

January, 2026



# Monthly Newsletter



## JLF @ 2026 | Highlights

### Banyan Tree School at Jaipur Literature Festival 2026: A Celebration of Stories, Science, and Soul

Banyan Tree School proudly marked its vibrant presence at the Jaipur Literature Festival (JLF) 2026, held from 15th to 19th January 2026 at Clarks Amer, Jaipur, through a thoughtfully curated stall (S7). Over five enriching days, the school transformed its space into a dynamic hub of literature, art, culture, innovation, and holistic well-being—values deeply embedded in the school's curriculum and ethos.





## DAY 1: Borders Dissolve, Stories Unite – A BRICS Journey

The showcase beautifully blended the energies of the Primary and Senior sections. Children from the Primary wing represented the five BRICS nations by dressing in their national attire, while senior students enriched the performance with insights into each country's culture, economy, and global challenges. Together, they wove a narrative of unity and collaboration, highlighting how these nations confront pressing issues with shared purpose. The presentation was warmly acknowledged by Diya Kumari, making it a proud and memorable moment for the school.



## Choir Group Invited to Perform at JLF

Our school Choir Group captivated the audience with their harmonious voices and a deeply meaningful musical presentation that left a lasting impression. The choir's repertoire beautifully wove together tradition and contemporary relevance—beginning with sacred shlokas from the Vedas, moving through vibrant folk melodies that reflected the rich flavours of Rajasthan, and culminating in the powerful Paani Anthem, delivering a message of awareness and responsibility.

Specially invited to perform on the JLF stage, the choir's mesmerising performance stood as a testament to the students' talent, discipline, and ability to use music as a medium for expression and impact. Their soulful rendition not only entertained but also inspired listeners, making it a proud and memorable moment for the entire school community.





14 likes

officialsudhirmathur Very impressed interacting with Banyan Tree School students at the JLF first day.

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## Words of Appreciation from Mr. Sudhir Mathur

The school received heartfelt appreciation from Mr. Sudhir Mathur, a respected and eminent personality of the Jaipur circuit, who commended the quality, creativity, and impact of Banyan Tree School’s participation.

## Zumba Flash Mob Steals the Show

The Zumba flash mob emerged as a crowd favourite, inviting enthusiastic participation from festival-goers of all age groups. The high-energy performance radiated joy and positivity, transforming the moment into a shared celebration while promoting the importance of physical fitness and well-being.



## One-Minute Challenges: Engaging the Youth

Interactive one-minute challenges were conducted to engage young visitors. These activities sparked curiosity, encouraged spontaneous participation, and added an element of fun and learning to the stall.



## DAY 2: Think – Tinker – Transform

### INSPIRING ENCOUNTERS WITH LITERARY & SPORTING ICONS

One of the most memorable highlights of the festival was the distinguished visit of Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand, the legendary five-time World Chess Champion, to our stall. A towering figure in the world of sports, Mr. Anand has been honoured with some of India's highest accolades, including the Arjuna Award, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, and the prestigious Padma Vibhushan, along with multiple international recognitions such as the Chess Oscar for his exceptional contributions to the game.

Our students proudly presented him with a beautifully sketched portrait, which brought a warm smile to the Grandmaster's face. In a gracious and heartfelt gesture, Mr. Anand signed the school chessboard, transforming it into a priceless memento. This cherished keepsake now stands as a beacon of inspiration, encouraging our young chess enthusiasts to dream boldly and strive for excellence. Adding to the excitement of the interaction, Mr. Anand enthusiastically took part in a rapid-fire quiz thoughtfully designed by the students, making the visit both engaging and unforgettable.



GRANDMASTER VISWANATHAN  
ANAND

## Moments of Inspiration & Pride

The day was further elevated by the presence of Mrs. Sudha Murty, eminent author, philanthropist, and recipient of the Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan awards. She was visibly delighted upon noticing a striking sketch created by Ayush Bonlya of Class XII-B. With heartfelt appreciation, she signed the artwork and graciously returned it to the student as a treasured keepsake—an inspiring moment that will be cherished for years to come.

Adding further distinction to the occasion was the presence of Padmanabh Singh, the titular Maharaja of Jaipur and custodian of the city's rich cultural legacy. His gracious presence infused the day with pride, elegance, and inspiration, leaving an indelible impression on all who were part of this remarkable experience.



# Culture in Motion: Kalbelia Folk Performance



The Kalbelia dance and song performances filled the space with rhythm, colour, and energy, beautifully celebrating Rajasthan's rich cultural legacy. The presence of Padma Shri awardee Ms. Bhawana Somaaya, a renowned Indian journalist, film critic, and author, marked a special highlight of the occasion. During her visit to the stall, she was deeply moved by the vibrant Kalbelia performance and enthusiastically joined the students in their celebration, appreciating their talent and cultural expression.

Adding to this proud moment, the students were specially invited to perform on the prestigious JLF stage on almost all five days, showcasing their artistry to diverse audiences throughout the festival.

## Innovation That Drew the Crowd

The robotics and Moon Rover displays, complemented by live science experiments and creative activities like tattoo making, drew enthusiastic crowds and highlighted the students' technological skill, curiosity, and innovative spirit. Chhavi Rajawat-India's youngest Sarpanch and a renowned change-maker in grassroots governance, paused at the stall, deeply impressed by the students' confident and precise demonstration of the rover's intricate mechanics, capturing the moment on her phone with keen interest.





## DAY 3: Discover India-Reshaping Dreams:New India Narratives



### YOUNG MINDS, MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS

It was a moment of great pride for the school when eminent scientist, statesman, and former Union Minister Dr. Karan Singh visited our stall. During his gracious interaction, students confidently presented the Sugar Board, highlighting the social and health implications of sugar consumption. His thoughtful reflections and encouraging words enriched the experience, making it a truly memorable and inspiring learning moment for the students.

### Inspirational Rendezvous with Eminent Personalities

The day was further enriched as students had the privilege of attending sessions and interacting with distinguished personalities, including Kailash Satyarthi, Nobel Peace Prize laureate and child rights activist, and spiritual leader Gaur Gopal Das, who shared profound life lessons and inspired students to lead meaningful, value-driven lives. The moment Mr. Kailash Satyarthi realised that he was being welcomed by our School Captain, Vice Captain, House Captain, and Cultural Captain, the Nobel Laureate graciously rose from his chair and extended a warm, heartfelt handshake.





He shared profound insights on compassionate leadership—words that will remain etched in the hearts of our students forever. Overflowing with admiration, he acknowledged and honoured these young trailblazers who are steering our institution towards excellence. It was truly an extraordinary and humbling moment, as our student leaders received a powerful life lesson at the very beginning of their leadership journey—one that will guide them far beyond the walls of the school.

## Creativity Meets Innovation at the Stall

The Banyan Tree School stall continued to draw large crowds with its robotics display, creative art exhibits, engaging mind games, mehendi art, and innovative learning corners. Visitors experienced the school's dynamic blend of creativity, critical thinking, and experiential learning.



## Powerful Performances with Purpose



Students presented a compelling dance-drama inspired by the Mahabharata, beautifully conveying themes of moral courage, self-respect, leadership, and women empowerment. The performance received immense appreciation from audiences for its emotional depth and relevance to present-day social concerns.

# DAY 4: Re-imagining Education – NEP Dialogues

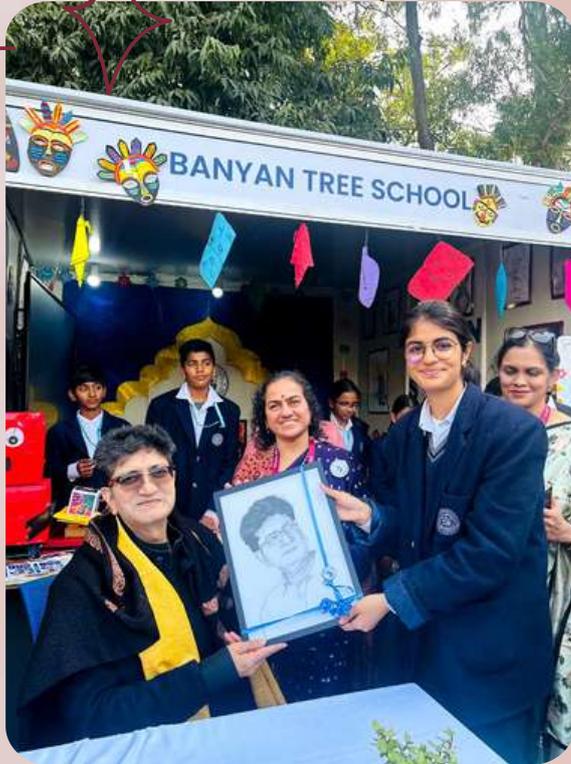
## Creativity with a Conscience

The visit of Prasoon Joshi—Padma Shri awardee, celebrated lyricist, poet, screenwriter, and one of India’s most influential voices in creative arts—was a truly defining moment for our stall.

Our students were blessed with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to perform before the visionary creator of the iconic Paani Anthem. As their voices rose in unison, Mr. Joshi’s face glowed with unfiltered delight—so moved was he by their sincerity and purpose that he could scarcely contain his emotion.

A recipient of numerous national and international honours, including multiple National Film Awards and global recognition for his contributions to music, cinema, and socially driven creative expression, Mr. Joshi’s presence transformed the performance into a profoundly inspiring experience. It was a moment that will continue to energise and guide the ecological warriors of Banyan Tree School in their mission for a sustainable future.

With remarkable warmth and humility, he engaged in an enriching interaction with our students, patiently answering their questions and encouraging them to use creativity as a force for change. He was visibly delighted to receive a portrait sketched by one of our exceptionally talented students—a heartfelt gesture that added a deeply personal touch to an already unforgettable encounter.



The visit of Ms. Chhavi Rajawat added a distinctive sparkle to our stall. She was delighted to receive a beautifully sketched portrait by one of our talented students, graciously appreciating the creativity and effort behind it. Ms. Rajawat was truly floored by the demonstration of the Moon Rover model, capturing every detail with childlike curiosity and keen interest. She also warmly complimented our school choir, applauding the students for their harmonious performance and confident expression. Her encouraging presence and genuine engagement left an enduring impression, inspiring our learners to dream boldly and lead with purpose.



## Multilingual Enactment Celebrating Diversity



Students presented a vibrant multilingual enactment that went beyond performance to showcase the school's progressive approach to language education. Through confident use of French, German, Spanish, and Sanskrit, learners demonstrated the practical application of foreign languages in real-life contexts—engaging in dialogues, travel scenarios, and cultural exchanges. Rooted in the Indian ethos of Atithi Devo Bhava, the presentation highlighted gracious hospitality, respect for diverse cultures, and warmth in communication, beautifully reflecting how language learning at our school fostered effective communication, cultural appreciation, and global readiness.



## A Stall That Continued to Draw Crowds



The Banyan Tree School stall remained a vibrant hub of activity, offering a rich array of engaging experiences, including stimulating mind games, creative tattoo making, artistic bookmarks and handcrafted key chains, intricate paper craft, ceramic cone craft, captivating live science experiments, and an interactive 3D pen workshop titled “Design Your Own Jewellery,” drawing enthusiastic participation throughout.

## NEP in Action: Art-Integrated Learning

In alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP), students also presented an Art-Integrated Mathematics Dance, creatively blending mathematical concepts with rhythm and movement. This innovative performance beautifully demonstrated experiential learning, showing how abstract concepts can be understood through art, expression, and joy.



# DAY 5: Holistic Well-Being

## Literary Rendezvous

The day featured inspiring interactions with award-winning literary voices—Prabhat Ranjan, recipient of the Premchand Samman and ABP News Best Blogger Award, and Kishwar Desai, Costa First Novel Award winner and National Film Award recipient. Their presence and reflections encouraged students to engage deeply with literature, appreciate diverse perspectives, and express their thoughts with confidence, leaving a lasting impression on young minds.



## Learning Through Engagement and Creativity- Pitch Your Product – An Exchange of Vibes

Throughout the day, students actively engaged at the school stall, confidently presenting their ideas and participating in creative, interactive activities. A standout moment was Pitch Your Product, where visitors were drawn to the mini artefacts crafted by our students. In a lively exchange of vibes, guests freely picked the artefact that resonated with them, offering in return a motivating note, message, or souvenir as a keepsake of continued association. The experience beautifully reflected collaboration, curiosity, and entrepreneurial spirit, showcasing innovation in an inspiring intellectual and cultural forum.

## Radio Enactment: “The Power of I Decide” – Banyan Tree Radio City 25.0 FM

A powerful, engaging performance dramatized the inner conflict of the mind—choosing right from wrong and seeking guidance from the conscience in moments of dilemma. Presented in the creative format of a radio show, this enactment captivated audiences while underscoring the importance of self-reflection and moral clarity in everyday life. It reflected how, as a school, we not only focus on academics and co-curricular activities but also nurture ethical awareness and inner growth through such creative formats.



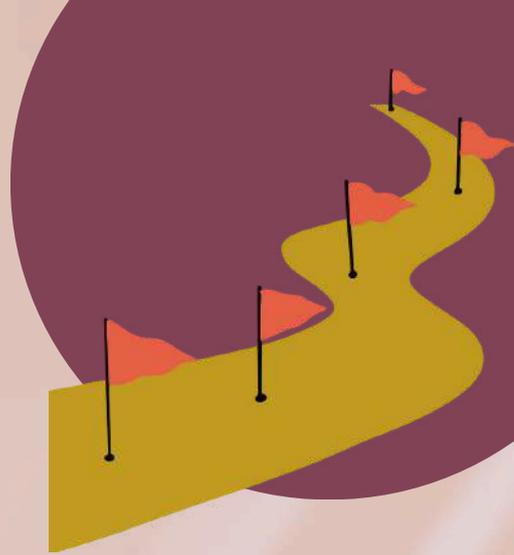
## Dance Performance: “Jeena Isi Ka Naam Hai”

A moving portrayal of the journey of student life, the performance depicted the pressures and challenges faced by learners while celebrating the resilience, hope, and joy that emerge upon overcoming them. This beautiful and relevant message resonated with all students, reminding them that perseverance leads to a brighter future.

Through this five-day journey, our stall at JLF embodied the spirit of creativity, inclusivity, and innovation. From BRICS-inspired unity to futuristic well-being, each day promised immersive experiences for festival-goers.

# A Journey to Remember

Day 5 beautifully concluded Banyan Tree School's journey at JLF 2026. Throughout this five-day journey, our stall at JLF embodied the spirit of creativity, inclusivity, and innovation. From BRICS-inspired unity to futuristic well-being, each day offered immersive experiences for festival-goers. The festival proved to be a crucible of growth, empowering young minds with confidence, widening horizons, and reaffirming the joy of learning beyond the walls of the classroom. As this edition of the Jaipur Literature Festival drew its final curtain, it left behind a legacy of inspiration and boundless curiosity. For our unstoppable learners, this was not an end but a luminous beginning—one that had already ignited an eager call for more.



MEMORABLE JOURNEY



# D.E.S.I.G.N. for BioE3 Challenge

## ACCOLADE



Banyan Tree School Students Secure Top-10 Position in Government of India's BioE3 Challenge.

Banyan Tree School proudly celebrates the remarkable achievement of its students, who secured a Top-10 position in the prestigious Government of India-led MyGov, Department of Biotechnology (DBT) BioE3 "D.E.S.I.G.N. for BioE3" Challenge.



## COMMENDATION



The winning team comprised Sunidhi Nimesh (XI A), Suhaani Pal (XI A), Bhavika Singhal (IX C), Shanvi Dubey (IX B), and Manyata Dattatreya (VIII A), under the able mentorship of Ms. Shalini Sardana, PGT Biology. Their innovative thinking, strong scientific temperament, and collaborative spirit earned them national recognition. The school also extends its sincere gratitude to Dr. Nidhi Gupta for her exemplary guidance and valuable support throughout the journey. Heartiest congratulations to the students and mentors on this commendable achievement.

Project Video Link: <https://youtu.be/BswVaxNm9d4>

# Marching with Pride

## Students Salute the Strength, Strategy, and Spirit of the Indian Army



As a proud prelude to the 78th Army Day celebrations, the majestic “Know Your Army Mela and Equipment Display”, organized by the Indian Army’s Sapta Shakti Command at the Shri Bhawani Niketan College campus, Jaipur, unfolded as a powerful tribute to the valor, discipline, and technological supremacy of the Indian Army. On 12th January 2026, our students were privileged to witness the Know Your Army Day Parade at Bhawani Niketan School—an awe-inspiring spectacle that brought the might and magnificence of the nation’s defenders to life.

The exhibition showcased an impressive array of cutting-edge military hardware, including formidable T-90 tanks, precision-driven M-777 howitzers, the indomitable BrahMos missiles, and advanced Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)—each standing as a testament to India’s unwavering defence preparedness and innovation. A defining highlight was the compelling presentation on ‘Operation Sindoor’, which offered rare and insightful perspectives into the Army’s strategic acumen, sophisticated weapon systems, and battlefield excellence during wartime operations.

This enriching visit left an indelible mark on young minds, igniting a deep sense of patriotism, pride, and reverence for the courage, sacrifice, and steadfast commitment of the Indian Army. The experience not only educated but also inspired students to honor and celebrate the guardians of our nation.





## Republic Day Celebrations – Honouring the Spirit of India

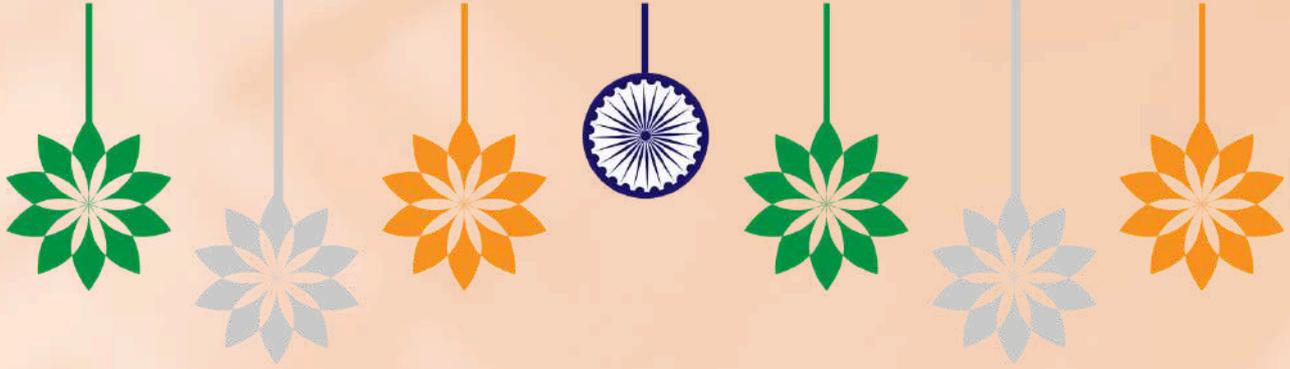
Banyan Tree School proudly celebrated the 77th Republic Day with great enthusiasm and patriotic fervour, engaging students across Pre-primary, Primary, and Secondary wings in meaningful and age-appropriate activities that paid tribute to the nation and the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution.

The youngest learners from the Nursery wing delighted everyone by dressing up as great Indian freedom fighters, learning about courage, unity, and love for the nation, and feeling proud to be young citizens of India.

The UKG students participated in a confident “Walk-the-Talk” activity on 22 January 2026, where they spoke about Indian National Symbols and expressed why they love India, thereby strengthening their speaking skills and self-confidence.

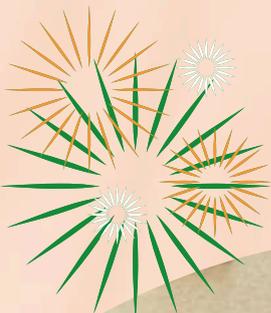
The Primary Wing organised a special assembly highlighting the values of unity, integrity, and responsibility, featuring a thought-provoking speech, a soulful patriotic song “Tum Se Hi Desh To Hai”, a special talk on Operation Sindoor, and a vibrant dance performance by Grade III students that filled the atmosphere with pride and energy.





The celebrations were marked by the Secondary Wing's solemn flag hoisting ceremony and the stirring National Anthem, followed by patriotic songs and eloquent speeches in English and Hindi reflecting on India's democratic legacy. Students were also introduced to the timeless "Vande Mataram" and the nationwide year-long celebration (November 2025–November 2026) marking its 150th anniversary, as announced by the Ministry of Culture.

The event was brought to a meaningful close with the Principal's speech, in which she passionately exhorted students to embrace constitutional ideals, champion national unity, and drive India's ascent on the global stage. The day served as a powerful reminder of our shared responsibilities as citizens and celebrated the enduring spirit of democracy, patriotism, and national pride across all age groups in the school.



# Gliding to Glory: Ruhi Thadani's Golden Victory



Ruhi Thadani of Class II-B has brought immense pride to the school through her outstanding performance in the Under-9 Skating Competition, held from 18 to 20 December 2025 at Cambridge Court International School, Jaipur. Demonstrating exceptional skill, discipline, and determination, Ruhi secured First Position in the demanding 300-metre race, earning a well-deserved Gold Medal.

Her remarkable achievement is a reflection of her dedication, rigorous training, and commendable sporting spirit. The school community—teachers, parents, and peers—extends heartfelt congratulations and applauds this young achiever for her inspiring accomplishment.



# A Dance of Triumph: Deetya Malsariya Shines

VICTORY



Deetya Malsariya added a moment of great distinction to the school by securing the First Prize in the Dance Competition held at Manipal University on 20 January 2026. Her mesmerizing performance was a stunning fusion of Kalbeliya and Ghoomar, beautifully showcasing the richness and vibrancy of Rajasthan's folk heritage.

With her graceful movements, expressive storytelling, and impeccable rhythmic precision, Deetya captivated both the audience and the judges alike. The seamless blend of energy and elegance in her performance reflected not only her artistic excellence but also her deep understanding of traditional dance forms. The school congratulates Deetya on this remarkable accomplishment and wishes her continued success in all her future endeavours.





# Celebrating the Art of Handwriting

To mark National Handwriting Day, the Primary Wing organized a Handwriting Competition on 23 January 2026 for students of Grades I to IV, with the aim of nurturing neatness, clarity, and positive writing habits from an early age. The activity witnessed enthusiastic participation as young learners carefully penned the given text with remarkable focus, patience, and dedication.

Good handwriting plays a vital role in a child's academic journey. It not only enhances legibility and presentation but also strengthens fine motor skills, improves hand-eye coordination, and reflects clarity of thought. Students displayed commendable effort and creativity, making the competition both motivating and memorable.



The First Position was secured by Shiva Meena (3C), Samridhi Choudhary (2C), Aarna Bagri (4A), Nysha (4B), Monal Agarwal (4C), and Vedanshi Agarwal (4D).

The Second Position was awarded to Adhira Maurya (3A), Bhavya Mangwani (3A), Lakshita Jain (4B), Pahal Kansal (4B), and Aanay Jain (4A).

The Third Position was secured by Latika Awasthi (3A), Adhira (3A), Kaushiki (3C), Navi Agarwal (2B), and Pranika Srivastava (3A).

Their exemplary handwriting reflected precision, consistency, and pride in written work. The event successfully reinforced the value of good handwriting while inspiring students to strive for excellence in their everyday writing.



# Inspiring Young Minds: Swami Vivekananda's Ideals Through Thought and Creativity

On 12 January 2026, Swami Vivekananda Jayanti was celebrated at the school as National Youth Day in a highly dignified manner. The programme began with a PowerPoint presentation that introduced students to the inspiring life, ideals, and teachings of Swami Vivekananda. Special emphasis was laid on his historic address at the Parliament of Religions in Chicago, which brought global recognition and pride to India. Through the presentation, students were sensitized to the values of self-confidence, discipline, perseverance, and service to humanity.



His powerful message, "Arise, awake, and stop not till the goal is reached," deeply resonated with the young minds, instilling a strong sense of patriotism, nation-building, and determination to achieve their goals. The programme concluded with a collective resolve by the students to adopt Swami Vivekananda's ideals and grow into strong, aware, and responsible citizens.

Further reinforcing these values, on 19 January 2026, the students of Class IV enthusiastically participated in a creative 3D Philosophy Cube Activity based on the life and vision of Swami Vivekananda, the Global Messenger. Using simple square boxes, the learners transformed their cubes into vibrant visual representations depicting his life, teachings, achievements, and the timeless symbols of Vedanta.



# Basant Panchami: A Celebration of Knowledge, Culture, and Spring

The school celebrated Basant Panchami on 23 January 2026 with devotion, joy and vibrant participation across all wings, reflecting the spirit of learning and cultural heritage.

The Nursery and UKG students marked the festival at the school temple, where Nursery children joyfully engaged in a yellow flower petal pasting activity to explore colours and textures, while UKG students, dressed in yellow, learned about the significance of the festival, the spring season, and Indian traditions.



The Primary Wing observed the occasion through a special morning assembly dedicated to Goddess Saraswati, featuring prayers, Saraswati Vandana, offering of yellow flowers, thought-provoking talks, poem recitations in Hindi and English, and an engaging Basant quiz.



In the Senior Wing, a sacred hawan and pooja were performed to seek the blessings of Goddess Saraswati. Together, the celebrations beautifully highlighted the importance of Basant Panchami as a festival that welcomes spring and honours knowledge, wisdom, creativity, and cultural values.





# The Vision 2026

A thoughtfully designed workshop titled “The Vision 2026” was conducted for teachers with the aim of inspiring reflection, creativity, and purposeful goal-setting. Led by Ms. Arpita Tyagi, the session offered educators a meaningful opportunity to pause, introspect, and realign their personal and professional aspirations as they look ahead to 2026.



MANIFEST



The workshop centered around the creation of personalised vision boards, where teachers expressed their dreams, goals, and aspirations using images, words, and colours. This creative exercise allowed participants to visually map their hopes and intentions, making their goals more tangible and inspiring. Teachers shared that the activity helped them gain clarity, boost confidence, and rediscover motivation in their professional journeys. Many described the experience as soulful, enriching, and emotionally uplifting.

An important highlight of the workshop was the collaborative environment, which encouraged open sharing of ideas, perspectives, and personal growth stories. Overall, The Vision 2026 workshop proved to be a meaningful and empowering experience, leaving teachers inspired, focused, and confident as they prepare to step purposefully into the year 2026 with renewed enthusiasm and vision.



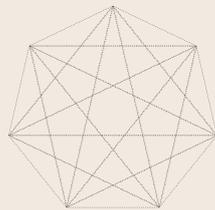
# PENPRINTS

## HOW SOCIAL MEDIA IS CHANGING THE WAY TEENAGERS THINK



Shreyash Purohit

XI-C



For most teenagers today, social media is not just an app on the phone. It's where we talk, learn, joke, argue, and sometimes even grow up. From Instagram reels to WhatsApp groups, social media has slowly become part of how we think and see the world. One of the biggest changes social media has brought is speed. We are used to quick information, short videos, and instant replies. This has made us good at multitasking, but it has also reduced our patience. Long books, long lectures, and even long conversations sometimes feel boring. Our minds are slowly getting trained to expect entertainment and answers immediately.

Social media strongly affects how teenagers see themselves. We constantly scroll through pictures of perfect bodies, luxurious lifestyles, and "successful" people our age. Without realizing it, we begin to compare our real lives with someone else's highlight reel. This can create unnecessary pressure and self-doubt, even when we are doing just fine.

At the same time, social media has changed the way we express our opinions. Teenagers today are more aware of social issues and global events because news spreads quickly online. We are not afraid to speak up, comment, or share our views. This can be a positive change, as it encourages confidence and awareness, but it can also sometimes lead to blindly following trends without thinking deeply.

Another major change is in attention and focus. Notifications, messages, and endless scrolling make it harder to concentrate. Studying for even one hour without checking the phone feels like a challenge. Our thinking is often interrupted, which affects creativity and deep understanding. However, social media is not entirely negative. It helps teenagers learn new skills, connect with people from different backgrounds, and find communities where they feel understood. Many students use it for learning, motivation, and even discovering career interests.

In the end, social media is like a powerful tool. It is changing the way teenagers think by shaping attention, confidence, and opinions. Whether this change is good or bad depends on how we use it. If used wisely, social media can help us grow. If overused, it can control the way we think instead of helping us think better.



## DIARY MUSINGS (MINI BOOKLET)

### Page 1: The Weight of the Morning



The magic doesn't start with a wand; it starts with an alarm clock in the dark. While the world is still sleeping, your father and mother are already standing. Their bodies ache from the day before, but they don't have the luxury of "feeling tired". They push back the blankets and face the cold floor. This is the first sacrifice of the day: the sacrifice of rest. They give up their peace so that your morning can be quiet and safe.

### Page 2: The Armor of the Ordinary

Your father doesn't put on a cape; he puts on a worn-out shirt and heavy boots. Your mother doesn't put on a crown; she ties her hair back and gets to work. When you see them, you see "Mom" and "Dad", but if you look closer, you see soldiers. Every stain on their clothes is a mark of a battle fought against the world. They dress in the "armor of the ordinary" to go out and face the bosses, the traffic, and the heat, all for a paycheck that is spent before they even touch it.



### Page 3: The Giant of the Workplace

The real giant is the job that doesn't care about them. It is the boss who demands more, the sun that burns their skin, or the office chair that ruins their back. Your parents stand in the middle of that storm for eight, ten, twelve hours. They take the insults, they take the pressure, and they take the exhaustion. They aren't magicians who can make the work disappear; they are the ones who stand in the fire so the heat never reaches you.



#### Page 4: The Currency of Pain

Every cent they bring home has a piece of them attached to it. That money isn't just paper; it is a piece of your father's strength and a piece of your mother's time. When they buy you a book, a meal, or a pair of shoes, they are literally giving you a part of their lives. They are trading their youth and their health so that you can have a comfortable seat in the world they are building for you.



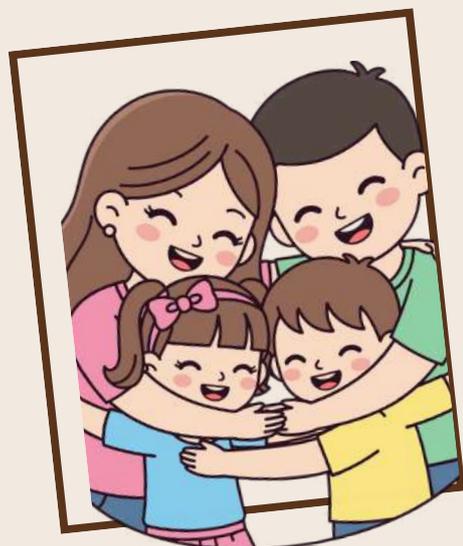
#### Page 5: The Silent Kitchen

Have you ever seen your mother in the kitchen when she thinks you aren't looking? She isn't casting a spell; she is calculating. She is making a little bit of food stretch to feed. She is the one who takes the smallest portion, or the burnt piece, or the cold leftovers. She does it so naturally that you think she likes it that way. But the truth is, her hunger is satisfied by seeing you full. That is the most human magic there is.



#### Page 6: The Broken Hands

Look at their hands. They aren't soft like the hands of the people in the stories. They are cracked, calloused, and scarred. Your father's hands might be stained with oil or rough from lifting. Your mother's hands might be dry from water and soap. These hands are the history books of your family. Every scar is a story of a time they didn't give up. They broke their hands so they could hold yours.



#### Page 7: The Mask of Strength

The hardest work they do is the work of "The Mask". When the bills are high and the money is low, they don't cry in front of you. When they are scared about the future, they tell you everything will be fine. They carry the giant of "Worry" on their shoulders but keep their voices steady. They let you live in a world of peace by fighting a secret war every night behind closed doors.



## Page 8: The Sacrifice of Dreams

Before you were born, your parents had dreams of their own. Maybe your father wanted to travel; maybe your mother wanted to study more. But when the “Giant of Responsibility” arrived, they put those dreams in a box and buried them. They replaced their dreams with your dreams. They decided that your success was more important than their own. They stopped being the main characters of their own lives so you could be the star of yours.



## Page 9: The Slow Fade

As you grow taller and stronger, you might notice they are growing shorter and more tired. Their hair turns gray, and their pace slows down. This is the most painful sacrifice: they are giving you their life force. Like a candle that burns itself down to give light to the room, they are slowly fading so that your world can stay bright. There is no magic to reverse this. It is a one-way gift of love.

## Page 10: The Legacy of the Un-Magical

When you finally realize they aren't magicians, you might feel a pang of sadness. But then you realize that what they did is much greater than magic. A magician uses a trick; your parents used their souls. They built a life out of nothing but hard work and devotion. They proved that you don't need a wand to change the world-you just need the heart of a parent. They are the true heroes, not because they have power, but because they gave all their power to you.

**Vidita Garg**  
**VI- B**

## The Team Behind the Stories

### Student Editorial Board



Niya Mittal -XI A, Sunidhi Nimesh-XI A,  
Jiya Srivastava-XI B, Bhoovi Choudhary-XI C,  
Shreyash Purohit-XI C, Tanush Sharma-IX B



### Editorial Board

**Chief Editor:** Ms. Soma Banerjee  
**Assisted By:** Ms. Nabanita Dutta &  
Ms. Nikita Ramchandani  
**Technical Support:** Ms. Swati Deora