

Date: February 26, 2012.

Time: 6.30 – 8.30 am

Route: DH – playground – foothills near Cave rock – sunrise point

Students: Karthik, Aakash, Nirman, Adhiraj, Niyati, Sameera, Ashutosh, Rishi

Teachers: Santaram, Kausthub, Jyothi.

Visitors: Karen, Rajini, Arjun, Aparna, Krishna.

The playfield was teeming with different players – volleyball, cricket, basketball, football ... When we crossed the play field there was a different world awaiting us. Silhouetted against the sky was the Painted Spurfowl on the top of a small rock. Beneath the hills the shrubs too were alive with many small birds -- probably warblers. Another bird watching session...

List of birds that were seen and heard:

Crow	Purple-rumped Sunbird	Small green Bee- eater
Jungle Crow	Painted Spurfowl	Crested Honey Buzzard
Male and female Koel	Whitebrowed Bulbul	Tickell's Flowerpecker
Common Myna	Lesser Whitethroat	<u>Also heard:</u>
Indian Robin	Rufous bellied Babbler	Grey Partridge
White Headed Babbler	Blyth's Reed Warbler	Ring Dove
Red vented Bulbul	Laughing Dove	
Ashy Drongo	White throated Munias	
Coppersmith	White bellied Drongo	

Bird of the day: *Painted Spurfowl* is a shy bird inhabiting the rocky hillsides especially the Cave rock and Duranta hills. Usually seen in pairs and showing up briefly as it forages on the ground, they rarely fly even when disturbed, preferring to hide among the bushes. The male is brightly coloured and more attractive. This bird is endemic to India.

