

## DESH APNAYEN NEWSLETTER

15<sup>th</sup> Issue, October 2016

### From the Editor's desk

Dear readers,

Hello!

The festive season that beckons us signifies a time of light, joy and trust. It brings out the best in us. We love more, care more, share more and forgive more. In fact, we are often the best versions of ourselves – good people and good citizens. We set good examples of respect, generosity and honesty.

In fact, we have spent some time exploring this theme in our last two blogs, which you can [read here](#). We have talked about what we can do to make our children into better citizens through value based fun and games. The values we address are honesty, integrity, courage, respect and compassion. When we think of the legacy we leave our children, these values should be on the top of that list.



Wishing you a delightful Diwali,  
Aditi Mehta, Editor

p.s. Also, given that children will be home this holiday season, engage them with various creative activities from our citizenship club! You can view them here. These can be done on a one-on-one or group basis.

## Celebrating with poetry

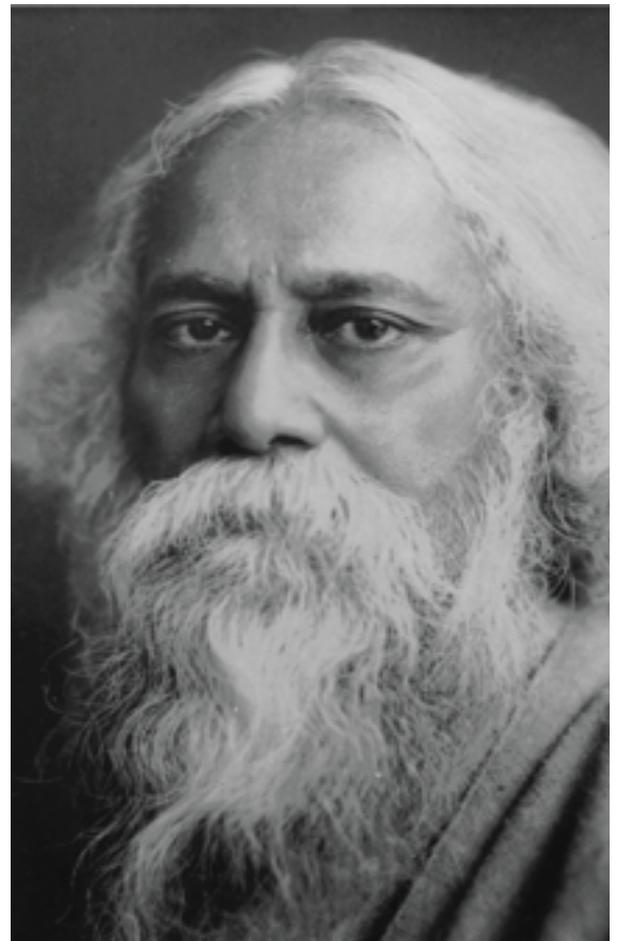
Songs and poems are an essential part of any celebration. This month, as we celebrate the triumph of good over evil and lighting of lamps, let us reconnect with these grand poems by Rabindranath Tagore and Paramhansa Yogananda, our national treasures.

These poems celebrate their unique love for India and the spirit of nationhood. We owe it to greats like him and many others to be good citizens and work together to take this great country ahead.

## Where The Mind Is Without Fear

- Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high
- Where knowledge is free
- Where the world has not been broken up into fragments
- By narrow domestic walls
- Where words come out from the depth of truth
- Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection
- Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way
- Into the dreary desert sand of dead habit
- Where the mind is led forward by thee
- Into ever-widening thought and action
- Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake

- Rabindranath Tagore



## O My India!

- Better than Heaven or Arcadia
- I love thee, O my India!
- And thy love I shall give
- To every brother nation that lives.
- God made the Earth;
- Man made confining countries
- And their fancy-frozen boundaries.
- But with unfound boundless love
- I behold the borderland of my India
- Expanding into the World.
- Hail, mother of religions, lotus, scenic beauty, and sages!
- Thy wide doors are open,
- Welcoming God's true sons through all ages.
- Where Ganges, woods, Himalayan caves, and men dream God -
- I am hallowed; my body touched that sod.



- paramhansa Yogananda



## Contribution from partner schools

### Universal High School, Thane.

Children, parents and teachers of Universal School, Thane have undertaken inspiring projects this month to celebrate the spirit of sharing and giving.

### Celebrating the 'Joy of Giving' week

- Every year, 'The Joy of Giving Week', celebrated from 3-7 October, is a time for expressing gratitude for all that we have and also for 'giving' to those who don't.
- The school's Pre-Primary students have been sensitised to be responsible citizens by sharing and caring for others.
- They began a donation drive of groceries, toiletries and stationery items from 26th September to 30th September 2016. These items were then donated to Maa Niketan Orphanage.
- Parents also sent their generous contributions to make the 'festival of giving' a great success.
- Congratulations on this successful mission



## JOY OF GIVING WEEK

3<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER - 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER





## Driving towards a cleaner 'Brahmand'

It is important for us to understand that we live in the same place called 'Planet Earth' where the garbage is also disposed. If we segregate wet and dry waste then we can use the wet waste for manure and dry waste can be recycled or reused.

With this noble spirit, where their vision was not only limited to their school or locality, children and teachers of the school undertook a garbage disposal and awareness drive.

For five days, children and teachers spoke to the parents near the school gates explaining the hazards of garbage left around. They were able to convince many people about the benefits of segregation.

Congratulations on this successful mission!

# DRIVE TOWARDS A CLEANER BRAHMAND



Children from grade 10 of St. John's Universal High School, Goregaon, participated in two unique community activities. They cleaned up a stretch of Juhu Beach and visited an old age home, bringing a smile to many faces.



Students visited old age home 'Assista bhavan'. Students interacted enthusiastically with senior citizens showing care and compassion.



## Fun and Games

Can you spot ten differences between these images?



**Caption this contest!**

Give a wonderful caption to this image that captures all the messages into one.



**Answers from last month's quiz:**

1. Vikram Sarabhai, 2. Bengaluru, 3. 2020-2021, 4. False