



SESHADRIPURAM EDUCATIONAL TRUST
SESHADRIPURAM FIRST GRADE COLLEGE

Yelahanka New Town, Bengaluru – 560 064
Recognized by Government of Karnataka
Permanently Affiliated to Bangalore University
Accredited 'A' by NAAC & Recognized under 2(f) & 12(B) of UGC Act 1956



BLOOMING BUDS – ENGLISH DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER – 2017-18

THE
EDITORIAL

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VISION, MISSION & OBJECTIVES

Vision:

Develop the communicative and leadership skills of students.

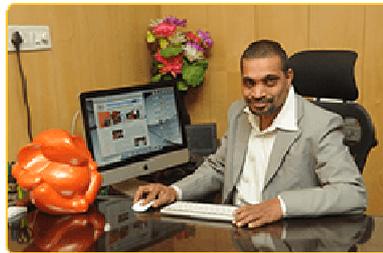
Mission:

Through the study of English language and literature to instil in students the global perspective.

Objectives:

- * To make the learning of English an enjoyable experience.
- * To increase the communicative completeness of students.
- * To encourage the creative and critical acumen of students.

Principal's Message



Every society has to train children not only to earn their livelihood but also to develop the soft skills which will enable them “to navigate their environment, work well with others, perform well, and achieve their goals...” That is why on every academic programme the learning of English language and the appreciation of English literature are *sine qua non*, essential segments. They inculcate critical thinking skill, verbal and nonverbal communication, active listening, fluent speaking and accurate writing, besides fine-tuning literary flair. It is not only in classrooms that these objectives are realized. At SFGC, we organize guest lectures, workshops, interactive sessions and poster presentation by students regularly to strengthen their skills. A newsletter is yet another platform for self-expression. I am happy that many students have given creative expression to their experiences in this newsletter of the department of English. I hope our students will continue to write creatively. I wish you success in your studies and in your life.

- Dr. S. N. Venkatesh
Principal

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For this newsletter we invited our students to write on some familiar themes. There was ready response because the writers related to the topics effortlessly. Their perceptions and perspectives are published here. Besides students' articles, we have contributions from faculty as well.

We want our students to write creatively (and not just in their examinations!): a flair for writing is an invaluable asset, a skill which grows with practice. The more you write the better you will write. At best, the teacher can only guide.

Remember Francis Bacon's words:

Reading makes a full man; conference a reay man; and writing an exact man.

George Orwell's 'Five Rules for Effective Writing' are helpful to a potential writer:

Never use a metaphor, simile, or other figure of speech which you are used to seeing in print.

Never use a long word where a short one will do.

If it is possible to cut a word out, always cut it out.

Never use the passive where you can use the active.

Never use a foreign phrase, a scientific word, or a jargon word if you can think of an everyday English equivalent.

Happy writing!

FOOD FOR THE HEART

By : Prof. P V MATHEW, COORDINATOR, IQAC

Jaijor in Sivan district of Bihar is a nondescript village. The unknown hamlet, however, hogged international attention -- thanks to a young man from that village: Shivendu Madhav. Madhav is the blue-eyed boy of information technology. At the age of twelve, Madhav was bitten by the IT bug. And there was no stopping him on his course thereafter. At fifteen he was well on his way to developing a search engine which would rival Google.

However, Madhav could not get through this project -- cash strapped as he was. But he continued blogging at the nearest internet café which was sixteen kms away: he would ride pillion on his dad's bike to the village every day. Madhav developed an online portal - www.technozeast.com -- which he sold to an American academic for Rs. 4.5 lakhs. At an IT exhibition, A.P.J. Abdul Kalam heaped praises on Madhav and blessed him. Madhav will take the IT world by storm, the late President augured.

Madhav's story couldn't be more inspiring. The one person -- alive or dead -- whom Madhav wanted to meet was either Bill Gates or Steve Jobs. Many looked forward to when Madhav would grow to his heroes' statures: he was, indeed, a great promise.

Then, one day, Madhav was arrested by the Lucknow police. It was shattering 'breaking news'. Madhav was arraigned for cyber crime. The IT whiz kid, who aimed at a search engine which would match Google, had developed, instead, a website which purported to

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be that of Bhopal Railway Recruitment Board. In this IT 'achievement' Madhav was hand in glove with Vipin Pathak from Varanasi. On their website 11814 vacancies were notified; 3500 job-seekers responded, paying Rs 1300000 as application fee through a payment gateway. Not only job-seekers, newspapers and career publications too were misled into 'covering' this employment bonanza and offering career guidance.

What went wrong with this IT wizard? Madhav needed money to develop a search engine. Was he, then justified in his dubious ways of financing his pet project?

Our youth are in a hurry to get rich, succeed, by any means, fair or foul.

Where in Electronics or Computer Science do we hear the language of the heart? Can Mathematics, Physics or Chemistry convey empathy? "Tell him I'm not at home," says a parent to a child who receives a phone call: and the child has learnt her first lesson in duplicity and double-dealing.

Where, then, do we hear the heart-beats of a society? In literature, which is language at its best. But scattered around learning programmes and courses are lying the debris of languages and literatures. The *sine qua non* of every course of study - languages - is treated as a necessary evil. Potential managers and entrepreneurs listen with devotion to lectures on marketing strategies, retail management, investment and the income tax. Life insurance is a 'product'. Altruism is euphemistically called 'Corporate Social Responsibility'. Language, for them, is fun and literature is a pointless joke, a 'time pass' between the crucial 'core subjects'.

In his classic Future Shock, Alvin Toffler speaks about the effects of irresponsibly applied technology. His examples are innocuous when placed against our recent 'achievements': chemical weapons, cloning, ethnic cleansing ... We are caught, he says, between two perils: the ravages of technology and our reckless attempts to halt it. We need a movement for responsible technology. If our rendezvous with technology is to be a 'soft landing' rather than a collision, the hopeless anachronism called education must admit its bankruptcy and answer a few questions:

Is today's education looking backward into the past or forward into the future?

Does education prepare our children for life in the future?

Is assembling masses of students to be 'processed' in a centrally located classroom the best model of the educational machinery?

Do we want to goad our children to march joyfully into the future, or, like the Gadarene swine, race to their perdition? The choice is ours.

(Indebted to Malayala Manorama, B S Warriar, websites on Shivendu Madhav, Alvin Toffler: Future Shock)

THOUGHTS

By: Sharmistha Paul

Moments, the roots of feelings
And feelings, the cause of thoughts
The feelings may hide; the feelings subside.

But the thought remains in the mind.

They may be the saddest
They may be the happiest

They may be the deepest
They may be the darkest

And they may be the brightest
They may be only of reflection
They are the only source of realization

One day, moments disappear,
But what's left behind in our mind is Only
one thought.



By: Pavithra Kumari B.P

The world is changing, and changing fast. We like some changes, while others create fear and anxiety. We cannot live in the way we have been living so far. Life has to be re-designed. Technology, education, health, eating habits, dress - there is hardly anything in life that is not changing. With changes in all spheres of life, there is a need for change in gender roles as well. When women are changing, men ought to change or prepare themselves for the change.

In an evolving world girls/ women are changing, boys/men need to change too. For at least two generations now – especially in urban India and educated middle-class families, the girls are raised to be confident and fight for their rights. But we seem to have ignored an entire generation of boys who were not told anything about how their sisters were changing. While the girls were given new ideals and role models, no one bothered to tell their brothers that they ought to change too.

Men have to adapt and accept the changes. Women are reaching greater heights in career and occupying the top most positions in various sectors. Therefore, men have to be taught that it's alright to take orders from women and to let go of their ego, inferiority complex as well as male chauvinism. It is high time to break the gender stereotypes. When it comes to occupation, it is quickly assumed that teachers, receptionists, nurses are women and engineers, doctors, pilots are men. However, women are breaking the gender barriers and occupying professions that were predominantly male for ages but the opposite does not happen with the same intensity. Men are unwilling to take on roles that are considered to be feminine. We have to change the mindset and perception of what men have on the opposite gender. Nowadays young girls are encouraged to take career paths which are considered male-dominated but parents seem to have forgotten to do the same with the boys and encourage them to take on roles considered to be feminine.

Girls ride two-wheelers and drive cars. It is considered an essential life skill. You can often hear dads proudly proclaiming that their daughters can drive very well indeed and they don't need a father/husband/brother to take them anywhere. However, boys are never taught that cooking is an essential life skill. You don't hear parents proudly saying that their son can cook and doesn't need a mother/wife/sister to feed him.

Men are not told that it is okay for them to be paid less than their wives or stay at home to take care of the kids while their spouses continue to work. Men want to marry a working woman but are completely unprepared for the practical reality of a marriage where both partners work. It means doing the dishes, or household chores, it means taking half day off to take care of your sick child or attend the PTA meeting of your son/daughter, it means tending to your bed-ridden parent's needs because your wife has an important presentation. It may even mean giving up a promotion or moving to a new city for your spouse's career. Because all this is not told to the sons, they continue to expect that their wife will automatically give up the job/promotion/transfer in favour of the family whereas they will never have to take a step back from their own careers.

Boys are still raised the way they were for the last many generations. The irony here is when women are upset that dinner, the house, kids, in-laws, maid etc. is still their responsibility, the men still don't seem to know what they did wrong. After all, they 'allow' their wives to work, what more do they want?

Let us not just empower women, but also prepare men for the empowered women.

Time Management

By : Sandeep Tilak

William Shakespeare says, “Time and tide wait for none”. Time plays an important role in every individual’s life. This article highlights on the importance of time management in our life, particularly I would like to focus on students in current generation. In general, time management can be understood as the way that we organize and plan how long we spend on specific activities.

Time gives equal opportunity to each and everyone. But we should be aware of utilizing it for right productivity. It is the art of assembling, systematizing, scheduling and budgeting one’s time for the purpose of generating more effective work and yield. Time management may be aided by a range of skills, tools and techniques used to manage time when undertaking specific tasks, projects and goal.

“Time management” is the process of organizing and planning how to divide your time between specific activities. A question may arise to our mind that, why we need to manage/organise our time? The answer for the question is yes, because I previously told that time gives equal chance to everyone we should be aware of utilizing it. But unfortunately in these days students are busy in using their time more for unproductive purpose than productive. Students need to change their mentality and focus on reaching their goals through managing or organising the time.

Time gives us a chance to decide on how to spend a valuable resource. If we utilise the chance in right way no doubt that we will reach the goal easily. No matter how organised we are, there is only 24 hours in a day. Time doesn’t change. All we can actually manage is ourselves and what we do with the time that we have. By understanding the meaning of time management and the next question is how to manage time? To start managing time effectively, you need to set goals, based on that we should labour. But people tend to neglect goal setting because it requires time and efforts, because for this laziness only few are reaching their goals.

First find out where you are wasting time. Many of us are prey to time-waster. We are spending more time on ‘net surfing’, reading emails or making personal calls? We should organise our time through ‘timetable’ is one step, each night write a few most important tasks you have to do tomorrow, number them in the order of importance. First thing in the morning look at the task listed as more important and start working on it until it is finished. Second step is ‘visualising’, visualising your goal for greater achievement. When you want to achieve something, we need to visualise our goal powerfully. Visualising is a powerful and important technique for motivating yourself and building the self-confidence needed to achieve every individual goal. The vision helps to recreate and remember all the time and insist them to reach. Third step is Treasure mapping, treasure which involves creating a physical representation on what you want to achieve. And so it intensifies the efforts of visualisation, which acts on your subconscious mind to motivate and encourage you towards achieving those goals.

So, time is the most valuable thing of this planet. Time is money, money is time. Everyone has to employ time management to reach goals successfully.



Role of siblings

By : Rashmi Danappanavar

Siblings play a vital role in an individual's life. They are the source of sharing and caring when anything good or bad happens in our life. Raksha Bandan is a prominent festival in North-India. The festival highlights the bonding of brother and sister by tying a knot to her brother's hand and he assumes to protect her. It is a sign of emotion, companionship and compatibility. The ritual ends by eating sweets.

In olden days, the joint family was the protocol of the society. They enjoyed the world of siblings in full swing. Later the society turned to a new concept of separate family but at least 3 to 4 children in a house i.e. elder brother, elder sister, younger etc was their family members. They were emotional oriented. Upcoming generation has a drastic change in their life. More once single child in a family no siblings hence, no bonding, no compatibility, no compassion and no rituals is practised. Thus entire scenario is changed.

The modern era people achieve a lot; they have high degree, a life style, and two incomes in a family. But they are not aware of their neighbours and ego between the couples which leads to divorce. Modern era people are TECHIES and their behaviour pattern is like a machine. Thus VIRTUE is vanishing or deteriorating and VICE is blooming.

STRESS AND ITS EFFECTS ON YOUNG MINDS

By : Fathima Firdouse

Stress is the combination of psychological, physiological and behavioural reactions that people have in response to the events that threaten or challenge them. Stress can affect how you feel, how you think, how you behave and how your body works. People have different ways of reacting to stress, so a situation that feels stressful to one person may in fact be motivating to another.

Stress is a neutral force that you use for good or bad, productivity or pain. Sometimes stress is beneficial and motivating. It drives you to do things in the best interest such as study for exam, visit the doctor regularly, exercise, meet the deadlines and perform best at work. This kind of stress is called 'Eustress' associated with positive feelings, optional health and performances. Unfortunately stress can also be bad or distress as it saddles you with worry and frustration.

Stress comes in many forms and affects young people in different ways. There are physical and emotional effects of stress. The physical effects of stress include developing chronic diseases. Emotional effects include depression and low self-esteem. Stress can also result in violence due to frustration. It affects young people by

pushing them to commit crimes and bad decisions like committing suicide. Stress is an invisible danger as it damages your health in an irreversible way from aging to heart problems to long-term disabilities. The World Health Organisation estimated that by 2020, stress related deaths will be second only to cardio-vascular diseases.

According to Hans Selye “It’s not stress that kills us; it is our reaction to it”. Though stress is an inevitable part of our life, you can improve the way you respond to it by taking a break from the stressor, reaching out to close ones, managing your time well, and following some relaxation techniques like breathing exercises, yoga and meditation.

EVENTS (2017-2018)

~ 16 September 2017 – Our students, accompanied by our faculty Mr. Sandeep Tilak, attended “HANATE” program, conducted by Vivekahamsa.

~ 16 February 2018 - We organized Spell Bee, Pick & Speak and essay writing competitions to encourage our students and to improve their vocabulary and spelling. Students from all the streams took active part in them .Winners are: Sneha Mystica (IV Sem B.Com ‘F’), Akshar Radha krishnan (II BBG) and Vismaya (II BBG) .

~ 26 February 2018 - as part of the Silver Jubilee celebrations of the Department and “BHASHA SANGAMA” guest lectures in Kannada,English,Hindi and Sanskrit were held. Dr. M.C. Prakash, Principal of VVS Degree College, delivered a lecture in English.

~ 2 March 2018 – The film “*PELE: Birth of a legend*” was screened for B.Sc and BCA students to supplement the essay on Pele which is part of their curriculum.

STUDENT SECTION

TO DEAR PAPA...

By : M. C. Roshni (IV Sem BBG)

I remember those days when you looked like my dearest hero.
I remember these days when you behave like my nearest villain.

I remember those days when you used to drive the car like a pilot.
I remember these days when you drive your bike like a learner with much care due to your keen sight.

I remember those days when you used to get me snacks every evening.
I remember these days when you forget to bring me snacks and spend some time with me, where the evenings were boring and depressing.

I remember those days when you spent wonderful evenings with me enjoying my little talks.

Cont...

I remember these days when you feel irritated when I start my little talks.

I remember those days when you used to turn red all of a sudden which scared me a lot.

I remember those days Mom used to hurry every time when you screamed.

I remember these days when you avoided me as I am growing up and my Mom held me back whenever I tried coming to you.

I remember those days when you stopped talking to me for weeks but suffered inside.

I remember these days when you became unexpressed in the fear of losing your dignity.

I remember those days when I walked alone to school and my exams without you beside me while I found many dads at exam centres guiding their kids.

I remember the day when you burst out your anger due to frustration which held you in a deep depression.

I remember the day when you yourself declared you as an EGOIST.

I remember your emotional face which does not want to express anything.

BUT

I still and always remember you as a loving, caring, best dad forever n ever.

Dad all I want to say is.....

I LOVE YOU

GOOD V / S EVIL — By : M.S. Saranya (I Sem B.Sc)

It is better to be good- to yourself and others-than being good looking. Better have a good heart than pretty face. If you are good, everything will look pretty. What makes us good? A good heart, positive thoughts and cheerful vibes. And, don't ever judge a person by their looks: Good looks can hide evil.

I PREFER GOODNESS TO BEAUTY — By : S.M. Vidyashree Yadav (I Sem B.Com)

“Don't judge a book by its cover” is a wise saying. Similarly, we shouldn't judge people by their looks. An ugly person can become beautiful. But can a bad person turn over a new leaf? Yes, he can, if he makes up his mind to be good to others. I prefer goodness to beauty because, alive or dead, our goodness lives on. Beauty, on the other hand, will fade. So, be good, do good, be happy and cheer up others.

Being hungry (and angry too!) — By : S.A. Nandini (I Sem B.Com)

I know a village musician, well versed in playing the veena. He came to Bengaluru: he wanted to bring pride and glory to his village. But Bengaloreans - fashionable as they are - laughed at him. He went hungry (and angry too!) So he sat in the middle of MG Road and played the veena. Passerby stopped to listen. And they paid him and he grew rich. The moral of my (imaginary) story: Don't judge a person by her/his appearance. Looks can be deceiving. Looks don't show skills/talents. Let us identify skills-our own and others – and nurture them.

Be happy, Be Good — By : Anuradha N. Ganagapur (I Sem BBG)

I think the secret of happiness is being good. I shall tell you why. When you are good, you feel good, you wish others well and they too feel happy. So, you see, goodness is contagious. Happiness too! What is more: Being good brings us achievements, makes us feel proud. A good person is respected. Don't you agree with me, therefore, that it is better to be good than to be good looking? Of course, not all who look good will do good; and not all who don't look good be bad.

Beauty is in the soul — By : Radhika (I Sem BBG)

These days everyone looks at how we dress and how we look. A person's character, the beauty of soul is invisible. We want to impress others by our beauty and make friends with them. A beautiful face may turn ugly, but a charming soul will never lose its sheen. Falling in love with a beautiful face with no inner beauty is an invitation to a life-time of suffering. So, never insult a person for her good outer look, because beauty lies in the soul, the heart, and not on the face.

Leading a Trip — By : K C Bhavana (I Sem B.Sc BBG)

I went on a trip in my schooldays for three days with my friends, seniors and teachers. We engaged five buses: I was on the first. I was the leader. We went to Shravanabelagola temple. We went up the steps – barefoot . it was like climbing a mountain. We ran up because our teachers told us that whoever would reach the temple first would be given a prize. I was the happiest person because i came first in the race and won the prize ; it was given away by the Principal. Then we ran back to the bus. On the return trip we danced and sang and recited slokas. Those were my happiest days.

Games are fun — By : M. K. Abhishek (Sem I B.Com)

Games are fun. Games give joy. In olden days we played genuine games. Now we play indoor games with electronic gadgets and smart phones. We never play outdoor games. So we get no exercise, we are not fit and healthy. We should, therefore, avoid smart phones and play games as in olden days.

I am unique — By : G. Rajeshwari (Sem I BCA)

When I was young I lost my father: it was a tragic incident. My mother and I stayed with my grand parents. My mother toiled hard to educate me. I was her precious gift, she would say, a unique gift like nobody else. She encouraged me and supported me. She always made me feel unique.
