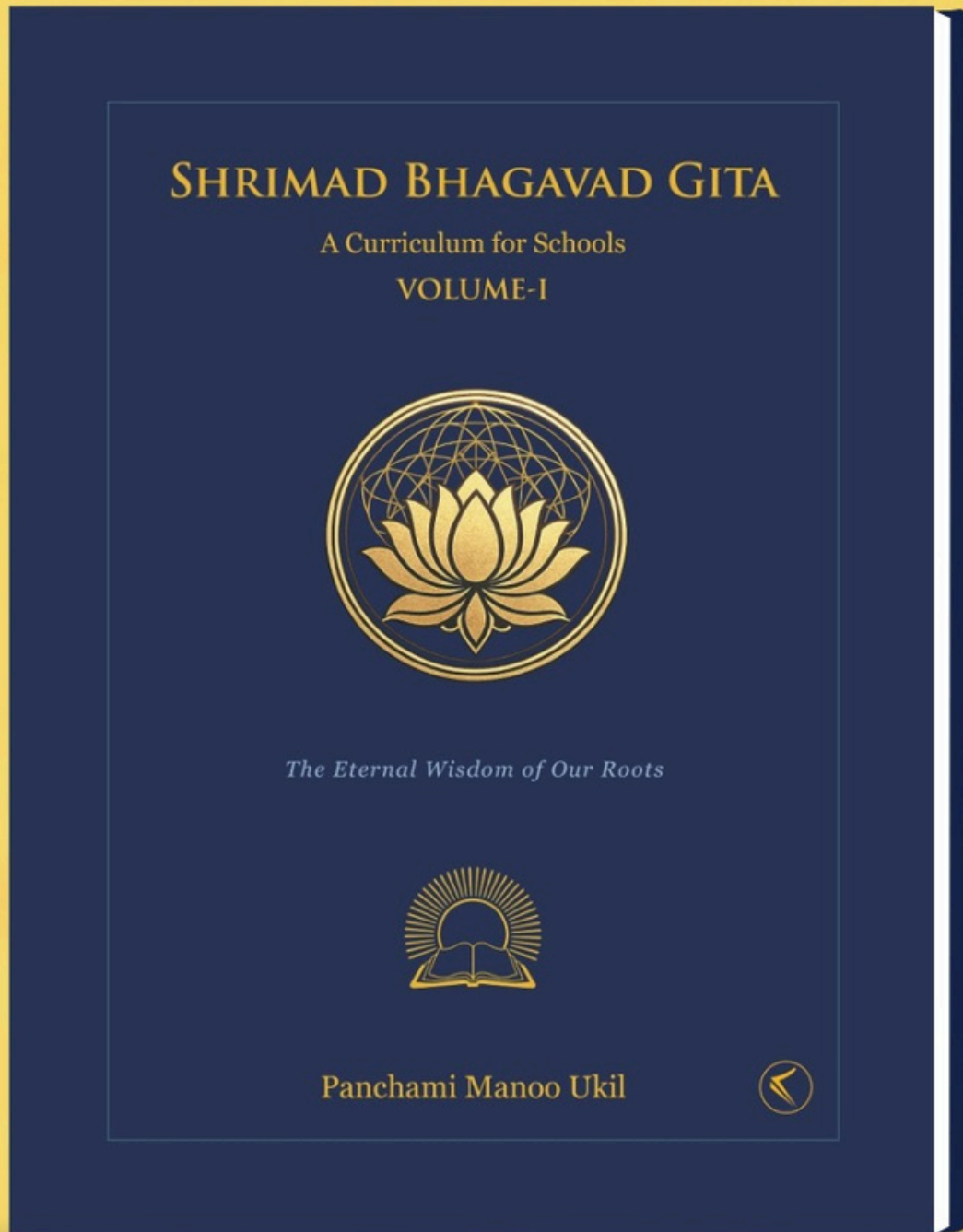


THE WISDOM NEWSLETTER | JUNE 2026

WIZNEWS

THE DN WISDOM TREE GLOBAL SCHOOL

CBSE AFFILIATION NUMBER - 1530458





DASARATHI NAIK

Beloved Teacher and Inspiration

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WIZNEWS is now open to parents and siblings of our students. Our next edition will carry poems, stories, essays, features and art from our students, mentors, parents and siblings of our students. We request you to send in your entries by 25th JULY 2026

email: wiznews@wisdomtreebbsr.com

From Seed to Table: On the eve of “Van Mahotsav”, my homegrown Tree Story

Panchami Manno Ukil

About five years ago, my sister's friend, Namrata, sent her some delectable “khajara panasa”, the non-sticky and crunchy variant of ripe jackfruit, rich, honey-sweet and distinctly flavourful. The “khajara panasa” has always been a family favourite, hence my sister sent some of the fruit for me. After the bliss of biting through the juicy kernels, I washed the seeds and planted them in small pots just in case I luck out in having a “khajara panasa” tree actually growing and fruiting at home. Out of the six saplings that sprouted, only one survived the first year after which I planted it on the ground at home. The quaint back story of this tale deserves a mention – Namrata lived in the same government quarters that was occupied four decades earlier by our maternal grand-uncle, and we would eagerly wait to receive the jackfruit from our grand-aunt every fruiting season. Old trees like memories do have a heartwarming way of “coming full-circle”, by connecting time, flavours, fragrances and generations.



This year the five-year old jackfruit tree bore fruit for the first time – five little fruits of which two emerged smaller in size than the other three and fell off the tree after a few days. Out of the remaining three fruits, one was not in perfect shape, almost twisted and gnarled, but it survived and managed to grow, while the other two were perfectly healthy, perfectly shaped like the smooth hanging belly of a pregnant cow, and they ripened beautifully. I sent the largest of them to Namrata because she really roots this story of the jackfruit tree. We opened the other two fruits at home over two days to get the most delicious “khajara panasa”, the best dessert of the season along with the syrupy “Kali” mangoes, a native variety sent by friends Sumant and Sudhanya.

This seed to table story of my jackfruit tree that fruited in five years is more than a personal success story - it can be everyone's story and seed the dawn of a citizen-led environment action. As we set out to celebrate “Van Mahotsav” - the annual week-long festival of tree planting in India, my seed to table experience underscores a powerful truth - the ultimate antidote to global deforestation does not lie solely in massive, heavily funded government projects. Instead, it rests silently inside the core of the fruits we consume every day. By shifting our perspective from viewing seeds as waste to recognizing them as natural capital, every individual can seamlessly transition from a passive consumer to an active climate crusader.



For millennia, the complex task of seed dispersal was a role efficiently managed by birds, animals, and natural elements like wind and water. However, urbanisation, habitat fragmentation, rapid deforestation and climate change have severely disrupted these ancient ecological pathways. Today, the rate of global forest loss far outpaces nature's ability to heal itself. This ecological imbalance demands human intervention. Collecting, processing, and planting the seeds of indigenous fruits like mangoes, jackfruit, jamun, and tamarind costs absolutely nothing, yet it offers an immediate, scalable solution to habitat degradation. When we plant a seed from our own tables, we do not just plant a tree but we bypass complex commercial supply chains and establish a deep, emotional stake in the survival of that sapling.

The power of collective seed dispersal with the vision of community-driven greening at its core is already taking root globally through highly successful citizen and technology-led models. When individual efforts are pooled into community action, the environmental impact scales exponentially. In terrains that are completely inaccessible to manual planting, community-collected seeds are finding new life from the air. Local initiatives in the landslide-prone districts of Uttarakhand have mobilized thousands of school students to collect seeds and manufacture over a million organic "seed balls" (seeds encapsulated in clay and compost). These are aerially dispersed through specialized drones, achieving rapid afforestation in barren, hilly and landslide-prone topographies.

Similarly, public-private partnerships in states like Telangana are utilizing aerial seeding technology to target the planting of one billion trees. By engaging local women's self-help groups and rural youth to source and prepare indigenous seed balls, these programmes prove that modern technology and grassroots human effort can collaboratively regenerate lost forest covers.

Across rural India, from the drylands of Madhya Pradesh to Telangana, women-led collectives have established decentralized community seed banks. Operating on a trust-based "seed-loan" system where a farmer borrows a few kilograms of native seeds and returns double the quantity after harvest, these institutions preserve hundreds of climate-resilient indigenous varieties, securing local biodiversity against unpredictable weather patterns.



Beyond the undeniable ecological metrics like carbon sequestration, soil stabilization, and the restoration of local wildlife habitats, the act of planting a homegrown seed offers a profound psychological reward. Watching a fragile sapling break through the soil, survive its precarious first year, and eventually mature into a magnificent, fruit-bearing tree gifts us with indescribable joy and most importantly, cements an unbreakable bond with the Earth.

Therefore, if all households across urban and rural communities are inspired to pledge to rescue, wash, and plant just a fraction of the fruit seeds they consume this season, it could ignite a silent, cost-free citizen-led green crusade through a permanent band of climate crusaders. This green ethic is simple enough to be seeded in succeeding generations, passed down as a core family value-system. It is time for humanity to step into the ecological shoes of birds and animals, returning what we take from nature, one seed at a time.

This “Van Mahotsav”, let’s pledge to preserve our seeds and nurture a legacy towards regreening the planet.



Panchami Manoo Ukil

Vice Chairperson

Are We Preparing Our Children For A World That No Longer Exists?

Dr. John Harrison

We grew up in a system with clear rules. Study hard, score a 1st division and the entire neighborhood celebrated; "Sharmaji, bete ka 1st division aaya hai, laddoo toh khilao!" (Sharmaji your son scored a 1st division, where are the sweets?). Get into a good college and your life is set. That contract is broken and it doesn't exist anymore.

95% is now average. Cutoffs in Delhi University colleges like Sri Ram College of Commerce, Hindu College, St. Stephen's College, Kirori Mal, etc., hit 100% every year. Your child's "distinction" feels like failure.

AI can do their homework but the board still tests rote memory from 1990. We're training them to compete with Chat GPT and lose. The skills gap is brutal. An average Class 12 topper can't write an email, manage money, or handle rejection, but the only thing he can derive is trigonometry proofs he'll never use again.

Just think of this that mental health is the hidden subject. Those 2 AM panic attacks before the Physics board exam, coupled with "Log kya kahenge"(what will people say) if they get 89%. How long will this last? The deepest concern isn't marks. It's meaninglessness. We are sacrificing their wonder years at the altar of a system that prepares them for 2010 and not 2040.

CBSE has done reforms like NEP, competency questions, etc, but parents the real change starts at your dining table. Figure this out.....

🌸 Stop asking "How much did you score?" In fact you should be asking "What did you find curious today?"

🌸 Defend their sleep like you defend their tuition. A tired brain can't be wise.

🌸 Celebrate their skills over their scores. Did they help a friend? Solved a real life problem? That's the new 100/100.

We need to understand that the world will hire for character, creativity, and courage long after it forgets your child's Class 10 CGPA.

To every CBSE parent reading this:

Your child is not your report card. Your child is not your retirement plan. Your child is a human being and the syllabus for that isn't published by CBSE. It's written by you.....daily.

Children can code Python but can't read a bank statement. What are we really preparing them for?" Are we raising scholars or survivors? Parents should value curiosity over cramming, competence over certificates and character over cutoffs. The hardest exam isn't Physics. It's parenting a child through a system we ourselves are afraid of.

Let us build their intelligence because nothing beats human intelligence, not even AI. Keep the unlimited potential they are born with alive in them.

Here's why...

The Bible, Quran, Bhagavad Gita, Guru Granth Sahib or the Upanishads weren't written by AI. Unmatchable, pristine, pious and still so relevant. They were born from tapasya, humans sitting with silence, suffering, and truth, until wisdom bled onto palm leaves. AI can process the Bible, the Quran, the Guru Granth Sahib or the Bhagavad Gita but it can't produce any of them.

AI can't match the stories our grandparents told us while sitting on the charpai, monsoon outside, their voice cracking when the hero dies. AI can't replicate a mother's love, the way her embrace knows you're lying when you say "I'm fine."

AI doesn't get goose bumps hearing the national anthem.

AI doesn't get a lump in the throat when a student who failed 3 times finally whispers, "Ma'am, I understood."

AI doesn't lose sleep over a student's suicide in Kota.

Human intelligence can never fail because it's tied to conscience, to self belief and compassion, to empathy, and to the sacred responsibility of being alive.

Here's the tragedy in K12 India today. We're using AI to make kids more machine like. Faster recall, better MCQ accuracy optimized for boards.

We're training them to compete with Chat GPT and lose. Our actual effort should be the opposite - which is to make them more resilient, more human, more purpose driven, and value based.

AI is a tool, a brilliant one, but a tool in the hands of a human who has forgotten how to be human - that's dangerous. If we don't teach our children to be more human than our machines, we'll raise a generation that can code but cannot console. That can calculate but cannot care. That can win the world but lose the feeling of their mother's pallu wiping their tears. Can we raise a child who remembers Dadi's stories when the WiFi is gone?

Can we raise a child who chooses a real embrace over a virtual emoji?

That intelligence AI can never touch and that's the miracle our schools must breed.

Do you agree?



Dr. John Harrison

CEO - Principal

M.A. in Education / MBA / Doctorate in Divinity

“The best bet is to invest in emotional intelligence and in mental resilience; in the ability to face change; in the ability to change yourself and to constantly reinvent yourself – because this is definitely going to be needed more than in any previous time in history.”

YUVAL NOAH HARARI

INTERNATIONAL MUD DAY 2026

DAY 6, 7th May 2026

Our learners at The DN Wisdom Tree Global School, a school as unique as your child, celebrated International Mud Day 2026 by diving hands-first into nature. From painting with earth to sculpting unique shapes, and presenting slides on the importance of the day, our students learnt new facts and explored the rich texture of mud while boosting their core motor and kinesthetic skills. We believe learning is messy, creative, and uniquely beautiful. Because mud isn't dirty - it's healthy, it's natural, and it's an amazing canvas for young minds!

Happy International Mud Day!



DAY 6: 7th May 2024

Calming Craft

A Thursday morning @The DN Wisdom Tree Global School, a school as unique as your child!

Here are glimpses of our kindergarteners engrossed in different “Calming Craft” activities - watch how engaged our little people are, how focused on the task at hand. Such craft work not only builds their self-esteem, it ignites their minds, and accelerates multi sensory engagement. The satisfaction involved in making something is related to release of neurotransmitters that promote joy and well-being in our children. These are our happy hours and happy spaces!



INTERNATIONAL YOGA DAY 2026

DAY 47th May 2026

Bringing ancient wisdom to life this International Yoga Day.

Our students echoed the timeless words of Verse 2.48 from the Shrimad Bhagavad Gita: "Samatvam Yoga Uchyate" - Yoga is Equanimity. In a fast-paced world, our children are learning the ultimate life skill: staying steady, balanced, and calm through every high and low. Through the practice of Yogasanas, children are being trained and prepared towards Samatvam or Equanimity (Yoga of the Mind), which would be the greatest life skill that they would cultivate as they grow to be citizens of an increasingly troubled world.

Yoga isn't just about the perfect posture; it is about cultivating a mind that remains undisturbed by life's storms. Watching the next generation embrace this timeless balance is pure magic.



NATIONAL READING DAY 2026

"Read and grow, think and act!"

DAY 6, 7th May 2026

Drop Everything and Read.

Our classrooms fell into a beautiful, inspiring silence as students and educators paused in their daily schedules to Drop Everything And Read. Marking National Reading Day 2026, this initiative honours the legacy of P. N. Panicker, renowned as the 'Father of India's Library Movement', by fostering a deep, lifelong love for books.

From gripping mysteries to inspiring biographies, our young learners immersed themselves in diverse worlds, proving that a book is a passport to countless adventures. "Read and grow, think and act!" Let's keep the pages turning and minds growing every single day.



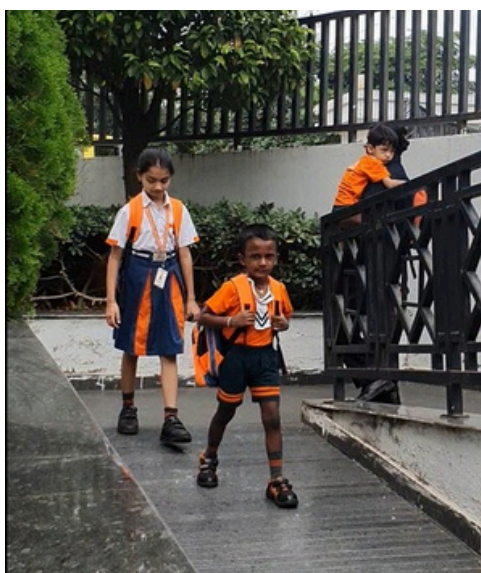
BACK TO SCHOOL

DAY 6, 7th May 2026

A fresh canvas, nurturing spaces, and endless possibilities!

Hallways echoed with laughter, high-fives, smiles, and the vibrant energy of our youngsters returning to school after the summer break. From our joyful kindergarten discovery spaces to our senior classrooms, a beautiful new academic chapter has officially begun. Energy levels are high as our students step into a brand-new academic session. Reunited with friends, guided by mentors, and surrounded by nature - our learners are ready to grow, explore, and thrive.

Let's make this year unforgettable! Here's to a new session filled with received knowledge, critical insights, and the pure joy of learning in the spaces we love. Welcome back, dear children.



CELEBRATING OUR BUDDING AUTHORS

Forever My Friend

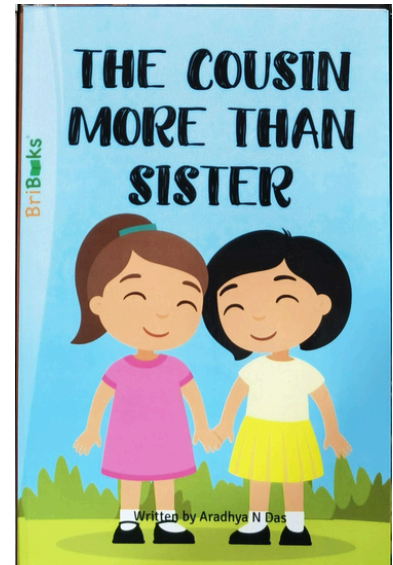
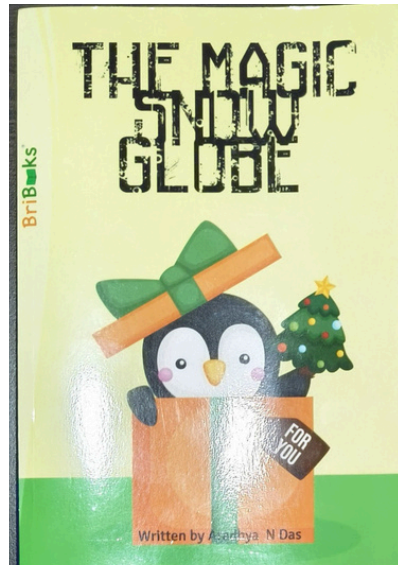
The DN Wisdom Tree Global School proudly celebrates the literary debut of our student, Samaira Piniti, of Grade 4B, on the successful publication of her first work of fiction - FOREVER MY FRIEND. We congratulate her on this exceptional milestone and wish her continued success in her writing endeavours.

Forever My Friend is a heartwarming story that beautifully celebrates the true meaning of friendship, highlighting the values of trust, compassion, and understanding towards one another. The moral of the story is that jealousy destroys friendship, while trust builds it and keeps the bond of friendship strong forever.

We can't wait to see where your stories take you next, Samaira! Way to go, girl.



CELEBRATING OUR BUDDING AUTHORS



THE COUSIN MORE THAN SISTER

HONOUR ROLL CERTIFICATE from BriBooks

The Cousin More Than Sister is inspired by the true story of my two cousin sisters and the beautiful bond they share. I had the opportunity to travel with them, and during that trip I witnessed their love, care, and understanding for each other. Their relationship inspired me to write this book.

Although this story is based on real-life experiences, it is written to celebrate the special bond that cousins can share - one that is often as strong as the bond between sisters.

THE MAGIC SNOW GLOBE

HONOUR ROLL CERTIFICATE from BriBooks

The Magic Snow Globe is a fictional story inspired by the joy, wonder, and festive spirit of Christmas and New Year's Eve. Through this magical adventure, I wanted to create a world filled with hope, excitement, and imagination.

I hope this story reminds every reader that the holiday season is a time for kindness, love, and believing that a little magic can make every moment special.

Author : Aradhya N Das

Grade 7

CELEBRATING OUR BUDDING AUTHORS

THE WEEK EVERYTHING WENT WRONG

HONOUR ROLL CERTIFICATE from BriBooks

The Week Everything Went Wrong is a mystery story told from the perspective of Riya Sharma, a Class 7B student who is known for being a bright but very talkative girl. Her best friend, Meena, jokes that Riya has a special talent for attracting trouble - and over the course of one unforgettable week, that seems to be exactly what happens.

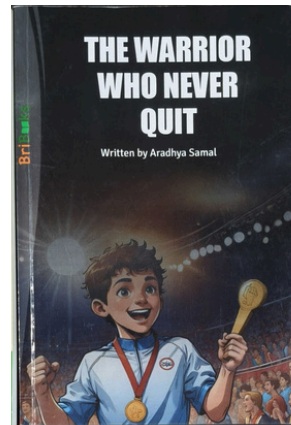
What begins as an ordinary school week quickly turns into a series of unexpected incidents, confusing events, and mysteries. As one problem leads to another, Riya must use her intelligence, courage, and determination to uncover the truth behind everything that's happening. Along the way, she learns valuable lessons about friendship, responsibility, and staying calm under pressure.

The book is:

Genre: Mystery & Thriller

Length: 35 pages

Narrator: Riya Sharma, a curious and lively Class 7 student.



THE WARRIOR WHO NEVER QUIT

HONOUR ROLL CERTIFICATE from BriBooks

The Warrior Who Never Quit is an inspiring real-life story about Aradhya Patnaik, a 12-year-old girl whose greatest passion is taekwondo. She trains with dedication every day and dreams of becoming stronger, faster, and better. However, her journey is far from easy.

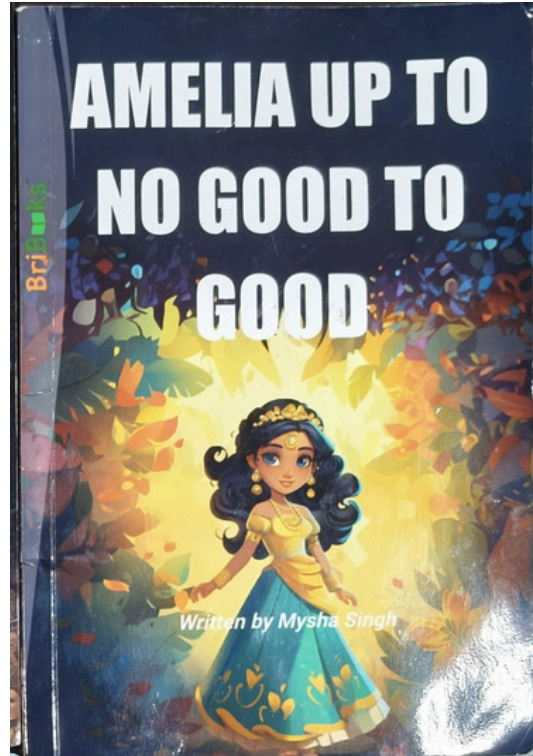
As she faces unexpected obstacles, disappointments, and moments that test her determination, Aradhya must decide whether to give up or keep fighting for her dream. Through courage, discipline, and resilience, she learns that a true warrior is not someone who never falls—but someone who always gets back up.

The book celebrates perseverance, self-belief, hard work, and the importance of never quitting, making it an inspiring read for children, teenagers, and anyone chasing a difficult dream. It is a 60-page book in the Real Life & Drama genre under the Ambition category.

Author : Aradhya Samal

Grade 7

CELEBRATING OUR BUDDING AUTHORS



AMELIA UP TO NO GOOD TO GOOD
HONOUR ROLL CERTIFICATE from BriBooks

Author: Mysha Singh
Grade 5





Saesha Sahu
Grade 4B



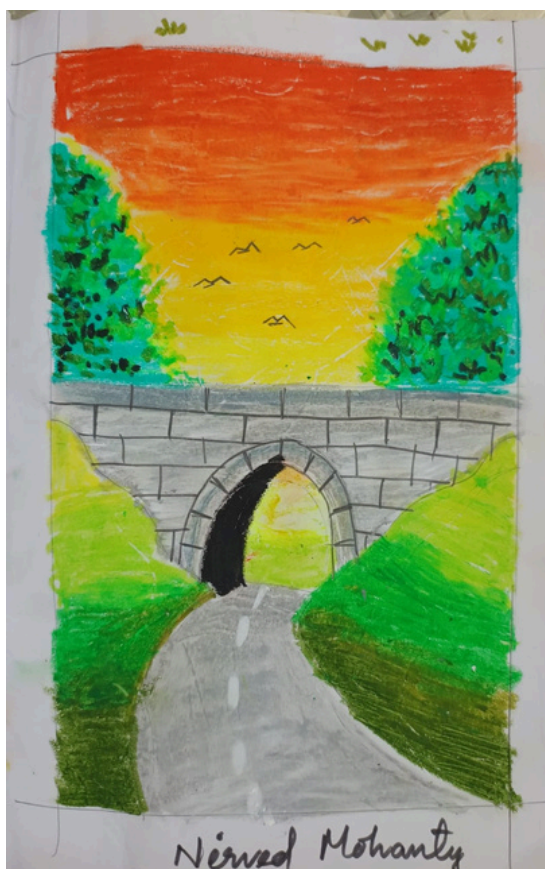
Samaira Piniti
Grade 4B



Turiyaa Amyasha Mishra
Grade 2 B



Nirvika Mohanty
Grade 2A



Nirved Mohanty
Grade 1B



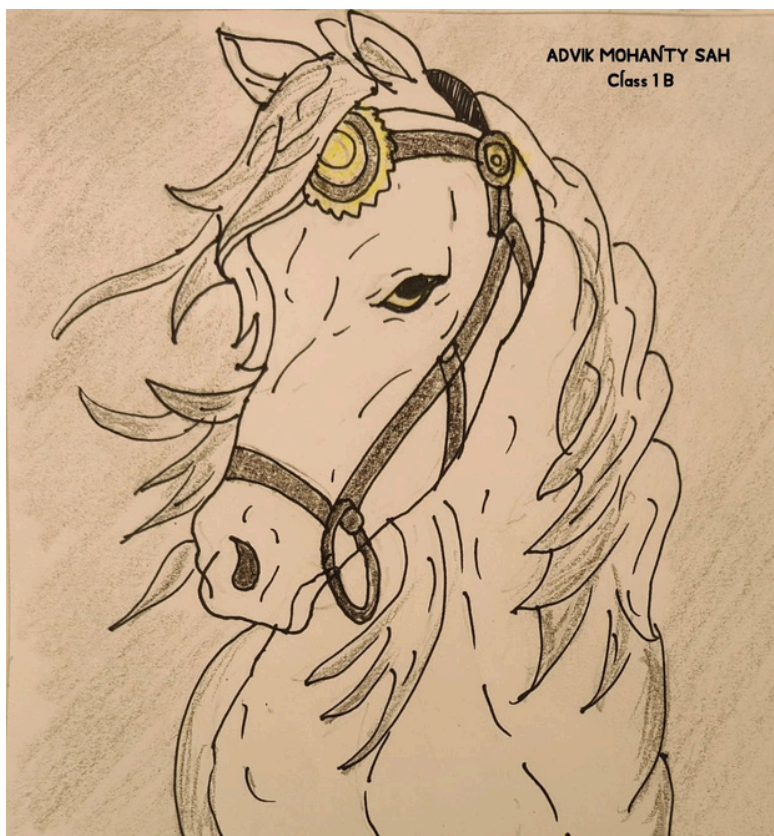
Aniket Panda
Grade 1B



Samyukta Biswal
Grade 1B



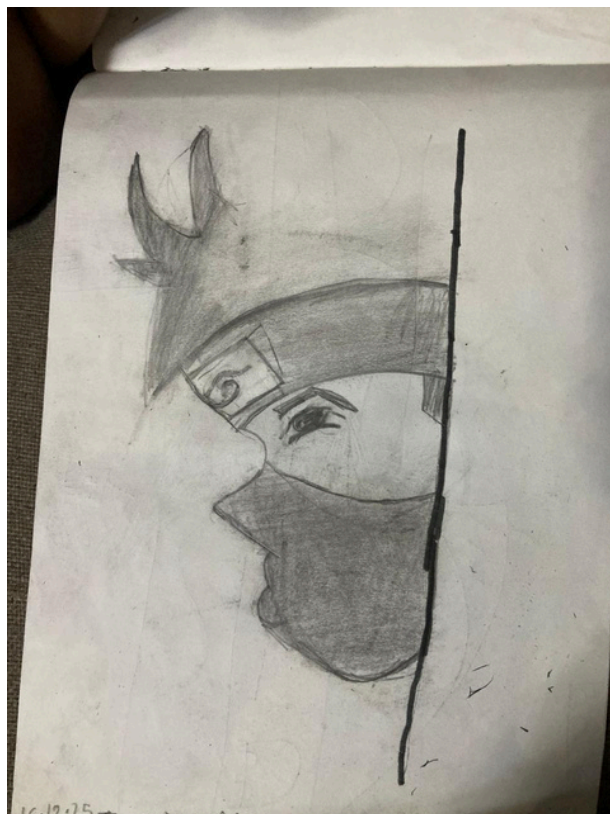
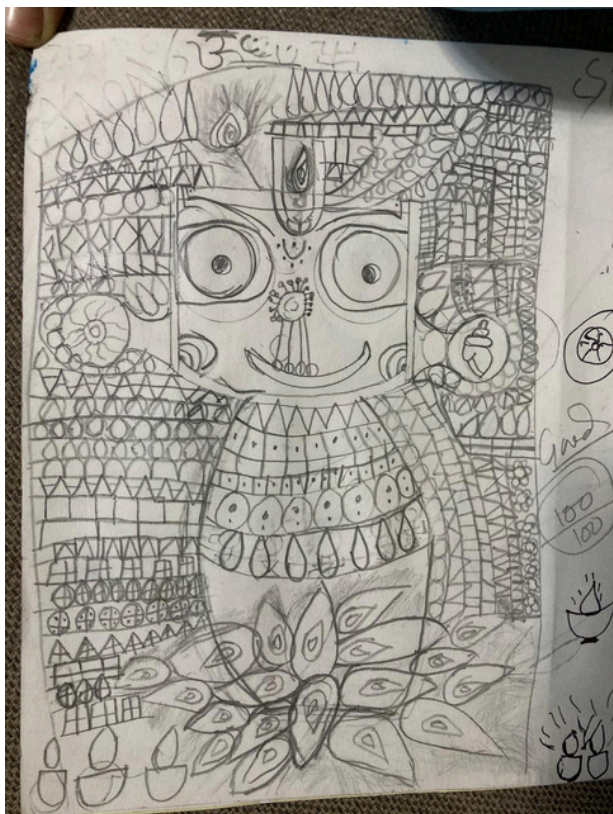
Bhagyashree Nayak
Grade 1B



Advik Mohanty Sah
Grade 1B



Samit Das
Grade 1A



Sai Sambhav Sahoo
Grade 1A



Hitesh Kumar
Grade 1A



Pratisha Priyadarshini Senapati
Grade 1A



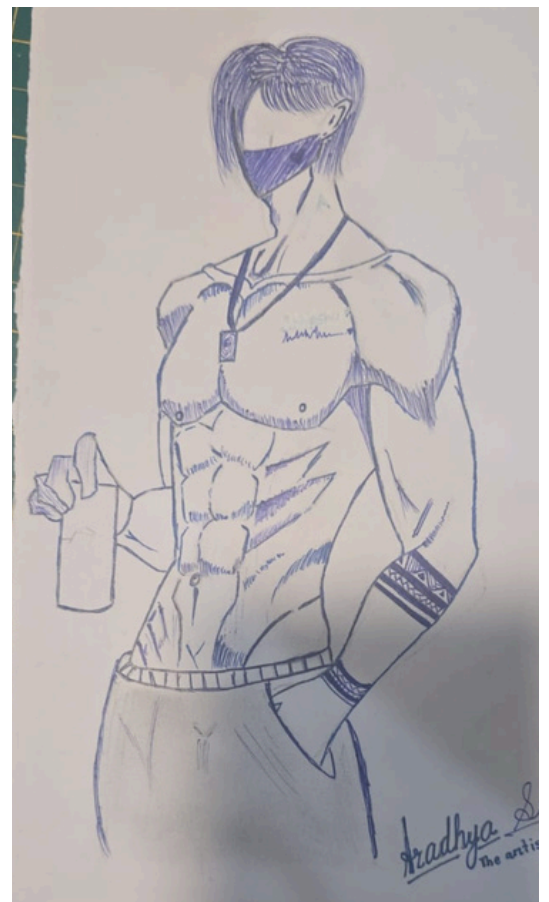
Guruprasad Parida
Grade 1A

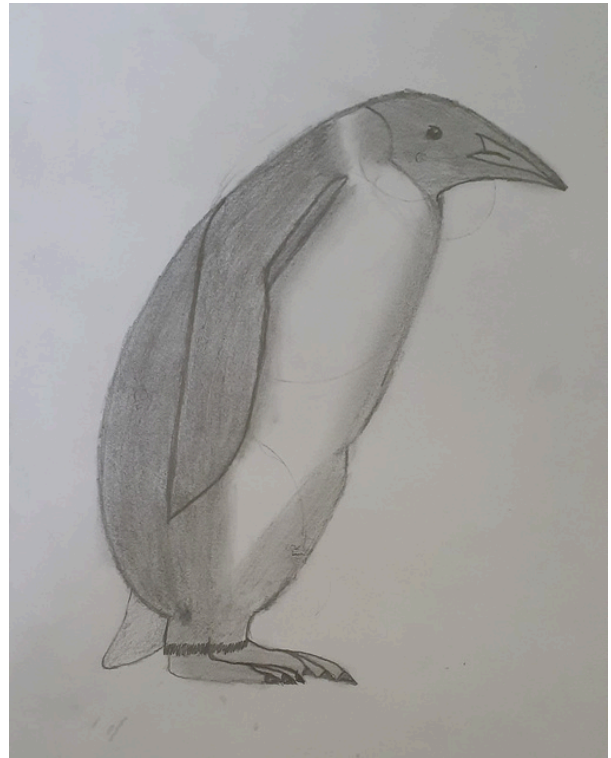
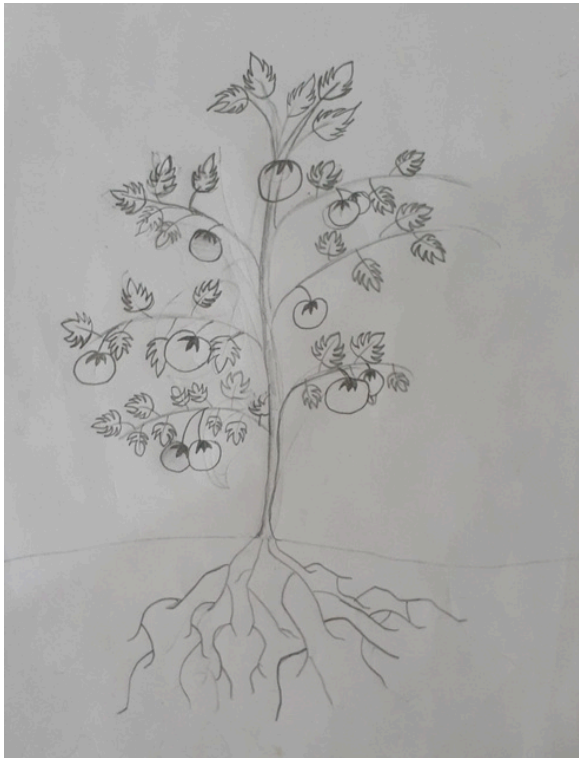


Goutam Agasthya Kar
Grade 1A



Aradhya Samal
Grade 7





World Environment Day 2026

Archisman Mohapatra
Grade 4A



Shanaya Mohapatra
Grade 4A



Arjun Arhan
Grade 3B

Trees

Trees are big plants,
They grow from their roots.
The shoot grows above the ground,
And the roots spread beneath, all around.

Trees give us cool shade,
They also provide flowers and food.
Flowers are beautiful and smell good,
They make us happy and delight our mood.

Trees give us tasty fruit,
Some we eat directly, some we cook.
The stem is used to make paper,
And the wood can be turned into beautiful furniture.

Leaves prepare food from sunlight,
In this process, they give us oxygen.
Trees are our big friends,
They make our environment clean and green.

Similarly, the Wisdom Tree is also a great friend,
It teaches us good values to gain knowledge and wisdom.



Abhishan Nayak
Grade 3





Abhishan Nayak
Grade 3A

RATH YATRA is coming in a few days. So, I am very excited; and not only me, everyone is excited.

People of Odisha are excited about the RATH YATRA. It is the most famous festival of Odisha. It is celebrated in the month of Ashadha. Three RATHS are made of wood. A rope is tied to each RATH. On the day of RATH YATRA Lord Jagannath, Lord Balabhadra and Goddess Subhadra are placed on the RATHS. The pandas worship and the people pull the RATHS. The RATHS are drawn to Gundicha Ghar. After nine days, the return journey of the RATHS takes place. Devotees from all over the world come to Puri. It is the great festival of Odisha. Jay Jagannath.

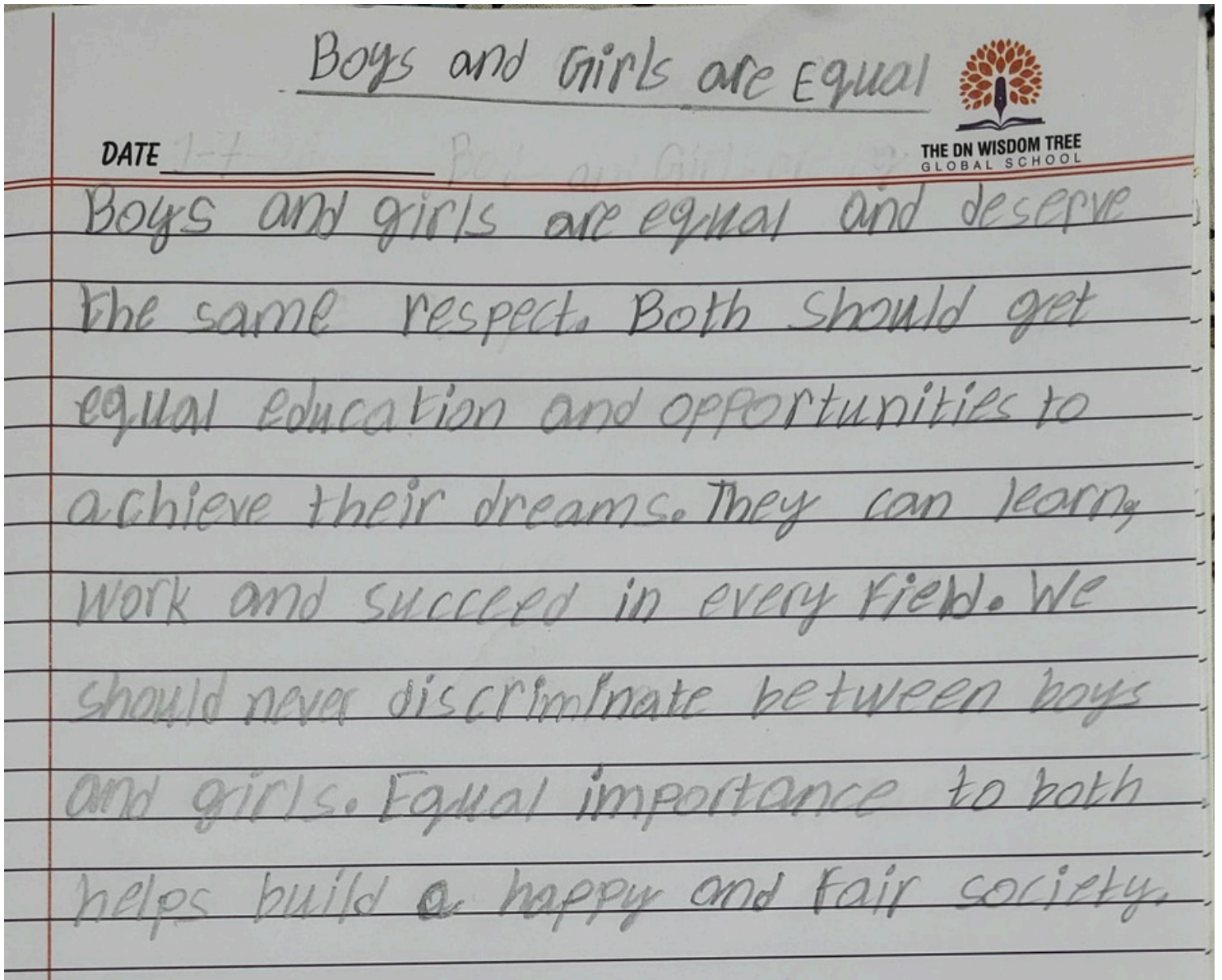


Aashrita Nayak
Grade 3A

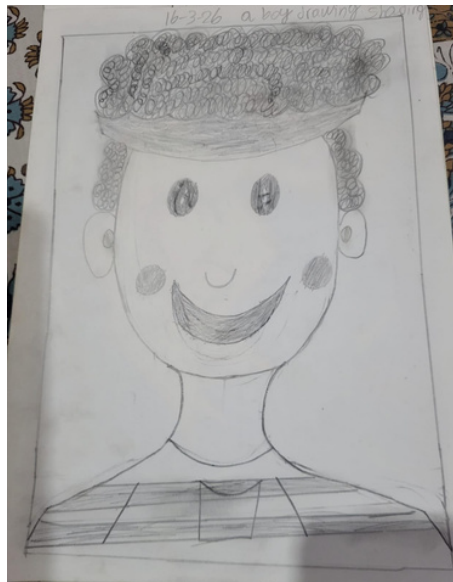


Adidev Jena
Grade 4 A





Ritesh Kumar Swain
Grade 3B



My Trip to Kendrapada

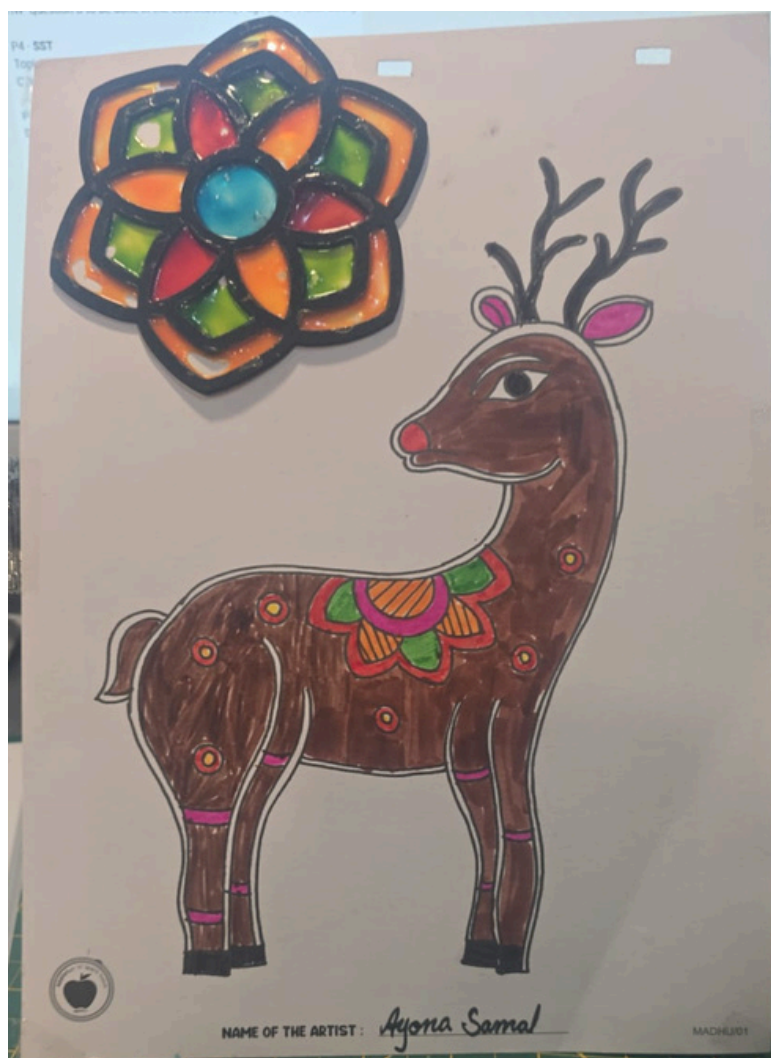
I had been to Kendrapada on 18th March, Wednesday, to attend the marriage ceremony of my mother's cousin brother. I accompanied my mother and my grandmother. On the way, I saw the Kathajodi River, the Mahanadi River, and the longest bridge over the Mahanadi. After some time, we stopped at Salepur to have our breakfast. Everybody, including the driver, ate two rasagolla and two Bara. Everyone liked the food. I came to know that Salepur is famous for its sweets and large rasagolla. Then we reached Kendrapada and met my Aja, Aai, Mamu, Main and my cousin sister, Sieshree. I had my lunch there. After that, I went to Pahandia, which is 24 km from Kendrapada. At Pahandia, I came to know about an incident that had happened the previous night at 2 o'clock. Some thieves had snatched my aunt's gold jewellery and earrings, and her ear was injured. We met the bride and groom, and my mother gave them gifts. The village of Pahandia is on the bank of the Chitrotpala River. We had great fun walking along the riverbank. It was a beautiful sight. At 3 o'clock, while returning home, we visited a place named Mahala. My grandmother bought some vegetables from the village market because they were cheaper there. After that, we came straight home at 6 o'clock.

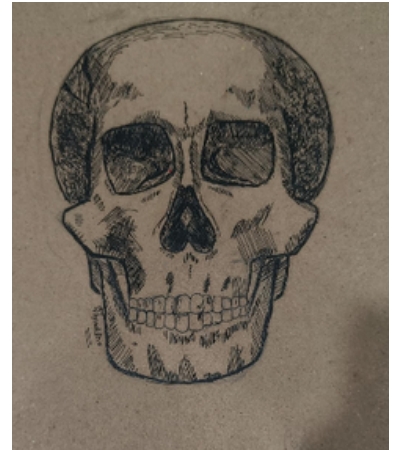
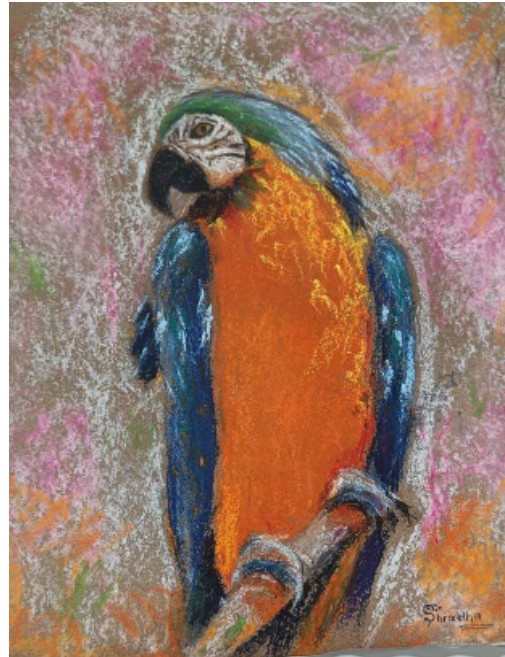
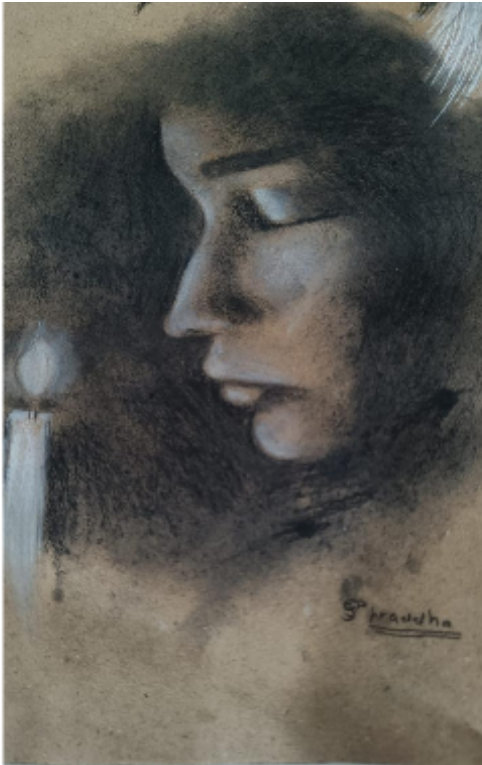


Sweekrit Baral
Grade 3A



Ayona Samal
Grade 3B

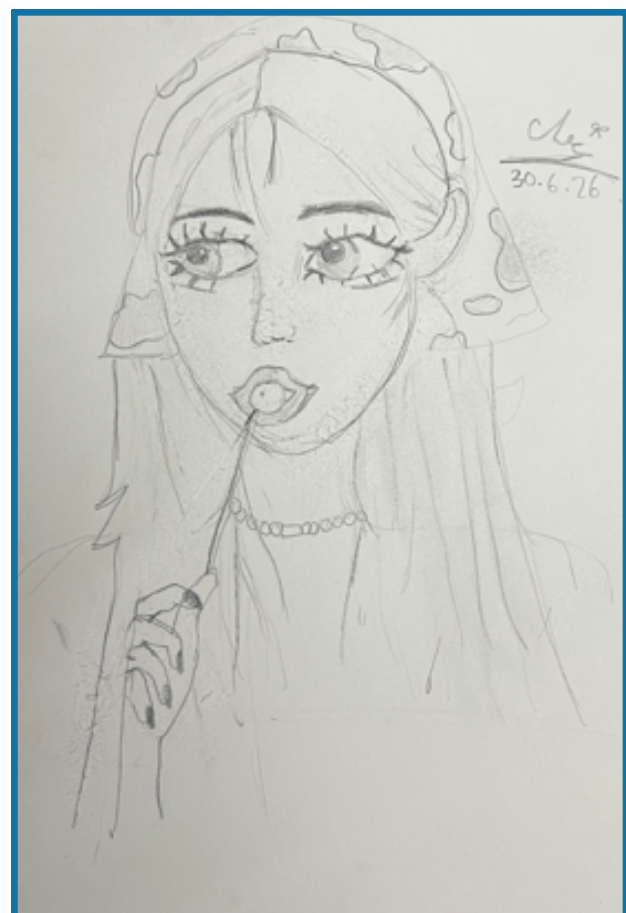




Shraddha Deo
Grade 5



Suryanshi Swain
Grade 5



Nishika Kar
Grade 5

From Passion to Purpose: My Basketball Journey

My interest in basketball isn't newfound. I have been involved in this game since my early childhood. So, to say, "I dribbled before I could walk."

This summer of 2026, I actively participated in basketball coaching to improve and hone my skills. It's not just a sport for me, it's a passion that brings excitement, energy, and joy into my life. This sport also teaches discipline, teamwork, concentration, quick thinking, and determination. These attributes are also immensely helpful in our daily lifestyle.

My inspiration to play basketball comes from my father, who himself has played the game and even now guides me with his inputs. We both are active viewers of all professional NBA matches. My father and I love the thrill of watching NBA matches on television, which inspires me to improve my skills. My elder brother also played basketball for his school and constantly helps me with his knowledgeable inputs.

I am blessed and thankful to my mother, who has left no stone unturned to find all possible resources to provide me with the best "ONE TO ONE" coaching.

I want to become a better 'baller' and wish to represent my school at all competitions. My dream is to represent ODISHA and INDIA in this sport.

At DN WISDOM school, the newly constructed half court has helped all hoopers to practice and be "hardwood warriors." I am confident that the facilities at school will be further enhanced and modernized, which will help all 'shot callers' to chase and fulfill our dreams.



Vivaan Jena
Grade 9



THE DN WISDOM TREE
GLOBAL SCHOOL

CONGRATULATIONS, Champ!



Devanshi Sa (Grade 2)

2 Gold Medals 1 Bronze

7th Wako Odisha State Amateur Kickboxing Championship 2026



WIZKIDS! Shine On



SRITIK KUANR (GRADE 9)

Recipient of Citation at Shraddhanjali 2026,
organized by Swaranjali, Delhi,
for Indian Classical Performing Arts



SAMAIRA PINTI (GRADE 4B)

Recipient of Bronze Medal
and School Best Seller Certificate from
BRIBOOKS for her book, FOREVER MY FRIEND.



DEVANSHI SA (GRADE 2B)

Recipient of Silver Medal at the
National Kickboxing Championship 2026, Indore,
selected for International Kickboxing Championship

Saesha Sahu (Grade 4 B)



ODISHA'S YOUNGEST BLACK BELT 2025



NAVARATNA SISHU SAMMAN AWARD 2026
(KEYBOARD)



1ST POSITION (GIRLS CATEGORY)
ATAL BIHARI SENAPATI MEMORIAL
STATE SCHOOL OPEN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2026

Listening: The Silent Skill We Are Losing

"In a world where everyone wants to be heard, very few are willing to truly listen."

Have you ever noticed how conversations have changed? Before someone finishes speaking, we interrupt. While another person is talking, we're already preparing our response. Sometimes, we're not even looking at the speaker - we're looking at a screen.

We hear more than ever before, yet we listen less than ever.

Listening is much more than hearing words. It is giving someone your time, attention, and respect. It is choosing to understand before being understood. Sadly, in today's fast-paced world, this beautiful skill is quietly fading.

Think about a family sitting together at the dinner table. Everyone is present, yet each person is occupied with a mobile phone. Words are exchanged, but conversations are missing. A child excitedly shares something about their day, but no one truly notices. In that moment, it isn't just a conversation that's lost - it is a connection.

The greatest communicators are not always the best speakers - they are the best listeners. A child who feels listened to gains confidence. A friend who feels heard feels valued. Every meaningful relationship grows stronger when people listen with patience and empathy.

Perhaps it's time we paused before we replied, looked up from our screens, and gave someone our undivided attention.

Because sometimes, the kindest words are never spoken - they are simply listened to.

In the end, people may forget what we said, but they will always remember how we made them feel. And often, that feeling begins with being truly heard.



Vani Sharma
Coordinator, Primary

Teaching the Goldfish Generation: Holding Attention in a Scrolling World

I once read that a goldfish has an attention span of nine seconds. Then I read that today's average student has eight. I laughed. Then I looked at my Class VI book during a double period on Friday afternoon and stopped laughing.

This is the world we teach in now. Fast. Loud. Even without phones in their pockets, they're one memory away from somewhere else.

A few years ago, my competition was the boring textbook or the sleepy period after lunch. Today, I'm up against the habits formed by 10-second reels, YouTube Shorts, and pinging WhatsApp groups at home. Their brains have been trained by a device that promises a dopamine hit faster than long division ever could, and they bring that brain to my classroom.

I'll be mid-sentence explaining the Dandi March when I see it: the quick glance at the window, the hand twitching toward a doodle, the glazed "I'm here but not here" eyes. They're not rude. They're rewired. We've handed them a world outside school where everything is immediate, clickable, and skippable. Then we ask them to sit still for 40 minutes and trace the arc of a parabola.

What Attention Looks Like Now

It's not that children can't focus. Talk to them about a video game or a series they love and they'll show you four hours of laser focus that would impress a surgeon. The problem is sustained attention. The kind that doesn't come with background music, jump cuts, or a like button. The kind school still demands.

I've watched it in my own classroom:

1. The Tab-Toggle Brain: Many can't read a full paragraph without feeling the urge to look around, tap their pencil, or start a new thought. It's like their minds have 15 tabs open at once.
2. Boredom Intolerance: Silence feels like a glitch. If there isn't sound, colour, or movement, it must be broken. Reflection time becomes fidget time.
3. Surface Learning: They're brilliant at recalling facts they've heard. But asking "why" twice in a row? That's where the struggle starts. Depth takes time, and time feels expensive now.

So What Do We Do? We Don't Compete. We Adapt.

- Change the Pace, Not the Purpose: A 40-minute lecture loses them. Four 10-minute chunks of story, discussion, activity, and recap keeps them.
- Teach Attention Like a Subject: We start class with two minutes of focused, silent thinking before discussion.
- Connect It to Their World, Then Pull Them Deeper: Use familiar examples as a bridge to deeper understanding.
- Model What We Expect: Students notice whether we give them our full attention.

The One Thing That Still Works: Relationship

Technology changes, but relationships remain timeless. Students pay attention when they know they matter. A simple conversation, remembering an achievement, or asking about their interests creates trust.

Attention isn't gone - it's simply divided. It returns where students feel valued, respected, and included.

My Hope, Not My Complaint

Technology is part of our students' future. Rather than resisting it, our responsibility is to teach children how to focus, think deeply, and remain present despite distractions.

Some days the distractions win. Other days, curiosity wins.

Every time a student asks an insightful question or becomes completely absorbed in learning, I'm reminded that curiosity is still one of the greatest forces in education.



Rachel Mohanty
Social Science Mentor



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Jasmine Routray
Art Mentor

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