

# Eco Trail @Kumarans

*This newsletter is dedicated to the Eco Initiatives adopted at various levels in the school. It is an attempt to encompass the best environmental practices that are followed in the school, to sensitize the student – parent community and encourage eco trends.*

## SoundScape – Organized by students of DFC (Design for Change)

Dec 22, 2014

Some students participated in the DESIGN FOR CHANGE, which is the largest global movement designed to give children an opportunity to express their own ideas for a better world and put them into action. Ananya M Tholakapalli of class 10, Nikhita Kirthivasan, Nikhita Sridhar and Pritika Arora, of class 8 participated in the DFC event and started writing things that they want to work on. They wanted to spread awareness through music and soon many eager students joined to present “Soundscape – Reconnecting with Nature”, a musical event.

"Green Music had three different genres of classical music-carnatic, hindustani and western being played on a variety of instruments - the tabla, mridangam, violin, sitar and the keyboard. On the keyboard I tried to incorporate the sounds of water droplets falling onto the earth and the buzzing sound of a bee. I wanted to show people the beauty of the sounds of nature.

I wanted to convey to the audience through music that if we don't work fast enough to protect our nature the nature's sounds will no longer be heard" - Rathi Kashi of 10E



## Be-2 Aware Club

The story "Dialogue between a man and a tree", a poem was shared with the club members. They were encouraged to write their own verses on Nature.

Students learnt the art of using edible colors to create an artwork, "Shibori". Shibori is an art practiced in Japan. The session was facilitated by Ms. Neha Utmani. Interested children were taken to an organic farm, Vanashree and to Lalbagh. The field trips were informative and interesting.

Former Be2 Aware club members of class 9 performed the Special Assembly in the High School Block and the Junior Block on two different days - Dec 17 and Dec 18. The students spoke about "Swacch Bharat" - cleaning up the neighborhood and inspired their fellow students.



10/12/14

Ode to a tree

Here, there, everywhere, I can see a tree  
With beautiful flowers and buds swaying  
in the wind with glee

As they sway in the cool breeze  
With the peaceful sound of rustling  
leaves

Stop the pollution and set mother nature  
free

For if she dies, so will thee

With this ends the ode to <sup>a</sup>the tree

-SRISHTI,  
SHREYA,  
AARVAN,  
MIHIR  
IE.

## Activity

Feb 2015

Class 5 students were asked to bring waste collected in their homes. They were asked to segregate the waste and then determine the number of days it would take to decompose. Each student was then asked to reduce the waste brought by 100g in their homes. This when multiplied by the class strength and then by the number of days in a year, made them realize the amount of waste that can be actually diverted from the landfills. Students also pledged to reduce the waste generated in their homes.



## Eco Hub

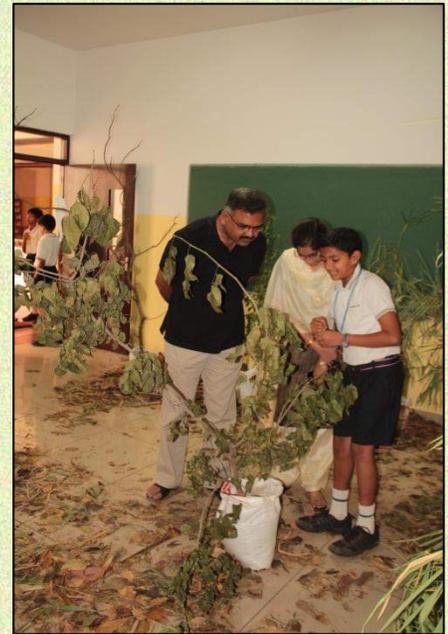
The interim report was

1. Habit & habitat characteristics of Agamids - *Calotes versicolor* (Common Garden Lizard), *Calotes rouxi* (Forest Calotes) and *Psammophilus dorsalis* (Peninsular Rock Agama)  
Findings: Increase in population, reptiles are getting used to human company.
2. Nesting success of *Lonchura punctulata* (Scaly Breasted Munia)  
Findings: Scaly Breasted Munia numbers are dwindling.
3. Reasons for presence of *Passer domesticus* (House sparrows) in the campus  
Findings: Of the three House Sparrow families, only one is found in the swimming pool area.
4. Butterfly migration  
Findings: The number of butterflies migrating through the school is more or less the same.

## Nature club

Birding, navigation using compass, photography and scale count in snakes were the topics for the second term. Students were introduced to birding, use of binoculars and of course the use of the guide book which is every birder's bible - "The book of Indian Birds" by Dr. Salim Ali.

Few students inspired by birding did buy themselves a copy of the guide book. Navigation using compass was a thrilling experience for the class. The students were dropped off in different locations in the forests in groups of 4's and 5's. Bearing was provided and students were asked to navigate across the shrub forests. Children liked the adventure of cutting across thorny shrubs and boulders. Photography was an eye opener. They were surprised to learn that their point-and-shoot camera had many more features than they thought of. Scientifically identifying snakes through scale counts was certainly a new learning.



## e- Waste Disposal

Electronic waste has to be disposed in a safe manner as it is hazardous, when dumped in the landfill. The school attempts to educate children on proper waste segregation and disposal.

24 kg of e-waste was collected in the Junior Block and 25 kg of e-waste was collected from the high school block. This was picked up by Saahas personnel on Feb 26, 2015.

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*"This grand show is eternal. It is always sunrise somewhere; the dew is never all dried at once; a shower is forever falling; vapor is ever rising. Eternal sunrise, eternal sunset, eternal dawn and gloaming, on sea and continents and islands, each in its turn, as the round earth rolls."*

— John Muir