

THE INDIAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, DSO

## Creative HORIZONS: IGNITING Imagination

TERM 2 (2024-2025)

Fellow we en:

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#### Dear readers,

Welcome to the second edition of 11S Voice (2024–2025), the 11S–DSO magazine that celebrates literary and artistic talent within our campus. In this edition, students from KG 1 to Grade 10 have vibrantly showcased a range of poetry and prose focused on many creative themes. Keep reading as we unravel more stories in multiple languages!



صديق وفي في غابة ذخراء جميلة, كان هناك أرنب صغير اسم٩ "لولو ونعلب ذكي اسم "نعلوب" كانا صيغين يلعبان معاكل يوم. في أحد التيام كان لولو يغفز بين التشجل عنهُ مالوقع في حقرة عميقة ولم يستطع الخرج. حاول لكتّ لم ينجح بدأ ينادي «ساعرني ساعيني» سمع شعلوب صوتا ،فركمن بسرية ,وعندما رأى الترين عالفا ،فكر ليف أساعره"! نُقْ وجد عُمينا طوياً ومتواك لولو. نمشاع لول لولو بالغمين، وساعده تعلوب على الذروج. عانق الأرنب صديقة وقال: "شكراللى، تعلوب أنبت صديق وفي" ابتسم تعلوب وقال:"الأمسقاء الحقبقيون يسلدون بغمنهم دائمًا" ومنذ ذلك اليوم أحسط أقرب صبيقين وتعلم الجميع origination of the second of t 3-E 0)

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#### TIS VOICE-ARABIC فرساة الطلاء السحرية

في قريبة صغيرة، كانت هناك فتاة فقيرة تدعى رنا, تحلم بأن تصبح فنانة كبيرة، ذات يوم, أعطلها عجوز فرشاة سعرية وقالت: "كلمل رسمت بها شيئًا, سيصبح حقيقيًا". رسمت رناشجرة, فظهرت الشجرة في الحال شمر رسمت قريتها, فملأ تما بالأشجار والزهور في إوم من الأيام, قررت رسم السلام, وعندما رسمها, انتشر السلام في كل مكان، استمرت رنا في الرسم, وعرفت أن السحر يكمن في النية الطبية. النهاية.



Zehrafathima.p.s.

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الطاب و المصباح السحرى

كان العطاب سالم فقيرا ويعيش في كوخ ضغير. في يوم من الأيام، وجد معباط سعربا، وعندما مسعه قرح منه مارد قوي ووعده بثلاث أمنيات طالب أن يصبح غنيا، فصار لدية قصر و زهب ، لكن فقد أصدقاءه شم طلب أن يعودوا إليه , فعادوا لكنهم أجبوهُ من أبل ماله فقط .

أفسراً، فكر بعهكة و تهنى أن يكون سعيداً ويساعد او يشاعل الأفرين افتفى الهارف و ماش سالم فياته بجساطة لكن كان أكثر سعادة من فعل ا

> ب O الحينيين Nainika BB

انیکا ٤٤ حى ، الإمارات حي الإمارات يا قلباه حييها وأغسل همومك طرا في شواطيها وسر على تربها مستأنسا فرحا فهل عرفت لها ندأ يدانيها ! هنا تقيم المعاني دولة وهنا يطاول الشعر تياها مبانيها يا نض الله وجه الباذلين لها أعمارهم مثلما قد كان بانيها أقول زايداً يمتد المدى ألقا من السجايا فسيحات معانيها فليحفظ الله هذه الارض ما طلعت شمس فغارت من النور الذي فيها





إلىابطة بين الأم والابنة عمر المراجع

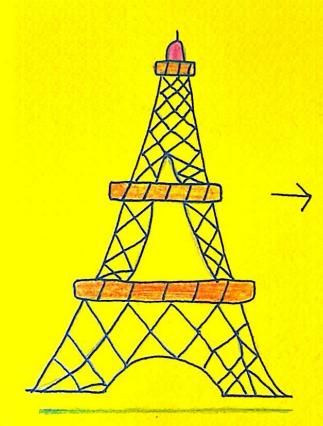
في قرية مريحة, كانت فتاة صغيرة تدعب عائشة تحب قضاء الوقت مع والدنها زينب. وفي كل مساء, كانوا يجلسون تدت شجرتهم المفضلة. حيث كانت زبنب تشاركهم قصص طغولتها. في أعد الأيام, كان لدى عائشة منتدروع مدرسب عن الصداقة. " ماما, هد يمكنك مساعدتى في إظهار مدى أهمية صداقتنا؟" سألت بفارغ الصدر. فابتسمت زبنب وفالت : بالطبع! لقد جمعوا أوراقً ملونة وأنشأوا ملصفًا مليئًا برسومات لأوقاتهم الممتعة معًا, مع عبارة " أمي هي أعز صديقاني ! " و في بوم العرض التقديمي، شاركت عادَشة بعدر قائلة: \*هذا يوضح العلاقة التي تربطني بأمب. لقد علمننب أن أكون لطيفًا وأن أؤمد بنعسب شعرت زينب بالعفروهي تتساهد زلك. في تلك البيلة, احتضنتها عائشة بعوه وقالت: "شكرًا لكونك صديقة المفضلة يا ماما". فابتسمن زينب: وشكرًا لأنك نورني با عادَشة. « رابطتنا مميرة للغاية. النهاية. الأنب العربية



Mohammed Muhib

قصة عن نجريبي:-

في باريس تجولت في الشوارع الناريجية واستهت بأجواع الهدينة الرومانيسة. زيت برج إيفل لبلاً، حيث أضاءت الأنوار الساطعة السهاء استكشفت متحف اللوفر وتأكمت روائع الفن مثل الموبالبزا تناولت الكرواسون الطازج واستهتعت بالفهق الفرينسية في مفهى صفبريجانب تهرالسين.

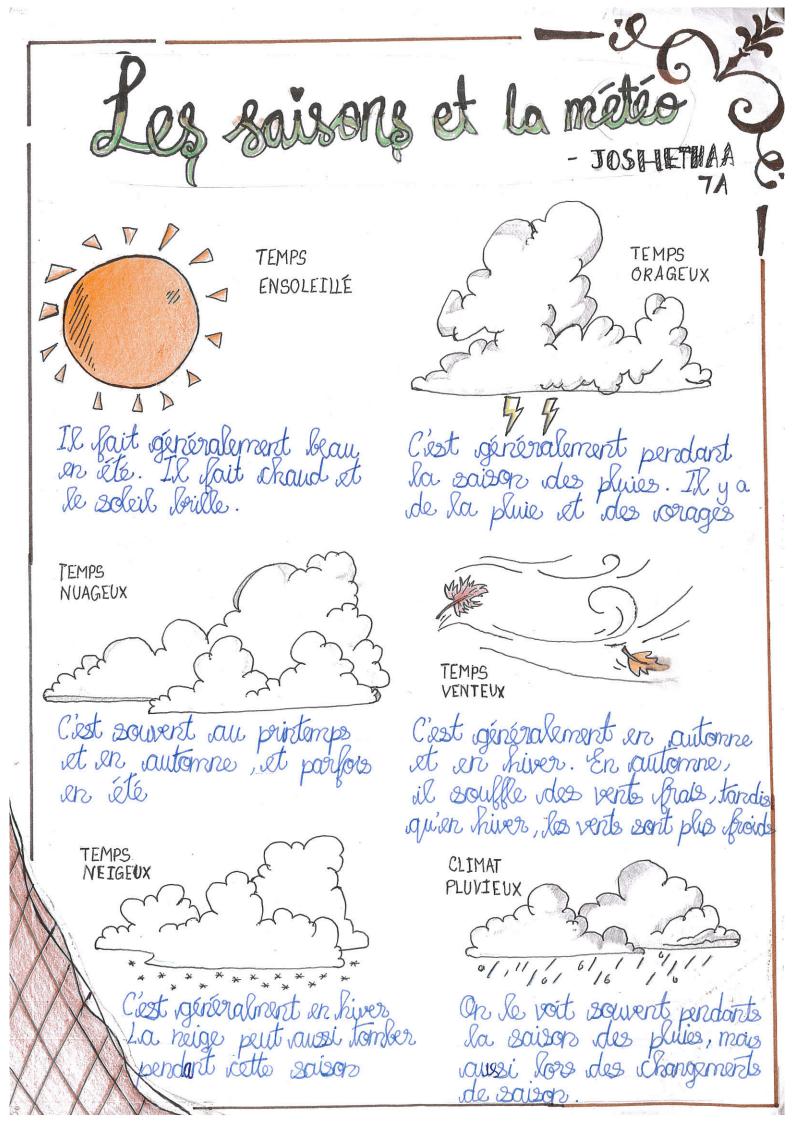


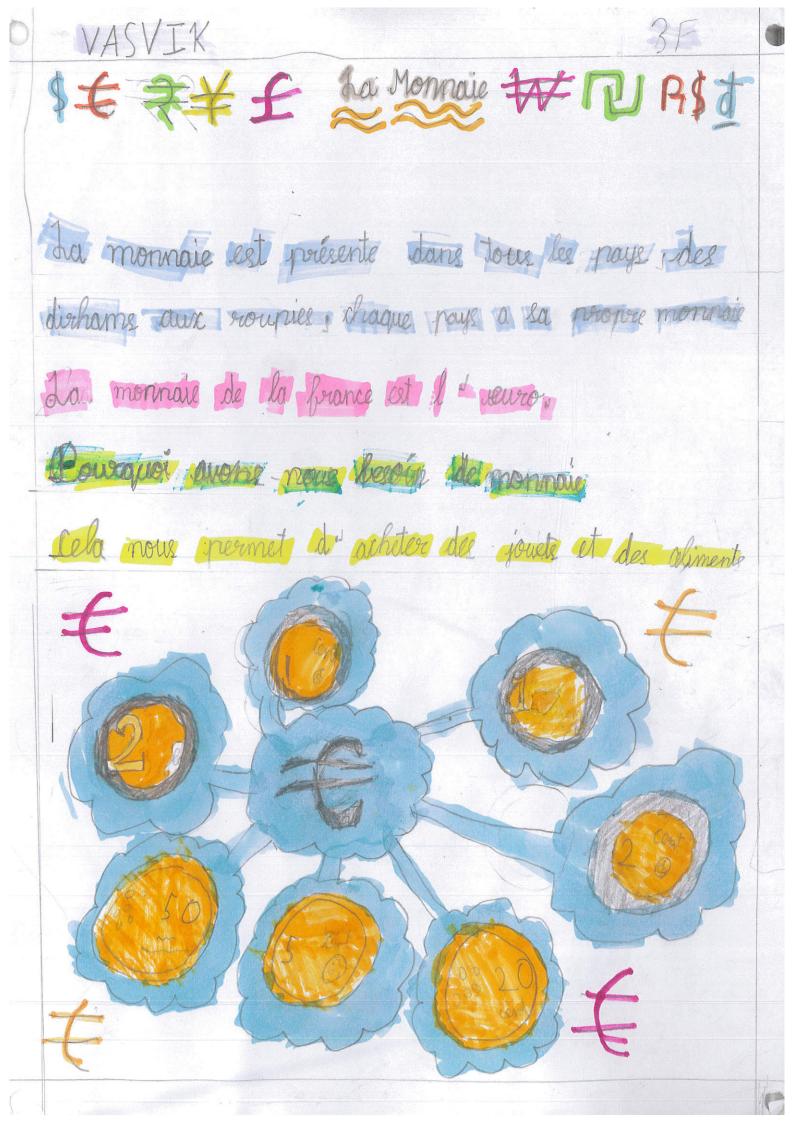
مداةة السالماب والجرو دان مرة كان هناك صد بقان: سنداب وجرو. كانوا يعبيشون ويلعبون معا كان السنجاب رياضيا للغاية وكان يفوز دائما باللعنة. اعتاد الدرو أن يشعر بالسرود ويعتقد أنه لا فائدة منه. وفي أحد الأباح بدأت السماء تعطر بغزارة. وكان السنجاب في حالة معنوبة عالية . بدأ في القياح بتصر فات غريبة لكنه فجآة ففد توازنه وسقط في وباه المطر اتصل بصد بقة الجرو طلبا للمساعدة .جاء الجرو لإنقاذه . صعد السنباب على ظهره وو صل إلى مكان آص . وشكر صد يقة على إنقاد حياته . وتد توا عن حد اقتهم كيف تجعلهم أفرى وكانتوا Ligill السنجاعية و الجرو A Case ( Case ) - By Angel And Afra 9B

Fatimah Zahra



# Français



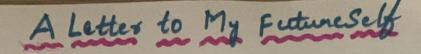


Le Gardin de l'Aube Le soleil se lève, douce lumière du matin, Les oiseans chartent, un hymne divin Les fleurs s'éveillent, parfums, exquis dans l'air, Les ruisseaux murmurent, secrets deux à partager. Les orbres darsent, au gré du vert léger, La nature s'éparouit, er beauté infinie. Nos cours, battent, en harnonie parfaite, Par Zévar Dias

Mon Journal par inaaga 5H. Premier jour, samedi me réveille au son de la télé en me levant, Je vais aux Hes et je me brosse les dents, pais je vais au salon pour, manger à ma grande surprise, hous passions la soirée au cinema ittrès amhsant. dennie me jour dimanche me réveille vers 9400 et Jai pris le thé pais Jai pris thé puis jái regarde la télé vision pendant an moment nt de préparer, du gepas avec mon père 1 tiroisisèmie Jour ne réveille vers midi et puis je me dépêche parce que nou étéons le point d'aller dans un centre commercial la basinous s manyé et acheté un projecteur.







Dean Ficture Me,

I hope you are doing well and life is treating you kindly. Right now, I have so many decame and hopes for the future. Have you achieved your goals? Are you happy with the choices you've made? I hope you have worked hardard followed your heart to do what you love. I hope you are still the same - kind, cusious, and fell of energy. Do you Still cingoy the little things in life, like lagghing with friends, playing games, and spending time with family? I hope you haven't togotten the wonderful memories from school the fun times with friends, and the lessons learned from the teachess.

life night have had some challenge, but Thope you faced them with courage and learned from your mistakes. Remember tow we always believed that hand work and honesty could take us anycohere? I hope you still believe that.

No matter where you are now, always stay tone to your - Self. Keep decausing, Keep learning, and never stop betweening in your ablities. The fidence is bright, and I know you can achieve great things.

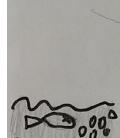
Admith-7

Yours Sincerely Your Younger Self.

#### The Plastic issue - How plastic affects Marine Rife ...



Introduction: About 8 million tone of plastic enter our ocean every year. This is a major crisil, at it affects marine life. As of now, 5.25 trillions pieces of plastic are eltimated to be in our oceane. In this article, we will explore how plastic affects the marine life critically.



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The rise of Plastic. Plastic come to our world in the early 1900's, but it worst formaul until the 1950's. Reaple discovered how convenient, cheat and durable plastic was and found it's use in almost every industry, but there used a catch. Plastic if not biodegradable.

The problem "Plastic is not biodegradable, and instead it breaks down into ting pieces called microplastic, which is found about everywhere jincluding marine like. Millions of tank of plastic is thrown and composed in water bodies. Marine animals like biblet and turtles miltake it to be food, cat it, and consequency sie. It's estimated that 100,000 marine creatures bie each year. The Great Pacific Garleage Patch is one of the five large plastic garbage patches around the world. It is twice the size of Texas and containf 1.8 trillion pieces of plastic.



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What can use do. To prevent plastic going to our water basief, use con: • Avoid single-use plastic. • Participate in clean up and recycling programt.

· Support brond and policies that promote sultainability.

· Reduce consumption of things.

The fight abainst plastic begins with small changel. It we act now, we can protect our oceans and next generations. Will you be part of the solution

#### **TECHNOLOGY IN SCHOOLS- PROS AND CONS**

Technology has been introduced to us since covid 19. It helped us to continue our studies without getting infected with the disease, since then technology became a vital part of our daily school life, including our daily switch for school- to educational games. In this article we will see the pros and cons of technology in school.

#### **Pros**

Enhanced learning: The internet is a vast resource of information, articles and different perspectives. It acts as guidance and support in understanding tough topics and subjects. Students can use e-books and videos to further learn about various topics. It provides access to a variety of educational resources.

Collaboration and communication: It help communicate and collaborate with people regardless of their geographical location. It helps students collaborate in group projects with platforms like google workplace and zoom and many other document collaboration platforms like Canva etc. It gives practice to what students can experience in their future job life

Efficiency: Technology has simplified many processes that teachers and students do daily, like attendance, switch for school or grades, etc. If a student is absent than he/she can refer to the lesson materials in learning platforms. Additionally, parent-teacher communications can occur virtually, enhancing the efficiency of the educational process for both staff and students.

Future Use: Living in this virtual world, it important for students to know how to use online applications and many other virtual skills. As technology has been integrated in nearly everything, knowing virtual skills like creating slides, sending emails, writing articles is one of the qualities that employers will be searching for and that can be handy to students for their future careers.

#### <u>Cons</u>

Distraction: Social media, text messages, recent videos and updates on many apps or games can distract oneself from lessons, making it a hard task for teachers to make students stay on point as well as for the parent to ensure their kid studies in school. Most of the time students can also play games on their device instead of studying.

Excess of Screen Time: Students are on their devices most of the time for entertainment and so adding technology to school would convert what used to be their offline time into screen time. Another element here is that if assignments are assigned online then that increases the amount of time a student spends in front of a device even at home.

Cheating: Cheating has been easier ever since the introduction of technology. Students can copy and paste information in their assignments, and in online tests open two browsers in case they didn't study, they can even now search in AI platforms like **OPENAI** and **COPILOT** and copy the samples or information given by then.

In summary technology was built to make our lives easier and if used with right intentions and for the right amount of time, can be beneficial for our future lives.

#### <u>SCHOOL TIME RIDDLE CHALLENGE</u> BRAIN TEASER FOR YOUNG LEARNERS

1. You go here to learn and play, five days a week. It is where you stay. What is it? *Answer* : School

2. I am filled with desks, book, tables and chairs. You can find students and teachers there. What is it?

Answer : Classroom

3. I am the one who helps you learn from letter to Math. Who am I?

Answer : Teacher

4. I ring so loud to signal time, for recess, lunch, fire drill and home time. What am I?

Answer : School bell

5. I carry your books, pouch and food on your shoulders. What am I?

Answer : Bag

6. I am full of pages, neat and white. I help you learn both day and night. What am I?

Answer : Book

7. I am colourful and fun to use. I help you draw or choose some hues. What am I? *Answer* : Crayons

8. We talk, we laugh, we sometimes fight, but in the end I and the one who lends a hand when you need help. I understand. Who am I?

Answer : Your best friend

9. I am the tool that makes things right, I fix mistakes, clean and light. Who am I? *Answer* : Eraser

10. I am long and yellow and stop on the street. I pick you up and give you a seat. What am I?

Answer : School bus

11. I am made of wood, long and skinny, but I cannot be a tree. I help you write so creatively. What am I?

Answer : Pencil

12. I am a Job you get at home. Sometimes I feel like a mountain to beat. What am I?

Answer : Homework

13. I am a device that fits in your hands, with me you can play games, do Rosen level up or watch on demand. You take me to school but not to see your teacher. I show you cartoons and can even take a picture. What am I?

Answer : Tablet

Thank You

**Gatik Gopakumar** 

Grade 2 A

IIS DSO

obody is From the day I was born, the day I was brought up, I had had learned That no, one can be perfect. We say wrong things we do wrong things . We learn, and we play. When we fall, and we live the thank God for a upand we ner Alishma fatima 5E



#### Cloud

## Its fluffy

## Its white

#### You can see it

## When the sky is bright

#### It can float

## It gives rain

## It stays higher

## Than a bird or plane

## It's a cloud!





#### \*\* Memories \*\*

In class 2-A, where friendships bloom, not just photos, but memories 'Loom.

Captured moments, laughter's song, in our hearts, they all belong.

Years may pass, yet we will recall, the times we shared the joys, all.

Looking back, with smiles and tears, cherishing these golden years.

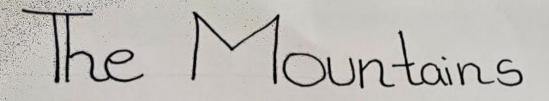
So, here's to us the bonds we made, in class 2-A where memories stayed.

Forever etched within our minds, the best of times forever binds.

itution

Dr. B R Ambedkar Father of Indian Constitution

> Ved Anchan 2-A



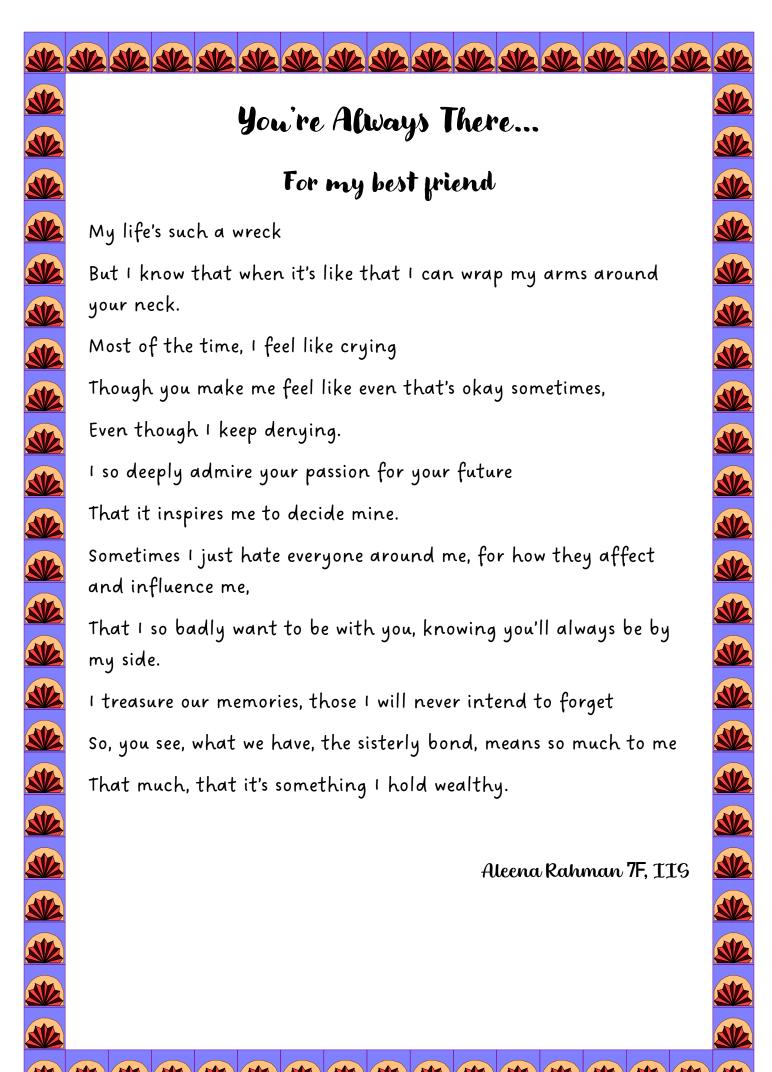
Majestic and grand, The mountains stand. Tall and proud, Above the clouds.

Their peaks touch the sky, Where eagles fly, Their slopes so steep, Their secrects they keep.

The valleys below, A tranquil and peaceful show, The rivers that flow, A sight that we all know.

The mountains are a wonder, Abeauty to ponder. A place to escape, and Sind solace in their shape.

-Aamena Shaikh 6-G



#### The hong Wait - An Original 10th July 2024

I remember when I was just five Pleading Monn for a one like you All my friends had siblings, except for me, and I clidn't appreciale the vibe.

I stayed up all night, praying for the other half of me That I couldn't mail to see.

I maited, Oh how I maited All those years I felt like the odd one out hittle did I know that the almightly had decided otherwise, my wish be true

And there you laid in that compy bed, my heart no longer blue

I monder on the adventures will have together as the future with you is to divish forever

Even though I'm den years older than you, It doesn't matter, it's a fact you can't beat. As you have a mother in me, more than a rister But don't worry, because I will be most fun person you'll ever me The one by your side is and will always be me I love little knother, with all my heart and soul You are the dream of my childhood, It is what makes you so special and whole.

- Aleena Rahman

#### A POEM ABOUT SCHOOL

A place where our imaginations fly And our bad habits say goodbye A school is a place where we can learn and teach Where knowledge goes to each As we spread out into the world so wide We all stop to say our goodbyes Not just students, but teachers too As they were the ones who gave strength to you Nevertheless, our knowledge stays intact And our facts stay true and exact School is a place of wonder A place to always remember

By Alisha. 5-J

#### LIFE VS DEATH

Birth is the beginning of life Whereas death is known to be a strife. Life is a huge process Sometimes as fast as horses, Or maybe as slow as turtles Along with numerous hurdles. We never knew life's purpose Due to which it was grievous But everyone likes it As they all seem to fit. Death on the contrary is feared by all. Because it might come next fall Death is that of liberation Not that of you reaching your expiration. Death makes life as a whole It might also be a good stroll.

BY AOUSIKKA SC

#### **Poem- Nothing without you**

Dear Teacher, you are so kind

Brings us joy and peace of mind!!

You teach us what is wrong and right

Which helps to make us bright and bright!!!

I wonder how you work so hard

Never take a break and get tired!!!

You show us the way when the path is rough

Solving the problems, I can't thank enough!!!

Hope one day I can make you proud

By achieving something but still in ground!!!

Thank you for being my teacher, what I am, and I will be nothing without you!!!

By: Aura Pradhan Grade 1D

## Ice cream

Ice cream Ice cream

- So cold and sweet
- In the summer season
- It's a yummy treat
- Lots of flavours
- Lots of colours
- Cup, cone, or stick
- I can't wait to lick
- Ice cream can be sticky
- Ice cream can be sweet
- Ice cream is delicious
- It's my favourite treat.

## Jui Grade 4E

#### Lost in the stars

Lost in the stars where the silence feels right I'm painting my dreams with the colours of night The moon whisper secrets don't worry never knew In the still of the sky, I'm searching for you The Wins carry songs from a place far away A melody soft as the break of the day The clouds hold a promise, the stars hide a key To a world that exists in the depths of the sea Canvas of dreams where I wander with you. Time slows to whispers the moments feel free, Like a bird chasing echoes of eternity. The echoes of Starlight keep calling my name, A journey through whispers, no two paths the same The Galaxies spin in the waltz just for me, Each step a reflection of who I could be, Through shadows moonlight, I follow the glow, A map of the heavens that only I know The night holds its breath as the world falls asleep, In the quiet expanses, all my secrets I keep, The Universe hums with a sound soft and sweet, A rhythm that guides every heart it will meet Lost in the stars .... Lost in the stars ...



## Summer

Summer is fun and summer is hot, We eat delicious food like hotpot . We go to the beach, We have freedom as there are no teachers to teach . With our friends we have ice cream, In summer, till 10 we will dream. When school starts, it's boring to reach. As this year is coming to an end Let's welcome the new year with family and friends Our exciting faces and jubilous smiles Has excited my heart to power me for more than a mile As I await the new year in full cheer There's nothing I need to fear When my friends are here · AD

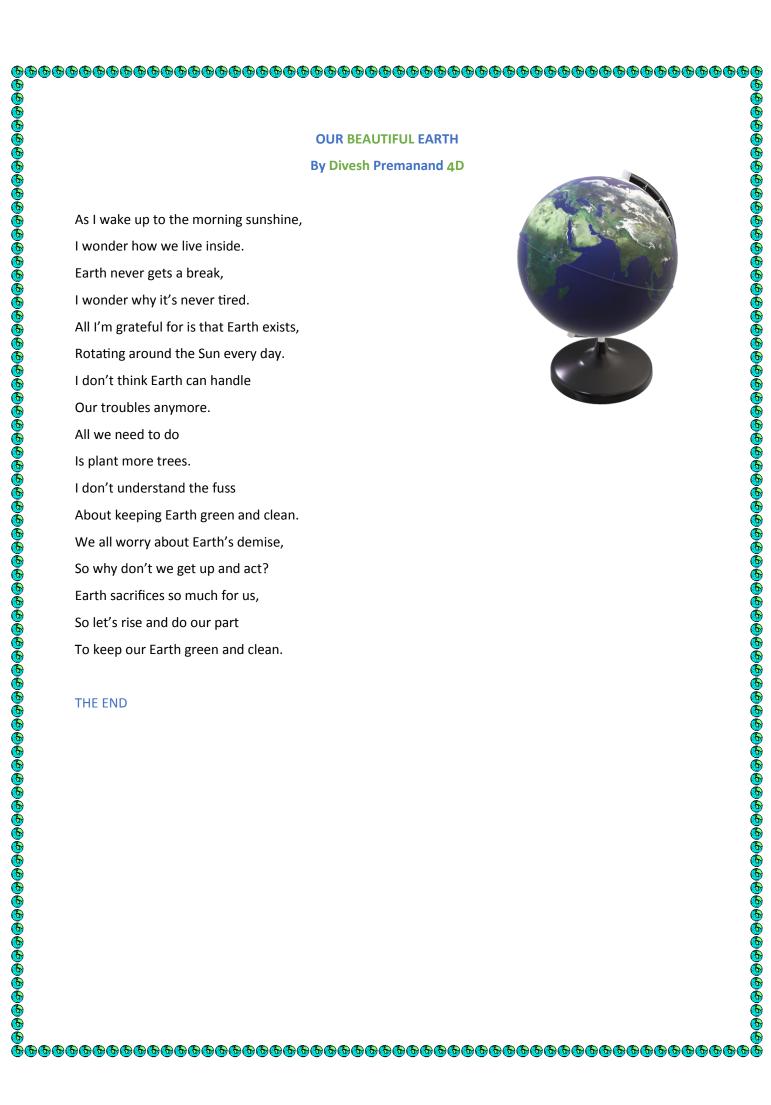


MEHER BANGA\_5J

### My Rocking chair and me

Back and forth, back and forth. As the Sun sets, its seemingly everlasting rays gone. Back and forth, back and forth. Nothing but my thoughts and me. Thoughts of pleasure, endurance and agony. Back and forth, back and forth. Just my Rocking chair and me. To think of lost moments on the porch. The town is silent, except for the occasional barking. Back and forth, back and forth. Nobody there to judge as I hum the same tune of regret. Staring at the abyss. Back and forth, back and forth. As the sun rises, he gets up marking the end of his journey, which continues into the next night. Wood creaks, the doors open, and he's gone. All memories of regret are gone and finally accepted. Back and forth, back and forth. Just my rocking chair, thoughts, and me

> - Ariana Umarjada Khan Grade 5D





# A Small Tour of Earth

The Sun, a piece of glittering gold. It's heat like a flame around this world. The Moon, a ball of big black yarn. It's darkness would make us say "oh charm." These are animals they're our pets. We pair them with humans in equal sets. They all make different sounds. But that's alright for we are simple people on these simple grounds. That's the city. It's always so busy. Whenever I look at it, I start to feel dizzy.





Sarah Jiju Kurian Class 3-E

#### THE RIVER

I flow and flow, Past the snowy mountains, Past the lively villages, Past the lush green forests, With no end in sight.

I take the remnants with me like a passer-by, While time takes its turn swiftly. Day arrives, but night marks the end. The sun sets, but the moon rises, The sky being replaced by beaming stars, As I continue to shine like the glorious river I am.

Alas! I find myself below flying fish, Lost in the twists of my adventure, Slowly merging with the vastness of the ocean, Witnessing a massive kingdom beneath me, Something that I can explore For years to come...

> G.B. Siyona 9E

A Solitary Feather

In the soft, gentle embrace of dusk, A solitary feather settles down. From great heights it once took flight, Now earthbound, it longs for the sky again.

It twirled in the murmuring wind, A traveler among the woods. Yet now it rests on the ground so quiet, A mute observer of time's desire.

Its path marked in each vein, Of lost freedom and temporary gain. Still in its solitude, a story it spins, Of far-off heavens and autumnal fins.

For when alone, its essence harmonizes, Of limitless heavens and hidden flights. A solitary feather, yet so majestic, A representation of hopes that always persist...

Though earthbound now, its dreams remain, A whisper of the skies' refrain. In stillness found, a silent grace, A testament to life's embrace

By: Srisufhala Seepana 7D Tuesday 11 February

#### TITLE-Friendship- the bond that binds

A relation, binding and secure Where minds build trust and understanding, A never-ending link from start to end Where there will be support par reasoning.

Times good and bad set in Yet it stands unwavering, Times happy and sad chime in Yet it gains strength.

Be it race, religion or colour Faith shadows differences all, Be it gloom or the merry Faith lights it up all.

Friendship gets fragmented but can be repairedBarriers arise, but pathways too,Friendship gets hit but can be rejuvenatedBarriers beat, but collaboration build.

-By Eric Cherian

Grade 8D

#### **Friends That Could Have Been**

Plump and rosy her cheeks were, My friend's, who never really was mine. Her hair, a wonderful shade of ginger, That I'd love to have braided at least one time. We met beneath the olive tree, The sun still shining high, No words did she say to me, And neither did l. Yet we played til we, Couldn't breathe little breaths, Til our faces turned red, And til we collapsed in the grass, Feeling light in our heads. We chased the bugs and climbed the trees, Swung the swings, and slid the slides, Our laughter floated with the breeze, And reached all those far and nigh. Soon, the evening fell, And with it, we parted ways But the memories we made, In our hearts still stayed. She smiled at me, And I at her, beamed. A farewell between two, Friends that could have been.

Haeqa Sufyan Grade 9B

#### I, the worst of all, bestowed myself to hope

I, the worst of all, bestowed myself to hope With confident hands, I signed my fate, In blood, the ink, though wrought with weight. I shan't let sins be shackles prone, For through the storm, my heart is worn, For hope

It shines brightest in the dark It is there but cannot be seen To be without it costs me everything But with it costs me nothing

Bestowing myself to hope Hope has four words, So does Loss Each path a cross for me to toss and with grace, I walked into the sanguine path *"Take the road where brightness grows, to you the worst of all"* 

Yet, in this quest, I shall not be at peace with all the doubts tangled threads easy to shred, hard to unsnarl But still, I stand, I won't appease. yet I still bestowed hope

Hope is like that delicate pale feather Hard to notice, hard to find but a cinch to catch if it weren't for the insecurities gusty gales howling and teasing, penetrating my soul

So, I'll work hard I build my shield of strength and patience A steadfast heart, in this sacred space to catch that delicate pale feather That flutters forth, just out of my place

I, the worst of all, bestowed myself to hope A sigh wore through my lips as I take the brightest road Footprints marked in faith, so bold knowing that this road makes everything to my world

I glanced upon my trail A smile blooms where fear was once pale For every step, getting more bolder The worst of all finds a saint in me

So here I dwell, in hopeful grace, recalling the long journey, on the pave where brightness grows Finding my footprints awake In all the sanguine ways *I the worst of all, bestowed myself to hope.* 

> By Saanvi Yadav GRADE: 9B

#### HOPE

They say hope is the brightest star in a dark night, But I don't think it's true. Hope isn't just a flicker, distant and cold; It's the warmth of a smile, the gold in the old.

Hope is the crumble of leaves in autumn's decay, The whisper of if in the fabric of life's play. It's the melody of running water's flow, The silent promise in the seeds we sow.

We mistake hope for something so small, When it's infinity, the heart of it all. It's the green of the leaves, the salt in the sea, The hug of assurance that lets us be free.

It's a semicolon in the middle of a decree, A pause that says there's more to be. It's the brown of my eyes, the light in my smile, The fire within that carries me a mile.

Hope is my euphoria, my infinite spree— Hope is the very essence of me.

Plaksha Goswami

Grade 9A

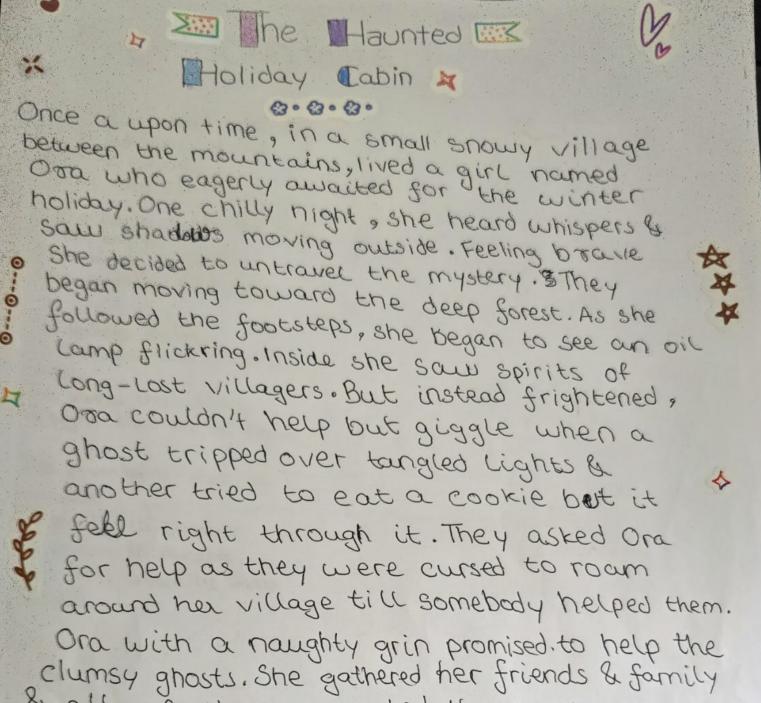
#### **Story- The lost dog**

Once upon a time, Mia and Nia went to the park. They went on the seesaw, slide and trampoline, but when they were about to get in the trampoline, they saw a creature. Mia said "Woo! We must run!" Ok! said Nia. The next morning, they went to the park holding hands, but the creature was a weak dog.

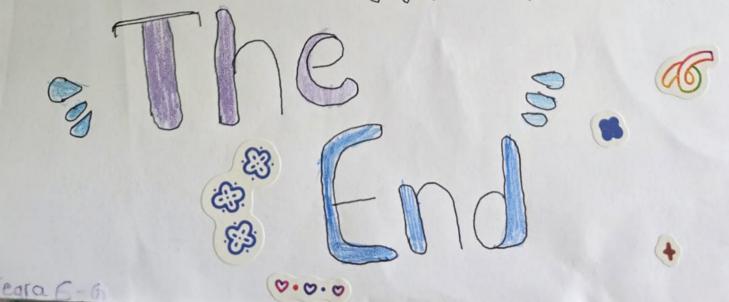
They felt pity for the weak dog. Then an idea stuck in their mind which was to take care of the dog and miss photos. After two weeks, a woman cried "This is my dog"! My dog' at the photo. Mia and Nia gave the dog back and told her not to leave him alone in the park. Mia and Nia learned an important lesson about friendship.

By: Ishika Rahul

Grade 1 D



& all of them converted the once haunted cabin to a place of joy & happiness.



#### **Selena's Seven Magical Coins**

The air felt heavier than usual as Selena stood at the edge of the moment that would change everything.

She had been given seven coins—each one capable of solving a single problem, no matter how big or small. Over time, she had used them for herself: to fix fights with friends, to chase away loneliness, to make life just a little easier. Now, only one coin remained.

When she learned that her father was battling cancer, she didn't hesitate. She knew exactly what she would do. But before she could, he told her something that shattered everything she thought she knew.

He wasn't her father. He had adopted her as a baby.

Selena's hands clenched around the last coin, but for the first time, she didn't know if she could use it. Anger burned inside her—anger at the man who had raised her, at the life that suddenly felt like a lie. She had always believed the coins could fix anything.

Now, she wasn't so sure.

Days passed, and the weight of the truth settled in. She avoided her father—no, the man who had pretended to be her father. But even as she drowned in her anger, she couldn't ignore the memories. The bedtime stories, the scraped knees that he had bandaged, the way he had always made her feel safe.

He had lied. But he had also loved her.

One evening, she found him sitting by the window, staring out like he was waiting for something. He looked tired. Smaller than she remembered. And for the first time, she saw him not as the man who had betrayed her, but as someone who had done his best.

Selena sat beside him, the last coin resting in her palm. She could still feel the heat of her anger, but underneath it was something else. Something bigger.

She closed her fingers around the coin, then reached for his hand.

"I'm scared," she admitted.

She placed the last coin in his hand and let it go.

And they lived happily ever after.

VELORA RODRIGUES Grade 4F

#### The Mystery of Mr. Fox

One day, Mr. Fox was walking along a street when—SWIPE! —he was grabbed by his shirt and pulled into the shadows. That was the last anyone saw of him.

#### 1 day later...

"So, you're saying he just disappeared?" asked Detective William Reeth, looking at the only witness, Walter.

"Yep, into the shadows. I never saw him again," Walter replied.

Just then, the phone rang.

"Hello? Who's this? Oh, Jonathan! WHAT? His clothes have been discovered?! What do you mean, should I do a DNA test on them? Of course, yes! Do it ASAP and hand it in to the police station."

Immediately, William jumped into his classy BMW and sped away to the police station.

#### At the police station...

When he arrived, he saw the clothes lying on the inspector's table with a DNA report attached. As he scanned the report, his eyes widened—it wasn't Mr. Fox's DNA. The clothes belonged to Walter.

"What would he have to do with this?" William wondered. Little did he know, Walter was the criminal mastermind behind it all.

Turning to Walter, William said, "Tell the truth. I know what you've done. I was wondering why you were there and didn't chase after Mr. Fox. Now, I have my answer."

Walter sighed. "Okay, fine. I kidnapped Mr. Fox to steal his money. I was jealous of how rich he was." Mr. Fox was safely returned, and Walter, surprisingly, got away with only three days in jail and a fine—all thanks to his unexpected honesty.

By Divesh 4D

## **The Pani Puri Sellers**

Once upon a time, there lived two pani

puri seller's named Ali & Sikander. They worked in the same pani puri stall by helping each other. One day Ali became greedy for money, so he decided to make his own stall.





The next day, Sikander was surprised, but there was a trap for Sikandar. Ali had put some powder that spoils the foods. When customers ate Sikander's Pani puri they didn't like his pani puri, so they went to Ali's stall, there Ali had put an offer that **"Get 1 FREE Pani puri plate with 2 Pani puri plates".** 

The Next day when Ali was putting the powder in Sikander's pani puri a dog caught him and in sometime Sikander was coming, so Ali immediately told the truth to everyone, even to the customers and apologized. Sikander and Ali started to work together happily again.



#### Moral of the Story:

No matter how easy to get the things we want from greed but remember that the good always wins over the greed.

The Happy Ending...

Ms. Yesha Poojary V.

When the Moon's Combined

By Zevan Dias, 9E

In a mystical land far beyond our own, there lived a young lad named Eric.

One day, Eric embarked on a journey to Camelot to meet his friends. Upon arriving, they greeted each other warmly and decided to play a game of hide and seek. Suddenly, one of them noticed three moons merging into a single, brilliant full moon. They were all filled with awe and fear.

As the three moons combined to form one, a magical transformation took place. The moon changed every dog's personality in the kingdom



All the dogs became wolves, and the squirrels turned into fierce squirrelanoids.

Chaos erupted as the transformed creatures began to wreak havoc, destroying everything inside and outside the kingdom—wrecking houses, mills, and more.

Eric was terrified by the devastation when, suddenly, a phoenix appeared right before his eyes. It spoke in a voice both ancient and wise, delivering a riddle:

"In the forest where shadows weave, A hidden path the brave perceive. Where light and dark in harmony meet, you'll find the key beneath your feet. Follow the whispers of the trees, to find the place where shadows cease. There, the ancient guardian waits, Holding the power of destiny's fate." Determined, Eric set off on his journey. He pondered the riddle as he walked through a dense, mystical forest. The shadows of the trees cast eerie shapes on the ground, and the sunlight peeked through the leaves in enchanting patterns.

Eric knew he had to find a place where light and dark met in harmony. He listened closely to the whispers of the trees and followed the path they seemed to guide him towards. The deeper he ventured, the more he felt a sense of balance between light and shadow.

Finally, he arrived at a clearing where the sunlight and shadows intertwined perfectly. Remembering the riddle, Eric looked down and noticed ancient symbols etched into the ground beneath his feet. He followed the pattern until he reached a large, ancient tree—the Elderwood of Elara.



The ancient guardian tree sensed Eric's presence and slowly revealed the sword Aura, hidden within its trunk. Eric, understanding the significance of the symbols and the balance he had found, reached out and grasped the sword. He felt its power coursing through him, a gift only to be bestowed upon the worthy.

With renewed strength and the sword Aura in hand, Eric made his way back to where the wolves and squirrelanoids were causing destruction. As he

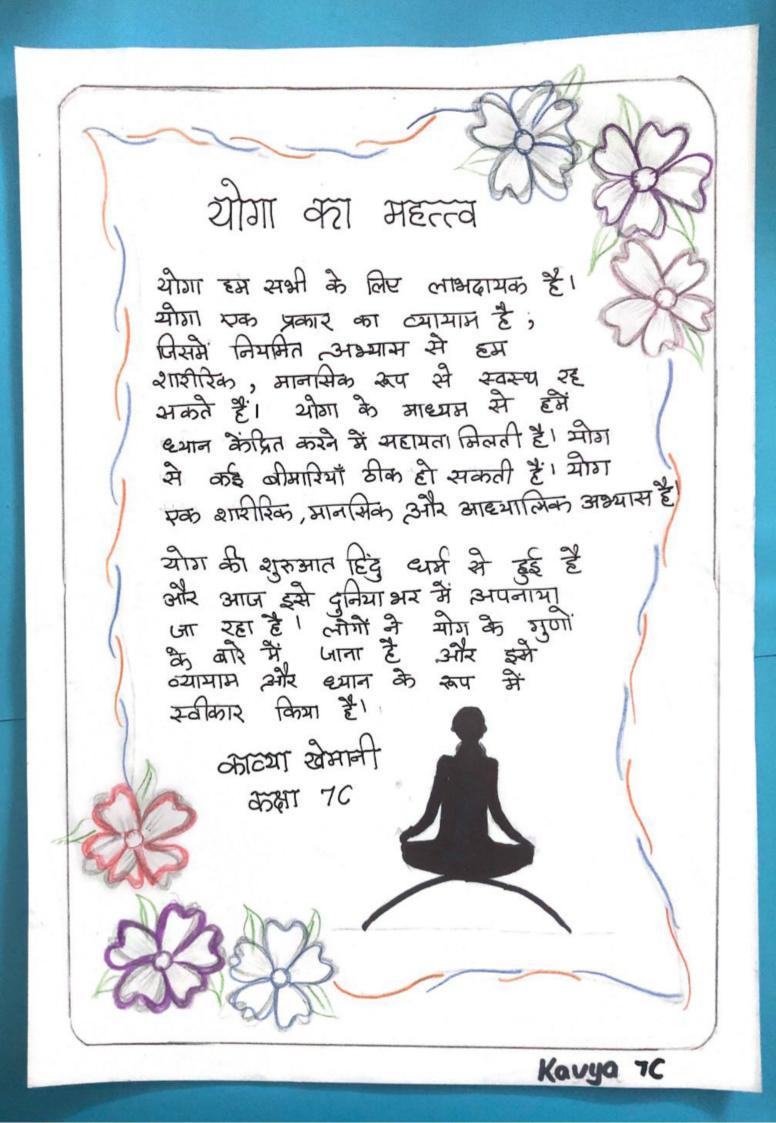
approached, he could sense a shift in the air, a looming presence that felt both ancient and powerful.



The ground trembled beneath his feet, and from the shadows emerged a gigantic creature, scales shimmering with the moon's eerie light—a monstrous lizard transformed by the moon's mysterious power. Its roar echoed through the night, leaving Eric to wonder what new challenge lay ahead.

To be continued...





0 खलना विकृताः बच्चे हमारे उत्पादों को पसंद 0 करते हैं। • खिलीने गुणवत्तापूर्ण सामग्री का उपयोग करके बनाह जाते F.I • वे रंगीन हैं, अरि आँखों को आकर्षक लगते हैं। 30 संल! ुंबचपन को बनाह यादगार हमारे रिवलीन हैं सद्विद्यार \* أγ 06:माना बाज़ार Go 2: 505835380 Real .70



# Sanskrit Poem

सर्वत्र विद्या भवति। अन्यन उपयोग करोति। बहु वृहत् गृहाणि बहु वृहत् शक्ति स्वत पृथ्वी सत्यं वसति अहं काव्य लिखिता दुःखित ना अस्मि। सर्वे सम्भूय एवं परिवर्तन पृथ्वी। Aum 7C

# मम बहवः शीचन्

मम बहवः शौकाः सन्ति। मम प्रियाः शौकाः नृत्यम्, गानम्, कला, चित्रकला, बैडुमिन्टन-क्रीडा च सन्ति। नृत्यम् मां ताणावं मुक्तं कर्तुं सहायकं भवति जीवनं च आनन्दितुम्। चित्रकला मद्भावनानां कलाद्वारा अभिव्यक्तिं कर्तुं सहायकं भवति। गानं मम मनः शान्तं करोति, अहं तत् करोमि च आनन्दं प्राप्नोमि। बैड्मिन्टन-क्रीडा मां दिनभरं स्वस्थं सक्रियं च तिष्ठति। अहं योगाभ्यासम् अपि करोमि यत् मां ध्यानं कर्तुं अधिकं निरीक्षणं कर्तुं च सहायकं भवति यतः तत् मस्तिष्कं प्रेरयति। एताः सर्वाः क्रियाः मां सुखिनं आनन्दितं च कुर्वन्ति यत् जीवनस्य एकं महत्त्वपूर्णं अङ्गम् अस्ति। मम् शौकाः मां परिभाषयन्ति।

ousikka7C

# स्पर्धायां विद्यालयस्य प्रतिनिधित्वस्य मम अनुभवः

सद्यः अहं JASHN 2024 Bits Pilani इति संगीतप्रतियोगितायां विद्यालयस्य प्रतिनिधित्वं कृतवान्। देशस्य बहवः विद्यालयाः भागं गृहीतवन्तः आसन् । यतः अनेके विश्वविद्यालयाः अपि आसन्, अतः अस्माभिः अभ्यासः करणीयः, अतीव उत्तमं प्रदर्शनं च कर्तव्यम् आसीत् । अतः वयं तदेव कृतवन्तः। शीघ्रमेव, अस्माकं परिश्रमस्य फलं प्राप्तम्। यतः, वयं प्रमुखे स्पर्धायां द्वितीयस्थानं प्राप्तम्। यतः, वयं प्रमुखे स्पर्धायां द्वितीयस्थानं प्राप्तुं समर्थाः अभवम्। महत् अनुभवः आसीत् । अहं विद्यालयस्य अतीव कृतज्ञः अस्मि यत् एतादृशी स्पर्धायाः भागं गृहीत्वा मम भागग्रहणस्य अवसरं

दत्तवान्।

9A

सुब्रमन्य:

## प्रतिभा-समय-प्रकल्पस्य अनुभवः

मस प्रेतिभा-समय-प्रकल्पस्य अनुभवः अतीव रोजकः ज्ञानवर्धकः च आसीत्। अस्य प्रकल्पस्य मुख्योद्देश्यंआसीत् यत् छात्राः स्वाभिरुचिभिः विषयान् अनुसन्धाय तेषां विषये नूतनानि ज्ञानानि प्राप्नुयुः। मया कृत्रिम-बुद्धिः इति विषयः चितः। अहं तस्य विषयस्य गहनं अध्ययनं कृतवान्। तदनन्तरं अहं एकस्यअनुप्रयोगस्य प्रारूपं निर्मितवान्। एषः अनुप्रयोगः उपयोक्तॄणां निवेदनानि स्वीकरोति, तेषां रोगान् अवगच्छति, तेषां रोगानुसारं आहारपदार्थान् च

सूचयति।

अस्य प्रकल्पस्य निर्माणकाले अहं बहूनि नूतनानि कौशलानि प्राप्तवान्। तन्त्रज्ञानस्य ज्ञानं मम वर्धितम्। अहंस्वस्य रचनात्मकतायाः क्षमतायाः च प्रयोगं कृत्वा

सफलतां प्राप्तवान्। एषः अनुभवः मम जीवने अविस्मरणीयः अस्ति। अहं प्रतिभा-समय-प्रकल्पस्य अवसरं प्राप्य अतीव

प्रसन्नःअस्मि।

इति मम प्रतिभा-समय-प्रकल्पस्य अनुभवः।

नितीशः 7 - C

## मम प्रतिभा अस्माक गव्यन

## प्रकल्पः

मम प्रतिभा अस्माकं प्रकल्पः मनोरञ्जकः आसीत्। अस्माकं द्वितीयः शिक्षकः इव आसीत्। अस्मान् बहूनि विषयान् अपाठयत् यथा सहकारः, संवादः, समस्या-समाधान-कौशलम् इत्यादीनि। अस्माभिः समय-प्रबन्धनम् अपि अधिगतम्। अहम् समग्रानुभवम् अभवम् प्रीतिमान्। अस्माभिः जनानां प्रति जागरूकतां प्रसारयितुं उद्यानविद्यां च अध्यापयितुं अवकाशः प्राप्तः। एतत् अस्माकं स्मरणम् आसीत् यत् केवलं लघुः समूहः महत् परिवर्तनं कर्तुं शक्नोति। अहम् मम समानरुचिकान् नवान् मित्रान् कर्तुं प्राप्तवान्। एषः उत्तमः अनुभवः आसीत्। अहम् पुनः एतत् कर्तुम् उत्सुकः अस्मि।

Anushka 7C

# यात्राविवरणम्

अहम् गतसप्ताहे मातापित्रभ्यां सह कुम्भमेलनं गतवान्। अहं कुम्भमेलनस्य संक्षिप्तं वर्णनं दातुम् इच्छामि। कुम्भमेलनं हिन्दूनां महत्त्वपूर्णः यात्रोत्सवः अस्ति। एतत् महाकुम्भमेलनं प्रत्येकं १४४ वर्षे एकवारं भवति। एषः लोके सर्वाधिकं मानवसमागमः अस्ति। कुम्भमेलनस्य चत्वारः प्रकाराः सन्ति— कुम्भमेलनं (प्रत्येकं चतुर्ष् वर्षेषु), अर्धकुम्भमेलनं (षट्सु वर्षेषु), पूर्णकुम्भमेलनं (द्वादशवर्षेषु), महाकुम्भमेलनं (शतचतुश्चत्वारिंशद्वर्षेषु)। एतेषु, अनेके भक्ताः त्रिवेणीसंगमे स्नानं कुर्वन्ति। अस्मिन वर्षे अपि चत्वारिंशत् कोटि जनाः आगच्छन्। सन्तः, योगिनः, भक्तजनाश्च मिलित्वा भक्तिरेक्याः दर्शनं ददाति। मम अनुभवः अतिशयः अद्भुतः आसीत्। मन्त्राणाम् उच्चारणम्, विविधवर्णाः दृश्याः, भक्तेः वातावरणं च मां आकर्षयन्ति। अहं कुम्भमेलनं गत्वा परमं धन्यः अस्मि। एषः अनुभवः मम हृदये सदा स्मरणीयः भविष्यति। आदिदेव:  $A \ell$ 

# मम वार्षीक परीक्षा सम्मर्द:

अहं अध्ययन योजनांकरोमि यदा प्रतिदिनं किं अध्ययनं करणीयं इति ज्ञायते । अहं मम तिप्पनीनि, पुस्तकानि , अन्यानी च अवश्यक वस्तूनि संगृहीतवान् । अहं ध्यानविघ्न रहितं निस्शब्दस्थले उपविशामि , मम टिप्पनीनि पठामि तदा च महत्व पूर्ण अंशं रज्जयामि । अहं संक्षेपेण सारांशं लिखामि, यथा स्मरणं सुलभं भवेत् । अहं प्राचीन प्रश्नानां अभ्यासं करोमि , आत्मा परीक्षनार्थं अहं अल्पविराम गृह्णामि यथा श्रान्तीं न अनुभवामि । यडी अहं किञ्चित् न जानामि तर्हि शिक्षिकां वा मित्रं वा पृच्छामि । परीक्षा पूर्वं पर्याप्तं निद्रां करोमि । अहं परीक्षायां प्रशान्त: च अथ्मविश्वासी च भवामि । विश्वा





## The boy and the dog

CELESTIA\_6G

There once was a boy named Sean

Who always wished for a dog

And while playing with a ball he found a dog and named him Felix Log

Because his parents wouldn't allow he hid Felix Log with a small push he was in a bush

The next time in school

He thought it would be cool

To tell his friends about his dog

Who he had named Felix Log

They all came to his house to play

Or to play with the dog Must I say

His friends not knowing it was a secret

Took it inside to feed it

His parents saw the dog Sean's friends said it's name... Felix Log When Sean came in the room To see his parents and the dog his face was in gloom

#### When confronted about the dog

Sean looked at the floor, where there was Felix log

He began to cry

And promised to never again to lie

CELESTIA ELSA CHARLES GRADE 6G RUBY **1<sup>st</sup> Prize** in Poetry writing Inter-Class Arts & Cultural Fest (Talent Hunt Competition) Grades 6-8

### **Blissful nights**

The enchanting bright radiance of the moon, A ray of hope that provides comfort to the hopeless, The gentle whispers of the trees in a soft, slow gale, The slow flowy waves of various rivers, The trees that towered over forests, The enormous skyscrapers embroidered with fascinating lights, The nightclubs and party venues bustles loudly with excitement, The birds soar high in the air to find a tree to sleep on,

The gigantic residential quarters remain calm and silent, The people stroll around while chattering quietly, The cars with loud engines breeze through the empty roads in a flash, The hardworking students studying tirelessly in libraries and homes, Groups of friends regularly hang out in restaurants,

The lush valleys with a wide plethora of flora and fauna slowly rests, The small crickets cricket around noisily, The hypnotizing fireflies looks like mesmerizing fairy dust, The gentle breeze tucks nature to rest, The evoking aura of the night sky, decorated with stars and comets The endearing animals are fast asleep securely in their homes, The melancholic hum of the leaves swept by the wind, The millions of people with their eyes shut, rest blissfully,

Together like yarn woven into fabric,

The fabric embroidered into precise patterns and shapes,

The world unites hand-in-hand,

And drifts into a peaceful slumber.

Composed by- Sai Saannidhyaa

Class-7F

SAI SAANNIDHYA GRADE 7F Ruby **1<sup>st</sup> Prize** in Poetry writing Inter-Class Arts & Cultural Fest (Talent Hunt Competition) Grades 6-8

# The Night of Wonders

Nothing more is beautiful than a peaceful night It is a place that can heal people in many ways Allows you to explore and express your interests A night that can help you in your darkest times

On a night there are many sounds that are audible and inaudible Sounds of grasshopper and owl that makes our soul peaceful Sounds of bushes that keeps us entertained and joyful Mystery sounds that make us curious

Sights that make us happy Shadows seen in the dark that frightens us Beautiful fireflies that make us enlightened The moon that stares at us

Feelings at night can be meeted Memories that will be remembered Can be happy scared, sad, or curious Wondered of night that cannot be forgotten

Eric Cherian - 8D

#### **The Peaceful Night**

As I walk under the moon and stars, that gives lights up the darkness I can feel the light flowing wind, cold as ice the peace and quiet that makes up the night

The city that was alive at daytime, went to sleep to relax and be energized for the next day Still I could see the neon lights lighting up the darkness

There were barely some people present in this darkness, I could not hear the hustle and bustle of the day Rather I could feel relaxed and get away from my mind This peaceful night is the way I could get a peace of my mind

- Alanna Sijo\_7C

ALANNA SIJO GRADE 7C Topaz **2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** in Poetry writing Inter-Class Arts & Cultural Fest (Talent Hunt Competition) Grades 6-8

#### THE WRATH OF THE NIGHT

People always say, Happiness arrives only when its day. Only when the skies are blue, Or the bright cloud in the sunset hour. But that isn't fair to me, The moon can glow more than the eyes can see. Children play only in the light, Where the sun can nurture them and remove their fright. But the moon is just as good, The mountains and hills all proudly stood. The stars sparkle in the night sky, Dangling and floating ever so high. The cloud could never compare, All thy do is just stand in the air. The moon is kind enough to let us sleep, Way before our alarm could beep. But the night is when we park our car, And then we sing this song, "Twinkle Twinkle little star."

By Fathima Abdul

Grade 6H

## The Lousy Night

At the lousy night the sound of crickets Chirping and the beauty of the busters moon The star shining in the sight of my eye..... The cool breeze tangles me around them Well sometimes these lovely things can get scary... In the dark walk all alone feels like something Follows me well it's just my illusion the cruel Owl searches for food at the other hand Night times for me are to say Good night

--Saachi Devaiah Ammanda\_7D

SAACHI DEVAIVAH AMMANDA GRADE 7D Topaz **3<sup>rd</sup> Prize** in Poetry writing Inter-Class Arts & Cultural Fest (Talent Hunt Competition) Grades 6-8

The TRUE Beauty Flife Sometimet we are soil, we believe we will never fily again Sometimet we are mad , we awant like a bubble in the vast sea. Sondtimes we are overligged , we bloom like Sakura But sometimes we just need a break. A break from the honking cases I break from the flashing lights And sometimes a break from the worries of the night. So mother nature invites us to witness the wonders of her story. As the solemn nows but the world of the old is gone & the new has come It starts a new day a day of hope & light The graceful waving of the green tearers & yellow leaves ? The giggles of render infants while the wind makes your hair fly. and when May coner so doer the cherry blossons as well. To bless over hearty with the solare use could never have. For these are gotenearys to true linner peace peace that alone cannot be neceived. As we see the bess & trees, I wonder how pretty own world could be.

From the monitoing to the oceany, & everywhere in between From the animals to the smallest of Ineecls And from the first a cry of a child to the very last words of their path. All hoing & non-living go through this journay And this journey my dear friends is what we call IPFe. From Alphat to Omega of the beggining to end, our hearty will last. Our lever well bloom but also weller like the blosson in a tree. But all the goy , pan & menories nee make are valuable & that what defined the true beauty of Life. - By Abigail Jose, 9E :) **ABIGAIL JOSE** GRADE 9 E Topaz 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in Poetry writing Inter-Class Arts & Cultural Fest (Talent Hunt Competition) Grades 9 & 10

#### Dawn's Humble Hue

The eye of the sky opens, Rising from golden meadows. The lustrous field glistens, Basking in morning's dew. What bliss can one not ignore, In dawn's humble hue.

Sweet melodies welcome the light, Melodies hidden from view. Amidst the buses in secret flight, To abodes forever new. What bliss can one not ignore, In dawn's humble hue.

The glimmering sky, the rustle of leaves, The gushing of winds, the swaying of trees. All at once unfold before my eyes, Ignorant eyes that have seen so few. What bliss can one not ignore, In dawn's humble hue.

Yet again and forever, I yearn to witness this splendor. However, 'midst this desert, It's impossible to see this view What bliss have I ignored, In dawn's humble hue!

-Sidhiksha Ahilesh 9D

#### **Back To Nature**

- Shaurya Mittal (9E)

Nature, so simple yet so profound Gives us so much yet without Conditions and Prerequisites, not at all Nature takes us under its shawl

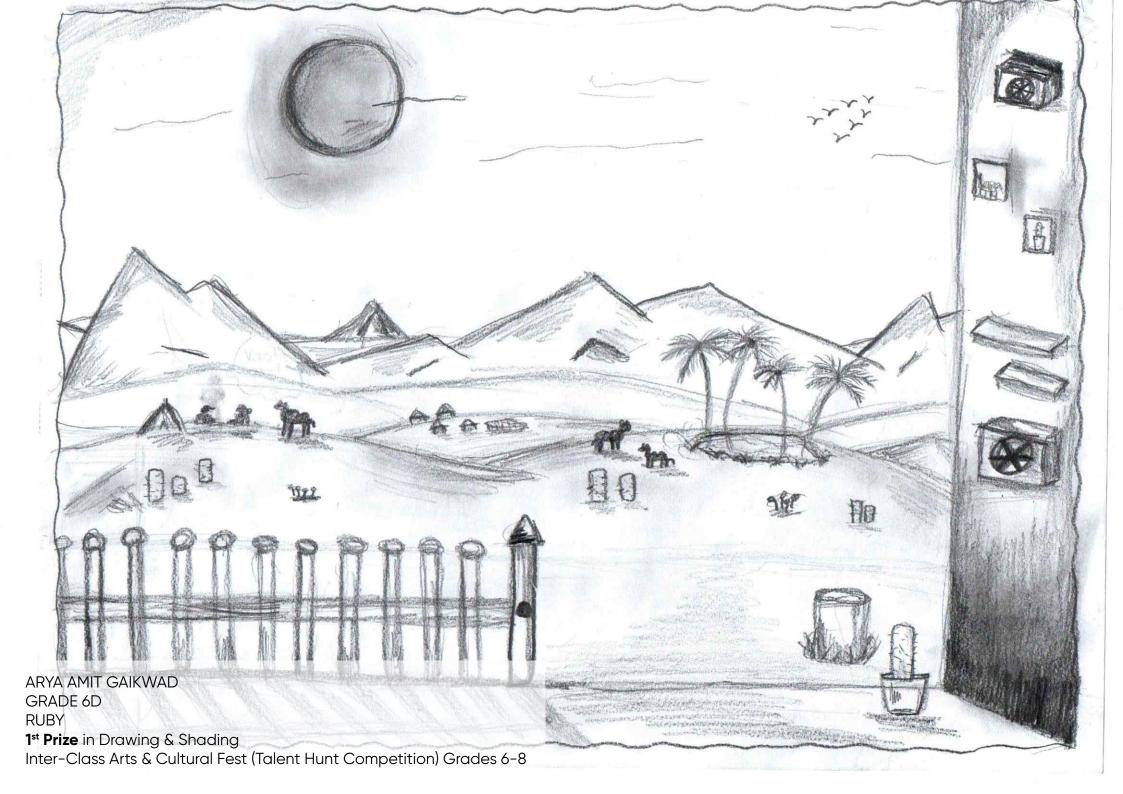
So mighty, it's called 'Mother Nature' So beautifully painted is its picture Its representation, so profound Description in words can't be found

In this age of TVs and Phones Men and women turn their ears Away from Nature's sounds and Shrieks To deforestation, loss and other bleaks

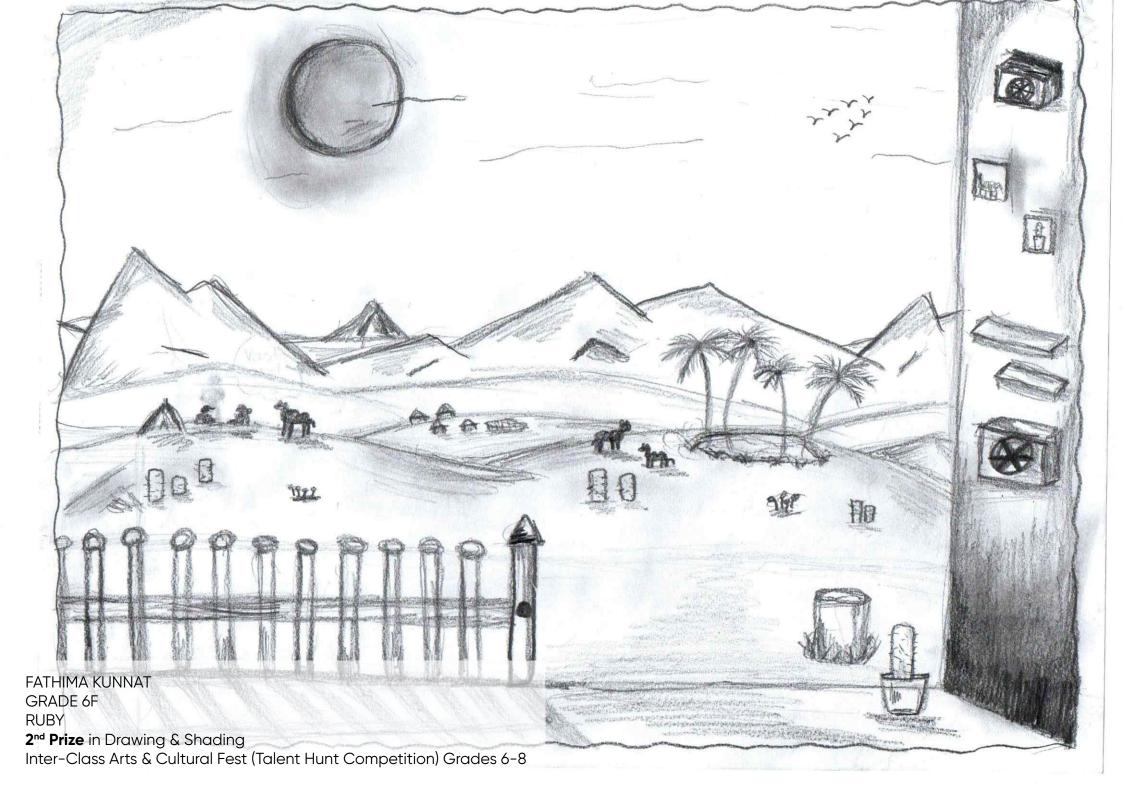
So come, let us embrace nature once again Trace back our origins, our roots Make a U-turn on life Focus on things that really matter

Discovering nature will earn you her friendship She makes ignorers suffer their decisions She makes compassionates flourish in character Her friendship, worth more than gold

SHAURYA MITTAL GRADE 9 E Topaz **3<sup>rd</sup> Prize** in Poetry writing Inter-Class Arts & Cultural Fest (Talent Hunt Competition) Grades 9 & 10



RITWIK JAL GRADE 6F EMERALD **2<sup>nd</sup> Prize** in Drawing & Shading Inter-Class Arts & Cultural Fest (Talent Hunt Competition) Grades 6-8



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ANIKA SAILESH GRADE 6E EMERALD **3<sup>rd</sup> Prize** in Drawing & Shading Inter-Class Arts & Cultural Fest (Talent Hunt Competition) Grades 6-8



MUSKAAN ALAMGIR SHAHJEHAN GRADE 7A EMERALD **1<sup>st</sup> Prize** in Drawing & Shading Inter-Class Arts & Cultural Fest (Talent Hunt Competition) Grades 6-8 VARSHA VIDHYA SRIRAM GRADE 7A EMERALD 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize in Drawing & Shading Inter-Class Arts & Cultural Fest (Talent Hunt Competition) Grades 6-8

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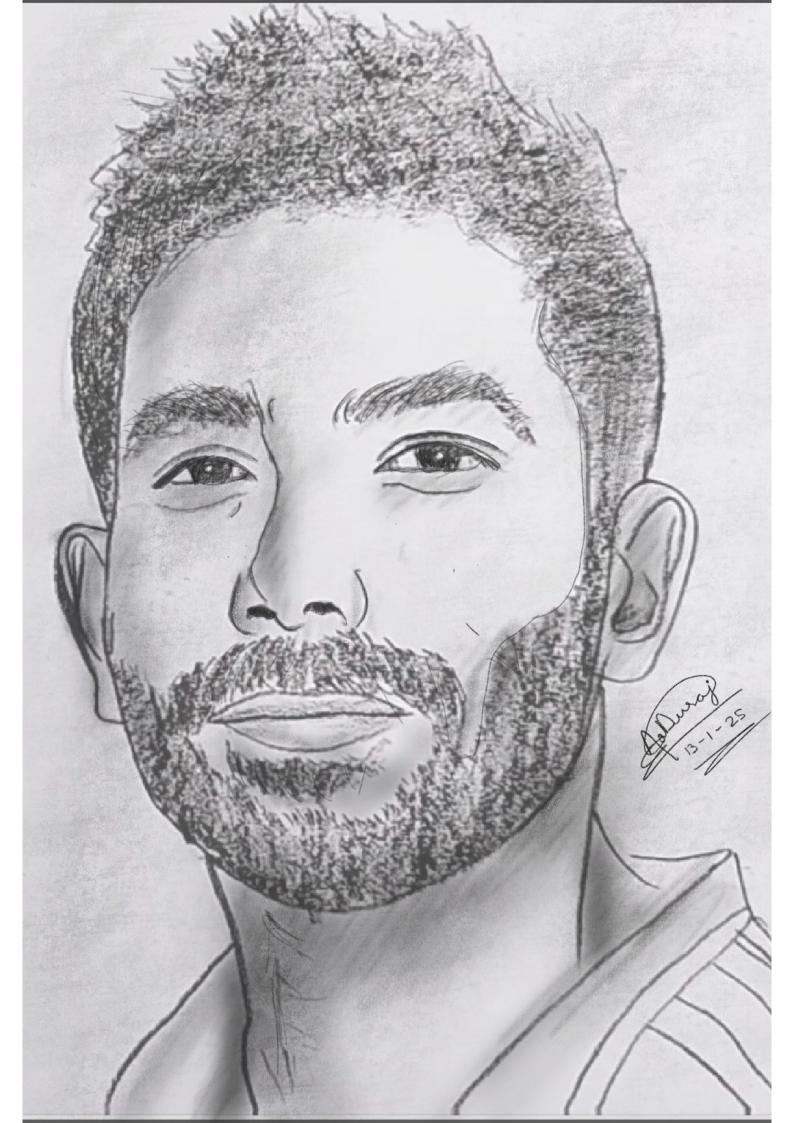
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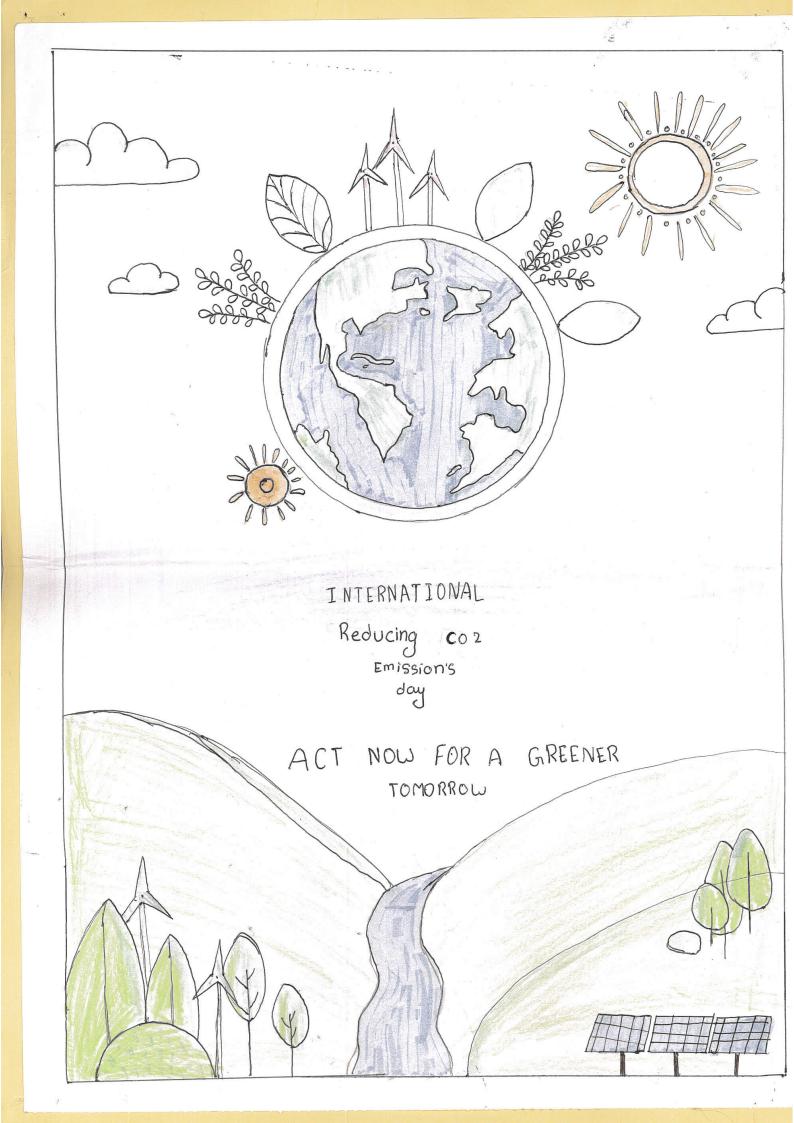


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SONAKSHI YADAV	9260	
GRADE 8E	1000	
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<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Prize</b> in Drawing & Shading		
Inter-Class Arts & Cultural Fest (Talent Hunt C	ompetition) Grades	s 6-8











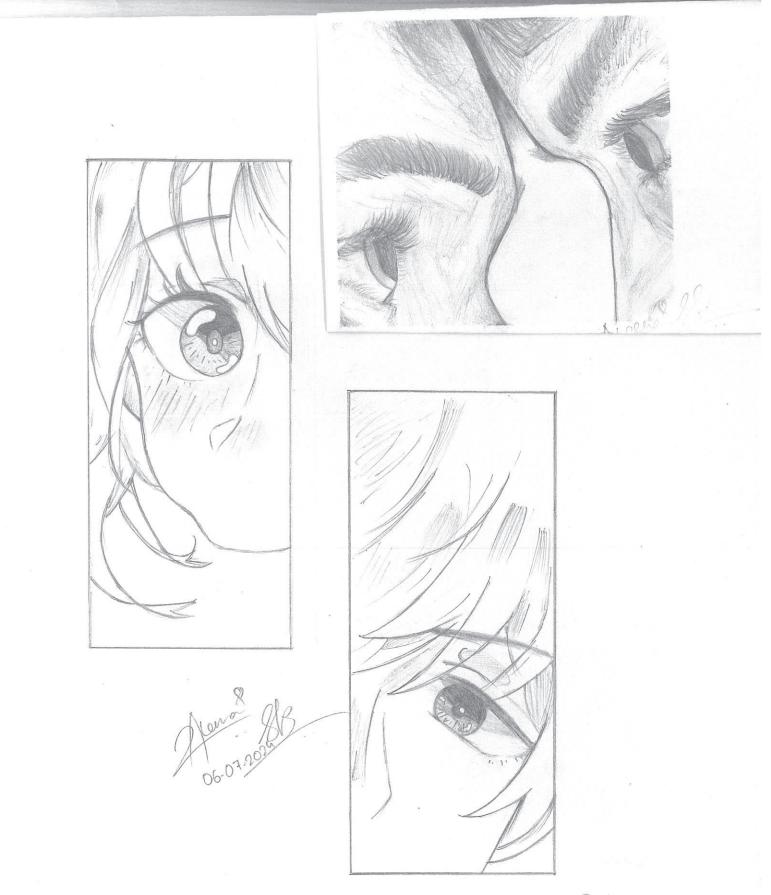












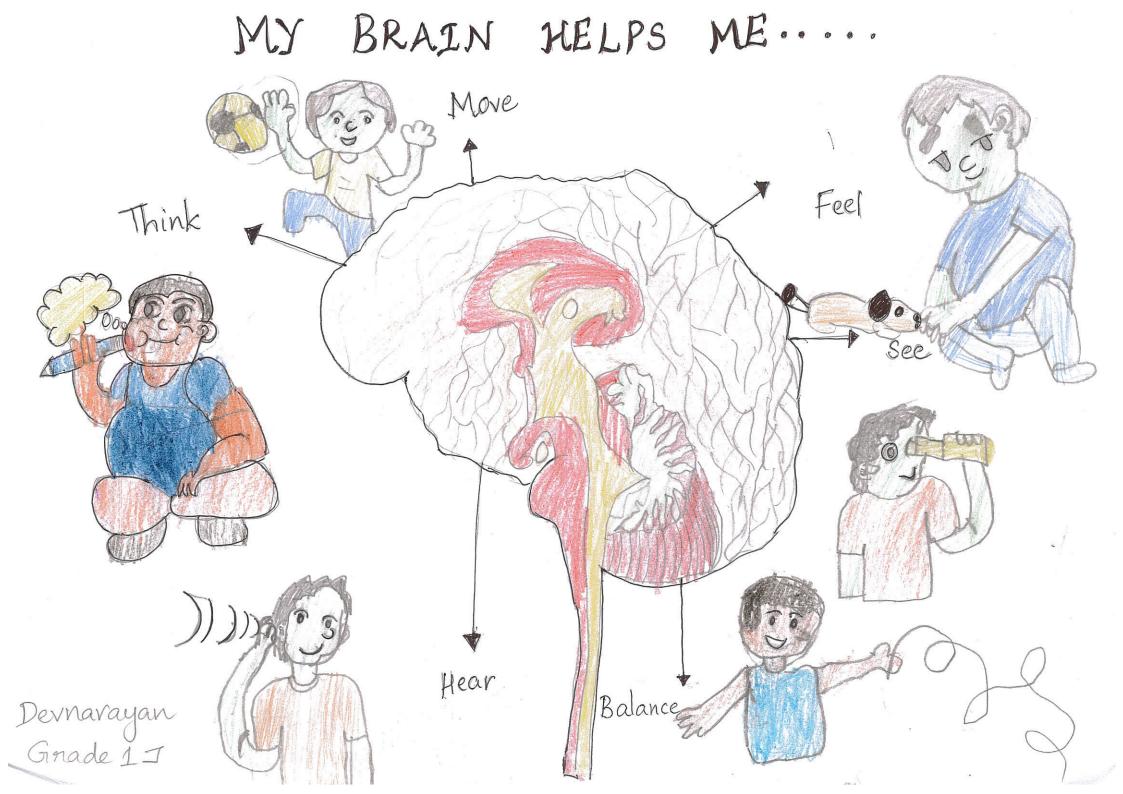
Alema Rahman 7F

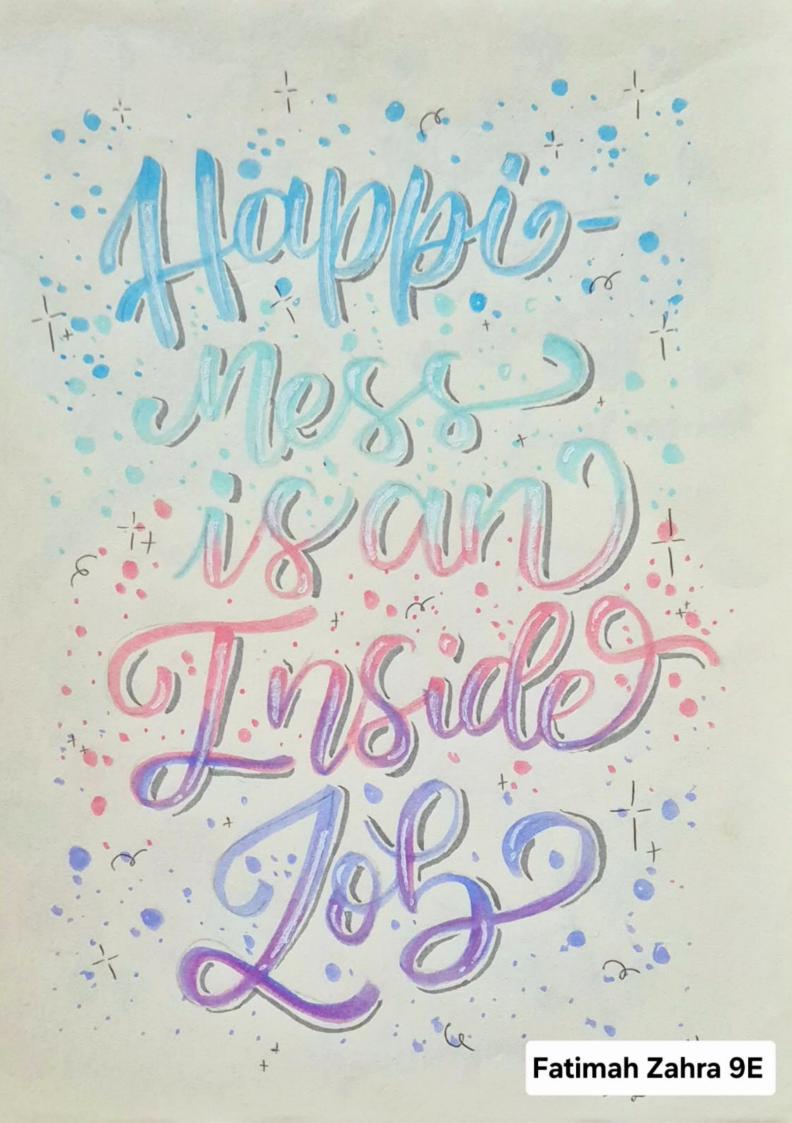








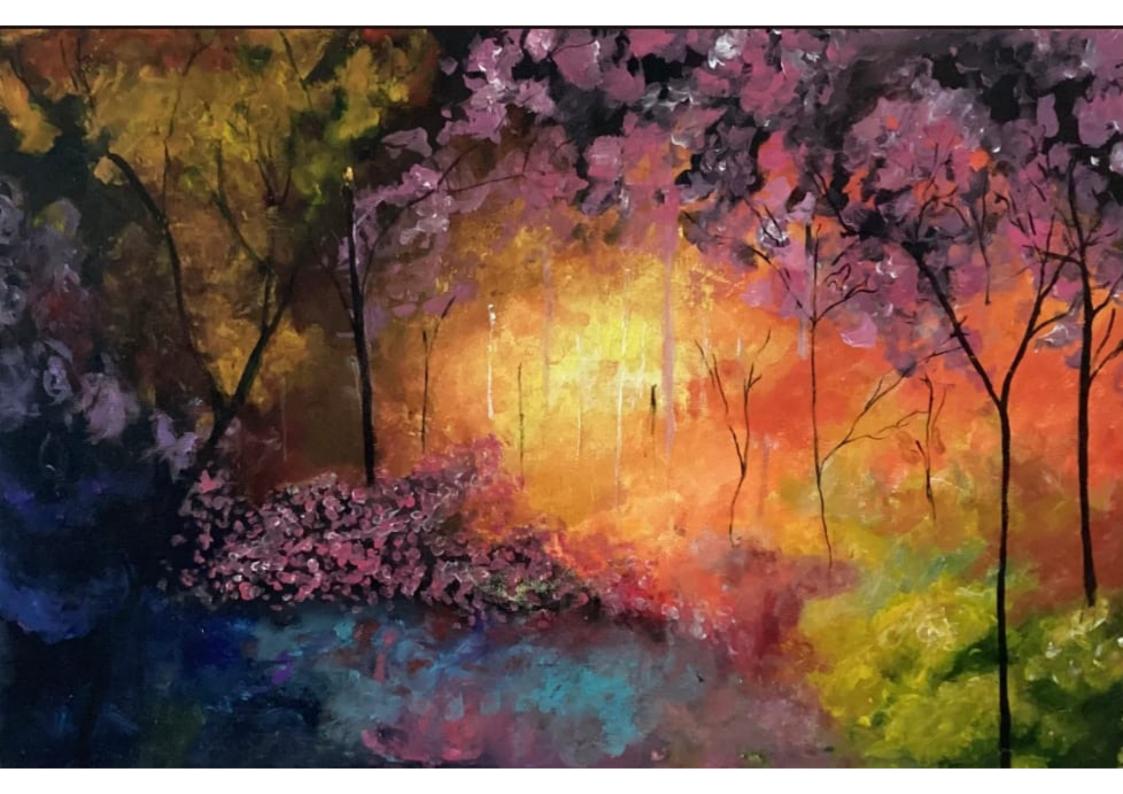














## MASTERING THE ART OF LEARNING A NEW SKILL

Have you ever started learning something new-playing an instrument, coding, or painting-only to find your mind wandering after a few minutes? Don't worry; you're not alone! In today's world of buzzing phones, endless notifications, and constant distractions, staying focused can feel like a superpower. But here's the good news: focus is a skill you can learn, just like any other skill you're trying to master.

Imagine planting a seed in your garden. If you water it regularly and protect it from weeds, it grows into a strong, healthy plant. But if you water it only occasionally or let it get crowded by weeds, it struggles to thrive.





Your mind works the same way. Focus is like the water and care that helps your learning grow. Without it, even the most exciting new skill can feel overwhelming.

# MASTERING THE ART OF LEARNING A NEW SKILL

## **1. SET CLEAR GOALS**

Before you start, ask yourself: What do I want to achieve today? It could be learning a new chord on the guitar, solving five math problems, or writing one paragraph for a story. Clear goals give your brain a target to aim for.

## 2. BREAK IT DOWN

Big tasks can feel daunting, but breaking them into smaller steps makes them manageable. Instead of saying, "I'll learn Python programming today," start with, "I'll learn how to write a simple loop."

## **3. CREATE A** DISTRACTION-FREE ZONE

GOALS

**V** 

~

Find a quiet place to work, and put your phone on silent or in another room. Let your family know you're in "focus mode." A clutter-free desk can also help you stay on track.

## 4. USE THE POMODORO TECHNIQUE

Work for 25 minutes, then take a 5-minute break. This method helps your brain stay sharp and avoids burnout. During breaks, stretch, grab a drink of water, or take a few deep breaths.

### 5. CELEBRATE SMALL WINS

Every small step forward is a victory. Finished your math problems? High-five yourself! Mastered that dance move? Do a happy dance! Celebrating progress keeps you motivated to keep going.

## **6. PRACTICE PATIENCE**

Remember, learning takes time. It's okay to make mistakes or feel stuck — it's all part of the process. Stay patient and keep trying. Even the best athletes and artists were beginners once.



Written by: Ms. Binu George Gr6-8 Computer teacher









Missing Someone ...

Sometimes it is the tears that silently roll over our cheeks, At times it is the sweet smile that suddenly curls our lips. Sometimes it is a heart stroke that clings for endless time, At times it is the sleepless night or a haunting dream that follow. Sometimes it is a journey down the memory lane, And other times it is a void where we forget that we exist. Sometimes it makes us fall in love with everything around, And at times it makes us hate everything we love. Sometimes it points fingers for being so desolate, Other times it reminds us how beautiful that bond is. Sometimes it throws light on the inevitability of reality, At times it makes us blind without direction to move on.

Missing someone so badly is the time we fight inside us for and against the one we miss!



#### "The One Within"

Who am I? A question I often ask myself, At times I feel lost, weighed down by my thoughts and surroundings. But then, deep within, I feel a spark, a fire ignites, Reminding me of my past, my journey, and the burning desire to succeed.

#### Who am I?

I am the one and only Phoenix, rising from the ashes. Now, I feel my strength surge, My claws, my wings, my beak—my weapons of resilience. With resolute power, I soar higher and higher.

Oh, Sun, bless me with your rays, Help me rise from these ashes once more. Grant me the strength to survive, To coexist, to thrive with my fellow beings.

By,

Rathnam. N

## "Chattukam" (The Spatula)

Yesterday, it was my turn for kitchen duty. While making chapatis, I accidentally touched the *chattukam* (a flat, broad blade with a handle). When I looked at my hand, I had a blister. The heat of the *chattukam* took me back to a childhood memory...

I was five or six years old. Being from a conservative Muslim family, the responsibility of all the housework fell on my mother's shoulders. What else could be expected from the wife of a man with nine siblings?

She had to cook breakfast for everyone, take care of the cows, goats, and chickens, milk the cows, pray, and then it would be time to prepare lunch.

It was Ramadan—the 30th day—and my mother was frying *maavu* (a dough mixture) for the feast. When I saw her in the kitchen, mixing *maavu* in a large *uruli* (a deep vessel) on the stove, I felt a sudden surge of affection for her. I wanted to hug her and lie down beside her...

I ran towards her.

"Ummachi... (Mommy), come, let's hug and lie down," I pleaded with her again, looking at her helplessly. "Come, Ummachi... let's hug and lie down..."

"Not now, dear... Now, go and play with your cousins... I have to finish this."

"Please... I need you now ... Come, Ummachi ... Come ... "

Saying this, I started pulling her hand. I pulled again, my eyes welling up with tears.

Either due to the intensity of the heat near the stove or perhaps because of the exhaustion from fasting, Umma lightly hit me with the spatula in her hand. She didn't realize that it was hot and that it burned me. I ran away crying...

That evening, Umma called me close and made me lie on her lap. She gently caressed my hair—the happiest moment in the world...

As she softly touched the burnt area on my thigh with her left hand, tears welled up in her eyes.

When the tears from Umma's eyes fell onto my cheek, they felt hotter than the spatula itself...

By

**Shafeek Shukkoor** 

H2H Member, IIS

#### THE GHAF WHISPERS

#### The desert drive

The much-awaited summer break finally arrived, and Kaira and Ken were bursting with excitement for the long drive. They were up early, eagerly packing their backpacks.

"Mom! Are we done yet?" Ken shouted.

"Ken, I would really appreciate it if you could come back here and help me pack the breakfast.

And I hope you remembered to take the mat this time," I called out.

"Yes, Mom!" Ken replied, running back to the kitchen with enthusiasm.

"Alright, dear! Here you go—take these sandwiches and fresh orange juice and put them in the basket. Also, could you grab two tissue boxes? You know where to find them, right?" I asked.

"Yes, Mom! I'll get them right away!" Ken replied, eager to help.

Standing in the kitchen counter, I glanced at the half packed veg rolls and muttered "I thought I'll get little help in packing these veg rolls". Where is Kaira, is she still packing her stuff? I sighed.

" Yes mom, Kaira has still not finished, and she is carrying her 2 dairies, her colours and even her favourite teddy", shouted Ken from their room. Ken was still glancing at the bag when suddenly

from nowhere Kaira stormed in. What are you were searching in my bag? How dare you do that without my permission. Shouted Kaira, her face flushed with anger. I have told you a hundred times to keep off my stuff. She scolded Ken and rushed to the kitchen.

Mom, can you tell Ken not to ever touch my stuff, I need some privacy. Her voice was stern with a mix of anger. Ken stood in the corner, unapologetic, trying to explain that the bag hadn't been closed—it was wide open, so he had merely taken a glance.

"All right, All right! I threw up my hands in the air and raised my voice just enough to stop the drama. "Now kids, please don't start right in the morning", We're already late!

Danny stood by the car with Bruno, our dog, adjusting all the loads of bags into the car.

And finally, when done, he exclaimed with excitement, kids! Are we all ready for the trip?

I hope we haven't missed anything. "It's going to be scorching hot soon, we better take the

sunshade too."

"Don't worry, Dad, I know exactly where it is! I'll grab it!" Ken exclaimed as he ran towards the garage.

But by the time he reached, Bruno was already there.

"Hey you, Bruno! You always win," Ken mumbled, laughing. "Never mind, I'll get you next time."

In just a minute, Ken returned with the sunshade, a smile of accomplishment on his face.

"Thank you, Ken! You're such a smart boy!" Dad complimented him. The praise made up for the scolding Ken had received earlier from his sister for intruding.

"Alright, let's start the adventure, guys!" Danny grinned, clapping his hands as he started the car engine. Bruno's excitement was palpable; his furry tail wagged furiously as he darted around the car His energetic woofs, with his ears perked and eyes gleaming with anticipation, filled the air with excitement. He kept jumping around and woofing, urging someone to open the car door. And, of course, when the door opened, Bruno leaped inside with lightning speed, ready to embrace the adventure that laid ahead.

Everyone piled into the car, and we were off on our long journey into the heart of the desert.

Danny and I loved talking, and we never lacked a topic to start with. Meanwhile, Kaira, upset with Ken, made the atmosphere unusually quiet at the back, except for Bruno's continuous noises demanding attention. Ken soon realized that the trip would be incredibly boring if he stayed silent an undeniable challenge for him.

His voice softened as he drew a bit closer to Kaira's seat. "I'm really sorry, Kaira," he said sincerely. "I didn't mean to do it.

I was just a bit curious to know what you packed."

He glanced down, then promised, "I'll never go through your stuff again."

Kaira didn't budge a bit at first, her arms tightly crossed and still with a frown on her face. Bruno, always the peacemaker, began nudging Kaira gently, as if urging her to forgive Ken. His apologetic expression was impossible to resist, and it didn't take long for Kaira's heart to melt. Kaira broke

into a wide smile and gave both a big high-five, a clear signal that they were back to being good friends, just like before. Ken shared the cheese balls packet which he had packed for the day and soon enough, they were both giggling, telling all kinds of stories. Bruno wagged his long ears and

let out a cheerful woof, as if he understood everything perfectly.

#### The Adventure begins

It was the perfect weather, sun gleaming brightly, and soon we were away from the city noises and traffic; the roads so barren, perfect for a long drive. Soon we could see outstretched desert on

both sides and nothing else except for a few trees. Ken spotted 2 camels, and he couldn't hold his excitement, he shouted:" Look.... 2 camels!... there!!

Danny slowed down the car, allowing us to take in the breathtaking view. It was a delightful moment, but Ken, curious as always, began questioning how the two creatures managed to survive alone in

such a vast desert. Kaira explained, "It probably has friends but travels far and wide in search of food and water. Eventually, they might all gather in one place."

Ken immediately remembered what his teacher had taught him—the camel, the "ship of the desert."

"Shall we move on, guys? Let me know when you spot a good place where we can stop and explore," said Danny.

"Sure, Dad!" both chorused in unison. Just then, Bruno let out a woof, as if to affirm their agreement.

They all laughed and continued their journey for another hour. Soon, Kaira spotted a perfect picnic spot—a large tree stood in the centre, surrounded by sand dunes ideal for playing.

"Look over there, Dad, Mom! That place looks awesome. Can we stop here?" Kaira asked excitedly.

"That's indeed a beautiful spot, Kaira. Well, done! You'd make a perfect tour guide," Danny replied, and they all laughed together.

"Alright, off you go, Bruno!" shouted Ken, opening the door. Bruno bolted out into the sand, twirling and running in circles. He had been waiting for this moment for ages—to play in the sand. Soon, the kids joined him, and the air was filled with laughter. It was truly heartwarming to see the bond between the kids and their dog. If Bruno could talk, he would surely be the most talkative one, woofing nonstop with his boundless energy, keeping everyone on their toes and urging them to

throw the frisbee.

Danny and I spread the mat under the big tree. "What a lovely shade! This is the perfect spot for

a picnic," I exclaimed. Danny brought over the basket and the large bottles of water, then called

out to the kids to come and have breakfast.

Bruno was the first to arrive, woofing as if to inquire about his meal.

"Oh, sure, sure! Here it is, your favourite roll," Danny said.

"Mom, this is the best breakfast ever! I love the veggie rolls," Kaira said with her mouth full.

"I agree, it's awesome, Mom! Such a treat!" added Ken.

"I'm glad you're enjoying it. Now, come on and have some fresh orange juice too. I know it's not

your favourite, but I'm sure you'll like it."

Soon, everyone finished their food, and the kids were ready with their skateboards to play on the sand dunes.

"Can we go play, Dad, Mom? We'll be back soon!" they asked eagerly.

"Alright, but don't go too far or out of sight. You don't want to get lost, and remember, you'll have

to find your way back on your own," I said with a smile.

"Don't worry, Mom. Bruno is with us, and we can never get lost with him!"

"Alright, alright, just be back soon. Take this water bottle in case you get thirsty, and don't forget the cap—it'll get hot soon," I warned.

"Okie dokie, Mom!" they both called, and off they ran toward the dunes, with Bruno beside them.

Danny took out his cycle from the car and got ready for a ride.

"Wanna join me, Julie? It'll be fun," he asked.

"No, dear, you carry on. I have this book to enjoy. I'd rather relax in this cool shade and read," I replied. "Bye!"

Soon, I found myself alone beneath the Ghaf tree, soaking in the serene atmosphere, with a gentle breeze rustling the leaves above. I decided to lie down on the mat and dive into my book. I had just finished the first page when another breeze swept through, causing a leaf to fall softly beside me.

I picked it up and gazed up at the towering Ghaf tree, admiring its quiet presence.

#### The whispering Ghaf tree.

The Ghaf tree seemed to open its wide eyes on its two branches, and a wide mouth appeared on its trunk. "Hello!" it greeted me, and I returned the greeting, still in amazement. I wasn't scared, but I was certainly fascinated by the sight of a talking Ghaf tree. My curiosity grew, and soon we were engaged in a conversation that turned out to be the most heartwarming dialogue I had ever experienced.

I asked him if he ever felt lonely in the vast desert with no one to talk to. The Ghaf tree

responded that he had the most wonderful friends anyone could wish for. He then asked if I'd like to know more about them.

"Of course! I'd love to hear!" I replied eagerly.

"Alright, then," he began. "Let me start with Mr. Breeze, whom you just met. He's the coolest

person on the planet. He never hurts anyone; he just loves to wander from place to place, bringing smiles to everyone he meets along the way. He tells me about the places he visits and shares all the things he sees. That way, I get the news from every corner of the world. He's a great companion,

and he even makes my leaves dance to his tunes. He is the favourite of all the travellers too, as he helps them forget all the worries and leads them into deep slumber when they take rest under my shade."

"Next, I must tell you about our beauty queen," the Ghaf tree said with a gleam of pride for his friend.

"Oh, wow! Who is it? I'm so eager to know!" I asked excitedly.

"It's Sandy," he revealed. "The whole desert is adorned by her beauty. She glistens like gold under the sun, her elegance boundless and indescribable. Sandy loves to shape herself into the most stunning dunes, creating breathtaking landscapes. However, Mr. Storm, being a bit mischievous,

often reshuffles her designs playfully, leaving her to redo them all over again.

Even Sandy has her ups and downs, just like you humans do. But that's what makes her so unique.

She looks most perfect with those imperfections, and she adores the children who enjoy sliding

down her silky, smooth texture. She laughs along with them, letting their joy echo across the

desert. And even when she's swept away by the storm, Sandy embraces the change, spreading her charm wherever she goes."

"And then, I have my dearest friend," Mr. Ghaf continued with a heartfelt sigh. "He chooses to remain hidden, but he is life-giving. Without him, I don't think I could even survive."

"Wow! He must be your closest friend for sure," I said, my curiosity peaked.

"Yes, indeed," Mr. Ghaf replied warmly. "He's my very best friend—the Oasis. He's a true symbol of hope and revival in this desert. People gather around him to quench their thirst, and camels and

birds are among his many companions. Wherever he is, the surroundings bloom with greenery, becoming a sanctuary of life and renewal.

But his generosity doesn't stop there. He reaches out to trees like me in the form of underground water, nourishing us from far beneath the ground. My deep roots stretch down to find him, keeping me refreshed and alive. He revitalizes me, provides my sustenance, and allows me to care for

others in return. Without him, I would wither and die.

Ah, the best part..." Mr. Ghaf continued with a smile. "He tells me stories of the places he travels

and the countless ways he helps those in need. He truly is the most refreshing and selfless friend anyone could have."

"Finally, let me tell you about my most caring friend," said Mr. Ghaf with a warm smile. "Mr. Moon. He lights up the darkness with his soft, gleaming radiance, transforming the desert into a magical

haven. His beauty is so captivating that one could sit and admire him all night long."

"He sounds incredible," I said in awe.

"He truly is," Mr. Ghaf continued. "Mr. Moon is a loyal companion to many travellers in the desert.

His radiant beams touch the hearts of all who see him, filling them with joy and comfort. Thanks to him, I've never felt lonely, even in the deepest darkness. His calming aura surrounds me, keeping me company throughout the night.

But there's more—Mr. Moon has been a guiding light to countless stranded travellers in this vast desert. His glow leads them safely to me, and together, we offer them refuge. While the weary travellers rest peacefully under my branches, Mr. Moon and I spend the night talking quietly.

"By morning, the travellers wake refreshed, ready to continue their journey. They always leave with gratitude for the shelter and safety we provided during the night. It's a routine I cherish deeply, and a bond we share with those who wander through this desert." "Oh wow, what an incredible bond you share with your friends, Mr. Ghaf," I said, my heart brimming with contentment. "I never realized you were so happy, even standing alone in this vast desert. Your purpose and good intentions are truly admirable."

Just then, the tranquillity was broken by the cheerful voices of the kids. "Mom, Mom!" they called out excitedly as they returned with Bruno, their laughter echoing in the distance.

It took me a few moments to ground myself, to distinguish between the reality before me and the enchanting experience I just had. I glanced at the Ghaf tree, which now stood quietly, as ordinary

as ever. I took a deep breath, enjoying the profound connection I had felt under its shade. It had been a soul-touching encounter, one that would leave an everlasting imprint on my heart.

The experience had urged me to reflect on the journey of life, the many blessings God has

bestowed, and the importance of being grateful for everything, everyone and every moment in life.

"It was the most adventurous trip ever, Mom!" the kids exclaimed. "We couldn't stop playing, but

we remembered to come back on time, so we rushed back!"

"Mom, can we come here again?" they asked in unison, their faces glowing with pure joy and excitement.

Off course, even I had the best time in so many years. I would love to come back too.

"Sure dear, why not", I replied.

"Yay! Thanks, Mom!" Kaira and Ken cheered as they began running around the Ghaf tree, with Bruno happily chasing after them. Their laughter filled the air of the desert.

Just then, Danny returned from his cycling adventure, a wide grin on his face.

"What a ride! I think my stomach is full of butterflies now," he joked, causing everyone to burst

into laughter. It was clear we were in the perfect place, surrounded by the desert's dearest silent friends.

"Mom, did you finish the book you were reading? What's it about?" Ken asked, his curious eyes already scanning the cover.

"Ah... The Whispering Trees," he read aloud. "Interesting! What's the story? Tell me, tell me!" he urged enthusiastically.

"Of course, I will, my dears," I replied with a warm smile, my heart brimming with joy. "But it's a

long story—let's enjoy our lunch first, and then we'll have the story as dessert!" Everyone burst into laughter at this playful remark and settled down to eat. The monotonous aura of the desert was filled with chatter and giggles. Bruno, wagging his tail furiously, added to the fun, with the excited little noises he always made, especially when he was delighted.

"So... Can we have the dessert now, mom?" smiled Ken, his voice filled with curiosity.

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By-Roshilin Mary



# THE INDIAN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, DSO



