

SAIBABA CENTRAL SCHOOL

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From the Founder:

Sri Sainathuni Sarath Babuji

“We can help our children learn by igniting their love of learning through creating curiosity and a spirit of enquiry in them, an appetite for learning, a hunger for knowledge. If we can kindle this, it is enough: whether we teach them something or not, the child will learn, anybody will learn. This is the key, the formula. Into this formula everything fits that has been researched and said about teaching: inducing and infusing curiosity. If curiosity is there, observation will naturally come. You can’t simply ask children to observe nature. They will observe and think, “Okay, we are observing, so what?” Because that also is simply following an instruction. Observation like this doesn’t serve the purpose. First, curiosity should be there. Then observation makes sense and serves the purpose”.



“What I am saying is, we should infuse the child with a spirit of enquiry. Even when we want him to learn a particular thing, we should begin by asking a question that creates curiosity in the child’s mind – like the state of mind of a scientist before he makes a discovery. Especially in the natural sciences and mathematics, where many discoveries have been made, this would be easy to implement. First, motivate the child with questions that make him puzzled about something – his mind should always be puzzled. Then start giving answers to the questions which you yourself have created. By posing questions, that make the child wonder, “what would be the answer?”, interest in the answer is created. Then, when you give the answer, it is like giving food to a hungry person, not simply dumping information he won’t take because it’s not needed!”





SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN

Prime Minister Sri Narendra Modi launched Swachh Bharat Abhiyan on 2 Oct 2014 on Gandhi Jayanthi. On this day, the Prime Minister addressed the citizens of India in a public gathering held at Rajpath in New Delhi and asked everyone to join this campaign. Later on this day, the Prime Minister himself swept a pavement at Valmiki Basti, a colony of sanitation workers, near Rajpath.

Inspired by this programme, the students of classes VIII, IX and X selected Pelluru village, Prakasam district and went from door to door educating the villagers about the harm in using plastic bags and how they are harming the environment. The class teachers, the Principal and the Hon. Correspondent accompanied them. They prepared and gave free paper bags and cloth bags provided by the school to the villagers to encourage them to use eco friendly bags. This activity was done on 28 Oct 2014 as part of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan. The students felt that this is an important national movement and are trying to help this movement to succeed. They felt that good sanitation, hygiene and effective waste management make our country a better place to live in and bring respect to our country.





SYMPOSIUM ON SWACHH BHARAT

Following Gandhiji's belief "Cleanliness is next to Godliness", on 28 Nov 2014, students of VIII, IX and X class pioneered a successful symposium on Swachh Bharat. The students spoke that every wing of the society should take the responsibility to bring about a 'clean India'. K. Megha and P. Manognyna of class X started the Symposium.

K. Himaja of class X threw a light on 'why is Swachh Bharat so important?' P. Vishnu, M. Pratheek and S.R. Gopika spoke about NGOs (Swachh, Sulabh, Bhumi etc), Celebrities (Salman Khan, Amitabh Bachchan, Sachin Tendulkar etc) and Social Networking sites (Face book and Twitter) and their important role in transforming India into Swachh Bharat.

S. Rohit, U. Rushitha, K. Goutham and Ch. Ramani of class IX elucidated the role of City Sanitation Task Force, Environmentalists and Educational Institutions. They opined that the overall goal of Swachh Bharat is to renovate India into community-driven, totally sanitary, healthy and livable cities and towns with minimum environmental pollution. In addition, a child should be well aware of cleanliness, safety and personal hygiene, which will make them stronger, healthier and responsible citizens of the country. Ch. Ramani added that the Indian women were always ahead in the matter of prevention of pollution and protection of the environment.

L. Tanuja, N. Nishitha, G. Deepak and K. Jeena of class VIII gave a presentation on role of farmers, teachers, children and politicians in Swachh Bharat. Their views were that farmers have a big role to play with regard to the conservation of our natural resources and can disseminate information about the proper ways of handling and using our precious natural resources. Teachers can teach the principles of zero-waste within the domain of their own classrooms. Children too have a very important role in achieving a Swachh Bharat. They can become ambassadors of cleanliness and motivate others to keep their homes, schools, and surroundings clean. Coming to politicians, K. Jeena stated that everything they do, every move they make, each step, each development effects the environment in some way. One of the parents came forward and suggested the school to continue such social awareness programmes.

Madhumitha, The School Pupil Leader, administered a pledge to all to do their bit as committed members of Swachh Bharat. Miss Sruti Sainathuni, Academic Director, the Hon. Correspondent, the Principal, teachers and parents attended this programme.





NATIONAL INTEGRATION DAY

“Manpower without Unity is not a strength unless it is harmonized and united properly, then it becomes spiritual power.” – Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

On 31 Oct 2014 the School celebrated National Integration Day commemorating the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. On this occasion B. Pranathi of class VII and A. Haripriya of class VIII gave wonderful speeches on national integration. They said national integration inculcates the feeling of common identity amongst the people of country even though they are from different races, cultures, regions or religions. National Integration is a must in order to build a strong and developed nation. They also spoke at length about Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and the services that he rendered to bring unity among the Indians. The school took a pledge to make the dreams of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel true and build a strong and unified India. The School Pupil Leader, Madhumitha, administered the pledge of National Integration to the whole school.



RASHTRIYA EKTA DIWAS PLEDGE:

I solemnly pledge that I dedicate myself to preserve the unity, integrity and security of the Nation and also strive hard to spread this message among my fellow countrymen. I take this pledge in the spirit of unification of my country, which was made possible by the vision and actions of late Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. I also solemnly resolve to make my own contribution to ensure internal security of my country.



NATIONAL VIGILANCE WEEK



Vigilance week was observed in the school culminating in the National Integration Day on 31 October, the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

To mark the vigilance week, a slogan writing competition was held for classes VI to VIII. The topic for the slogan was 'Corruption', which is eating the vitals of our nation and is the biggest challenge facing us. Unless we get rid of corruption, our country will never progress and we cannot take our rightful place in the world.

Students enthusiastically participated in the slogan writing competition. These slogans were judged and the best few were forwarded to CBSE, New Delhi.



WUSHU



Y. Gowtham (X class) and D. Bhargav (VIII class) participated recently in Wushu (Martial arts) organized by CBSE at national level, held at Meerut, Uttar Pradesh. Both were determined during the combat. They won their initial bouts and reached up to the quarterfinals. The Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu and the Principal, Colonel C V Ramanayya appreciated their dedication. The school also appreciated Mr. D. Venkateswarlu, Wushu coach for the outstanding performance of the students.



INTERHOUSE QUIZ COMPETITION

General knowledge is an important component of intelligence and is strongly associated with Intelligence Quotient. Studies have found that people who are highly knowledgeable in a particular domain tend to be knowledgeable in many.

The School conducts an Inter House Quiz competition every year to test the general knowledge of the students. This year the competition was held on 18 Oct. 2014, in different sessions for sub juniors (II, III and IV classes), juniors (V, VI and VII classes) and seniors (VIII, IX and X) classes. The Quiz competition had different rounds like pass-on, buzzer, memory, recognizing the voice of famous orators, visual, identifying blurred images, and rapid-fire rounds. Students showed lot of enthusiasm and there was neck-to-neck competition among the houses. The competition reinforced three facts in the students, more knowledge makes you smarter; more general knowledge makes you more generally competent in the tasks of life and giving everybody more general knowledge makes everybody better citizens.

At the end of the competition the Principal Colonel. C V Ramanayya and the Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu appreciated the competitive spirit among the houses and they said since knowledge is the great equalizer, schools have a huge opportunity and responsibility to provide more equal life chances for all students, no matter where they come from.

The results are:-

Sub juniors	
Buddha house	I place
Mahatma house	II place
Krishnadevaraya house	III place

Juniors	
Krishnadevaraya house	I place
Mahatma house	II place
Einstein house	III place

Seniors	
Krishnadevaraya house	I place
Einstein house	II place
Buddha house	III place

Overall result	
Krishnadevaraya house	I place
Mahatma house and Buddha house	II place
Einstein house	III place



INTERHOUSE ELOCUTION COMPETITION-2014



“I’m not in competition with anybody but myself. My goal is to beat my last performance.”

Elocution is the foundation of effective communication skills. Elocution is the art of clear and concise manner of speaking, with clarity of meaning and thought. Elocution originates from the word ‘eloquence’ - fluent, elegant or persuasive speaking. It is the knowledge of expressing strong emotions in striking and appropriate language and with the power of persuasion.

So as to enhance the accent, the grammar, the tone and the gestures in the students, the school conducted an Inter house Elocution Competition on 27 Nov 2014 for V, VI and VII classes. The aim of this event is to increase the vocabulary and add to the confidence in the students. This elocution competition gives students a good opportunity to overcome the biggest fear i.e. stage fear.

G.Nikunj Gupta, B.Swetha Chowdary, K.Sruthi and K.V.N Pallavi of class V spoke on the topic ‘Good manners are important’. They spoke about different manners at dining table, interviews, meetings, schools, etc. V. Manoj, B. Srinivasa Rao, P. Anudeepa and P.S.N Varsha spoke about ‘Child Labour’. They said child labour is a social evil and must be rooted out. E. Nikhil, P. Snehalatha Reddy, N.Renuka Chowdary and Yashwant said Parents should monitor how we use the Internet. They said if parents are vigilant, they can protect their children from cyber bullying, online predators and can protect their personal information. They also explained some signs to recognize if a child is troubled online. The Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu appreciated the participants and the Principal Colonel. C V Ramanayya gave suggestions to enhance their speaking skills.

Results	
Buddha & Krishnadevaraya house	I place
Einstein house	II place
Mahatma house	III place





INTERHOUSE SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP-2014

Sports and opportunities of play are essential to a child for optimum development. Without sports, school education would be boring and lifeless for young school children. In fact, sports are vital in the very young lives as it gives them a lot of things to learn about life apart from entertainment and cool moments with friends. Immersing children in various sports is truly a valuable endeavour for the things it could bring to children are priceless.

Inter House Sports Championship-2014 was officially started by the Hon. Correspondent and the Principal on 31 Oct 2014. The four houses were encouraged to compete with a spirit of healthy competition. Preliminary selections were conducted by all houses to select the strong team members in every event before the Interhouse sports championship commenced. The Physical Director Mr. I.P Raju explained all the rules and regulations of Interhouse sports to the housemasters in the presence of the Correspondent. Later, the housemasters explained the same to their house captains and participants.

In all group games semi finals, the teams of each house from both junior and senior schoolgirls and boys really showed their toughness and spirit to reach the finals in Handball, Kho-Kho, Kabaddi and Football. In finals, all teams showed highly competitive spirit. Einstein house won most of the group games. It was thrilling to watch the goalkeepers in Handball and Football who showed their agility by diving and flying in the air to stop the goals.



Meanwhile, the Sub Juniors (I, II and III class) boys and girls proved that they are not inferior to their seniors in competitive spirit. Running Race, Sack Race, Basketball dribbling, Basketball shooting, Lemon & Spoon and skipping events were conducted in which they showed a good competitive spirit. It was very pleasant to watch the concentration on their cherubic faces while reaching their goals in their games.

The final sports day ended on 29 Nov 2014 with individual games. Shot put, Running Race (100mts), Long Jump besides Relay. All students from junior and senior classes participated in all individual games in two different sessions under the control of Mr. I.P Raju PD, Mr. Prabhakar, PET, Mrs. Indira, PET of the School. Teachers assisted the PETs in the efficient running of the competition. PETs from other institutions of Ongole also helped.



All the houses realized that a game is only as good as its rules, and how well we play the game is defined by how well we follow the rules. Some of the sport events showed why rules are important in sports and how they can make playing games more enjoyable. At the final hour of the sports day, female teaching staff participated in speed walking, male teaching staff and supervisors in running race, while all children cheered and encouraged their teachers to win. It is very clear from the below score sheet that except the overall champion house, the other positions were changing up and down till the last minute creating a lot of suspense and anxiety in the houses.

PLACE	HOUSE	SCORE
I	Einstein	1332
II	Mahatma	1072
III	Krishna Devaraya	1070
IV	Buddha	1034

The Hon. Correspondent, the Principal and the teachers distributed Gold, Silver and Bronze medals for the winners amidst huge applause. The Correspondent announced Einstein as the champion house of the Inter house sports -2014 and said all the participants showed a good sportsmanship and endurance.



OUR STUDENTS SELECTED FOR NATIONAL LEVEL NETBALL

Students of the School participated in State Level Netball selections held at Indira Gandhi stadium in Vijayawada on 1 Nov 2014. E. Mrudula of class IX was selected as a member of state level netball team and A. Sowmya of class VIII was selected as a reserve player. These selected players had a training camp from 16 to 24 Nov 2014 in Vijayawada. Later, they played in national level netball championship in New Delhi, representing Andhra Pradesh from 27 to 30 Nov 2014. The Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu, the Principal, Colonel C V Ramanayya, I.P. Raju (P.D) and M. David Raju (Dist. Netball Secretary) appreciated them and said once again, the students of Saibaba Central School have made them feel proud.



PERSONALITY OF THE TERM: SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL

India is a land of great leaders who ruled the country effectively and also protected its national interest. It was not an easy task to accomplish, keeping in view the changes taking place in the world political scenario. Leaders like Gandhiji, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Lal Bahadur Shastri and Bose played a key role in changing the perspective of the world towards India.

The School unveiled another innovative event (Personality of the Term) not only to show a deep sense of gratitude for such leaders but also to instill patriotism and unity in the young minds. The school is very proud to have Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel as the personality of the term. He played a crucial role during the freedom struggle of India and was instrumental in the integration of over 500 princely states into the Indian Union.

During the term, students have read about Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and each student in a section prepared at least 50 questions, which were exchanged among them to extend their preparation. On 24 Nov 2014, a house wise quiz was conducted on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel for VI to X classes. It was formatted with pass on, mini rapid and buzzer rounds. The representatives of each house showed lot of enthusiasm to keep their house in the first place. G.Bhanu Supraja and P. Prasanna Lakshmi of class X led the programme successfully. There was keen competition among the houses to win in the quiz. The competition also encouraged the children to take the Sardar as a role model. The Hon. Correspondent and the Principal appreciated the students and congratulated the winners.

The results are:

House	Place
Buddha	I
Krishnadevaraya	II
Mahatma	III
Einstein	IV



AUTHOR OF THE TERM-2014 JANINE AMOS



Reading is probably one of the most beneficial and feasible activities that a man can do. It is through reading that a person discovers new ideas, concepts, places and people. Some people even describe reading as a journey that starts as the opening of a page, and finishes as the last page is turned. The reason why reading is so important is because reading is relaxing to our mind and soul; it is a way for children to reach out to the world, and it improves our thinking process.

So, to inculcate love of reading from the tender age, the School conducted 'Author of the Term' on 24 Nov 2014 for juniors (I to V class). Janine Amos, a famous children's author, was the author of the term. She was not only an author but also worked as a Children's Commissioning Editor in London, Bath, Berlin and Chicago. Students read her books, 'Why Tease?' 'Why to Lose Temper?' Etc in the school library and prepared well for the competition.

Author of the term was conducted house wise in a quiz format having general, rapid fire, visual and title rounds. The juniors of all houses performed extraordinarily well in the quiz. T. Vindhya Chowdary of class VI and M.K. Tarani of class VII compered the quiz in a beautiful manner and inspired the other children with their leadership qualities. At the end, Einstein stood in I place, Mahatma in II place and Buddha & Krishnadevaraya stood jointly in III place.

The Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu and the Principal, Col C V Ramanayya attended the programme and said a taste for reading good books should be formed in all children.





Seniors trek to Marlapadu hills

VIII, IX and X class students of the School participated in an adventure trek to Marlapadu hills on 26 Oct 2014. One of the aims of this camp is to improve the self-confidence and resourcefulness of the students. Around 120 students began the expedition at 7.00 AM from Nellore bus stand, Ongole and returned at 4 PM on the same day.

The students were taken by school buses to Errajerla village and started the trek towards Marlapadu hills. After climbing up and down five hillocks, they came to the campsite for lunch. This was followed by games till 3.30 PM. In spite of the inclement weather, with sporadic rain, the students enjoyed the outing. They were wet, dirty and tired by the time they came home. But, they enjoyed themselves enormously.

This adventure was conducted under the supervision of the Hon. Correspondent and staff members. This kind of adventure not only caters to basic training in adventure sports but also improves leadership qualities & personality development in the children. During the adventure the students discovered their innate abilities. They said they were most benefited and learnt to overcome their fears and were able to participate in the adventure sports without fear and with passion. Despite feeling tired some time, students enjoyed the trek very much.



CHILDREN'S DAY CELEBRATIONS



On 14 November 2014, Children's Day was celebrated with great splendor and grandeur to commemorate the birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. The school conducted various events like fashion show for Kindergarten, making paper bags and greeting cards from the waste material.

Our tiny tots showcased their skills in the fashion show coming out dressed as Mother Teresa, Jhansi Lakshmi Bai, fairy, Kangaroo, Lord Krishna and Gopika etc. "Making paper bags and greeting cards were the events of classes I to V and Vi to VIII". IX and X class students made the most from waste promoting the notion of "recycle and reuse." They made Zip bottles, a helicopter, a moving boat, a pen stand, balloon car, figure of Lord Ganesha with CDs etc. Though all these exhibits were made from waste, they looked very good.

The Hon. Correspondent and the Principal witnessed these events and appreciated the outstanding performance by the children. They said that all children are artists. The problem is how to remain as an artist once he grows up. For the overall development of a child, Curriculum is not only the single criteria. For the holistic growth as well as to develop the various facets of personality of children, classroom teaching should be supplemented with activities.





ECO-FRIENDLY DIWALI

Deepavali or Diwali is certainly the biggest and the brightest of all Hindu festivals. The festival of lights is marked by four days of celebration, which literally illumines the country with its brilliance and dazzles all with its joy.

On 22 Oct 2014, during the assembly, the Green Brigade of the School inspired all to celebrate an ecologically responsible Diwali through their demonstration. Bapu Gayathri of class VIII elucidated the importance and origin of Diwali. Chaitanya of class VIII opposed the belief of most people that the greater the fireworks better the celebrations. Rohit of class IX brought awareness to major health hazards due to toxic substances in fireworks. Ananya and Sowjanya of class IX suggested important precautions to follow while celebrating Diwali. They also explained what to do in case of burn injuries.

The members of Green Brigade suggested to use crackers which emit less smoke and are harmless to the environment and ended with a slogan 'Save the spirit of Diwali. Save our nation and save our Earth'. The Hon. Correspondent appreciated the children for their spirit in spreading the message and wished a happy and safe Diwali to all.



A career and a game of chess have more in common than is commonly thought. Both require smart strategy and a confident sense of leadership to reach successful end goals.

On 22 and 23 Nov'14, Master N. Deepak Chowdary of class VIII achieved fourth place in A.P State Level Open Chess Tournament-2014 held at CRS Rail Kalyana Mandapam, Tirupati. CRS Friends' Association conducted the competition. He showed the required skills at different phases of the game. He proved what he was by notching 5 points out of 9 and achieved the fourth place.

During the school assembly the Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu awarded him a medal and the Principal Colonel C V Ramanayya showed his appreciation. They said Chess is a challenging game that requires great mental effort to succeed at the higher levels and added that chess definitely brings out positive personality traits as well.

STATE LEVEL OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT 2014



CYCLE EXPEDITION



Around 80 Boys and Girls of VI and VII classes of Saibaba Central School went on a 26km adventure on cycles on Sunday, 19 October 2014. The school believes that education is not merely book learning but also should include character building. Adventure activities such as cycling etc. train the children to face adversity cheerfully and function well. The school conducts such activities frequently. The students started from Ongole and went to the hills near Marlapadu on that day. They climbed the hill and were educated about the flora and fauna around the hill. They were also shown the contouring being done around the hill to harvest rainwater and were told of the importance of rainwater conservation.

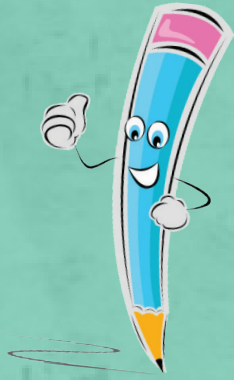
After this, it was time for games with the teachers and a bit of lunch. Students and staff played games such as Football, Softball, Kabaddi, Volleyball etc. Some played chess or climbed trees in the area. Teachers and non-teaching staff numbering 25 adults including the Principal and the Hon. Correspondent accompanied the children to ensure safety. Finally the children reached Ongole again by 4 pm after a tiring but fun day.



KARATE CHAMPIONSHIP'14



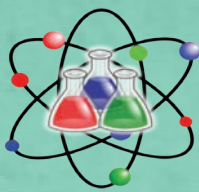
D. Vyshnavi of class VI participated in A.P. State Karate & Kung-Fu Championship'14 organised by Tadaghat New Shito Ryu Karate School of India, Nellore on 2 November 2014. She fought well during the combat and achieved 1st place in Kumite event below 11 years category. Confidence, focus, respect and discipline made her excel in the sport and its techniques. The Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu and the Principal, Colonel C V Ramanayya appreciated her performance and bringing laurels to the school. They said the school believes in students setting and achieving their personal goals. The mission of the school is to build champions, not just in the sport, but in life as well.



HANDWRITING TRAINING

It is said that good handwriting shows your personality. A person with good handwriting is preferred everywhere. Today many students are struggling to improve their handwriting, as they had not taken care of it in their early years. Even though they are intelligent, they may lose marks due to bad handwriting.

The School conducted handwriting training for the classes III to VIII to improve their handwriting skills on 15 November 2014. Mr. Ponnuri Gopikrishna, handwriting expert and founder of SBY Trust gave excellent handwriting training to the children for two hours. The students were given separate books for further practice. Students understood that learning good handwriting needs only practice. The Hon. Correspondent and the Principal witnessed the training and said even in the age of technology; handwriting remains the primary tool of communication and knowledge assessment for students in the classroom. The demands for good handwriting are great, whether in the classroom or beyond.



SCIENCE TALENT TEST

The study of science should begin early in life. The first steps should be teaching boys and girls the habit of observation. The child is always interested in trees, flowers, birds, insects and in all the things that he sees around him. His curiosity in this regard should be fostered and developed. This can be done easily and naturally, by teaching lessons related to those material objects that he is always seeing.

Knowledge of Science should be imparted naturally in the form of answers to questions. Accordingly the school conducted a Science Talent Test from III to X class on 1 Nov 2014. Believing that at the initial stage, more can be taught in this way than mechanically through books and expositions. Students attended a critique immediately after the examination when the answers were given to them. They could then check their answers and see where gaps existed in their knowledge.

The Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu and the Principal, Colonel C V Ramanayya appreciated the talented students and awarded them certificates.

Students and Staff of the School donated Rs 2 Lakh 10 thousand rupees to C.M Relief Fund for Hudhud victims:



Even with the latest technology and inventions that make modern life so much easier than it once was, it takes just one big natural disaster to wipe all that away and remind us that, here on Earth, we're still at the mercy of nature.

Cyclone Hudhud struck Visakhapatnam and surrounding areas really hard and created havoc. Millions of people have been rendered homeless and have been suffering as electricity and daily necessities such as milk and food were not available and communication network had collapsed.

The students voluntarily extended their help to the victims of Hudhud. The students donated generously and also collected donations from their parents, neighbours, relatives and friends. The school management as well as all personnel also donated generously to the cause. The total donation of Rs. 2,10,000 /- (Two lakh ten thousand rupees only) was handed over to C.M Relief Fund through Sri K Y Naik, IAS, Joint Collector, Prakasam district on 22 October 2014.

The Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu and the Principal Colonel C V Ramanayya said that the ethos of the school inspired the children and the staff to empathise with their fellow citizens and help them.



CURRENT AFFAIRS TALENT TEST

The world is full of information and with every passing second something new occurs. Updating ourselves with the current affairs is an important part of our lives. All the happenings around the world and the important incidents come under the category of general knowledge questions. Unlike earlier times when exams are confined to the prescribed syllabus, in present times, general knowledge covers a major portion of the entrance exams which are a gateway to many career options like administrative services, civil services exams etc. In these exams, questions can be asked from any field of current affairs like Political science, Geography, Mathematics, Science and Technology.

To keep the students in regular contact with the current affairs, the School conducted Current Affairs Talent Test on Oct 13 for VI to X classes covering all the subjects. During the assembly the Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu and the Principal, Colonel C V Ramanayya awarded the certificates for the winners class wise. They said knowledge couldn't be attained overnight. Attainment of information regarding current affairs is a long and steady process where you have to be in regular contact with the ongoing affairs of not only India but also the world.



A visit to Blind School and Old Age homes

THE TRUE MEANING OF LIFE IS THE JOY OF GIVING

Charity is one of the noblest tasks that a man can do in his life. For our students the true meaning of life is the joy of giving. They realize this dream by engaging in acts of charity.

The students of the School enthusiastically participated in a philanthropic act on 27 Nov 2014 visiting old Age homes and a Blind School in Ongole. Our students went in three different groups to serve deprived old people and the blind children. Detergent soap, dish washing soaps, body soaps, coconut oil packets and bottles, cooking oil, tooth brushes and paste, upma and idly powder, green gram, wheat flour, rice, Bengal gram, yellow gram, red gram, sugar and wheat worth Rs.49,000/- were collected in the school and donated to “Mathru Vatsalya Old Age home” at Housing Board Colony and “Viswasevika Trust Old Age home” at Lawyer pet & “Mother Teresa Blind School” at Mangamuru Donka in Ongole. Our NCC students also participated in the programme.

Our students got to know that being old is not easy. They could actually see the pain and loneliness in old people’s eyes. The old people felt very happy talking to our children. Our students’ eyes were filled with tears when they came to know that most of the old people were deserted by their children, even though they were from rich families. Understanding the plight of old age, they promised that they would surely look after their parents and grandparents when it came to their turn. Our students also had an interaction with the blind children. They understood that though they were blind, they were facing the challenges of life with optimism. The Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu and the Principal Colonel C V Ramanayya appreciated the students for their charity.



KG FRUIT BAZAAR



Fruits seem to be one of the most fun things for kids to do. Lessons should concentrate on things we don't know, rather than things we do know, so this activity is a great way to not only know the names of various fruits, but also enables them learn about the nutritional information.

Kindergarten children wonderfully exhibited a Fruit Bazaar in the school premises as an activity on 30 October 2014. It was very cute to see them beckoning the customers (schoolmates and teachers) to buy their fruits. The classes were adorned with balloons, buntings and drawings of various fruits like mangoes, apples, pomegranates, oranges, grapes, papaya, guavas, etc.

As a prelude to this activity, the students had been shown various fruits in the class using Internet and projectors. The tiny tots exhibited a variety of fruits. They spoke out the name of each fruit and discussed the physical attributes of colour, shape, texture, taste etc. They then gave the nutritional information about the fruits and the vitamins contained in them. They were divided into small groups holding placards of various fruits and sang songs & rhymes like 'fruit finger families' 'fruit salad' etc. explaining how fruits are a really healthy food for us.

The Hon. Correspondent and the Principal attended the Fruit Bazaar. They felt that this activity would increase awareness of the importance of eating fruits. It creates a new opportunity for learning about nutrition at school and home. It also urges children to try different fruits.



VEGETABLE MARKET

"Let food be thy medicine". The health benefits of vegetables usually show in long run by improving your overall health and keeping the internal systems in perfect condition.

On 21 Nov 2014, Kindergarten organized a vegetable market in Babuji Hall. The venue was embellished with balloons, buntings and display boards. They displayed a wide variety of natural vegetables. All tiny tots in colourful dresses, with shiny faces sang melodious songs and rhymes on different vegetables like tomato, drumsticks etc. They also spoke sentences on mint and other vegetables and the vitamins containing in them.

The Correspondent applauded the kids and said such activities help the child to learn through their senses as they can smell and feel the vegetables or fruits. The Principal appreciated them and added that in general a child may refuse new foods if mealtimes are stressful, so such activities make them focus on the positives about the meal and avoid arguments and enjoy all vegetables. Additionally they can learn the names, spellings and speak about different vegetables.



The advancement of science and technology has brought about a great change in the field of books. Five centuries back, the books as we have today did not exist. But machines and technology have helped in the spread of knowledge.

To instill love of reading, our school has celebrated an event 'One Nation Reading Together' on 25 Nov 2014. The classes were decorated with colourful charts with inspiring slogans and quotations stressing the importance of reading. Books give us ideas, and thoughts, which enlighten us and guide us at the time of trouble. On the day of 'One Nation Reading Together' each student brought books of their choice such as comics, fiction and non-fiction from the school library and read them together in Babuji Hall. All felt that there are many kinds of books, which entertain, enthrall and thrill us according to our taste. Reading books is a habit, which keeps us entertained and informed to our dying day. It requires little investment but gives us great joy.

The Hon. Correspondent Major Suresh Babu encouraged the children to improve the habit of reading books, the Principal, Colonel C V Ramanayya added that books help to widen our interest and enrich our thoughts.





CREATIVE WRITING

English & Telugu

Poems, Essays, Stories





అది రంగాపురం అనే పల్లెటూరు. పచ్చదనానికి చిరునామాగా ఉండే ఆ ఊరి మధ్యలో ఒక పెద్ద బంగ్లా ఉంది. ఆ బంగ్లాలోని రామనాథం గారు కుర్చీలో కూర్చొని కిటికీలో నుండి తన తోట అందాలను ఆస్వాదిస్తూ ఉండగా, తన ఘోను మ్రోగడంతో రిసీవర్ అందుకొని ‘హలో’ అన్నాడు. అవతల వైపు నుండి అమెరికాలో ఉండే తన మనుమరాలు “తాతయ్య! మేము అమెరికా నుండి త్వరలో అక్కడికి వస్తున్నాము. ఈసారి మా సెలవులంతా మీతో గడపాలనుకుంటున్నాము” అని చెప్పగా, రామనాథం తన చిరునవ్వుతో “అందరూ వస్తున్నారా”? అని అడిగాడు. దానికి మనుమరాలు సమాధానంగా “అవును తాతయ్యా నాన్న, అమ్మ, తమ్ముడు, అక్క అందరం కలిసి రేపు బయలుదేరుతున్నాం”. అని చెప్పింది. ఆనందంతో ఉబ్బి తబ్బిబ్బు అయిన రామనాథం “సరే జాగ్రత్తగా రండి”. అని చెప్పి ఘోను పెట్టేసి “ఒరేయ్ రాములు, అమెరికా నుండి అమ్మాయి, అల్లుడు, పిల్లలు అందరూ వస్తున్నారా. త్వరగా ఆ తెల్లకారు సిద్ధం చేసి పెట్టు” అని హడావుడి చేయసాగాడు.

“సరేనండీ” అని రాములు అక్కడ నుండి వెళ్ళిపోయాడు.

తెల్లవారింది. అమెరికా నుండి అందరు వచ్చారు. ఇల్లంతా సందడి సందడిగా ఉంది.

“తాతయ్య, తాతయ్య సాయంత్రం అందరం సినిమాకి వెళదాం” అని పిల్లలు అడగటంతో సరే అని అందరు కలిసి సినిమాకు వెళ్ళారు. సినిమా చూసి, హాల్లో నుంచి బయటకు వస్తున్నప్పుడు ఆ ఊరు పెద్ద మనిషి సోమనాథం “బాగున్నారా రామనాథం గారు” అంటూ పలకరించాడు. “ఆ బాగున్నామండీ; మన ఊరి సంగతులు ఏంటండీ? అని రామనాథం అడగడంతో అప్పుడు సోమనాథం ఆ ఏమున్నాయండి, మన ఊరిలో ఎప్పటిలాగే విజయదశమికి అమ్మవారి ఉత్సవాలతో పాటు కొన్ని నాటికలు, పాటలు, తోలుబొమ్మలాటలు, బుర్రకథలు, పగటి వేషాలు, కొన్ని నృత్యరూపకాలు మొదలైన కార్యక్రమాలు జరుగుతున్నాయి. కాబట్టి మీరు, మీ కుటుంబ సభ్యులు అంతా కలిసి వచ్చి ఆ కార్యక్రమాలు చూడవలసింది అని సోమనాథం చెప్పగానే “తప్పకుండా వస్తామండీ; ఆ ఇప్పటికే లేటు అయింది ఇక బయలుదేరుతామండీ” అని అక్కడ నుండి వెళ్ళిపోయారు రామనాథం కుటుంబ సభ్యులు.

చుట్టూ చీకటి. ఆ చీకటిని చీల్చుకుంటూ రామనాథం కారు బయలుదేరింది. ఆ కారులో ఉన్న పిల్లలు వారు చూసిన సినిమా గురించి మాట్లాడుకుంటున్నారు. కారులో ముందు స్థానంలో కూర్చున్న తాతయ్య! పిల్లల సంభాషణ వింటూ వారి మాటలకు నవ్వుకుంటున్నాడు. ఇంతలో మనవరాలు దీప, “తాతయ్యా ఇందాక నీతో ఇంకో తాతయ్య మాట్లాడుతుంటే విన్నాను. నాకు పూర్తిగా అర్థం కాలేదు కాని ఏవో తోలుబొమ్మలాటని, నాటికలు మన ఊళ్ళో వేస్తున్నారని చూడటానికి రమ్మని పిలుస్తున్నారు. ఇంతకీ తోలుబొమ్మలాట అంటే ఏమిటి తాతయ్య? వాటిని మనం చూడవచ్చా”. అని అడిగింది. అంతా నిదానంగా విన్న తాతయ్య ఈ విధంగా చెప్పడం ప్రారంభించాడు:

“తోలు బొమ్మలాటలో పలుచని తోలుతో రంగురంగుల బొమ్మలను తయారు చేసి తెల్లని తెరవెనుక ఆముదపు దీపాల వెలుతురులో బొమ్మలను ఆడించేవారు”. అప్పుడు గీత “తాతయ్య ఇప్పుడు లైట్స్ ఉన్నాయి కదా? ఇప్పుడు కూడా ఆముదపు దీపాలను వాడుతున్నారా”? అని అడిగింది. అప్పుడు తాతయ్య “లేదమ్మా కాలం మారింది కదా. ఇప్పుడు పెట్రోమాక్కు లైట్లు, కరెంటు బల్బులు ఉపయోగిస్తున్నారు. మనదేశంలో ఎక్కువగా తోలుబొమ్మలాటలు ప్రాచుర్యంలో ఉన్నాయి. ఈ తోలుబొమ్మలాటలో తోలు బొమ్మలు తలలు కదిలించడం అనేది ఒక గొప్ప ప్రత్యేకత. హాస్యపూరితమైన కథాంశాలను సామాజిక సంక్షేమానికి పనికి వచ్చే అంశాలను చొప్పించి ప్రదర్శించడం జరుగుతుంది”, అని చెప్పాడు. అప్పుడు పిల్లలు “భలే వింతగా ఉంది తాతయ్య” అని అన్నారు. ఇంతలో కారు ఆగగానే “ఏయ్ ఇల్లు వచ్చేసింది, ఇల్లు వచ్చేసింది.” అని పిల్లలు అరుస్తూ కారు దిగి ఇంట్లోకి వెళ్ళారు. “ఏయ్ పిల్లలూ అందరూ కాళ్ళు, చేతులు కడుక్కొని భోజనానికి రండి” అని పిలిచింది అమ్మ.

అందరూ భోజనం చేసి నిద్రకు నిష్క్రమించారు. తెల్లవారింది. పిల్లల గోలతో ఇల్లంతా సందడి సందడిగా ఉంది.

“గీతక్కా గీతక్కా ఇంక ఆడుకుంది చాలు. టి.వి. చూద్దాం” అని దీప అనడంతో వారికి ఇష్టమైన కార్టూన్ ఛానల్

పెట్టుకొని చూస్తున్నారు. ఇంతలో కరెంటు పోయింది. “అబ్బా! ఇప్పుడే కరెంటు పోవాలా!” అని గణేష్ అనుకుంటూ టి.వి దగ్గర ఉన్న సి.డి.లపై ఉన్న సినిమా పేర్లను చదువుతూ “అరె ఈ సినిమా పేర్లు అన్నీ తెలుసుగానీ ఇదేం సి.డి దీని మీద ‘యక్షగానం’ అని వ్రాసి ఉంది. గీతక్కా, గీతక్కా ఈ సి.డి ఏమిటి? దీనిమీద యక్షగానం అని వ్రాసి ఉంది. అంటే, ఏమిటక్కా?” అని అడిగాడు “ఏమోరా; తమ్ముడు నాకు అర్థం కావటం లేదు”. అని గీత చెప్పటంతో, “గీతక్కా దీని గురించి తాతయ్యకు బాగా తెలుసుంటుంది. ఎందుకంటే రాత్రి మనకు “తొలుబొమ్మలాట” గురించి చెప్పారు కదా! దీని గురించి కూడా తాతయ్య చెబుతాడు” అంది దీప. “భలే, భలే వెంటనే వెళ్ళి తాతయ్యను అడుగుదాం. ఇంకెందుకు ఆలస్యం, పదండి తాతయ్య వద్దకు.” అని గణేష్ అనడంతో “తాతయ్య, తాతయ్య” అని అరుచుకుంటూ పరిగెత్తారు. తన వైపుకి వస్తున్న పిల్లలను చూసి రామనాథం కంగారుగా “ఏమిరా, ఏమైంది? ఎందుకు పరిగెత్తుతున్నారు? మెల్లగా! మెల్లగా!” అన్నాడు తాతయ్య! “మా ముగ్గురికి ఒక ‘డౌట్’ వచ్చింది. దాని గురించి మీరే చెప్పాలి.” అన్నారు పిల్లలు అప్పుడు తాతయ్య అన్నారు “ఏమిట్రా మీ డౌట్లా!”

“తాతయ్య ఈ సి.డి మీద యక్షగానం అని వ్రాసి ఉంది. యక్షగానం అంటే ఏమిటి తాతయ్య” అని అడిగింది దీప. “ఓ ఇదా! మీ ‘డౌట్’ దీని కోసమా ఇంత కంగారుగా పరిగెత్తారు. సరే రండి! అలా తోటలోకి వెళ్ళి మాట్లాడుకుందాం”. అని తాతయ్య అనడంతో అందరూ తోటలోకి వెళ్ళి కూర్చున్నారు. తాతయ్య, పిల్లలు అడిగిన దానికి సమాధానంగా “యక్షగానం అనేది అతి ప్రాచీన జానపద కళారూపం. జక్కు శబ్దం యక్షగా మారి జక్కుల వారు ప్రదర్శించే ప్రబంధానికి యక్షగానమని పేరు వచ్చింది. ఇవి ఎక్కువగా కాకతీయ సామ్రాజ్యంలోనూ, విజయనగర రాజుల కాలంలోనూ, తంజావూరు ఆంధ్రరాజుల కాలంలోనూ ప్రజల అభిమానాన్ని చూరగొన్నాయి.” అని చెప్పారు అయితే తాతయ్య ఈ సి.డి.లో యక్షగానం గురించి చెప్పబడి ఉందా! లేదా చిత్రాల రూపంలో చెప్పబడి ఉందా! అని అడిగారు పిల్లలు “యక్షగానాలు ఎలా చేసేవారో పాత సినిమాల్లో కొన్నిచోట్ల చూపబడ్డాయి. వాటి క్లిప్స్ ఈ సి.డి.లో ఉన్నాయి. కరెంటు వచ్చిన తరువాత మీరు ఈ సి.డి.ని చూడండి.” అన్నారు తాతయ్య “తప్పకుండా చూస్తాం తాతయ్య” అని పిల్లలు ముగ్గురు ముక్తకంఠంతో పలుకుతారు.

ఇంతలో ఒక చాటింపు వినబడింది. “ఈ యేడు దసరా పండుగ సందర్భంగా మన గ్రామంలో ఈ రోజు సాయంత్రం 8 గం||లకు ‘దుర్గమ్మ’ బుర్రకథ చెప్పబడుతుందోహో కాబట్టి అవకాశం ఉన్నవాళ్ళు సాయంత్రం మన ఊరి మధ్యలో ఉన్న పెద్ద రాతి బండ వద్దకు రావాలిహో” అన్న చాటింపు విన్న దీప “తాతయ్య ఆ చాటింపు ఏమిటి? అతడు ఏదో వాయిస్తూ అలా అరుస్తున్నాడు ఏమిటి. ఏదో “బుర్రకథ” అంటున్నాడు. బుర్రకథ అంటే ఏమిటి తాతయ్య?” అంటూ ప్రశ్నల వర్షం కురిపించింది. దీప ప్రశ్నలకు తాతయ్యకు నవ్వు వచ్చింది. ఆ నవ్వు పూర్తి అయ్యే లోపలే గణేష్ తాతయ్య, “బుర్రకథ” కదా అతడు అన్నది అంటే మన బుర్రల గురించి చెబుతాడా! అని అడగా, ఇంతలో గీత అందుకొని “కాదు కాదు మన బుర్రలను తింటాడు అవును కదూ తాతయ్య, నేను చెప్పింది కరెక్టేనా” అని ఇలా పిల్లలు ఎవరికి తోచినది వారు మాట్లాడుతుంటే తాతయ్య పెద్దగా నవ్వుతూ “ఆపంద్రా భడవళ్ళారా! నేను నవ్వలేక చస్తున్నాను.” వెంటనే గీత, “తాతయ్య ఏమైనా తప్పుగా మాట్లాడామా అలా నవ్వుతున్నారు! చెప్పండి.” “అవునా మీరు మాట్లాడింది తప్పేరా, “బుర్రకథ” అంటే బుర్రల తినడము కాదు! ‘బుర్ర’ కథ కాదు. దాని గురించి కొద్దిగా వివరించి చెబుతాను వినండిరా! ముందుగా మీరు అడిగారే చాటింపు అంటే ఏమిటి? అని, అది చెబుతాను వినండి.”

“ఇది గ్రామం, పల్లెటూరు. కనుక ఈ పల్లెటూరులో ఏ కార్యక్రమమైన జరగబోయే ముందు ఊరు ప్రజలకు తెలియాలి. అలా తెలియపరచాలి అంటే ఒక వ్యక్తి డప్పును వాయిస్తూ తను చెప్పదలచుకున్న విషయాన్ని లేదా సమాచారాన్ని వీధి వీధి తిరిగి గ్రామంలోని ప్రజలకు చెబుతాడు. అలా డప్పు వాయిస్తున్నాడు అంటే గ్రామంలో ఏదో ముఖ్య కార్యక్రమం ఉంది కాబోలు అని ప్రజలు తమ పనులకు కొంత విరామం ఇచ్చి ఇళ్ళలో నుండి బయటకు వచ్చి ఆ సమాచారాన్ని వింటారు. దీని వలన ఊళ్ళో ఏమి జరగబోతుందో అందరికీ తెలుస్తుందన్నమాట! ఇకపోతే ‘బుర్రకథ’ గురించి వినండి. బుర్రకథలో కథకుడు మధ్యలో నిలబడి కథ కొనసాగిస్తుంటే, ఇద్దరు వంతులు “తందానతాన” అంటూ పాడుతూ ఉంటారు. వీరగాధలను ఉద్రేకపూరితంగా చెప్పి, ప్రజలను ఉర్రూతలూగించినట్లే విషాధ గాధలను కూడా ప్రేక్షకుల కళ్ళలో కన్నీరు వచ్చేటట్లు చెప్పగల సమర్థులు వీరు. ఇప్పటికి పల్లె ప్రాంతాలలో ఈ బుర్ర కథలు చెప్పుకుంటున్నారు.” అని తాతయ్య చక్కగా వివరిస్తున్నప్పుడు “గీతా, గీతా” అని తల్లి మమత పిలుస్తుంది. “తాతయ్య! అమ్మ పిలుస్తుంది. ఒకసారి వెళ్ళి వస్తాను.” అంటూ వెళ్ళిన గీత “అమ్మ ఏమిటి పిలిచావు.” అని తన తల్లిని అడిగింది.

“బుడబుక్కల వాడు వచ్చాడు. వాడికి కాసిని బియ్యం పోసి రామ్మా” అని అనడంతో గీత బియ్యం తీసుకొని బయట ఉన్న బుడబుక్కల

వాడి సంచీలో పోస్తుంది. అతడు నిండు నూరేళ్ళు వర్ధిల్లూ అని దీవించి అంబ పలుకు జగదాంబ పలుకు అంటూ వెళ్ళిపోతాడు. గీత తాతయ్యతో “బుడబుక్కల వాడి వేషం చాలా విచిత్రంగా ఉంది. తాతయ్య ఏదో అంబ పలుకు, జగదంబ పలుకు అంటున్నాడు. ఏమిటి తాతయ్యా, ఆ వేషాలు.” అని అడిగింది. అప్పుడు వెంటనే బామ్మ అందుకొని “వచ్చారా, పొద్దున్నే పగటి వేషగాళ్ళు” అని వ్యంగ్యంగా అన్నది.

మిగిలినది తరువాయి భాగంలో

- ఎస్. వెంకట సుప్రియ, 10వ తరగతి, పి. ప్రసన్న లక్ష్మి, 10వ తరగతి

స్నేహితులు



స్నేహం దేవుడిచ్చిన వరం
దేనికీ అడగదు పరిహారం
చూపదు ఎన్నడు అహంకారం
ఎన్నటికీ చెరిగిపోని మమకారం
ప్రతి ఒక్కరికీ చేస్తుంది ఉపకారం
అడ్డు పడదు ఏ జాత్యహంకారం
మంచి మిత్రుడు ఎన్నటికీ వన్నె తగ్గని రతనాలహారం

- వి. హరిప్రియ, 6వ తరగతి

మాతృభాష

అమ్మను మించిన దైవం లేదు,
తేనె కన్నా తియ్యనిది లేదు,
మంచు కన్నా చల్లనిది లేదు,
మాతృభాష కన్నా మిన్న ఏమీ లేదు.

మాతృభాషలో పలికిన పలుకు,
వెండి వెన్నెల జిలుగు వెలుగు,
పసిడి కాంతులు మెరుపులొలుకు,
మరపు రానిది మాతృభాష సొగసు.



దసరా పండుగ



దసరా వచ్చింది
సరదా లెన్నో తెచ్చింది
మన దశనే మార్చింది
అమ్మ పిండి వంటలెన్నో వండింది
బడికి సెలవలెన్నో ఇచ్చారు
కొత్త బట్టలను కట్టాము
బొమ్మల కొలువు పెట్టాము
ప్రసాదాలెన్నో తిన్నాము
పగటి వేషాలు వేశారు
ఆటలెన్నో ఆడాము
పాటలెన్నో పాడాము
నవరాత్రుల శోభనే చూశాము



పంటలు

చూడ చక్కని పొలాలు
పంటనిచ్చే వరాలు
ఎరువు వేస్తే పండుతాయి
నీరునిస్తే పెరుగుతాయి
మందు వేస్తే ఎదుగుతాయి
మంచి దిగుబడినే ఇస్తాయి.

- డి. బాలసుందర్ రెడ్డి, 6వ తరగతి

రైతన్న



సూర్యుడు ఉదయించాడు
రైతన్న నిద్రలేచాడు
పొలానికి బయలుదేరాడు
అరకతో దున్నాడు
విత్తనాలను విత్తాడు
నారును పెంచాడు
నాట్లను నాటాడు
కలుపును తీసాడు
పంటను కోసాడు
కుప్ప నూర్చాడు
ధాన్యంగా మార్చాడు
బస్తాలలో నింపాడు
ఇంటికి తెచ్చాడు
సూర్యుడు అస్తమించాడు
నిద్రలోకి జారాడు

- టి. సాయి శరణ్ రెడ్డి, 9వ తరగతి



దోశ

దోశ ఓ దోశ
నా ప్రియమైన దోశ
నీ మీద పెట్టాకున్నాను ఎంతో ఆశ
కానీ మరచిపోయి ఇడ్లీ తినేశ
అది బాగాలేదని
ఉప్పా తిని చూశా
ఇష్టం లేక ఊసేశా
దోశని కొనడానికి జేబులో చెయ్యి పెట్టి తీశ
తీశాక అక్కడ ఎంలేదని తెలిశాక
అందుకే నోరు మూశా
దోశ ఓ దోశ.

- కె.యశ్వంత్, 7వ తరగతి

ఎగరాలని ఉంది



అది ఒక బంగ్లా. చూడ ముచ్చటైనది. అందులో అందమైన తోట. చాలా మంది నౌకర్లు. ఆ బంగ్లాలో జమిందారీ వంశానికి చెందిన వారు నివసిస్తున్నారు. వారి క్రింద పనిచేసే నౌకర్లు వంశపారంపర్యంగా పని చేస్తున్నారు. ఆ జమిందారు క్రింద ఉన్న నౌకర్లులో 'మిశ్రా' అనే వ్యక్తి అక్కడికి తీసుకువచ్చే 7 నుండి 8 సంవత్సరముల పిల్లలకు పచ్చబొట్లు వేస్తూ ఉండేవాడు. పచ్చబొట్లు వేయించుకున్నవారు ఆ బంగ్లాలోనే పనిచేయాలి. సుఖసంతోషాలతో సాగుతున్న 'మిశ్రా'కు ఒక దిగులు ఉంది. తనకు పుట్టిన బిడ్డ కూడా అదే బంగ్లాలో గొడ్డు చాకిరి చేయవలసి వస్తుందని ఎందుకంటే ఆ బంగ్లాలోని నౌకర్లు కూడా వంశపారంపర్యంగా పనిచేసే వాళ్ళే కాబట్టి. మిశ్రా భార్య మోతి ఎన్నో పూజలు, నోములు నోచుకుంటే పుట్టిన ఏకైక బిడ్డ ఇషిక. మిశ్రా తనను బాగా చదివించాలని అనుకున్నాడు.

తన ఇల్లు కోటి దీపాలతో వెలిగిపోయినట్లు ఉంది. కాని ఒక్కసారిగా అతని మనస్సుకు దిగులు మబ్బులు కమ్ముకున్నాయి. అది ఏమిటంటే తన కూతురు కూడా తనలాగే అదే బంగ్లాలో పనిచేయవలసి వస్తుంది. అందుకని తన ఇంటి వారికి, తన ఇంటిపక్కన నివసిస్తున్న తన చెల్లి కుటుంబానికి తప్పితే ఇషిక ఎవరో ప్రపంచానికి తెలీదు. ఎవరైనా అడిగితే తన చుట్టూ అమ్మాయి వచ్చిందని కొన్ని నెలలు తనతోనే ఉంటుందని చెప్పేవాడు. ఇషికకు ఎనిమిదేళ్ళ వయస్సులో తను అందరిలా ఆడుకుంటూ, పాడుకుంటూ, సీతాకోక చిలకలా ఎగురుతూ, తన ఊరికి దగ్గరలో ఉన్న నది దగ్గరకు వెళ్ళి తన చిట్టి చిట్టి చేతులతో ఇసుకతో ఇళ్ళు, గుడులు కట్టి ఆడుతూ తిరుగుతూ సంతోషంగా గడిపేది. సాయంత్రం ఇంటికి వెళ్ళగానే వాళ్ళ అమ్మ తనను స్నానం చేయించి గోరు ముద్దలు పెట్టేది. ఇది ఇషిక దిన చర్య. అలానే ఒకరోజు ఇషిక ప్రకృతిని చూసి ఆనందిస్తూ, ఆశ్వాదిస్తూ, స్వేచ్ఛగా ఆడుకుంటూ ఊరి చివర ఉన్న ఒక బంగ్లాను చూసింది. అసలే ప్రకృతి అంటే ఇషికకకు చాలా ఇష్టం. ఆ బంగ్లాలో ముందు ఒక చిన్న తోట, ఆ తోటలో రంగు, రంగుల సీతాకోక చిలుకలు, పువ్వులను చూద్దామని ఇషిక దగ్గరకు వెళ్ళగానే ఆ బంగ్లాలోనుంచి అరుపులు, కేకలు వినిపించాయి. ఏమిటబ్బా ఈ అరుపులు అని లోపలకు వెళ్ళి చూడగానే అక్కడ చాలా మంది పసిపిల్లలకు పచ్చబొట్లు వేస్తూ వాళ్ళ చేత గొడ్డు చాకిరి చేయిస్తున్నారు. అక్కడ ఆ పచ్చబొట్లు వేస్తుంది తన నాన్నే అని చూసిన వెంటనే ఇషిక మిశ్రాను “నాన్నా నాన్నా” అని పిలిచింది. మిశ్రా ఇషికను అక్కడ చూసి నిర్ధాంతపోయాడు. ఇషికను అక్కడ నుండి పంపించేయడానికి శతవిధాలా ప్రయత్నించాడు. అయినా కూడా ఇషిక అక్కడ నుండి వెళ్ళలేదు. అదే సమయంలో అక్కడికి ఆ ఊరి జమిందారు వీర్సింగ్ వచ్చాడు. ఇషిక ‘మిశ్రా’ కూతురు అని తెలిసి మిశ్రాను, ఇషికను ఆ బంగ్లాలో నౌకర్లుగా చేసి ఎన్నో కష్టాలు పెట్టాడు. అలా ఒక సంవత్సరం గడిచిపోయింది. ఇషిక ఆ బంగ్లాలో పని చేస్తూ, స్వేచ్ఛగా తిరిగే సీతాకోక చిలుకల వంక, పక్షుల వంక కిటికీలో నుండి చూస్తూ ఆనందిస్తూ తన తల్లి నేర్పిన పాటను పాడుతూ ఉంది. ఇంతలో ఇషికా అని పెద్దగా పిలవడంతో ఆ ఆలోచనలో నుండి బయటపడి పనిలో నిమగ్నమైంది. ఇక్కడ నుంచి బయట ప్రపంచానికి వెళ్ళి హాయిగా బతకాలి అనే కోరిక మాత్రం ఇషికలో బలంగా నాటుకుపోయింది. ఒక సంవత్సరం తరువాత వీర్సింగ్ కూతురు రాణి పక్క ఊరులో చదువుకుంటూ సెలవులకు ఇంటికి వచ్చింది. రాణి చాలా మంచి అమ్మాయి. చాలా సున్నిత మనస్తత్వం కలిగిన అమ్మాయి. రాణి వాళ్ళ నాన్నకు చాలాసార్లు ఈ పిల్లలను వాళ్ళ ఇంటికి పంపేద్దాం అంటే వీర్సింగ్ ఒప్పుకోలేదు. కొన్ని రోజుల్లోనే రాణి, ఇషిక మంచి స్నేహితులయ్యారు. ఇషిక ఒకరోజు రాణిని ఒక సహాయం కోరింది అది ఏంటంటే తను, తన తోటి వారిని ఇక్కడి నుండి బయటపడటానికి రాణి సహాయం కోరింది. రాణి సరే అని ఒప్పుకుంది. రాణికి ఒక చెల్లి ఉంది. తను వీర్సింగ్ లాగా క్రూర మనస్తత్వం కలిగిన మనిషి. ఒకరోజు రాణి, ఇషిక కలిసి ఒక ప్లాన్ వేశారు. ఇషిక తన తోటి వారితో రాత్రి 12 గంటలకు ఆ బంగ్లాలో నుంచి బయటికి వెళ్ళిపోవాలని అనుకున్నారు. కాని ఈ మాటలను వెనుక నుంచి వీర్సింగ్ అనుచరుడు జసాయి సింగ్ విన్నాడు. జసాయికి ఇషిక అంటే అసలు ఇష్టం లేదు. ఇషిక మిగతా పిల్లలు 12 గంటలకు మేలుకొని ఒక్కొక్కరుగా అందరూ బంగ్లా గోడ దుకారు. ఇషిక గోడ దూకే సరికి తన స్నేహితులు ఎవ్వరూ లేదు. అది చూసి నిర్ధాంతపోయి చూస్తూ నిలబడింది. ఈ లోపే ఎవరో తనను వెంబడిస్తున్నట్లుగా ఉండి వెనుకకి తిరిగే సరికి తన మెడ మీద కత్తి ఉంది.

ఇంతకి ఇషికాకు ఏమైంది, బతికి ఉందా లేదా వచ్చే సంచికలో...

- ఎస్. వాగ్దేవి ప్రియా భవాని, 9వ తరగతి

The forest of Maccaria



(..... Continuation)

“Yes ” was all he answered and began to walk forward and motioned for the others to do the same, which they hastened to do.

They walked for five minutes through lots of winding streets that all seemed to be twisted into one gigantic maze or so it seemed to Olivia’s brain before a thought struck her as quick as lightning, it seemed strange to her. Everyone here seemed healthy to her and not like the cough racked desperate people she had seen during her few visits to the outside world. She had felt so terrified and guilty that somehow all these deaths had been her fault. What if she was not working as hard as she ought to? Her guilt ridden mind had often wondered at night, what if she lost another loved one to this disease? What if she would lose Lucas too? She had already lost her whole family to this disease, after all, that was how Dr. Richardson had found her... broken. There were no two ways to describe it. She was crying her eyes out; her mind was slowly sinking into depression, frustration and anger at the faceless heads of the terrorist organization who spread this disease, at the governments of the world who had let this happen. A small part of her brain which wasn’t consumed by anger, frustration and depression, the one tiny part of her brain that refused to be turned insane whispered that the governments couldn’t have done anything but the overwhelming need to blame someone ruled out this tiny whisper and then, then Dr. Richardson had found her and turned her life around, treated her like the daughter he never had, fussed over her like a mother hen when most people thought that Dr. Richardson never showed any emotion towards anybody. Olivia knew that this was to mask the pain of the death of his daughter and that he had a protective streak a mile wide when it came to persons he loved. He taught her how to live once more. When the United Nations asked Dr. Richardson to pick out an assistant in addition the other scientists, he picked her, a student studying for postgraduate studies unhesitatingly. Her record was exceptional but nonetheless she was just a graduate student. When Lucas and Parvathi arrived, she felt that her life was truly fully mended. She had a tapestry made from the broken threads of her past life and the strong, new ones made of her new life. Olivia hadn’t realized that her feet weren’t walking forward and that she had deviated from her original train of thought and woke out of her musings when Parvathi was shaking her concernedly and was asking what had happened, to which Olivia answered after she came to her senses. “Don’t you think that it is strange that no one in this village is sick?” was all she said before trying to walk forward but whenever she remembered this, the pain always seemed like a knife that had found a chink in her armour and was now brutally stabbing her. “No,” she thought “what’s over’s over. No use of thinking about it any longer.”

The Young man stopped at a two storeyed regular looking concrete house and said “this is it. Please step inside.”

Parvathi couldn’t help but give an audible gasp of surprise, she expected a tepee and when she turned back, she saw the young man smiling in an exasperated way as though he was used to this reaction before turning back and saying, “Grandfather’s not really well these days. So, try not to stress him too much.”

“We won’t.” assured Dr.Ian.

Parvathi was startled to hear his voice, he had been so quiet this whole trip. “Coming to think of it, I wonder why he’s so quiet.” thought Parvathi as she stepped through the door and into the house. She glanced at the ceiling and tensed momentarily in excitement.

“What would we find here?” which was running in all their heads including Chandrasekhar’s and Johnson’s. It was difficult bearing this suspense, because they might be an inch away from victory, from curing this terrible pandemic that had gripped the world. It was at this moment that Parvathi realized how much that this would mean to her to finally find the cure to this disease not only because she had seen her entire town wiped out but also her family had perished in this pandemic. She was pretty much broken the same way Olivia had been, that was partially the reason why they had bonded so much. They had suffered the same bitterness over having their loved ones die.

In fact, Olivia had helped her so much that Parvathi could say that Olivia was the beacon of light when Parvathi was drowning in her own personal sea of despair. But unlike Olivia, she was not drowning her grief by weeping, she was covering it by working so hard that she sometimes collapsed, that was until Chandrasekhar and Olivia came into life. They had transformed her, gave her a new meaning in life, Olivia understood her sense of loss and advised her to not bottle it up but she refused being the stubborn person she was. At that moment her stabbing, killing grief refused to hold back any longer. She broke down there and then in front of Chandrasekhar and the rest. She wept for what felt like hours. But strangely after that, her load of grief felt a lot less heavy. It had been there for weeks. It was like a boulder was weighing her down. She was brought out of her sudden flashback by Olivia shaking her and concernedly asking, “Are you all right?” Parvathi answered “um... Nothing. I am fine. Let’s keep going” she added as the others too had stopped by this time and were looking at her concernedly. They walked past the doorway and followed the young man who had opened the door by then and was waiting for them to enter. Upon entering, the first thing Lucas noticed was how dim the room was and then as he let his gaze travel across the room, he found an extremely ancient looking man with eyes that felt as if they were penetrating him and were searching his soul with them. Shaking his head, he found that Ian was questioning the old man as though he was a criminal and Ian was the investigator. Lucas rushed forward to interrupt as the untactful way Ian was speaking might cause some problems with the old man and his grandson who was staring at him as though he was reminding their earlier promise to them.

“Hello I am Lucas, how are you doing sir? Your grandson told us that you were not in very good health.” Stated Lucas in a very polite tone as he took down the startled looks on both the old man’s face and his grandsons and continued, “You will have to excuse Ian’s behaviour, he is a bit tensed. Can I ask you a few questions sir?” he asked.

When the old man nodded, Lucas took it as his cue to start asking questions. “Did you ever give a fragrant piece of wood to a lady named Agatha Williams?” Lucas questioned.

“Yes” was all the old man said.

“Thank goodness” muttered Lucas and continued “Sir, would you be willing to tell us where you found the piece of wood?”

“Here in this forest close to the village,” replied the old man.

“Really?” asked Lucas unbelievably, it was hard to believe that all this time the solution was this close and yet they didn’t find it this long.

After Lucas came out of his reverie, he noticed that the old man had stopped speaking and was waiting for him to come out of his thoughts before continuing with what he was saying. He motioned for the old man to continue.

Hearing this, Ian was ready to have a panic attack. He felt like he wanted to sock himself one. He should

have anticipated it before, after all the greatest cures were found in forests. He shouldn't have let that slip his mind.

Ciquola (the old man) thought that he would die without passing on his secret to somebody who would know to use it. The man who called himself Ian seemed to think that ordinary people could enter the forest without external help. They needed help and they needed lots of it. Without external help, it would be impossible to enter the forest of Maccaria because those who entered foolishly and despite warnings were never seen in the mortal world once again. Only one person had successfully journeyed through those lands once and it was he.

"Why do you need this plant?" asked Ciquola even though he had a good idea why.

"We believe that some of the chemical compounds within the plant are the cure to the pandemic that is killing millions across the world." said Parvathi who as usual was, straight to the point.

Ciquola just nodded his head and motioned for the rest to start asking their questions should they have any.

As expected Chandrasekhar went first. "How do we get inside the forest? Are there any special paths? Because I don't think I've ever heard of the forest you're mentioning. Is it dangerous? What is the climate of the place? Do we need any external help? Do we..."

"Whoa! Calm down Chandra! I understand your need to plan everything, but ask one question first and not 10 at the same time." Said Parvathi

"Fine" conceded Chandrasekhar although a bit reluctantly.

Ciquola shook his head in amusement and started to answer. "To answer your questions, first of all, there are no special paths into the forest of Maccaria and yes, it is extremely dangerous. In fact, it is so dangerous that no person who has ever ventured into that forest has returned." He said and decided not to mention that he was the only person to come out alive. "Yes, you will need lots of help," he continued.

"Thank you for your help sir" said the six members of the United Nations mission said in unison and turned to leave.

Neither of them talked until they were in their vehicle and was almost halfway to Stanford. They were sitting in an extremely comfortable silence until Ian broke the silence by saying, "So, I suppose that our next destination is the tiny little town of Stanford."

"Yes, it is the most favorable place at this moment as you will have a substantially less chance of contracting the disease." Said Johnson as Chandrasekhar leaned forward to inform the pilot about this change of course.

Upon hearing this statement, Parvathi leaned back and readied herself for hours of sleep as she knew the journey would be long and that she might not be getting much sleep for a long long time.

A few hours later, Parvathi found herself in front of an outdoor camping store along with Lucas and Johnson. They had decided to split up in order to make their shopping quicker. Olivia, Chandrasekhar and Ian hired a car and were going to pickup food supplies while the rest were going to pickup camping supplies. As Parvathi was trying to decide what size and type of the tent was required, a thought suddenly struck her. She wanted to call Ian immediately and inform that it was essential to go to Stanford but then, she remembered that someone could eavesdrop on their conversation and decided to ask him the moment they were inside their vehicle. Turning back to the problem at hand, she decided that two tents, one large and one small would be sufficient and went over to Lucas and Johnson to see if they agreed.

When they agreed and finished selecting rucksacks for the six of them, Parvathi paid for their purchases and went outside the store but her mind was not here. She was trying to consider the delays this would make on their schedule and in turn, the problems that would come out of the delays. Her mind was still on this when climbed into the vehicle. She was surprised to find that Olivia and her group were already inside waiting for her.

“Ian, I think we might be having a problem on our hands” said Parvathi as she settled into her seat.

“What do you think it is, Parvathi?” asked Ian as if he couldn’t guess what it was.

“Ian, I think that you forgot to bring the piece of wood. Without it, it would be impossible to identify the plant we need.” Said Parvathi, who was clearly exasperated that Ian hadn’t remembered it from the start.

“I didn’t forget Parvathi; I brought it from Stanford the very day we left. You know, because I thought that Lucas was an intruder who was trying to steal our secrets.”

“Oh, so you did bring that piece, without it the entire mission would have been a disaster. Thank goodness that you did.” Said Lucas who was listening to the exchange between Parvathi and Ian closely.

“So, Is the forest charted? Where are the camping sites? Are there any facilities for travelers? Are there any trails that lead into the forest? Who is in charge of all this planning anyway?” asked Olivia without pausing for breath. It was obvious that she was very excited at the prospect of going into this forest and finding the cure to this disease finally. Then again, all of them were excited at this prospect.

“I am the one who is going to be taking care of all these details and ...” started Chandrasekhar but was stopped when a sudden brake was applied by the driver jolting all of them and causing them to fall on the person in front of them.

“What happened?” Chandrasekhar asked the driver to which the driver replied, “Sir, a man has stopped the car and wants to speak to you,”

“What?” asked Chandrasekhar who was quite surprised with these turn of events.

“Maybe we should let him speak with us. He seems to be having something important to share with us.” Said Ian.

“Oh yes, let him kill us too if the guy’s an assassin.” Said Johnson sarcastically.

“Let us find out who he is first. Let us worry about remaining things later.” Said Parvathi who was trying to placate either side. After all, a quarrel in their team was the last thing they needed right now.

“You know what? Parvathi is right. We can worry about other things later. Let us find out who that guy is first.”

All heads turned to Chandrasekhar awaiting his decision but were surprised to find that he was already ordering the person to come inside the car.

All heads turned in direction of the rear door when the door opened. In came a familiar looking man with a receding hairline and spectacles.

“He looks familiar. I think I’ve seen him somewhere before.” Said Parvathi trying to remember where she saw him.

“Yeah, he does look familiar. Let me try to remember where I saw him.... Oh, yes! He was the curator at that museum we went to the other day.”

“Indeed!” said Chandrasekhar who was looking extremely surprised with this turn of events.

“Hello. I am as you might have recognized the curator of the museum. I have a proposition to make.” And with that startling statement, he sat back and remained silent.

“What is the proposition?” asked Chandrasekhar who as usual was straight to the point.

“My proposition is that I help you in succeeding in this mission and in return, I get to accompany you into the forest of Maccaria” the curator said.

To say that the rest were shell-shocked was an understatement. They thought that this man was either crazy or was completely suicidal or both.

“Are you crazy? Do you want to put your life in potential risk?” asked Lucas who was deadpanned.

“I like that forest very much. You see, I have traveled in and out of that forest countless times. I am the only person who can guide you.” He said.

“Well, it seems that we don’t have much of a choice. What’s your name?” said Olivia and Parvathi in unison. “My name’s Chronos.” Said the curator.

“Well that’s a strange choice of name. Were you named after the Greek titan lord Kronos?” asked Parvathi.

“NO! I wasn’t named after the titan lord who killed his father. I was named after the Primordial of time: Chronos.”

“Excuse me, but what the hell is a primordial?” asked Lucas who was obviously in a bad mood today.

“I trust you know about Greek gods?” asked Chronos. When Lucas nodded, Chronos continued, “The very first gods of the Greek universe are called Primordial.”

“Oh!” Lucas said with a bit of surprise.

“Well, now. We’ve finished introductions. Mr. Chronos, would you lead the way to the forest?” asked Chandrasekhar.

“Very well” said Chronos and gave the driver instructions to the forest.

A few hours later.....

“Ouch!” said Parvathi.

“Hey! You stepped on my foot!” said Olivia.

“Lucas! Stop drinking all the water!” said Ian.

“There, now you’ve done it! How the hell do you think that we are going to survive for the rest of the trip?” asked an exasperated Chandrasekhar.

“Are they always like this?” asked Chronos.

“By this, do you mean forever quarrelling with each other? Then yes.” Replied Johnson.

This had been going on from the moment they stepped into the forest. After a rather uneventful and silent trip, they set foot into the forest and were now going in search of that medicinal plant that would cure humankind.

“That’s it!” several, namely six heads turned in the curator’s direction. “stop quarrelling about silly things when you have more important things to think about. And as for the problem of not having any drinking water, there is a spring nearby.” Said the extremely annoyed curator. Well, he thought; the spring had other uses as well, namely a way to get them to the place they were needed and they needed.

“Come on,” he called out to the rest of the group, “Follow me to find the spring.” He said and started to walk forward not taking notice of the thorny plant and bushes that were bothering the rest of the group.

The walk to the spring went on in near silence, the silence only being broken by the occasional exclamations of “Ouch!” or the occasional surprise of seeing a type of plant amid whispers of “Do you think it is the one?” and then the disheartening reply of “No, I don’t think so.”

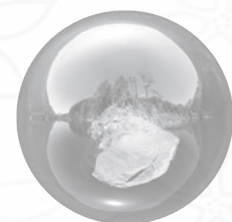
They saw the spring before they reached it. It was a delightful little place with many fruit trees and other flower trees surrounding it.

Upon reaching the spring, they saw a pair of young maidens sitting by the side of the spring and watching as if they were waiting for somebody. They appeared at ease and not so at the same time. They were relaxed yet alert. But what struck them the most was the unearthly beauty of these maidens. One was pale with long black hair and red lips and looked as though she hadn’t spent much time in the sun lately. She was wearing a dress of azure blue and a crown of amethysts. The other was wearing an electric green sleeveless dress and had a crown of flowers interwoven with the greenest grass upon her head. She was just the right colour: not too dark and not too white. But the strangest part was that both of them were looking directly at them. All the faces showed surprise and astonishment at finding other human beings than themselves, that was all faces except that of Chronos. He merely smiled at them and what he said next surprised them even more.

“Maccaria, Gaea Now!” and with that the world went black. (...to be continued)

K. Abhinaya, IX Daffodils

**BIG BLUE
BEAUTIFUL**



When viewed from outer space, Earth resembles a blue marble and that is why it is often called the blue planet. The vast oceans that cover 70% of Earth’s surface give it its blue appearance. It is the presence of these oceans that make our planet habitable. Ocean water is a necessity for life. In fact, Ocean is the birth-place of life because it is there that the planet’s first living things were born. Life began in the ocean million years ago and even today the ocean remains home to a majority of plants and animals from the smallest organism to the blue whale, the largest animal on the Earth.

Y. Charmi, III Tulips

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER



“There is no such thing as “study time” for the student of knowledge! This is because all of his time is spent in seeking knowledge. In the morning and in the evening, his mind is preoccupied with the various issues of knowledge.”

Knowledge is definitely power. We cannot live on easily in this competitive world, if we do not have enough knowledge. Knowledge can prevent us from being deceived by others. The best place for gaining knowledge is learning in school. We have to be students and learn in school because knowledge is what we have to gain in order to work and realise our responsibility to the world in the future. Knowledge is like a treasure, it is so precious that everyone wants more of it. However, knowledge is not gained by force, but by persistence and correct attitude. Knowledge is so powerful but we cannot imagine how much influence it has on our lives. Knowledge plays an important role in all spheres of human life and activity. It is a powerful factor, which helps man to attain success, power and position in life. There is no doubt that physical strength and money are instruments of power. A man who is physically strong or whose purse is full has power over others. But the power of knowledge is still greater than the power of wealth. Man is a thinking animal. Knowledge directs his actions and enables him to find the difference between right and wrong, good and bad. It helps him overcome his weakness and faults and face dangers and difficulties with courage and confidence. It gives him mental, moral and spiritual advancement. Besides this, it is through knowledge that man has gained mastery over nature.

There was a day when man was in an uncivilized stage. He lived in caves and dens. He was afraid of wild animals. Gradually civilization came to human society and man acquired knowledge. With its attainment he became civilized. Now knowledge has made him ruler over nature. He has made the force of nature adapt to his needs. Nothing remains unknown to him. He has become a great scientist, skillful artist, a mighty creator of things and a noble pathfinder of life. Advancement of civilization and culture would be impossible without knowledge. Knowledge plays an important role in the progress of art, literature, science, philosophy and religion. So knowledge is power. Mighty minds with power of knowledge can rule the minds of millions.

S. Supriya, X Daffodils

JOKES



1. Student: Can I go to toilet?
Teacher: May I go to toilet? (The teacher corrects)
Student: But I asked first.

2. Son: Mom, I was punished in school today.
Mom: Why?
Son: My teacher pointed the scale towards me saying-
“At the end of this scale, there is an idiot”....
I just asked, “Which end?”

S. Vittal, V Irises



BEFORE

Before you talk, listen
Before you react, think
Before you spend, earn
Before you criticize, wait
Before you pray, forgive
Before you quit, try

V. Valli Sree, VIII Daffodils

STUDENTS & DISCIPLINE



A student is one who attains knowledge through education by a gradual and proper method. Discipline is nothing but learning a proper way of life. Discipline is essential to all youth who are the future citizens of any country. Discipline keeps them in good stead in their future life and paves the way for shaping their lives.

Every student should learn to rise early, finish his/her calls of nature, take breakfast and go to school. Learning lessons, physical exercise, entertainment, rest, taking evening bath, studying lessons, going to bed on time are done in succession. Discipline means the inculcation of such good qualities like respecting elders, showing affection for youngsters, co-operation with the parents, helping the neighbours, patriotism and performing one's duties carefully. Students should develop the habits of completing their lessons at home regularly and finishing any other tasks assigned to them without postponement. They should also develop supreme qualities like perseverance, self-esteem, self-confidence, patience, and sacrificing tendency.

Discipline is an indispensable part of life. It is a symbol of civilization. It means learning a code of conduct. It should teach a person self-control, obedience, co-operation and orderliness. It plays an important role in school, college, family, factory, and office, military and even nature. Students should behave well and have good moral conduct. Thus, a good personality is the outcome of a disciplined student.

P. Sneha Latha, VII Daffodils

CURIOUS TOWN (Poem)



I have visited a curious town
Filled with many curious things
There the people walk on four legs
Donkeys walk on two legs

The frog climbs up a tree
Crow swims in the water
Houses are painted with different colours

Flowers look like cotton candy
Trees look like lollipops
I have visited a curious town
Filled with many curious things.

1. Ashok: Do you know what kinds of birds are used at construction sites?
Ramu: Hmm.....no idea!
Ashok: Cranes.
2. Father: Why did you get fewer marks in exams?
Son: Absence.
Father: What! Were you absent for your exam?
Son: No not me, the person who sits beside me.

EVERYTHING IN HER

Male	– Female
He	– She
Poet	– Poetess
Prince	– Princess
Hero	– Heroine
Lion	– Lioness

A. Veena, VI Orchids



JOKES

**T. Bala Sunder Reddy,
VI Daffodils**

THE ...E... LIFE !!!!!



In this world of E-mails, E-ticket, E-paper, E-recharge, E-transfer and the latest E-Governance...Never Forget "E-shwar (God)" who makes e-everything e-asy for e-everyone e-everyday.

"E" is the most eminent letter of the English alphabet.

- Men or Women don't exist without "E".
- House or Home can't be made without "E".
- Bread or Butter can't be found without "E".
- "E" is the beginning of "existence" and the end of "trouble."
- It's not at all in 'war' but twice in 'peace'.
- It's once in 'hell' but twice in 'heaven'.

"E" represented in 'Emotions'. Hence, all emotional relations like Father, Mother, Brother, Sister, Wife & Friends have 'e' in them. Without "E", we would have no love, life, wife, friends or hope & 'see', 'hear', 'smell', or 'taste' as 'eye', 'ear', 'nose' & 'tongue' are incomplete without "E".

P. Sai Madhav, IX Daffodils

GENDER INEQUALITY



India has the most diverse religions and a unique culture. There are many rituals and cultures that people are following from a long period of time. But, some of them transformed into social evils. These social evils are obstructing the development of India. People are not judged basing on their skill but on caste, creed, religion, status and gender. Some of these social evils are dowry, discrimination based upon caste, female infanticide, sati etc, but some of them like sati, female infanticide, and dowry have reduced a little. But one of the main social evil that still exists is gender inequality.

Gender inequality refers to unequal treatment based on one's gender. In India men are considered superior to women in many fields. From the ancient times, women were considered inferior and were thought to be the ones who had to work at home and take care of family. Men were supposed to work and earn the livelihood of the family. Though this mentality is changing in the recent years but still it is practiced in many parts of the country. Women are still not allowed to go out alone. There are many religions in India in which they force women to cover their faces and their heads while going out. They are still treated lower than men. Men are given more opportunities than women.

Gender inequality leads to many other social evils like harassment and wage discrimination. Women are not paid equal salary for the same work as men do, especially in rural areas. In some parts of the country, it is still not considered necessary to educate a girl child. The percentage of women is very low in politics compared to men. Men are considered to be strong and superior to women. But, women have ultimate power. They can create wonders, if they think so. But just blaming the society is of no use. The mindset of people must change. Women must come forward and take challenges to prove that they are equal to men.

B. Lakshmi Ishita, IX Daffodils

A FUNNY INTERVIEW



- Interviewer: What is your name?
 Applicant: M.P. sir.
 Interviewer: Tell me properly.
 Applicant: Mohan pal sir.
 Interviewer: your father's name?
 Applicant: M.P. sir.
 Interviewer: What does that mean?
 Applicant: Manmohan pal sir.
 Interviewer: Your native place?
 Applicant: M.P. sir.
 Interviewer: Is it Madhya Pradesh?
 Applicant: No, Mani Pal sir.
 Interviewer: What is your qualification?
 Applicant: M.P. sir.
 Interviewer: What is it? (Angrily)
 Applicant: Metric Pass sir.
 Interviewer: Why do you need a job?
 Applicant: M.P. sir.
 Interviewer: What does that mean?
 Applicant: Money Problem sir.
 Interviewer: Describe your personality?
 Applicant: M.P. sir.
 Interviewer: Explain yourself clearly.
 Applicant: Mind blowing personality sir.
 Interviewer: This discussion is over. You may go now.
 Applicant: M.P. sir.
 Interviewer: Huh..... what is it now?
 Applicant: My performance sir.
 Interviewer: M.P.
 Applicant: What is that sir?
 Interviewer: Mentally Punctured.
 Applicant: M.P. sir
 Interviewer: Now what is thisssss...?
 Applicant : My Pleasure sir.

D. Rupa Raja Sri, VII Daffodils

THE CRAZY WORLD OF COMPUTERS



- A computer was something on T.V.
 A window is something you hated to clean
 And ram was the cousin of a goat.

 An application was for employment
 A program was a T.V. show
 A cursor used profanity
 A keyboard was a piano

 Memory was something you lost with age
 A CD was a bank account
 Hard drive was a long trip on the road

 Cut is what you did with a pocketknife
 Paste you did with glue
 A web was a spider's home
 And virus was a flu.

Ch. Revanth Reddy, VIII Daffodils

CRICKET IN THE EXAM HALL



- | | | |
|-------------------|---|----------------|
| Exam hall | - | Stadium |
| Student | - | Batsman |
| Invigilator | - | Umpire |
| Pen | - | Bat |
| Questions | - | Balls |
| Answers | - | Runs |
| Unknown questions | - | Bouncers |
| Pass | - | Win the match |
| Fail | - | Lose the match |

V. Valli Sree, VIII Daffodils



Our Prayer

*May my mind be always given to the spirit of enquiry
and learning;*

*I'll never let my eye of reason be blinded
by dry and dead habit and superstitions;*

*I do not let my mind be subject to narrow and ugly prejudices
of class, caste, creed, religion and nationality;*

*I love my country and strive to realize the ideal of being
a world-citizen;*

I always act toward others, as I desire them to act toward me;

*I do nothing that will bring discredit
on myself, my teachers or my fellow pupils.*

May my mind be without fear and my head always held high;

*I will strive at all times to keep my school a lovely and
happy place,*

so that all of us may be proud of it.

This is my solemn pledge and soul's prayer!



MASTERING ENGLISH

- Spoken English compulsory in school from 1st standard
- Reading a book every 15 days from 5th Class onwards
- Many Creative writing tasks given – poems, essays and stories
- Compulsory public speaking in class and assembly
- Hundreds of exercises in English Grammar
- Appreciation of literature through real comprehension
- Mastering advanced vocabulary in English through sentence making with each word

MASTERING SCIENCES, SOCIAL AND MATHS

- Conceptual teaching with real life connection in sciences, social sciences and maths
- Summary writing in all topics in all subjects
- Reading textbook and writing answers to questions based on every paragraph from each chapter as revision
- Projects and model making in sciences and social sciences
- Hundreds of exercises in speed maths with monthly tests
- Advanced problem solving in Maths , Physics and Chemistry

PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

- Value education classes through reading and discussion
- Active singing, drama and dance clubs
- Ethics club to develop ethical values
- Adventure trips and field trips
- Active games
- Green brigade for environmental awareness
- Inspiring , motivating and caring for each child through real counselling and monitoring and inculcating self discipline with love

MASTERING OTHER LANGUAGES

- Deep appreciation of Telugu literature, practice in writing and mastering advanced vocabulary through making sentences
- Easy learning of Hindi through continuous practice by using the language in spoken and written form and getting corrected.