



# VIDYARTHI

AUGUST 2019

THE NEWSLETTER OF VIDYA NIKETAN SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL





## Education

Empty schools, failed schemes  
Exist because we block education with  
Barbed wires of caste, class,  
Privilege and patriarchy.  
The roads that lead here  
Are made up of crooked concepts  
Of what it means for women to be educated.

Education is not a privilege or a prize  
Distributed to girls to give something back.  
It is the only path  
to reasoning and questioning  
And if along the way  
Women change the world a little.  
Thank them.

Policies for women  
Are not immeasurable favours  
That we give them  
Which they must sprint to grab  
But if and when they decide to come  
And take the road  
Let us make it easy for them.

So.....the question is  
Not what happens if women are educated  
But rather.  
How will they be educated?  
How will we break the boundaries?  
How will we repair the roads,  
That lead here?  
How will we correct the damage,  
That is already done?

Recited by Preeti Das  
Class - IX

# A Journey of a 1000 miles begins with a single step

## Deforestation: It's Not Cool At All

At a time when the world is trying to decrease the pace of global warming, deforestation is increasing day by day. Forests are being cleared at a pace hitherto unimagined.

Deforestation can be defined as the process of clearing a forest. But, what is a forest? In layman's terms, a forest is an area that is surrounded by trees. According to the World Wildlife Fund for Nature, our planet loses around 18.7 million acres of forests per year, but I've hardly seen any news related to this shocking fact on our news channels. The year 2016 and 2017 experienced the highest loss of tree cover ever recorded, recoding to a study conducted by the Global Forest Watch. In 2017, the tree cover loss was equal to 72.6 million acres.

Why should we protect the forest?

Forests cover around 31% of the world. The loss of forests is an issue that needs to be addressed quickly as trees are essential for the survival of humans and countless other organisms. The ability of trees to absorb carbon dioxide has made them a valuable ally in our fight against rising temperatures.

Human activities, since the beginning of the Industrial Revolution, have led to our current dilemma. The loss of forests has led to the extinction of many species of animals and has put many others at the risk of extinction.

I've often heard, "How are we going to reduce global warming? Isn't it too late?" Don't become too pessimistic just yet. The answer to this question is rather simple: PLANT TREES! Yes, it's that simple. Over the last couple of decades, we, humans, have taken a number of steps to reduce deforestation and to increase the forest cover around the world. These include the United Nations Framework Convention on climate change, the convention on Biological Diversity, the Convention to Combat Desertification, etc.

Laozi, a famous Chinese philosopher, once said, "A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step." Even the hardest of endeavours start with a single step. Let us take that first step by planting a tree.

**Sreeraj Pillai**  
**Class - XII-A**

“अगर आप आज़ाद है, तो आपको किसी और  
को भी मुक्त करने की आवश्यकता है |  
अगर आप प्रभावशाली है,  
तो आपका कर्तव्य बनता है कि आप किसी और को भी सशक्त बनाए |”

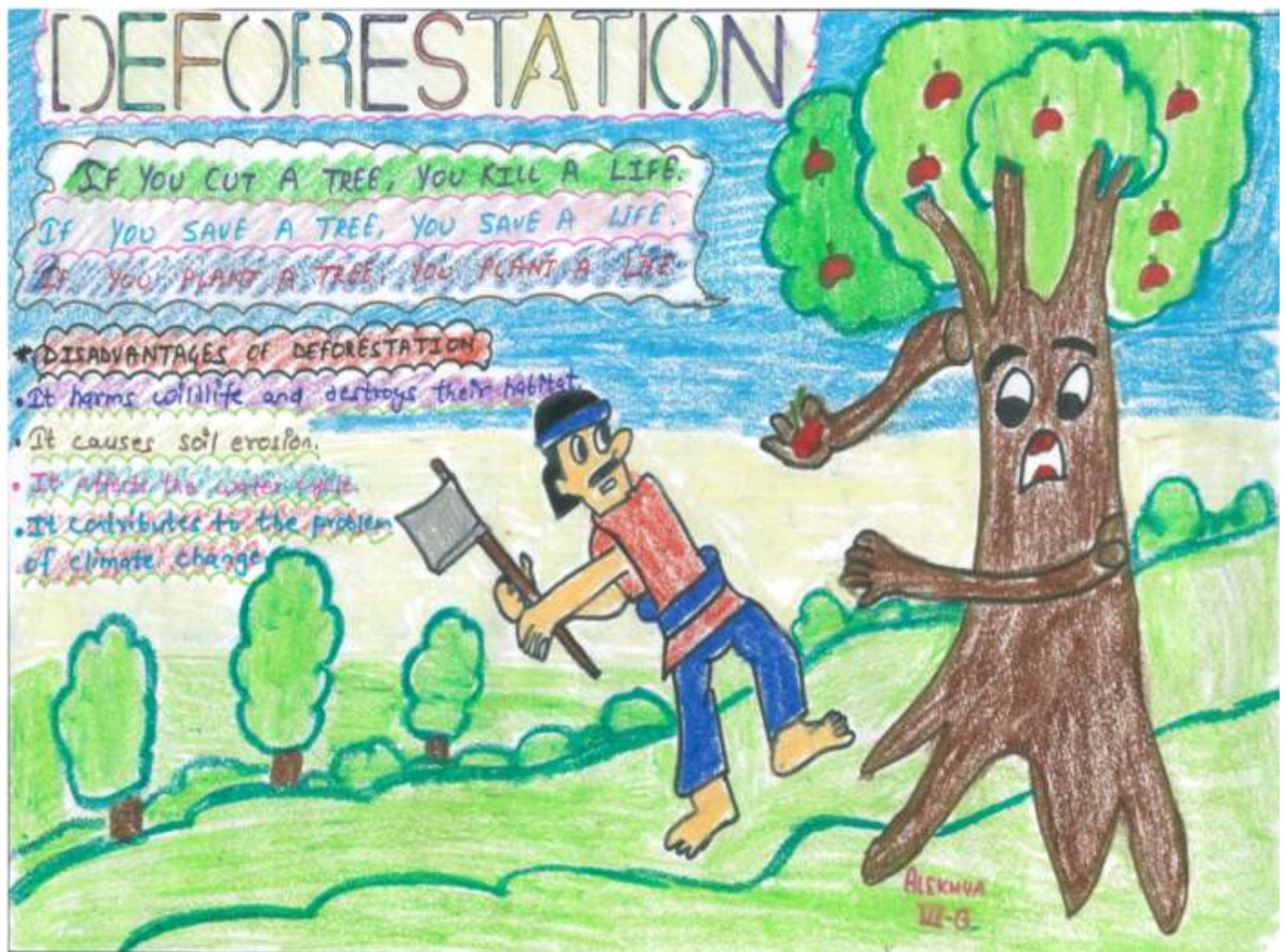
**“If you are free, you need to free somebody else.  
If you have some power,  
your job is to empower somebody else.”**

# The Cry of Mother Earth

Trees are the ones that give us life,  
And we are the ones who destroy that life.  
It takes a few seconds to cut a tree,  
But it takes a million years to grow a tree.  
Our Mother Earth is crying,  
And humans are busy living life.  
Just to satisfy your greed,  
Please do not cut a tree.  
Birds are becoming homeless,  
Because humans are shameless.

**Kritika Bansal**  
Class - XI B

## SO EVERYONE SHOULD PLEDGE TO GROW MORE TREES



**Alekhyia Pillai**  
Class - VI-B

# AMAZON RAINFOREST FIRES



More than 80,000 trees burning in Brazil over the weekend, shows how easily the lack of enforcement of environment laws which are made to protect the **environment**, can cause unimaginable devastation. The farmers and ranchers have used fire to clear land across the Amazon rainforest for a long time. As per environmentalists, the government has encouraged the farmers and ranchers to exploit and burn the rainforest like never before, and this is likely the cause of the crisis in the Amazon which has now lead to a continent-wide calamity.

According to scientists, the Amazon rainforest fire could deliver a huge blow to the global fight against climate change. The fire will not only result in a major loss of trees and biodiversity but also release excess CO2 into the atmosphere. Amazon rainforest, considered to be as the planet's lungs contributes about 20 percent of the earth's oxygen. Fire in the Amazon rainforests will be a serious threat to the environment. The rainforest is currently home to uncountable species of fauna and flora which are at danger of survival now.

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## सफलता की कुंजी (पढ़ना)

हमारी ज़िन्दगी हमारे व्यक्तित्व का आइना होती है. हर एक क्षण, हर एक परिस्थिति हमको एक नया विकल्प देती है | हमें अपने सकारात्मक सोच के लिए जीवन के अनुभवों के साथ-साथ पढ़ना बहुत जरूरी हैं | पढ़ने के लिए हम किताबों, समाचार पत्रों, पत्रिकाओं, कॉमिक बुक एवं आज की आधुनिक युग में इंटरनेट का भी सहारा ले सकते हैं |

अच्छी किताबों को पढ़ने से न केवल अच्छी आदतों का विकास होता हैं, बल्कि स्वाभाविक रूप से हमारे बच्चों के भविष्य के लिए महत्वपूर्ण भी है. पुस्तकें और समाचार पत्रों को पढ़ कर हम मनोरंजन के साथ-साथ ज्ञान भी अर्जित करते हैं | पढ़ने की आदत से हम अपनी शब्दावली को बढ़ा सकते हैं | अच्छे विषयों को पढ़ने से हम दुनिया और समाज के बारे में ज्यादा से ज्यादा जान पाते हैं | जिससे हम अन्य संस्कृतियों के विषय में रुचि विकसित करते हैं | इसलिए हम सभी को प्रतिदिन पढ़ने की आदत को विकसित करना चाहिए |



# Mother Earth Says: I'm Too Young To Die

Global warming is man-made, but we can still save the earth. We have many visions for the future-like cars will fly, technology will be up to the sky. Anyone can go up in space, but if global warming is not controlled, then we should be worrying about how we will live on earth and we will also regret that nothing is going to be same as before.

We can control global warming by reducing pollution, planting more and more trees, saving water, doing carpools, start using or start encouraging solar panels and do recycling. We can try to do this one by one or at least we should try to save our future from the excessive heat.

Remember it is in our hands to save our future. There is much that we can do, with thought, effort and caring.

The earth is warming up, and humans are partially to blame. The causes, effects, and complexities of global warming are important to understand so that we can fight for the health of our planet.

Global warming is the long-term warning of the planet's overall temperature. Though this warning trend has been going on for a long time, its pace has significantly increased in the last hundred years due to the burning of fossil fuels. Fossil fuels include coal, oil, and natural gas, and burning them causes what is known as the “greenhouse effect” in earth's atmosphere.

Global warming has presented another issue called climate change. Sometimes these phrases are used interchangeably. However, they are different. Climate change refers to changes in weather patterns and growing seasons around the world.

It also refers to sea level rise caused by the expansion of warmer seas and melting ice sheets and glaciers. Global warming causes climate change, which poses a serious threat to life on earth in the forms of widespread flooding and extreme weather.

**Hritika, Class - X-B**  
**Mitika Garg, Class - IX-A**

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## Howlers from Class -1

1. Teacher – “Where are your Manners?”  
Student – “Ma'am I don't know where my mummy kept my manners.
2. On learning about monkeys and wild animals in class (especially when teacher told them that man was a monkey in days gone by)  
Shanaya asked – Ma'am where's my tail?
3. Teacher – I know everything about you, even if you don't tell me?  
Students – Are you God??
4. Teacher – Why didn't you do your home-work?  
Student – Ma'am you taught me not to waste paper.
5. Teacher – We should not use plastic bags?  
Students – Ma'am then why do we use plastic bottles?
6. Student – Why do birds have wings and not me?  
Teacher – 😊



PratiBha Rout, Class - XI

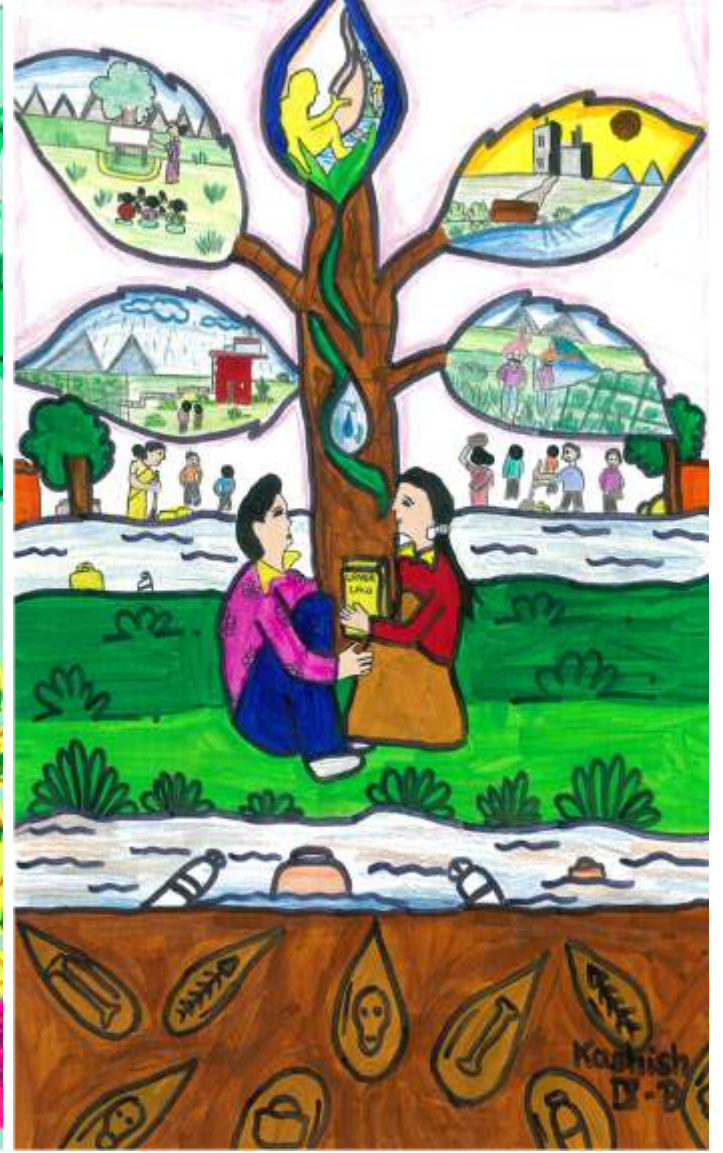


Khushi, Class - VB





Thoughts from, Class - II-B



Kashish, Class – IX B

X-----X-----X

## एक पेड़ की पुकार

मुझे मत काटो  
तुम्हे शुद्ध हवा दी जीने के लिए  
न कुछ माँगा, न कुछ लिया  
फिर भी तुमको सब कुछ दिया  
देकर मुझे कुल्हाड़ी का वार  
मत लो जान मेरी भी वार  
मुझे मत काटो

कड़कड़ाती धूप में भी छाया, मैं देती  
पर न तुमसे मैं पैसे या कुछ लेती

फिर जीने का हक मुझे भी तो है  
पर क्यों मुझे आज तक सभी ने काटा ही है

पेड़ों को काटकर तुम्हे क्या मिलेगा  
उसके बाद न कोई इंसान या जीव रहेगा  
इससे अच्छा मुझे अभी बचालो  
और इस धरती को फिर एकबार  
हरी-भरी बना लो

Rituparna Pahi  
Class – VII B

# Activities for the month of July and August 2019

## Kindergarten

Children made paper bags and decorated them with googly eyes and satin ribbon. This would encourage the use of paper bags instead of plastic.

Children welcomed the rainy season and made things related to rain such as water drops, clouds, rain boots etc.

## Class I to V

Water conservation activity: Jal Shakti Abhiyaan was explained to children. This was followed by free hand drawing, painting competition and quiz.

Children were encouraged to express their ideas in the form of poster making and paragraph writing.

Recitation of poems in both English and Hindi.

Transportation of trees in our daily life was discussed and children penned down their slogans on saving trees.

Workshop Spell-O-Fun: this workshop was conducted by Times of India.

Children enjoyed their favourite movie 'The Lion King' at PVR, Saket.

Children made various tri colour things using different techniques.

Workshop by Nickelodeon: Children learned about traffic rules in the form of quiz and won various prizes.

Swach Bharat activity: Children were encouraged to keep their surrounding clean.

Wing chime making: Children made wind chimes and enjoyed its sweet sound.

X-----X-----X

## Middle/Senior School

### April 2019

On “Freedom Day”, 6th April, the day Vidya Niketan was founded, a special morning assembly was conducted in which the students were told about the importance of Freedom and that Freedom comes with responsibility.

An interactive session/talk was held on the topic “Elections 2019” for the students of classes IX, X and XII.

The students of classes VI, VII and VIII watched documentary series on “Our Planet”.

### May 2019

The students of classes VI, VII and VIII participated in the event “Fun Under the Sun”.

The students of classes IX-XII went for an educational excursion to Dalhousie and Khajjiar.

### July 2019

A talk was conducted on the “Role of Youth” in the present day. Students of classes IX, X and XI participated. This basically focused on the secular nature of our country.

The “Discovery Kids” test was conducted by BYJUs for classes IV-IX. The test was based on General Knowledge and Mental Ability.

Career Counselling session was organized for the students of classes XI and XII. They were introduced to the multiple avenues opened for them to choose as their career option by a very reputed pioneer company “Extra marks” in the field of education.

### August 2019

Harper Collins in association with Nehru Planetarium organized a workshop for the students from classes VI, VII & VIII. Students visited the planetarium.

Association for Democratic Reforms conducted a workshop for the students of classes XI and XII on the topic “Hum badlengapna Bharat”.

## KINDERGARTEN

Earth Day was celebrated on April 22nd. The children were reminded about the harm we have caused the Earth and how we can correct and prevent more damage to it. We can be part of making the Earth a healthier planet.

In the month of July when the children got back from their holidays, they were taught how to use water wisely. "Every drop is important."



# **IMAGINE**

## **(Stray Thoughts of a Student)**

**Would we have such wondrous fun  
without our beloved VidyaNiketan.**

**Would we wake up and lazily smile  
because we'll be with our friends in a while.**

**And then those teachers friendly and wise  
and others too, whom we so prize.**

**They teach us gently to care for all  
the young the old the weak and tall.**

**Some putting us through traditional tasks  
while others thinking out of the box.**

**And in adversity remain calm and cool  
remembering this lesson learnt in school.**

**VNS has our special friends  
who truly comprehend – the million ways to fly.**

**Thus multiply our talents for our future lives.  
So that our world progresses and thrives.**

**X-----X-----X**