



# Footprints: E-newsletter

April-May 2011



## Well begun, is half done

The month of April spells spring for some, hot harsh summer for some others and ruthless winter for still others. We fit into the harsh summer category, but having been trained to appreciate the positives of life, we at school, managed to literally smile through. The heat just became another aspect we learnt to accept. The new academic year began with a bang for one and

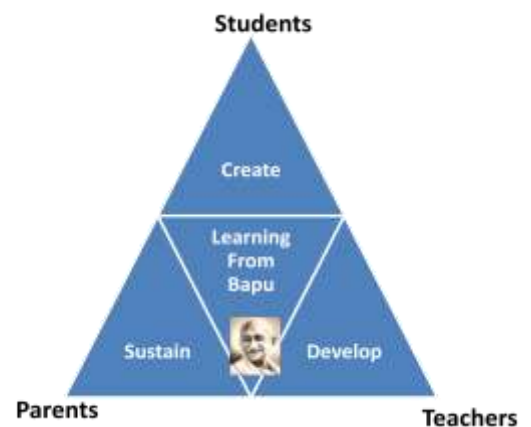


All, on 4 April, 2011. There is a heightened sense of eagerness as all the students await the opening day, more so in the case of the grade one students, as they graduate to formal school from the kindergarten. The parents are raring to go, more than the kids. It is a sight worth watching as some are confident, some cry and still others seem totally lost.

## Local to global

Having spent almost all of the last academic year promoting the concept of *go green, sustainability and internationalism* in small doses with Mahatma Gandhi

*being the personality of the year*, we graduated to the concept of introducing Internationalism full-fledged this year. Skype sessions with schools in UK, pen pal tie-ups moved on to celebration of international days with equal gusto as the national days.





## Celebration of International Blue Day

Class VIII, along with the rest of the classes, celebrated the International Blue Day with enthusiasm. Students of one section were given the task of framing questions starting with 'Why', whereas students from the other section had to write statements starting with 'because'. The condition was to use blue/ water words, in order to

see how well students connect planet earth with the colour blue.

The students assembled in the seminar hall after completion of the given task. Students were picked up randomly to read out the questions starting with why followed by the statements starting with 'because'. It was a great fun as some of the answers matched and some of them were absolute bizarre!

Students were well engaged in this activity. It helped in developing their questioning skill, thinking skill, communication skill, creative skill and use of appropriate vocabulary.





*The resource persons who came from Community Science Centre told us about what is water, distribution of water in our body & on earth, different ways to purify it and its pollution too...the presentation was good we enjoyed...*



**Why:**  
*Why don't people sink in the water of the dead sea...*

**Because:**  
*Because each drop of water is precious*

There emerged some extremely interesting combinations as the **why** and **because** were randomly matched!



**EARTH IS OURS TO KEEP & SAVE:** School looked like a little piece of the earth when seen from afar, as well as near. Students and teachers came dressed in greens and browns, several activities were done for the whole school and even the younger ones had a great time. A colouring activity was conducted for classes I & II. An outline of the drawing related to the Earth was given to the students. This activity created awareness among the students in respect to the problems which we are facing today regarding the conservation of natural resources.



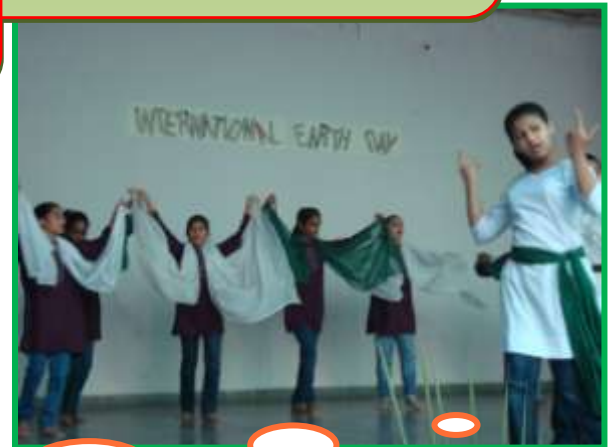
*We learnt a lot, it was fun too, now we know why we should save the earth*





The dance group showcased different attributes of 'Dharti Maa', Mother Earth and compared water and earth's effortless performance with that of the human being.

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*What fun it was to have learnt so many things, from recycling tetra-paks to being able to make our own compost in an interesting contraption called, roli-poli....we are looking forward to June when we will start using it...*



# Celebration of World Dance Day, 29<sup>th</sup> April, 2011



International dance day had an underlying theme of folk dances this year and the students performed House-wise, with great creativity, innovation and by involving those who rarely or barely danced. It was indeed a unique celebration...





Skype debate with Mossland School, UK



Skype Debate with Neston High School, UK

## From local to global: discussing for a common cause

A good idea could come from anywhere; it has to begin as a small seed and then get the right environment to grow. The basic philosophy followed by us for a large number of aspects at school is this, thus as a consequence of the visit by Principal Ma'am and

Poornima Ma'am to Liverpool last June, we forged some very lasting relationships. Ever since, we have been involved, in debating, discussing, conferencing and voting on very crucial topics such as euthanasia and comparison of changing childhood.

I think the idea of the debate was a great idea because we got to hear their views and they were interested in what we had to say. Also I was amazed by their intelligence, they spoke better English than me! Very impressed with their intellect on the subject.

***Neston High student feedback***

The topic was euthanasia, or mercy killing. It was a superb experience, mainly because it was a completely different one. The very feeling that you get when you are able to see people sitting in a different country and to talk to them, debate with them is simply amazing! And it was not just a new debating experience; it was also in a way an intercultural experience. We not just discussed about the topic, but also about our respective countries and their respective family systems, and culture. Over all it was a very fruitful experience and I would love to have another go at online debating. ***AVV student feedback***

# Celebration of World Kids Colouring Day,

6<sup>th</sup> May 2011



Apart from mural painting, spray painting and *antakshri* based on colours students were able to express their emotions, perspectives & their ability to depict colours creatively.



**Anna Lloria, an exchange student from France who came to our school through AFS, spent nearly 10 months with us. She was conferred the title of Miss Congeniality and won over many hearts during her stay. We shall miss her...**

Dear Anna,  
You are a perfect friend & a perfect Miss Congeniality... A perfect friend & a perfect ambassador of France. You have been the most mixing, cooperative girl... It has been an amazing experience with you. A student who has taught in my heart for when I heard that you were going to speak Gujarati. And I found myself so lucky that I was the first one who brought you to class & introduced you around the school. I loved it when you spoke my name with such sweetness & innocence. "Prinka", that's what you called me...  
If love was a drop, I would give you a sea,  
If love was a leaf, I would give you a tree  
& I wanted a gift, I would ask you for me.  
Thank you for being a part of us & most of all being a true friend.  
Best of luck for your life ahead....  
Loads of love (xox)  
Prinka  
(tc)





Hello Khushi,

My name is Elisha Santos and I am 10 years old.

How old are you? I go to

Farsley Springbank Junior School. I like to go swimming. Which sports do you like?

My favourite colour is purple. What is yours?

I have a pet cat and his name is Thia. Do you have any pets?

I live with my Mum Della, My dad Alex, My brother Ruben. Do you have any brothers or sisters?

My favourite lesson is I.C.T What is yours?

My best friend is Tilly Anne Jackson. She will of wrote to one of your friends, Ria. Do you have a best friend if you do who is it?

I like writing stories and playing with my brother.

I like playing matheletics on the computer at school. Do you have any computers at your school?



Here's wishing you a very happy summer vacation. See you all on 13 June 2011...

17/1 Sudhanagar Soc.  
Alkapuri, Jabalpur road  
Vadodara  
5, May 2011  
Dear friend,  
Hi! This is Shaiatah from Baroda, India  
I am an 11 year old girl. I am in the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade.  
India has a diverse culture, caste, religion, cuisine,  
culture, festivals, It changes from place to place. As you  
must be aware that India has 28 states and 7  
Union territories. Here you can observe Nature's beauty,  
historical palaces, monuments, beaches etc, and ofcourse  
how can I forget Bollywood and ICC Worldcup 2011.  
I reside in Vadodara (Gujrat), a city known best for its  
culture, greenary, education, fun, food, Ras garba. Here,  
the climate is moderate. Vadodara is also known as  
the 'Banyan city'.