



NATIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOL RAJAJINAGAR

Grade 8

FIRST EDITION

2024-25

Volume LI

Editorial

With new beginnings come new hope, new possibilities and new life. As the bright summer transitions into the monsoons, nature showcases its miraculous renewal cycle. The parched earth eagerly drinks in the first drops of rain, and the once-dormant seeds burst forth with vibrant greenery. This seasonal transformation mirrors our own journey of growth and change. Just as the rain breathes life into the landscape, we too are inspired to embrace new opportunities, nurture our dreams and cultivate a future filled with promise.

Here we are at the start of yet another year, each with our aspirations, goals and commitments and our dreams. And to help you realise your dreams, why not take a little inspiration from others on their paths?

Crafted by our fellow students with creativity and dedication, the first edition of our school newsletter for the academic year 2024-25 celebrates the vibrant energies that come with new beginnings. Marvel at the talents of your classmates with various articles, poems and artwork, each an expression of their creator's individuality. Look at life through a brighter lens with Sunny Side Up, and read about inspiring individuals with Insights.

We thank our amazingly talented newsletter crew comprising tasteful editors, keen journalists, and the teachers who made all this possible. As we turn the pages of this issue, we find the motivation to pursue our dreams with renewed vigour and support one another through our collective journey of growth and discovery. Let's start this year with optimism and a commitment to making the most of every moment.

Looking forward to a wonderful year

Shuktij M Balaraja, 12A
Disha Solomon, 12B
Editors-in-Chief

Timeline

Investiture
June 4th,

Class Assemblies

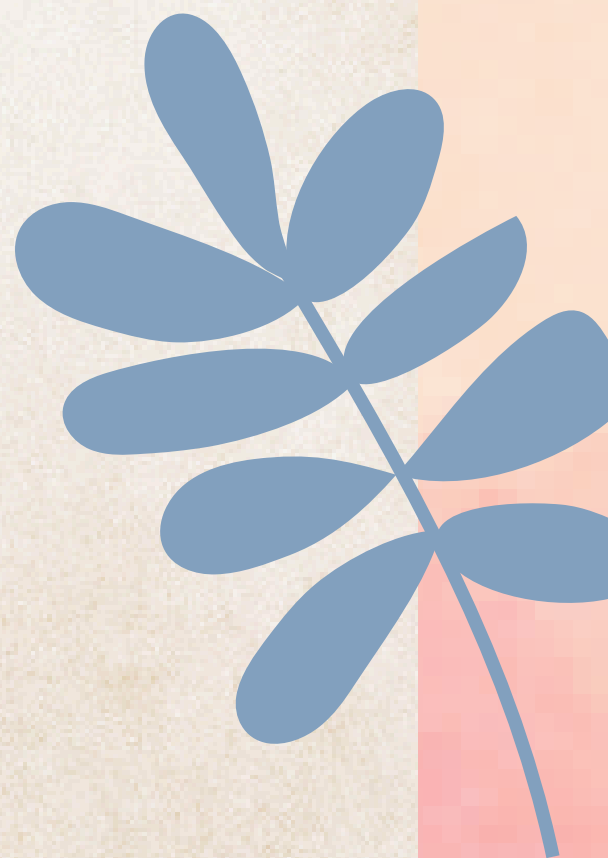
Career Counselling (commerce)
June 6

Orientation
Grades (6-12)

Investiture

June 4, 2024

The investiture ceremony at National Public School, Rajajinagar, on June 4th, 2024, marked the start of the academic year by bestowing authority on student leaders. After a rigorous nomination and election process, the theme "Lumiere and Veritas" was chosen, symbolizing the quest for truth and enlightenment. The event began with an invocation song and a welcome address by the Principal, acknowledging the newsletter committee. Student council members were introduced and sworn in, followed by a disciplined March Past. Prefects, Vice-Prefects, House Captains, Sports Captains, Club Presidents and Secretaries were inducted, emphasizing their roles in fostering community and competition. This ceremony highlighted the school's dedication to developing future leaders and role models.



Class Assemblies

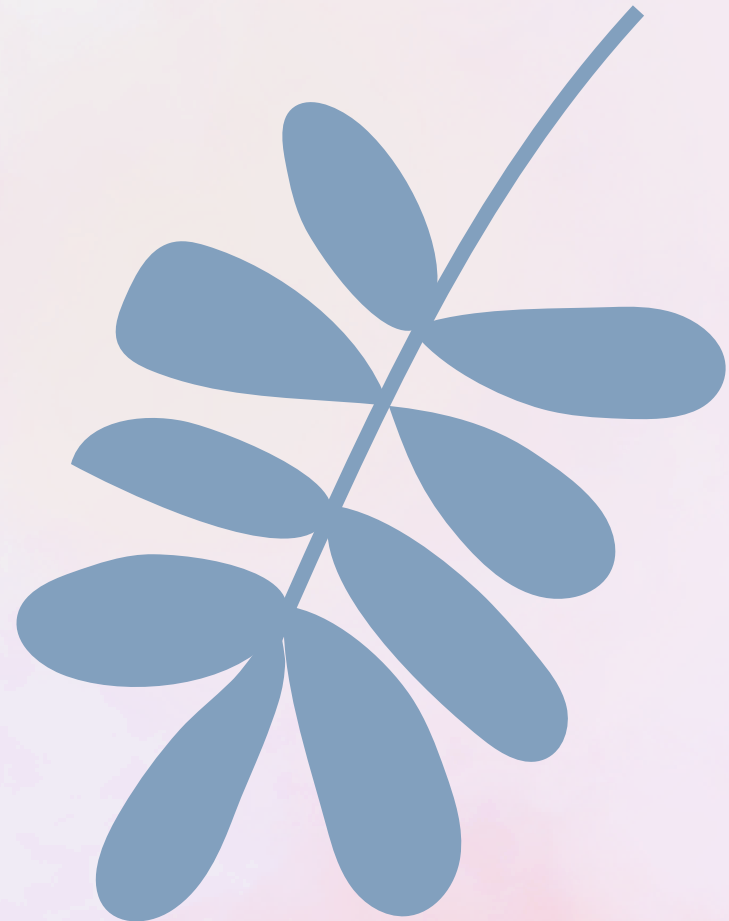
CBSE's environmental awareness initiative spawned several creative and unique assemblies, promoting awareness of a host of the world's problems, and celebrating our planet.

On World Water Day 2024, Grade 12 C students of National Public School, Rajajinagar, held an assembly advocating for water conservation and addressing global and local water scarcity. The event included an introductory address, an informative talk, a poetry recital, and a mime performance depicting everyday water wastage, concluding with the class singing the Mission Paani anthem, and promoting the message of responsible water use.

Grade 10C students of National Public School, Rajajinagar, organized a special assembly for World Forest Day. Beginning with a welcome speech followed by a poem celebrating Earth's greenery, the assembly included representations of forest-dwelling tribes, a presentation on forest facts, and concluded with the class singing Michael Jackson's "Heal the World," symbolizing their commitment to sustainability.

Grade 10D students of National Public School, Rajajinagar, organized an Earth Day assembly on April 22, promoting global environmental preservation. The assembly began with a welcome address and the song "Teri Mitti," followed by a skit highlighting environmental challenges and a collective pledge. It concluded with a performance of the Earth Day anthem and a closing speech, urging shared responsibility for the planet.





Grade 10B students of National Public School, Rajajinagar, hosted an assembly on the International Day of Biodiversity, starting with a dance performance on the importance of trees, followed by an art exhibition. A skit highlighted the harmful effects of human activities, particularly deforestation. A student then gave a speech with practical suggestions for safeguarding biodiversity. The assembly concluded with a vote of thanks, emphasizing the day's theme.

On June 6th, 2024, class 12B students celebrated World Environment Day with an assembly featuring festive compering, a speech on protecting Earth, a comedic Doraemon skit, and songs from environmental movies like "The Jungle Book" and "Moana." The event concluded with a thought-provoking environmental quiz.



Career counselling (Commerce)

On June 6, 2024, Mr. Abhijeet S. Jain, regional head of The Institute of Cost Accountants of India and a distinguished alumnus of NPS Rajajinagar (2002), held a conference on cost accounting and post-12th career opportunities. Key topics included the importance of early goal-setting, starting courses in advance, and maximizing time by pursuing additional degrees like CS alongside main degrees (LLB, CA, etc.). Mr. Jain detailed the procedures, costs, and timelines for various career paths. An engaging Q&A session provided further insights into degree aspects, starting salaries, and supplementary courses. The conference broadened perspectives and introduced new possibilities, concluding with Mr. Abhijeet presenting a commemorative memento.

Orientation (Grades 6-12)

An orientation was held for parents of students in Grades 6, 9, 11, and 12, as well as for parents of newly admitted students in Grades 7 and 8 for the 2024-25 academic year, to inform them about scholastic and co-scholastic areas.



Sunny Side Up

'Blowing raspberries'

By: Tisya Mahesh Chikodi - 10C

Chief Columnist – Sunny Side Up

It was just a few words. But yet, it was enough to crush me.

That's the beauty of words. You don't need many to get a point across.

We've all experienced hearing people's whispers and judgy remarks.

We've felt that intense rush of fear and restlessness before posting a

story, checking it again and again to make sure it was just as good as the

firsttime, and contemplating whether it was even worth posting in the

first place. We've experienced that feeling when you think the entire

world has something to say about you. That feeling when you think

millions of eye are on you for all the wrong reasons, or when you feel a

wave of mortification wash over you, and all you want to do is hide and

never come back. The worst part? We can't control what people think.

But we can control how we respond.

In a world filled with such a diverse range of people, we can only expect

them to have a diverse range of opinions. These opinions may not

necessarily be something optimistic. It's natural to feel a sense of dislike

and judgement towards certain things. The only difference is the way

weperceive the views around us, and whether or not we let it get the

best of us.

Opinions are put forth for growth. Receiving various viewpoints on different scenarios helps us get a better understanding of the situation, and allows us to utilise it to the best of our abilities. The only dilemma that arises is the intensity of the opinions.

Insults and disapproval are bound to come our way. Experiencing loss and defeat is a path everyone goes down once, and it's reasonable to feel disheartened and demotivated. But it's vital to remember your inherent worth and strength.. People may try to bring you down with their words, but their negativity does not define you. Embrace your uniqueness by staying true to yourself and surrounding yourself with positive influences.

Shifting our concerns from external validation to personal growth can help make a significant change. We must also embrace emotional resilience, and build our self-confidence to become less susceptible to external negativity.

Judgement mostly arises from the insecurities and biases of others, rather than an actual, well-intentioned perspective. Recognizing this makes us understand how trivial the remark we once viewed as "demeaning and subduing" truly was.

Fumble that speech. Get that question wrong. Post that story. Because, at the end of the day, other's opinions don't matter.

They never mattered in the first place.

Insights



Vijay Prakash is an Indian playback singer and music director from Karnataka. He has sang songs predominantly for Kannada, Tamil, and Telugu films, in addition to Hindi, Malayalam and Marathi. Prakash won the Karnataka Government's 'Best Playback Singer' award for the year 2016 for the song "Nammooralli Chaligaladalli" from the film Beautiful Manasugalu. He is also one of the artists credited for the song "Jai Ho", which won the 2008 Academy Award for Best Original Song. The song won a Grammy Award in the category "Best Song Written for Motion Picture, Television Or Other Visual Media." He has won the Filmfare Award for Best Male Playback Artist – Kannada twice for the songs Gatiya Ilidu from the Kannada film Ulidavaru Kandante and Belageddu from Kirik Party.

1) A lot of people are afraid in choosing an unconventional path. You have a degree in engineering; yet chose to pursue your passion. When or what incident stirred your inner voice to pursue singing?

I'm not very proud to say but I couldn't finish my engineering. My dream to become a singer was so powerful that I had to choose it midway. That's not something I would ever advice or suggest anyone because in today's time and in fact much later in my life I realized education is very important, no matter how strong your dreams are to pursue something that is outside the academic.

Not only as plan B but education is very important as it gives you a broader understanding of life itself and helps you in application of your skills in the right way and approach. In my case, I joined engineering but somewhere my mind was full of music. I couldn't focus on anything else but singing and when you are young you dream a lot, which is good and is important in any age. Specially in your teens, you look forward to life right? There is so much imagination of what life could be and what you would want it to be, that was my fuel.

A certain imagination of me being a singer, me being on stage performing and learning more about music. Today you want to know more about my journey, it means there is something that you see in my journey and that something comes with self-belief and a focus that never gets shaken by the outcome of what you decide. Once you decide you want to become something, you should just keep chasing it no matter what, whether you win or lose, there's hope or no hope, just keep chasing your dream. That's what I did and I'm glad I did it!

2) You grew up in Mysore, the historical, cultural city. How did the city inspire and ignite your love for music? How did you feel moving to Mumbai to pursue music professionally, from the peace and comfort of your home to hustle and bustle of Mumbai?

Mysore being an organic, historical and cultural city influenced me to a great extent. The people of Mysore are very kind, relaxed and receptive to art and artisans. As a child, Mysuru Dasara and the performances of legends like Yesudas and Balamuralikrishna inspired me. Organically and subconsciously my body and mind absorbed music naturally as my grandparents and parents were musicians too. Hence in a way I would dedicate my musicianship to my hometown. I was 19 when I moved to Mumbai with dreams. Dreams give you strength. There was cultural shock, but I moved out my comfort zone to handle myself emotionally and physically and that's life. That's how Mumbai helped me explore myself and be a better person.

3) What has been the challenging piece you have worked on so far in your career? How did you overcome it and handle the pressure and expectation?

Honestly, even today when I go for a recording it is still a challenge. The challenge never ends, every thing that you do in life is a challenge and it is so because you want to excel in it. There is a certain preparation, either you can call it preparation or a challenge, it's just the terminology. Right now, I'm judging three reality shows, Sa Re Ga Ma Pa in Kannada, Tamil and Telugu, for which most of the days I have to take a flight at 5am! Even now, after being in the industry for so many years, it is challenging but you want to do it because you want to give your best every time. Coming back to your question, what was the most challenging piece of music, is something which I really don't have an answer to because every song was a challenge for me. You are born with a certain indigenous quality, in the sense if I say it in a musical way, I can sing in a certain style and range, I have more of a mid and baritone voice. So, if I have to sing in a high pitch, maybe it's out of my comfort zone, if I have to hit higher notes, I have to push myself.

Pushing is not stressing yourself, it is finding techniques to reach those difficult spots in life without stressing yourself. You should think how to achieve it without taking stress, then you will just find a secret path within your mind. So, when you take anything as a challenge it drains you out, but when you take it as something you need to decode and find an answer to it without stressing, then it is a joyful experience. That's what I try to do.

4) In a career like music, where the future isn't foreseeable, did you ever think of doing something else? Has there ever been a phase in your life where you felt your career was overwhelming? What kept you going?

No matter what, belief in life is important. I always believed that life is fair to me and in the end we will love our journey against all odds. The universe supports this belief and hard work and the uncertainty of life slowly disappears. Believe in yourself and your talent and be optimistic about your life's journey.

5) You were one of the finalists in the popular singing show Sa Re Ga Ma Pa in 1999. Now you are one of the judges in the Kannada, Tamil and Telugu versions of the show. From being inspired to an inspiration yourself. How does that make you feel?

It's a very natural experience and I can proudly say it is my hard work, there is no other secret to it. I have worked for 18 hours a day for so many years and I'm still working for 17-18 hours a day. Because I get joy out of working, it's not like I'm working because I have to work. From being a contestant in Sa Re Ga Ma Pa to being a judge of the same show in three languages is a journey and a very fulfilling one. Also, it's about sharing with people what you have understood, what you think you have learnt from other people in terms of knowledge and experience. Time is very precious, we often fail to realise it. Every day, every moment is a treasure which we are spending and this is something you can't earn again. But if you are using it in a right way, it rewards you. I was a contestant, and after the contest it's not like I took life easy, I kept working on my music, there's a body of work that kept building.

When you achieve something, don't look back and just be satisfied about what you have, of course you have to keep celebrating yourself everyday but keep looking forward and how much more you can accomplish.

6) What was that one piece of advice you received that made you stand strong during difficult times? Who were the idols you looked up to in your growing days and still look up to even today?

A friend of mine said that I have a good voice. He also said that having a great voice is not life, but what you do with that voice is life. In 2010 while touring the US with AR Rahman sir, I received huge appreciation for my performance in a couple of concerts, but that didn't last in a few other concerts, which upset me. At that moment, when I went backstage, the advice that I received from AR Rahman sir has stuck with me till date. He said "When things are going your way that's great, but when things don't go your way, how you react shows your character and integrity." That experience taught me that life is always in between the threshold of happiness and sadness. It keeps throwing success and failure at you. How you face it is what really matters. That is our true test of character.

7) For a musician like you, music is a part of your soul. You take your music everywhere with you. Where do you envision yourself in the next few years? What barriers do you want to break to take music forward?

I just want to be an honest musician all my life. As you travel, unknowingly we all become complacent at a point of time, we start taking things easier and I don't want to get into that space where I'm too complacent about my career. I never want to lose my focus. After 25 years, I still want to be excited about what I want to do. If I have to go on stage, I want to have the same excitement and enthusiasm I had when I was 20. Also, as a musician and a responsible citizen, I want to do whatever charity, philanthropy work, especially in the field of music, for young people with talent who cannot afford music education. That is something I have been doing in a small scale, I really want to scale it up and help a lot of budding musicians and find a path that can help them achieve success. For the barriers I want to break, there will always be some inner struggles, like something that you want to change - it could be anything like you want to eat a cake but you want to hold back for your health. If you consider these simple things as barriers then there will be many. There are so many things in me that I want to change with time, some I have managed to, some I may take some time, some I may never! But it's okay, it's a beautiful journey. One good thing about me is I celebrate myself and I know my limits and strengths. That is one thing I want to keep intact as I try to overcome other barriers with time.



Nishka Prashanth 10C
Tia Salian 10B



Blossoming in Pink and Blue

Chaarvi Diwakar, 8C

Day Break

Aditya Vinod, 8D





Mystical Gaze

Vamshika Gowda M,
8C

Going Green

Samhita Udaya,
8D



HEAVENLY TUNES

by Gayathri Siri P 8B

Namma Bengaluru

Bangalore, city of dreams aglow,
Where tech meets traditions flow.

Garden city, parks embrace,
In Silicon Valley's race.

From Cubbon Park to Lalbagh's green,
Where urban hustle meets serene.
Street food sizzles, flavors blend,
In Bangalore's vibrant trend.

With history rich, and culture deep,
In Namma Bengaluru, memories keep.
A merging point of old and new,
Bangalore, forever true.

-Varun Krishnan, 8B

Nalanda

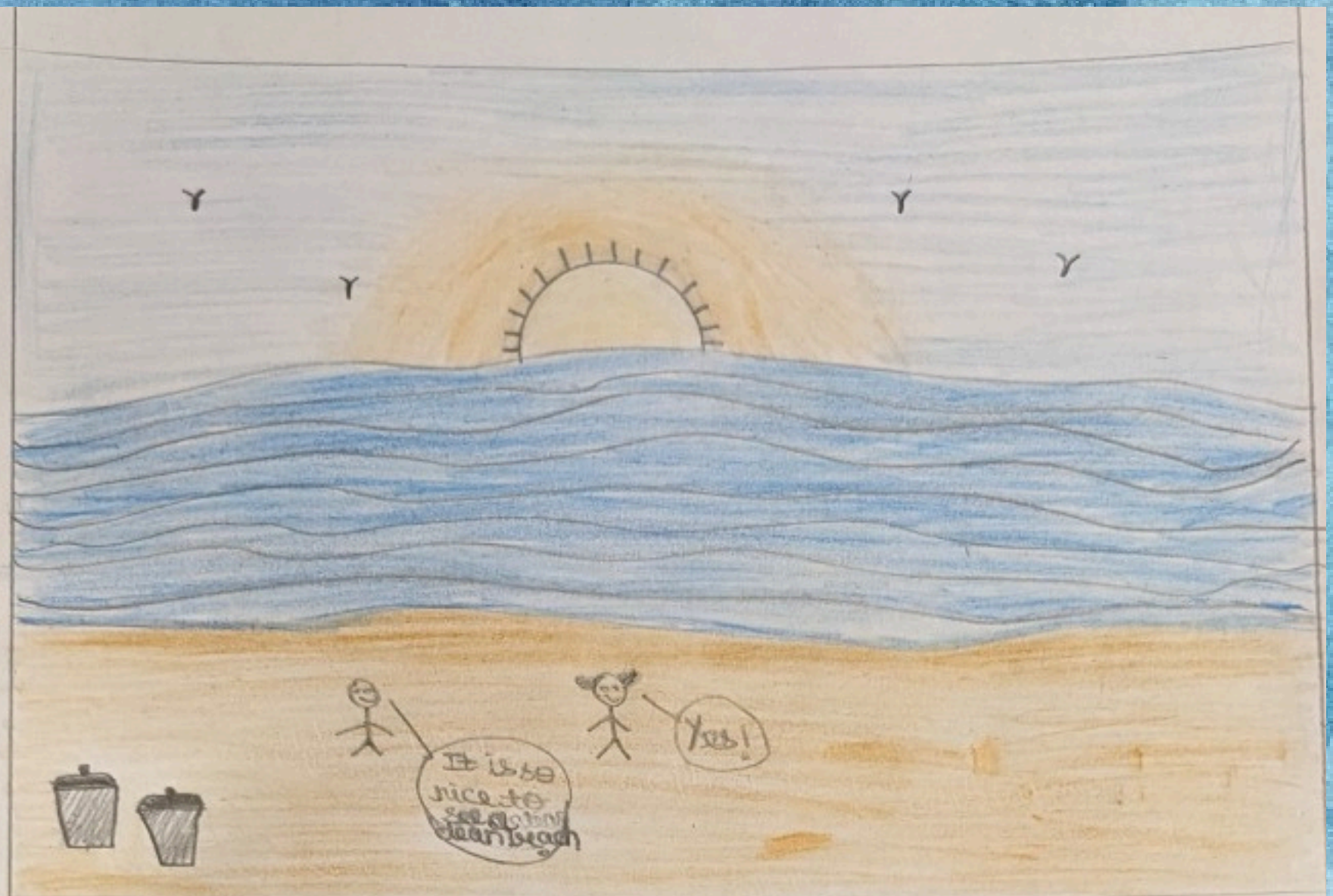
The ancient period of India has always been the most entrancing fragment of Indian history. The ancient period tells us the tale of how India flourished and grew before it met with its downfall a few centuries later. Every single part of history has its source, which acts as a medium for our better understanding of history. The major sources for our ancient history are inscriptions, the Upanishads, epigraphs, and coins, but one source of history provides a greater deal of information than the others—manuscripts. Manuscripts were stored and preserved in one of the greatest educational centers there was at that time: The City of Nalanda.

The City of Nalanda was founded by Kumaragupta I of the Gupta Empire in the 5th century and was situated near Magadha. Harshavardhana was a great patron of arts, and Banabhatta was his court poet. It was during his rule that Nalanda received special attention. Nalanda's library was the greatest in the world during the ancient period. In the library of Nalanda was stored a total of nine million books, which dealt with different topics such as philosophy, mathematics, ayurveda, science, et cetera. But it wasn't only manuscripts that were stored in Nalanda's library. There were coins in Magadha which were usually made of silver and had an indefinite shape. It was for a few years that Nalanda had enjoyed a time of settled peace before it was attacked thrice.

The Huns—a very commonly found name in our ancient history—were wandering combatants, who were said to be from Central Asia. It was them who had first attacked the City of Nalanda under the rule of Mihirakula. No ruler tried to rebuild it. When Nalanda was attacked for the second time, the job was done by the Goudas, but this time, Harshavardhana had taken the responsibility to rebuild it. The Turkish army, led by Bhaktiyar Khilji, had decided to attack Nalanda for the third time. This was the most disastrous blow that Nalanda ever received. Its library was burnt thoroughly, and the fire lasted for a period of 3 months. 9 million books that contained extensive knowledge about the discoveries and inventions of that time had been burnt to ashes. But this time, no one could rebuild it. All the books of Nalanda would have been the most valuable source of ancient Indian history if they had not been burnt. Most of what was written about the 7th to 12th centuries was lost, which then led to the fall of Nalanda. Just like the first attack, during this attack too, no one could rebuild Nalanda. Thus, it lies in its ruins.

Compiled by- Shreya B Rao,
8B

SHORELINE SYMPHONY



'Beaches' are narrow strip of sand (sand) at the edge of an ocean or a sea. Sand is what makes beaches which is a product of weathering & erosion. We should keep our beaches clean as they are beautiful parts of nature. We should stop littering beaches & also spread awareness about this to make our beaches remain a true wonder of nature.

'Beaches are one of the ^{most} beautiful wonders of nature'

-Shansa Naidu, 8B

The Rise and Fall of My Finny Kingdom: Lessons Learned as an Aquarist

Have you ever woken up to find hundreds of tiny eggs in your tank? That's exactly what happened to me after my lionhead goldfish, known for its adorable head bumps, decided to start a family. It began with a tiny fish tank in my grandma's house with a few guppies, and by 12, I had advanced to goldfish. I fell in love with the charm of the two goldfish and eventually got five more.

At first, caring for them was a breeze. But things took a toll once school started. With proper time management, I persevered; my only inspiration to keep going was the happiness I saw in my goldfishs' faces after every clean.

One pleasant morning, I got up early to revise for my Biology test. Suddenly, I noticed signs of breeding behavior in my tank – flashing fins and chasing! Excited, I followed my dad's advice (my aquarist hero), and with my mom's help, we carefully separated the eggs, possibly one of the most exciting events of my life.

Unfortunately, my first attempt to raise those eggs failed. After some research and overcoming my sadness, I was ready; at least, that's what I thought. After three more failures, I was finally successful. However, the struggle did not end there; I had to perform continuous water changes, get a new tank, and maintain the right temperature.

For a few blissful months, everything flourished. However, disaster struck when there was a parasitic attack, which caused me to lose three beautiful fish. Though I tried my best to keep them alive, fate had something else in store for them. Seeing them die in front of my eyes broke my heart. As this parasite attack happened right in the middle of test week, I had to stay strong to focus on my fish and my grades. But I vowed to protect the fish with all my might.

Although I have only two tanks today instead of five, I am happy to say that all my fish are recovering, and the baby fish are healthy. Being an aquarist is a rollercoaster, and I have no plans to stop this rewarding hobby. Are you thinking about being an aquarist? If you are interested, I will be happy to share tips!

-Tarun Sai R, 8D

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