

● INTERCOM



CHRIST JAYANTI 2000

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

Here is a special issue of your favourite 'Intercom', in the all important year two thousand, the year of Jubilee celebrating the birth of Christ. Amidst an influx of mixed feelings, we seem to have entered the 'so-called' new millennium (we always thought it would start from 2001)!

The winter-queen (January) plucked a beautiful flower from the Loreto garden, Sister Asha, leaving us all sad and disconsolate. She was the Junior School Headmistress, as well as the 'eye' behind the 'enchanted photographs' of the Junior Section 'Intercom'. Her spirit and soul stay on - ever inspiring.

A school magazine is a commitment to bring together the concept of the written word and its interplay with visuals during the nurturing stage of a child's life. The 'Intercom' brings home to the child, the potency and power of a medium without any parallel. It interacts with every member of the Loreto Family and establishes a pleasant network of inter-communication, setting in motion a revolution of hopes and dreams that propel us into the 21st century - heart, mind and spirit. Above all, it nurtures a dream of excellence, inspired by the steady ideals and vision of the guiding force at the helm of affairs. Throughout the magazine emphasis is laid on highlighting the role of schooling in human development. The 'Intercom' thus, is an extended arm of the Loreto family that believes in 'reaching out'.

As change, reform and radicalism mark the curve in time, 'dialogue with our own soul' becomes imperative. With India emerging as a major info-tech power, we do join this fast paced progress, but it is a caring heart that needs to run the cyber show. Technology would be worthwhile only if it would help to wipe the tear in every eye. Today's student will be tomorrow's citizen. As our young minds fashion fantasies for the future, it has been our humble effort to capture their thoughts for this issue. It has been a labour of love and we hope you enjoy reading it as much as we enjoyed putting it together for you.

We wish to thank Sister Anne Marie for her inspiration and valuable guidance. We also thank the teachers and students for their spontaneous participation and contribution.



Romil Parashar



Ramnika Sabharwal



Aditi Dimri



Megha Khanduja



Priyanka Verma



Anshika Tandon



Parushni Aggarwal



Aanchal Krishna



Shreya Banerjee



Preeti Chopra



Saumya Sibal



Aditi Shrivastava



Dolly Kapoor



Mrs. Shashee
Banerjee



Mrs. Neelam
Anand



Mrs. Meera
Chandra

A word from the Principal



Dear Friends,

The long awaited "Millennium" is here.

A very happy and peace filled one to each of you.

This message carries with it a blessing for life is transitory and we are all pilgrims on its journey. The staff we need is love for "love is always building up. It puts some line of beauty on every life it touches. It gives new hope to discouraged ones, new strength to those who are weak, new joys to those who are sorrowing. It makes life seem more worth while to everyone into whose eyes it looks".

I do believe that what is worthwhile in life is neither achievement, nor power, nor wealth.....these are left behind as life moves on and ends. What does count then is to be open to what life brings and to let God's love be effective in and through us. Every person's contribution to life is special and unique. May ours be tinged with love.

Sister Anne Marie.

IN MEMORY OF SISTER ASHA



In memorium

*When a dear one dies
Or when a good friend passes away
A friend who was a special blessing,
Her life so meaningful and giving,
It leaves a gap in life, that's wide and deep,
a gap that you are conscious of with every passing day,
But it is the gap that makes the pattern in the lace.
Her passing away, making patterns in the lace of life
the sudden break in continuity,
a blank, an empty space
That make the strange design of destiny.*

Mrs. P. Gauta



A Tribute to Sr. Asha - 23/1/2000

Introduction

Our dear Sr. Asha knew the way to make each day seem more worthwhile. She seemed to catch the sunshine and then wear it in her smile. She really took an interest in all the little things we did. She would always share in our problems and see us through them. There never seemed a moment when she wasn't there for us. We would suddenly hear her peal of laughter or see her head popping into the staff room where she would join us and regale us with anecdotes, recipes and jokes. She was always around clicking away with her camera at all events like children's Day, our picnics and other day to day activities that broadened our knowledge and helped us appreciate each other. 'Not life - but a good life is to be chiefly valued'. Thank you Sr. Asha for being such a special part of our lives - in being such a generous girl - in sharing your knowledge of herbal remedies, your skills in needlework and pottery, your creativity and your humour. You have given us much happiness, so many reasons to be proud - thank you for sharing your thoughts and feelings with us and being one with our joys and sorrows too.

Thank you Sister for being you - the example whom I must copy - the friend who was always there, the teacher who forgave us and made us to live well.

Junior School St

LORETO CONVENT - 1999-2000

*'Education is an all round drawing out of the best in the
child and man - body, mind and spirit'.
- Gandhi ji*



Mrs. Renu Singh
Co-ordinator
Sr. Secondary School



Mrs. M. Roy
Co-ordinator
Secondary School



Mrs. Meera Chandra
Co-ordinator
Junior School



Christina Fernandes
Head Girl



Christine Almeida
Vice Head Girl



Pooja Marwah
Asst. Head Girl



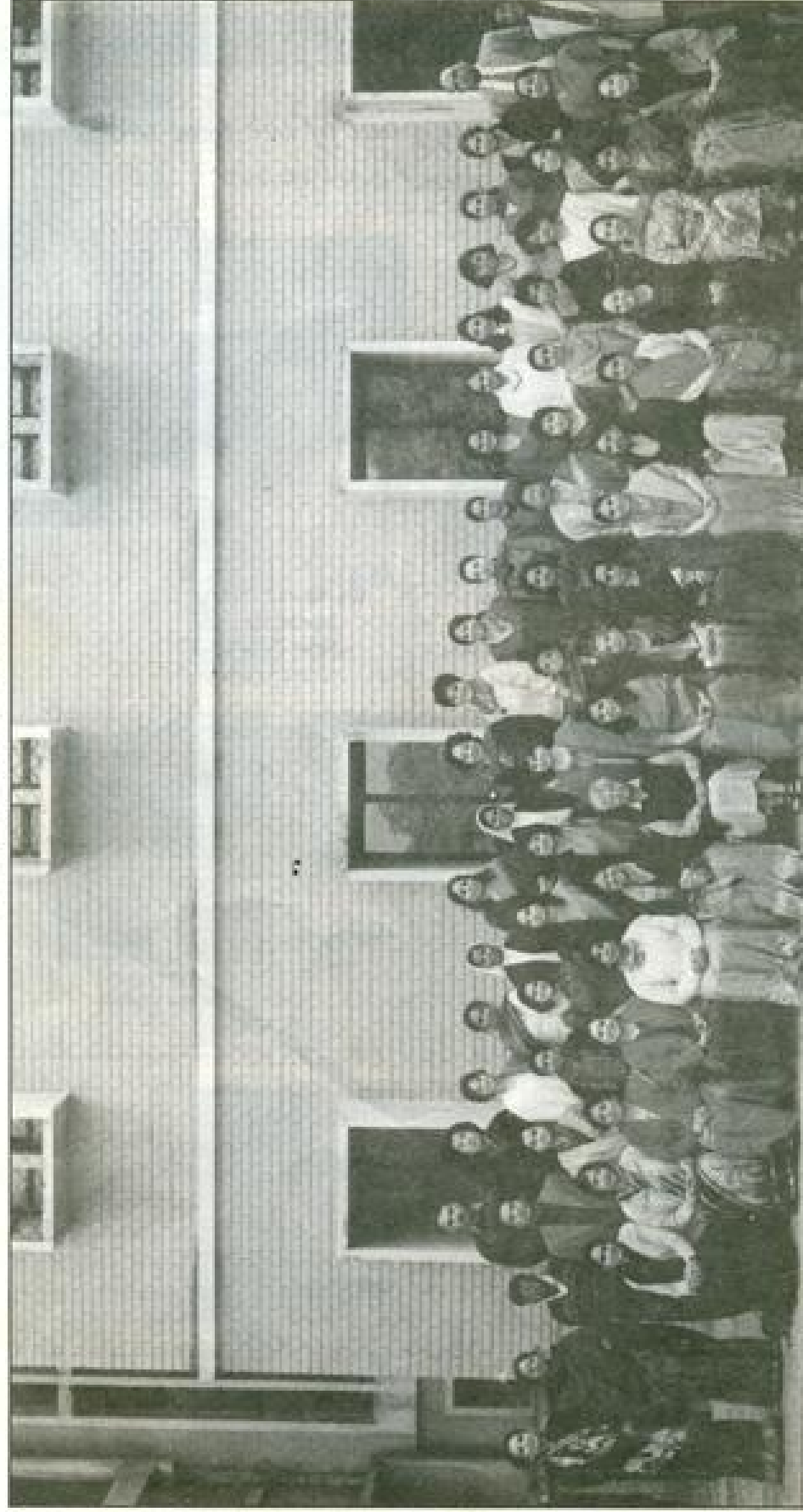
Jasmine Sikand
Games Captain

PRINCIPAL WITH HER OFFICE STAFF



L to R : Mr. Sandeep, Mrs. A. Chowdhary, Sister Anne Marie, Mr. M. Pinto, Mr. Joseph, Mrs. Louisa Mitra

THE STAFF



Sitting - L to R :

Mrs. A. Thakur, Mrs. C. Subramaniam, Mrs. M. Alimchandani, Mrs. M. Chandra, Mrs. S. Armstrong, Mrs. M. Vaish, Sr. Anne Marie, Mrs. R. Singh, Mrs. M. Kumar, Mrs. I. Saini, Mrs. S. Ahluwalia, Mrs. B. Sugathan, Mrs. U. Stanley, Mrs. K. Vashisht, Mrs. R. Khanduja, Mrs. J. Gill, Mrs. R. Dewan, Mrs. V. Chatterjee, Mrs. C. Cheelus, Mr. Minhas, Mr. V. Chand, Mrs. S. Banerjee, Mrs. I. Russel, Mrs. M. Roy, Mrs. V. Grover, Mrs. M. Bhimwal, Mrs. I. Shastri, Mrs. K. Sharma, Mrs. Kadam, Mrs. M. Ghoshal, Mrs. A. Edmonds, Mrs. P. Gautam, Mrs. J. Dey, Mrs. A. Davies, Mrs. M. Bath, Mrs. N. Anand, Mr. R. Henry.

Standing 1st Row L to R :

Standing 2nd Row L to R :

Mr. M. Bandhu, Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. C. Casso, Mrs. M. Vardharajan, Sr. Jyoti, Mrs. S. Aggarwal, Sr. Mercy, Mrs. P. Mohindra, Mrs. O. Singh, Mrs. R. Ranjan, Mrs. P. Tandon, Mrs. A. Kavin Kop, Mrs. P. Vizayam, Mrs. P. Tyagi, Mrs. N. Abraham, Mrs. R. Bhatnagar, Mrs. S. Andrews, Mrs. S. Chopra, Mr. M. Pinto.

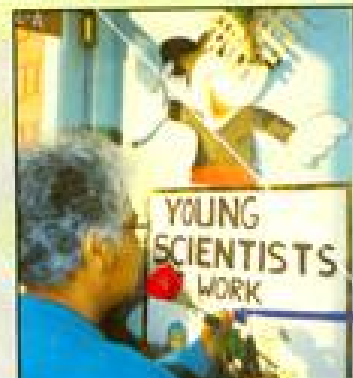
MILESTONES..... IN L.C.



An Instant Arrested in Eternity



Science Exhibition



Millennium Pond



L'COA - Loreto Convent old students Association



L'COA

is the brain child of our present Principal respected sister Anne Marie, without whose active support and help this would have only been a dream. The generous assistance of our teachers has also provided the sapling of our thought a strong base to grow.



The Year That Was



Investiture Ceremony '99-2000



Each One Teach One



Reaching Out- Jeewan Rekha



Message Through Nukkad Natak



Environmental Awareness

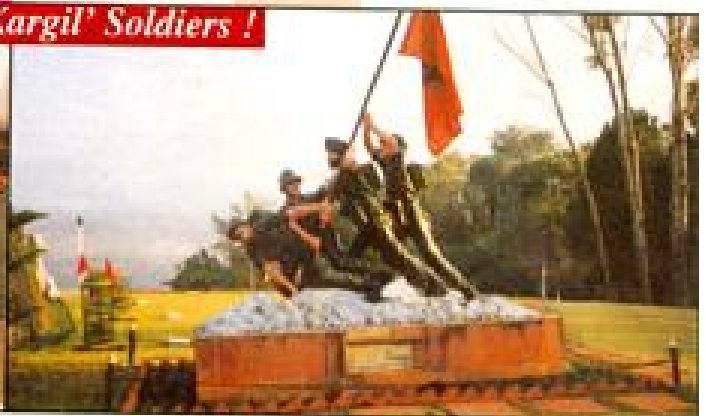


Work Is Worship



Art & Craft Exhibition

Saluting the 'Kargil' Soldiers !



Nature Nurtures



Receive that you may give

READER'S Chest

I am an avid reader, and during this summer, I have read many engrossing books. I feel they would interest some of you out there, who love to curl on a couch each evening after finishing your daily chores. Reading is a habit one develops according to ones surroundings. No one can force you to read. You yourself have to take interest. Reading improves vocabulary, spellings and above all you start taking interest in issues around you, which further widen your horizons. So, start reading today because you may regret having ignored books, tomorrow.

NON-FICTION

Histories

'Before Their Time' by Robert Kottowitz

The novelist uses his narrative skill to share his personnel combat experiences as a teenager stationed in Northern France during W.W.II. One of the just three survivors in his platoon, Kottowitz recounts the stories of his comrades, as well, rescuing them from the dustbin of history.

'We Interrupt This Broadcast' by Joe Garner

Relive the events that stopped our lives.....From Hidenburg to the death of Princess Diana.

'Centenarians' by Bernard Edelman

The story of the 20th century by the Americans

'The Footnote : A Curious History' by Anthony Grafton

In this engrossing account, footnotes to history give way to footnotes as history, recounting in their subtle way the curious story of knowledge in written form.

'A Short History of the Printed Word' by Warren Chappell and Robert Bringhurst

This classic volume should find its way on every design student's shelf.

FICTION

Mystery/Thriller/Suspense

'High Fives' by Janet Evanouch

So, what exactly is Stephanie Plum cooking up in her fifth New Jersey romp, High Five?

Her Uncle disappears and they think he's kidnapped until she finds body parts in his drawer.

'The Cold Truth' by Jonathan Stone

'The Cold Truth' is one of those few novels that comes along occasionally and redefined genre. In a time where every new thriller seems to rely on gimmicks, high concepts are out of this world scenario, this is a no nonsense plain good read.

'The Midnight Bumer' by James Patterson

"Guaranteed: you'll devour this yam-bumer in one sitting."

'Freedomland' by Richard Price.

Interesting story that makes you want to find out the truth behind the lies.

'Tell Me Your Dreams' by Sidney Sheldon

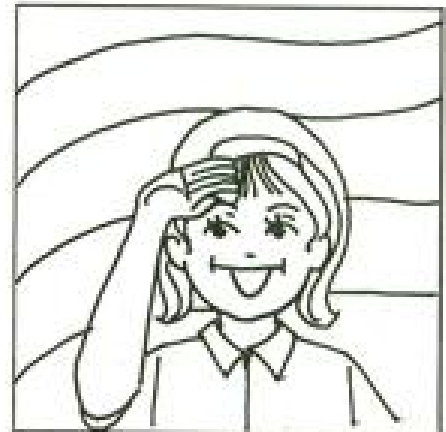
Do you dream about stalkers? Do you feel their presence when you walk or travel? Then this is a must read book.

'Cinco Dias En Paris' by Danielle Steele

The captivating love story that grabs you. Reviews say it's outstanding and accurate.

The Class by Erich Segal

Five members of a fictional Harvard class are traced through twenty-five tumultuous years, culminating in a dramatic reunion which they confront their classmates and their lives.



Give

Give your friend

- Your heart.

Give your enemy

- Forgiveness.

Give your opponent

- Tolerance.

Give your followers

- A good example.

Give your country

- Patriotism.

Preeti Solanki, VII B

Receive that You May Give

Loreto Convent was awarded 1st Prize for Inter school Bible Skit competition held on 2nd Feb in Holy Child School. The following girls took part :

CLASS VI

Sheena

Nancy

CLASS VII

Vinita

Aradhana

Muriya

Janet

Sharon

CLASS VIII

Betsy

Jaya

Tanya

Kanika

Soumya

Mary

Preeti

Kriti

Kara

CLASS IX

Carolyn

Sharon

Ishita

Catherine

Ritika

Message

: We have to change the hearts of men if we want to build a new world. It is not possible to build new & better structures if the hearts of the builders do not become new and better.

Theme

: The kingdom of heaven is near.

Does a person gain anything if he wins the whole world but loses his self?

Do your best and God will help



Towards..... ever widening horizons

Class VII's have been given the opportunity to participate in the NIE, pioneered by The Times of India, which is an opportunity to widen our horizons.

We are guided by Mother Teresa's words "We cannot do great things, only small things with great love". An exciting array of educational events have made learning a very pleasant experience indeed. The class VII teachers have been very helpful in making us understand and positively participate in the various workshops and seminars. We thank our principal for this enlightening interaction with 'Newspaper in Education'.

Shrila Banerjee, VII A

'I have promises to keep, And miles to go before I sleep.....'

As we are on the turn of the 'New Millennium' each one of us have promises to keep and have a rather uphill task to help India achieve 100% literacy.

This year the class XI's took upon themselves to educate atleast one person each from the Jharera Village. Our S.U.P.W. teachers were more than willing to render their help and support to us. At the end of this year we had hundred old people who had acquired some knowledge.

If each one of us takes it as a duty to educate people around them, it would be a giant leap towards the goal of achieving 100% literacy all over the country.

Romil Parashar, XI B

Yours For A Day

How does it feel when you have to handle all the work at your house, when you don't know the ABC of household chores. Well I underwent the same thing during the winter holidays. During the first few days my mom was seriously ill & the doctor had told her to take complete bed rest. Now, obviously I had to do all the work. Wouldn't even dream to ask mom to do it.

To begin with I had to get up at 7 O'clock in the morning, brush my teeth & get to work. First of all I had to make tea for my parents. Imagine, that the person who didn't even know how to light the gas was making tea. After serving tea I had to make every one's bed. Then after coming down I had to do the most awful job of my life. Empty the trash cans, I don't know how I did such a disgusting job. Then I used to take a bath & again go down to serve breakfast. Now it was the kitchen's turn, I had to prepare breakfast, lay the table, serve father, and then I had to clean the table & wash the utensils. After a few days I got so tired that I decided to go to mom's kindergarden school. I had a lot of fun there. I came to know so much about kids. When I came home I was awfully tired, I had my lunch & went off to sleep.

After a few days mom recovered from her illness. But now things are different. I do all my work. After this experience I felt sort of guilty. I came to know how much I could have always helped.

'Better late than never'.

Anshika Tondon

L.T.S. REPORT 1999-2000

L.T.S. Loreto Delhi has truly enjoyed an eventful year. Mrs. Chatterjee our erstwhile sole, friend, philosopher and guide was joined by Mrs. Bhatnagar, an ex-Loretoite and an active L.T.Ser.

New L.T.S. member of class IX introduced themselves and were briefed about the objectives of L.T.S. - Leadership Training Service.

One of the major project undertaken by us was 'Say no to Crackers'. Members enthusiastically tried to out do each other in the drive to enlist more and more people, aware of their duties as responsible citizens to pledge in making this Diwali a pollution free one.

Another project was the 'milk collection drive' to collect milk powder tins to be dispatched to the cyclone affected people of Orissa. This task too was undertaken with great verve and gusto.

One the anvil remains the project to dispatch items of everyday collected for the old people's home.

The curtain came down for the year by a poignant farewell for the out going class XII members. They expressed what they had gained from the L.T.S. and symbolically passed on their responsibilities to their juniors in the form of lit candles. The event was blessed by Sister Anne Marie.

Truly, the L.T.S. aims to help each girl develop into a thinking and caring human being, capable of selfless thoughts and actions.

**Anila Chopra
L.T.S. Correspondent**

Japan is a small country in the Eastern part of Asia. Situated in the lap of the Pacific ocean. It is a land of great beauty, owing to its natural glimpse of the rising sun and architectural designs of temples and towers. Tokyo is the capital city of Japan. This land is famous for its faith in Buddhism, most of the Japanese are Buddhists and are well known for their great Aesthetic sense.

I had to pinch myself to make sure that I was not dreaming. It was a real surprise for me that I had been chosen to go to Japan to receive a medal and a certificate from the Crown Prince of Japan for the essay I had written. But later I got over the shock. According to the actual plan we had to go on the 3rd of Aug., but since we did not get the tickets for the third we had to go on the 1st of Aug. After we reached Japan (Tokyo) safely with our chaperone Mr. Shaleen Sharma our guide took us to the hotel Akosaka Yoko Hotel. After our lunch and a short nap, We first went around to take a walk and to get a bit familiar with the surrounding area. Then we came back and after supper went to bed.

The next day we went to a big shopping complex to buy a few gifts for dear ones. The Thai girls also went with us. On the third day almost all members of CHILDREN OF THE EARTH'S CLUB had come (all the awardees). The same night we had a dinner party. It was a great party but I was a little sad as Ishita had some problem with her camera & she looked as if she would just burst out crying. But later on it was discovered that she had put the batteries the wrong way and later on we were in splits of laughter.

Next day we visited the Buddhist temple. It is a very beautiful place of worship and one can enter only after washing ones hands with the Holy water outside. It has huge lamps which are as big as a full length mirror. Then we went to the Tokyo Tower from where the whole of Tokyo is visible.

At last the great day arrived, we were hardly able to stand still for a moment. After we reached the main room, we practiced how to receive the award. Then we had lunch and went to the cloak room to change. After an hour or so we went to the main room and eagerly waited for the medals and certificates. Each one had to go on to the stage, bow to the Prince, receive their prize and come back. After the Award Ceremony there was a session of speeches by all the children on how to save our planet followed by a tea party. Soon it all ended and we went back to Akasaka, then to our hotel.

The next morning we went to Tokyo Disneyland. We had a lot of fun there on the roller-coasters, space mountains. In Donald's Wack World. We took photographs with many of the cartoons also. Then we saw the walking carnival with all our favourite cartoon characters dancing to various tunes of music. At last tired enough to sleep on the road we quickly went back to our hotel and threw ourselves on the beds and fell fast asleep. Next day we went to watch a movie. It was an excellent one, about space and Earth residents. Then we had supper in an Indian 'DUKAN' and then rushed for our hotel as the next morning we were leaving. Next morning with a heavy heart we left our room and went to the airport. Finally we reached India. But there is one thing I brought along, I have developed a Japanese accent and don't know how to get rid of it.

Swati Ramaswamy, VIII C



I landed in Leh from Delhi with 'World - Cup fever', totally ignorant of the mounting tensions at the front. My mother, sister and I were to join my father, (who was posted there) for the summer vacations. The sights of Leh are truly a healing sight for sore eye-row upon row of poplar trees, the majestic Indus serpent-like winding through the valley, a varied collection of cattle - Kayaks, Billy goats and Jersey cows, a smiling peaceful people and green fields. For the first two weeks that we were there we had no idea where my father was as the communication lines had been shelled; he was at the front was all we knew.

After a long tense wait my father returned excited, yet wiser from the horrors of war. He had been deployed at Ma-tyang, a few kilometers from Drass to set-up the Logistic Support Unit. They were one of the base - camps for the troops fighting in the Drass sector. Rations, ammunition & clothing was their main department. The wounded were flown in and operated upon at times then and there, just like M'A'S'H but this was real life and the cries of human agony were filled with real pain.

After we left, my father was sent to command the Logistic Support unit in the Batalik sector. Most of us cannot identify with war, but scores of children and young people of our age have died in bomb blasts and militant shoot-outs. Imagine you could have been in their place too. 'A war does not decide who is right, but who is left' - I can understand this better now !

Taniya Kaur
IX A

AT THE THRESHOLD OF A NEW MILLENNIUM

*(Recipient of the Children of the
Earth Club award)*

As we stand at the threshold of a new millennium it is about time we stop destroying our mother earth & help in saving & beautifying it by planting more trees & conserving nature.

Polybags are one of the major hindrances in the path of saving our planet. Polybags are non-biodegradable, thus they cannot be destroyed & if burnt they produce toxic gases. Hence they cause various kinds of pollution. Many people are not aware of the fact that polybags are hazardous not only to us, but also to the environment. And among the people who are aware of the evil effects of polybags many of them continue to use it in their daily lives.

Another major problem faced by us these days is Deforestation. A major cause of deforestation is over population. Because of over population, there is lack of space to build houses & to provide homes to the homeless, trees are being cut thoughtlessly. Another cause of this felling of trees is that in some of the rural places, people use wood as fuel instead of L.P.G. I am not saying that cutting of trees should be banned, but the least we could do, is that we plant two trees if we cut one.

We ourselves are wreaking this havoc. It is because of our own ignorance that we are suffering. For example, if we do not waste electricity & water, then we might not have to face power cuts & shortage of water so often.

These days general awareness is being spread among the common man. Why go too far ? In our own country, polybags have been banned in some states. Nowadays, schools too are playing an important part in spreading awareness e.g. in my school we have a committee called the JPIC which stands for Justice, Peace & Integrity of all Creations. In this committee we have done campaigns against fire crackers, usage of polybags, cruelty to animals etc. In many other schools too they have committees like the JPIC which help in protecting our planet. And I am very glad to say that we, the students, have been quite effective in spreading awareness.

I, in my own little way am contributing towards helping save our planet. As somebody truly said "Charity begins at home", so, I make sure that whenever some one leaves a room he switches off all the electrical gadgets, the taps are properly turned off & as far as possible, avoid the use of polybags.

I, with all my heart & soul wish very sincerely that each person understands that "mother nature can take care of everybody's needs, but not everybody's greeds" and becomes aware of the problems faced by our earth & helps in saving it. If each and every person works towards saving our mother earth then, I am sure that we will have a cleaner, greener and pollution free earth very soon.

Ishita Russell, IX B

Achievers of today

How you use today will determine how
tomorrow uses you,
A lot of work we have to do,
So why not start it today because where
there is a will there is a way.

From this growing world there is a lot to
learn,
You cannot waste time in having fun.
Quickly finish your work,
But when it is going on, never give up.

If every time we leave our work for
tomorrow,
One day we will be in great sorrow.
We must play our role to achieve our goal
We cannot afford to have just fun,
Because the whole world is on the run.

What is going on no one will tell you about
Otherwise their time will run out.
In our work we shouldn't be slow
With the speed of the world we should go.

Serena Walla
VII B





Sportsman's Spirit

Sports - a word which is very common to every school going child. It is an activity especially an outdoor one which gives a lot of lift-both physical and mental to the one who is involved with it. Along with sports the essence of Sportsman's spirit while playing is something we all learn from our childhood. "So what if you loose." "There's always a next time". "Learn from your defeat." "Take it as a challenge." and so on and so forth.

Do all these phrases get distorted as we grow old or they were never imbibed correctly? That exactly is the picture one gets- learning about the fixing of matches, taking in of steroids by the athletes and various other malpractices. Is this what is known as a cut throat competition?

Winning the competition and striving for the top is only human but it becomes in human when beastly tendencies overpower the players.

That is when the horse trading which fills the pockets of a handful of opportunists takes over. Running a person down, stepping on him and climbing the ladder seems to be the modus operandi.

Let all of us treat sports in the true sense of the word and try giving our best to it. The rest will automatically follow. Let us not make malpractices our duty and be a true sportsperson in the sports arena; in fact throughout our life in all the arena of our activities. If we have to win let us win over our own weaknesses, if there is a competition let it be with the self.

Mrs. Alimchandani

You Win Some.....You Lose Some

The Annual Mary Ward basketball tournament 2000 was a success with teams participating various Delhi schools. The Tournament was held from the 27th of January 2000 to 31st of January 2000. It was played on the new court dedicated to Mary Ward. Our joundress Coca-Cola, Nathu Sweets and LCOSA (Loreto Convent Old Students Association) sponsored it. In Pool A, Loreto beat Modern B. K. to reach the finals and in pool B Manav Sthali beat C.J.M. to play the finals. The final match was a series of ups and downs in which Manav Sthali Emerged the winner and also took the player of the tournament which was awarded to Mahima S. "I just wasn't expecting this". She quoted with an excited happy look on her face.

The Loreto team played well under the magnificent captaincy of Mahima Dua. She never gives up until the very end and has never let us down. We have achieved several successful victories under her. She inculcates a sense of oneness amongst all of us and keeps our fighting spirit alive throughout the game. We also bid farewell to the ever - energetic Simone Bealle who as everyone knows is a very consistent player. Her contributions are immense and will always be remembered. But most important of all the credit goes to Mr. Minhas for his inspirational motivation and training due to which all players are specialised in different aspects of the game and yet are experienced over all. He is the force behind all skills seen on the court but everything cannot be in our Favour You win some. You Lose Some.

Priyanka Verma, IX C

THE DAY HAS COME

When will that pleasant day come?
When no one will be troublesome really.

Why should we sit and only criticize?
Now the time has come when we should realize.

That we too have to come ahead.
And not keep sitting like a muddle head.

We have to be the leaders of ourselves.
So that India can be proud of herself.

Forget what others have to do.
And do your duty as you should do.

Then you'll see there's nothing to criticize
And about your duty, you will realize.

So do not wait for that day.
Start working on it from today.

Soon the pleasant day will come.
When no one will be troublesome.



Shradha Purohit
VIII C

Third Woodstock Invitational BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

The entire world today is trying to equip the feminine gender with a special power to tide over generations of oppression, and here it was for us. The team as we set out to play for our school with the checkered spherical world held in our hands lofting it high up; to achieve our goals, to put the freedom of our souls into action, the freedom we have to strive for the very best. We were armed with zest and enthusiasm as we boarded the Shatabadi Express on the 15th of April '99 at 7.10 a.m. and our spirits rose high as we approached our destination - Woodstock School, Mussorie. A hill station is very scenic. The deep valleys and mountains which stretch endlessly leave one wondering about the enchanting views of nature.

The school itself was like a small town. The campus was scattered on different mountains and it took us quite some time getting used to the walking around. Delhiites hardly walk I guess! The atmosphere was electric due to upcoming school activity, which built an excitement among all of us. It was like entering another world. A world where you are responsible for what you do and become. The staff and the students were very friendly and caring. They made sure we were all comfortable. It gave us an insight into hostel life which itself is a unique experience.

The 15th of April was spent loafing around the school, admiring the campus and adjusting to our dorm called midlands. At night we had a practice session and then snuggled into our warm beds with our minds full of all the new things we had learnt in just several hours of being there. We slept soundly wondering what the next day had in store for us. Victory was we aimed for.

CBSE Interschool Basketball Tournament

We all sat in the Loreto bus on a pleasant Tuesday morning on the 5th October '99 feeling excited, determined and moreover, 'one'. It was time to prove ourselves as a team and come together as 'one' as we played our first match in the CBSE North Zone Cluster X basketball tournament '99. Loreto played its first match with zest and fought its way to an easy one-sided victory of 26-0 against St. Thomas. This comfortable victory gave Loreto the extra boost to play with steel grit its second match against Ramjas which ended as a repetition of the previous match giving Loreto a prominent 21-0. The third victory against Chinmaya with a 20-1 glory was another consecutive win for Loreto but with Manav Sthali, our game faltered and we lost a shameful 27-17 in the semi-finals handicapping our entry into the finals. Though Loreto lost the semi-finals it still had the opportunity to play for the bronze medal. We played a tough, skillful match against Springdales which consisted of a mixture of emotions and gave Loreto a thirst-quenching, jubilant victory of 31-29. This match displayed all the qualities we had developed over the years of experience in this game. Patience, quick thinking, team spirit, skill and will power were all displayed in this game. These forty minutes were filled with anxiety, concern and hope and ended with a feeling of satisfaction, a feeling that stated ours was a game of substance, and Loreto was officially declared the third best team of Delhi being awarded the bronze!

Priyanka Verma IX C
Sonika Malhotra, XII B

Next day, it was rise and shine at 6:00 a.m., as the early bird gets the worm. Our first match gave us an easy victory and entry into the semi-finals against Wynberg Allen. The day followed with other matches, victory for other teams and disappointment for some, it was fun watching all of them. Human emotions in victory and defeat are education themselves.

On 17th of April '99 semi-finals which against Woodstock showed the L.C. team roaring to give its very best and nothing less. And we did. But we lost. Leaving our mark of not giving up till the last. Woodstock bagged the trophy in the girls' section and in the boys' section Indian Military Academy took the prize. Later in the night we attended a breathtaking musical recital and a dance that really got us swinging.

On 18th April '99 we said our farewells and thank you's as we left for Dehradun to catch our train back to Delhi Railway station but the memories of the school, staff, students and their smiling faces will always be remembered. Overall to describe this trip in

words is impossible but it was fantastic. taught us a great deal about independence and how to utilize it correctly in the right measure. There was a moment of sadness when Natasha got a cast on her leg as missed out on all the fun but there are ups and downs in life and we have to accept them.

"We all reached out for the stars but received a mere handful of dust, but we must remember the dust lying sparkling in our hands is stardust".

How each one of us felt about the trip:

MR. MINHAS

I feel it was a great experience for all of us. The team showed great enthusiasm and performed better than ever. It was a unforgettable experience and we should frequent them. The girls behaved well and maintained the dignity of the school.

MRS. AGGARWAL

It was a good experience. The environment at Woodstock was totally different. We all got to see how a hostel works.

JASMINE KAUR

This trip was great as it promoted team spirit and oneness among us. I want to thank Mr. Minhas, Mrs. Aggarwal, and Mr. Mark heartily.

SIMONE BEALE

The trip improved our game a lot. It taught us not to give up easily and fight. I thank the organiser Mr. Mark and my Principal for giving us the opportunity.

SONIA MALHOTRA

I learnt from this trip the ultimate lesson of sportsmanship and friendship. I than Mr. Mark and Mr. Jeffery and all students at Woodstock who made us feel at home. I also sincerely thank Mr. Minhas and Mrs. Aggarwal.

PRIYANKA SETHI

This trip was a great exposure for all of us. We learnt how people from different parts of the world come and live together.

BHAWNA MALHOTRA

It helped us to socialize with a lot of people, which helped us to learn a lot about them. We made lots of new friends.

NATASHA SINGH

It was a wonderful experience, they took a lot of care, and we enjoyed playing with them, made a lot of new friends and hope to go there again.

KANKA MAHINDRA

It improved our teamwork and coordination and of course our game as a whole. I learnt many new things. I profoundly thank Mr. Mark, Mr. Minhas and Mrs. Aggarwal. I wish the L.C. basketball team all the best for successful trips and victories in the future!

Priyanka Verma

IX C

A STEP.....A LEAP.....A JUMP

*"Winners don't do different things.
They do things differently".*

The idea of basketball is simple-to put the ball in the opponents basket. However, actually this game requires a high sense of technicality, which includes physical as well as mental skills. Physical because you need energy to move since this is a game of action and mental because we need to be tough and aggressive in our minds to face our opponents. Here at Loreto we have a successful team for which we can thank Mr. Minhas. When we think of our school basketball team the first few expressions that we get are talent, determination and luck, but do we know what is happening behind the scenes. It may all seem so easy to go play on the court, win certificates and trophies, having names printed in the newspaper and occasional appearances on television. Though maybe only a handful of us are aware of the hard work and long hours of regular practice they put in. It is practice which makes them perfect on and off court. Here's an insight to their practice session - getting up early in the morning is no joke especially in winters when it's freezing. The session starts with players warming up through 10 minutes of jogging and various stretching exercises. The lay up shots follow, which are technically reasoned to get you closer to the ring. In this the higher you jump the closer you are. It is followed by the set shots, which are taken by all players around the ring capturing all angles, the power for this shot comes from the legs. We then practice drills to improve rotation, passing, cutting, defence and shooting. The idea is to cover all aspects of the game and to master the basic essentials of basketball. Drills are important since they emphasize on over all development of the game and involve simple and complicated skills that improve your game. Then the attention is driven towards individual skills i.e. improving your personal talents for the benefit of the team and the game. Although basketball is dependent on the teamwork of all players, a player can only perform well in a team if she is skilled at the individual level as well. These skills include everything from improving your defence to even basic things such as dribbling for better ball control. The session ends with a few warm up exercises after which we are dismissed. This strenuous hour of training, practicing and playing helps us to build our body stamina and regulate our habits.

"Whenever you are praying love yourself for doing it.

Whenever you are playing put your best into it."

This practice gives us that extra bounce of energy to go through the day with determination and we all look forward to practice because there is always room for improvement. The team you see playing is not just a month's making but the building of a dream which has taken two years. This would not have possible if it hadn't been for our Coach Mr. Vikram Minhas. We all are today due to his patient training in which he has put his best to make a team taking 'a step.....a leap.....a jump' and coming out with the best of its kind. It is this training which has given us a positive attitude. The swiftness of this game is the biggest reason for its popularity. Basketball demands and develops a high degree of muscular coordination and skill. Speed of foot, good vision and agility are also necessary. Let's move forward decisively in the new millennium as a team and give this game our very best as this game has always given us.

Priyanka Verma. IX C

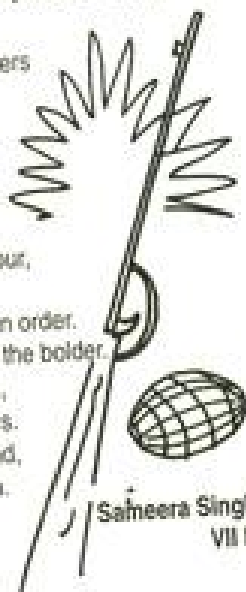
Brave Soldiers

O brave soldiers of the nation,
You are fighting for this generation.
To save our skin you have
Left your kith and kin.
One shudders to think
What you have endured
We salute you 'sons
of a great nation!'

Harpreet Kaur, VI A

When the fight was on.....

When the fight was on
Only few used to think for the soldiers
who forever have gone.
We feel so nice the battle is over
and we are secure,
But for this war there is no cure.
It's a shame on humanity.
We shook hands with our neighbour,
And in return they betrayed us.
The soldiers had to fight, it was an order.
And now everything is fine along the border.
Think and pray for the dear ones,
Of those who laid down their lives.
This is not the time to hide behind,
Step out and show your concern.



Samheera Singh
VII B

Our Brave Soldiers

The soldiers fighting at Kargil
Are strong and brave enough
To face the Pakistanis
With a life very tough

They lived in the bunkers
Laid on the hills
Away from their families
Even in the chill

Their operation Vijay
Was sure to succeed
Because of our Good Luck
And the soldier's brave deeds.

Tanu Priya Sharma
VI A



Life on the Line of Fire

'From the ashes of the dead rise the tales of India's heroes'. Struggling to Cope, their grieving but proud families impart India with some pride

They see their families in their dreams. Nevertheless, the call of duty is far greater. That's the reason the soldiers of the Indian Army from around the country are more than ready to give their lives fighting the infiltrators in the rocky mountains of Drass, Kargil and Batalik regions in Jammu and Kashmir. They eat simple dal and rice and at times even that is not available - and melt snow to quench their thirst. They sleep on rocks or packed snow under the open sky, climb steep treacherous slopes, negotiate tortuous passages where two people can't stand side by side. In addition, fight tooth and nail to recover their land from "the enemy". These jawans are well aware that they are climbing into a death trap. Here there are no tracks in the mountains; only dangerously steep rocks to greet them. Snowfall occurs without warning, as does the barrage of bullets or artillery shells from the enemy side. Braving all this, the soldier has to reach his goal. Moreover, win.

The soldiers know nothing of their future, they only know that out there - there are only winners, no losers'. They have to survive to win for their motherland and if they die the country will look upto them with pride as heroes. Grief and pride binds the families who have lost their sons in war. They promised their families they would be back soon. They more than kept their word. Went as mere men. Came back as heroes in coffins.

*Here we lie because we did not choose
To live and shame the land from which we sprung
'Life, to be sure, is nothing much to lose
But young men think it is, and we were young'*

- A. E. Housman

Kargil is simply one of the harshest wars the Indian army has fought. Unlike 1965 and 1971, there are no tanks to back infantry, no air strikes to call in whenever soldiers are pinned down. There is nowhere to run in the craggy, vertical battleground. That is why the tales of valour are so striking. The soldiers knew there was a good chance they were not coming back, not going home to their children, wives, parents and friends. These men made the final charge, took the final bullet - and the enemy with them.

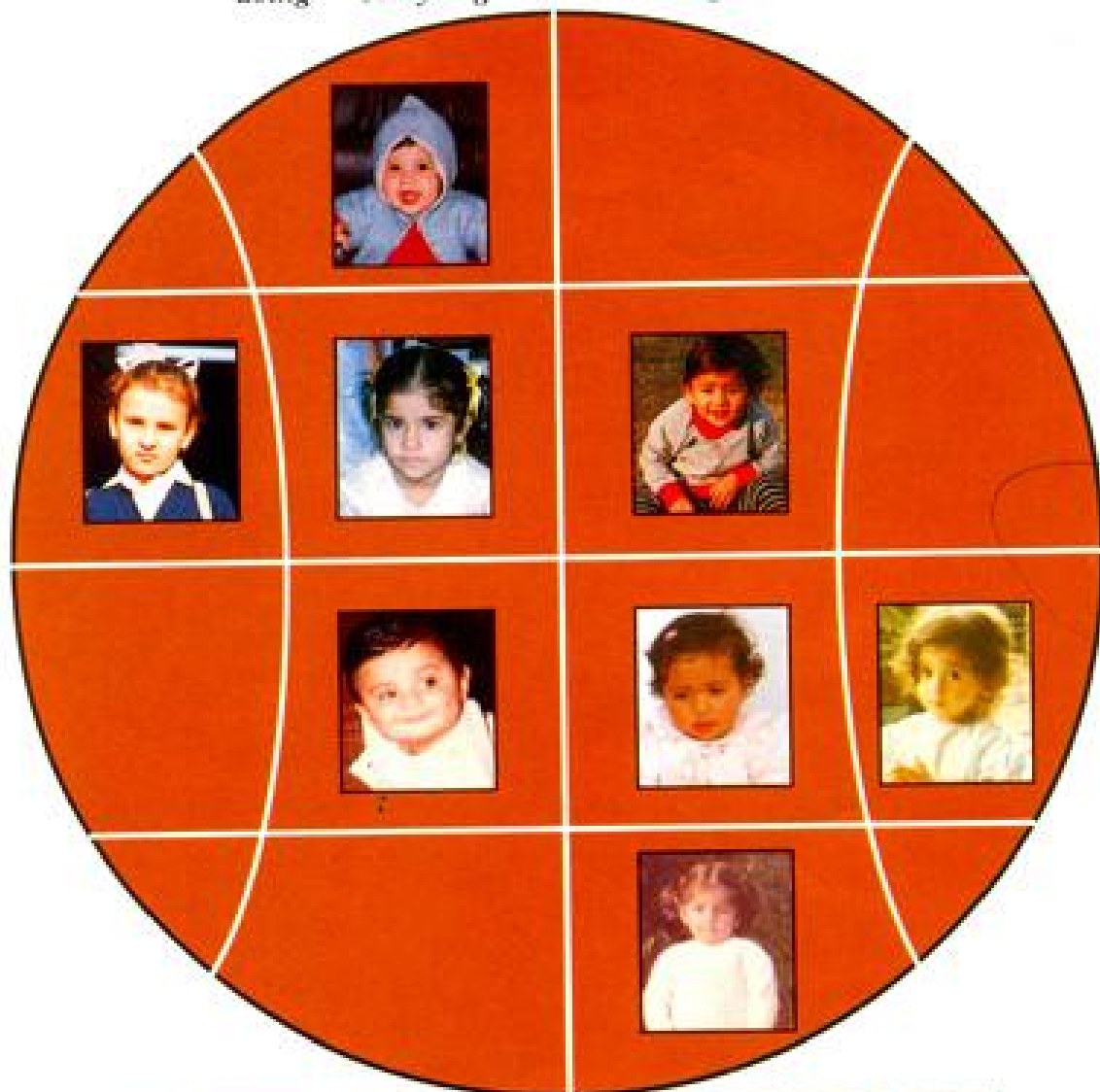
The war is slow and hard. The heights will be cleared one day, but until then the brutal truth is, many more will die. Remember them. It's the least India can do.

'When you go home, tell them of us and say, for your tomorrow, we gave our today'.

Priyanka Verma
IX C

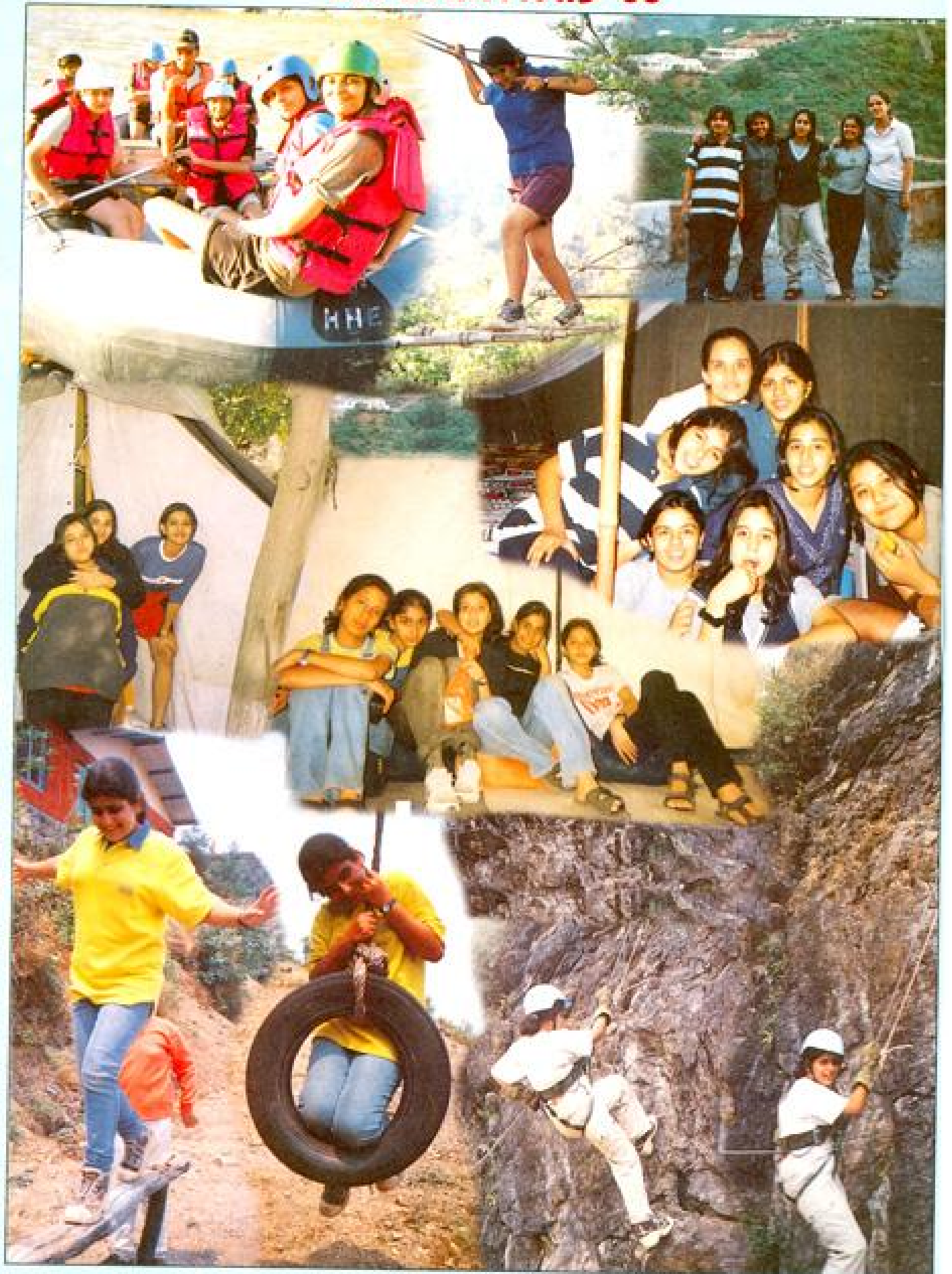
All work and no play makes Jill A Dull girl !

Let us go straight into the basketball field and see how our 'jills' are doing - Can you get their names right ? Try -

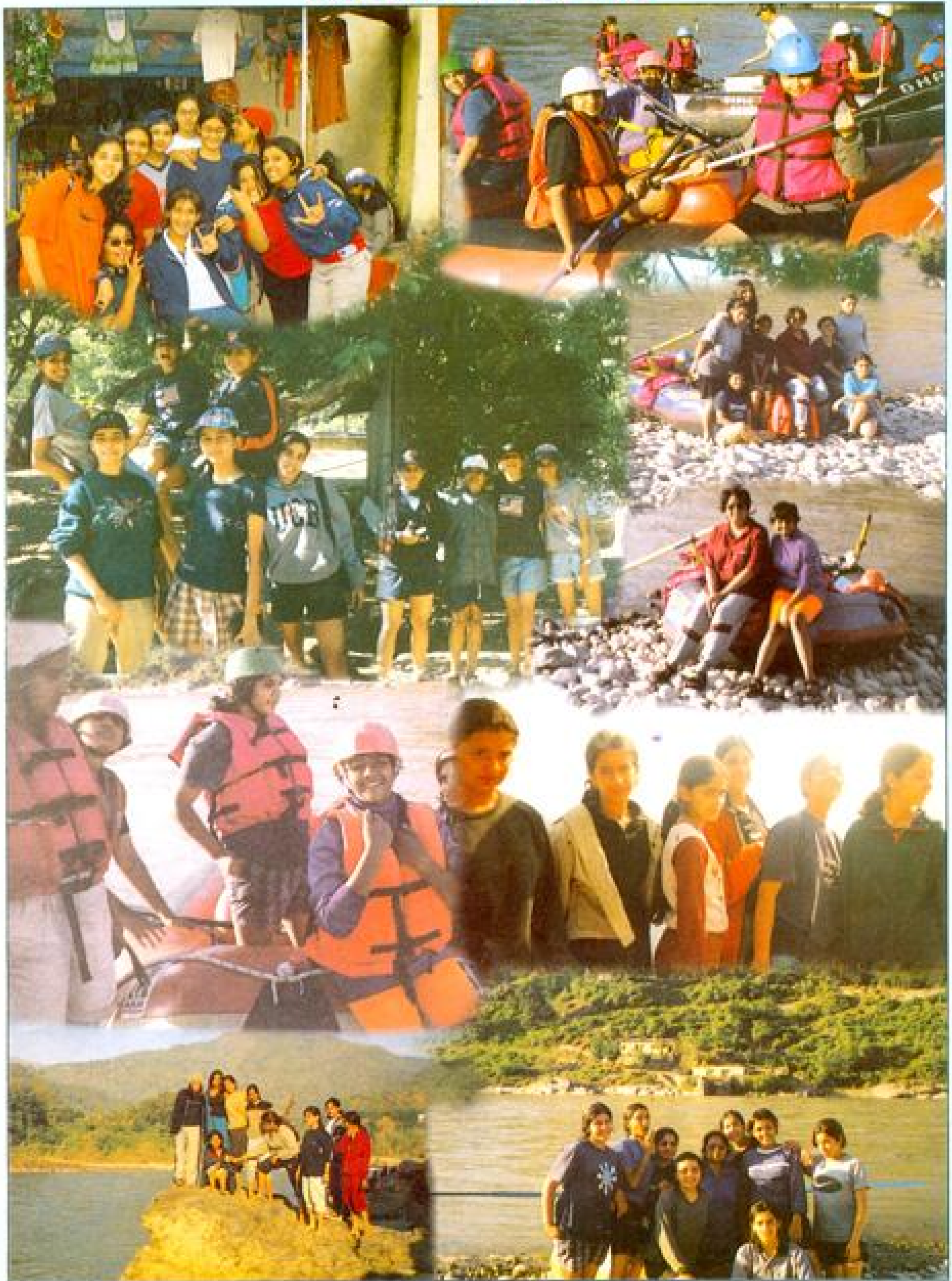


BASKET BALL TEAM

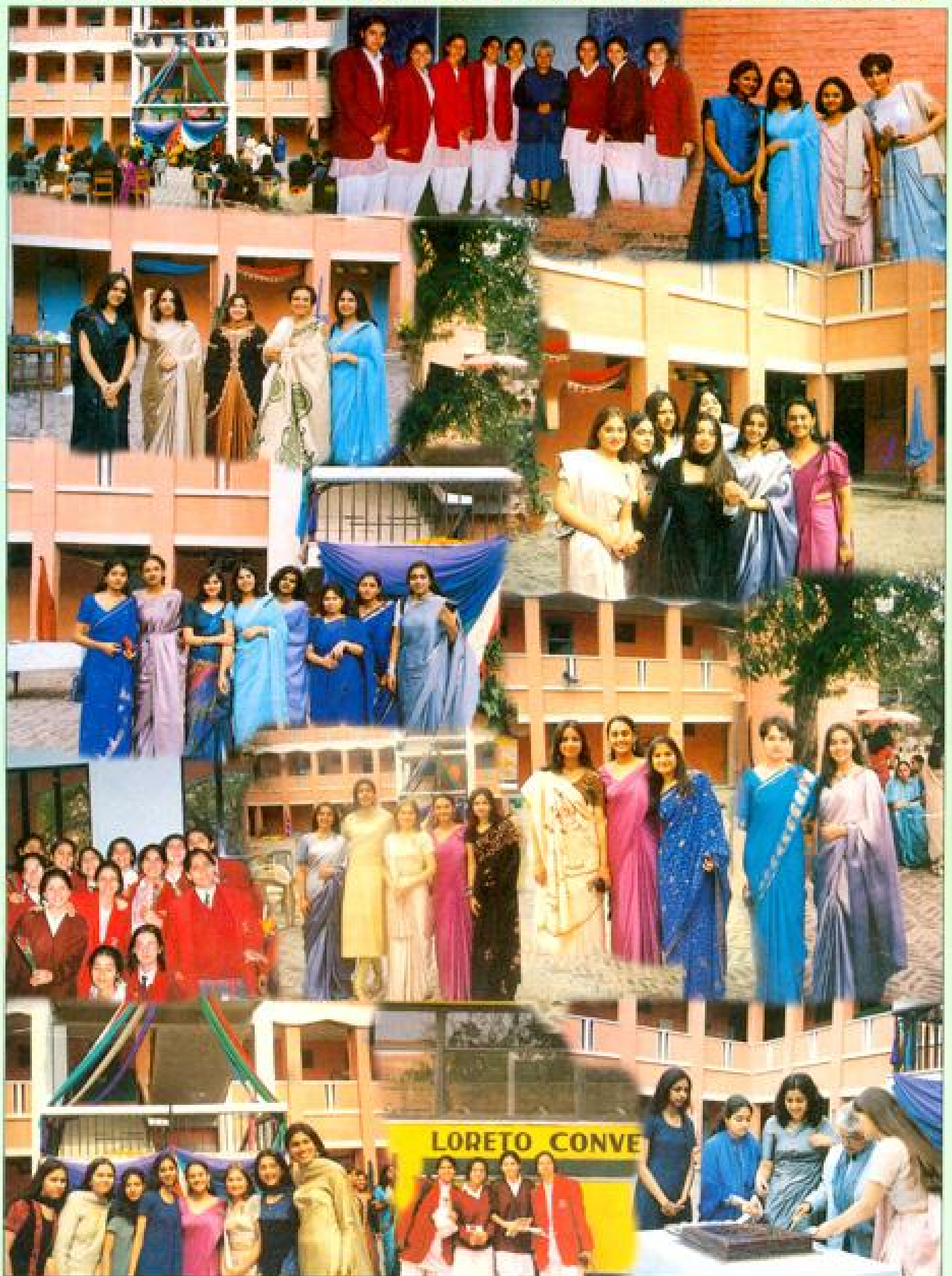
EXPLORATIONS '99



EXPLORATIONS '99



AULD LANG SYNE.....WISHING THE XII'S 'RAINBOW' WISHES



Woman-Power

If a girl laughs too much, she is humorous.
 If a boy laughs too much, he is ridiculous.
 If a girl talks too much, she is intelligent.
 If a boy talks too much, he is a nuisance.
 If a girl loves silence, she is refined.
 If a boy loves silence, he has no mind.
 If a girl mixes well, she is social.
 If a boy mixes well, he is a philanderer.
 If girls are active, Oh what zeal!
 If boys are active, it's no big deal.
 If a girl marries a rich boy, she is sagacious.
 If a boy marries a rich girl, he is rapacious.
 Surely, the hand that rocks the cradle, Rules the world!

Chandni Kochhar
 VIII B

Role of Women in Nation Building

"Woman is the builder and moulder of a nation's destiny. Though delicate and soft as a lily, she has a heart, far stronger and bolder than that of man. She is the supreme inspiration for man's onward march".

-Rabindranath Tagore

A woman is the magnificent creation of God, a dynamic personality. She is the provider and protection, the embodiment of love and affection, the companion of man. The status of Indian women has seen many ups and downs from the ancient time to modern day.

With the dawn of freedom the status of woman has taken a turn for the better. Our foresighted leaders realized the significance of upliftment of woman in all walks of life - social, economic, domestic and political. Gandhiji gave a clarion call for women's participation in the freedom movement. Sarojini Naidu, Mira Ben, Sucheta Kiplani and Aruna Asaf Ali were some of the prominent freedom fighters.

In the last few decades, an enormous number of women have attained respect, dignity and individuality in their respected fields. Mrs. Indra Gandhi, our Late Prime Minister and Vijayalakshmi Pandit, the first woman President of United Nations General Assembly, are held in high esteem the world over. Mother Teresa is a sterling example of all that womanhood stands for - Love compassion and service. P.T. Usha, Mrs. Margaret Alva, M.S. Subbulaxmi, Ms. Kiran Bedi, Medha Patkar and many more have become great names in their arenas. Women writers like Mahashweta Devi, Pratibha Roy, Arundhati Roy have contributed to the literacy excellence of the nation. Beauty queens like Sushmita Sen, Diana Hayden bring us pride and depict the enchanting beauty of the Indian woman.

Napoleon was right when he declared that by educating the women, we educate and uplift the whole nation. Women have proved their worth as teachers, administrators, officers, doctors, engineers, nurses, contributing immensely to nation building. Hence, I believe that the devotion, dedication and determination of women play a vital role in the building of the nation.

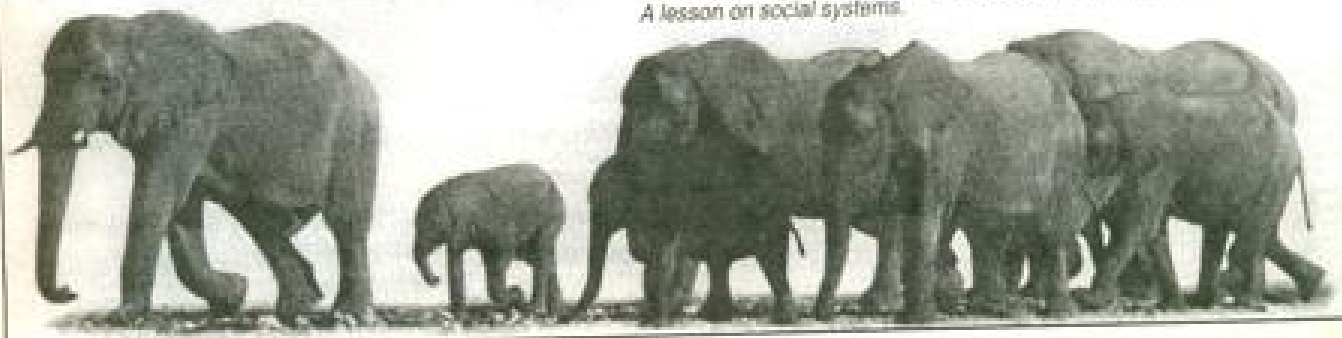
Aditi Dimri, VIII A

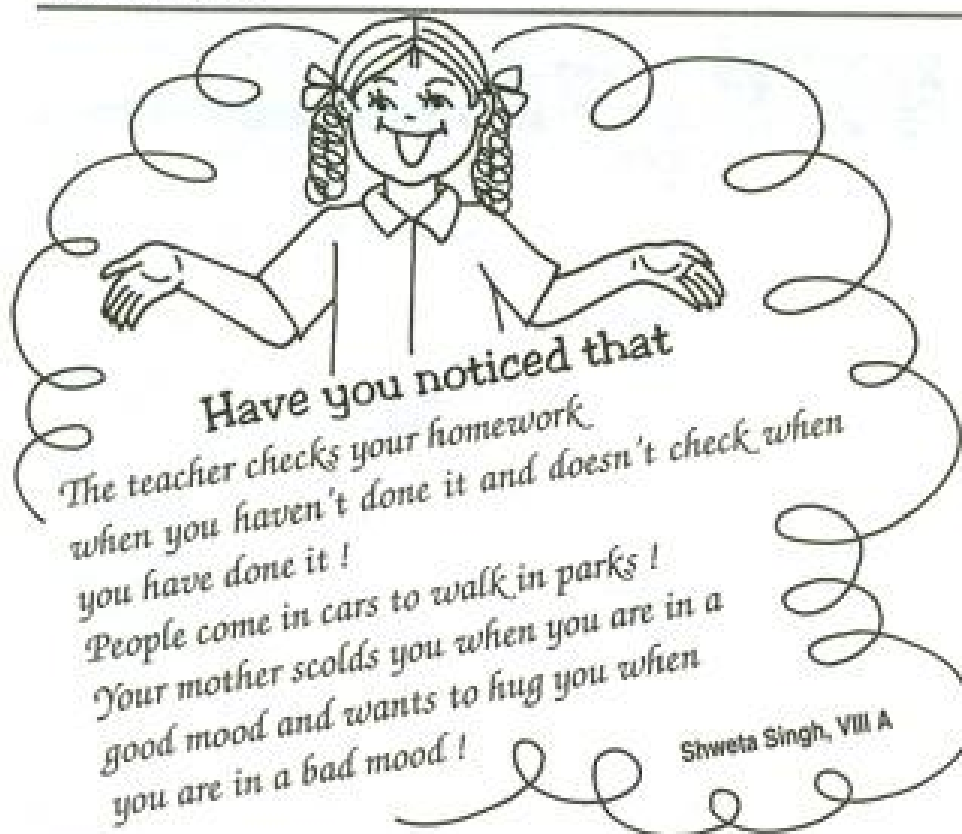
RIDDLES AND JOKES

1. Where does a fish keep his money?
 In a river bank!
2. What does a crab use to call someone?
 A Cellular phone!
3. Where do horses go when they are sick?
 To the Horsepital!
4. Why do bees have sticky hair?
 Because they have honey combs.
5. Why do hummingbirds hum?
 Because they don't know the words.
6. What do you call a rabbit with fleas?
 Bugs Bunny

Harsimran Arora
 VIII B

The leader of a herd of elephants is always a female matriarch. Next in line are the female relatives and their babies. A lesson on social systems.





Indian women in 21st century

Our country is suffering from 'superstitions'. Women suffer the most. The main cause of subjection is her economic dependence on man because of her lack of education. Several programmes of UNESCO are devoted to this aspect of female education. Education can go a long way in emancipating. An educated women is free in her choice of her career and partner in life. She has the right and an opportunity to take important decisions in life.

In vedic India woman was considered to be a goddess. She had a fairly high status in society. A woman's name was always put before the name of her husband. The modern girl is abreast with boys in every sphere of life. She is ambitious and desires to top in whatever field she chooses. Girls are now taking up jobs which were earlier considered suitable only for men. Women now have reserved quotas even in the Parliament. She shares equal responsibilities with her husband. She has many roles to perform that of wife, a mother, a housewife and a working woman and she does all this successfully. She fights against injustice and has the freedom to voice her opinion in every matter.

Freedom is good but too much freedom is bad. The modern girl should not completely westernise herself. She should adopt only the best of the West losing the best of the East. She should not forget the glorious traditions of Indian women. She should maintain her dignity and not interpret the meaning of freedom wrongly.

Rinky Gupta
IX B

THE BRIDE

Everyone called her pretty,
everyone called her young.
Just to say good bye,
so many songs were sung.

The atmosphere was bubbly,
chirpy and sweet.
Everyone gave her,
all the heed.

Just the right match,
how pretty you are,
Your husband is rich,
you ll go in a big car.

That's all she would hear,
day and night.
Tucked in one corner,
with no respite.

She was a beast of burden,
with all heavy things.
clothes and makeup,
necklaces and rings.

She was the centre of
attraction,
praises and other comments.
Kisses by all aunts,
teasing by friends.

It all started that day,
when the parents came to see,
how pretty their son's wife is
going to be.

It all went on till the night,
The seven rounds were
done.

Now past life was over,
A new life had begun.

Ankaa Batta



Tongue Twisters

Tongue twisters are amusing diversions as a parlour game. Children and even grown-ups, usually have much hilarity and fun trying to repeat these words which get the tongue tied in knots.

Given below are some wacky ones, try repeating them :

1. Rugger baby buggy bumpers.
2. If a three month truce is a truce in truth, is the truth of a truce in truth a three month truce.
3. Good blood, bad blood.
4. She, sells sea-shells at the sea shore.
5. How much wood would a woodchucker chuck, if a wood chucker would chuck wood.
6. The sixth sick sheikh's sixth sheep's sick.
7. Wet with sweat I wear a hat to swat a rat.
8. Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers; a peck of piebled pepper Peter Piper picked. If Peter picket a peck of peckled pepper, where is the peck of pickled peffer Peter Piper Picked.
9. Men munch much mush; women munch much mush; many men and women must munch much mush.
10. Six slippery snails slid slowly seaward.
11. Pack back your black cap in the back - pack in the cab.
12. At a small mall Paul's pal had a fall from a tall wall.

Let's see how far does your tongue succeed in these tongue-tumbling tongue - twisters!

Kara Kumar, VIII B
Ambika Gupta, VIII C

CHILDREN OF INDIA

India is a vast country and ranks seventh in area and second in population in the world. India is a developing country and needs all its resources to feed the billion hungry mouths. There is wide spread illiteracy, unemployment, corruption, terrorism, castism and fast expanding law and order problem in the country. With all these problems growing everyday it is the children who will suffer the maximum. We as children with better luck to have been born in good families can help those who are not lucky. We should not use, eat or drink anything that has been made by use of child labour. We should also advise our friends and relatives against using them. We should educate them about the horrible and cramped conditions in which these children work, to seek out a small amount as daily wages such children are deprived of their right to smile, right to education and good health. If we want a healthy and vibrant India then it can only be constructed by Happy, Healthy and Vibrant Children.

Pallavi Singh Dhalla
VII B

SHANTI AVEDNA *Our Self-W Project*

Situated on Ring Road near Salderjung Hospital, it is truly a light of love in the darkness of pain. It is a hospice for terminally ill cancer patients. Class IX-A visited this incredible organisation for the first time on the 29th of April. We talked to the patients and spent some time with them.

Shanti Avedna is one of the three centres of its kind in India. The others are in Bombay and Calcutta. Presently, it is a haven for 21 patients but there is enough space to be occupied by 40 patients. Most of the Patients here are from Delhi itself, but there are some from other parts of India and even Nepal.

Shanti Avedna is a place of rest where patients are loved and cared for. The sisters running this place love their patients and do their best to fulfil their wishes. Many of the patients here have been disowned by their families due to this disease. Medical care is not given here as doctors have given up on these patients, instead love and comfort is offered to these helpless people. In times when selfless service is a rarity, these sisters are an example for us to follow. Their kindness, service and unconditional love are some of the things we can learn from them. They accept people whom everyone else has rejected. They give hope to those who have given up on themselves.

Sharon David
IX.A

The Miracle of Friendship

There is a miracle called friendship,
That dwells within the heart,
And you don't know how it happens,
Or when it gets it's start.

But the happiness it brings you,
Always gives you a special lift,
And you realise that -
Friendship is God's most precious Gift

Priyanka Srivastava, VII B



Recipe for a happy life

Ingredients : Cheerfulness,
kindness, thoughtfulness,
sympathy, charity, care and love.

Method : Take a large quantity of
cheerfulness and let it boil gently.
Pour it in a basin full of
thoughtfulness for other people.
Mix it with a tablespoon of
sympathy. Flavour it with essence
of charity, stir with care fully drain
off all particles of selfishness or
jealousy. Let the whole dish be
served with love.

Tanu Priya Sharma
VI A

Kindness

Have you had a kindness
shown?

Pass it on;

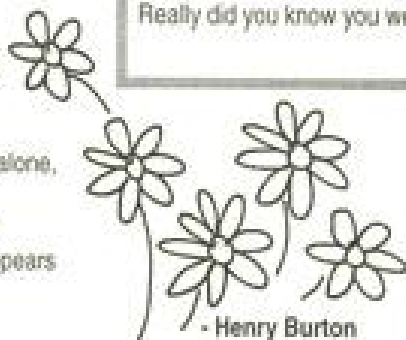
"It was not given for thee alone,

Pass it on;

Let it like another's tears.

Till in heaven the deed appears

Pass it on,



- Henry Burton

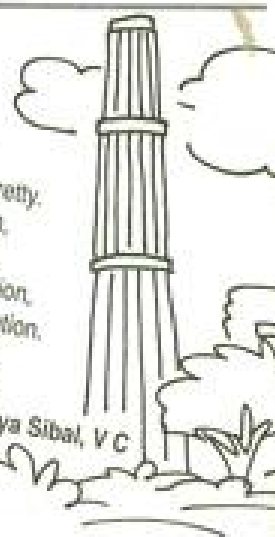
Kindness is never wasted. If it had no effect on the recipient, at
least it benefits the bestower.

- S. H. Simmons
Divya Kapur, IX C

Delhi

Delhi - The capital city,
Is in a state of pity.
We must try to make it pretty.
Plant trees, Make it green,
Do not litter, keep it clean.
Capital of such a great nation,
Needs great care and attention.
Let us rise to the occasion,
And make it free of pollution.

Manya Sibal, V C



THE BEST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE OF COST

People can often be heard grumbling about the high cost
of living, mouning pressures of inflation, unfulfilled goals
etc. Life must be for them like a bullock cart stuck in a
puddle. So burdensome and tiresome. It needs simply a
little change in our perspective to feel the beauty and
grandeur of life. We have been bestowed with enourmous
wealth but it is sad we do not cherish it. Nature has given
us free fresh air, sunlight, mountains, rivers and sea. But,
only a poet cant tell you its worth. Can we buy good health
even if we are ready to spend all our wealth ? Someone
has rightly said that 'health is the blessings of the rich and
riches of the poor'.

The whole world is talking about peace and spends millions
in an effort to achieve it. Only a contented person knows
what a bliss it is. The happiness we experience by wiping
a tear from someone's eye cannot be measured; nor can
be the elation on receiving a compliment. The unending
and unconditional love and affection of our parents keeps
on coming to us throughout our lives. Offer a little prayer
to god and he showers an ocean of blessings on us. You
can become a billionaire whenever you want. Can anybody
stop you from dreaming about the whole world at your feet?
Really did you know you were so rich ?

Samta Dhawan, XI A

Justice

There is no virtue so truly
great and godlike as justice.

- Addison ! The Guardian

Justice is a machine that,
when someone has given it a
startling push, rolls on of itself.

- Galsworthy

Delay of Justice is Injustice.

- Landor

Let Justice be done, though the
heavens fails.

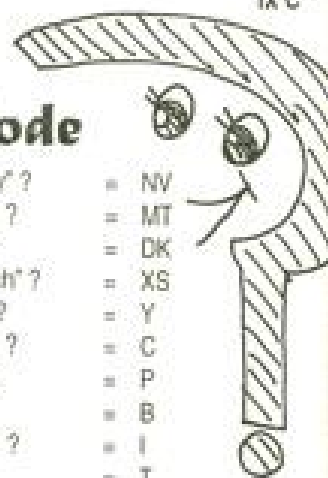
- William Watson
Divya Kapur
IX C

Question Code

1. Which 2 letters mean "jealousy" ?
2. Which 2 letters mean "Vacant" ?
3. Which 2 letters mean "to rot" ?
4. Which 2 letters mean "too much" ?
5. Which letters asks a question ?
6. Which letters is a "water body" ?
7. Which letters is a vegetable ?
8. Which letter is an insect ?
9. Which letter is a human organ ?
10. Which letter is a drink ?

= NV
= MT
= DK
= XS
= Y
= C
= P
= B
= I
= T

Charu Mooyani, VIII



Count your blessings

People say that life is the most valuable gift of God for which everybody should be thankful. I was amazed to see a person suffering from leprosy thanking God. I thought that he must be the greatest man on earth to thank God for a useless life. When a person is pin-pointed about his misdeed, he blames God. The pet sentence of people is "Its God who made us like this". If it is so, then God gave us brains as well to think for ourselves. He also gave us conscience to judge our wrongs. When one is depressed, he blames God. But, does he ever take God's name when he is happy. Do we ever thank him for the gifts he has showered on us? Seldom. We always demand for something or the other but hardly thank God when we receive it. We will come to know what God has given us if we see a labourer working during the most unpleasant summer season. One cant even dream of being in a poor man's place. So, count your blessings and you'll come to know what all God has bestowed us with.

Samta Dhawan, XI A

A to Z of Being Good

- A Wants you to be Active.
- B Wants you to be Bold and Brave.
- C Wishes you to be an ideal Citizen.
- D Wants you to be Duty bound.
- E Wants you to respect Elders.
- F Expects you to be Faithful.
- G Wants you to be Good and Great.
- H Asks you to be Honest.
- I Wants you to be Intelligent.
- J K Teaches you to be Jolly and Kind.
- L Teaches you to Love mankind.
- M Requests you to be Merciful.
- N Wants you to worship Nature.
- O Wants you to be Obedient.
- P Wishes you to be Punctual.
- Q Requests you to be Quiet.
- R Teaches you Regularity.
- S Says speak Softly.
- T Tells you to speak the Truth.
- U Teaches you to be United.
- V Inspires you to be Victorious.
- W Tells you to hate War.
- X Says serve life as an X ray.
- Y Bestows on you Youth.
- Z Makes you Zealous.

Saloni Sethi, VII B

JOKES

- Q. 1. Why did the bee (B) feel cold?
Because it come between AC.
- Q. 2. Which alphabet is a body of water?
C (sea)
- Q. 3. Which 2 alphabet means having nothing within?
MT (empty)
- Q. 4. What has a 1,000 needles but cannot sew?
Porcupine
- Q. 5. What did one Maths book tell another?
You are full of problems.

WISE CRACKS!

1. Rohit : Doctor can a person live without a brain?
Doctor : Are you not alive, Rohit?
2. Rani : Jolly, my brother walked over the water yesterday.
Jolly : Wow ! How!
Rani : He used a bridge.
3. Father : Where do you stand in class, son?
Son : In a corner facing the wall, father.
4. Teacher : 'Mohan steals' - what is it's future tense, children?
Student : Mohan will go to jail.
5. Teacher : Nikhit, I will give you 'A' grade in History, if you can tell me something about Napoleon.
Nikhil : He's dead.

Anushree Khandelwal, VII A

After all we did make a difference

Today after 50 yrs of our country's independence, we stand proud of our roots, revelling in our multicultural dimensions and striding towards a global future but where are our values, our civic sense? Littering places here and there, throwing wrapper wherever we feel like - No this is not the way we should behave. This is not what our forefathers wanted us to do. So VII-A decided to save our planet in same little way. After all, littering also causes pollution. We made up our minds to throw all the wrappers peels etc. in a dustbin and NOWHERE ELSE! We also organised a plan- All of us in no matter which bus we are carried a spare bag along and asked all the students in the bus to kindly throw all their peels, wrappers ice-cream stirrs etc in the bag which on the same day was disposed off by us. After days of disposing the garbage we found out that our plan was really a success! Every student had started to get used to throwing garbage in the right place. After all we did make a difference! There's a lot more we can do to save our environment. Remember, always begin by saying, 'Environment protection Begins with me'.

Anushree Khandelwal, VII A

FAREWELL ASSEMBLY

It was a warm spring morning. I remember myself walking past innumerable girls, big and small and it almost seemed like I was surrounded by aliens. And I, dressed in my new pinstripe frock, polished shoes, carrying a bag full of books with a bottle slung around my shoulders and not to forget my two ponytails, with white ribbons, tried confidently to walk fast.

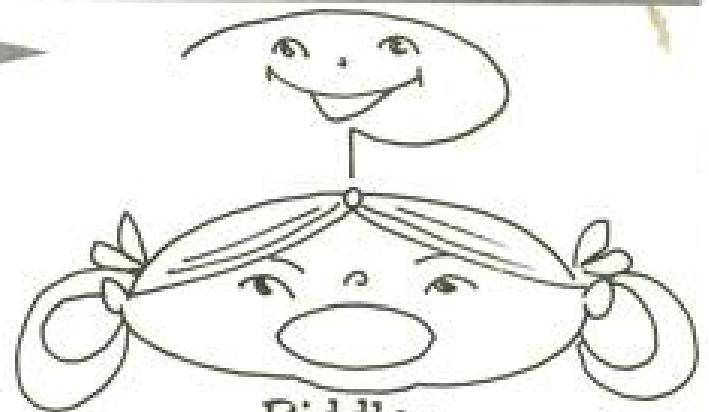
Today is a cold winter morning but my memories of the yester years are tender still. There is so much that I can say about my 13 yrs spent amid this pink building that to pen it down shall not find it easy and neither would it justify my feelings towards Loreto, my home away from home.

Moving down the memory lane, not very far...exactly a year ago in this very quadrangle, I stood here to bid the class XII a farewell, crying... "Life is an alteration of meetings and partings. When those whom we love, bid us good-bye, a bit of ourselves is going away. Greater the love, more intense the pain, closer the union, more severe the sense of loss". I said it then but I feel it now... I feel the pain, I feel the loss, I feel Loreto in a way that I have never felt it ever before for I grew up in her very arms. Loreto we are BONDED forever.

Today, I want to thank every Principal, every Teacher and all my friends who recognized promise in me and forever encouraged me to deliver my very best at every step of these 13 memorable years. I thank you for walking beside me, always with me through this first chapter of my life and making it indeed the most precious and cherished.

And when our school days ended are
And our varied paths divide
O may the ideals of our youth
Still ever be our guide
High ideals of purity of duty and of truth.
Learnt while we bore Loreto's flag
In the sunny days of youth.

Pooja Marwah, XII A



Riddles

1. What do you call a skeleton which does not like work?
A. Lazy Bones
2. How do you know if a monster likes you or not?
A. He will take another bite.
3. Why was Cinderella kicked out of the football team?
A. She kept running away from the ball.
4. What kind of criminals can you find in a shoe-store?
A. A pair of sneakers.

Apurva Krishna, V B

'HALL OF FAME' A TRIBUTE TO OUR BRAVE MARTYRS

*'Thrice blessed is that warrior
Who is called to such a war by destiny,
A war to be hailed as an open door to heaven.'*

- Bhagavad Gita

Nestled amidst the tall pine trees in the Rajouri - Poonch district of Jammu and Kashmir, stands a beautiful memorial dedicated to the gallant citizens of India who made the supreme sacrifice of laying down their lives for the country during numerous raging wars. This memorial, known as "Hall of Fame", lists the names of all our courageous men who died to save the country from falling into the enemy's hands, during the battles of 1947-48, 1965, 1971 and the most recent Kargil Operation. The building has four rooms which depict the different wars and also contain pictures, names and the awards received by some of our exceptionally brave officers and civilians who went in pursuit of the enemy. A cassette recording, briefs one on the events of the wars in a very heart rending and fascinating manner. The recording is accompanied by a number of patriotic songs which kindle the spirit of patriotism in one's heart. On seeing this well maintained place, atop a hill, with sprawling gardens of colourful flowers, one experiences mixed emotions of pride and grief. This wonderful memorial calls for a salute from all of us to the brave martyrs of our nation.

Aanchal Krishna
VII B

The Universal Declarations of Human Rights

*We support human rights for all people, always everywhere
It's in Your Hands to do More
All Human Rights for All
Human Rights are not against anyone, but FOR EVERYONE
Human Rights are in Your Hands*

IX C All Human Rights for All

Human rights are those rights which are fundamental for human life. These rights recognise the basic human needs and demands. In the present world there is a lot of concern about the protection of human rights. The importance of the human rights movement is that it tells people that one cannot call a society a good and a just society until all its citizens enjoy human rights. The basic idea behind human rights is that human beings should try to end all kinds of unjust discrimination. Human rights should not be denied to any person in a civilised society. The United Nations Definition of Human Rights :

"Human rights are the rights and freedoms that allow us to fully develop and use our human qualities, our intelligence, our talents, and our conscience and to satisfy our spiritual and other needs. They belong to everyone and are equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family".

On December 10th, 1984, the general assembly of the UN adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It is for this reason that December 10 is observed every year as the Human Rights. Under this Declaration, the responsibility for protection and pursuit of human rights was accepted as the permanent obligation. A Human Rights

Commission was set up in 1946 by the Economic and Social Council, following the adoption of the Declaration. The Commission provides a forum to voice the concern about human rights issues.

Articles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

1. Right to human dignity and equality
2. Freedom from discrimination
3. Right to life, liberty, and personal security.
4. Freedom from slavery
5. Freedom from torture or degrading treatment.
6. Right to recognition as a person before the law.
7. Right to equality before the law
8. Right to remedy by competent tribunal
9. Freedom from arbitrary arrest or exile
10. Right to a fair public hearing
11. Right to be considered innocent until proved guilty.
12. Freedom from interference with privacy, family, home, and correspondence.
13. Right to free movement in and out of the country.

14. Right to asylum in other countries to escape persecution.
15. Right to a nationality and freedom to change it.
16. Right to marriage and family.
17. Right to own property.
18. Freedom of belief and religion.
19. Freedom of opinion and information.
20. Right of peaceful assembly and association.
21. Right to participate in government and free elections.
22. Right to social security.
23. Right to desirable work and to join trade unions.
24. Right to rest and leisure.
25. Right to an adequate living standard.
26. Right to education.
27. Right to participate in the cultural life of a community.
28. Right to a social order that assures human rights.
29. Freedom to perform community duties that are essential to personal development.
30. Freedom from state or personal interference in the above rights.

Even though the human rights situation in many parts of the world is nothing, if not dismal, the very existence of the internationally agreed rights provide civil society with the requisite moral armour to resist every arbitrary attempt by the state to twist its arm.

Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation

Women's Rights in a Man's World

The commission on the status of women The commission promotes women's rights in political, economic, social and educational fields. But for the three billion of the world's women, the declaration seems mainly to be limited to our gender alone ever now. Millions of women across the globe are subjected to cruelty and inhuman and degrading treatment in many ways. Domestic violence against women, sexual harassment at work, molestation, rape, bride-burning, all of them are grave violation of human rights in a varying degrees.

Fifty years after the Universal Declaration on Human Rights promised respect for human rights to all people, women's human rights activists have forced governments to acknowledge the pervasive nature of violations of women's rights and their own duty to stop them. Despite the unprecedented visibility of the women's rights movement and governments' articulation of policies supporting women's rights, many governments failed to reform laws that overtly discriminated against women and practices that denied women's rights. Women's rights advocates countered these failings with activism.

There were some milestones that reflected women's struggle to bring human rights protections to bear in their own lives. In three African countries, Nigeria, Uganda, and Malawi, women's rights activists pushed their governments to prove their commitment to

women's rights by granting women property and inheritance rights. Women embraced the universality of human beings, they, too, should enjoy. Implementation of women's rights has however remained slow and inconsistent, reflecting the unwillingness of international actors to change the structures that accommodate and encourage daily abuses of women's rights.

Human Rights Organisations

The Universal Declarations of Human Rights is a beautiful expression of many noble ideals that human beings cherish. But it seems that the world is not ready to realise such an ideal for mankind does not yet possess the necessary knowledge to understand and accept it, nor the indispensable conscious force to execute it. However, there are some Human Rights

- Organisations fighting against all forms of torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, forced disappearances, summary execution or child abuse. These organisations stand with victims and activists to prevent discrimination, to uphold political freedom, to protect people from inhumane conduct in wartime, and to bring offenders to justice. They investigate and expose human rights violations and hold abusers accountable.

If human rights are promoted, the world would be a better place where the relations among human beings, usually based almost exclusively upon competition and strife, would be replaced by relations based on collaboration, mutual respect and real universal brotherhood.

The Rights of the child

The Convention on the Rights of the child draft by the UN Commission on Human Rights, and adopted by General Assembly of the United Nations on 20 November 1989 is a set of international standards and measures intended to protect and promote the well being of children in society.

There are four sets of basic rights for children

The right to survival :

Which include the right to life, the highest attainable standard of health, nutrition and adequate standards of living. It also includes the right to a name and a nationality.

The right of protection :

Which includes freedom from all forms of exploitation, abuse, inhuman or degrading treatment, and neglect including the right to special protection in situations of emergency and armed conflicts.

The Right of development

Which includes the right to education, support for early childhood development and care, social security, and the right to leisure, recreation and cultural activities.

The right to participation

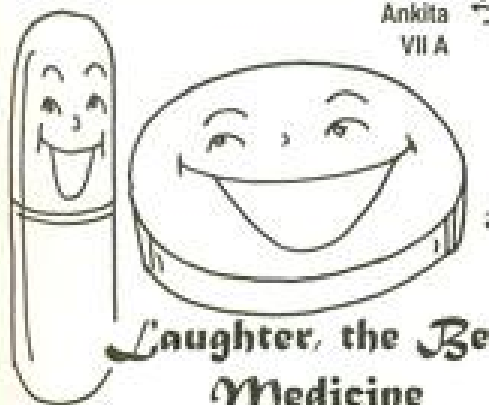
which includes respect for the views of the child, freedom of expression, access to appropriate information, and freedom of thought, conscience and religion.

Mrs. Beena Sugatha

My Grand Ma

My Grandma is 67 yrs old,
Yet she is as good as gold.
She has a clever brain,
That work's as fast as a train.
It may be any subject,
In everything she's perfect.
She is excellent in Sanskrit,
Maths is on her fingertips.
She is my grand treasure,
And always gives me pleasure.

She looks very graceful,
And is very peaceful.
She likes listening to 'Bhajans',
With family or with cousins.
She is still very active,
And that's what keeps her fit.
She likes to eat chicken,
Made in her own kitchen.
She is my grand treasure,
And always gives me pleasure.



Laughter, the Best Medicine

1. Son : Daddy! I will not go to school from tomorrow.
Daddy : Why? What happened?
Son : Daddy! I won't go to my school because you know yesterday my teacher told us that $6+2=8$, day before yesterday she told us that $4+4=8$ and today she told us that $5+3=8$. So I won't go to my school until my teacher becomes consistent in her teaching.
2. One day a wife asked her husband why he kept a picture of her's in his wallet.
"Whenever I have a problem, no matter how big. I look at your picture and feel much better", he said.
"I have that much power over you?" the wife asked, excited.
"Yes," he said, "When I look at your picture, I tell myself that my other problems are not nearly as big as this one".

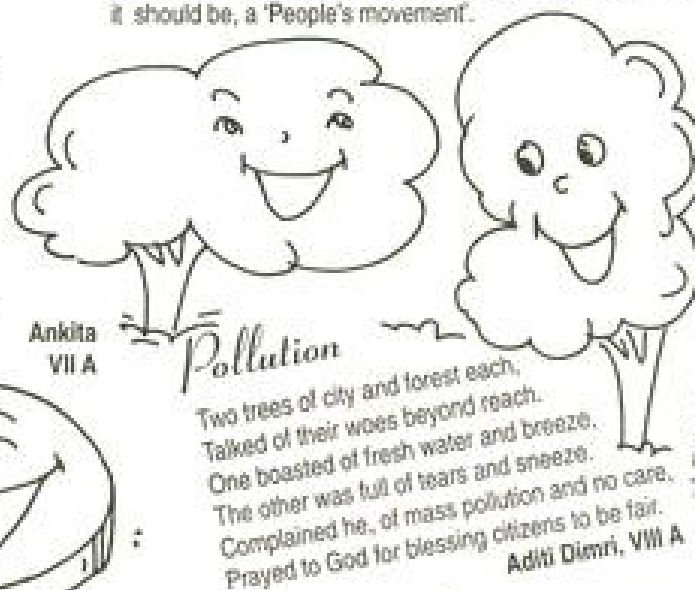
Compiled by
Mansi Bhargava, X A

Child Labour

The most prominent and frightening problem which is putting India to shame is child labour in abundance. Only reading and writing about child labour will not eradicate the problem. Everyone must put in his bit to eliminate this evil. Expressing our concern is not sufficient enough.

The root cause of children being forced to adopt child labour is the lack of education. Concentrated efforts at all levels by everybody is required to reduce this menace. Children are used prominently in crackers manufacturing, match sticks, cigarettes, glass industries etc. Since children are innocent and cannot ask / fight for due wages for their work, hence, the use of child in such hazardous environment is abuse of child labour. We should dissuade such industries by banning child labour by providing education. Various organisations like NGO's and the government's strict action can reduce this menace to some extent. Above all it should be, a 'People's movement'.

Mansi Bhargava, X A



Two trees of city and forest each,
Talked of their woes beyond reach.
One boasted of fresh water and breeze.
The other was full of tears and sneeze.
Complained he, of mass pollution and no care.
Prayed to God for blessing citizens to be fair.

Aditi Dimri, VIII A

The Earth

I love my earth,
the place where,
I took my birth.
The earth is green
but we are very mean.
We destroy greenery,
and also the scenery.
So let us be a bit kind,
and save the earth
To save mankind.

Prakriti Sardana, V C

An insight

Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creations is not just a movement. It is a way of thinking for one and all.

Started by the Loreto sisters with the aim to make a difference and promote justice and peace all over the world, this movement has been gaining support in all its endeavours.

We all here at Loreto Delhi work with the hope that JPIC touches everyone's life and makes the world a better place. Every one is sent on earth with a purpose. What the purpose will be, all depends on us. We believe, that our efforts to plant more trees, avoid usage of polythene, reduce pollution and most important going against fire crackers, to rejuvenate the lives to many children, have not gone in vain.

'Little drops make up the ocean', they say. How true it is. Your small contributions in our efforts will definitely help us form a huge ocean full of love and happiness and most of all Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creations.

So let us keep the JPIC banner flying high up in the sky and keep the JPIC spirit kindled in our hearts.

Ramnika Sabharwal, XI B

ELDERS

we salute you

Date 29th October 1999

Venue : Loreto Convent School, Delhi

Morning.....

'There is no window to the heart', they say 'you have to show you care' and this was one day we showed our grandparents, we truly care.

We had been planning for this day for a long time, but what mattered now was putting these plans into action. We were far from ready. The tables were to be set, the chairs to be lined, the decoration, the flowers, the food.....

JPIC was the prime organizer. All its members were assigned jobs. It was wonderful to see everyone rise to the occasion to beautify and get things done as fast and as well as they could.

We rushed, we worked, we made blunders but we got it all ready and enjoyed every bit.

It was 'Elders Day', after all.

Our guests were to arrive at 9:30 a.m. at 9:40 a.m. we were ready. (Indian standard time. Finally the grandmas and grandpas were waiting, waiting to feel important once again and see their grandchildren perform for them.

The event started with an introductory speech, giving the details about organizers-the JPIC and welcoming the guests for the day. It was followed by the 'lighting of the lamp by Sr. Anne Marie and then came the welcome song.

There after, students prayed for the elders and thanked them all for all they had done for us (including their part in bringing us to this world-indirectly) we were moved to tears by the solemnity of the occasion.

And yes ! It was time for another song. This song was self composed by class 9 and later a short play presented by class 8. The last event for the day was a boisterous game of 'passing the parcel'. This one was one with a difference. Here, the guests had to pass the parcel and their grand children had to under go forfeits on the sound of drumbeats.

Here, we were once again moved to tears as two of our guests stood up and praised the students for their efforts to compliment their senior years and inviting them for the day in such a special way. After Sr. Anne Marie's address and prayers, the 'classics' dispersed for.....you guessed it ! Snacks were the 'old' youthful mind whetted their sweet tooth- 's' and interacted with the students. By 12:00 noon, our esteemed guests departed, happy and feeling wanted once again.

Alas ! Now was the tough part. Yeah ! The cleaning job. After we had made the place reasonably clean, we all collapsed.

But we got our reward. What ?

Of course, the countless blessings that can make a child's life full of happiness and success showered on us by our dearest grandparents.

God ! Thanks for grandparents ! Really !

We all love you, Nana-Nani, Dada-Dadi, forever and ever.

Aman Singh

XI A

Ramnika Subberwal

XI B

Love - Be Loved Save- Be Saved

The JPIC is not just an organization. It is a part you, a part of me, a part of all of us.

Yes ! We all want justice done to us; we all need peace-peace of mind, of the conscience and the soul.

All of us have an imagination, an imagination that creates our ambitions and us.

So get up and search yourself.

How can you be so complacent while so many children are pleading for justice, while nature begging for mercy, while the world is asking for peace ?

We go to such lengths to fulfill our unsatiated desires.

Why ? Is that all we are made for ? What is our contribution to our creator, the creations around us ?

Nothing !

Unfortunately here the saying 'it's never too late' also leaves us behind. 'It is too late'.

Wait we can still make a difference. In a different way.

By winning the race, by making peace with Mother Nature, and our conscience, which screams at us for our cruelty.

Come-on, girls ! Spare a thought. Contribute. Give work for a cause.

Plant two trees when you uproot one. You will receive its fresh air and fruit. Save a child from exploitation. Give her a decent life.

You will be respected and esteemed.

Bridge the gap between nature and humans by reducing pollution.

Stop using plastic. Discourage others from doing the same.

You will feel satisfied and at peace with creation. It is an appeal from someone who cares and needs your support for.

Don't kill yourself.

Give yourself one more chance, or else.....

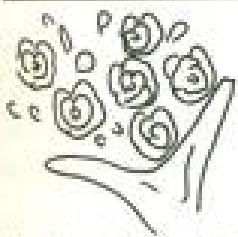
Prayer works

But, so does prevention

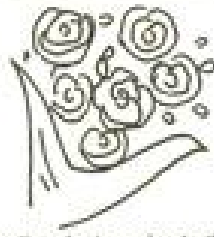
Believe me.

I'm waiting. They are all waiting..... We are waiting.

Aman Singh, XI



Thank you
TEACHER



Mrs. Sharan is a teacher in the word's true sense. She did much more than just coming to the class, reading a few pages, explaining a few doubts, completing the syllabus and leaving like she's got nothing to do with us. On the other hand what she would do is come to the classroom, ask us to relax, talk to us, tell us a lot of meaningful things about the subject, crack a few jokes, say a few funny lines, listen to our opinion and BINGO - the chapter is done. The way she taught us - we learnt, we understood and liked HISTORY.

Everything about her was perfect! Her amazing dressing style. She was always very neat and systematic. I had often noticed her index finger high up whenever she was giving us a lecture, she walked like a leader too! everything made her very impressive.

WHAT TEENAGERS WANT THEIR PARENTS TO KNOW

Even though Parents were once teens themselves, it seems that most of them have forgotten that period of their life. Though this is a tough time for us all, we need your support, your friendship, your guidance and most of all, your love. "We only travel this road together once, let's make the most of it". Please -

- Don't take it personally when I act weird.....sometimes I feel weird.
- Take time to explain things to me.
- Family activities really make me feel close to every one.
- Help me to develop a skill or talent that will last a lifetime.
- Say 'yes' more often than 'no'.
- Let me take some risks : you did when you were young.
- Let me teach you some things. Don't always be the teacher.
- Don't assume my teen years will be a hassle. You might actually enjoy me as a teen-ager.
- Keep praying for me it makes me feel secure.
- Make sure you listen to my answers when you ask me questions.
- Listening is one of the best ways to show me that you love me.
- I enjoy seeing my parents showing affection.
- Don't make fun of the music I listen to or the clothes I wear.
- Set high moral standards for me.
- Never put me down, specially in front of my

friends. Save your criticism until we are alone.

- Talk to me about all subjects even sensitive ones, I need information.
- Keep pushing me to learn how to express myself in words both written and spoken, it really does help me to think clearly.
- Get to know my friends, include them in some of our plans.
- Discuss movies after we see them, this teaches me to evaluate things.
- Keep encouraging me to follow my dreams. Mine are different than yours.
- Teach me to be compassionate and human.
- Don't begin sentences with, "when I was your age....".
- Have atleast one meal as a family each day.
- Share the experiences that you had as a teen even the mistakes and the embarrassing times.
- Tell me when you are in a bad mood or are having a bad day.
- That way I won't be so hurt if you say something harsh.
- Your praises mean more to me than anyone else's.
- Give me more responsibility as I prove myself ready.
- Teach me to be a good winner and a good loser.
- I am no longer the little child you think of me as, but I am also not as grown up as I like to pretend.
- Remember I can't read your mind.

Thank you,
Rohini Dhawan

To you Ma'am.....

For all the tough made so simple,
For all the smiles and all the dimples,
For all the laughter in the classroom,
I ask the stars and tell the moon,
To convey this message of ours,

That we'll
miss you every minute and hour,
We'll miss your very interesting classes,
When time flies and not just passes!
We'll miss you from heads to boots,
Not to forget your pretty suits!
We'll miss the twinkle in your eyes!
Ours are wet-we're not telling lies.

Can't stop myself from asking you,
Have you really got to leave? Have you?
Can't you stay back with us?
Tell us ma'am wouldn't you miss us?
For where else would we find,
Someone as good and so kind?

As you leave I pray for the best,
For you, your family and the rest.
Thank you ma'am for being around,
You are a gem of a person, that's what we
all found ?

Thank You Ma'am for Everything,
Thank You Ma'am for Everything!!

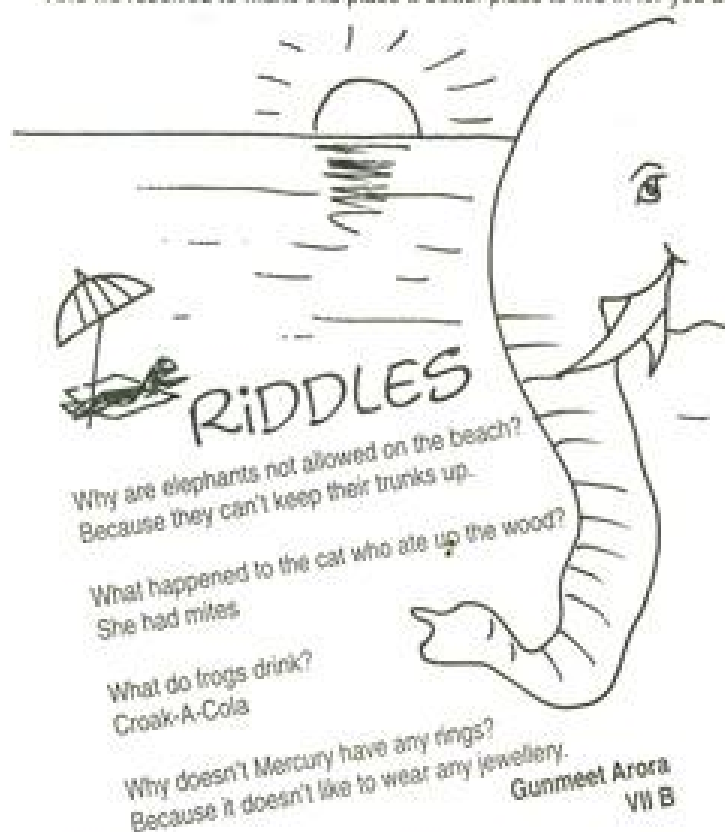
Shweta Tomar, X B

The Inter-House Tableau Competition

The air was full of excitement on the 13th of October '99. This was our excitement for the Tableau Competition.

No one could actually study before the competition. The excitement and eagerness kept our minds away from everything else. Finally the bell rang and everyone jumped up and shouted out with glee 'Yeah'. But after this the atmosphere totally changed. The children were now nervous and their heart beats were swift. We all went down to the fields dressed up in colourful costumes—some were trees, some birds, some clouds, some were the sun. It was all looking so bright and gay, wish the earth was really that good. We started with the first, the children had to express their thoughts on the environment by dance, music or just an act. Over judges Mrs. Bhatnagar, Mrs. Shastri and Mrs. Chatterjee came and took their seats. They were very generous. After all the prizes were announced, Ball house was first, followed by Walsh, Hart and Ward. Then it all ended up with the feeling of love and affection for our 'Mother Earth'. All the complicated slogans now held a meaning for us. And we resolved to make this place a better place to live in for you and for me and the entire human race, also for the future generation.

Aditi Srivastava
VII B



The Lovely Sight

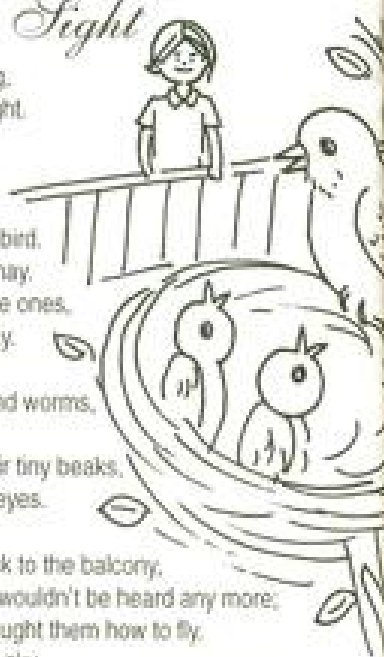
It was a hot summer evening,
and the sun was shining bright.
I came out to my balcony,
and saw a lovely sight.

It was a decorated nest of a bird,
Filled with small grains and hay.
The bird was feeding her little ones,
Who, upon the small nest, lay.

She fed them with insects and worms,
Big and small in size,
The young ones opened their tiny beaks,
And this, sparkled their tiny eyes.

Some days later, I came back to the balcony,
But the chirping of the birds wouldn't be heard any more;
Because their mother had taught them how to fly,
Soaring high, up in the open sky.

Pallavi Singh Dhalla
VII B



A LADY'S AILMENT

This is a story of a beautiful lady named Earth. She lived happily in a small town, 'Solar System' with her

eight friends. Her life was full of fun, excitement and enjoyment. Until she was infected by a dreadful disease called Mankind. Initially the disease did not cause much trouble and she continued her pleasant life. But gradually mankind began to spread to all the parts of her body and invade her natural beauty. Earth began to suffer from various diseases like pollution, cutting of tree, dirtiness, population and many more.... Then with the help of her natural forces like earthquakes, cyclones, droughts and diseases like AIDS, she began to threaten the survival of mankind. Man was on the end of his wits but science and technology came to her rescue. However, man has now realized that if Earth dies he too will not survive. He is making efforts to save the beautiful, life-giving lady 'Earth'.
Help save the Earth.

Aditi Dimri, VIII A

Clouds

*When the sun shines
in the sky,
The water changes into vapour
and begins to fly.
It touches the cool air above,
There is condensation and the vapour changes
into tiny drops of water huddling together
as if in love.
Clouds, Clouds, Clouds,
They form such a crowd,
In the sky as they float,
as if we're sailing in a boat.
They get a black strain,
When it's about to rain.
there is thunder, there is storm
and then it rains all day long.*

Shivani Sehgal, VII B

You are never alone

You may hear some person say,
"I am all alone"
It may be true but one should never feel so.
In such a vast world why should one feel so low?
Whenever you feel lonely,
Try to hear the voice of nature
The sound of running rivers,
The sound of rippling waves,
The sound of laughing brooks,
The chirping birds,
And the clouds sailing silently.
In the vast azure sky
you will feel that you are not alone,
And God is nigh.



Shweta Singh, VIII A

Pollution

Two trees of city and forest each,
Talked of their Foes beyond reach.
One boasted of fresh water and breeze,
The other was full of tears and sneeze.
Complained he, of man's pollution and no care,
Prayed God for blessing citizen to be fair.

Aditi Dimri, VIII A

RAFTING AND TREKKING - A DARE DEVIL'S ADVENTURE

We started out on a trip with the school in October 99' for the rafting and trekking expedition. Little did we realize that this would be an adventure of a lifetime. These nostalgic memories will go a long way down the memory lanes of our lives.

On the way to Juyalgarh where we were camping, we saw a number of small cracks in the mountains which had water bursting out of them and we found them to be the perfect example of scenic beauty.

After a long 12 hour journey, we set our camps along the side of the Ganges and later we had an enthralling time around the bonfire.

At dawn, we realized that mother nature had its bountiful beauties to offer, which made us feel as if we were in paradise. The great mountains looked like a mother's unfolding arms, which had some magnetic attraction in them and we couldn't wait to trek. After some important do's and don'ts we started trekking finally and trekked for a good 8 km and saw the artistic scenery that can only be found in the books.

As soon as we came back, we hit our sacks as we all were extremely exhausted, all we wanted was a fun-filled bonfire and a cozy bed.

The next day we set out for rafting and after a few brief instructions, we were finally allowed to raft. As we entered the unfolding, furious Ganges, battling against the raging waves our hearts were pounding furiously but as we rafted along we discovered it to be a tiring and overwhelming experience.

On our journey back more than anything else we remembered the long sweet story a small place like Juyalgarh had to offer. It was only then that I realized that the real taste of life can only be extracted in the arms of mother nature.

Tanisha Gambhir
Deepti Sharan, IX B

A trip to Jugalgarh

Trekking and Rafting. A great way of spending ones Dusshera holidays. That's exactly what some girls of classes 9 to 12 did. A four-day Trekking and Rafting expedition was the treat we got.

5 :30 was reporting time. After a prayer with Sister we were seated in our buses. Mrs. Cleetus, Mrs. Davies and Ms. Fernades accompanied us. We stopped at the holy city of Rishikesh to take peek at the two magnificent temples Mansa Devi and Chandi Devi located near the Hariki Paudi where people come to take a dip in the holy Ganga. This is the place where the famous kumbh mela takes place every six years . The next stop was at Deo Prayag which is the confluence of two holy rivers Alaknanda which flows from Badrinath and Bhagirathi which flows from Gaumukh. The two rivers meet to form the river G- inga. Deo prayag is an important centre of pilgrimage for the Hindu. After arriving at the resort we quickly settled down.

We travelled by bus to the Chandra Badini peak, which is famous for its ancient shakti temple of the 11th century. We trekked down from dizzying heights of 8500 ft. We walked 12 km and I tell you it is not an easy ask our aching feet.

Day three came and brought with it a never to be forgotten adventure, of Rafting. We prayed that the river may be Donned and departed to the rafting point. After wearing our life jackets and helmets we practised paddling to commands like "forward all" "right forward." With the thrilling twists and turns of the river alakanada my heart dropped to my knees. At one point I felt as if the dinghy was flying not floating. Seeing the turbulence of the river, the gushing roaring water, rocks sneaking out the river, we paddled furiously for our dear lives depended on it.

We coasted 17 rapids in all including 24th grade and 43rd grade rapids. At the camp all could be seen with Iodex or Vicks because our arms were aching.

Well as the saying goes "all good things come to an end" so did our trip. It was a good learning experience and at the same time fun. It remained fun thanks to the large cats and the bears (who were regular visitors to our trek route) but who did not drop in to say "Hi" & "Hello".

Carolyn Davies, IX B



I thank Him

*The world is becoming so mechanical
Everybody is so busy and practical
Its time we moved away from the maze
of computer
And enjoyed the pleasures of nature
It's fun to hear the singing of a bird
Or watch the cows moving in a herd
The shining sands on the river bank
And the fishes swimming
merrily in the tank
All sights of great pleasure
And these moments are what
we must treasure.*

*These works of God are great
I thank him because these
pleasures are in my fate.*

Disha Seth
VII A

THE Mussorie TRIP

Our journey started on the 9th of June '99 at 6.00 a.m. On a routine day everyone would be in a groggy state but today was special. This was the day; it marked the beginning of our adventure tour - a three-day outdoor living exploration in Mussorie. We were loaded with zest and enthusiasm as we boarded our bus. We were thirty in number including Mrs. Cleetus and her two lovely daughters. The six-hour journey was long, tiring but lively with girls singing and cracking jokes. It was very interesting talking to Mrs. Cleetus about nature on which her knowledge is unlimited and sharing her sweet plums.

We finally reached our destination at 2.00 p.m. - The Himalayan Institute. The camp was situated on a small hill with a stream flowing nearby. It had breathtaking views on all sides. The day was spent getting used to our new homes the tents and being assigned our sleeping bags and utensils. The atmosphere all around was so natural it made you feel safe and welcome. We visited the stream in the evening. The water was chilled and we had loads of fun soaking our feet even though some of us slipped. At night we had a few games which included making an advertisement and a radio jingle. The themes were Kalia toothpaste and ruk-ruk car. This activity helped us get to know each other much better.

Next morning, it was 'rise and shine early' as the day ahead was timely planned. We trekked to Kempty Falls in the morning. Then came back to the camp to get ready for rock climbing and rappelling, after which we were allowed to cool off and leisurely bathe in the nearby stream. The rest of the day one stayed indoors due to the rain. The bonfire planned for the night had to be cancelled; instead we did a few confidence-building exercises which were followed the day after in the morning after yoga. These exercises consisted of The Burma Bridge, Parallel Ropes and Tarzan Swing. Later we learnt river crossing, which ended our adventure trip, for it was time to pack up and board the bus again. But the memories of that trip I will always treasure. Lying down on the ground watching the stars above, living in the tents, washing your own utensils, raiding the canteen and the feeling of being independent will always stay with me.

This trip brought us back to nature. We learnt to hear and appreciate the silence and the soft and soothing sounds of nature. The wilderness created a sense of thrill among us all. We learnt to be more responsible and to solve our basic problems on our own. I thank Sister heartily for sending us and hope she plans more trips like this for us. Three cheers for nature!

Priyanka Verma
IX C

Kitchen Gardening

Our SUPW project is Kitchen Gardening.
It really is awakening.

Kitchen gardening helps us to explore our mind,
To know more about vegetables beauty and its kind.

Would you like to know, what it is?

Vegetables like spinach, carrot and peas,
Act like our health keys.

A gardener grows vegetables and fruits,
And takes care of soil and roots.

Fruits like apples, oranges and grapes,
Were with man even in the times of monkeys and apes.

Soils are loam, day and sandy,
So vegetables can be grown as trendy.

Manure and Fertilizers have helped us alot,
But excess of everything is bad for the plot.

Insecticides are sprayed as solutions,
To kill pests we have made a resolution.

Colorado, aphids, maths are few of the pests,
Pesticides are used to put them to rest.

Lowest, snail and beetle invade our planted bed,
Tomato becomes green, instead of remaining red.

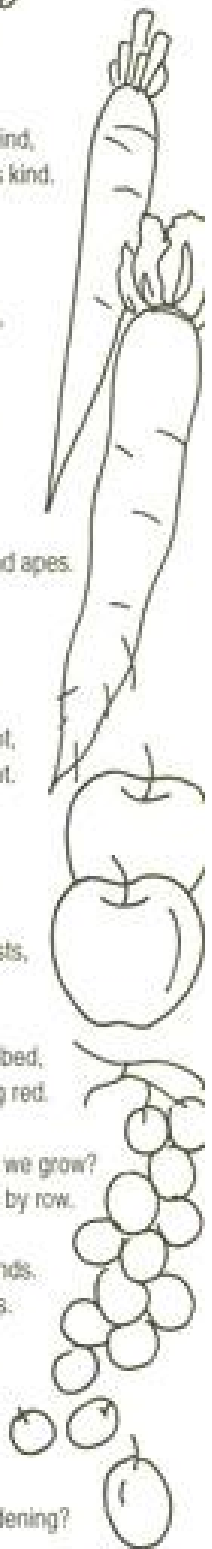
Now the question arises; in the garden what shall we grow?
Grow seasonal vegetables system artically row by row.

Seeds of various colours and of different kinds,
This kind of beauty, together no one finds.

We use many implements like spade,
plank and plough,
Seed drill, sickle and the saw.

Did you enjoy the journey through kitchen gardening?
Wasn't it really awakening?

Serena Walla
Sonal Sharma, VII B





"Personality is to humans as perfume is to flowers".

Personality represents all that a person is and does. It includes all the influences of heredity and environment, such as how he looks, how he feels, how he blends all characteristics-physical, intellectual, emotional and social. Personality serves to distinguish one individual from another. Personality is not something that is fixed. It gradually grows and develops. As we grow it is guided, improved and strengthened. The elements of a personality grow in a fairly harmonious way. Some people speak of personality as though it is something we have at sometimes but do not have at others. No two persons, or personalities are ever alike. This is because of influences of environment from which the personality grows.

Mary Ward wrote in her maxims "Show yourself as you are, and be what you show".

Every human has a personality. A positive personality in a person enables him to do the right at all times. A person will be said to have a positive personality when he has a will power, does what he says and is least bothered about his outer looks, but will rather consider his inner beauty first.

Attitude and character can be written as sub-headings of personality. In describing a person, the ancient Greeks used the phrase *peri sona*, which means 'around the body'.

Some people have both negative and a positive personality. They sometimes keep up to their words while sometimes fail to perform their duty. "I have a mixed personality". Like any other human, I also sometimes fail to do my duty. But still trying to strengthen my personality, I know I will someday succeed to have a strong personality. I have will power and dream to use it to reach high in life. But, I have some bad qualities, I am a stubborn person, and frankly speaking, I have made no effort to abolish this quality in me.

God, has given us many talents but has left it to us to develop them. Like talents, God has given us many qualities but has left it to us to-build a personality.



Chandni Mahindra, VIII A

My personality how true? How false?

God has made each and every human being with great love and affection. But he has left it on us to develop our unique personalities. Our society, family, thinking, friends, culture and our religion are the architects of our personalities. However it is upto the mental level of a person to pick these tracks and mould one's personality accordingly. My personality has both shades of white and black. I keep telling my fellow mates that I don't like liars but sometimes I tell lies to save mine or somebody else's skin. I'm confident at times and nervous too. Everybody has the ability to perform skills. But again, it depends upon our personality whether we take it easy or if we are serious about it. In my opinion if we have a pleasant personality then we can never be sad. Everybody (including myself) has a dual personality. With the result dual actions are performed. Thus, some good as well as bad actions take place.

Aditi Mathotra
VIII A

My personality

Beauty isn't merely in the eyes of the beholder it is in the personality you possess. Sur- enough, a strong personality is a thing of lasting beauty, and necessity. One's personality encompasses almost every aspect of one's life! inner qualities such as patience, will-power, dedication, self-confidence, self-reliance, and the way one conducts oneself. One's personality is the overall reflection of one's thoughts, ideas and their relevance in the social structure.

Now, why not have an inside critical look on my own personality. Frankly speaking, I possess inner strengths, and my weaknesses; my goals and my limitations. But from outside, am I perceived as the same strong person? Certainly not. My head is clear, my hands clean and yet my head is not held high enough. I find it hard to socialise and argue, even when I'm right. Thus, as an individual I'm strong for myself, but perceived weak by others.

Then comes my conscience- my honesty, desire to strive for the best and my thinking power. I want my words to come out from the depth of truth. But how often does it happen? Not always, and the lie springing from fear conquers the truth. Oh, I wish I do possess courage, for I takes courage to be true. My thoughts are everwidening and expressions clear. I like to think about the impossible and make it real - I want a reasoning power and scientific outlook on life and its problems.

I have high hopes and dreams for my future- to make a name and earn fame. To serve the nation selflessly. But, will my dreams come true, amidst all my weaknesses of impatience and anger?

I'll try my best to add positive values to my personality and make it the ultimate means of fulfilling my ambitions.

Harsha Dev
VIII A



My personality : How true ? How False ?

Personality is "the integrated organisation of all the psychological, intellectual, emotional and physical characteristics of an individual." I, myself am a person of various good and bad qualities.

My personality gives me confidence and self-belief. I always strive hard to be honest, hardworking, well-mannered and helpful. This is the true me. However, sometimes I put on a fake quality which is not the true me. This seems to look artificial and I feel uncomfortable.

Everybody wants a true personality and the ingredients of a dynamic personality are manners, an intellectual purposeful life and appearance. I too would desire to possess a true and dynamic personality as the words of Karin Room quote "Personality is intently more than your books and your popularity; it is you - body and mind and emotions - living at your peak."

Aditi Dimri
VIII A

Interesting to know.....

- ★ The nail on the middle finger grows fastest and the nail on the thumb grows slowest !!
- ★ The horn of the rhino is not a bone, it is hair !!
- ★ Ladies in 16th and 17th century wore their wedding rings on their thumb !!
- ★ A normal human can distinguish 10,000 different smells!!
- ★ A Mosquito has 47 teeth !!
- ★ Bamboo may grow upto 3 feet everyday !!
- ★ During the middle ages, people rarely bathed !!
- ★ Mary became Queen of Scotland when she was less than a week old !!
- ★ Desert snails doze for three years
- ★ Warm water freezes faster than cold water in the freezer.
- ★ A star fish lays 2000,000,000 eggs in a year.
- ★ There is no soda in soda water.

Aditi Dimri
VIII A

CHARACTER

Character is made up of those principles and values that give your life a direction, meaning and depth. Character in other words describes who you are. It includes traits like honesty, integrity, courage, fairness and generosity. While skill is certainly needed for success, it can never guarantee happiness and fulfilment. These come from developing character.

With the inside out approach, private victories precede public victories. The private victories are simply promises you make to yourself and others and then keep. They can be as mundane as a commitment to exercise everyday.

Day by day as we make and keep increasingly challenging promises, we will be making deposits in our "Character Account". What begins as great effort will eventually become habit and as we get into the habit of building character in the smaller areas of your life, your ability to develop spheres will grow. There is no more essential ingredient for character growth than trust.

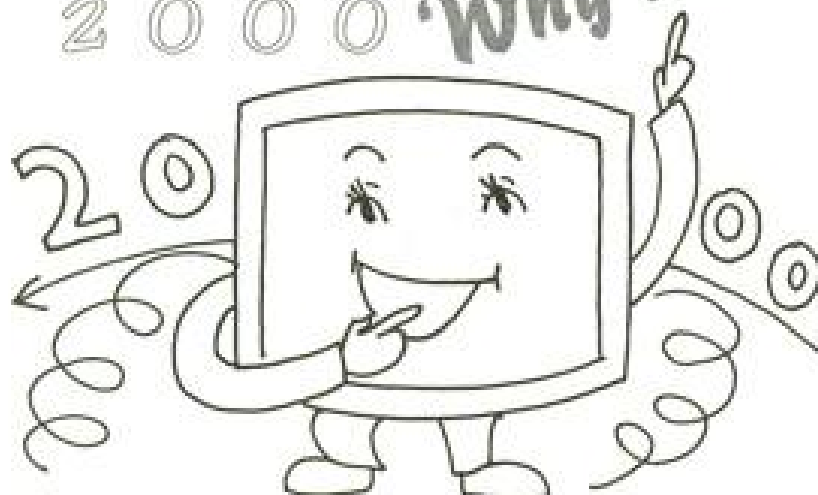
One of the most commonly over-looked ways to build trust is to be loyal to those who are not present.

Another way to build trust is to admit to your mistake. Often we sense that we can get away with things around those who know us best, will love us.

This can end up converting our character and our relationships.

Chandni Mahindra, VIII A

The Year 2K? 2000 Why 2K?



A recent newspaper article reported that several countries in Asia will stop planes, trains and weapon system as December 31, 1999 draws to a close. And will cross their fingers and gingerly plug these back in the year 2000. The reason for this caution? A tiny little computer glitch with not so a tiny consequence - The Millenium Bug.

Lifts will grind to a halt midway, trains won't know which track to run on, planes will fall from the sky, banks will dissolve into chaos.....these are just some of the repercussion being laid at the door of the Millenium Bug (also called the Y2K or the year 2000 problem).

The Bug is a computer glitch that confuses the year 2000 with the year 1900 and therefore causes problems with machines that depend on a date for their operation.

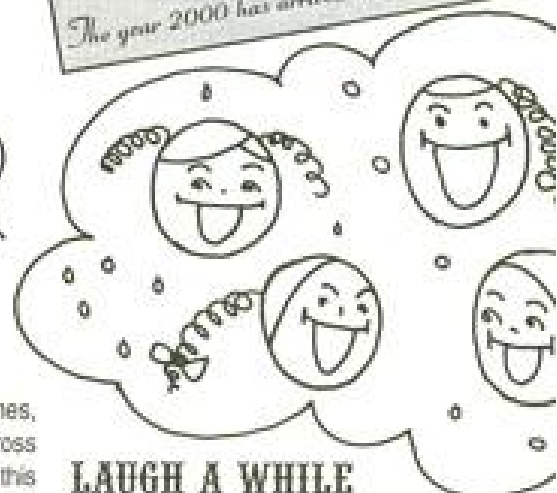
Once upon a time when a single computer filled a whole room and computer programmers were people who wore lab coats, computer didn't have much memory. The instructions for running the computer were converted into a code and punched into cards, fed to the computer. You will appreciate that it took a lot of cards to make the computer perform even the simplest of tasks or calculations. Each card has room only for a few dozens characters of information. It was because of this space crunch that programmers decide to save two characters by representing a year by the last two digits. So the year 1964 was as 64. And the problem is that the year 2000 is represented as 00 and the computer understand this as 1900 not 2000.

Some are trivial such as some VCR clocks showing the wrong date, while others, involving banking, air traffic control, invoicing and other industrial functions can lead to many problems. Take the case of a bank calculating interest on an account in January 2000. Your household appliances don't depend on a date for aberration and you are safe there, but tests conducted in some power production plants have shown that the safety systems shut the plant down when the year 2000 is encountered. If this is true of all date reliant embedded systems that aren't fixed, then the new year might very well bring chaos and mayhem.

Now if the bank's computer register 00 as 1900, then it owes you 1900-1997=97 years of interest!

Tanupriya Sharma, VI A

Thank God! No planes dropped down.....
No Banks went bankrupt.....All's well
That Ends Well
The year 2000 has arrived minus the Y2K glitch



LAUGH A WHILE

Ques : Why did the idiot carefully dry his hands washing them?

Ans : He didn't want his nails to go rusty.

Voice on telephone : Hello ! Tommy Hagon will n coming to school today.

Teacher : Who is there speaking please?

Voice : This is my father speaking.

Son : Dad I killed three male and two female flies !

Dad : How do you know?

Son : Dad! Because three were sitting on the win two on the mirror.

Pavleen Kohli,

As the New Year Dawns !

I am grateful to God
For making me who I am
I am grateful to my father and mother
for letting me live
in this world.
For accepting me as I am
not knowing how I would grow up.
Would I be beneficial to them
and to the world ?
Thank You God ! I am grateful, for the New Year t
dawns.....

Vanya Dhingra, VI

THE YEAR 2000 LET US NOT FORGET

India or Bharat came into existence as a nation-state only on 15th August 1947. We as a nation may be only 53 yrs of age but we are inheritors of a civilization which is many centuries old. Many a foreign colonial powers from the west have come and enslaved India for many years in the past, prominent among them were the Mughals, Dutch, Portugese, French, British, etc. Although we have been subjected to foreign domination, we have retained the essence of our great Indian culture and Indian heritage. Mahatma Gandhi, Gautam Buddha and Ashoka were preachers and practices of non-violence. It was due to non-violence that we finally got our independence. Over the years, we have proved that we are a peaceful nation. I am proud to be a citizen of a nation which has received the following attributes:

- India never invaded any country in her last 10,000 years of history.
- India invented the number system, Zero was invented by Aryabhata.
- The world's first university was established in Takshila in 700 BC. More than 10,500 students from all over the world studied more than 60 subjects. The university of Nalanda built in the 4th century BC was one of the greatest achievements of ancient India in the field of education.
- Sanskrit is the mother of all the European languages. Sanskrit is most suitable language for computer software says a report in Forbes, July 1987.
- Ayurveda is the earliest school of medicine known to humans, Charaka the father of medicine, consolidated Ayurveda 2500 years ago. Today, Ayurveda is fast regaining its rightful place in our civilization.
- Although modern images of India often show poverty and lack of development, India was the richest country on earth until the time of British invasion in the early 17th century.
- The art of navigation was born in the river Sindh 6000 years ago. The very word navigation is derived from the Sanskrit word 'Navgati'. The word navy is also derived from Sanskrit 'nav'.
- Bhaskaracharya calculated the time taken by the earth to orbit the sun hundreds of years before the astronomer Smart. Time taken by earth to orbit the sun is 365.258756484 days.
- The value of π was first calculated by Budhayana, and he explained the concept of what is known as the Pythagorean Theorem. He discovered this in the 6th century, long before the European mathematicians.
- Algebra, trigonometry and calculus came from India. Quadric equations were by Sridharacharya in the 11th century. The largest numbers the Greeks and the Romans used were 106 whereas Hindus used numbers as big as 10 to the power of 53 with specific names as early as 5000 BC during the Vedic period. Even today, the largest used number is Tera or 10 to the power of 12.
- According to the Gemological institute of America, until 1896, India was the only source for diamonds to the world.
- USA based IEEE has proved what has been a country's old suspicion in the world scientific community that the pioneer of wireless communication was Prof. Jagdeesh Bose and not Marconi.
- The earliest reservoir and dam for irrigation was built in Sourashtra.
- Chess was invented in India.
- The decimal system was invented in India.

***East or West
India is the Best***

Ruchi Ruperee, IX B

The Millennium Mail

God will make a way for you,
If you'll give him full control,
Trust him with your life and hopes
And He'll help you reach your Goal.

Sing a little song of faith,
Keep your courage bright,
And soon you'll see that God has turned
your darkness into light!
Mrs. Neelam Anand

In this world of tough competition
and 'no time' culture, I hope you
can take a minute off to 'hear the
still sad music of humanity' May
you grow up to be sensitive and
kind young women to make this
world a better place to live.
Love and best wishes
Sudha Seshanna

No one achieves success
by accident, everyone has
to work for it. The earlier we
realize this fact, the better
it is for us, as well as for the
nation.

Kusum Sharma

My message to the students of Loreto
Convent for the new millenium is that it
belongs only to the winners who have the
right potential and the right attitude towards
life. But remember what separates the
winners from others is that they have the
dream, desire, the skill and the will. But the
will is more important than the skill as
without will skill is of no use.

Mrs. M. Bath

The new millennium ushers in an era of hope and joy for
everyone. My message for the millennium is - let us give
and give again of all that we possess, not from the purse
but from the heart - brighter smiles and kindness - a helping
hand, a loving thought, a friendly word of praise and
encouraging some lovely soul through dark and stormy
days. May we give abundantly the good gift of love.
Mrs. P. Gautam

MRS. STANLEY - "Children who do the right things
at the right time, get a good name through their dili-
gence, punctuality and honesty. A good name is pre-
cious than the finest gold. So be good children. This
is my wish to you all."

It is in hoping that we dream,
In dreaming that we seek,
In seeking that we find our life's
desires.

So, trust and believe in yourself and
there
will be no limit to what you can achieve.

H. Banerjee

Dear Students,
Live your life as an
exclamation not an
explanation.
Focus on making things better
and think big thoughts
but relish small pleasures.
Mrs. Dewan

Be confident in yourself
Be sincere in your work
Be unselfish in your gestures.
And, Be thankful for God's grace
upon you.
You will be sure of success knocking
at your doorstep.
Waiting to be embraced by you.
Sherin Andrews

Happiness comes not from having easy
work, but in the afterglow of satisfaction
that accompanies any unselfish task well
done.

Mrs. M. Chandra

In the new millennium let us strive to break
the narrow walls of cast and creed and live
in harmony and peace, believing in the
brotherhood of man.

Anne Edmonds

My New Year resolution is to make Maths
simple and interesting for the students so that
they enjoy it.
Anu Tandon

Life today is dramatically high-tech dominated
by e-mail, cell phones, the web and PC's the
basics still hinge on human nature. My resolution
therefore is to be a good human being.
Mrs. Mohindra

Always be honest in your dealings, you won't
be a lesson.
Mrs. P. Tyagi

MRS. SUGATHAN - "My New Year resolution is to get
rid of all the junk in my house. This way I won't have
to change my resolution every year because the junk
never clears away."

MRS. VASHEET - "My New Year resolution is to make
all the children in my class pass."

MRS. KARNESKOP - "My most memorable incident of
the last millennium is that my 14 year old mother lived
with us and gave us a chance to take care of her. It
gave me true happiness."

MRS. ABRAHAM : Respect
your elders and help the
needy.

MRS. CASZO - Dare to win
MRS. ROBERTSON - Keep
trying till you succeed.

Be good, do good and think
good of others.

Mrs. Kadam.

Be loving and thoughtful
towards others, and have faith
in your own self.

Mrs. O. Singh

The Millennium Mail

Dear students,
Just as corruption, laziness and inefficiency are contagious, so also honesty, kindness and devotion to duty are equally infectious. For all the scandals and scams one comes across there are a fair number of Indians like Kiran Bedi, Baba Amte, Dr. Veghese Kumar, Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, Mother Teresa, who through their sheer determination and devotion to their cause never fail to inspire us and remind us that there is a God above and all is not quite lost with the world. May each one of you strive to be that special person who makes a difference, however small, in the life of some less fortunate person. And in giving may you realise the great truth of our school motto: "Receive that you may give".

Mrs. Valsb

MRS. SUBRAMANIAM - "My new year resolution is not to hurt anybody on earth and to be good even to those who are constantly hurting me because I believe that even the most wicked and cruel person on earth can be changed into a good person by giving them an opportunity to experience love and affection."

Pursue knowledge passionately with all the love of your heart, the attention and concentration of your intelligence with all the energies of your will.

Remember, Some don't know better as they grow older, they merely know more.

Mrs. Jasbir Gill

Give the world the best you have and the best will come back to you. Believe in yourself God bless you.

Mrs. R. Bhatnagar

May your spirit keep the freedom of a butterfly in spring and your heart be filled always with the joys of simple things. May your essence claim freshness of the new laid morning dew.

Mrs. S. Chopra

Everybody, everywhere seeks happiness, it's true. But finding it and keeping it, seems difficult to do: Happiness is just a state of mind. Within the reach of everyone who takes time to be kind. For in making others happy, we'll be happy too. For the happiness you give away, returns to shine on you.

Mrs. Agnes Davies

If you are doing something the way you were doing last year you are behind the times. My resolution for this year is to have a more positive approach than ever towards all the people around me.

Mrs. Alimchandani

MR. HENRY - Best wishes

MR. VICTOR : In my 28 years here I have found the students very well disciplined, organised, neat and efficient.

MISS PRIYA : Keep Smiling! Keep Shining ! and always put your best foot forward.

MRS. GHOSHAL - Be honest to yourself and never cheat others.

MRS. CLEETUS : Tireless striving reaches its arms towards perfection.

MRS. SHASTRI - If one has the ability to turn every task into an adventure, then success is not far away.

MRS. SAINI : Happiness depends on what we can give, not on what we get. Give everything, look for no returns. Give love, give help, give service. Give any little thing you can.

Whatever you undertake to do enjoy doing it and do it to the best of your ability.

Mrs. V. Chatterjee

Seek good and shun evil, ॐ श्रेष्ठं कुरु ।

Mrs. Kumar

MRS. BEDI - Do good and do it well.

MRS. ALMUWALIA - Be humble.

MRS. MITRA : Do your best and leave the rest in God's hands.

Honest and truthful as there is nothing higher than truth. This is my message for the millennium.

Mrs. Dey

My new year resolution is to drink Diet coke and then eat a chocolate Bar. Just to feel good!! But seriously, Believe in the Best, study your best, never be satisfied with less than your best, and in the long run things will turn out for the best.

R. Khandaia

MR. MANOJ : The Lord tells us "Obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age".

MR. MNHAS : The children should be responsible and should respect the teachers.



Dreams

I dreamt it long ago. And it goes.....
Once upon a time,
while having water and lime.
And sitting by a window pane,
Watching the scenery across the lane.
Birds chirping in the sky,
And going up & up and so high,
Trees dancing in the air,
And leaves falling as if they're air,
Flowers blooming all around,
And children huddled in a crowd.
Mothers shouting on their way,
For the children to come in & call it a day.
My dream went on & on+on.
And when I saw the time, it was past childhood.....
On the threshold of youth.....I stood.

Gurbani Singh, VIII B

'A Cent Percent Goal

Discipline

D - is the 4th alphabet

I - is the 9th alphabet

S - is the 19th alphabet

C - is the 3rd alphabet

I - is the 9th alphabet

P - is the 16th alphabet

L - is the 12th alphabet

I - is the 9th alphabet

N - is the 14th alphabet

E - is the 5th alphabet

Total is 100

This proves that a person, who
is disciplined can achieve 100%
in life.

Contributed by Shweta Khosla,
VIII B

Vaulting to the New Millennium

As we look to the coming years, is there a device, which can help India to catapult into the arena of development and prosperity? The answer is YES and the device is information technology.

Information technology is the synthesis of computers and communication which offers solutions, to hurdle over the economic, political and various other obstacles standing in the way of nation's progress. To start with, we have education which should be our highest priority. It is only with an educated population, that a nation can prosper and advance technologically. It is here that IT can be of immense use. Technologies for long distance learning are becoming possible. On the other hand, books converted into multimedia CDs are bringing a world of knowledge to schools at an affordable cost.

Next to education is health, where again with emphasis on building a national information network, it is possible to monitor the state of people's health and to control the spread of diseases.

The last major problem is an infrastructure. It can help in effective project management so that there are no time and cost over runs in major infrastructure projects like power, energy, petroleum etc.

Dolly Kapoor, VIII B

My New Millennium Dream

As the New Year's eve wears on,
It's not mere another year we step into,
But a new millennium we look beyond.
Twentieth century saw this world progress to
leaps and bounds,
But for the Twenty first century I have new
dreams and hopes;

To begin, an era of peace and globalization.
Where everybody lives with manners in
civilization.

My dream is of a better tomorrow,
A reign of God without trouble and sorrow.
Where pain, hunger and disease don't exist,
And violence, blood and killing are on a rest.
I dream that India leads the planet into the
twenty first century.

With its rich traditions and values that give
tranquility.

I pray for a clean and green future,
For which we shall save each tree, each drop
of water and every creature.

I dream of serenity among all,
From big nations to men fighting on the road till
dawn.

I wish, equality in human relations and economic
distribution prevail all over,

Where every human has clothes, food and
shelter.

This millennium we heard the roars of atomic
creations,

And cries of millions who suffered from the
dreadful invention.

I fantasise, the new millennium to symbolise
universal 'love and care'.

And pray God to bless us with leaders,
Who will lead the nation into 'My Dream of the
New Millennium'.

Aditi Dimri, VIII A

It is important to observe and understand the natural way to grow. If we look at nature, we do not find the struggle to grow as vigorous as in humans. Grass grows effortlessly and endures natural calamities. No two plants or trees are the same. There is a unique beauty in everything - even the thorny cactus is beautiful!

Children too are different. Some are gifted in learning, some in drawing. Others may be gifted with their hands, while some may be gifted musically. Every child is a rare individual and it is up to us to discover that. We struggle too much against nature's laws. We compare too much and seek to hide differences. Each individual is different (even twins) - each having his or her own strengths and weaknesses. It is therefore important to understand the differences and encourage the child to build on her strength and work on her weaknesses.

What is Dyslexia?

Dyslexia is a great word which means difficulty with words or language. Also called 'Learning Disability', it denotes a group of disorders. I prefer to call it 'Learning Difficulties' rather than 'Learning Disability', as disability is a term more stigmatized and not easily palatable to the human mind. Disabilities in a child manifest as difficulties in the acquisition and use of abilities such as reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic or of social skills. These difficulties arise from inadequate development of some areas of the brain.

Children with learning difficulties are slow in learning but they have

normal or above normal intelligence. In children with learning difficulties all the normal brain mechanisms are present but do not function the way they should. It is similar to a 'faulty wiring' in the brain, leading to faulty expression of what is learnt by the child.

Dear Mother

Started school several weeks I have grown considerably I don't look much like a Boy now how all the fold did you receive a Box of Books Memphis that he promised to send them languages.

Your son Al
(19 years)

Al was Thomas Elva Edison, whom we know as the inventor of the electric bulb, the gramophone and 1,300 other patents. Al was thought to be a dunce as a school boy and got thrown out of the public schools of Michigan, U.S.!!

His mother, to whom he wrote the above letter, was a woman of great determination and under took the painstaking job of teaching Edison at home. Yet, this brilliant scientist never really mastered basic skills in writing, spelling and arithmetic. Edison was dyslexic.

In history there is a long list of famous dyslexics, which includes names like Thomas Edison, Leonardo da Vinci, Albert Einstein, Woodrow Wilson and Winston Churchill. Churchill was Prime Minister, a great orator and won a Noble Prize for Literature. Yet his school reports showed a boy doing miserably in class. His father wrote about him, "I have an idiot of a son."

But, dyslexic Churchill was fortunate to receive special coaching, entered the Royal Military College, where he did not need much of writing skills and the rest is history. Einstein was capable of the most advanced scientific thinking but he failed at school where he had difficulty in learning to read. Even as an adult, writing continued to be a problem with him. Dyslexia was thought to be a rare disorder,

From the learning centre

but current statistics in the west and India show that 10 percent of children are affected by this handicap. It is an alarming thought that in a school of 1,000 children, at least 100 could be having learning difficulties.

Why diagnose Dyslexia?

It is important to detect and diagnose learning difficulties early in children, because it is of great consequence for the parent, and above all the affected child, who then receives special remedial helps. These children can then be taught with patience, using teaching strategies developed for remedial teaching.

What does a learning centre do?

The aim and purpose of a Learning Centre is to augment efficiency and surmount deficiency in dyslexic children. It helps to build the self-esteem of the child and provides a support system. A multisensory approach to learning is followed.

The Learning Centre provides environmental conditions necessary to meet the needs of children with learning difficulties. The children are given individual or small group instruction. Here the child gets individualized help in the deficit areas, while attending the regular classes.

Children with severe learning problems spend full time at the 'Centre'. Once they acquire the basic academic skills as well as those skills needed to fit in the mainstream classroom, they are sent back to the regular class. The 'Learning Centre' helps in building the strengths and overcoming the deficiencies of children with learning difficulties. Here the atmosphere is relaxed without the pressures of the classroom. Instruction begins at comfort levels and gives the children a good learning environment.

The need of the hour is therefore to create a warm and positive environment for the child with 'learning difficulties' to overcome her deficiencies, as 'a child's mind is not a vessel to be filled.

But a fire to be kindled'.

Mrs. Poonam Gautam



Time does not change for man or child.
Neither for animal tame or wild.
It goes on and on
Like a never ending brook
Which cannot be held
With a rope or a hook.
So make it your friend
And run till the end
Don't bother to stop
And turn back to look.

Pavleen Kohli
VII B



School Again

Dear God, I've a question to ask,
Why do school days so slowly pass?
And why do holidays first fly away.
When we are engaged in play.

School again, again from tomorrow,
Here come days of grief and sorrow
So much homework to be done,
I wish I could play and run.

Getting up so early in the morning.
Being punished in class for yawning,
Here come days of grief and sorrow
School again, again from tomorrow.

Preeti Solanki
VII B

Someone Does Care

*I found God in the morning,
We just sat and talked.*

*I kept Him near me,
everywhere I walked.*

*I called on God at noontime,
a heart filled with despair,*

*I felt His quiet presence,
I knew "He" was there.*

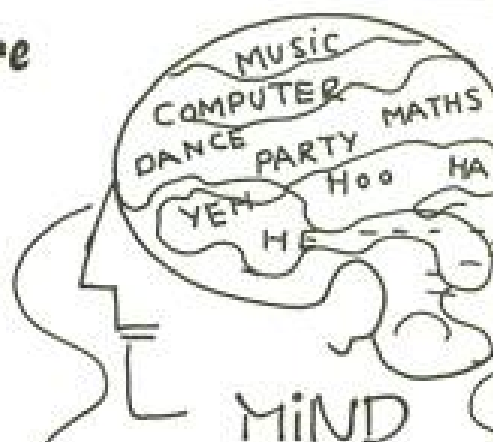
*We met again at sunset,
the waning of the day.*

*I had made Him happy,
I had tired "HIS WAY"*

*Then when at bed time I knelt,
Silently in prayer.*

*Again "His" gentle presence I felt
"Some one Does Care"*

Rashmika Sharma, VI A



When we follow the mind,
We are dragged by the mind,
When we witness the mind,
We master the mind.

Vanya Dhingra
VIII C



COOL CAT

1. An American, an African and an Indian were sailing in the sea.
American said : I'll build a huge ship to sail in the vast ocean".
African said : "I'll build cosy rooms in it to rest".
Indian said : "My job is very easy", I'll first take some paint and a brush and I write on the ship "Made in India".
2. Conductor (to a villager in a double decker bus) : Please go upstairs.
Villager : No, I won't
Conductor : But why?
Villager : The bus on the top has no wheels.
3. Doctor (to the patient jokingly) "What will happen if I cut your ears?
Patient : Then I will no longer be able to see.
Doctor : But Why?
Patient : I won't have any place to hook my spectacles.
4. Rahul to his friend John, "My Grandfather was still alive at 120!"
John : "That is nothing. My Grandfather is still alive at 133!"
Rahul : "What? A hundred and thirty three?"
John : "Yes - 133, Mayur Vihar, New Delhi."
5. Teacher : "Rahul, name 4 animals that give milk."
Rahul : 4 cows, Madam.

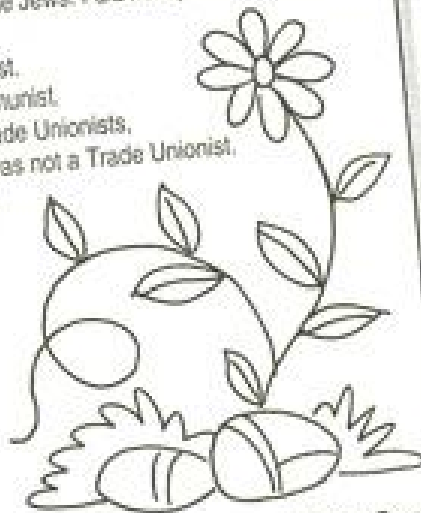
Sukhmani Uppal, VII B

'Sometimes, silence can be plain yellow'

During the World War second, Pastor Nimeral, one of the victims of the Nazis once stated, "First the Nazis came down upon the Jews. I did not speak then, because I was not the Jew.

They then came down upon the communist. I did not speak because I was not a communist. There after they came down upon the Trade Unionists, then also I did not speak out because I was not a Trade Unionist. Finally, when they came down upon me, I found I had nobody to speak for me."

Life is not made up of
Great duties and sacrifices,
But of little things,
In which smiles and kindness
And small Obligations Are
Given habitually
They win and preserve the heart
And secure comfort



Himpty Davy.

WHAT MAKES ME HAPPY & WHAT MAKES ME SAD

God granted a small heart to every one. May be small, but it makes one's life very meaningful. The heart goes on and on. Full of emotions this little thing makes a person feel happy, sad, curious & helps him experience the reality of life & its feelings.

I too have a heart. My brain helps me think but my heart helps me feel. When both these work together I understand things better. Many things make me happy. The love of my parents the encouragement I get from them makes me feel very happy. It helps me work hard so that I can live up to their expectations. Scoring good marks is yet another thing that makes me happy. This helps me experience great joy & proves that I had really studied hard. It is rather suprising that there are more things that make me sad than happy. People suffering from want & hunger. The financial problems people face, young children who don't have anybody to bank on, Religious Fanatics killing people. The acrimonious arguments of people, the bitterness & hatred in the hearts of people, the ill treatment given to the poor. All these things touch my heart & make me awfully sad.

Anshika Tandon, VIII B

What makes me Happy and what makes me sad!

Summer Vacations is a Lovely time.
When I sit in the balcony sipping soda time.
In the evening I go for a walk,
And over the fence with friends I talk.
Ah ! Alas the vacations are over
School time again, fun time is over
This is what makes me sad
Never mind - I'll take it in the stride.

Niharika Banga
VIII B



What makes me happy, What make me sad

What makes me happy
What make me sad
Is something which I wonder
But I think that
A pleasant summer sun
Is something that makes me happy
SO, does reading books
Cause when I get a book
I spend hours reading it
I feel happy when I hear the birds chirping
And then with their wings
fly high into, the sky.
Believe me, I'm not telling a lie.
I do feel sad
Seeing birds being shot down
Just for the greed of mankind
MY heart breaks to see animals
being killed and tortured
God is the creator, only he can destroy them
To see people or countries fighting
is not what I would like to see
But then life's like that
We can't do anything about it
People's habit cannot be changed
we have to change ourselves
For when we change ourselves
we try to change others around us

Kanika Kumar
VIII B



Smile

When you are sad
And feeling very bad
Someone gives you a smile
How do you feel for a while?
You think the whole world is against you
But there is someone who really cares for you
For, there is a sweet smile
That will be your companion
throughout your life.

Megha Bhasin, VIII B

My Emotions

Emotions are strong.
Emotions are weak.
Emotions are something.
Which are beyond our control.
Playing with a small girl
My emotions are happy.
Someone refusing
Is quite depressing.
Sitting on the edge of a chair,
crying and thinking hard.
I think my emotions are slightly displaced
I feel jealous, seeing
My self alone and someone playing
Why, do people hurt each other's
emotions
Just for a little satisfaction?

Sonal Sharma, VII B



Be honest, never tell a lie
For honesty, money can't buy
Telling a lie is a habit that is bad
Always results in something sad.

Mansi Kaushik, VIII A

Howler

In a tennis match, the judge of the
game sits on a seat which has a
refrigerator under it. That might be
the reason he is called a referee.

Akshita Macker, VII A

Junior School

Junior School is cool,
It is like a fun-filled pool.
We get all the love,
Though life can sometimes be tough.
The teachers share and care,
They're around when we need them, anywhere
They teach us what is right,
Striving to make each child bright.

Manya Sibai, VI



What Makes me Happy!!

What Makes Me Sad!!

From pre-historic times it has been man's tendency to
look forward to happiness even in the depths of despair
and expect sadness to come once in a decade.
Whereas happiness and sadness come hand in hand,
neither of the two stay lifelong.

Whenever I see something glowing white it elates my
spirits as I feel that I have come close to God. Even
the slightest sight of suffering makes me sad. The loss
of many precious lives in the recent Kargil war led me
to sadness. My happiness finds no bounds whenever
I am being praised for good as at that point of time I
feel the importance of being created by the almighty
God.

The best method that I have witnessed to overcome
my sadness is to share my feelings with my nears and
dears. It is my great ambition to do something
substantial for the society. The practice of medicine
seems to offer me that opportunity. In future years to
come if I am able to achieve my goal I shall be lifelong
contented, and happy. I certainly do cherish happiness
but at the same time, I am not afraid of facing the sad
moments that I may encounter in my life.

Shweta Khosla
VIII B

A GOOD LORETOITE

A Good Loretoite according to me
is as kind and nice as one can be
She shall never fight
But always be polite
If she tries her level best
In all her quests shall gain success
She stands proudly in the mighty sun
knowing, shall win in the long run
Self pity and false pride is never what
she has tried
She has enough wisdom to last her entire
life,
'Service Before Self' is what she likes.
I can assure you that these Loretoites
shall be the future citizens
that stand with pride.

Shweta Khosla, VIII B

It's just that.....

My words are full of truth
I never meant to be rude
I have been paying
For the words I said
Even the ones I never meant on dear
Oh dear!! I swear
With words again
shall I never offend
I want you back
My loving friend

Aman Preet Kaur, IX

WHAT MAKES ME HAPPY ! - WHAT MAKE ME SAD !

There are a number of things which make me happy and some make me sad. Watching television is what I just love to do. Going out makes me very happy. In the summer vacations, I just love going to different places and spending a lot of time eating and sleeping. Having a lot of friends is very interesting. Reading mystery stories and ghost stories is what makes me happy.

I get very upset when I see beggars on the roadsides. When I see their torn clothes and they have no shoes or slippers I talk to my parents about it and decide to give something to them. May be some money or some food. Now in India children are employed in cracker factories and other factories. Many of them die while working or loose their eye sight or may get diseases. When I think of this I really feel very sad.

The war going on in Kargil is really a sad one. So many soldiers have died and so many children have lost their fathers. So many mother's have lost their sons & so many wives have to stay without their husbands. I am very sad about this war. Gruesome violence in the name of religion is what makes me very sad. I pray to god, to lead us to PEACE..... in the New Year.

Saumya Sibal, VIII B

Great Thoughts of Great Men

Do not tell me the problem is a difficult one. If it were not difficult, it would not be a problem.

- Marshal Foch

Our mind is like a garden which can either be intelligently cultivated or be allowed to run wild.

- R. K. Murti

It isn't enough to talk about peace. One must believe in it. And it isn't enough to believe in it. One must work at it.

- Eleanor Roosevelt

A blow with a word strikes much deeper than a blow with a sword.

- Robert Burton

To get profit without risk, experience without danger, and reward without hardwork, is as impossible as it is to live without being born.

- A. P. Gouthey

Power does not corrupt man. But fools, if they get into the position of power, corrupt power.

- George Bernard Shaw

When you educate a man, you educate an individual. When you educate a woman, you educate the whole family.

- Jawaharlal Nehru

Don't ever slam a door, you might want to go back.

- Don Herblid

Nothing shows a mans character more than what he laughs at.

- Goethe

In prosperity, our friends know us. In adversity, we know our friends.

- John Chilton Collins

Compiled by Chandni Kochhar, VIII B



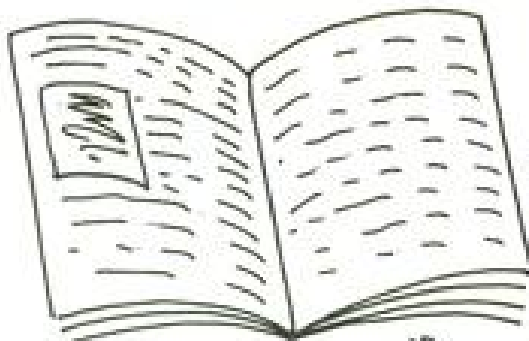
By -
Akriti Macker
VIII A

Smart and Sweet !

1. What do you have that is easiest to part with?
A Comb
2. What has four wheels and flies?
A Garbage truck
3. What goes up every time the rains come down?
An Umbrella
4. There is something lighter than a feather that you can't hold even 10 minutes. What is it?
Your Breath
5. What coat is always wet when you put it on?
A coat of paint
6. How long should your legs be?
Long enough to reach the ground.
7. What's the best way to catch a squirrel?
Climb a tree and act like a nut
8. What did one strawberry say to another?
If you weren't so sweet, we wouldn't be in this jam



Megha Bala, VIII B



My History Book

When I open my history book,
I don't want to take a look.
Its questions are so boring,
that I start snoring.
Sometimes I am Akbar the great,
drinking fruiti eating the cake.
Once Shah Jahan was on the bike,
and Birbal was singing on the mike.
Mumtaz Mahal then gave a clap,
and on my face I got a slap.
Mummy was asking to open the book,
then I had to give it a second look.

Maumita Chakraborty, VI A

IF I WERE.....

If I were a broom
It would go zoom-zoom,
If I were a clock,
I would go tick tock.
If I were a pen,
I would name myself Ben.
If I were a King,
I would keep a nightingale to sing.
If I were a queen,
I would never be mean,
If I were a cloud,
I would never be proud.
If I were a flower,
I would bloom every hour
If I were a bee,
Now that is enough
I'm happy I'm just me.

**Panzy VI A
Arpita VI A**

Cricket Vs Examination

Preparing for examination - fielding.
Tough question paper - fast bowling.
Easy question paper - slow bowling.
Unexpected question paper - googly.
Confusing question paper - spin bowling.
Checked while copying - Caught.
First class with honours - Sixer.
Second Class - One run.
Failed - Clean bowled.

Preeti Solanki, VII B

Teachers

Teacher Oh teacher!
You are my preacher
You teach me to be kind
You sharpen my mind.

You are a loving one
You always make us have fun
You are so frank and sweet
You tell us not to cheat.

You always give us useful instruction
You make us prepare for our examination
My dear teachers you are really great
May God bless you I've always prayed.

**Tanu Priya Sharma
VI A**



A Doctor : What type of filling would you like in your tooth?

Pita : Chocolate, Please

In an Aeroplane one passenger asks the other.

1st Passenger : Which place are we flying over ?

2nd Passenger : Bombay ! Bombay !

1st Passenger : Be silent.

2nd Passenger : Ombay ! Ombay !

Geography Teacher : What is the height of Qutub Minar?

Student : 3.2 centimeters, Ma'am.

Geography Teacher : From where did you get it?

Student : I measured it in the Geography book.

Saloni Sethi, VII B

Father in the Kitchen

One hot day
In the month of May
My mother was not at home
So father was at the store
When we came back from school;
We saw dad on the stool, He was reading a cookery book,
while something in the pan he stirred and shook.
He put salt in the kheer and sugar in cheese.
The chilies were burning.
The omelet he kept turning, Having accomplished his mission a smile
on his face was posted
when the food we tasted.
To say the least it was not very good.
We gulped it down as on our head we stood.

**Pavleen Kohli
VII B**

Borrowed Dreams

Two men were trying their luck, fishing on a remote Canadian wilderness lake. One of them yawned, stretched his arms and sighed. "Boy, I just dreamed I could catch a thousand trout".

The other fisherman asked, "Pierre if you catch a thousand trout, would you give me half of them?"

"No, sir, I would not."

"Would you give me a quarter of them?"

"No! I wouldn't give you a quarter of them."

"Pierre, if you catch a thousand trout, would you not give me at least ten of them?"

"No, I wouldn't give you even ten of them."

"Well, wouldn't you give me even one lousy trout?"

"No, Louis, I wouldn't give you even one lousy trout if I catch a thousand".

"But why not Pierre? I thought you were my friend".

"Because Louis, you are too damn lazy to dream for yourself".

Moral : Don't piggybank on some one else's dream. Find one for yourself.

Vanya Dhingra
VIII C



KARGIL

'Paradise on Earth', as Kashmir was known,

Where seeds of happiness were sown;

Has changed into a battle field,

And now there is only unhappy yield;

India and Pakistan are fighting for this beautiful land,

But in their fight, they have made it a dead land;

Pakistani intruders crossed the Line of Control,

India launched Air strikes to bring things under control;

Everyday many innocent Indian soldiers die,

We salute them who made our flag fly high;

I hope India retains Kashmir,

And everything ends in harmony and peace.

Aditi Dimri, VIII A

SUCH LOW
MARKS ON PHYSICS?
I'M HAD ONLY ONE
CHAPTER - GRAVITY

I WISH, NEWTON
HAD EATEN THE
APPLE THAT FELL
FROM THE TREE



True Friendship

The best friend a man has in the world may turn against him and become his enemy. His son or his daughter, that he has reared with loving care, may prove ungrateful. Those who are nearest and dearest to us, those whom we trust with our happiness and our good name, may become Halton to their faith.

The money that a man has he may lose.

A man's reputation may be sacrificed in a moment of ill-considered action. The people who are prone to fall on their knees to do us honour when success is with us, may be the ones to throw stones of malice when failure settles its cloud upon our heads.

The one absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful is his dog.

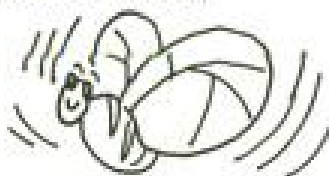
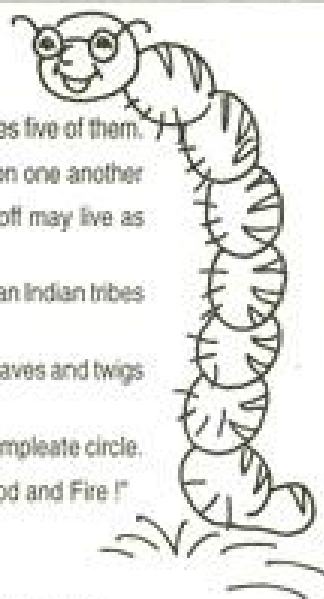
A man's dog stands by him in prosperity and in poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground, where the wintry winds blow and the snow drives fiercely, if only he may be by his master's side. He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer, he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the world.

He gawks the sleep of his master as if he was on a picnic. When all other friends desert he remains.

If fortune dues the master forth an outcast in the world, friendless, homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying him to guard against danger, to fight against the enemies. And when the last scene of all comes, and death takes master in his embrace, and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by the graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad but open in alert watchfulness faithful and true even un to death.

CRAZY BUT TRUE !

1. The common silkworm has eleven brains, but it only uses five of them.
2. The three body segments of an insect do not depend on one another for survival. Thus an insect whose head has been cut off may live as long as a year in this condition.
3. Woodpecker scalps were highly prized by North American Indian tribes - one was enough to buy a wife with.
4. The Australian bush-turkey collects about five tons of leaves and twigs to build its huge nest.
5. The Owl is the only creature able to turn its head in a complete circle.
6. The motto of the peace-loving Salvation Army is "Blood and Fire!"
7. Elephants are the only animals that can't jump.
8. An elephant's trunk can carry gallons of water.
9. The first pop star to appear on a postage stamp was Michael Jackson.
10. In a crying contest in New York, Verne Sandusky cried for 3 1/2 hours, producing nearly half a pint of tears.
11. A flea can jump 200 times its own height.
12. A fly's wings vibrate 340 times a second.
13. There is a small village in France named "Y".
14. The giraffe has the same number of bones in its neck as a human being.
15. In 1982, a man stole a woman's false leg and held it to ransom for \$100.



'Ideal Students'

A	: makes you Active
B	: inspires you to be Bold
C	: wants you to be a great Citizen
D	: keeps you Dutiful
E	: advises you to respect Elders
F	: requests you to be Faithful
G	: makes you Gentle
H	: expects you to be Honest
I	: makes you Intelligent
J	: teaches you to be Just
K	: wishes you to be Kind
L	: asks you to be Loving
M	: asks you to be Merciful
N	: teaches you to be Neat
O	: wants you to be Obedient
P	: keeps you Punctual
Q	: keeps you Quiet
R	: tells you to be Regular
S	: to think before you Speak
T	: to be Truthful
U	: to expect the Unexpected
V	: to cultivate Virtues
W	: to follow the above and be Wealthy
X	: excellence in all you do
Y	: makes you feel Youthful
Z	: provides Zeal



Aditi Malhotra
VIII A

"The Pen Is Mightier Than The Sword"

Even today many people believe that the use of force is necessary for good governance and peace in society. There are others who believe that the pen is mightier than the sword.

What does the pen stand for? It stands for the art of expression; the power of word. It stands for the press, literature, newspapers, books and other writings. The purpose of all writing is to connect one mind with another, to persuade the reader to take up the view which the writer holds on a particular subject. The reader has the right to hold his or her view. The reader's view may not be convinced of the writer's judgment and opinions presented to him. We may, therefore, say that the pen stands for the peaceful means by which a person is persuaded to accept the views which the writer holds. No force is used to persuade the reader.

On the other hand, the sword always stands for force. A man holding a sword in his hand forces his views on others, if they do not accept his views he will fight. The sword therefore, implies force not reason. Surely, the pen is the better of the two.

Rubani Sethi
VII B

Examinations

Oh! Examinations

I have made no preparation

I am terribly afraid of you

Kindly tell me what I should do

you are early I am late

But now I shall adopt a method new

Study everyday is what I shall do.



SOME WISE DEFINITIONS

Q. 1. What is experience ?

Ans. A comb of life which you get after you lose all your hair.

Q. 2. What are secrets ?

Ans. Secrets are words which we tell everybody not to tell anybody.

Q. 3. Why do we use etc. ?

Ans. We use etc. to show a person we know everything even if we don't know anything.

Parushni Aggarwal, VIII B



English is fun : by class XI

Variety is not only the spice of life but it also add spice to teaching. Through the year we experimented with creative and innovative methods of teaching and learning. We had joy, we had fun and so shared this joy and fun with everyone by giving and insight to one of our favorite methods of teaching : 'dramatization'

'Upagupta', a poem by Rabindranath Tagore was enacted in the form of a ballet by class XI A and the every fresh and favorite extract from 'To Sir with Love' enacted by class XI B

Upagupta, by Tagore is a poem depicting the co-existence of spiritual and physical beauty. Spiritual through the disciple of Buddha and physical through the dancing girl. Drunk with the wine of her youth the dancing girl tries to lure the monk. Suddenly there is storm and the dancing girl is afraid and repents her act. While the physical beauty is short lived, the spiritual beauty is everlasting and reigns supreme.

From a serious poem we went on to a light and lively play, depicting the truancy of teenagers at its height and how through love, patience and complete devotion a teacher transforms a set of hooligans into respectful human beings.

We really enjoyed our project and now we sit back and think about it. We find that had it not been for Mrs. Mohindra's help and guidance, her insistence on perfection in everything and her strictness in some ways, we don't think that our innovative method of classroom teaching and learning would have been a success.

Ramneeka Sabharwal



The cup of life

Life is like the cricket world cup,
Where some people like the Scots easily give up,
Some like the Indians as pressure they cannot face,
Some like the Zimbabwe who get lost in the race.
Some like the Kiwis who till the end fight,
Some like the Bangladeshis who struggle for their might,
Some like the Lankans who cannot rise after a fall,
Some like the West Indians who do not shine in life's call.
Some like the Aussies who always complain,
Some like the Kenyans whose efforts goes in vain,
Some like Pakistanis who have luck, skill and desire,
Some like the South Africans who outshine like night-fire,
Some like the English who follow all the rules,
And perhaps, some like the spectators who only watch,
and end up being fools.

Neha Bhimwal, XII B

KARGIL BATTLE IN THE HEAVENS

*"If there is any heaven on this earth,
It is here, It is here, It is only here"*

These were the famous words of Jahangir, the Mughal emperor of India to describe Kashmir. But do they hold true today ? Yes, for Kashmir is still beautiful, but what has happened to the people ? What was once a picturesque scene of romance and beauty is now home to fierce fighting and suffering

The territory of Kashmir was hotly contested even before India and Pakistan won their independence from Britain in August 1947. Under the partition plan provided by the Indian Independence Act of 1947, Kashmir was free to accede to India or Pakistan. The Maharaja of Kashmir, Hari Singh, wanted to stay independent but eventually decided to accede to India, signing over key powers to the Indian Government - in return for military aid and promised referendum. Since then the territory has been the flashpoint for two of the three India-Pakistan wars : The first in 1947-48, the second in 1965. Since 1989, in addition to the rival claims in Delhi and Islamabad to the territory, there has been growing and often violent separatist movements for the independence of Kashmir.

In the recent conflict between India and Pakistan, the epicenter of the storm was Kargil. All these issues and disparities once again resurfaced after Pakistan captured territories which were a part of India. Pakistan claimed that the territories were a part of their land.

Kargil has been affected by cross-border shelling for the past 3 years. The authorities gave money to the families to build underground shelters but the residents declined saying they will not be confined to these shelters for days on end.

It is really unfortunate that despite our similar culture, we haven't been able to solve this long standing issue of Kashmir. Instead of spending on defence, both of us the countries must look towards the development of the region and try to maintain peace.

Megha Khanduja, IX A

THE BLIND SCHOOL

There are a number of people who have lost their eye sight either through an accident or they are blind by birth. These people need to be given special place in the society, to build up their confidence and help them overcome this disability. There are many blind people who are now able to work on computers in school, work in factories, offices and carry on with their lives as normal people. The girls of Vth standard in our school have been helping these people. During the wonderful occasion of Diwali they sell Diyas, candles, mops, dusters and other items made by the people of Blind School. The girls knit gloves and mufflers for them. The girls collect newspapers and also donate little bit of money from their pocket money weekly. The newspapers are sold and the money collected is donated to the blind school at the end of the year. Once in a year the Vth standard pay a visit to the blind school also it is our moral and social duty to help the blind people in any every we can.

EXPRESSIONS '99

THE ART AND CRAFT EXHIBITION

It was a lovely day and just right time for something special. I knew it was the day for Expressions '99. The art and Craft Exhibition in our school of all classes from Vth to XIIth. Everyone was busy decorating their own classroom with drawings and craft work on 15 Dec. '99. The inauguration was done by our Principal Sister Anne Marie at 9.15 a.m.

A wave of parents came admiring each every painting or craft they could see. Though each class had put up paintings and craft and SUPW work it was a different atmosphere in each classroom. The jungle scene of 7b class Kitchen garden of 7a and the Christmas scene of 7c class was very much appreciated by everyone. The little artists of class Vth and VIth had also put up an attractive show. Nevertheless, the girls of class VIII the also did a fabulous job class IXth also had displayed the work done by using waste material. The food put up by the home-science section of class Xth was so tempting that it was difficult to keep the girls away. Some of the classes had put up an attractive rangoli using dry colours and fresh flowers. The teaching aids made by girls who teach illiterates coming from Jhareda village in the adult literacy programme were also very interesting.

Preeti Chopra, VII A



A Geometrical marriage letter

(XY)² Colony

Square no. 3+4-9

Palam Colony 100000+10045=1100045

Dear Miss Triangle

Yesterday, I received a circular letter from you son 'Parallelogram'. And how is his uncle 'Trapezium'? My brother 'Rectangle' is getting multiplied (married) to my college friend 'Quadrilateral'. So you are cortically invited for addition (dinner) on $7+5-1+16=17$ Dec $10+10=20$. $10-10=00$ i.e. 2000. I hope you will come along with aunt Trapezium, uncle Parallelogram, Sis Rhombus and their kids kids-point, line and diameter too. Say circle may $2\pi r$ (a formula). We have invited the famous 'Hexagon band.

Yours Sincerely

Pythagorean Theorem

Teresa Anthony, X B

Nuclearism

"We are now a nuclear state"

Isn't it so very great?

That's what I hear many people say

Each and every single day

A simple question I want to ask,

To conduct nuclear tests, is a big task,

But crores of rupees, can we afford to pay?

And yet be so happy and gay?

Poverty and illiteracy have yet not gone

Still we feel nuclearism is the rise of dawn

I would like to say in the end

Don't support nuclearism, be India's friend.

Disha Seth, VII A

Emotions is a distinguished language

Emotions is a body language which expresses every feeling of ours. It tells us about the things deep inside us. We try to hide our emotions but cannot. This language tells us how to behave in certain circumstances, for example we come to know that we have to behave in a consoling manner when someone is sad or hurt. We should encourage people when they think they can't. We should be with those who are left out. We should try not being a big show off. Emotions are feelings. And our job is to understand them. One who understands them has learnt the art of living. Feelings have been with us from the time we were born and will be with us till we die. Let us learn to handle them for us good and fear the good of others.

Aditi Srivastav, VII B

Cricket Crazy India

With world cup '99 just gone by, India certainly ate cricket and slept cricket.

This summer, there was enough cricket news in the air to have cricket conversations in drawing rooms, in offices, at 'paan' shops and enough to have articles written on it months after the contest.

Given a thought, the only thing that unites India is cricket (or the war perhaps). However a minority still exists and that being of cricket haters.

As much as I love cricket myself my sympathy lies with this minority of cricket haters. They seem to have no escape from the cricket monster. If they manage to evade the live telecast of the matches and watch a television programme they are greeted with a collection of commercials with cricketing features. Disgusted with life, they step into a restaurant only to find that there is not a single place in town without large screens to show matches and special cricket menus.

What surprises me most is that if India is so cricket crazy, then what is hockey doing in the slot for 'Indian national Game'? Even though I'm not as cricket silly to know where 'silly point' lies on the field, I'm still a part of the cricket crazy Indian's.

Well, if there are some who are still weeping over India's defeats in '99 there are those who heave a sigh of relief. The sighs of relief die down fast as "Cricket Crazy India" awaits 2003.

Ramnika Subberwal, XI B

Great Expectations

One of the major problems that haunts teenagers is to fulfill the expectations of various people especially Parents & school authorities. Grown ups think that they rule the world. What they wish & think is correct, should always be fulfilled. We the younger generation are always burdened by their expectations. Elders think that we are "Jinnies" & their wishes have to be our ten commandments.

Parents expect us to perform wonders in all spheres of life. They want us to be geniuses. But God gifted each individual with different talents. He made some of us good at studies while others good at sports. But sometimes elders expect so much that we get burdened and mentally disturbed. As a result many of us are unable to persue in the field we are originally interested in. Instead have to perforce do what our parents think is right for us. Therefore 90%, we fail to live up to our parents' expectations as we are unsuccessful in our respective careers. The parents are also heart-broken and all their dreams are shattered.

India is a democratic nation. But we kids are deprived of the right to freedom of speech and expression. We all know that "Communication and expression are necessary for existence". In school if we commit a mistake even once, we are forever labelled as bad kids. We aren't even given an opportunity to clear our stand. This in turn makes us rebellious. We harm our own selves.

So who should be held responsible for the country's present condition? Although there are a few understanding 'grew-ups' reason out. We request our elders to their everlasting expectations. These forced expectations will not only harm us but also affect the society to a great extent. We love you, but need just a little more understanding from you.

Anshika Tandon

NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

"I'll actually try to study for once"
Meghna Bedi

"I hate reading, so I'll try to read
three books a year"
Amrita Shahpuri

"I'll stay the way I am"

Amrita Suri

"I'll try to study every day"
Rashi Dixit

"I don't believe in them"
Ragini Sehgal

प्रतिभा का सम्मान

योग्यता और प्रतिभा उभर आती है छुपायी नहीं जा सकती
जज्जवात दबाये नहीं जा सकते फूट हो ही जाते हैं ।
दबाये जाते हैं जब जज्जवात, फूटते हैं ज्वालामुखी
उभर आता है आक्रोश, दिखलायो देता है जोश
शून्य को चीरता लक्ष्य की ओर बढ़ता जज्जवातों का बवंडर
क्या रोक सका कोई विचार को, जीवन के व्यवहार को ?
देखती हैं फूटती होती आत्मशक्ति, व उभरता आत्मविश्वास
व फूटतीकरण विचारों को, लक्ष्य हो दुर्गम प्राप्त
करना है मुझे चाहे पल लगे या मास, या जीवन का इतिहास
मोड़ दूँगी, तोड़ दूँगी प्रतिभाओं को जो बुझने का साहस करे
योग्यता को दूँगी सम्मान, कुछ कर दिखाएँ व समाज को
दे मार्ग दर्शन ।



बन्या डींगड़ा

फूल

कितने सुंदर लगते फूल,
सुंदरता बढ़ाते फूल ।
मन को है बहलाते फूल,
जग में खुशियाँ लाते फूल ।
मंदिरों में चढ़ते फूल,
फूलदानों में सजते फूल ।
शहीदों के ताज बनते फूल ॥

रवनीत संधु, नवी ब

कभी गलती नहीं करता

कभी गलती नहीं करता,
उसे भगवान कहते हैं ।
करे गलती और माने,
उसे इन्सान कहते हैं ॥
करे गलती और ना माने,
उसे शैतान कहते हैं ।
करे गलती पर गलती
और फिर गलती,
और ना माने,
उस शैतान के दादा को
हम अपना दुश्मन
कहते हैं ॥



दिशा गौधी, आठवीं 'सी'

स्वार्थ

मनुष्य के स्वार्थ को सीमा देखो
धरती बाँटी, अम्बर बाँटा
पर्वत बाँटे, सागर बाँटा
उसने देखो घर तक बाँटे ।
मिलकर खाते प्यार दिखाते,
पीट के पीछे वार कर जाते,
रिश्तों का वे भेद न रखते,
स्वार्थ में अंधे सब कर जाते ।
काश हम ऐसा संसार बनाएँ,
धृणा को उससे दूर भगाएँ,
स्वार्थ को अपना शत्रु बनाकर,
कोसो उसको दूर भगाएँ ।

रवनीत संधु, नवी ब

एक मैं और एक तुम

आज से अनगिनत साल पहले
इस धरती पर मेरे ही दो रूप थे,
एक मैं - और - एक तुम
एक मैं - जो आज भी है
एक तुम - जो कलौत हुए ।
इस पूरे रहस्य को
मैं जानती हूँ - तुम नहीं ।
मैं ! जो आत्म विस्तार है ।
मैं ! जो मात्र अहंकार है ।
मैं ! जो नित्य प्रकाश है ।
मैं ! जो घिर अंधकार है ।
रचनाकार भी हूँ मैं,
और रचनाप्रकार भी मैं
'रचनाकार मैं' - अमर है
नश्वर है 'रचना प्रकार' ।
एक मैं जो सधमें - सधका है,
एक मैं - जो खुद का भी नहीं
इस 'मैं' को हटाइए
उस 'मैं' को अपनाइए ।

मानसी कौशिक, आठवीं 'अ'

भारत का स्वर्णिम गौरव

मानवता का स्वर्णिम गौरव,
लॉरेटो कॉन्वेंट लाएगा ।
छुआछूत और राग-द्वेष का,
भेद-भाव मिट जाएगा ॥
मानवता का स्वर्णिम गौरव
लॉरेटो कॉन्वेंट लाएगा ।



जब चारों ओर खून खराबा,
मची हुई है, हाहाकार -
आपस में लड़ मरने को,
मानव हो रहा बेकार ।
ऐसे कठिन समय में यह
शान्ति दूत बन आएगा ॥
मानवता.....

मानवता ही धर्म है,
यह गुंज उठेगी चारों दिशा ।
मानव-मानव से प्रेम करे,
यह प्रेम-सुधा बिखराएगा ॥
मानवता का.....

दिशा गौधी
आठवीं 'सी'

पर्दे के पीछे

जिस प्रकार रंगमंच की सफलता में उसके प्रमुख पात्रों का ही योगदान नहीं होता अपितु रंगमंच के पीछे भी एक बड़ा समूह कार्यरत होता है, जो बिना दर्शकों के सामने आए बहुत उत्साहपूर्वक कार्य करता हुआ कार्यक्रम को सफल बनाता है। उसी प्रकार हमारे विद्यालय की सफलता में हमारी मुख्यअध्यापिका, अध्यापिकाओं छात्राओं आदि का योगदान तो प्रमुख है ही इनके अतिरिक्त पर्दे के पीछे के कुछ सहकर्मचारी भी हमारे विद्यालय को कुलंदियों के उच्चतम शिखर तक पहुँचाने में किसी से पीछे नहीं है। उन्ही कार्यकर्ताओं के विचार यहाँ प्रस्तुत हैं।

दिशा गौधी, आठवीं 'सी'



साल दो हजार

बढ़ रहे हैं हम नई शताब्दी की ओर,
हो रहा है धूम-धमाका और जोर।
सब के मन में है हर्ष और उल्लास,
करने मिलकर हम सारी बुराइयों का नाश।
स्वातंत्रता के पचास सालों के पूर्व,
पहुँच आये हैं हम कितने दूर।
विज्ञान के चमत्कारों ने क्या सिद्ध न किया,
यहाँ तक कि मनुष्य को चाँद पर भी पहुँचा दिया।
परन्तु विज्ञान ने एटम बम का भी निर्माण किया,
जिसने एक भयानक विनाश का रूप लिया।
इस शताब्दी में करे है मनुष्य ने अनेक

आविष्कार,

और किया है शान्ति और एकता की सद्भावना को स्वीकार।

परन्तु स्वार्थ में हमने वह कायम न किया,
खून, लूट, मार मीट ने सबको भयभीत कर दिया।

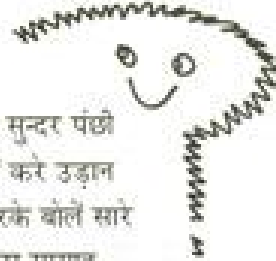
विश्व में हो एकता, भाईचारा, शान्ति, सुख और प्यार,

प्रार्थना करती हूँ मैं कि ऐसा हो सबका साल दो हजार।

अदिति डिमरी, आठवीं 'अ'

पहेलियाँ

तीन रंगों का सुन्दर पंखी
नील गगन में करे उड़ान
जय जय करके बोलें सारे
दे उस को पूरा सम्मान



उत्तर - झंडा

एक हाथ का घ्राणी अचल
हाथ हिलाओ निकले जल



उत्तर - हैंड पम्प

घोती पहन लाली को पकड़ा,
छेड़ा स्वतंत्रता संग्राम,
देश को आजाद किया
बताओ उनका नाम



उत्तर - महात्मा गाँधी

पाँच अक्षर का मेरा नाम
उलटा सौधा एक समान
कैरल में मैं बोली जाऊँ
झट बतलाओ मेरा नाम



उत्तर - मलयालम

शिव की जटा में, गंगा का पानी
जंगल का साधु, जो बुझे वह ज्ञानी

उत्तर - नारियल

अदिति डिमरी, आठवीं 'अ'



चुटकुले

पिता अपने बेटे से - "अरे बेटा! तुम मुर्गी को गम पानी से क्यों धो रहे हो?"

बेटा - "पिताजी, ताकि वह मुर्गी उबले हुए अण्डे दे।"

पिताजी - सुनो विरजू कताओ सबसे अच्छे अण्डे कौन देता है।

विरजू - जी गणित के अध्यापक जी।

शिक्षक विक्को से - "मुझे बहुत खुशी है कि तुमने परीक्षा में इतने अच्छे अंक प्राप्त किये और प्रथम रहे। आगे भी अधिक नाम्बर लेते रहना।"

विक्को - "जी श्रीमान जी, परन्तु आप आगे भी पच्चे भेरे भाई के प्रेस में ही छपवाते रहियेगा।"

पिता - "यह लड़की जिस घर में जाएगी, अँधेरा दूर कर देगी।"

लड़के के पिता - "तो क्या मैं अपने घर की बिजली कटवा दूँ?"

सलीम - "मैं गा रहा था तभी किसी ने छिड़की से जूता फेंक कर मारा।"

नवीन - "बहुत अच्छा। द्वारा गाओ तो मुफ्त में तुम्हारे जूतों का जोड़ा बन जाएगा। जूते आजकल बहुत महंगे हैं।"

अदिति डिमरी, आठवीं 'ए'

मेरा बेटा मेरा है !?

शाम का समय था। आँगन में बैठी भोली चाची बाल बाह रही थी। बेचारी चाची—इतनी सीधी थी कि हट नहीं। सबकी चहेती थी। कोई भी उनके इस भोलेपन का अनुचित लाभ कभी नहीं उठाता था। सभी उनसे अत्यंत प्रेम करते थे। चाची 16 वर्ष की थी जब चाचा से उनका विवाह हुआ। शिक्षा कुछ खास तो थी नहीं, बस चूल्हा—चकली सभाल लेती थी। उस समय तो यही सब ध्यान में रखकर रिश्ता तय हो जाता था। चाचा जो भी अधिक नहीं इंटर पास थे। अपने पिताजी की तरह वे भी सरकारी क्लर्क की नौकरी करते थे। अधिक नहीं घर घर का खर्च तो चला ही लेते थे। दोनों बहुत ही सुखी एवम् संतुष्ट थे। जब चाचा—चाची, माता—पिता बनें, जीवन की एक नयी ही उमंग उनमें दौड़ने लगी। बहुत सोच—विचार कर, पूछ—पाछ—कर इस नन्हें—मुन्हे का नामकरण हुआ। और शुभ—नाम निकला ‘गोपाल’। जितना भरोसा उन्हें उस पर था शायद ही अपने—आप पर हो। जब भी गोपाल शरारत करता या किसी को निराश करता, चाचा उसे खूब झाड़ते परंतु चाची? वे सारा दोष अपने सर ले लेती। और कुछ नहीं तो वे चाचा से बात—चीत करना छोड़ देती। चाची के इसी प्रेम ने शायद गोपाल को ढीठ एवम् बिगड़ा हुआ बना दिया था। वह जानता था कि चाहे कुछ हो जाए उसकी भोली माँ उसका साथ देगी।

गोपाल बड़ा हुआ। उसकी स्कूल की शिक्षा समाप्त हुई। वह और पढ़ना चाहता था। परंतु चाचा अपनी आर्थिक स्थिति से परिचित थे इसलिए वे चाहते थे कि वह जल्द से जल्द नौकरी दूँद ले। गोपाल को जब इस बात का पता चला तो वह सीधे माँ के पास गया। बेटे

की बातों में मुग्ध होकर चाची ने चाचा से खूब झगड़ा किया। कुछ समय तक भोजन भी नहीं किया। अंत में चाचा ने हारकर न चाहते हुए, अपनी हैसियत से कहीं अधिक होकर (असल में उधार लेकर) गोपाल को आगे पढ़ने के लिए भेजा।

डब्बे में लड्डू एवं पेंसिलें लपेटकर, हनुमान चालीसा को साफ़ से कपड़े में लपेटकर बेटे के संदुक में रखते हुए भारी अल्लाज में चाची बोली, “अपना ध्यान रखियो। खाना समय पर खाइयो और हाँ रोज़ सवेरे इस्नान करियो। यहाँ तो मैं थी तब तेरे इतने नखरे थे, अपने—आप पर होगा तो जाने क्या—क्या करेगा। रात को डर लगे तो हनुमान चालीसा का जाप करियो। बहुत शक्ति मिलेगी।”

“अम्मा ऐसे तो कोई छोटे बच्चे को भी नहीं समझाता।”

“तू कोई उनसे बड़ी थोड़ी है? क्यों रे?” माँ ने तुरंत उत्तर दिया। माँ बेटे की इस बात के दौरान बाहर प्रतीक्षा करते चाचा ने ज्यादा नहीं कुल पचास बार घड़ी देख ली होगी। इस बात को आज चार वर्ष हो गए हैं। वह दिन है और आज का दिन, चाची ने केवल अपने पुत्र के पत्र पढ़े हैं, उसे देखे पूरे चार साल हो चुके हैं।

“अरी भागवान क्यों बच्चे—कुछे वाल भी झाड़ रही हो,” चाचा ने चाची पर हैसते हुए कहा।

“आपने तो कभी कभी को हाथ नहीं लगाया न, तो फिर आफता सिर गंजा क्यों?” चाची ने हाज़िर—जवाबी से उत्तर दिया। दोनों हीसे फिर चाचा भी चाची के पास आकर बैठ गए। चाचा के हाथ में लिफाफे की ओर इशारा करते हुए चाची ने पूछा। “अजी ये क्या घरे बैठे हो? यह लो खुद ही पढ़ लो तुम्हारे

लाडले की खबर है।” चाची ने आगे कुछ न सुना और चाचा के हाथ से पत्र झट से छीन लिया। पत्र को जिस तरह से वे महसूस कर रही थी, केवल एक माँ हो कर सकती थी। आँख की नमी पोछते हुए उन्होंने पत्र वापस चाचा को दे दिया।

“जिरा पढ़ के सुनाओ तो क्या कहता है अपना गोपू।”

“अरी बताना के है, वही पुरानी बात—किताबें खरीदनी है—पैसे दे दो।”

“तो दे दो न? एक ही तो संतान है हमारी। माँ—बाप तो होते ही इसीलिए है।”

“हाँ—हाँ क्यों नहीं? और बच्चे किसलिए होते हैं? माँ—बाप के सिर नीचा करने के लिए? है कोई ज़िबाब?”

“मेरे पल्ले तो कुछ नहीं पढ़ रिहा है। अरे किताबें खरीदने के लिए ही तो पैसे मांगे है। पढ़—लिख लेगा तो हमारा ही नाम रोशन करेगा।”

“अजी कौन सी पढ़ाई? कौन सी किताबें? मुझे सब पता है, वहाँ क्या—क्या चलता है।”

“अच्छ! जिरा मैं भी तो सुनूँ किसने कान भरे हैं आपके, मेरे गोपू के खिलाफ़।”

“वो चन्दपार है न, उसके बेटे का दाखिला भी वही हो गया है। वो ही बता रहा था। उसने यहाँ तक कहा है कि गोपाल एक पच्चे में केल भी हो गया था, शायद पैसे देकर ही आगे बढ़ा है। सिगरेट—दारु हर चीज़ तो पीने लगा है। और तो और.....” “बस—बस बहुत सुन चुकी मैं। मेरे गोपाल के तो यहाँ सारे के सारे दुश्मन हैं। औरों की तो छोड़ो आप तो उसके बाप हैं आपने यह सारी बातें कैसे मान ली? चाची वहाँ से उठते हुए बोली। वे वहाँ से उठ अवश्य गई किन्तु उनके

बड़-बड़ाने की आवाज़ उनके भीतर जाने तक आती रही।

जाड़ों की बात है, चाची चूल्हे से गरम-गरम रोटियाँ चाचा की बाली में रख रही थी। कुछ हिचकिचाते हुए चाची ने चाचा से पूछा, "अजी मुझे आपसे कुछ बात करनी थी, टाल तो नहीं दोगे न?"

"बात क्या है?"

"बात यूँ थी.....अक.....आप तो जानते ही हो अपना गोपाल अब बड़ा हो गया है। उसकी पढ़ाई भी खत्म होने को आ रही है....."

तो?

"मेरी मतलब है, उसके ब्याह की बात करनी थी आपसे।" यह सब कहते हुए चाची ने चाचा को बताया कि उनकी नज़र में एक लड़की थी।

"तो क्या सोचा, आपने?" अपनी बात के अंत में चाची का प्रश्न था।

"मैं आपसे पूछ रही हूँ?"

"हैं! हाँ क्या पूछा तुमने?"

"अजी मैं पूछती हूँ कि क्या सोचा आपने?" चाची ने उतावली होते हुए पूछा।

"किस बारे में?"

"हाय! मैं ही बावली थी जो आपसे किसी बात की उम्मीद कर रही थी। मुझे तो भूल हो जाना चाहिए था कि उस बेचारे लड़के की परवाह मेरे इलावा किसी को भी है L....."

"क्यों शोर मचा रही हो? शांत हो जाओ।"

"अजी कहीं की शांति कहां का शोर, चलो जैसे भी है, है तो अपना ही खून न?"

"ओहो, तो यह बात है। मैं भी कई गोपाल के इलावा हमारे बीच किस बात पर बहस होने लगी। हाँ, तो अब पूछो क्या पूछना है तुझे?" चाची ने पहले तो थोड़े नखरे किए फिर

चाचा के मनाने पर फिर से गोपाल के रिश्ते के विषय में पूछने लगी।

"तुमने तो सोच लिया। पर क्या होगा अगर वो न माने? अरी तू नहीं जानती इन आजकल के बच्चों के बारे में, कम से कम गोपू के बारे में तो नहीं।" चाचा के ये शब्द चाची से बदरश्त नही हुए। और एक बार फिर अपनी भोली चाची ने अपने पुत्र का पक्ष लेते हुए कहा,

"तुम जाने दो। मेरा बेटा मेरा है। वह कभी मेरा कहा नहीं डालेगा। वो तो आप ही हो....." यह सब कहते हुए चाची यहाँ से उठकर चली गई।

"भोली चाची, गोपाल तुम्हारा ही बेटा है?"

"कैसा डाकिया है रे तू? गोपू मेरा नहीं तो क्या तेरा बेटा है? बड़ा आया हूँ!"

"अरी चाची गुस्सा काहे होती हो? मेरा तो काम ही कुछ ऐसा है। अच्छा अब वो सब छोड़ और अपने बेटे की चिट्ठी पकड़। मुझे और भी घर जाना है।" डाकिया ज्यों ही अपनी साइकिल पर सवार होने लगा चाची ने आवाज़ देकर उसे रोका, "अब इसे पढ़े बगैर कहीं जा रहा है? इस बुढ़ापे में यही कसर रह गई थी।" मुसकुराते हुए डाकिया ने पत्र लिया और पढ़ने लगा,

"प्यारी माँ,

कैसी हो? आशा है अच्छी ही होगी। तुम्हारे पैसे मिले। मैं यहाँ मज़े में हूँ।

इस बार यह पत्र न तो मैं पैसे मांगने को लिख रहा हूँ, न कुछ और। दरअसल बात यह है कि मैं अगले हफ्ते घर आ रहा हूँ। सोचा पहले बता दूँ तो अच्छा ही होगा।

तुम्हारा आज्ञाकारी पुत्र

'गोपाल'

"क्या? फिर से पढ़ियो" चाची को अपने

कानों पर चौंधी बार भी विश्वास न हुआ। खुशी के मारे उनकी आँख भर आई। ज्ञाते समय चाची ने डाकिया को मिठाई के रूप में गुड़ भी खिलाया। वे आज खुशी से फूली नहीं समा रही थी। अब उनकी सारी फिक्र जलती रही गोपाल के अखिरी शब्दों ने बहुत कुछ कह दिया था।

'आज्ञाकारी' यह उन्होंने कम से कम 70 बार चाचा को सुनाया होगा।

"बस मैं न कहती थी, वह केवल मेरा बेटा है और मेरी ही बात मानेगा।" चाचा मुसकुराए और चाची को फिर एक बार समझाने लगे, "अरी तू बहुत भोरी है, तुझे कुछ नहीं पता। होता यूँ है....."

"बस-बस मुझे नहीं सुनना। आपसे तो कुछ नहीं पचता। अब ऐसा करो मुझे कुछ समान मांगना है, बस वो सब तो दो।"

"क्यों अभी से राशन खत्म हो गया क्या?"

"हे भगवान! आप तो कुछ नहीं समझते। लड़का 4 साल बाद आ रहा है, कुछ तो खयाल करो।"

"तुम जानों और तुम्हारा वो निकम्मा बेटा, खीर क्या-क्या लाता है? बोलो।

आज सुबह से ही चाची तैयारी में लगी है - गोपाल जो आ रहा है। खीर बनाकर रखी थी, उसका मनपसंद हलवा सभी कुछ तो था। चाची बुरी तरह से जूटी हुई थी। चाचा एक कोने में बैठे यह सब देख रहे थे, पर कुछ नहीं कह रहे थे। वास्तव में वे कह-कह कर थक चुके थे।

"अरे खाली बैठने से कुछ नहीं होवेगा, कभी मेरा हाथ भी बटा दिया करो, बेटा आ रहा है, आप में तो कोई जोश ही नहीं। एक अपने ही किस्म के बाप होंगे हूँ। आपसा शायद ही कोई हो L....."

“अरी बस भी कर बोले ही चली जा रही है। बोल क्या करूं मैं ?”

“बस—बस आप रहने ही दो तो बहुत है। सारा काम तो मुझे ही संभालना पड़ेगा।”

“अच्छा जो ठीक समझो” चाचा ने अपने आप से हँसते हुए कहा।

शायद गोपाल अब चाची का अकेलापन देखकर वहाँ से कभी लौटे ही न। कैसा होगा अपने बेटे, उसकी बूढ़ और बच्चों के साथ रहना ? चाची ने इस सब के बारे में केवल सपने ही देखे थे। पर उन्हें यकीन था कि उस सुहावने सपने को उनका प्यारा बेटा अवश्य सच कर दिखाएगा। वह जानती थी कि गोपाल के अगले ही चन्द्रपाल तो क्या सबके सब गाँव वालों का मुँह बंद हो जाएगा। और फिर चाची गोपाल, चाचा और राधा सभी सुख से रह पाएंगे। राधा — अरे वही तो थी चाची की बहन के जेठ की साली, जिसके साथ वे गोपाल का विवाह कराना चाहती थी।

इंतजार की घड़ी समाप्त हुई। चाची का मन बेचैन होने लगा। वे दरवाजे पर जा, खड़ी हुई, मानो ऐसा करने से आने वाला और भी जल्दी आएगा। दूर से ही चाचा के हाथ में संदूक देखकर चाची समझ गई। जैसे एक नई लहर उनमें दौड़ने लगी हो। वे झट से हाथ में पानो का लोटा लिए खड़ी हो गई।

“गोपाल कितनी दूर से आ रहा है, मेरे लाल के अगले ही उसके हाथ—मुँह धुलवाने चाहिए। सारी पेरी—गैरी नज़र बाहर ही धुल जाए तो ठीक है।” यही सब सोचने में मगन थी चाची, एक ऐसी माँ जिसे हर पल अपने बेटे के सिवा कुछ नहीं सूझता था। सोते—जागते, उठते—बैठते बस, उसी का इंतजार था। उसके साथ—साथ उन सुख एवम् खुशियों से भरे लम्हों का जो सब गोपाल अपने संग लाएगा।

“बस माँ और नहीं” गोपाल ने माँ से कहा।

“मैंने कहा माँ बस और नहीं। मेरे हाथ धुल चुके हैं।”

“क्या ? क्या मैं सपना तो नहीं देख रही हूँ ? क्या तू ही है, मेरा बेटा, मेरा गोपाल ?” उनके कान तरस गए थे “माँ” सुनने को। चाची ने झट से गोपाल को गले लगा लिया। अपनी बूढ़ी, थकी और अब भीगी आँखें पोंछते हुए उन्होंने जो भर कर गोपाल को देखा। पुत्र के प्यार में चाची इतनी मग्न थी कि उन्हें यह अहसास भी न हुआ कि किसी ने उनके पैर भी छूए हैं— मानो आर्शवाद माँग रही थी।

“जीती रहो बेटो। क्या चाहिए। तुम्हें पहले तो कभी नहीं देखा ?”

“माँ यह राशी है.....”

“तुझे कैसा पता ?”

“माँ मुझे बोलने तो दो। यह राशी है.....मेरी धर्मपत्नी.....तुम्हारी बहु। हमें पाँच महीने हो गए विवाह किए। परीक्षा के कारण पहले न आए।” ज्यों—ज्यों गोपाल अपनी भोलों माँ को जब सब समझा रहा था, अपने चाचा माने—कान बंद करे, सामान अंदर रख रहे थे। बीच—बीच में चाची की ओर भी देख रहे थे, मानो अपने बेटे से ही जमा रहें हो। पर उन्हें उतना धक्का नहीं लगा था जितना भोली चाची को। वे वही चुप—चाप खड़ी सुन रही थी।

“माँ दरअसल सबकुछ झनपी जा रही हुआ कि बस। और फिर ये तो मैं जानता ही था कि आप और बाबूजी राशी को.....” गोपाल खेलता गया पर सामने खड़ी उसकी माँ न कुछ सुन रही थी न समझ रही थी। गोपाल के पहले वाक्य ने सब कह डाला था। खाना परोसा गया, खूब बातें भी हुईं पर गोपाल और राशी के किसी न तो चाची सुन रही थी और न चाचा। चाचा तो फिर भी एक—आधी बात पर नकली हँस देते पर चाची की

ओर देखते ही वे फिर मौन हो जाते। क्या यही था वो पल जिसका चाची को इंतजार था ? क्या चाची का बेटा सचमुच वैसा था जैसा सभी बतलाते थे ? क्या सचमुच ‘आज्ञाकारी’ के मापने, स्कूली शिक्षा प्राप्त करते हुए पत्र कैसे लिखे तक सीमित थे ? परंतु जो भी हो चाची थोड़ी हकली—बकली, चोट खाई हुई अवश्य थी, अप्रसन्न नहीं। रात को गोपाल से देर तक बात करने के बाद जब चाचा अपने कमरे में लौटे तो उन्होंने चाची को बिस्तर के कोने से सिमट कर रोते हुए पाया।

“अरी मत रो। कोई बात नहीं। मैंने तो पहले ही कहा था। तू ही थी जो मेरा बेटा मेरा है की रट लगाए बैठी थी। अब जो हुआ सो हुआ। रही हम दोनों की बात, हम तो वैसे ही बूढ़े हो चले हैं, तो चल तोर्ध पर, रहने दे इस गोपाल और उसकी ‘उसकी’ परे। हट — तू काहे जो छोटा करती है।

“बस—बस—बस—बहाना मिला नहीं और बोलना शुरू। खबरदार जो मेरे गोपू के बारे में कुछ भी कहा तो। किसने कहा मैं खुश नहीं ?” चाची ने अपना रोना छिपाते हुए कहा।

“किसने कहा ? मैंने तो सदा उससे यही बोलती थी, कि बेटे तुझे जो ठीक लगे करियो। और फिर हम चाहते भी तो हमें राशी सो कोई न मिलती।”

“सोच ले। कहे तो कल ही हरिद्वार चलते हैं।”

“कुछ मत कहना। मेरा बेटा मेरा है।” चाची ने यह कहकर चाचा को तो चुप कर दिया, परंतु खुद सारी रात अपने आप से यही पूछती रही कि, “क्या मेरा बेटा मेरा है ?”

श्वेता तोमर, दसवीं ‘बी’

दो घड़े

एक बार एक नदी में जोरों की बाढ़ आई। बाढ़ के पानी में डेरों चीजें बह गई थी। उनमें एक ताँबे का घड़ा एवं एक मिट्टी का घड़ा भी था। ये दोनों अगल-बगल तैर रहे थे। ताँबे के घड़े ने मिट्टी के घड़े से कहा, “अरे भाई तुम तो नरम मिट्टी के बने हुए हो और बहुत नाजुक हो! अगर तुम चाहो तो मेरे समीप आ जाओ। मेरे पास रहने से तुम सुरक्षित रहोगे।” “मेरा इतना ख्याल रखने के लिए धन्यवाद,” मिट्टी का घड़ा बोला, “पर मैं आपके पास आने की हिम्मत नहीं कर सकता। आप बहुत मजबूत और बलिष्ठ हैं। और मैं हूँ कमजोर और नाजुक! कहीं हम आपस में टकरा गए, तो मेरे टुकड़े-टुकड़े हो जाएँगे। यदि आप सचमुच मेरे हितैषी हैं, तो कृपया मुझसे दूर ही रहिए।” इतना कहकर मिट्टी का घड़ा ताँबे के घड़े से दूर चला गया।

वान्या डीगरा

ताख़्तान्तर पड़ोसी से दूर रहने में ही मलाई है



OUR YOUNG ATHLETES



JUNIOR SCHOOL HOCKEY TEAM



JUNIOR SCHOOL BASKET-BALL TEAM



JUNIOR SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM



***JUNIOR
SCHOOL
CRAFT
EXHIBITION***





JUNIOR NATIVITY

HEROD CALLS FOR THE WISE MEN



SHEPHERDS WHY THIS JUBILEE?



ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH !



SCHOOL PLAY



WE THREE KINGS OF ORIENT ARE !



COME LET US ADORE HIM



HARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING !





Angel MAMA Rak Vrinda AnriE NARITA CHENAK Harbani ANMOL Neetika

Chandpreet YASHA NISHIKA Mohini Saneera ANKITA ANUPAMA Priyanka Mim

Manju Agnes Muskan Apoorva Krupa Megha Aishwarya Veena BHAGYA ADITA BESTELLA

SABA Shibani NISHA

With all our love
Prep A

Priya Shreyans PREETI

Ashima DEWANI Kriti

SRISHITI SERENA LIPIKA

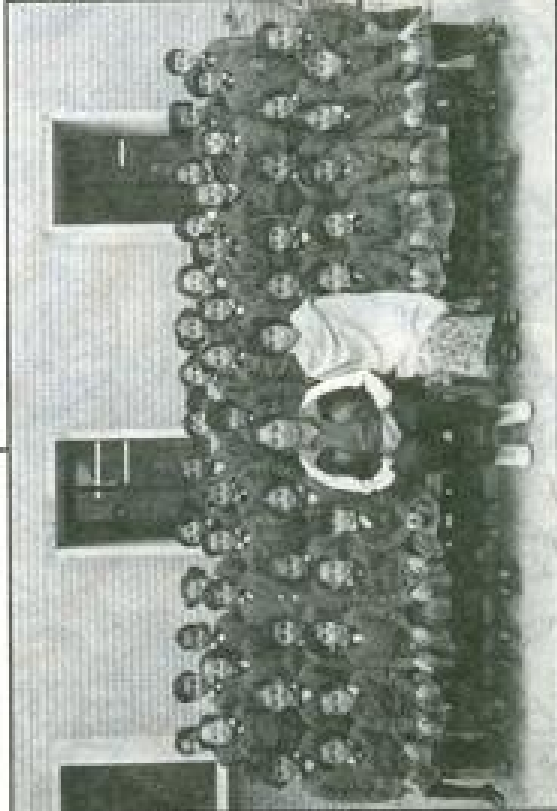
Sydney +
Siddhika +
Thirak +

AKSHAY

ARADICHA

ARATHA

TEFFJ



Shreyas Naha
Benafir
Smriti
Swarnima
Aditi
Anchal
Celina
Garima
Shriya
Gayathri

Barkha
Pia
Alisha
Tabitha
Anushika
Savneet
Mayuri
Gaurlka
P. Mercy
Prajakta

Ankita
Rita
Shruti
Shruti
Shruti
Shruti
Shruti
Ira
Yashodhara
Shalu

Esha
Shilpa
Shubham
Vijayanga
Priyanka
Ritika

Roseline
Pulkit
Manavita
Vibhuti
Rashna
Vandana

Akshita
Arushika
Arushika
Tanya
Arushi
Shilpa

With Our love Prep 'B'



Tongue Twisters

Bittoo Brought a bit of Butter
But the Butter was too Bitter
So, Bittoo Brought a bit of Better
Butter to make Bitter Butter Better

By Shivangi Tarwar I-A

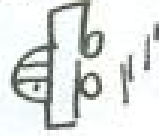
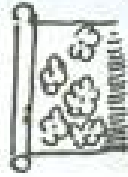
After a Bath

After a bath, I dry, dry, dry
To wipe myself, till I'm dry, dry, dry
Hands to wipe and fingers and toes
And two wet legs and
a shiny nose.

By Pulveen Chadha I-A



मम्मी की कार
बचो को चलाती है,
'मम्मी' को चलाती है,
कुल को चलाती है,
रेल को चलाती है,
पाप को चलाती है,
खुब को चलाती है,
मम्मी को चलाती है,
By अदीति उपमन्यु



टिक, टिक, टिक

धड़ी है करती टिक, टिक, टिक,

गाड़ी चलती टिक, टिक, टिक,

घटी बजि टिक, टिक, टिक,

गुड़िया नाचे टिक, टिक, टिक,

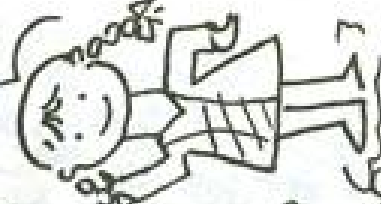
घोड़ा भागे टप, टप, टप,

पानी बरसे टप, टप, टप,

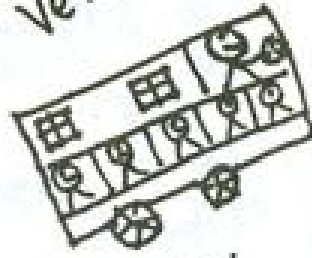
चिड़िया करती टिक, टिक, टिक,

मुन्गी रोती टिक, टिक, टिक,

By Anahita Gupta I-A



School Bus
To the school in
time takes, on the
way horns and shakes.
All fall jump and roar
We kids in many a score.
Veronica



Class I B

Pollution
Every one is crying
pollution, Pollution.
No one finds any solution.
Bad buses emit lot of smoke
on every turn.

That makes our eyes burn
We children breathe poison
In the air, our elders
take no care, if we sit
crossed legs and wait, I am
sure we will be too late.
kiranjot



My Brother



There is a little boy
who is a bundle of joy
He has just eight teeth
but wants everything to eat.
He is a sweetheart
Pulls everything like a cart.
He spoils my copies and
also wants my toffees
He is my darling friend
always has stupid things in his
hand. I love my brother who
is one year old Mehar Mehd.

Pollution
Pollution, Pollution
everywhere.
Found in our water,
land and air.
Follow the rules and
remove the pollution,
and make our country
a heavenly nation.
Neha Acharya

CLASS - II B

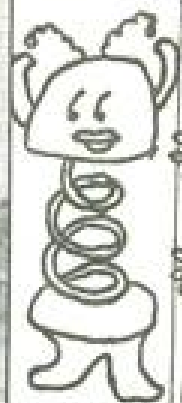
May the New Millenium
bless our L.C. School, all
the staff, children and
everyone in the world with
success, joy, happiness and
prosperity. - By - Gurleen

I don't have diamonds
pearls, factories, but I have tons
and tons of love for my school
L.C I will always love you
and wish you a very happy
Millenium .

BY
Pankhuri

May the world become a better place
where there is love, fun, joy, peace and happiness.

BY
Addi Arora



Good Wishes for the New Millennium.

1. I wish prosperity to my Country in all aspects,
in the new Millennium.
2. I wish there will be no world wars.
All people all over the world should love each other.
3. I wish all
the children of my age will go to school in the New Millennium.
4. I wish all the Countrymen will have food and no one will have
to sleep without food in the new Millennium.

BY
Akshayta Sharma.

My Dog - Sandy
 I have a dog named Sandy,
 who loves to chew shoes and candy.
 Every day we take her down,
 where she chases birds like a clown.
 When I come home from school,
 She runs around the room,
 Then jumps on me and licks my face.
 Wouldn't you like a dog like Sandy?
 Meghna T.

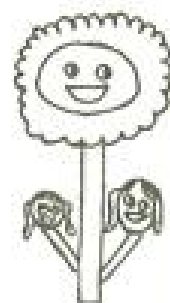


III A

III A is my class.
 It is full of lasses.
 We are forty eight,
 Who are never late.
 Shalini is the artist,
 Deepti the Maths wizard,
 Shwati is the book distributor,
 Ananta is the writer,
 Tanya and Ridima are the chatterboxes.
 Joana John leads in basketball.



Friends



are
 like
 flowers

Aishwarya

A Termite
 I am a termite in a log
 living peacefully,
 I bore the wood and
 eat my fill,
 a rotten home for me.
 With a crunch and
 gulp,
 Any kind of wood
 for me.
 Malika S.



My Dad
 My dad is nice,
 My dad is wise,
 My dad is so good,
 My dad is always
 in the mood.
 I love my dad in the night,
 I love my dad in the morning,
 I love my dad everytime,
 and specially when
 we fight.

Carishma Roy



My Cat
 I have a little cat
 Who jumps on my mat
 It looks quite fat.
 It plays with a ball,
 And looks like a doll.
 It tried to catch a mole,
 And fell into a hole.
 It may be a naughty
 cat
 But I love it just for
 that.
 Ashima Jais

3-B



Hard Work
After a magician had displayed a wonderful magic show for two hours, one boy got up and asked, "Sir, is there any magical formula for studies?" The magician thought for some time and replied, "Yes there is one formula for studies - HARD WORK!"

What to Learn
Learn from flowers, to always smile and sweet fragrance of health, beauty and happiness.
Learn from trees,

To live for others.
Learn from the sun
That all are equal.

Learn from the river
No matter what, never give up
Learn from the moon

To always smile with divine pleasure and remain calm even during dark moments.
- Smriti

JOKES
Shyam: My father is scared to cross the road.
Ram: How do you know?
Shyam: When I cross the road, my father holds my hand!
Mudita Vaish

AMAZING & WOW FACTS
Amazing facts about snails have been known to sleep continuously for four years.
Meisul

Riddles
You can't see it
or touch it
or taste it.
But everyone has
to have it.
And it is everywhere.
Ranana

my
romany

My Mother

Oh! Mother, dear Mother
If I hurt you don't bother
I am your little darling
I love you more than anything
You cook for me, tasty dishes
And fulfill my wishes
You love me very much
And I too try to please you
I love you ever more
I love you mummy-dear



- Ankita Kodhar

The Rain

When I am alone
And I have nothing to do
I stand out and see the rain
And let the raindrops fall on me
I get wet and cold
But I love the rain

- Bishakha C

MY DAD



Oh! Father, dear Father
If I hurt you don't bother
I am your little darling
I love you more than anything
You cook for me, tasty dishes
And fulfill my wishes
You love me very much
And I too try to please you
I love you ever more
I love you mummy-dear

- Ankita Kodhar

Butterfly

A butterfly is so beautiful
It goes from flower to flower
Sitting and smelling their
And sweet smile
Butterfly you are so beautiful
- MEHAK KAUSHIK



MY PET



I have a little pet
It is a cat
The cat is very nice
It loves fish and milk
And sleeps on my bed

Ruchika Srivastava

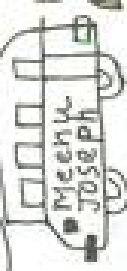
Making a Kite

I am making a kite
I need and
and and
I will cut and
it to the on the
put the on the
kite and make a
on it this is
what it will look
like. - Smriti
Vaighane



MY BUS

I have a small bus
I play with my bus
I like my bus
Monica Messy



Meenu Joseph

CLASS IV-A



JASMINE A. - I love South-Indian food.

NEHAL - Sonali is my best friend.

NEHA A. I Love my Family and Friends.

ANKITA - I want to be a teacher

STELLA - History is my favourite Subject

ISHA - I like to play cricket

ALISHA - My favourite dish is pizza

SHIRREN - Smile, it will increase your face value

SALONI - I like Penguins and parrots

ROSALYN - I want to be a singer

JASMINE C. - I enjoy reading story books.

ATI - I like drawing and colouring

SAGARIKA - My best friend is Gauri

TARHA - God, make my country awake

RIDHI - I like my School very much.

ANGELIKI - I Love my Mom.

PRINCY - I Love DANCING

KHUSHBOO - I will join the Airforce - a Pilot

RUCHA - I like to play badminton

ANISHA - I enjoy looking at the stars

SONALI - Laughter is the best medicine

YASHNA - Shreya is my best friend

PRERNA - Don't cry it will decrease your face value

RASHMI - MY Hobby is reading

SHRUTI - I LOVE my family

AARTI - I love sports

NIKITA - Cricket is my favourite game

MITALI - My hobby's are swimming & reading

TARRANUM - I want to be a doctor

ARANKSHA - My house is my sweet dream

NEHA H. - I Love my parents

ANSHIKA - I love my parents.

DHRUVIKA - I love my family

MAUREEN - I want to be a doctor.

UNNATI - Friends are like flowers.

RHIMGHIM - I love doing drawing and Maths

AAKRITI - My hobby is playing games

PRIYANKA - I want to be a sportsman.

JANANKE - I want to do something for India

SARABJOT - I want to be a scientist

GAURI - I love my family & friends.

SWATI - I am proud of my country

ARSHDEEP - My favourite game is chess

AMRITA - I love to eat cake.

PRABHAT - I love my teachers

TANIA - I want to eat idlis

BHAWANA - I love to dance and sing

SHWAKARISHMA - I have everything in my life





As pretty as a flower
I want to be
on top of the world
like Yuktta Mookhey
I can get that crown
right on my head
if I lose some weight
my mummy said
Shivika



Guess? Guess? Guess?
One with the sweetest name
Who has lots of! glory and
fame
She's fit and fine
With warmth and shine
She cooks delicious food
To make our hearts all very

IVB

Lots of fun
lots of fun fare...
Birthday cakes for
all to share...
Special gifts that
bring you
pleasure



She's my great mother
And nobody other
PRERITA CHUGH



Hope this day is
one of your treasure

Sumati

Do you know about the
hijacked plane
And Rupin Katyal slain
He was coming back from
his honeymoon
But died quite soon
The relatives of the
hostages were ready
to fight
But the people on
board could not
sleep at night

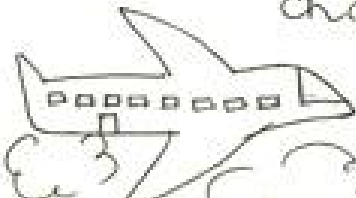


Why should we have wars,
That leave many in tears?
Wars leave our soldiers in
mutilated condition,
Which seems to be a terrible
situation

A soldier is always ready
with a gun,
And he doesn't think about
a little fun.

He is ready to sacrifice
his precious life
Leaving all alone his children
and wife
Sriha

Chandrika



Aeroplane, Aeroplane in the sky
where are you going flying so high
Over the mountains and
over the sea
Aeroplane, Aeroplane can't you take me





MARCHING INTO THE
NEW
MILLENNIUM





INDEPENDENCE DAY
CELEBRATIONS





LORETO CONVENT SCHOOL, DELHI CANTT.