AI-powered autonomous learning platform designed to enhance English literacy across the four key domains: listening, speaking, reading, and writing. As part of the implementation, three orientations were organized for second-year scholars on 8th, 14th, and 22nd August, engaging a total of 2,432 scholars, of which approximately 1,500 participated. The scholars were shortlisted for the English program based on their Baseline AMCAT Score.

TiE Entrepreneurial program:

FFE launched the TiE Entrepreneurship Program, an 8-week course led by Silicon Valley entrepreneur Prof. Raj Jaswa. Over 150 scholars joined the orientation and first session, beginning their journey into startup building, AI-driven innovation, customer validation, agile development, and financial modeling.

Zscaler Cyber Academy – Building Cybersecurity Skills

95 FFE scholars based out of Bangalore participated in the Zscaler Cyber Academy through in-person and online training. The program combined self-paced courses, hands-on workshops, and preparation for the Zscaler Digital Transformation Administrator certification exam, equipping students with practical cybersecurity skills.

Aspire Leaders Program – Building Global Changemakers

Aspire Leaders, a fully funded Harvard faculty-led program, empowers students with leadership, communication, and problem-solving skills. Cohort 3 concluded in July with 100 FFE participants, while Cohort 4 began in August with 130 scholars for the 9-week online program.

Thomson Reuters Workshop – Career Insights & Corporate Exposure

35 FFE engineering scholars joined a one-day workshop at the Thomson Reuters Bangalore office. The session featured an AI chatbot demo, mentorship, career guidance, industry trend discussions, and skill-building activities, offering meaningful corporate exposure.

SAP Technical Series – Technical & Career Development Skills

Launched on June 13, the SAP Technical Series has completed six of its planned eleven bi-weekly sessions, covering coding principles, pair programming, Agile, and quality practices. Five sessions remain, including three focused on career development, with the series concluding in November.

LinkedIn AI Coaches Event – Leveraging AI for Career Growth

On July 23, 51 FFE scholars participated in the LinkedIn AI Coaches Event in Bengaluru. The program included AI-driven job search strategies, 1:1 mentoring with LinkedIn employees, and LinkedIn Premium subscriptions. The event was inaugurated by Kumaresh Pattabiraman, Country Manager, LinkedIn India, who highlighted AI's role in shaping future careers.

Amazon Boot Camp:

Amazon Boot Camp started on March 7th – 79 NON-AFE supported Scholars took the technical skills training. 39 students got selected for Amazon Boot Camp-2, which started on June 20th, and it is a 10-month boot camp.



Mental Wellness Program

FFE, in collaboration with Mpower Minds, has been running a year-long Wellness Program to build awareness and reduce the stigma around mental health. Since December 2024, 576 students have participated in weekly workshops, with access to a 24×7 helpline and one-to-one counseling support as needed.

Medical Webinar – Stress First Aid Training

FFE hosted a webinar for medical scholars on S.T.R.E.S.S. First Aid Training, facilitated by Northwell Health's Dr. Manish Sapra, Dr. Mayer Bellehsen, along with Dr. Sanjay Bindra. Nearly 100 students participated, gaining valuable insights on burnout, stress identification, and building emotional resilience.

Focus Group Sessions by Mpower

FFE launched a new series of Focus Group sessions with Psychologist Payel Chakraborty, beginning with an engaging session on Self-Esteem with a batch size of 25 that saw 100% participation.

Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHFA) Training

FFE, in collaboration with Mpower, completed its first YMHFA cohort with 25 scholars from 17 colleges; 15 earned Accreditation Certificates, marking a strong step in mental health awareness.
boot camp.

Placement update



• From the **2023-24** graduating cohort with **1,508** Engineering students, **1,398 (93%)** are placed; and **285** have opted for higher studies. The remaining are attending off-campus recruitments.

• From the **2024-25** graduating cohort, out of the **2,594** Engineering students, **1,502 (58%)** are placed; and **434** are opting for Higher studies. The remaining are attending campus and off-campus recruitment.

FFE is thankful to its corporate partners **Wabtec, Geberit Plumbing Technology India Private Limited, Tavant Technologies, Linde India, O9 Solutions, and Altimetrik India Pvt., Capgemini Technology Services India Limited, Juniper Networks, KPMG Assurance and Consulting Services LLP, Tesco, Trane Technologies, Tavant Technologies, Ingersoll Rand, Thomson Reuters, and ThoughtWorks** for offering placement opportunities to FFE's batch of 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22, 2022-23, 2023-24 & 2024-25.