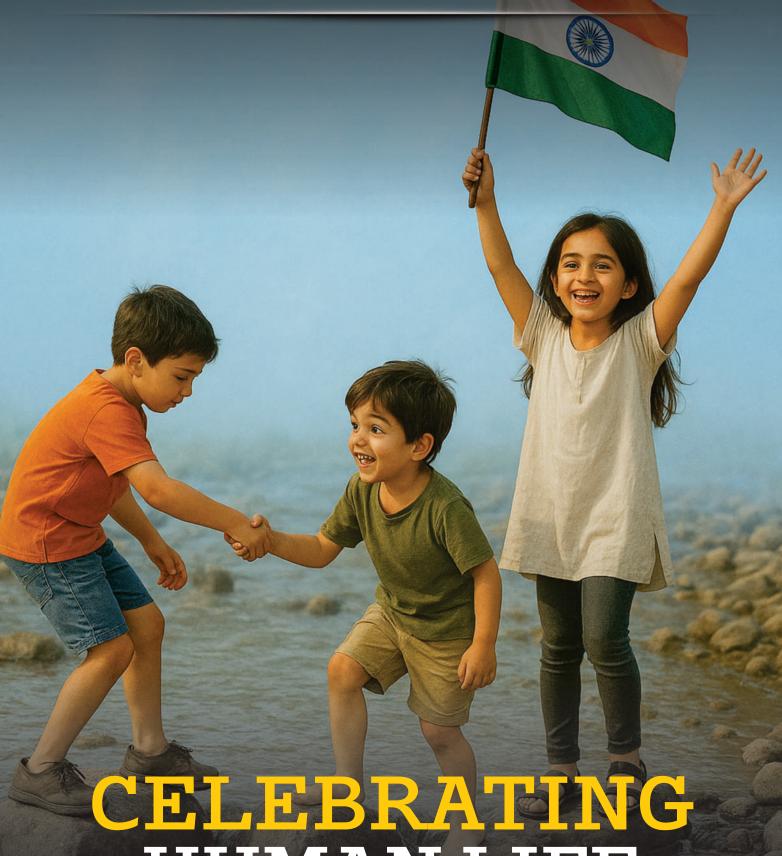
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CELEBRATING HUMANLIFE

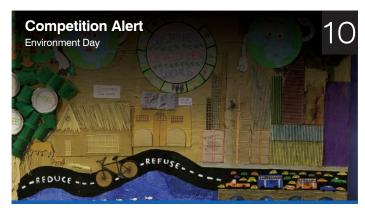
### Editor's Note......



### **STUDENT VOICE**













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### Dear Schoolastic News Readers,

Welcome to the August 2025 edition of FairGaze Schoolastic News. This month, we bring together diverse reflections under the theme "Celebrating Human Life" a tribute to the everyday moments, values, and experiences that define our shared humanity.

August is a significant month in our national and global calendar. It marks India's Independence Day, a moment of historical pride and enduring inspiration. Through a feature on countries that share their independence anniversaries with ours, we are reminded that the quest for freedom is a universal human aspiration one that binds nations in collective memory and hope.

This edition also highlights International Youth Day, acknowledging the role of young people as active participants in shaping the world. Their contributions, whether through innovation, activism, or creativity, reflect a generation that is deeply engaged, informed, and determined to lead with purpose.

Cultural celebration takes centre stage with Ganesh Chaturthi, explored not just as a spiritual festival, but as a growing movement toward sustainability and environmental consciousness. We also turn our attention to World Folklore Day, examining how oral traditions, idioms, and folk performances preserve cultural identity across communities and generations.

In our Educator Focus, we reflect on the pioneering legacy of **Anutai Wagh**, whose transformative work in tribal education remains a cornerstone of child-centric pedagogy in India. Her approach continues to influence grassroots teaching and learning models today.

We are also privileged to present an insightful interview with **Principal John Bagul of IEM Public School, Kolkata**. His views offer practical guidance on nurturing not just academic performers, but thoughtful, compassionate citizens.

Our young writers continue to impress with, reflective essays, from capturing the silence of loss on Hiroshima Day, to visual storytelling on World Photography Day, to evocative student reflections on World Humanitarian Day and Senior Citizens' Day.

The FairGaze Green Planet Campaign and Inter-School MUN 4.0 also feature prominently this month, demonstrating how learning today transcends classroom walls. These initiatives build critical awareness of environmental issues, global diplomacy, and collaborative problem-solving.

We thank our school partners, educators, contributors, and readers for their continued support and engagement. Your voices are what make this publication meaningful and future-forward.

As you turn the pages of this edition, we invite you to reflect on the richness of human experience—the stories we inherit, the values we uphold, and the communities we shape. This month, let us celebrate not just milestones but the spirit of learning, resilience, and empathy that sustains them.

Warm regards,

The Editorial Team
FairGaze Schoolastic News

THEME OF THE MONTH

## CELEBRATING HUMAN LIFE, THE POETRY OF BEING HUMAN

RIYA BHAT, CLASS XII, BLUE BELLS MODEL SCHOOL, GURUGRAM



thing of beauty is a joy forever or perhaps, life itself is the truest beauty. As we step into August, it feels like standing in front of a mirror, reflecting both the beauty we have lived and the quiet dreams we are still waiting for. It is a soft and tranquil pause in time, when the world seems to exhale, and in that breath, we rediscover and redefine the beauty of simply being ourselves, who we truly are.

We've all lived through hard times; the sense of loneliness, the emptiness, sensing something brittle that no words can explain, the feelings too heavy to share. They say it is hard, finding someone you trust, a perfect life, a perfect match. But maybe we do not need to find what already lives within

us - yes, the pure form of beauty in us. Simply, our emotions shape us. We are all aware that the beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder. It does not exist outside us: it lives in how we choose to see. It is not about perfection; it is about perspective. It is believing that exquisiteness never fades. It stays like a quiet blessing, giving us purpose, hope, and the determination to keep moving. We need to be constantly reminded of the fact that beauty comforts the soul — and if we look closely, it is everywhere. Just look around with open eyes and an open heart, you will find peace in moments often overlooked and unnoticed, and those are the ones that make life meaningful.

To think these little accomplishments in life, though small, but may mean the

world to some; like a baby's first word, the feeling of becoming parents, the joy of scoring well in your weakest subject, the thrill of winning, eating your favourite food, meeting someone great unexpectedly; any of these or and whatever you choose to define it. Truly, our life is full of expectations, complaints, sorrow, grief, regret, and failures which let us experience the purest, truest form of happiness, achievements, success, and satisfaction. It is truly said that when we do not know the taste of bitter, we do not value the sweet.

Take a break. Breathe. Look again. Life, in all its messiness and magic, is still a thing of beauty, a joy forever.

STUDENT VOICE

## THE ARCHITECTS OF TOMORROW

### INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

SIYANA SHAWL, XA, JAYPEE PUBLIC SCHOOL NOIDA

nternational Youth Day is an ode to celebrate the vibrance, creativity, and boundless potential of young minds. Observed on 12th August, it recognizes that the youth are not merely passive inheritors of the future; they are dynamic architects of change. From passionate climate crusaders to groundbreaking innovators, young people are reshaping the contours of the world around us. Their voices, often dismissed as naive idealism, echo with refreshing clarity and moral urgency.

This day also underscores the importance of investing in education, mental health, and employment opportunities - empowering youth to become agents of constructive change.

Let us not just merely acknowledge the youth as beneficiaries of societal progress but embrace them as equal partners in its creation. For in their audacity lies the blueprint of tomorrow's world.



## TIME TRAVEL THROUGH A LENS

AYUSH SINGH, BLUE BELLS MODEL SCHOOL

t is said that painting is the higher art, but I disagree. A painting hides truth, while a camera captures it. A painting is the truth as perceived by the artist whereas a camera shows the truth as we may perceive it. It shows us a specific moment in time that we may want to freeze forever, without a mask, or covered in ornate symbolism to make the message unclear. The message is stark because there is nothing hiding behind it.

These little pieces of time that we might carry around in our phones, or on our person are little reminders of times that have gone past or of people who are not with us anymore. Before the advent of the convenience of clicking a photo with a phone, anywhere and anytime, photos were more infrequent but not any less special. We used to click photos only perhaps in our few rites of passage and not when we went to the mall to purchase clothes. That notion is unchanged. We click photos so that we may remember, perhaps have that positivity of a happier time with us whenever we might need it.

Times encapsulated in the form of photos are happy. This is because even in hardship, they are a picture of a hardship that one has transcended, and even grief sounds happy when we look back at it. Embarrassing times or sorrowful times surprisingly make the most interesting stories. Such is the beauty of human life, peculiar in the most unexpected way.

But photographs are so much more than captured time, they are a storybook. A picture can indeed speak a thousand words. In the sense that it can make the beholder speak in its stead. A picture is a key to memories; an encore of a life lived.

A picture is also used as a tool to simply admire, for example, photographs of a tree or a puddle of mud or a pond or a building or a human being, etc. It need not etch an event or cause some indelible stain on our fabric of life. It can be both beautiful and ugly; or filled with meaning if you look deep enough.

This World Photography Day, we may just appreciate the art of photography and the pinnacle of human advancement a camera represents. Or simply, admire the many stories, photographers through the two centuries this art has been around, have helped conserve in their darkrooms.



**STUDENT VOICE** 

## A TRIBUTE TO COURAGE AND COMPASSION



### WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY

SHRADDHA SONDHIYA, GRADE 11, JAYPEE PUBLIC SCHOOL, NOIDA

very year on August 19, the world comes together to honour the selfless heroes who risk their lives to help others in times of crisis. World Humanitarian Day is not just a date; it is a powerful reminder of the strength of the human spirit and the kindness that still exists in the darkest corners of our world.

On this day, we remember the brave aid workers who have lost their lives while trying to bring hope to those in need, like those who perished in the 2003 UN bombing in Baghdad, a tragedy that led to the establishment of this day. We also celebrate those who continue to serve—volunteers, doctors, teachers, and everyday people—who leave the comfort of safety to stand beside those suffering from war, disaster, poverty, and displacement.

Their work often goes unnoticed. They traverse through bombed-out villages, and floodwaters, offer comfort in refugee camps; places the world has turned its back. Yet they remain, not for recognition, but because they believe in something greater: that every life matters.

In a time when the world feels increasingly divided, humanitarians remind us of our shared humanity. They demonstrate that kindness is not weakness, and that love, when put into action, can change the course of someone's life.

This World Humanitarian Day, let us not only honour their courage but also carry forward their message. We may not all be able to go to the front lines, but we can choose compassion in our daily lives. Let us be the light for others, just as they have been; because in the end, the most powerful thing we can be is to be "Human"



A FESTIVAL OF AUSPICIOUS BEGINNINGS

SIYANA SHAWL, XA, JAYPEE PUBLIC SCHOOL NOIDA

anesh Chaturthi, the festival venerating Lord Ganesha, the elephant-headed deity of wisdom and prosperity is a joyous amalgamation of devotion, artistry, and communal celebration.

The air reverberates with chants of Ganpati Bappa Morya! As intricate clay idols of Ganesha grace homes and streets, laden with sweets and floral offerings. Devotees seek blessings for new ventures, wisdom, and the removal of obstacles.

Ganesha's symbolism is profound; his large ears invite us to listen deeply; his small eyes inspire focused vision; his potbelly reflects the capacity to digest both success and failure.

Beyond the festivities lies an ecological message, many today advocate for ecofriendly idols and sustainable celebrations, ensuring that the festival's spiritual essence does not come at the cost of environmental degradation.

Ganesh Chaturthi is thus both a divine invocation and a communal celebration, reminding us that every ending conceals a new beginning..

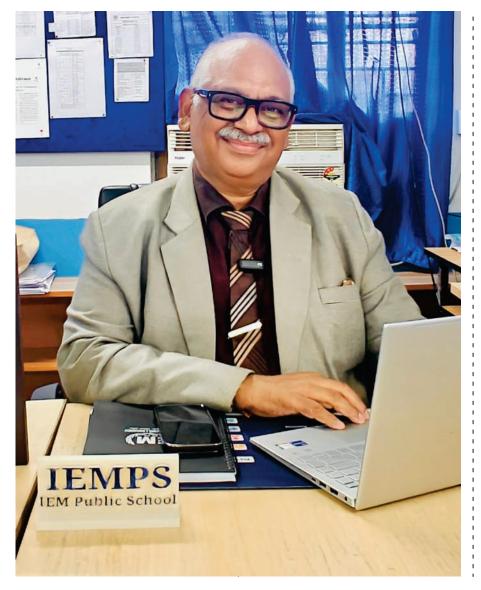


### **FAIRGAZE INITIATIVES**

# A VISION FOR A HOLISTIC TEACHING LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

THE SCHOOLASTIC NEWS EDITORIAL TEAM

Principal-Director John Bagul of IEM Public School, Kolkata is an educationist with over 30 years of experience in school systems. He shares his deep insights on the role of a school, education, building leadership and classroom as a space of immense opportunity and growth with the Schoolastic News team. Post the interview, we at Schoolastic, walk away with deep appreciation of his all-encompassing engagement with teaching and learning.



choolastic Team: Sir, with your varied and long experience in the education field, we at FairGaze's Schoolastic School News want to know your thoughts on what should 12-14 years of school education prepare a young adult for?

**Principal John Bagul:** This is a pivotal developmental phase. Children at this age strive for independence, identity, and purpose. School education should therefore prepare them for:

- Self-awareness and agency: Helping students understand their strengths, emotions, learning styles, and values.
- Effective communication: Both spoken and written; these are the key for future study, work, and collaboration.
- Critical thinking and problem solving: Encouraging inquiry, reasoning, spotting biases, analysing data, so learning becomes a tool, not

chore.

- **Digital citizenship**: Fluency with tech, balanced screen use, online safety,
- a n d ethics.
- Collaboration and social skills: Learning to lead, listen, and resolve conflicts in diverse teams prepares them for life beyond school.



Civic and global awareness: Understanding their roles communities, nations, and the planet. In short, this stage should nurture lifelong learners and humane leaders, not just exam-takers.

Schoolastic Team: Your work as an educator and an individual throws light on the quality of leadership. In a world where marks and percentages are emphasised more, where do you see a space for 'growing' children in 'leadership'. Are these two different goals, or are they part of an integrated whole? How does this translate in classrooms and school 'in real time'?

Principal John Bagul: In my long experience as an educator, I view academic excellence and leadership as complementary, not in competition. Leadership, authentically when learning; practiced, deepens rigorous learning equips leaders with confidence and knowledge.

In real-time classrooms, this shows up

- Student-led discussions and projects: Children choose topics, plan research, present, question, and defend ideas, thus - mirroring leadership processes.
- Peer mentoring and collaborative assignments: Older students or stronger peers coach others, building both academic understanding and interpersonal leadership.
- Classroom routines with shared responsibilities: Students morning meetings, debate teams, presentations, and feedback sessions-

empowering them and keeping the learning active.

• Reflection: After completing tasks, students reflect on what worked, what did not, and how they contributed as individuals and teammates.

Academic results are important, -but it becomes richer when bound in the of ownership, initiative. context compassion, and collaboration.

Schoolastic Team: Another significant quality we see in you is your passion for nature and environment. Why is it important for children?

Principal John Bagul: - I am a teacher of Biology, and I always want students to connect with nature. Connecting with the natural world fosters:

• Wonder and inquiry: Observing

plants, animals, weather, ecosystems feeds curiosity and scientific questioning.

- **Emotional well-being:** Nature calms the mind, reduces stress, and enhances attention.
- Responsibility and stewardship: Caring for plants, composting, or protecting animals teaches empathy and accountability for Earth's resources.
- **Systems thinking**: Understanding interdependence how small actions ripple through the environment.

I have seen children who plant and nurture a sapling develop patience, care, and pride. These values carry over into all areas of life. These are normal practises in the primary school classroom to encourage them into experiential learning.

**Schoolastic Team:** If we consider the constitutional value of "scientific temperament" how does it pan out for students in their 12-14-year journey?

**Principal John Bagul:** The Indian Constitution emphasizes scientific thinking, i.e., curiosity, scepticism, openmindedness, experimentation. In this age group, schools can nurture that by:

Inquiry-based learning: Students raise questions, conduct experiments, analyse results, draw evidence-based conclusions Debates and Socratic discussions: Questioning assumptions, evaluating multiple perspectives, appreciating uncertainty.

**Data and evidence literacy**: Reading charts, interpreting studies, spotting bias and unreliable sources.

Project work: Long-term investigations, like water quality tests, biodiversity surveys, or simple robotics, that tie learning to the real world. PBL or Project Based Learning is an important component of the learning environment. The aim is to teach not just what we know, but how we know it; and that knowledge is provisional, evolving with new evidence.

**Schoolastic Team:** At FairGaze, we envision a school system where

opportunities to experience and demonstrate empathy, compassion, resilience, and perseverance are present as much as academic rigor. Our initiatives include taking to schools SDG goals, build leadership through MUN trainings, and a deep focus on Social and Emotional Learning. Our first support in SEL programme is a handbook cum workbook on SEL for K-2.

In your many years as an educational leader, you have focused on opportunities on inclusion, differentiation, and social and emotional learning in schools. What do these spaces signify for you? How do you see these empower children?

**Principal John Bagul:** These three pillars, Inclusive Education, Differentiated Learning, and SEL, form a powerful triad:

**Inclusion** ensures every child, regardless of ability, background, or identity, feels welcome and valued.

**Differentiation** adapts teaching to varied needs, whether advanced learners or those needing more support, so every student can succeed.

**SEL** teaches emotional literacy, empathy, resilience, relationship skills, all crucial for meaningful collaboration and wellbeing.

Together, they create learning environments where students:

- Feel seen and cared for.
- Can take learning risks without fear of failure or judgment.
- Learn to respect others' perspectives and respond with empathy.
- Build grit and self-regulation through challenges.

They are not separate 'add-ons' they are the heart of rigorous, equitable assessment and learning. The MUN or SDG programmes you mentioned are excellent ways to make these principles visible, experiential, and powerful.

Schoolastic Team: Innately, all teachers have good intentions. What according to you makes a good teacher excellent? What role does Teacher Training play in a teacher's growth journey?

Principal John Bagul: Well-intentioned

teachers are essential, but excellence comes from continual growth. Excellent teachers:

**Reflect and adapt:** They identify why a lesson did not work and refine it; treating every class as data.

**Know students deeply:** Understanding academic and emotional profiles influences learning design and connection.

**Build trusting relationships:** Students learn best when they feel safe, seen, and supported.

**Model lifelong learning:** When teachers read, reflect, learn new methods, they communicate that curiosity to students.

**Collaborate:** Sharing ideas with peers, seeking feedback, co-planning, this collaboration uplifts every classroom.

This is why teacher training and professional learning are vital. Effective training deepens subject knowledge, demonstrates and models best practices formative learning, active assessment), provides mentoring and coaching, not just one-off workshops; practice cultivates reflective journaling, peer observation, action research); becomes a career-long journey, not a 'box-ticking' requirement; and finally, an excellent teacher is continuously evolving, and a robust training ecosystem makes that possible.

In sum, education in the early teens should aim to build inquirers, collaborators, ethical participants, and resilient problem-solvers, -not rote learners. Leadership is woven through academic endeavour; empathy and nature foster caring citizens; SEL, inclusion, and teacher excellence create the fertile soil for it all.

### **COMPETITION ALERT**

## WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY CAMPAIGN

### THE SCHOOLASTIC EDITORIAL TEAM

he United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) has been at the helm of the global platform to tackle environment endangerment since 1973. Every 5th of June, in countries across the world, individuals, organizations, industries, and governments highlight innovative solutions and sustainable practices to address real world problems; thus, reiterating their commitment to nature and our planet Earth.

The theme for 2025 is Plastic Pollution. At FairGaze, our vision to "Empower students to discover their potential and succeed as responsible global citizens" is strengthened in our commitment to taking forward the UN Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG).

In our mission to develop an ecosystem that allows children to expand their horizon of awareness, develop their innate talents and explore multitude of skills while ensuring their physical, social, and mental wellbeing we initiated "Our Green Planet" initiative to mark the 2025 World Environment Day.

### **Our Green Planet**

"Our Green Planet" campaign was initiated from 10th May to 15th June 2025. Our campaign focused on raising awareness about environmental conservation and sustainability, engaging children in a creative and hands-on activity, promoting upcycling and collaboration with others, fostering an understanding of SDGs among young participants through their art and building a connection between education, creativity, and community engagement.

The call to action was to create an **Upcycled Wall Art** / **Bulletin Board Mural**. The artworks had to keep the message 'protecting our planet and supporting the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)' at the centre of their creative displays.

Three categories of students from Grades 1-12 were required to work in groups to design and create murals using upcycled and waste materials. Suggested areas for display were school boundary walls, hallways or assembly areas, classroom walls or temporary boards.

### **Contest Winners**

Our panel of judges went through 467 submissions and declared the winners of the World Environment Contest 2025 based on Creativity and Innovation, use of Waste Materials, relevance to theme (Environment/Sustainability), presentation and effort, clarity of documentation (Photos/Video), waste art mural (wall or bulletin board or chart paper).



Category 1: Monu group, Kalaragini Trust.



Category 2: Satakshi Sharma group, DPS Noida.



Category 3: Mivaan Rana group, Jaypee Public School Noida.

Congratulations to all students who came together to imagine a sustainable planet!

There will be Certificates for winners, Special gifts for winning teams, Participation certificates for all contributors, Certificates of felicitation for all participating schools and NGOs, Environment Hero E-Badges for winners.

### Our young environmentalists at work on their creations.





STUDENT VOICE

# HIROSHIMA DAY A MEMORY THAT MUST NEVER FADE

THREE PERSPECTIVES ON A DEVASTATING WAR AND ITS CONSEQUENCES

### Quick Facts by Atharva Yadav, V-A, Jaypee Noida

Hiroshima is a city in Japan. It is located at 34° 23'41"N 132°27'17"E Latitude and Longitude, in Honshu-Island, Japan. During World War II on 6th and 9th August 1945, the USA dropped the atomic bomb on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The number of people killed stood between 1,50,000 and 2,46,000 people. The effects of the atomic bomb included Powerful blasts, Intense heat, and Radiation. It caused enormous destruction and severe injuries to people. Health effects such as radiation sickness and increased cancer risks in for survivors and their descendants. Hiroshima Day is observed on 6th August each year to remember those killed by the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

### Shaurya Singh Class (10 B) Jaypee Public School

August 6, 1945, is not just an ordinary date; it is one that will be remembered by humanity for centuries to come. It evokes a deep sense of sorrow and horror, serving as a stark reminder of the atrocities of atomic power. On this day, the Japanese city of Hiroshima was annihilated by the first nuclear bomb ever used in warfare, instantly killing over 70,000 people and many more sufferings from radiation effects in the years that followed. This bombing did not destroy just a city or any people, but it destroyed people's faith in humanity, leaving lasting scars upon Japan from which it would never be able to recover.

A few days later, another Japanese city, Nagasaki, met with the same fate, deepening the scar left in Japan. Tragic moments like this make people question why we fight. Why engage in conflict when we are all living on borrowed time, knowing that our planet will one day come to an end, and we will cease to exist? As the future of our country and world, we must put an end to the use of atomic bombs because they do not only destroy people, but also wreak havoc on the planet, disrupting the ecosystem and the natural life cycle and so much more.



Let us come together to stop this endless cycle of wars and devastation and begin treating each other with more love and compassion, may a new dawn arrive when we hold hands, fostering a sense of collective belonging among all people on this earth. That day will mark a new era of love and peace.

### Saniya Garg Grade 11-D Jaypee Public school

On 6th August 1945, the world witnessed something it had never seen before, the city of Hiroshima in Japan was destroyed in seconds by an atomic bomb. Thousands of lives were lost instantly, and many more suffered for years due to radiation and illness. Every year on this day, we remember what happened, not just to mourn, but to remind ourselves of the true value of peace.

When I first read about Hiroshima, I was

shocked. It is hard to believe that a single bomb could change the lives of so many people forever. What hurt me the most was reading stories of children who lost their parents, families torn apart, and the long-term suffering of survivors. These are not just stories from the past, they are warnings for the future. Hiroshima Day is not about blaming anyone; it is about learning. It teaches us that war never really has a winner. It teaches us the value of human life, the importance of forgiveness, and the need for peace across all nations.

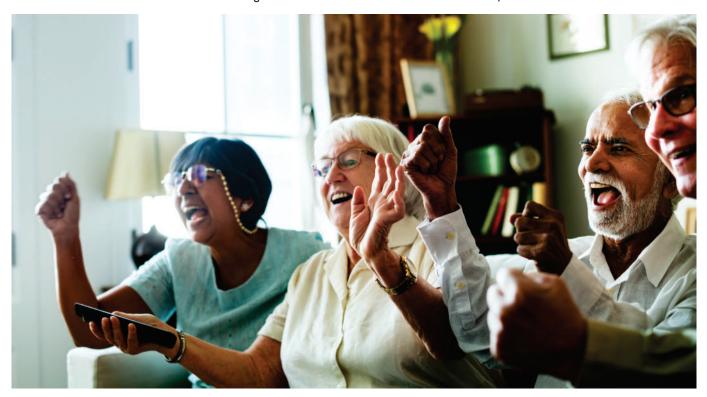
In today's world, where conflicts are still happening and weapons are becoming even more powerful, Hiroshima reminds us to choose dialogue over destruction. I believe that peace starts with us; in our homes, in our schools, and in the way we treat others every day. If we can spread kindness and empathy, we can build a better future where no city must suffer like Hiroshima did.

THEME OF THE MONTH

## THE **QUIET WONDER** OF BEING ALIVE

MS. KIRAN RAWAT, BLUE BELLS MODEL SCHOOL

As we celebrate Senior Citizens' Day on 21st August, a teacher and a student reflect on the silver-haired generation that nurtured them to be humans first!



### "A call to cherish what we so easily forget."

n the quiet hours of morning or the golden hush of evening, life often reveals its quiet magic. It is not always found in the headlines or the applause. Sometimes, it sits beside us in silence, in the form of someone who has lived long, lost much, endured quietly, and loved deeply.

Human life, in all its phases, is a masterpiece in motion. From the innocent curiosity of childhood to the ambition of youth, from the responsibilities of middle \

age to the reflective calm of older years, every stage carries a certain music. But somewhere in the noise of our fast-paced world, we have stopped listening to the gentlest part of that symphony: the voices of those who came before us.

There was a time when wisdom walked with a cane and was met with reverence. When silver hair commanded respect. When sitting at the feet of one's grandparents was not seen as an obligation but a blessing. But today, in too many homes and hearts, the elderly have become a quiet shadow, treated with impatience, spoken of with mockery,

and pushed aside as though their time is

To some young people, they are merely a bundle of habits, complaints, and outdated views. But in truth, they are a bundle of stories, sacrifices, silent battles, and unwavering love.

What happened to the value we placed on touching their feet? On asking them how their day was? On helping them sit, walk, remember? These were not just gestures— they were soul-nourishing acts. They reminded the elder that they still mattered. And they reminded the young of their own roots.

We often celebrate beginnings, the baby's first cry, the student's graduation, the young couple's wedding. But how often do we pause to honour lives that have quietly unfolded over decades? The people who may not move as swiftly anymore but who carry within them libraries of experience, a vault of love, and the gentle strength of survival.

Each wrinkle is not a flaw, but a sentence in a story. Each trembling hand has held more than we can imagine. To grow older is not to decay, but to deepen. And in a world obsessed with speed, perhaps it is only the elderly who can truly teach us how to slow down, savour, and live.

Imagine a grandmother picking up a paintbrush for the first time. A grandfather learning to write poetry at 80. These are not acts of resistance—they are acts of continued becoming. There is still so much life in later life, still so much to share, to love, to give. Robert Browning once captured this beautifully in 'Rabbi Ben Ezra',

## Grow old along with me! The best is yet to be, The last of life, for which the first was made

He reminds us that aging is not the ending—it is the blossoming of something deeper, more whole. The last chapters of life are not pages to be turned hastily, but the ones that reveal the moral of the story.

The elders among us are not behind the times, they are keepers of time. They carry within them decades of change, of choices made with trembling courage. When they speak, they offer more than memory, they offer meaning. And when they sit quietly, they are not doing nothing. They are anchoring the world around them.

In forgetting to respect them, we forget something fundamental about ourselves. We lose our roots, our history and humanity as well. And we teach the next generation to look away from where they, too, are headed.

So let us bring back those little acts of reverence. Let us talk to them without checking our phones. Let us ask about their day, not just as a formality, but with care. Let us bend to touch their feet not out of habit, but from the heart.

As you read this, take a moment to reflect, not just on the people who raised you, but on the life still blooming within them. Let us thank them, not only for what they have done, but for who they are still becoming.

And perhaps you have already guessed, this quiet reflection is more than a musing. It is a gentle tribute to a special occasion. One that does not always make headlines but should live in every home and heart. On this Senior Citizens Day, let us not wait for calendar reminders to honour the lives that made ours possible. Let us celebrate human life in all its fullness, not despite age, but because of it.

## A Senior Citizens' DAY



### AANAYA DATTA GRADE 4, JAYPEE PUBLIC SCHOOL NOIDA

t is all about 'them'; the ones who shower unconditional love, warmth, and share wisdom. A day to celebrate the generation that nurtures and shapes the future. It is a day for 'them' who never fail to teach life lessons and experiences that help the future generations to hold on to their roots, their customs, and traditions. Senior Citizens Day celebrates the contribution of the elderly and their glory.

August 21st is indeed more than a date in the calendar. From being storytellers to sharing recipes, from never holding back from engaging in playful activities with grandchildren, to teaching and preaching values. Their presence enriches our lives in countless ways.

This day is a heartfelt reminder, or rather celebrating the generation that nurtures us, builds communities, and paves the path we now walk on. They lay the foundation of the society upon which a successful future stands.

They are the living time-capsule that takes us through different eras and connects us to our roots. They act as a bridge between generations.

This day should be cherished and acknowledged through love and compassion. All they need is to be heard and to receive a bit of gratitude. Old age comes with a lot of challenges such as loneliness, health issues, and age-related discrimination, therefore, more awareness should be raised to address

these issues with sensitivity and care and helping to build a more compassionate and age-friendly society. They are the golden hearts behind our silver-haired heroes. Without the wisdom of the past, a prosperous future cannot flourish. Therefore, their contribution should never be undermined.

THEME OF THE MONTH

# A TRIBUTE TO THE LEGACY OF OLD TRADITIONS

THE SCHOOLASTIC NEWS EDITORIAL TEAM

e all grew up listening to bedtime stories from our grandparents. Sometimes they were about ghosts, sometimes about a brave king we had, sometimes about magical creatures, myths and legends. Customs and practices that our grandparents must have heard from their grandparents, who in turn would have heard from their elders. Fragments of community practices, beliefs, performances of these, and their narration preserves a unique part of our selves as an ancient people.

Folklore describes traditional stories, habits, customs of a particular community or a region. It is seen as informal, diversified, and connected to daily life and local customs more than religion. It draws its variety from ethno-linguist and socio-cultural roots of a community. The UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) took the initiative to popularize the traditional folklore of countries around the world as well as to preserve it from dying; and designated a day, 22nd August to preserve and celebrate the little traditions that uniquely define communities.

India with its many cultures is home to a rich diversity of folklore. It is passed down through generations in the form of tales, ballads, dances, art, songs, lullaby, poems, practices, and proverbs. Many a times we hear and see the wandering minstrels or traditional performers sing and perform stories, or see it embedded on long forgotten walls as faded murals and paintings. The Panchatantra and the Hitopadesha, where animals speak with wisdom, the epics Ramayana and

Mahabharata, the many varieties of ghosts in folk traditions across India, Mithila, Worli, Alpona, Kolam and other art forms, the Baul, the Manganyars, Theyyam, Bardoichila, Cheraw, Pung cholom, kuthiraiattom, Lavani, Giddha, ghoomar, Jabro, Grida, Chhau are just a few to mention.

Idioms and Proverb's hold a culture's wisdom, beliefs, and values. Filled with wisdom these sayings, at times quirky, and in other times witty, are passed down orally through generations. The proverb Naach na jaane aangan tedha is a quirky way to point out that you need to master a skill better instead of blaming the tools. Bure kaam ka bura nateeja is a polite reminder to reflect on your actions instead of cursing your fate. Bandar kya jaane adrak ka swad is asking you to be more well-read, refined and cultured, since the unqualified is incapable of appreciating things of value. Jo garajte hain, woh baraste nahin subtly punches in the importance of steady work that produces results, instead of idle chatter. Andhon mein kaana raja is a call to realise your true potential by taking on challenges that help you grow, instead of being happy with mediocrity.

Folk songs, often accompanied with folk instruments, is a rarity in cities. We often see it in fairs/melas held around us. These songs are spectacular, soul-stirring performances. Take the Pandavani from central India, an epic retelling of the Pandava's journey. From Andhra Pradesh comes the Burra katha a troupe of three who narrate stories through songs, jokes, poetry, and drama that focuses on mythology, social issues and historical

stories. They are accompanied by a tambura player. Assam is synonymous Bihu a folk performance accompanied by the dhal, pipe, gogona, taal, banhi and toka, often the songs are about nature, social message and love. The Ja Jin ja is folk music from Arunachal Pradesh performed by a group of men and women. Barayi singers narrates the region's history and mythology and is sung on special occasions. Women in Goa sing the Ovi while doing the household chores. These songs are about marriage, lullabies, or about pregnancy. The Banvarh is sung during funerals to mourn over the death of a beloved. Often accompanied by dhal and shehnai. From Punjab comes the Tappa, inspired by the folk songs of camel riders, it is semiclassical and depicts the plight of the lover. Bhangra is a celebratory performance set to songs accompanied with the Dhol, Tumbi, Sarangi, Flute, Harmonium and Tabla. Baul singers in rural Bengal, travel from place-to-place singing these songs accompanied by the Ektara, Khamak and Dotara.

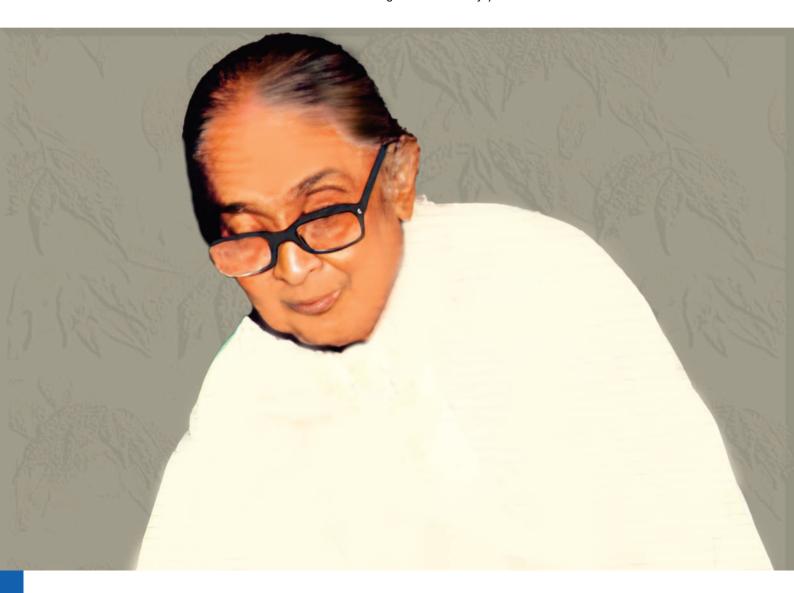
When Alan Lomax, the American ethnomusicologist and folklorist, who contributed to NASA's Voyager Golden Record project, argued to include the diverse non mainstream music from around the world, he was going beyond showcasing an inclusive selection of human technical achievements. He believed that the folk music represented the quintessential cultural richness and emotional depth of human experience. So let us bring in the folk traditions back to life as we celebrate the Folklore Day this 22nd August.

**EDUCATOR FOCUS** 

## **ANUTAI WAGH:** THE QUIET FIRE WHO LIT A THOUSAND LAMPS

Mangla Dwivedi

"I had no ambition for fame or wealth. My only desire was that every child, especially in rural India, should get to learn with joy."



Maharashtra, where chalkboards ! educational revolution. With

n the quiet corners of tribal | named Anutai Wagh sparked an were once unheard of and spotlight or slogans, she brought classrooms unimagined, a woman learning into the lives of the forgotten

not with buildings, but with belief. This is not just the story of a teacher. It is the story of how one woman redefined what it meant to learn, to teach, and to serve. Born on 17 March 1910, in Morgaon near Pune, Anutai's journey was married at thirteen and widowed within six months. Defying the times she lived in, she chose to educate herself and passed the Vernacular Final Exam in 1925, trained as a teacher in Pune, and graduated with a first class. Later, in 1961, despite a failing eyesight, she earned her bachelor's degree from S.N.D.T. University. For Anutai, education was a tool to raise others.

### The Meeting That Changed India's Classrooms

In 1945, during a women's training camp in Mumbai, Anutai met the legendary educator Tarabai Modak, already known as the "Montessori of India." Together, they began working in Dahanu, where they launched the Gram Bal Shiksha Kendra (G.B.S.K.), an education centre that would eventually become a model for tribal learning across India.

They left behind conventional classrooms and created schools under trees, with stones for numbers, leaves for alphabets, and stories for science. For the first time children from tribal and other indigenous communities learned in their own language, at their own pace, using tools from their own environment.

### The Balwadi Movement: Local, Low-Cost, Life-Oriented

From Kosbad, Anutai and Tarabai Modak developed the concept of Balwadi, a preschool model that focused on learning through activity, observation, and experience. This was not a scaled-down urban school. It was an entirely new system designed around the lives of tribal children.

Anutai documented this work in her book, "How to Turn a Balwadi", a manual still used today in teacher training programs. She emphasized that learning should not burden children, it should "grow from their laughter, their games, and their natural curiosity."

Women First: Educating the Educators

### "A woman, once empowered, carries a whole village forward.,"

Anutai did not just teach children, she taught mothers, sisters, and daughters to become educators themselves. She trained local tribal women as Shikshan Sevikas (learning facilitators), many of whom had never stepped into a classroom before.

Through her organization, Thane District Shree Shakti Jagruti Samiti, she held Mahila Melavas, camps that introduced women to healthcare, nutrition, hygiene, and family rights. She launched the women's magazine Savitri and regularly provided emotional and practical support to those in distress.

Schools Without Walls, Learning Without Limits

### "A child learns more from five minutes of play than from hours of forced instruction."

Anutai believed that education must be flexible. In 1983, she launched Gram-Mangal in Dabhon, a remote Warli tribal area, with a radical idea: "Kuran Shalas" or Meadow Schools, where education flowed with everyday life. There were no buildings, no rigid timetables, just learning from work, culture, and nature.

She also established a school for the hearing-impaired in Dahanu, and edited "Shikshan Patrika", a journal filled with practical tools for rural teachers and parents.

Her entire model was built on trust and understanding, not enforcement. "Don't pull the child to the book. Bring the book to the child's world," she said.

### Awards That Reflected Her Reach

Though awards were never her aim, Anutai Wagh's contribution earned her India's highest educational and civilian honours, including Padma Shri (1984) for excellence in tribal education, Jamnalal Bajaj Award (1985), for the upliftment of women and children, Savitribai Phule Award, for women's empowerment, among others.

Anutai Wagh passed away in 1992 at the age of 82 but her vision lives on. Today, Grammangal, the educational trust she co-founded, continues to run innovative early childhood programs across Maharashtra. Her methods influence national education policy, NGO training modules, and remain a cornerstone of grassroots education in India.

## The Legacy: "The soul of education is not in what we teach, but in how much the child wants to learn.

Anutai's philosophy was radical in its simplicity. She believed that education must not alienate a child from their roots but draw strength from them. Her classrooms had no boundaries, only possibilities. Her blackboard was the earth, her chalk, a twig.

**FAIRGAZE INITIATIVES** 

# NURTURING YOUNG DIPLOMATS AND GLOBAL THINKERS

## SOUTH, CENTRAL AND WESTERN INDIA INTER-SCHOOL MUN 4.0

### SCHOOLASTIC EDITORIAL TEAM



he fourth edition of the Inter-School Model United Nations (MUN) 4.0 for South, Central, and Western India brought together bright young minds from India and abroad for a two-day simulation of global diplomacy and problem-solving. Conducted under the banners of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), the event provided a dynamic platform for students to engage with some of the most pressing international issues of our time. The online event was held on 12 July to maximize participation and accessibility,

allowing individuals from different countries to join using the resources most suitable for them.

## UNGA: Closing the Financing Gap to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

The United Nations General Assembly deliberated on one of the critical barriers to global progress: the financing shortfall in achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Delegates examined the economic obstacles that continue to hinder development efforts, particularly in low and middle-income countries.

Student delegates discussed and debated the key issues of Declining levels of Official Development Assistance (ODA), Inadequate public funding and Minimal engagement from the private sector and global financial institutions

Their proposed strategies included Strengthening multilateral partnerships and expanding debt relief programs, Promoting the use of blended finance models, combining public and private capital and Leveraging digital platforms and financial technology to enhance financial inclusion and reach underserved populations.



Delegates showcased exceptional analytical and diplomatic skills, resulting in the presentation of multiple working papers, which were eventually consolidated into a cohesive draft resolution. The resolution addressed both short- and long-term approaches to sustainable financing.

### **UNSC: Climate, Peace, and Security**

TThe Security Council explored the intricate and evolving relationship between environmental degradation and international peace and stability. The committee emphasized how climate change, particularly rising sea levels, desertification, and resource scarcity, is increasingly acting as a multiplier of conflict and displacement in vulnerable regions.

The delegates deliberated the issues of Climate-induced displacement due to rising seas and expanding deserts, and Competition over water and other natural resources, heightening regional instability Their proposed way forward included Integrating climate risk assessments into peacekeeping missions, and Establishing early warning systems for climate-related conflict escalation.

The committee witnessed vibrant and sometimes contentious debate, particularly among the Permanent Five (P5) nations, with some members raising concerns about national sovereignty and the mandate of the UNSC in climate-related matters. Ultimately, the council reached consensus on several refined clauses that acknowledged the balance between state sovereignty and collective global responsibility.

### Opening and Closing Ceremonies: Insights from Education Leaders

The conference opened with encouraging words from Ms. Moonika Shakti Ratanpari, Administrator and Principal, Rustomiee Kerawalla Foundation's Jawaharlal Nehru Port Vidyalaya, Navi She emphasized Mumbai. transformative impact of MUNs as "Model UN conferences inspire students to engage with real-world issues and encourage them to develop a voice that's informed, respectful, and impactful." At the closing ceremony, Dr. Priti Shrimal, Principal of Billabong High International School. Vadodara. addressed participants and stated that, "We must focus on experience-based learning. The National Education Policy (NEP) rightly encourages participation in platforms like MUNs, which foster leadership, collaboration, and global consciousness."

MUN 4.0 witnessed enthusiastic participation from an impressive lineup of schools across diverse regions of India and beyond,

### including:

International School, Utrecht, Netherlands National Public School, Yeshwanthpur, Bengaluru

- · Alphonsa School, Miraj, Sangli
- Delhi Public School, Siliguri
- Sai International School, Bhubaneswar
- St. Francis De Sales High School, Nalasopara East

- Shiksha The Gurukul, Phouden, Thoubal, Manipur
- Delhi Public School, Vindhayanagar
- St. Mary's English Medium School, Udupi
- W.H. Smith Memorial School, Varanasi
- Yashoda Public School, Satara
- St. Soldier Inter College, Jalandhar
- Kalorex Future School, Ghatlodia, Ahmedabad
- Kendriya Vidyalaya, Dakshina Kannada
- Syed Abid Husain Senior Secondary School, Okhla/ Jamia Nagar
- Oyster English High School, Sambhajjnagar
- Adarsh Vidya Kendra, Vettoornimadam, Nagercoil
- MGM PU College, Udupi
- Apeejay School, Panchsheel Park
- Utpal Shanghvi Global School, Mumbai
- Sadhana Infinity International School, Hyderabad
- Delhi Public School, Navi Mumbai
- The Shri Ram Universal School, Palava Phase-II, Dombivli East

The Southern, Central and Western India Inter-School MUN 4.0 exemplified the powerful role that student-led diplomacy can play in shaping future leaders. The simulation not only encouraged meaningful engagement with international affairs but also promoted collaboration, empathy, and respect for diverse perspectives. As delegates walked away with enhanced confidence and a deeper understanding of global challenges, one thing was clear: the future of international dialogue is in capable hands.

THEME OF THE MONTH

# FREEDOM TWINS: COUNTRIES THAT SHARE INDEPENDENCE DAY WITH INDIA

SCHOOLASTIC EDITORIAL TEAM



s the first rays of dawn touched the Red Fort on 15 August 1947, a new India was born after a long and well-fought fight. But across oceans and continents, other nations were waking up to their own freedom dreams on this very same day. Let us meet these remarkable "freedom twins" and discover how their stories intertwine with ours.

**South Korea's Double Liberation (1945)**While India was still fighting for freedom,

Korea celebrated its liberation from 35 years of Japanese rule. Their celebration, called Gwangbokjeol ("The Day the Light Returned"), mirrors our own - with one beautiful difference. Families visit independence museums where children touch actual artifacts from the freedom struggle, connecting them physically to history.

Bahrain's Midnight Freedom (1971)
Exactly at midnight on August 15, 1971 -

as India celebrated its 24th Independence Day - Bahrain's ruler signed the declaration ending 110 years of British protection. Today, their celebrations feature traditional pearl divers performing dances that tell stories of resistance, much like our folk dances preserve revolutionary tales.

### Congo's Stormy Independence (1960)

The rain poured relentlessly on August 15, 1960, as Patrice Lumumba gave his historic speech condemning colonial rule. Like Nehru's "Tryst with Destiny", his words - "No Congolese will ever forget that independence was won through struggle" became immortal. Their celebrations today include reading this speech in schools, just as we read Nehru's.

### Liechtenstein's Princely Holiday (1866)

This tiny European paradise celebrates differently, 15 August marks both their independence and their Prince's birthday! The royal family hosts an open-air party where citizens enjoy wine from castle vineyards. Imagine if Rashtrapati Bhavan threw such a party for all Indians!

This 15th August, as you watch the tricolour rise, remember, on the very day, Korean children are touching history, Bahraini divers are dancing, Congolese students are reading Lumumba's words, and Liechtenstein's castle bells are ringing. Different cultures, same date, one shared value, freedom. Our Independence Day is more than just India's story, it' is a part of the world's greatest celebration of liberty.



Thank you, students, teachers, and schools, for contributing so generously to our August edition 'Celebrating Human Life'. We are absolutely thrilled to get so many articles. We had a tough time deciding whom to choose and what to let go. A little heads up: we love to read your perspectives and hear your unique voice on any given topic.

Send us your **articles**, **poems**, **reviews** in MS Word, Times Roman 12 point. Any copyright free photos, even better if it is your original illustration or drawing in jpeg file. Do remember to write your name, school name, grade and mail id.

**September Theme:** Whispers in Space

Deadline: 15 August 2025, 6 pm.

Email: Send your submissions to schoolasticeditorial@fairgaze.com

Our September theme 'Whispers in Space' is inspired by humankind's journey into space. With our man in space back on earth, we are curious to know what you as students make of this. What do you know about the Axiom Mission 4 (Ax- 4). Who represented India? What research and experiments did they do in the two weeks they were onboard ISS, the International Space Station? Why were these experiments done on ISS? What has been some pioneering organisations, people behind India's space program and missions? What discussions and wonder have there been in your science classes about space, stars, astronomy? How do you communicate in space?

Read up, find out, let us know what your take on any one of these.

The festival season spills into September, as students and teachers continue to grow in the teaching-learning journey. Write to us also about the festivals you celebrate; a day in the life of your teacher to celebrate teacher's day in your unique voice.

As always, if there is a movie or show you loved watching, a song/ playlist you think is wonderful, a podcast that inspired you, or a play that moved you write about it, we will be happy to publish it.

### August 2025 Book Suggestions

Hope you enjoyed the July book suggestions Here is a list for August based on our September Theme. Do read and send us a review by 15 August 2025 at <a href="mailto:schoolasticeditorial@fairgaze.com">schoolasticeditorial@fairgaze.com</a>

We have a separate list for teachers and encourage our fearless teachers to take some 'me' time out to read and review.

For Students

Douglas Adams: The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

**Stephen and Lucy Hawking:** George's Secret Key to the Universe (there are more in this series)

Akiyuki Nosaka: The Whale that Fell in Love with a Submarine

For Teachers

Sylvia Ashton-Warner: Teacher
Dr Ross Greene: The Explosive Child

Read up, find out, let us know what your take on any one of these.

The festival season spills into September, as students and teachers continue to grow in the teaching-learning journey. Write to us also about the festivals you celebrate; a day in the life of your teacher to celebrate teacher's day in your unique voice.

As always, if there is a movie or show you loved watching, a song/ playlist you think is wonderful, a podcast that inspired you, or a play that moved you write about it, we will be happy to publish it.

### FAIRGAZE OFFERINGS

## School Membership Program

The School Membership Program helps the school instill experiential learning, holistic development, skill building and financial literacy in children further preparing them for their life after school.

> available as a standalone engagement activity



### 1. STUDENTS' JOURNALISM TRAINING & SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

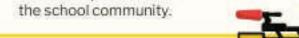
FairGaze trains students on journalistic skills, hosting webinars, hosting MUN, audience management etc.

available as a standalone engagement activity



### 2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL CAMPAIGNS

Led by eminent educationists and esteemed judges. Intricately designed to promote and implement UN SDGs in the school community.



### 4. SCHOOL'S MEDIA COVERAGE & PROMOTIONS

FairGaze brings the schools' activities, events highlights, mission and vision of the school leaders outside to the entire K-12 fraternity.



### 6. BRAND EXPOSURE

FairGaze has partnered with Dabur, Decathlon, Fortis, etc to bring sponsorships and organize students' focused engagement activities & contests.

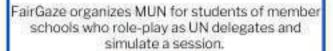
available as a standalone engagement activity



### 8. ONLINE WORKSHOPS

Conducted by professional mentors for students, teachers and parents focused on knowledge and skill building.

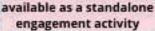
### 3. MODEL UNITED NATIONS & **VARIOUS EVENTS & CONTESTS**



Children get opportunities to show case their talent in various creative contests by FairGaze.

### 5. CUSTOMIZED ONLINE SCHOOLASTIC MAGAZINE

Covers all school activities, events and achievements of the school, engages children to fetch stories/content of the school further furnished and designed by FairGaze.



### 7. COUNSELLING SESSIONS

Organized for school children with expert counsellors to highlight and destigmatize important mental health issues

available as a standalone engagement activity

### 9. FAIRTALKS

Panel discussion organized on integral subjects around the education of India. covers ideas and perspectives from eminent panel of educationists.



## CONTEST CLOSED, AND WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED SOON.

1



DEAR PRINCIPAL,
WOULD YOU HELP US
BRING YOUR STUDENTS'
IMAGINATION TO LIFE?

WE'D LOVE FOR THEM TO PARTICIPATE
IN LEGO"'S QUEST FOR THE LOST BRICK.

### WHAT IS LEGO® UP TO?

LEGO°, the global toy and media brand, is opening its first certified store in India! To celebrate, we're inviting kids aged 5-14 to take part in a nation-wide contest that sparks creativity and joy.

### WHAT'S THE CONTEST?

Let your students
(ages 5-14) take part
in Quest for the Lost
Brick, where they
can draw, write,
build, or narrate the
strangest place a
missing red LEGO°
brick might be
hiding!

2



ey Highlights

### CATEGORIES FOR ENTRY.

A total of 12 winning entries will be chosen, 4 each across 3 age categories.



Category 02: 9-11 Y/O



### JUDGING CRITERIA.

Let the children's imagination run free! The wilder, the better! There's no such thing as too imaginative.

Entries will be judged by LEGO® Master Builders (LEGO® experts) and LEGO® representatives. All decisions, as hard as they may be, will be final.

### REWARDS WORTH OVER ₹10 LAKHS TO BE WON!

A custom-built golden LEGO® trophy.

3

LEGO® sets worth ₹50,000.

A gaming pack with LEGO® video games.

An exciting birthday mystery box.

A trip to LEGOLAND® Dubai!

### HOW CAN KIDS PARTICIPATE?

Scan this QR code to find more contest details or visit lego.mybrickhouse.com/pages/microsite



We'd love for your students to be a part of the fun, expressing themselves and reimagining the world, one brick at a time!

1

Please feel free to reach out with any questions.
Thanks,
Team LEGO\*

### **FAQs**

- Who is eligible to participate? Children aged 5-14 years.
- What happens to the data submitted to this contest?

All data will be securely deleted after 30 July, 2025.

- How will the judging happen exactly? Entries will be judged on imagination, originality, and creativity by LEGO® Master Builders and experts. All decisions are final.
- Will participants be compensated for their design?

No, participants will not be compensated.

The LEGO Group and the partners of the LEGO Group do not use/intend to use your data beyond the duration of the campaign. Once the campaign is completed, all collected information will be securely deleted.





### We are back with the 2025 edition!

This August, bring out the Essayist, the Poet and the Painter in you

Grades 3-5 Choose any topic





### Topic:

- 1. My Dream for India 2. My Idea of Freedom
- 3. My Country India.



### Topic:

- 2. August 15th
- 3. A Game we Play

Grades 6-8 Choose any topic





- 1. Freedom.
- 2. Khadi is an Emotion.
- 3. The Many Festivals of my Land.



- 3. A Traditional Community Dance

Grades 9-12 Choose any topic



POWER OF THE PEN (कविता लिखें) Topic:

- 1. #India@78
- 2. The Diversity that
- 3. Tomorrow's Child.



- Topic:
- 1. An Indian Summe
- Played in India
- 3. India in Space.

**Eligibility Criteria:** 

**How to Participate** 

Student in Grades 3rd – 12th from any school / NGO / Community

· Children with Special Needs

**Contest Duration:** 

16th July 2025 - 20th August 2025 Participation Fee: (Per Entry)

**General Category students** 

Early bird registrations from 16th July to 31st July - INR 100

Registration from 1st Aug to 20th Aug - INR 200

**Children With Special Needs** 

Early bird registrations from 16th July to 31st July – INR 50

Registration from 1st Aug to 20th Aug - INR 100

Just 3 easy steps to participate















EaseMyTrip
FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT OF OUR
MODEL UNITED NATIONS (MUN)

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDG) CAMPAIGN.

Thank you for making our journeys smoother and our mission stronger.



