

# 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.*

June 2016 – Feb 2017

## Hasiru Usiru

Students (in groups of 4) own a medicinal plant and are responsible for it. As a part of this project titled “Hasiru Usiru”, students nurture their plant, record the changes in the plant and also learn about its medicinal values. Students took the initiative in making creative placards and placing it carefully next to their plant. It was heartening to see the students take pride in planting and feeling responsible for their plants.



Hasiru Usiru

## Vegetable Garden

As an extended learning of the lesson on World of Greens, class 3 students sowed different seeds – tomato, okra, methi, coriander, radish and carrots- on a patch of land provided by our active gardener. They observed the different seeds grow into small plants through the process of germination. Recording the weekly growth of each plant in their notebooks brought excitement and eagerness.

To supplement this, they brought different vegetables that are grown above and below the soil .This helped them to identify many common vegetables that they use at home.

## World Environment day

*“The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it.”*  
- Robert Swan

As a great start to the academic year 2016-2017, students of class 3 created the much needed awareness about our environment on June 6th .The students made placards that conveyed messages to save the environment. They spoke about the significance of a clean and healthy surrounding. To show the seriousness of their commitment, all the little students took an oath and came up with ideas

## Wipro earthian Engagement

“This was an adventure of a lifetime. I experienced the beauty of nature in a way I had never before. I went as an empty jar and came back filled with knowledge. Some things just can't be understood until you have experienced it yourself. I have been to many treks and camps before but this one was different. I was hesitant at first but now that I look back at it I feel that there was no reason to be so. I learnt about so many different types of plants and birds and insects. Learning from a book, we may forget it someday but when you see and hear these birds and insects you'll remember it forever. We also learnt about the sad side effects of using plastics and its improper disposal that harms the entire world. We had a first hand experience of how the lantana has taken over most of the parts of Yelagiri's hills, not letting other species grow. We were forced to stop halfway through our second trek and go back due to the excess growth of lantana plants that blocked our path.

Staying in the same dorm with strangers wasn't the most pleasant idea at first but the friends I made are something I'll treasure forever. I learnt something new every second of the day. From our morning workouts to the afternoon treks, the puzzles and riddles and the sense of achievement I felt after solving them.”

- Purvi Ambli  
Class 10 E



Yelagiri Hill Trek

## Nature club

The nature club aims at wakening the latent naturalist in students by organising one day trips through the neighbourhood and photography sessions. Every year, students of class 6 learn new and exciting ways to observe nature. For instance, last year "Gardening for Wildlife" was the theme and nature club children volunteered for birding sessions in the school. Concept of tending gardens to encourage butterflies and bird visitors was an exciting experience for children. Students realized the importance and value of having garden plants, not just for ornamental value, but to support urban wildlife. Some students have implemented this learning at home by setting up bird baths, nest boxes, sand tubs etc.



Nature Club – casting animal footprints

## Interaction with an Explorer

Students had a fascinating interaction with Ms.Nidhi Tiwari, who made a solo expedition to Siberia.

## Ashoka Change Maker Projects

The school has taken up several eco related initiatives as part of the Ashoka Change Maker project.

Urban wildlife habitat strives to recreate a wildlife habitat that is safe and enhances the biodiversity in the school campus. Butterfly awareness program was offered to interested students. Snake awareness program for the security staff was conducted by experts.

Night trek, cave exploration programs were conducted for interested teachers.

Meditation in the wilderness was offered to interested teachers by Mrs. Rashmi K

Fruitful eating was a workshop for teachers by Dr.Achyuthan and his team that highlighted the importance of including millets in our diet.

An extensive campaign on Food wastage has been taken up by students and this has been successful in reducing the food wastage in the canteen

Neralu

Students painted a tree on the wall as part of the Neralu Tree Festival that was held in Bangalore. A tree walk was also conducted by Mr.Madhusudhan on Feb 11,2017 in the school campus.



Tree Walk



Meditation in the Wilderness

## Eco Hub

The eco hub is an interactive space that documents observations and information on the biodiversity seen in the school campus. This year, short nature walks and lectures on biodiversity were a welcome addition to the eco hub activities.



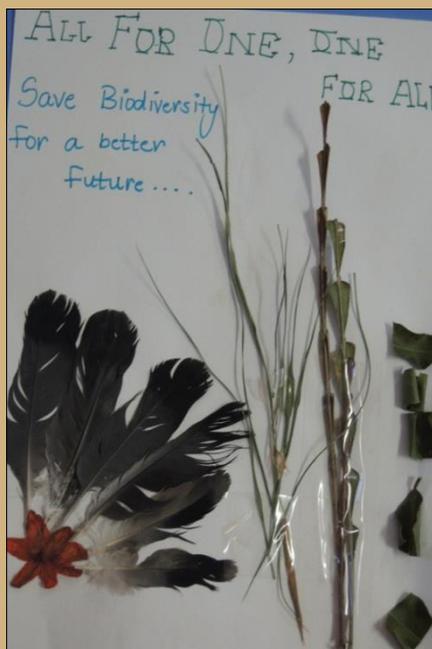
Spotting a spittle bug during Nature Walk

*In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous - Aristotle*

### Be-2 Aware Club

Be-2 Aware stands for Be Environmentally Aware. The club has an exciting theme every year. Students are exposed to different activities that include art, meditation, music, nature walks, videos and field trips that help children re-establish their bond with nature. Students are encouraged to write their reflection in journals. Every session is documented.

Check out :  
[www.be2awareclub.blogspot.in](http://www.be2awareclub.blogspot.in)



Using Nature for artwork

### Reap Benefit

The school offers enrichment activities that help students develop critical thinking, creativity and problem solving skills. One such program is facilitated by Reap Benefit. This eco literacy programme, now in the fifth year makes students conduct school audits on energy conservation, water conservation and effective waste management.

Students collaborated with a government school to implement waste-water- energy management techniques.

In the Problem solvers program, students designed a smart irrigation system using sensors.

### Social Action Project

“All glory comes from daring to begin”

- Eugene F. Ware

This year the 10<sup>th</sup> standard students took up the initiative to conserve nature through their social action projects. Each one put to use their passion and interest for a better cause.

Shyam Sridhar's App “Adopt a Tree” been selected for Leangap and The Global Startup Challenge which are held in Boston University for High School Entrepreneurs.

### Nature

She makes a tiny leaf turn  
She controls the ocean's churn  
She makes the cuckoo sing  
She gives the eagle its wings  
She filters the sun's rays  
And gives us beautiful, sandy bays  
And day after day she makes the sun rise  
Although she gives us clues, we aren't wise  
To accept that she is ill  
Her whole being bent by man's will  
If she suffers we will too  
It's time we stop hiding what's true  
Near lakes, groups of frogs once thronged  
When they are not there we know she has been wronged  
Now every morning as we awake,  
We hear of a tsunami or an earthquake  
If we want to bring back here love and care...Let's try to protect what's still there  
It should be our goal, our dream  
To see many trees and clear streams  
It must be our wish, our desire  
To see no trees destroyed by man's fire  
We must come together, it's about time ..Hope Mother Nature forgives us in sometime

~Meena Iyer 10 D

Compiled by

Anagha Prabhu & Anagha Rao

Class 10 A