



LIGHTHOUSE



BY BCGIANS, FOR BCGIANS

Childhood is the time when we make one of the best memories in our lives. It is only in childhood that we try to explore the boundaries of possibilities of various things around us. As a child, we all have always been enthusiastic and curious about the little things that have occurred to us. The innocent child smiled in delight even when presented with small gifts. Exploring new ideas drives us towards establishing well-defined likes and dislikes. Many of us discovered our passion during childhood, encouraging us to take a leap towards achieving what we have become today.

The wealth of a nation is not so much in its economical and natural resources but it lies more decidedly in the kind and quality of the wealth of its children and youth. It is they who will be the creators and shapers of a nation's tomorrow. The Children of today will be the adults of tomorrow. Today's leaders and activists. Their quality and personality will determine the kind of destiny that beckons the nation.

Children being the future generations, also need to take appropriate care of the ancestral property, the cultural and traditional heritage. India is a diverse country in terms of cultural, traditional and linguistic heritage, it is also one of the youngest nations. Surely, the future of the nation and the culture is in the hands of the young generation.

Discover more diverse thoughts on the above topics in depth through the numerous articles contributed by students of BCG in the newsletter. Happy reading!

By the Editorial team

*Happiness is round the corner!
Children's share... Little things that make them happy...*



HAPPY ME

'Every happy memory created for a child is another treasure of a lifetime' – is rightly said by Donna Marie.

One of the essential things for children is the people around them. Children enjoy it when they are given attention or when you are noticing things about them. Children like doing many things which allow them to express and unleash their creativity, like painting, drawing, etc. But they also do not want to be stopped when they are doing such activities. They love to explore nature. Smelling flowers or stomping in puddles are part of their frolicking. Another vital thing for children is the Environment they live and grow up in. A suitable physical and mental environment can provide children with all the things needed to enjoy their life.

Children love to be around the people who care, encourage and motivate them. Instead of giving them materialistic or worldly things, one hug or a cuddle is enough to make their day. Positive relations between the child and the family members will turn them into confident and positive people.

Being a seventh grader, I don't have to worry about any entrance exam or any other competitive exams that will decide my future. There are Olympiad exams which I enroll in every year, but these exams are manageable, so generally I am happy and cheerful. Ha ha ha, it was just a joke.

What makes me happy? The time that I spent with my parents and grandparents, whenever we go out, are the happiest moments of my life. I also enjoy chilling out with my friends on the weekend. I wait for a chance to visit my cousins' house as we spent quality time with each other. The meetings are very enjoyable. The annual trips to Kerala are also cherished by me. My parents make it a point to celebrate my birthday in a grand manner and the entire day is spent with great fervour.

My mom has told me to seek pleasure in whatever I do, so that it is done well. That's why I try to do things happily, likewise there are endless things that make me happy. Last but not the least, when I see the people around me happy it automatically brings a smile on my face.

I believe in the three L's – LIVE, LAUGH, LOVE

**Submitted by Nirmeet Khandekar
Class 8, VBSIS**



**Submitted by Ishaan Vettath
Class 7, VBSIS**



HAPPY ME (CONTD.)

A child's contentment is an extremely dominant element in the physical as well as emotional development of a child, however small enjoyments suffice the need of delight in children's lives, moreover there is a demand for more positivity and glee. Even though materialistic pleasures do comfort, and meet requirements to many kids such as presents and surprises, yet some children left attracted to unexpected, polite, overwhelming gestures, or positive vibes. As a child develops they face many issues in the path of maturity, what makes them happy then is appropriate guidance, encouraging people, and a healthy and constructive surrounding providing them with smaller joys or caring behaviour, which leads them in feeling loved and motivated, resulting in them being happy and delighted. What I enjoy the most personally are small sweet actions done by the people around me, which encourages me in being grateful and resilient. Happiness and ways to be happy are different for all, yet very crucial. As the famous quote by Buddha says "There is no path to happiness, happiness is the path."

Submitted by Samara Syed
Class 9, BCISW

Life is a journey full of memories we capture. Some happy, some sad. Depends on you, how you go ahead with life...

For me, being grateful for what I have gives me so much joy and happiness. Just a small 'Thank you' can make my day as well as the person in front of me to have a smile on their face. Recalling the sweet memories I shared in life with my parents, friends, teachers gives me so much pleasure. Spending a little time within nature, admiring its beauty gives me internal peace and makes me calm too... Just taking a walk around the garden can clear my mind, make me focused and bring me back to what I was doing. Following my dreams, my passion is what I do in my leisure time. Drawing, dancing, and singing makes me refreshed. It also increases my potential and creativity along with making me happy. It just boosts my energy for the day and makes me active.

These are the things that really make me happy and make my day more colourful and joyous than ever...

Submitted by Avika Kevat
Class 9, VBSV

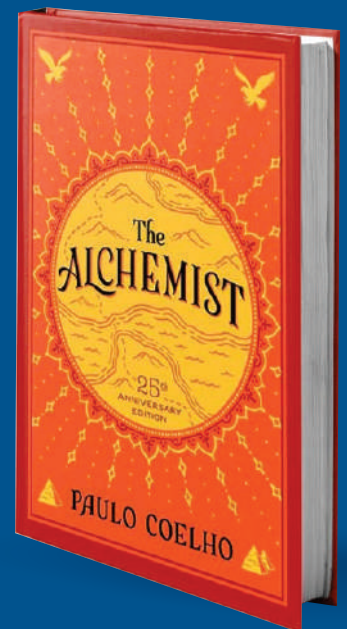
BOOK REVIEW

Follow Your Dreams

No. What is life? A question that has been pondering humankind for centuries. Although we are never able to find an answer to it. That's when I read *The Alchemist*, a bestselling fiction novel by Paulo Coelho, an all-time classic novel to date. The story follows a young shepherd boy, Santiago, who has a recurring dream of a buried treasure. The book takes you on a roller coaster ride throughout his journey of finding what has been calling him for a long time. The book takes you on a slow ride to find the purpose of life. With an impeccable vocabulary filled with wisdom and philosophy, it truly is a heaven to the mind and soul. It reminds us of the importance of faith, hope and spirituality throughout the entire course of it. In the end, it leaves a message to always follow your dreams no matter what. In a fast-paced world like ours, it has become tough to follow our dreams and we end up sacrificing it.

To conclude, this book should truly be on your 'To-Be-Read' list. It gives you a whole new perspective on life and you will come out a better version of yourself by the end. I would definitely encourage you to read this masterpiece...

Submitted by Nihan Kale
Class 10, DSRB



TODAY'S CHILDREN, THE FUTURE OF TOMORROW!

CHILDREN - THE SUPREME ASSETS OF OUR NATION

They are the developers and shapers of a nation's tomorrow. Today's children will be tomorrow's adults. Their abilities and personalities will build tomorrow's nation. A child determines the outcome of the nation. Many believe in academics but there are many who buck up in sports. It is children who can lead the nation to greater heights and newer worlds. It's very important for every nation, every society to nurture a strong, analytical and logical youth. The youth of a nation is like a power supply. They have large stores of capability, energy, alertness and enthusiasm. They have a unique power to shape the fate of the nation. The

youth has to be trained in an extremely healthy way so that they can use their talents and abilities to nourish the nation's future. A child not only learns from school but from his home, from society and from every person he or she interacts with. We learn many things from our society such as outdoor and indoor attainments, behavioural changes, educational interests, etc. A child acts as a future pillar for the nation.

Submitted by Tapasya Jain
Class 8, BCISE



THE BLOOMING BUDS

Children are like buds in a garden and should be carefully and lovingly nurtured, as they are the future of the nation and the citizens of tomorrow.' This quote, by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, is indeed very true. We are the blooming buds who will grow up to be beautiful flowers that enhance the pride of our nation. Just like the sun and the rains have to come together to make the ravishing rainbow, we and our fine education have to come together to make the greatest

decisions. The youth of today has to be strong, intelligent, intellectual and good thinkers. These qualities will shape the youth into tomorrow's responsible leaders. We, today's children, are the future of tomorrow and we all pledge to be the right, responsible people.

Submitted by Ishita Parab
Class 8, DSRB

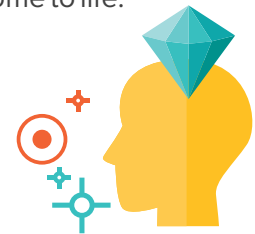


THE NATION BUILDER

The growth and development of a country is determined by the children living in it. Children play a vital role in reforming any nation, this is because children are the future citizens of our country and it is an indispensable requirement for them to be immensely competent. With the transitional world, it is crucial that we, the youth ought to have adequate prudence and frugality in our lives. Every Youth has to be responsible and have a sharp practical acumen when it comes to making decisions even in mere affairs. It is necessary that we as the

children of our country understand our duty towards our nation. We as the future of our nation have the power in our hands to reconstruct our country as we desire. Let us all vow to strive to make our homeland perfect and avail every opportunity to make this vision come to life.

Submitted by Vaiebhavi Iyer
Class 9, DSRVM

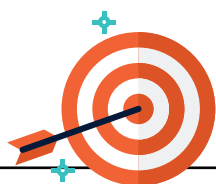
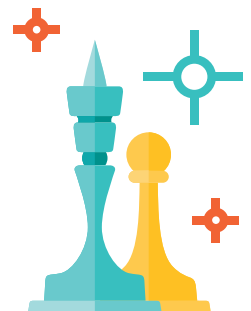


OUR PAST ACTIONS AND THE NATURAL REACTIONS

The nation might not be rich in its economical resources but sure is taking the number of children. We who are today as children will be the leaders of tomorrow. Thus our leadership will be responsible for the destiny of the nation in near future. So, somehow it's the previous generation's duty to guide us and mould us to be healthy, intelligent and most importantly have decision making skills. The best way is to let us play a constructive or efficient role in the path they like to follow and let them pursue it. If we fail to educate in the right method, the society will be left with destructive, violent and environmentally unfriendly youth. The government has created a lot of opportunities including education,

healthcare, sports, etc. However, there are many who don't get a chance to portray their talents due to the high population, which leads to illiteracy and unemployment. This leads to the unfortunate events like beggary, labour, etc which hamper the mind in a very bad way. All we need is a proper channelization of abilities, right guidance and a desired environment to have a bright and positive future where all these children brim with success and significant roles to contribute to this society.

Submitted by Shanika Sengupta,
Class 8, BCISE



DOWN THE MEMORY LANE - A THROWBACK TO CHILDHOOD MEMORIES

My First Beach Experience

The beach is a very enthusiastic place to be if you're seven years old. One of the experiences I can and will always recollect was the first time I went to the beach. I touched the golden surface of the beach with fear and anxiety. I was always anxious seeing a throng of people and it made me sweat profusely. The second emotion was my emotion of repulsiveness, as the sand grains slipped right through my toes. After taking a fist full of sand and seeing it pour down, I was gratified with it and thought of giving the beach a chance rather than soaking myself in fear while I was present there. After dragging my body through the caramel and gritty sand, I looked up, and the blazing sun shot me with sunlight which blinded me for a moment, although the cool breeze from the sea balanced the perforating pain. I stepped my foot into the sea and felt a surge of coolness in my toes and saw the rhythmic waves ascend and fall off the water's surface. Now that my mood had replenished, I ran around in the water and after quite some time, I felt my energy drained off and I sprawled around on the shoreline. I saw my parents waving at me while bringing corn on the cob for me. I held the corn in my hands and had a bite of it.

An unexpected flavor explosion took place in my mouth, filling it up with a sour, sweet, and acrid taste. My flinching face told everything about the taste of the corn. Even though it tasted sour and bitter, I took another bite, and before I could take my last bite, I, unfortunately, dropped it into the sand and saw a hawk promptly take away the corn and fly away on top of the seashore. To top it off, I had a cup of shaved ice which was filled to the brim with different flavors such as mango, watermelon, orange, grape, and lemon while looking at the serene, auburn sun going down and disappearing into the horizon. At first, I was annoyed coming to the beach, but gradually it became better, to a point where I did not want to leave it. That experience taught me that I need to live my life in the fast lane and not fear things that restrict me to live my life to the fullest.



Submitted by Bhaval Grover
Class 10, VBSIS



MY SCHOOL DAYS - MOST MEMORABLE DAYS OF MY LIFE

1+2

The saying school years are golden years is a true proverb for me. My school days were my best days. I enjoyed them a lot. I reflect on those days as the defining moment of my life. It shaped me as the person I am today. I owe my life's successes to my school days.

From nursery to high school graduation day, my school days are a vivid recollection in my memory. Whenever a friend from school reaches out to me I am taken back to those happy days of my life. My school days were a culmination of experiences that taught me many valuable lessons. I learned to read, write, think and communicate there. I gained knowledge which would help me in life. I can go on and on about my school days.

Why My School Days Were Golden:

My School days were golden for a number of reasons:

- They helped me shape my personality
- They gave me good experiences



My school days were a treasure chest of valuable lessons and experiences. I made many good friends at my school. I experienced social skills first-hand. I was taught to read, write and think critically. To develop my thoughts in coherent expressions. I learned valuable skills there. I learned to debate, paint, play sports and exercise to maintain physique. My teachers and my classmates mentored me. My teachers Mrs. Arti Khan mam and Mrs Kanchan Choudhry mam taught me much of what I know about life. They shared their experiences and guided me. They were my role



models of success which I aspired to imitate. They aided me in discovering my life's path. They supported, encouraged and motivated me a lot. My friends Mrs. Janya Mengrajani and Ms. Mira Shah were an immense blessing as well. Even after 30 years we remain best friends and atleast once a day we text or call each other.

My friends were my true companions in all moments of life. They raised me up when I couldn't stand up, they cheered me up when I was down. They helped me stay on track with class progress when I got sick. I never could have made it through my school days without their friendship. All these experiences made my school days the best days of my life.

Submitted by Geetika Jain
Batch of 2004



ACTIVITY 1

FUN RIDDLES FOR KIDS

WHAT
CAN YOU HOLD IN
YOUR LEFT HAND BUT
NOT YOUR RIGHT?

WHAT
DO YOU HAVE TO
BREAK BEFORE YOU
CAN USE IT?

WHAT
BELONGS TO YOU BUT
YOUR FRIENDS USE IT
MORE THAN YOU DO?

WHAT
GETS BIGGER WHEN
MORE GETS TAKEN
AWAY?

WHAT
HAS A HEAD AND
A TAIL BUT NO
BODY?

WHAT
QUESTION CAN YOU
NEVER ANSWER
YES TO?

ANSWER KEY: Your right elbow | An egg | Your name | A hole | A coin | Are you asleep yet?

ACTIVITY 2



1. Childhood
2. Defender
3. 14th of November
4. Enrich
5. Ensuring
6. Pandit Nehru

Select the key words to complete the sentences.
Look up the words you don't know.

- a. Studying is a way of _____ a good grade.
- b. Superman is the _____ of the universe.
- c. Every kid deserves to have a happy _____.
- d. Children's day is celebrated on _____.
- e. _____ birthday is celebrated as Children's day.
- f. How can I _____ my vocabulary?





ARTIST OF THE MONTH



Submitted by Veer Patel
Class 7, BCSW

ACTIVITY 3

Check the things you think a child needs to have
for a healthy, safe and happy life

- | | | |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> A home | <input type="checkbox"/> A computer | <input type="checkbox"/> Food & Water |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A phone | <input type="checkbox"/> Clothes | <input type="checkbox"/> Education |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health services & medicines | <input type="checkbox"/> A bedroom of their own | <input type="checkbox"/> Bike |

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Be a part of the movement to build a positive and a harmonious society.
Write to us at studentcouncil@bciswest.org