



Stephania



St. Stephen's Newsletter

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A VOICE BEYOND WORDS

“ Empathy is the
language through
which humanity
speaks.

– Unknown

HUMANITY

Humanity is often spoken of as a grand ideal, yet it reveals itself in the smallest moments — in patience, in understanding, in the quiet decision to be kind when it would be easier not to be. The greatness of humanity is not in being human, but in being humane. It lives in the way we treat those who cannot offer us anything in return, in how we listen, and in how we choose empathy over indifference. To nurture humanity is to recognise that beyond achievements and differences, what connects us is far greater than what separates us.

At St. Stephen's, learning is not only about growing sharper minds, but gentler hearts. Every shared effort, every moment of encouragement, every act of fairness becomes part of a larger lesson that strength is not measured by how far we rise alone, but by how many we lift along the way. Humanity is not a subject we study; it is a value we practise. It shapes our conversations, guides our actions, and reminds us that respect is the foundation of every meaningful community.

In a world that often moves too quickly, choosing humanity is an intentional pause, a reminder to see, to care, and to respond with compassion. For when knowledge is guided by kindness, progress begins to feel purposeful.

- 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

REPUBLIC DAY

Saluting the Nation, Strengthening our Values

"The Constitution is not a mere lawyer's document; it is a vehicle of life, and its spirit is always the spirit of the age."

– B.R. Ambedkar

We celebrated the 77th Republic Day with great zeal and patriotic fervour. The celebration commenced with the unfurling of the National Flag by the Chief Guest, Mr. Rajeev Kajot, Deputy Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Ajmer.



Mr. Rajeev Kajot, Deputy Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Ajmer

The event was marked by a spectacular display of talent and discipline by the students. The School Band presented a captivating performance, followed by an impressive parade and drummer's call. A vibrant tricolour musical drill and gymnastics display added colour and energy to the programme. Patriotic songs

filled the atmosphere with pride and devotion to the nation. The Chief Guest, in his address, highlighted the importance of the Constitution, its Fundamental Duties and the significance of the Preamble. He described the Constitution as a legacy of the ideals and dreams of our freedom fighters and urged everyone to follow its principles in daily life. He emphasized that children are in their formative years; therefore, instilling national values and patriotism in their curriculum and mindset is essential for shaping responsible, aware and sensitive citizens. The programme concluded with the solemn

Constitutional Pledge taken by all present, reaffirming their commitment to the nation.



The students of classes Nursery to III celebrated Pre-Republic Day on January 24, 2026. They enthusiastically participated in creative paper art activities to promote the spirit of the tricolour. They made paper aeroplanes, peacocks, tiger faces, caps, birds, badges and other models, showcasing their creativity. Their active participation and joyful spirit created an atmosphere of unity, pride and patriotism throughout the celebration.



WALKING FORWARD WITH MEMORIES BEHIND

When memories come together, farewells become more than just goodbyes. On January 31, 2026, our School bid farewell to the outgoing students of Class XII. The programme was organised around the theme 'Global Gala,' celebrating



cultures and the journey of the graduating batch. The event began with a warm welcome that set an upbeat yet reflective tone for the day. It was followed by a variety of performances, including dance presentations and interactive activities. Adding to the celebration was a light-hearted quiz based on School life, which created moments of laughter and reflection. The digital presentation was a heart-warming walk down



memory lane, capturing the essence of the School journey—their laughter, achievements, and unforgettable moments. Students shared their experiences and spoke about the friendships and lessons they would always cherish.



The valedictory speech was delivered by the School Captain, Janvi Choudhary. On behalf of the entire batch, she expressed her deep gratitude to the School teachers and mentors for

nurturing their potential and guiding them toward success. Mementos were distributed to mark the contributions and memories of the outgoing batch.

The Director, in her address, advised them to continue learning and growing, reminding them that the School would always remain connected to them. The Principal, in his address, encouraged the students to uphold the values of the School.

The farewell marked the end of School life for Class XII and the beginning of a new phase. May they move forward with confidence and make the most of the opportunities ahead.

- Aanchal Khatri (XI-Arts)



SPORTS DAY (PRIMARY SECTION)

Nurturing Fitness, Teamwork and Confidence

St. Stephen's Senior Secondary School, Ajmer celebrated its Sports Day (Primary Section) on February 10, 2026, with great enthusiasm. The event was graced by the Chief Guest, Mr. Govind Swarup Upadhayay, Secretary, Ajmer District Cricket Association. The programme began with the oath ceremony followed by a lively drummer's call and a melodious group song that set a vibrant tone for the day. Students from classes I to V actively participated in various track and field events such as 100m races, Hop and Balance the Ball, Bottle Caps in the Bowl, One-Leg Cone Race, Spoon and Ball Balancing, Hurdle Race and Drop the Cones. The relay races for classes IV and V added excitement and showcased teamwork and sportspersonship. Spectacular performances like gymnastics and the musical drill were special highlights of the event and received loud applause from the audience.

The Sports Day (Pre-Primary Section) was organised on February 11, 2026 with great enthusiasm and joyful participation. The event aimed at promoting physical fitness, teamwork, and sportspersonship among Nursery, LKG and HKG students.

The programme commenced with a warm welcome of the esteemed Chief Guest, our Director, Ms. Bharti Tolumbia. A melodious group song by LKG students set a cheerful tone for the day.



Mr. Govind Swarup Upadhayay, Secretary, Ajmer District Cricket Association.

The young participants displayed remarkable energy in various track and fun races such as the 50m Race, Monkey and Banana Race, Flower and Bee Race, Balancing Ball Race, Stacking Race, Cone Curve Ball Race and Hoop a Loop Race, enhancing their coordination, balance, speed, and confidence. The enthusiasm of the students, parental encouragement and the dedication of the teachers made the event a grand success. Both events concluded with the Prize Distribution Ceremony, celebrating the achievements and enthusiasm of students.



FOUNDER'S DAY

Remembering the past, appreciating the present and inspiring the future



Founder's Day was celebrated on February 20, 2026, honouring the 76th birth anniversary of our Founder, Shri Gilroy Martins. The School auditorium was filled with memories, values, and experiences of those closely associated with Sir. The day included activities reflecting the values on which the School was built.

The students actively participated in the celebration. Gratitude cards were prepared by students of classes I to III to express their love and appreciation for the Founder. Their messages reflected respect and affection. A brief introduction was given about his personality, his love for children, and the values he believed in. The presentation helped them understand the ideals on which the School was founded.

Students of classes IV and V reflected on the Founder's vision and values through a worksheet that encouraged them to think about gratitude and the importance of



values in everyday life. A card-making activity titled 'Window to the Future' was conducted for the students of classes VI to VIII, where they expressed their hopes and goals inspired by the Founder's vision. Teachers also participated in an activity where they reflected on how

the Founder's values have influenced their work as educators and the principles that continue to guide the School.

Ms. Shefali Martins, Secretary of the St. Stephen's School Society, Ajmer, shared memories tracing the evolution of Founder's Day from its early observance as Sports Day to later traditions such as handwritten birthday cards created by each child. She also highlighted milestones like Sir



Martins' 60th birth anniversary in 2010, which marked the School's first alumni meet, and reflected on his guiding values of joy, peace, courage, attention to small details, and the act of leaving every place better than one found it. The Director, in her address, highlighted the Founder's visionary leadership, selfless dedication, and deep involvement in every aspect of a student's life, emphasising his keen observation and belief that even the smallest details matter. She emphasised that his relentless efforts continue to guide the School, inspiring all to pursue great achievements with purpose and commitment while carrying forward his legacy.

The Principal, in his address, spoke about the Founder's vision and dedication, encouraging everyone to uphold the values that laid a strong foundation for the institution. He expressed heartfelt gratitude towards the Founder's enduring legacy, which continues to inspire the School community to move 'Onward and Upward'. The Vice-Principal emphasised that Sir Martins was particularly meticulous about English language and grammar, urging everyone to uphold these standards in their personal and academic pursuits.

Founder's Day served as a reminder of the School's heritage and the values on which it stands. It strengthened the bond between the School community and the Founder's vision.



A JOURNEY OF COMMITMENT AND EXCELLENCE



True leadership is measured by commitment, integrity, and service. On February 14, 2026, the School bid adieu to Ms. Renu Sharma, Headmistress, Primary Section after 35 years of dedicated and exemplary service. Throughout her remarkable journey, she served the institution with sincerity, love, and unwavering commitment. Every member of the School fraternity expressed deep gratitude for her tireless efforts and inspiring leadership. Teachers shared short anecdotes that reflected her strong principles, compassionate nature, and clear vision as a leader. We bid her farewell with heartfelt gratitude and warm wishes for the future. May her path ahead be filled with love and beautiful memories.

CRAFTING COLOURFUL KITES

The Kite Festival was celebrated on January 14, 2026 by students from Nursery to Class II. The young learners decorated kite outline images using colourful popsicle sticks, star and circle cut-outs, collage work, and other craft materials. They also enjoyed paper-folding and colouring activities. The event sparked active participation, filling the environment with vibrant creativity and joy among all the students.



IN MEMORIAM



A memorial service was conducted on February 26, 2026, to commemorate the 21st death anniversary of our Founder, Shri Gilroy Martins. The service began with an interfaith prayer, followed by floral tributes offered by the staff in his honour. The Director, in her address, paid tribute to Sir Gilroy Martins, highlighting his vision and unwavering commitment to character-building and social responsibility, encouraging everyone to carry forward his noble mission and to ensure that St. Stephen's remains a beacon of light and learning. The Principal, in his address, reflected on the life, achievements, and invaluable contributions of our Founder, whose legacy continues to inspire the institution. He emphasized that his greatest contribution was shaping generations into responsible and upright individuals, and urged everyone to uphold his vision and ideals.

Creations of Young Artists

A glimpse of creativity through the imagination of our young artists



Dev Garg VII-A



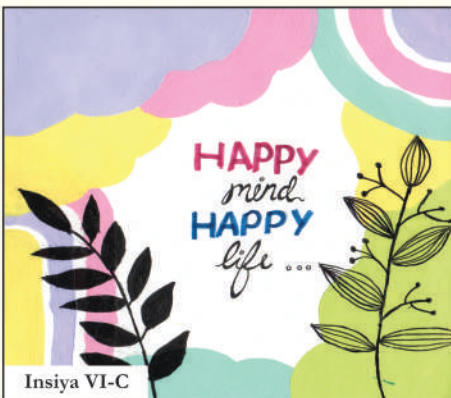
Nishant Tarachandani X-B



Bhavya Dubey XI-Arts



Diksha Chouhan V-E



Insiya VI-C



Bhavya Balotia IX-A



Aahan Sharma VIII-D

Learning for Life



Ms. Nidhi Goyal (TGT) and Ms. Samita Ruby Massey (TGT) attended a one-day Faculty Development Programme on Stress Management held at Rashtriya Military School, Ajmer on January 19, 2026. The resource persons were Dr. Ravikant Mishra and Ms. Prashansa Mehra.



Dr. Preeti Sharma (TGT) and Ms. Riti Sood (TGT) attended a one-day Capacity Building Programme on Sanskrit Language Teaching at DWPS, Ajmer on January 17, 2026. The resource person was Dr. Upendra Kumar Shastri.



A training session on Child Protection and Safety was conducted on February 23, 2026, under the aegis of Project CACA, focusing on the POCSO Act, Juvenile Justice (JJ) Act, and PoSH Act. The session was facilitated by Ms. Bhumika Gaur, Consultant Psychologist, and Ms. Janhavi Singh, Consultant Advocate, who serve as Senior Advocacy Ambassadors for Project CACA. Teachers from both the Primary and Secondary sections attended the session. It enhanced teachers' understanding of the academic, psychological and legal aspects of child safety, highlighting key child protection measures and the legal responsibilities of educators.

The students of classes IX to XII viewed the live telecast of *Pariksha Pe Charcha*, an interactive session by the Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi, on February 6, 2026. The session encouraged students to approach examinations with confidence and a positive attitude, while maintaining a healthy balance between studies and co-curricular activities. It inspired students to face the examination with calmness and self-belief.



कबीर प्रोजेक्ट के तहत शब्द शाला के चतुर्थ चरण के छठे सत्संग सत्र का आयोजन विद्यालय में जनवरी 19, 2026 और जनवरी 20, 2026 को किया गया। दो दिवसीय सत्संग सत्र में बीकानेर, राजस्थान के अनुभवी लोकगायक श्री बाबू खान और उनके साथियों ने संत बानी गाई और सिखाई। श्री बाबू खान एवं मंडली ने कवि अनजान, कवि बुल्ले शाह और कवि ब्रह्मानंद के भजन विद्यार्थियों को सिखाए। शब्द शाला समूह के विद्यार्थियों ने अनुभवी लोकगायक के सान्ध्य और मार्गदर्शन में संत कवियों के भजनों को सुनकर आध्यात्मिक दृष्टिकोण को जाना और संत बानी के मूलभाव को आत्मसात् किया।

IMPRESSIONS

Little Hands, Big Creations...

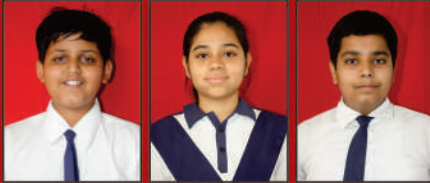




CAMPUS STARS

Academics

Congratulations!



Row 1 (L to R): Nibhish Yadav (VII-C), Khushboo Tejwani (X-B) and Kabir Chhabra(X-D) secured Gold medals.



Row 2 (L to R): Royce Soni (VII-A), Divyam Chanchlani (VIII-B), Vansh Sambhwani (VIII-D), Axunn Singh (IX-C), Purva Singh (X-C), Sparsh Kewalramnani (X-D) and Dimple Nichani (XII-Com. A) secured Silver medals.



Row 3 (L to R): Jiya Jhajharia (X-B), Divyansh Bairwa (X-D) and Jayesh Keswani (X-B) secured Bronze medals at the CBSE-IBM Future Tech Olympiad, 2025.

Co-curricular Activities



Laksh Agarwal (V-E) (L) secured the Second Rank at the State level and Raghav Agarwal (VIII-C) (R) was declared the District Topper in the National Assessment of Scientific Temperament and Aptitude (NASTA) held on December 7, 2024.



Suyash Garg (IX-A) participated in the All Saints International Model United Nations (ASIMUN) 6.0 and was awarded High Commendation in the All India Political Parties Meet (AIPPM) committee. He received a cash award of ₹ 5000/-



Deepal Tanwar (X-D) participated in the 69th State Level (Under-17) Badminton Tournament.



Garvit Singh (IV-E) secured the First position in the Ajmer District (Under-11 Boys) Table Tennis Championship, 2025.



Lakshya Verma (XII-Com. B) participated in the 69th State Level (Under-19) Basketball Tournament.



Yuvraj Singh (X-B) (L) and Madhav Khandelwal (X-A) (R) participated in the 69th State Level (Under-17) Badminton Tournament.



Kanak Meena (XII-Arts) secured the Second position in the 69th State Level (Under-19 Team event) Badminton Tournament. He also participated in the 69th State Level (Under-19) Badminton Tournament.



Amaan Khan (XII-Arts) secured the Third position in the Team event at the 69th State Level (Under-19) Lawn Tennis Tournament.



Saksham Tak (VII-B) (L) and Kimaya Jatav (V-E) (R) participated in the 69th State Level (Under-14) Gymnastics Tournament.



Ansh Parashar (VIII-B) participated in the 69th State Level (Under-17 Boys) Gymnastics Tournament.



(L to R): Bhavika Bhagasra (VII-A), Kratika Singh (VIII-B) and Anusha Choudhary (VIII-B) participated in the 69th State Level (Under-14) Badminton Tournament.



Aakash Prajapati (XI-Arts) participated in the 69th State Level (Under-17) Football Tournament.



Meghna Mathur (XI-Sc.) (L) and Yashikha Gothwal (XII-Arts) (R) participated in the 69th State Level (Under-19) Basketball Tournament.



Standing (L to R): Jiya Singh (VIII-D), Kratika Singh (VIII-B) and Sitting (L to R): Bhavika Bhagasra (VII-A), Bhuvi Tanwar (VI-C) and Anusha Choudhary (VIII-B) secured the First position in the 69th District Level (Under-14) Badminton Tournament and were awarded the Winner's Trophy.



Standing (L to R): Digpal Singh (VIII-B), Atharv Saini (VIII-A), Harman Singh (VIII-A), Manoj Khanchandani (VIII-B), Lakshit Keswani (VII-C), Keshav Gupta (VII-D) and Sitting (L to R): Altamash Khan (VIII-B), Aditya Gwala (VII-C), Tanmay Singh (V-A), Harshvardhan Singh (VII-D) and Bhavya (VI-B) secured the Third position at the 69th District-Level (Under-14) Basketball Tournament.



Rudraksh Singh Rathore (XII-Arts) participated in the 69th State Level (Under-19 Boys) Table Tennis Tournament.



Ronak Dadhich (X-B) (L) and Mantej Singh Siddhu (X-B) (R) secured the Second position in the Team event at the 69th State Level (Under-17) Lawn Tennis Tournament.

WORDSCAPE

Humanity is the essence of compassion, understanding, and selfless action. Like a gentle light that brightens even the darkest paths, it guides us to care, to respect, and to stand by one another in times of need. Through their thoughtful poems and articles, Stephanians reflect on the values of kindness, empathy, and unity, reminding us that true strength lies in uplifting others and building a world rooted in dignity and hope.



IN QUIET MOMENTS

Humanity is not the face we wear,
Nor the words we proudly say;
It lives in quiet moments
When we choose to care.

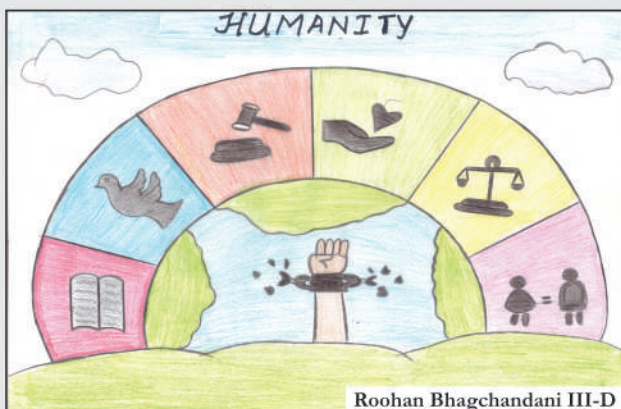
It listens when the world is loud,
It pauses in a rushing crowd,
It reaches out a gentle hand
Before it asks or plans.

It does not measure race or name,
Nor judge a loss or gain;
It feels another's hurt as real
And acts to ease the pain.

When kindness costs us something,
Yet we give without regret,
This is where humanity
Leaves its strongest mark.

And though the world seems harsh at times,
With hearts grown cold and tight,
As long as one kind act remains,
Humanity survives the night.

Aadhya Singh
VII-A



IN SEARCH OF HUMANITY

Humanity, Oh Humanity!

You walk with a glowing screen in your hand,
Watching wars, laughter, and hope
In a single restless scroll.

Humanity, Oh Humanity!
You send rockets to the silent stars,
Yet a child bends under a streetlight,
Writing dreams in the dust of tomorrow.

Humanity, Oh Humanity!
Today a small creature holds the world's gaze,
And for a fleeting moment
Millions pause to witness a quiet kindness.

Humanity, Oh Humanity!
If such gentle grace lives in the wild,
Tell me—will it ever bloom in human hearts,
Or will humanity forever search for humanity?

Parikshita Singh Arha
X-C



LONGING FOR HUMANITY

Today, when we look around, it often feels as if humanity is slowly slipping through our fingers. People say we are living in an age of selfishness and moral decline. But sometimes it feels less like a time period and more like a state of the human heart. The word 'we' has quietly disappeared, replaced by a loud and demanding 'me'. In the race to move ahead, many do not notice whose dreams they step on or whose trust they break.

Our roots were once nourished by faith in goodness, compassion, and truth. Sacred teachings like the Bhagavad Gita remind us that righteousness and selflessness are the true strengths of a human being. Yet today, emotions are often hidden behind masks. Smiles are shown to the world, but inside there is emptiness. People promise support, but only until their purpose is served. Lies are spoken so casually that truth now feels rare and fragile.

In an economic sense, when greed becomes the main motive, humanity suffers a silent loss. Trust, which should be abundant, has become scarce. Relationships sometimes feel like transactions, measured by profit and benefit rather than love and loyalty. Emotionally, this constant focus on the self, leaves hearts tired, restless, and deeply disconnected.

But deep within, humanity is not dead, it is wounded. It waits for us to remember who we truly are. When we begin to feel another person's pain as our own, when we choose kindness even when selfishness seems easier, when we protect someone's dream instead of breaking it, something changes. Though many may continue to see this as an age of decline, but the real transformation begins quietly within us. It is a change filled with happiness, inner satisfaction, trust, love, and loyalty, the emotions that once formed the foundation of human relationships. True joy is not found in living only for ourselves, but in living for someone else, in caring without calculation, and in loving without conditions.

There is a different kind of peace that touches the heart when we help someone in need, when we wipe someone's tears, protect someone's dreams, or stand beside someone who feels alone. In that moment, we feel lighter, calmer, and more complete. It is as if our soul remembers its true purpose.

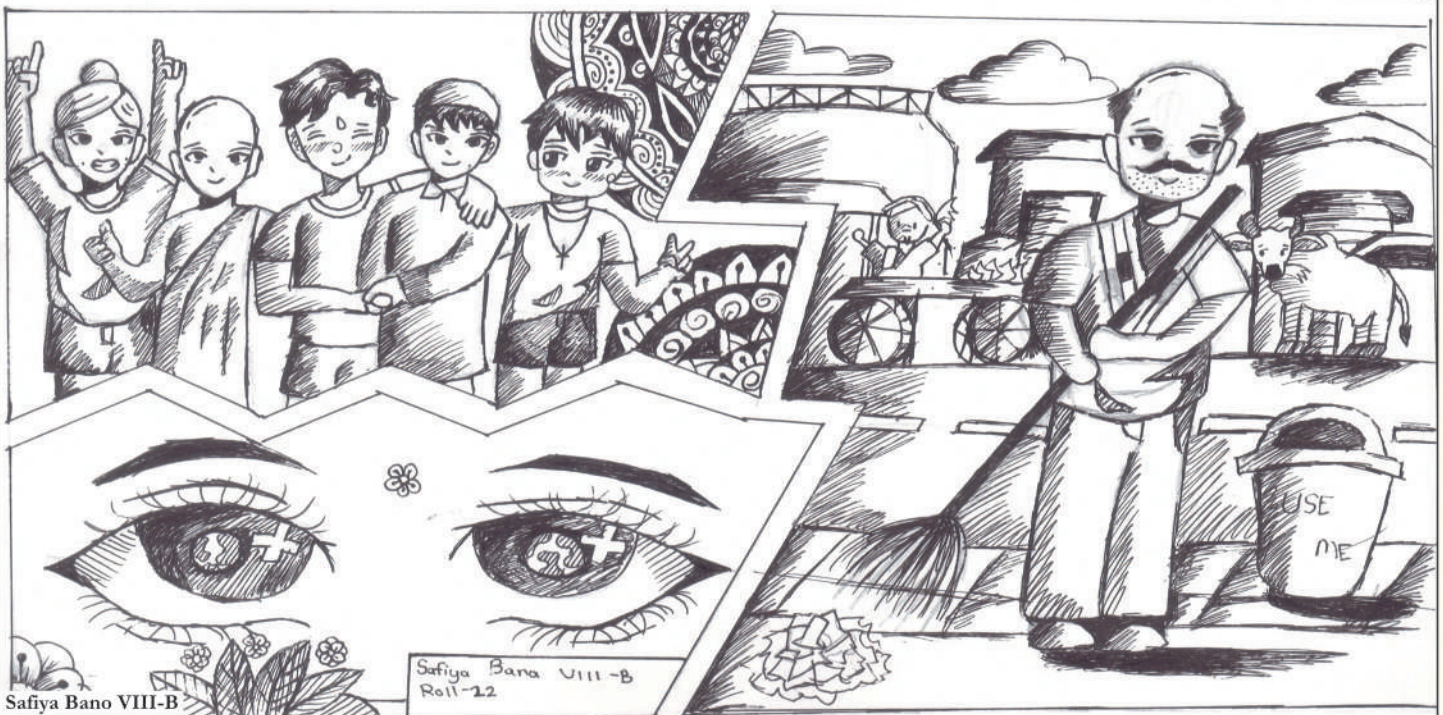
Perhaps heaven is not only a distant place promised in the next birth; perhaps it begins here itself, in the goodness we choose today. Every act of kindness, every truthful word, and every loyal relationship becomes a step toward that heaven, a heaven created not by time, but by the purity of our actions and the sincerity of our hearts.

Divyanshi Mirchandani

IX-A



छोटे-छोटे कदम, मिलकर बनाएं एक बेहतर समाज



Safiya Bano VIII-B

Safiya Bano VIII-B
Roll-12

BACKDROP

Republic Day

Celebrating sovereignty with pride and gratitude



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