



Stephania



St. Stephen's Newsletter

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STRENGTH COMES FROM ACCEPTANCE

“

You can't stop the
waves, but you can
learn to surf.

- JON KABAT-ZINN

ACCEPTANCE

A key element highlighted throughout the trilogy of Kung Fu Panda was 'Acceptance' - who you choose to be. Acceptance is a powerful virtue as it is the foundation for growth and change. It means we accept ourselves and others, just the way we are. This edition of Stephania is themed 'Acceptance'.

Acceptance has two facets: acceptance of people and of circumstances. It is not easy but it is something we are required to inculcate in our lives. It can be expressed through words or deeds; once it is practised, we begin to see that each moment has a purpose.

As we accept the changing seasons, we should also accept situations that constantly change for the good or bad with equal sensitivity. This leads to peace and contentment.

Here at St. Stephen's, the students have concentrated all their efforts on preparing well for the Annual as well as Board Examinations and we wish them God's blessings. With the onset of Spring, filling the air with hope and colour, we bid farewell to the cold winter spell. We also bid adieu to the Class XII students and wished them life in abundance for the future.

Change is the only constant and needs to be accepted. The old gives way to the new and as we come to the end of this fruitful academic session, we look forward to growth and success in the coming year.

'Today will not be like yesterday, and tomorrow will definitely not be like today.'

- THE EDITORS

OUR PRIORITIES

St. Stephen's is committed to Making Quality Education Accessible and building the character of its students by inculcating the values of Self Discipline, Integrity, Mutual Respect, Pursuit of Excellence, Learning for Life and Environmental Management (SIMPLE). The School will build language fluency and improve reading habits of the students and will also continue to introduce one educational innovation each year to make learning more meaningful. The School will continue to be a model employer and invest in teacher training and development.

CAMPUS STORIES

A Celebration of Sovereignty

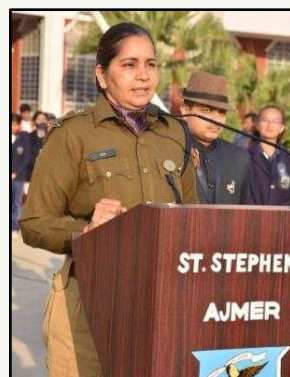
Patriotism consists not in waving the flag, but in striving that our country shall be righteous as well as strong.

The 74th Republic Day was celebrated with great zeal and fervour as we acknowledged the values enshrined in the Indian Constitution. The Chief Guest, Dr. Preeti Chaudhary, Additional Superintendent of Police, Ajmer, graced the occasion and hoisted the tri-colour



as the National Anthem reverberated in the air. The marching contingents of the four Houses, NCC Cadets and Scouts briskly marched to the rhythm of

the School Brass Band. The patriotic song, the tri-colour musical drill, gymnastics, drummers' call and inspiring speeches filled the air with the feeling of pride and patriotism for our country. Dr. Preeti Chaudhary, in her address, encouraged the students to continuously



move towards their goal in a disciplined manner and help create a gender diverse society. She emphasized that India's culture is rich and diverse, and our values and beliefs should remain unchanged and deeply rooted in our hearts. To pay tribute to our motherland, various activities were conducted on January 25, 2023

for the students of Classes L.K.G. to III, which included making of Tri-colour Birds, Finger Printing, Drawing and decorating the National Flag using pulses, grains, coloured pencils and crayon shavings and paper activity.

FOUNDER'S DAY

Founder's Day was celebrated in the School on February 20, 2023 to mark the 73rd birthday of our founder, Shri Gilroy Martins. The School conducted various activities for the students of Classes I to V, wherein they made birthday cards with beautiful messages to show their love and regard for Sir. The children were also shown a presentation showcasing the values of Sir Martins. It was an occasion to cherish the beautiful memories of the School and its founder.



IN MEMORIAM



A memorial service was held on February 25, 2023 to commemorate the 18th death anniversary of our Founder, Shri Gilroy Martins that was on February 26. Floral tributes were offered by the staff members. A few teachers shared anecdotes of their time spent with Sir. The Principal spoke about the vision that Sir Gilroy Martins had for the young minds. He said we need to celebrate Sir's life by paying tribute to the values he stood for. The Director spoke of immortalizing the memory of Sir by adhering to his principles and tenets. She further stated that the onus lies on each one of us to fulfill his hopes and aspirations in our own small way.

A Day of Mixed Emotions

When we walk past the memory lane; we recollect all the happiness we gained.

Farewell is a day of mixed feelings. It combines the joy of stepping into a new world with the nostalgia of leaving the familiar behind.

The students of Class XII bid adieu to their journey of 14 years in St. Stephen's on January 28, 2023. The theme for the Farewell Party was 'The 90s Nostalgia'.

The Stephanians enjoyed the day by playing a crossword game based on things they observed during their school days, dancing on 90s tunes and musical performances that left everyone spellbound. The students were nostalgic as they watched a presentation of their memorable years spent at St. Stephen's.

The Head Boy, Dev Kishan Mirchandani and the Head Girl, Aaradhya Sharma delivered the Valedictory Speech. On behalf of the entire batch, they expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the teachers and the School for

unleashing their true potential. The solemn Candle Ceremony had the Office Bearers pledging to uphold the values of St. Stephen's wherever they go. They lit the candles of the Vice Captains as a symbol to carry forward the legacy of St. Stephen's.

The Principal addressed the students and wished them good luck for their future endeavours. He exhorted them

to remember the core values of the School and also to unlearn a few things and learn new ones as they are going to embark on a totally different journey in life.

The Director asked the students to always blossom and bloom on their journey onward and upward in the realm of their lives. She reminded the students that the School which has been their second

home for so many years will always continue to be an eminent part of their lives.

The day marked the end of their School life and the onset of a new journey as it is rightly said, "Time is playful; it speeds up when you want it to slow down."



*For the memories we made, the moments we had,
The days we lived and the connections we had,
Thank you dear School !*

A Wonderland Called Childhood



A Celebration of Childhood

Happy times come and go but the memories stay forever.

The School events play a crucial role in every child's life as they provide a platform for the students to showcase their talent, develop stage presence and linguistic skills from an early age.

St. Stephen's celebrated Baal Sabha for Classes L.K.G. to II on February 10, 2023 on the theme 'A Wonderland Called Childhood'.

The Chief Guest for the event was Dr. (Mrs.) Neeta Mathur, Associate Professor (English) Retired.

There is no dearth of talent and creativity in students; they only need to be given a platform. Allowing students to experience the journey regardless of the end result, is important. Innocence, love and attachment, dreams and desires, happiness and fascination are all part of a child's growing up and learning through experiences is an important part of this amazing journey called 'Childhood'.

The young Stephanians presented dances on a variety of songs like 'I have a Dream', 'Dabi Dabi si Hansi',

'Suraj Jaise Chamkega', 'Suno Bachcho Uthao Basta', 'Aaj Hai Sunday', 'Hum jaa rahe hain Jungle', 'O Desh Mere Teri Shaan Pe' and 'Duniya Ka Nara Lage Raho'.



The little ones enthralled the audience with their enigmatic performances and kept everyone spell bound. They performed with all their heart and delight and conveyed to all that within an adult's heart still lies hidden a child.

The Chief Guest, in her address praised the School for the academic and co-curricular activities being conducted for the students. She appreciated the efforts of the School in providing holistic development to the students and also applauded the little Stephanians for their lively and energetic performance.





Learning For Life



Ms. Monika Yadav (PRT) and Ms. Vineeta Raney (PRT) attended a one-day workshop on January 14, 2023 on National Education Policy (NEP)-2020 conducted by CBSE at Dayanand Bal Niketan (D.B.N.) School, Ajmer.



Ms. Kriti Bahl (TGT) and Ms. Bhunesh Mathur (PRT) attended a two-day workshop from February 2 to February 3, 2023 on 'Strengthening Assessment and Evaluation Practices' conducted by CBSE at Satguru International School, Ajmer.



Ms. Neha Ratwani (PRT), Ms. Mamta Rajput (PRT) and Ms. Namita Chaturvedi (PRT) attended a one-day workshop on December 10, 2022 on 'Foundational Literacy and Numeracy' conducted by Macmillan Education at LN Courtyard, Ajmer.



Mr. Prayag Singh Rajpurohit (Principal) attended a one-day Prospective Resource Persons Programme on January 6, 2023 on National Education Policy 2020, organised under the aegis of COE, Ajmer at St. Edmund's School, Jaipur.



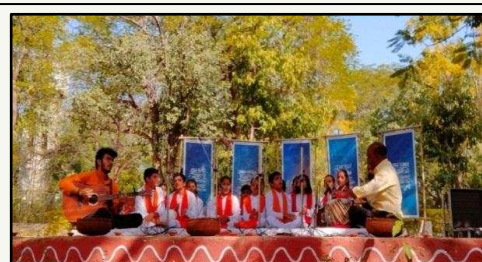
Ms. Vandana Dulani (PGT) has been appointed by the CBSE as Master Trainer for Ajmer Region to conduct SAFAL Test and also conduct training cum orientation sessions for the assigned schools.



CBSE conducted SAFAL (Structured Assessment for Analysing Learning) pilot tests for Classes V and VIII through online mode from February 8 to February 23, 2023. The assessment focused on testing core concepts, application of knowledge and higher order thinking skills of the students.

SHABAD SHAALA

Seventeen students of Classes VI and VII attended the Shabad Shaala session from February 10 to February 12, 2023 at Udaipur. Shabad Shaala is an initiative under the aegis of Project Kabir founded and conceptualized by Ms. Shabnam Virmani. The aim of these sessions is not only to limit oneself to *bhajans* and couplets but also develop self-discipline, unity and equality among students, enabling them to succeed in their life.





GANDHI MERE BHEETAR

Six students of Classes IX and XI attended a one-day workshop on Gandhi Mere Bheetar on January 13, 2023 organized by Gandhi Mahotsav Samiti held at The Turning Point Public School, Ajmer. The main objective of this session was to make the students aware of the Gandhian philosophy highlighting the principles of truth, non-violence, harmony and simplicity of Mahatma Gandhi's life.

SPOT PRELIMS



Vikram Sarabhai Science Foundation, Kakkanad, Kochi conducted a national-level online exam (SPOT Prelims) across various schools of India. Vikram Sarabhai Science Foundation (VSSF) is the embodiment of the vision of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam for a scientifically enriched posterity taken forward by his disciple, the great scientist Dr. Madhavan Nair.

VSSF aims to stimulate innovation and education in science and research disciplines all of which are focused at nurturing and enlightening the future generation. VSSF conducts workshops on science awareness including events such as science fairs, interaction sessions and research programs for students. This exam is recognized by CBSE and the Government of India.

The partners of VSSF are Space India, the Cochin Shipyard Limited and ED Six Brain labs- Chennai.

The Preliminary online exam was held on January 30, 2023 in which 21 students of our school (junior and senior stream) participated. Out of these 21 students, 11 students qualified for SPOT100 Exam.

After SPOT100 which is the main exam, only 100 students will qualify from all over India. For them VSSF will conduct various workshops, museum visits and interactions with eminent scientists.

PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST

A play 'Put First Things First' based on the third chapter of the book 'Seven Habits of Happy Kids' was performed by the students of Classes II to VIII on February 7, 2023. The message was that one should not procrastinate. One has to prioritize and do the important tasks first and then move on to do the rest.

Aanchal Khatri (VIII-B) directed the play under the supervision of Dr. (Mrs.) Charu Jain.



INTACH CLUB



The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) was founded in 1984 in New Delhi, with the vision to spearhead heritage awareness and conservation in India.

The importance of intangible cultural heritage is not the cultural manifestation itself but rather the wealth of knowledge and skills that is transmitted through it from one generation to the next.

With this aim in mind, a heritage club was established in our School on February 3, 2023 with 31 students. The club was inaugurated by the Director and the Principal. The club is established to encourage students to participate in activities like Quiz, Poster Making, Essay

Writing, Poetry Writing and Creative Writing held at various levels. Heritage walks and field visits to explore local arts and crafts are also part of the activities.

IMPRESSIONS

Art... Lines Around Your Thoughts

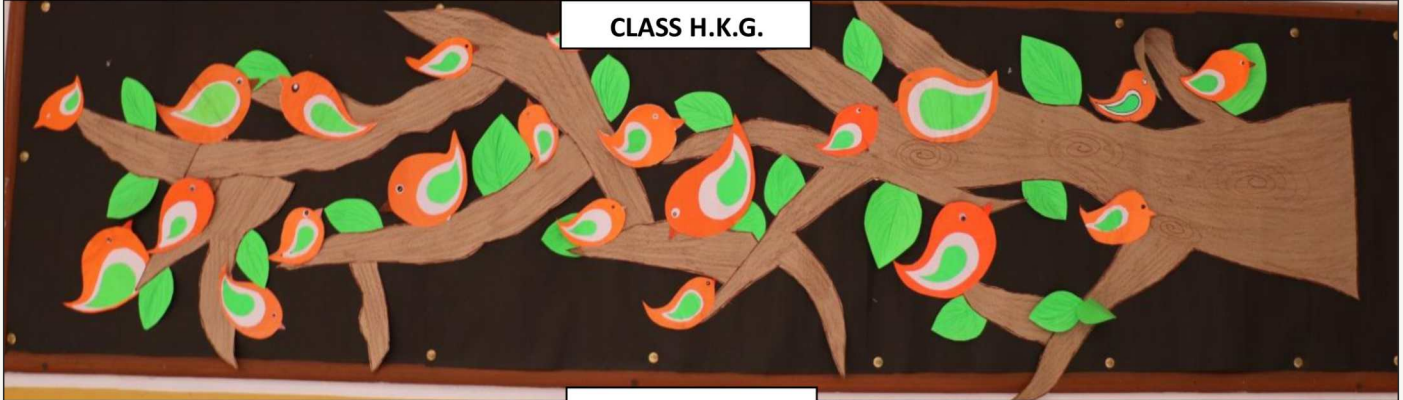
Showcasing Elements of Art through Portraits, Step by Step Drawing, Textures, Lines & Colours



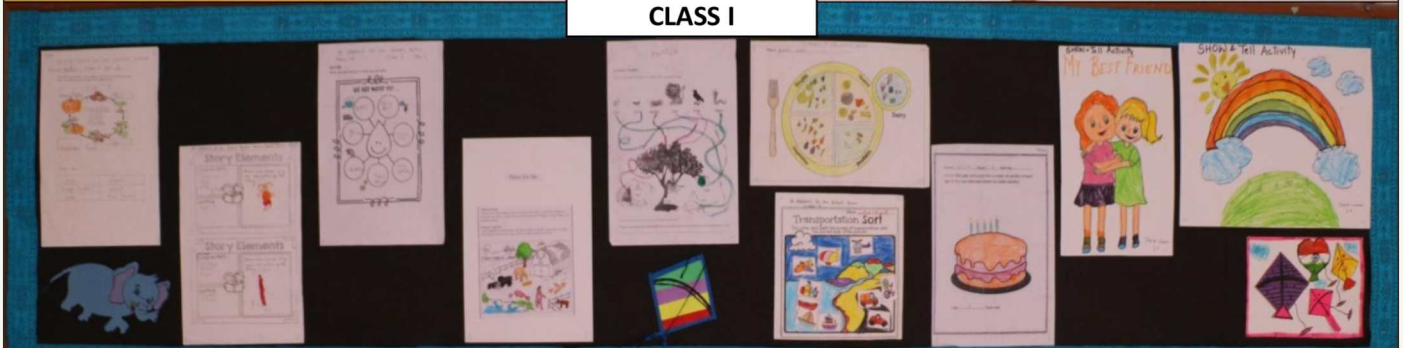
CLASS L.K.G.



CLASS H.K.G.



CLASS I



CLASS II



CLASS II





CAMPUS STARS

Academics



Congratulations!



(L to R): Arpita Khandelwal (I-B), Aaditri Bhatnagar (I-B), Garvita Nichani (I-D), Kush Sharma (I-B), Mohit Sharma (I-B), Harshpreet Kaur (I-D), Amayara Kothari (II-B) Inset: Reyansh Yadav (I-B) were awarded the Gold Medal of Distinction in the SOF International English Olympiad Level-1 for the session 2022-23.

Co-curricular Activities



(L to R): Shreyansh Singh Khichi (VIII-A) and Ayush Jain (IX-D) secured the Second position in the INTACH Inter-School Quiz held at Gujarati Sr. Sec. School, Ajmer.

Sports



(L to R): Bhoomika Pathak (XII-Arts) and Anshika Mehta (X-C) secured the Third position in the 66th District Level (Under-19 Girls) Chess Tournament 2022 held at Government Upper Primary School, Makrera, Ajmer. Anshika Mehta also secured the Second position in the Individual category.



(L to R): Sonu Gurjar (VIII-C) and Meghna Mathur (VIII-C) participated in the 66th State Level (Under-14 Girls) Basketball Tournament held at A.D. Daga Public School, Pali.



(L to R): Ronak Dadhich (VII-D), Naksh Jethani (IV-B), Rohit Bansal (VI-D), Mantej Singh Sidhu (VII-A), and Inset: Khushal Singh Shekhawat (VII-C) secured the First position in the 66th District Level (Under-14 Boys) Lawn Tennis Tournament, 2022 held at Government Upper Primary School, Sindhi Nawab Ka Beda, Ajmer.

Ronak Dadhich (VII-D) and Mantej Singh Sidhu (VII-A) also secured the Second and the Third positions respectively in the Individual category. They also participated in the 66th State Level Tournament held at Sunshine Global Sr. Sec. School, Tonk.



(L to R): Dushyant Choudhary (X-D), Ojasv Gaur (X-C), Deepender Singh Rawat (IX-A), Harsh Yadav (X-E), Divyam Pratap Singh (X-E), Jaisal Detha (VIII-D), Falansh Barotia (IX-D) and Aryan Chaudhary (X-C) participated as members of the State Contingent in the 18th National Jamboree Scout Camp held at Rohat, Pali Marwar.



Amaan Khan (IX-A) secured the First position in the (Under- 17 Boys) Individual category in the 2nd Masters Open Tennis Tournament held at Ajmer Club, Ajmer.



Jennis Manoj Ojha (X-A) secured the First position in the (Under- 16 Boys & Women's) Individual category in the 2nd Masters Open Tennis Tournament held at Ajmer Club, Ajmer.



Sudarshan Ghusar (IX-B) secured the First position in the Rajasthan State Sub-Junior (Boys & Girls) Artistic Gymnastics Championship 2022, organised by the District Gymnastics Association held at Government Sr. Sec. School, Naya Gaon, Kota.



Rudraksh Singh Rathore (IX-B) secured the Third position in the (Under- 17 Boys) Individual category in the 67th Rajasthan State Youth Senior & Inter-District Table Tennis Championship 2022 organised by the Jodhpur District Table Tennis Association, Jodhpur.



(L to R): Deepak Phulwani (X-E), Shaurya Singh Rajpurohit (IX-A), Bhavya Parashar (IX-A), Ronit Panwar (IX-C), Aryan Rawat (IX-A) and Sudarshan Ghushar (IX-B) secured the Second position in the 66th District Level (Under-17 Boys) Gymnastics Tournament held at Government Savitri Sr. Sec. School, Ajmer.



(L to R): Kunal Singh (IX-C), Daksh Bansal (VI-D), Chitransh Kumar Kath (VI-A), and Abhimanyu Yadav (IX-D) participated in the 66th State Level (Under-14 Boys) Cricket Tournament held at Mahatma Gandhi Government School, Ammapura, Bara.



(L to R): Clifton Gabriel (XII-Com B), Ronit Jain (XII-Com A) and Samyak Jain (XII-Com A) secured the First position in the 66th District Level (Under-19 Boys) Chess Tournament 2022 held at Government Upper Primary School, Makrera, Ajmer.

Ronit Jain, Samyak Jain and Clifton Gabriel also secured the First, Second and the Third positions respectively in the 66th District Level (Under-19 Boys) Individual category.

WORDSCAPE

Acceptance enables us to embrace change, grow and explore the skills we possess. Through the poems, pictures and articles, the students have penned down their ideas about acceptance of life, themselves and situations.



ACCEPTANCE

I accept my mistakes,
Mistakes everyone makes.

I accept my worries,
These change my stories.

I accept everyone's dare,
Life's journey starts from there.
I accept my failure,
And change my behaviour.

Our hardships may affect us,
All we need is acceptance within us.

Charvi Patel
IX-C



THESE ARE ALL MINE

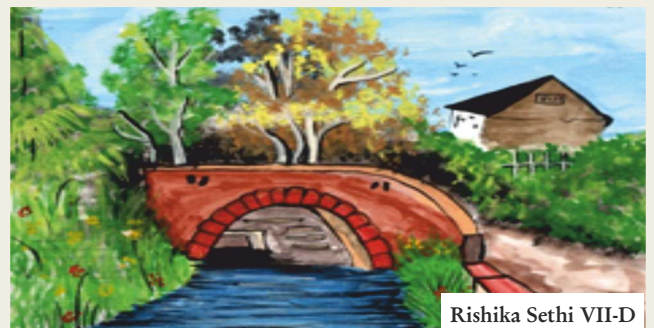
All the perfections
That I hold might not be pleasing,

All the flaws
That I have might not be overlooked,
But it's all fine
These are all mine.

All the scribbled pages
That I have hidden for ages,
All the little creations
That I have built on sheer imagination,
Might look pointless
But it's all fine
These are all mine.

All the mistakes
That I have committed,
All the virtues
That I have imbibed,
Define me and my essence,
Remind me of my existence
But, everything is fine
Since these are all mine.

Akshat Sharma
X-B



स्वीकारना

जिंदगी में जो भी है, जैसा भी है,
उसे स्वीकारना है, उसे स्वीकारना है।
जो है पुरुषार्थी और अपने कदमों पर विश्वास है
रखते,
वह जीवन में सदा आगे हैं बढ़ते।
जीवन मार्ग में आशा और निराशा को है स्वीकारना,
पथ में हैं अनुकूलताएं और प्रतिकूलताएं, उन्हें हैं
स्वीकारना।
कदम-कदम पर मिलेगी, हार या जीत
स्वीकारना है उन्हें भी।
आएंगी बाधाएं और चुनौतियां
स्वीकारना हैं उन्हें भी।
सुख और दुख का क्रम तो अनवरत चलता है,
समभाव से स्वीकारने से ही जीवन आगे बढ़ता है।

अपमान मिलेगा, सम्मान मिलेगा,
पग-पग पर जीवन का नया अंदाज मिलेगा,
आत्मबल बढ़ाना है, हमेशा रहना है तैयार,
जिंदगी में जो भी है जैसा भी है,
उसे स्वीकारना है, उसे स्वीकारना है।

दक्ष भंडारी
कक्षा-दसवीं 'अ'



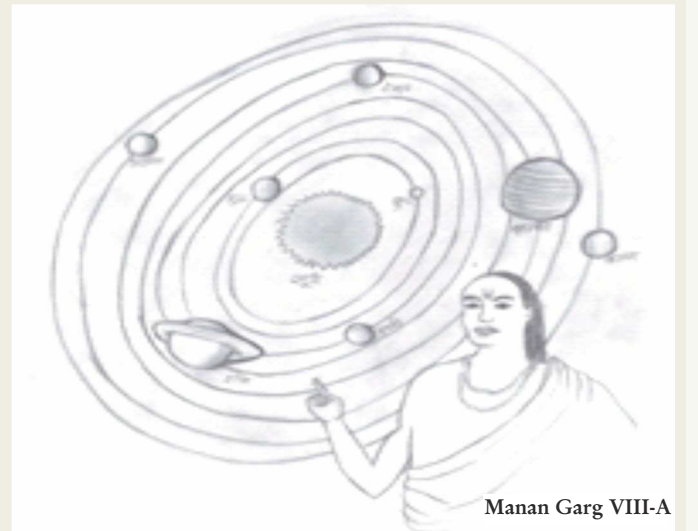
स्वीकृति की शक्ति

स्वीकृति अर्थात् किसी वस्तु या बात को स्वीकार करना। इस शब्द को हम सुनते तो बहुत हैं परंतु प्रयोग बहुत कम करते हैं। इतिहास से उदाहरण लें तो हमें आर्यभट्ट दिखते हैं, उनके अन्य सिद्धांतों का, जैसे ग्रहण के कारण का मज़ाक बनाया गया। उनके ऐसे सिद्धांतों को ना तो सामान्य लोगों से और ना ही पंडितों एवं ज्योतिषियों से स्वीकृति मिली।

स्वीकृति में बहुत शक्ति होती है, मात्र उसके प्रयोग की देरी होती है। किसी पुरानी धारणा को लेकर बैठ जाने से मनुष्य की प्रगति थम जाती है। एक नई धारणा जो कि पुरानी वाली से बहुत अच्छी हो, उसे स्वीकार करने में ही समझदारी है। इससे मनुष्य और समाज की प्रगति रुकती नहीं अपितु और तेज हो जाती है। बहुत सारी पुरानी धारणाओं में स्त्रियों को पढ़ने व बाहर काम करने से वंचित रखा गया था, इससे प्रगति की गति कम हो गई थी परंतु अब यह गति बढ़ गई है। इसका कारण यह है कि हमने नई धारणाओं को स्वीकार कर लिया है। यदि मनुष्य इस मामले में स्वीकृति की कला का प्रयोग नहीं करते तो हम अब भी प्रगति के मामले में कई वर्ष पीछे होते। यह दो उदाहरण तो मात्र हिमशैल के शिखर का छोटा-सा भाग है परंतु इन दो उदाहरणों से पता लगता है कि स्वीकृति का अगर सही उपयोग हो तो वह दूरगामी परिणाम देने वाली हो सकती है।

अतः हमें अच्छी बातें और वस्तुएं स्वीकार करनी चाहिए।

स्वप्निल गोयल
कक्षा-आठवीं 'अ'



BACKDROP

Republic Day

Celebrating the Spirit of Patriotism and Unity



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