



National Public School Rajajinagar

Third Edition

2024-25

Volume LIII

GRADE 11

Editorial

Welcome back, readers!

With the dawn of a new semester, we're thrilled to bring you the latest edition of our school newsletter. After a well-deserved break, we hope everyone has regained the rhythm of growth, learning, and shared experiences. This issue is full of tales that bring out the accomplishments and spirit that make our school remarkable. As editors, it is our joy to document and share the pulse of our school community.

In this edition, you will find inspiring stories of students who have excelled in academics and extracurricular activities. From creative projects and athletic feats to community initiatives and artistic showcases, our students' dedication to their passion is remarkable. You'll also find insightful recaps of recent events and assemblies that brought our school together in the spirit of curiosity, collaboration, and fun. Our popular Whimsical Writings and Sunny Side Up segments return with fresh perspectives, and our much anticipated- nature log, for students of grade 6-9 has in store exciting surprises for you! These segments, as always, are driven by students, highlighting their impressive creativity and initiative.

As we embark on this semester, we encourage everyone in our community to stay engaged, be curious, and lend their voice to the ongoing story of our school. The newsletter is a testament to the hard work and enthusiasm of countless contributors—teachers, staff, the editorial team, student writers, and our supportive principals, whose encouragement keeps us striving for excellence.

Thank you all for being part of this journey with us. Here's to a semester filled with discovery, achievement, and memorable moments for everyone!

Editors in chief

Aarnavi M K 11A

Medha Biswajit 11A



Timeline



- Magical Children's day (NOV 14)
- Jr R-NPSMUN 24(NOV 25 & 26)
- SAPA workshop (Nov 26)
- A Journey to Janapada Loka
- A day of fun and frolic
- Online Safety
- Mangrove restoration - An insightful session
- National Human Rights Day and Armed Forces Flag Day (Dec 10)
- Christmas Cheer (Dec 20)

A Magical Children's Day Celebration

This Children's Day, the environment transformed into a whimsical wonderland bursting with giggles, joy, and jaw-dropping talent as teachers morphed into showbiz superstars, dazzling the students with electrifying performances! The morning assembly began with the teachers' choir singing the prayer, followed by speeches on the significance of Children's Day and how special students are to us. They also enjoyed an entertainment programme where teachers became singers, dancers, and actors on stage. Each child was sent home with a memento to mark this year's special day.

Jr R- NPSMUN

On November 25 and 26, our school held its first Junior R-NPSMUN, which included committees such as UNHRC, DISEC, HUNSC, FJCC, and IPC. Over 200 delegates showcased their oratory and diplomacy skills during this two-day conference. Participants tackled diverse agendas, addressing modern challenges and historical crises while enhancing their critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. The event provided a dynamic environment for new delegates, preparing them for the world of diplomacy and negotiations. Overall, it was a successful gathering of young diplomats eager to make a difference.

Workshop on online safety

As part of the Adolescent Education Programme, students of Grade 9 attended a workshop conducted by Ms Anjana Palamand, alumnus and founder of the NGO Maya. She addressed the issue of online harassment and bullying and provided ways to safeguard or counter them. A few tips included restricting social media use, being aware of online predators, how to spot fake profiles, and filing a cyber complaint. Students then worked in groups on case studies with follow-up questions that they answered to enhance their level of understanding of the topic.

A Journey to Janapada Loka

Students of Grades 6 to 8 explored Janapada Loka, a museum showcasing Karnataka's folk art and traditions. They engaged in hands-on activities like carpentry, pottery, and games such as Kabaddi, Tug-of-War, and Laggori while also enjoying traditional dances and a wholesome meal.

A Day of Fun and Frolic

Meanwhile, the students of Grades 9 to 12 enjoyed a well-deserved day of relaxation and recreation at the Signature Club Resort. From running across the lush green lawns to engaging in various indoor and outdoor games, it was a day filled with energy and excitement. The students relished a hearty breakfast, fresh fruit juices, and a delicious lunch, topped off with tasty fried snacks in the evening. This picnic was a perfect blend of fun, friendship, and laughter.

SAPA Workshop on Morsing

On 26th November 2024, a workshop was held on the classical instrument Morsing, conducted by Vidwan Ghantasala Satyasai and organised by SaPa. He showcased the instrument's role in Carnatic music, performed captivating solos, and engaged students in interactive activities. A lively Q & A session explored its history and pioneers.

Mangrove Restoration - an insightful session

Students attended an insightful session on mangrove forest restoration by Ms. Anupama Appukuttan, a seasoned social development professional with 15+ years of experience. She highlighted mangroves' role in restoring degraded lands, supporting biodiversity, and sustaining livelihoods. The talk emphasised the interconnectedness of ecosystems and the urgency of conservation. Engaged participation from students made the session impactful, serving as a strong reminder of our collective responsibility to protect nature.

National Human Rights Day and Armed Forces Flag Day

National Human Rights Day and Armed Forces Flag Day were observed with a well-organized assembly that celebrated human rights and honored the dedication of the armed forces. The event began with a welcome speech, setting the tone for the day. This was followed by an insightful address on the significance of human rights in fostering justice and equality. It also acknowledged the invaluable role of the armed forces in maintaining peace and security across the nation.

The highlight of the assembly was a moving rendition of the patriotic classic Jhanda Ucha Rahe Hamara, which evoked pride and respect. A dramatized panel discussion brought the concept of human rights to life. Students portrayed NGO heads, teachers, and media personnel, discussing fundamental rights such as education, equality, freedom from exploitation, and freedom of speech, showcasing their relevance in today's world.

The event concluded with a speech emphasizing the importance of constitutional rights and saluting the armed forces' commitment to safeguarding the nation.

Christmas Cheer

The Christmas celebrations came alive with a vibrant special assembly organised by Grade 11 students. The event radiated the festive spirit and filled the school with holiday cheer. The assembly showcased students dressed as iconic characters from beloved Christmas movies. Energetic dance performances set to lively Christmas music mesmerised the audience, while a meaningful story underscored the true essence of Christmas. The choir enriched the atmosphere with heartfelt renditions of timeless carols, spreading joy and warmth throughout the event. Adding an extra touch of magic, students in their festive costumes engaged with the younger audience, creating moments of excitement and laughter.



Their interactions brought an uplifting sense of camaraderie and joy to the celebration. The captivating performances received thunderous applause, ensuring a delightful experience for everyone involved. Teachers also embraced the holiday spirit, complementing the festivities by dressing in cheerful hues of red, white, green, and silver. In conclusion, the Christmas celebration at National Public School, Rajajinagar, was a heartwarming and meticulously organised event that perfectly embodied the spirit of the season, spreading the joy and warmth of Christmas far and wide.



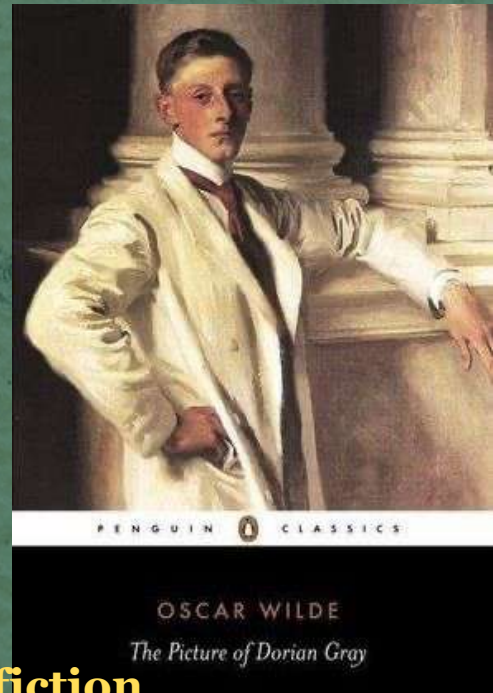
The Review Shelf

Medha Sathish - 11B

Arunima Yadav - 10D

Welcome to The Review Shelf, a space for students who want to dive into the world of books but aren't sure where to start. Whether you're a beginner or just love reading, this section will help you discover your next favourite read. Join us as we explore stories, genres, and everything in between.

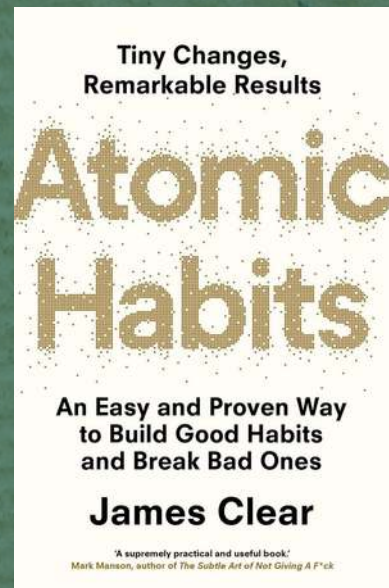
The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde



Genre - Gothic fiction

The Picture of Dorian Gray is a dark tale about vanity, obsession, and what happens when you live only for yourself. Dorian Gray is a handsome young man whose portrait ages and gets uglier while he stays flawless. Thanks to the influence of the cynical, pleasure-seeking Lord Henry, Dorian dives headfirst into a life of excess—chasing thrills, beauty, and indulgence, all while ignoring the moral fallout. His portrait, hidden away, becomes a reflection of the bad decisions and darkness growing inside him. Wilde's novel is like a warning about what happens when you prioritise looks, fame, and instant gratification above everything else. It explores the tension between your public image and the messiness of your true self. Dorian's downfall is a commentary on how chasing beauty and pleasure without caring about the consequences can destroy you from the inside out. With sharp writing and timeless themes, The Picture of Dorian Gray is a cautionary tale on how running away from reality—whether through looks or fun—eventually catches up with you.

Atomic Habits - James Clear



Genre - self-help

‘Atomic Habits’ by James Clear is an engaging guide to mastering the power of small changes. Rather than focusing on radical transformations, Clear emphasises the value of tiny, consistent habits that, over time, lead to significant improvements. He uses practical examples and compelling stories to explain the science behind habit formation, making complex ideas feel accessible. The book is packed with actionable tips for building good habits and breaking bad ones, all with a clear, motivational tone that keeps readers inspired. Clear's writing style is straightforward, making it easy to apply these strategies to everyday life. Overall, ‘Atomic Habits’ is a practical read for anyone looking to make lasting changes in their life without feeling overwhelmed.

Sunnyside up

‘The Art of Not Yet’

By: Tisya Chikodi – 10C

Chief Columnist at Sunny Side Up

I rolled down the windows and peered out. The stars seemed brighter at the midnight hour, the deafening silence of the empty roads contrasting the music blasting through my headphones. The breeze poured in, the chill numbing the tip of my nose and my cheeks, but I couldn't tear myself away. This day marked the end of the first term and the beginning of our first vacation—the midpoint of the year. With exams behind us and my mind free to wander, I began thinking about the impending events of my life on my way to the airport. The music softened, muffled by my overflowing thoughts. We've now reached that awkward stage of the year: the point where we're way beyond the beginning but still not close to the end. Our first term flew by, undeniably filled with countless memories and experiences, and now, we're back to square one.

Only this term, a new factor gets introduced: preparation. It starts as usual, proceeding with new chapters and new notebooks but with an irrefutable change in atmosphere. We start asking teachers whether next year is harder than the current one. We start getting serious about exams. We start thinking about our future.

Even though we're starting fresh with a new term, deep down, we're preparing for the end. Preparation is an element we often overlook until it becomes unavoidable, lingering in the background like an afterthought. But as we delve deeper into the term, it shifts to center stage, setting the tone for everything we do. We've all experienced those moments of hastily catching up, only to realise that a little foresight could have prevented the stress. Being prepared serves as our compass, assisting us in overcoming obstacles and approaching every project, test, and new assignment with direction and clarity.

It's not just a matter of staying ahead; it's the groundwork that turns uncertainty into confidence. It becomes a tool, a security blanket for your future self. Because, in the end, what we prepare for is not the test or the project. It's the future—the unknowns that lie ahead. And with every bit of preparation, we lay a little more of that uncertainty to rest, making the world feel less intimidating and chaotic.

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The weight of the future becomes lighter and manageable as long as we're ready to meet it, to face it, with everything we've carefully set into motion. When the inevitable challenges come, preparation turns into resilience. It's the calm confidence we carry with us because we know we've done everything we could to get here. And that, perhaps, is the real power of preparation: not in avoiding failure, but in ensuring we can meet it head-on, whatever shape it takes.

As we continue on this path, preparation starts to feel less like a chore and more like a strategy. It gives us room to breathe, to adapt, to think beyond the next deadline and to focus on long-term goals. With every step taken in advance, we're building pliability, laying down the pieces of our success one plan at a time. Because, in truth, it's not just about getting to the finish line but about how well we handle the journey there. After all, reaching the end is only half the story—the other half is the way we prepared to meet it!



The Importance of Financial Literacy in Schools



In today's complex economy, financial literacy is essential for navigating personal and professional challenges. However, many students leave school without the foundational knowledge needed to manage their finances effectively. Incorporating financial literacy into school curriculums is vital to equip young people with the tools to make informed decisions and secure financial stability.

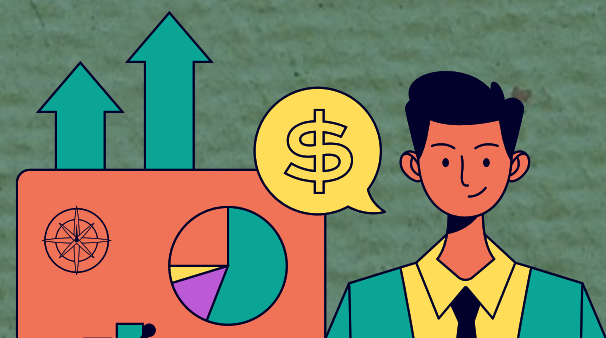
Financial literacy encompasses skills such as budgeting, saving, investing, and managing debt. These skills are critical for understanding financial products like credit cards, loans, and insurance. Without this knowledge, individuals are more likely to fall into debt, struggle with poor financial planning, and miss opportunities to build wealth.

Teaching financial literacy in schools ensures students are prepared for real-world responsibilities. It can help them understand the importance of saving for emergencies, using credit wisely, and planning for retirement. Moreover, it fosters independence, critical thinking, and confidence in managing money.

Incorporating financial education early can also address broader societal issues, such as income inequality and economic insecurity, by promoting financial empowerment across all socioeconomic backgrounds.

By prioritizing financial literacy in schools, we can build a future where individuals are better equipped to achieve their goals, contribute to the economy, and lead financially secure lives.

P Sathvik Poonja, 11A




“Freedom of speech vs Irresponsible speech”

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.” This is a quote held high due to two primary reasons: the inherent profoundness expressed in the statement by Martin Luther King Jr. and the significance of freedom of speech and expression in the contemporary world. This sentiment is further shared by the creators of the Indian constitution wherein Article 19(1)(a) of the Indian Constitution guarantees the freedom to express thoughts and opinions without undue consequences.

The right to freedom of speech and expression is a monumental concept which holds importance in any function of a democratic society. Throughout history, its sheer importance has been witnessed in a multitude of ways such as playing the role of catalyst for reformation, acting as a source of protection for the downtrodden by providing a medium to convey the problems they face, providing a fundamental dais for the critics to speak on the immoral and allowing dialogue for the growth of a functional society, thereby illustrating its significance.

A very important comparison to be made in the current societal structure is the difference between exercising freedom of speech and employing irresponsible speech. An example in action could be that criticising an opposing political candidate on policy inadequacies could be considered exercising freedom of speech whereas criticising the candidate based on appearance is employing irresponsible speech. The aforementioned dais, although instrumental in a functional society, also acts as a double-edged sword in the form of providing a stage to express fraudulent, immoral, and irresponsible thoughts and opinions.



A fact very well known is that the current generation of children are more exposed to media platforms as compared to any other time in history. This means that the impressionable youth of the world is exposed to a plethora of different opinions and expressions, which also include the subject of this article; irresponsible speech. Now, the possible intensity of this situation depends only on the imagination of the reader. Another crucial consideration to be made concerning this matter is that speech once spoken, cannot be taken back.

While freedom of speech is essential for a democratic society, its irresponsible use poses a significant threat, particularly to the impressionable youth of today. This irresponsible use should be condemned in order to produce a better environment for productive thought and dialogue.

Shreeyans Sridhara 11C



Good Cheer

! GO TEAM !

There it comes shining through,
More and more radiant and true.
It can fix every heart and mend every soul,
Like the sun during the peak of cold.

It is the light in darkness,
The solution to all darkness.
No matter the case it will stay.
The biggest strength along the way.

Through every dimple, every wrinkle,
Helping us to mingle,
Breaking the coy,
To practice and propagate joy.



Meera Kanjur 11 B

HER



Across the field she ran.
Flashing across like a swan.
A storm of raging thoughts,
Bringing her down.

All that she had promised herself,
What if she doesn't find her self,
She was roaring thunder on the inside,
But a blissful melody on the outside.

While she tries her best,
To prove herself,
She ended up being someone else,
Like a sunken heart.
Her heart sings a song of another flock.

Anagha Manegar 11B



"In Between"

They told me dreams are made of gold,
But mine were silver, soft and cold.
I searched for me in quiet places,
Hiding tears, wearing faces.

The world says "grow," but doesn't see,
The weight it puts on hearts to be.
Yet still, I stand and start to see,
Being me is all I need to be.

Rishika Mahajan 11A



Darkness

I screeched no one ever heard me,
depths of despair I have fallen so deep
and I pray the lord my soul to keep
me and darkness two branches of the same tree.

Misunderstood and alone I lie
in this empty corner I smile
to myself I wonder this is life
me and darkness, a knot that cannot be untied.

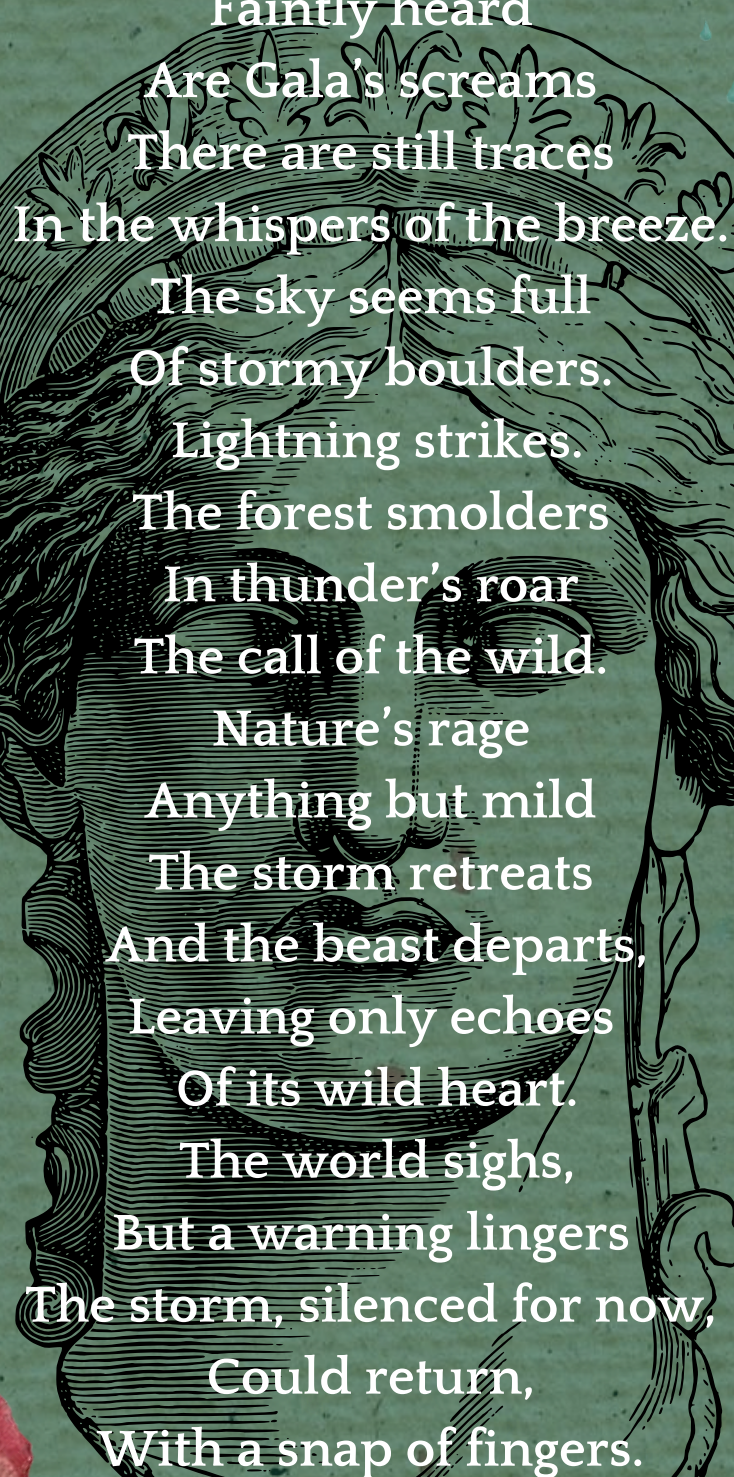
I blink a billion times its all the same sight to see
wondering, is this not peace?
black is my colour and black is what the world will be
me and darkness, 2 hearts beating in 1 body.

I think to myself, darkness is what makes the candle bright
darkness is what makes star shine in the night
darkness is what makes you happy for sight
darkness makes you happy for light
if it wasn't for black you wouldn't see white
if it wasn't for dark there would be no life.



Saqeeb Chand 11C

TEMPEST



Faintly heard
Are Gala's screams
There are still traces
In the whispers of the breeze.
The sky seems full
Of stormy boulders.
Lightning strikes.
The forest smolders
In thunder's roar
The call of the wild.
Nature's rage
Anything but mild
The storm retreats
And the beast departs,
Leaving only echoes
Of its wild heart.
The world sighs,
But a warning lingers
The storm, silenced for now,
Could return,
With a snap of fingers.

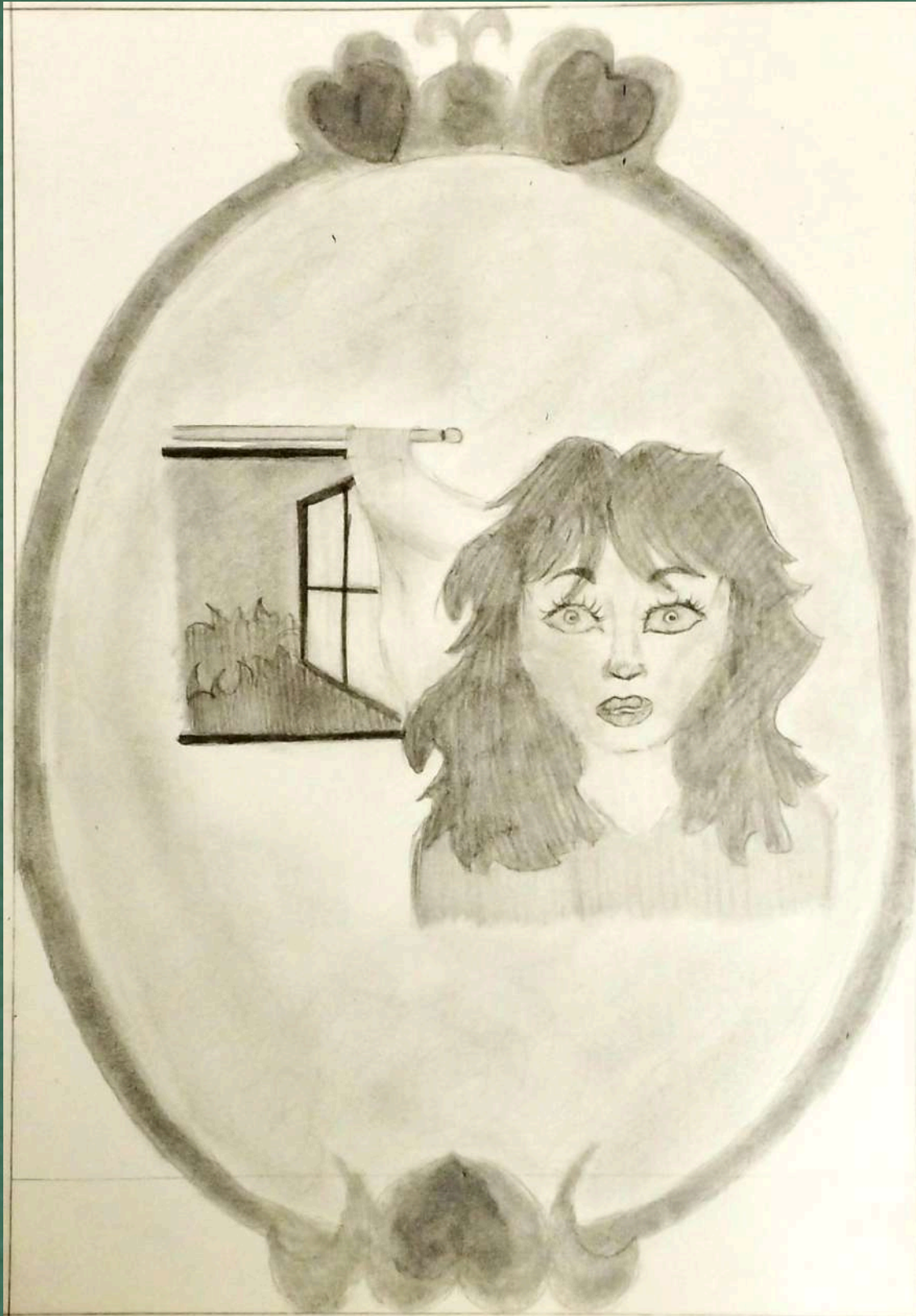
Ira Jaliha 11 B

Mystical Beast



Drishti Jain 11 B

Mirror Mirror On The Wall



Jitya Suman Avalakki 11C

Nature Log





Nurturing Nature

Let's be team green
For, the past can't be unseen

Our enchanted forests filled with greens
And those breathtaking scenes

Like how Ralph Waldo Emerson once said
"Nature always wears the colours of the spirit"
Let nature be in the top merit

So save the Earth
Or we will lose more like the mammoth

Keep in mind that we don't inherit the earth from our
ancestors

we borrow it from the upcoming generations
To stop pollution, let's start our preparations



Nature Study



Nestled in the lush greenery of Singapore lies the Mandai Zoo, a sanctuary for animals from around the world. My experience with nature and animals at the Mandai Zoo was nothing short of magical and awe-inspiring! As I entered the zoo, I was greeted by the chirping of birds and the rustling of leaves. The air was filled with the sweet scent of blooming flowers, giving me a sense of peace and tranquility. I felt like I had stepped into a different world, away from the hustle and bustle of the polluted city life. One of the first exhibits I visited was the Rainforest Walk, where I was surrounded by towering trees and exotic plants. The vibrant colours of the flowers and the melodious sounds of the birds created a symphony of nature that left me in awe. I could feel the energy of the rainforest all around me, and I was overcome with a sense of appreciation for the beauty of the natural world. Then I made my way to the animal enclosures, where I had the opportunity to see a wide variety of animals up close. From majestic lions to playful chimpanzees, each animal had its own unique beauty and charm. I watched in fascination as the animals interacted with each other, showcasing their natural behaviours and instincts. The highlight of my visit was the chance to feed the rhinoceros! As I stood face to face with these gentle giants, I was struck by their grace and beauty. As you approach them, you might feel its immense size and power. The zookeeper gave us the appropriate food. As I extended the food towards the rhino, and with its rather huge upper lip, it delicately grasped and pulled the food into its mouth. The sensation of its rough skin and gentle yet powerful movements was amazing! Throughout my time at the Mandai Zoo, I was constantly reminded of the importance of conservation and protecting our planet's precious creatures. The zoo's dedication to preserving endangered species and creating sustainable habitats was evident in every exhibit and interaction. I left the zoo feeling inspired to do my part in caring for our world and all its inhabitants. In conclusion, my experience with nature and animals at the Mandai Zoo was truly unforgettable. The sights, sounds, and smells of the natural world immersed me in a sense of wonder and appreciation. I left the zoo with a renewed sense of respect for the beauty and diversity of the animal kingdom, and a desire to continue exploring and learning about the wonders of nature. OBSERVE, LEARN, CARE

- Sayukta Girish 6E





Whispers of Nature

Can't afford to miss this moment
The one that's quite sparce,
Nor can I stop staring at that beauty
Something that doesn't last.



Are those just the mesmerizing Eyes of Nature,
Or something that thy fail to perceive,
Is this thou decent individual's stature,
Or is it just me?

Smog filling my ears and nose,
Thou polluting with glee,
Poison in our sources of survival,
Or is it just me?

Fragility in this charm,
Though not one seems to see,
A fading whisper of harmony,
Or is it just me?

One end trying to reinstate,
A world with tranquillity,
But the other wipes the efforts,
Or is it just me?



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