



LIGHTHOUSE



BY BCGIANS, FOR BCGIANS

Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21 September. The UN General Assembly has declared this as a day devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, by observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

Peace is a human need. Peace doesn't mean living in a situation where there is no problem. Peace means living in a situation where a problem may arise, but it will not affect you anymore. If there is peace in every human's mind, then life will go on peacefully.

In Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru's words, "peace is a precious commodity necessary for any progress." We will keep facing crises on many levels but we can manage them better with the help of peace. When we are at peace we are unconcerned about what others say about us so we do not get affected by their ridiculous comments. Peace is the way that helps us prevent inequity and violence. It is no less than a golden ticket to enter a new and bright future for mankind. So, take a chill pill and browse through our newsletter to explore more articles about literacy and peace!

We asked students to write their thoughts on peace. Here are some:

BE THE CHANGE

"Tranquility" is described as the state of being calm and peaceful. Due to our human nature, we tend to blame others for our mistakes. Knowing we're at fault, we persist in escaping problems rather than solving them. If we accept our problems rather than sleeping on them, we can not only achieve peace ourselves but spread peace as well. Peace doesn't start with them; it starts with YOU. Be the change you want to see.

Submitted by Anaya Afonso
Class 9, BCISE



PEACEFUL WORLD

Peace lays the foundation of new hope, prosperity, and productivity. Living in harmony can take us to greater heights of glory and stability in every field. This world is diverse and has people of different beliefs, opinions, religions, races, castes, and worship, and it is alright to be different. Everyone has the right to determine their preferences and follow them without any hindrance unless it is not for the welfare of the people.

Submitted by Manya Poojary
Class 8, VBSIS

PEACE - A WAY OF LIFE

Peace means living a life caring about others, sharing happiness, and loving each other genuinely. Every member of the family must think and act selflessly. Moreover, we must first make peace with ourselves. Only then can we be at peace with society. Peace makes you wake up every day with a carefree feeling and prepares you to embark on a new journey. Let us all live with peace in our hearts.

Submitted by Ishaan Vettath
Class 7, VBSIS

PEACE BEGINS WITH YOU

We should celebrate peace and start campaigns about living in peace, help charities and organizations like the United Nations to assist the countries at war. Countries could also be peace speakers. We can achieve peace if we unite with each other, put aside our differences and stop wars. Peace is necessary for life, for living, and for happiness.

Submitted by Aadya Anedath
Class 6, VBSIS



IF THE WORLD WAS A PEACEFUL PLACE

The word 'if' means that the world is not what we want or expect. It still has a dark side which makes the likelihood of peace decrease. But what if all this ended? What if everyone lived in harmony? What if we all understood before judging, paused before reacting, and thought before speaking? Wouldn't the world be a truly peaceful place where everyone could live in serenity and happiness? Then everyone would have respect for each other.

Submitted by **Taneesha Sukhwai**
Class 8, DSRB



YES, WE CAN LIVE IN PEACE

"Peace cannot be kept by force: it can only be achieved by understanding" - **Albert Einstein**.

If we think our world is a peaceful place, we are sadly mistaken. Peacefulness will never exist in the whole world when we have negative emotions flowing between people, caste, religion, and countries. Why can we not unite and come together as one? Why can we not stand for each other and live together in harmony?

All of this is because of the following points:

The desire to have more: Hitler, Napoleon, and Alexander had this in them and eventually failed in their attempt to conquer the world. We are not satisfied with what we have and have this greed to obtain more

and more, to the point of having a surplus, thereby depriving the underprivileged.

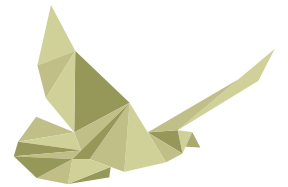
Harbouring Envy of others: The desire to covet or usurp from our neighbours or from someone who is prosperous is one of the reasons why some countries are at loggerheads with each other. The present war against Ukraine engineered by the Russians is a typical example of how the natural resources of a smaller country are forcefully obtained to make oneself a self-subsistent superpower.

Apathy for the underprivileged is also a major issue on the country front and also in our personal lives. The much-in-demand slogan of an *"I don't care"* attitude is highly prevalent in most of us and it needs to be addressed immediately.

How can we, as students in our school, contribute to the movement?

We must start by diminishing the beliefs of *"I, Me, and Myself"* and solving the problems within our school. Programmes such as conducting rallies, organising conventions and seminars, distributing handouts, and using social media platforms will go a long way.

Submitted by **Rylan Crasto**
Class 9 VBSIS



LITERACY - A WEAPON FOR PEACE

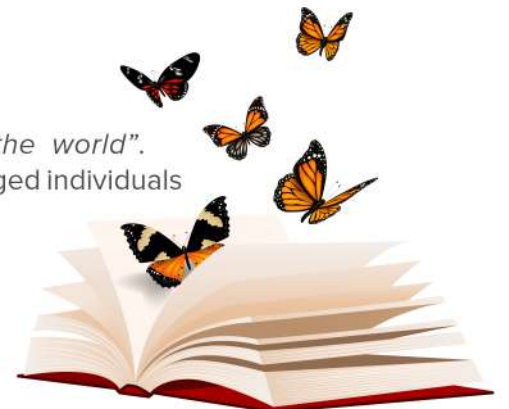
Dreams that were far-fetched a few decades ago are fully successful today. We can attribute this change to the sole reason, education. Along with the growth of ideologies, one significant aspect that has contributed to the growth in this field is literacy rates. It is perceptible that the literacy rates in India have drastically changed over the years.

Here are some interesting facts:

- ✓ India ranks 123 in female literacy rates among 135 other countries.
- ✓ 60 lakh Indian children are out of school.
- ✓ The literacy rate of India has increased six times since Independence.
- ✓ India has the largest number of illiterate adults.

Nelson Mandela said, *"Education is the most powerful weapon to change the world"*. Undoubtedly, literacy is the most important tool to build anyone's life, and we as privileged individuals should respect the education we receive.

Submitted by **Hannah Dsouza**
Class 8, BCISE



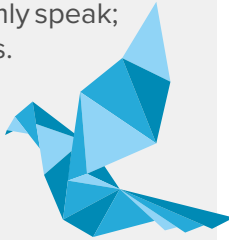
WHAT IS PEACE?

Some people might ponder, "What is peace?"
Well, peace is the period when hostilities cease.
From the turmoil of conflict, it is a sweet release.
It is when people eat cakes for just a dollar apiece;
A time of bounty and harmony it surely is.

It is an age of concord, amity, and goodwill boundless,
A phase when no decent community is under duress.
Peace is the solution to unrest, the cleansing of cess,
When a child can enjoy their father's loving caress;
It is a sunny and heavenly spell of uninterrupted bliss.

Where war is a harsh trainer, unmerciful to the meek,
Peace is the gentle grower allowing everyone to frolic.
Where war doesn't allow soldiers even a bit of cheek,
Peace allows different-minded people to calmly speak;
It is the only memory that veterans dearly miss.

Submitted by Ishayu Rawool
Class 10, BCISW



THE WALK THROUGH WISDOM

An investment in knowledge pays the best interest,' said Benjamin Franklin. So why not be the investors in someone's education, happiness, and successful and favourable outcomes? I believe that helping someone learn and make a future is synonymous with making someone independent and strong. I personally love helping others, so I was happy when I decided to join hands with an organisation where specially-abled adults undergo skill training and engage in recreational activities and therapy. They also make various utility items like soaps, paintings, wall hangings, and other handicrafts that they then sell through their online websites and exhibitions.

I visit them once a week when we read stories and fictional tales and share our experiences with each other, thus making each one feel special and appreciated. I have donated my old activity books, storybooks, and some educational development toys like puzzles.

It is the best feeling when your timely help and advice motivate them to take exams. Although they are in different mental and physical states, they pass with flying colours. It is nice to be the reason behind someone's knowledge and happiness. I cherish every moment we spend and learn together in every step of our self-development.

Submitted by Samara Syed
Class 9, BCISW

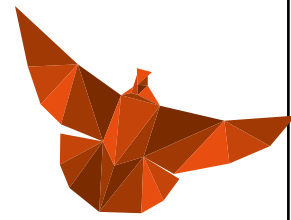


BOOK REVIEW

The Book Thief



"Even death has a heart."



Set in Germany in the years between 1939-1943, *The Book Thief* tells the story of Liesel, narrated by Death, who has in his possession the book she wrote about these years. Death pockets Liesel's notebook after she leaves it, forgotten in her grief, amongst the destruction that was once her street, her home.

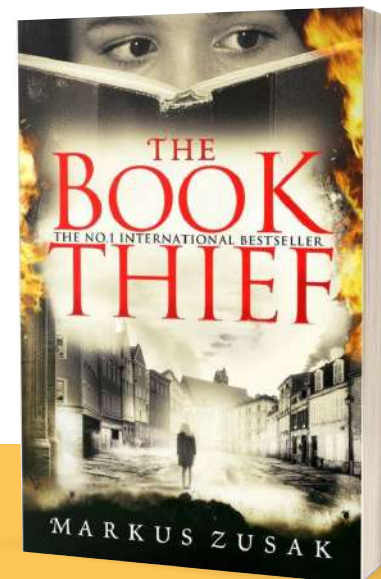
Liesel is effectively an orphan. She never knew her father, her mother disappeared after delivering her to her new foster parents, and her younger brother died on the train to Molching where the foster parents live. Death first encounters nine-year-old Liesel when her brother dies and hangs around long enough to watch her steal her first book, *The Gravedigger's Handbook* left lying in the snow next to her brother's grave. So, in a way, they are both book thieves.

This is extraordinary - this book, this writing. Now, it somewhat felt intimidating with the idea of Death being the narrator as I had assumed it to be dark and gloomy. It turned out I was wrong as most of the time Death was a ray of light illuminating earth's saddest times.

If you want a fast read, this book is not for you. If you only like happy endings, this book is not for you. If you do not like experimental fiction, this book is not for you. If you love to read and you love to care about the characters you read about and if you love to eat words like they're ice cream and if you love to have your heart broken and mended on the same page, this book is for you. It is going to take a while for this book to totally sink in.

It seems like *The Book Thief* also steals hearts because it surely stole mine!

Submitted by Mehwishara Bhati
Class 8, BCISW



ACTIVITY PUZZLE 1

Find a way out of the maze

Steps to follow:

- 1) Answer the questions.
- 2) Connect the answers in sequence from questions 1 to 5, to get out of the maze.

WHICH FIGURE OF SPEECH AM I?

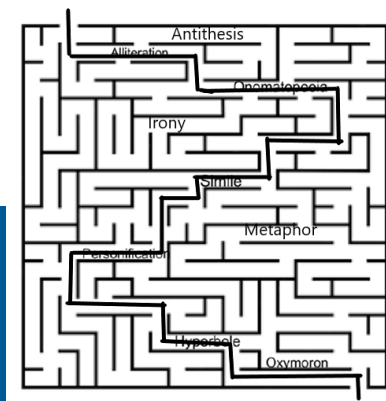
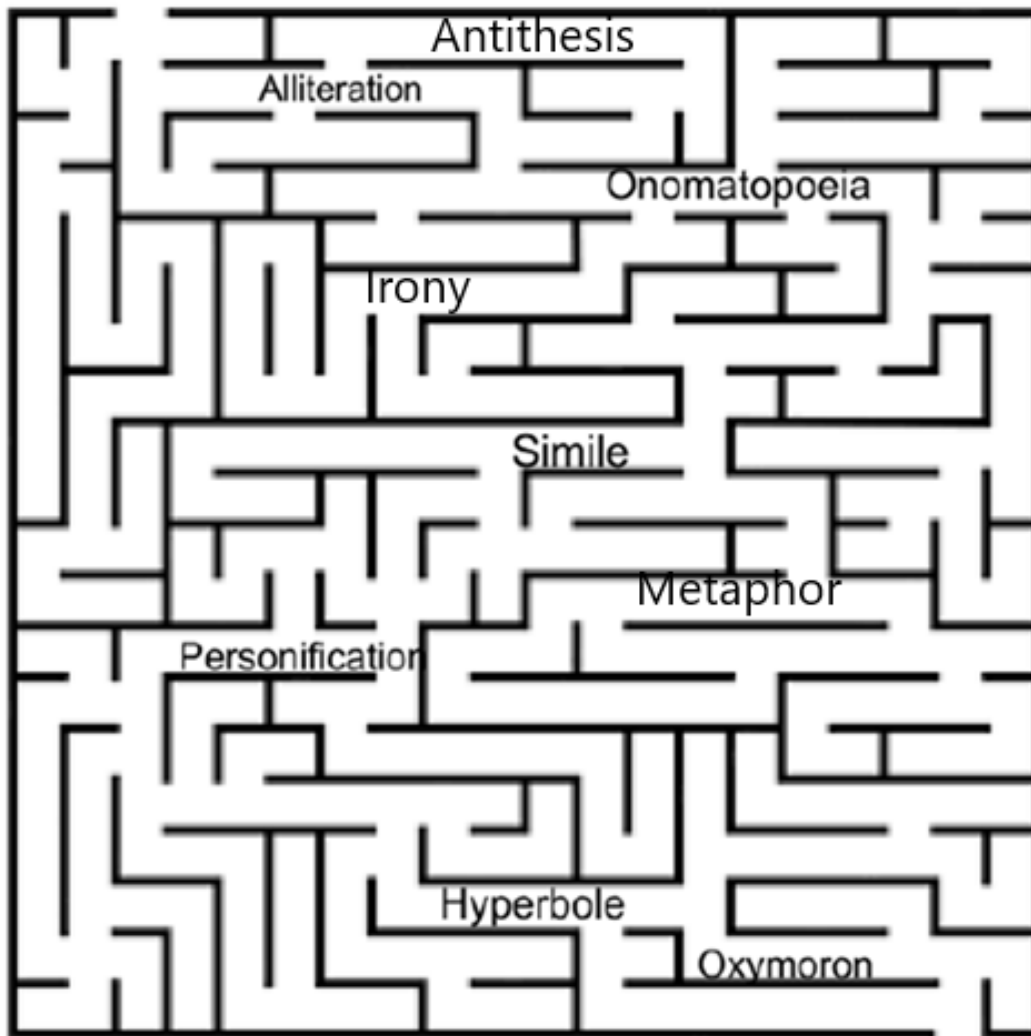
Question 1: I exaggerate most things, and when I do I go too far.

Question 2: I am pretty much like the first one but I only exaggerate for non-living things.

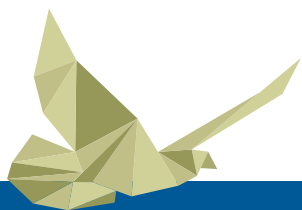
Question 3: I am helpful in direct comparisons. I use 'as' and 'like'.

Question 4: I represent sounds.

Question 5: I have the first letter repeated in other words in the sentence.



Answer Key:



ACTIVITY PUZZLE 2

Solve the following REBUS puzzles

1

STOOD
MISS

2

PAwalkRK

3

MIL1ION

4

S
L
O
W



5

STAND
ICU

6

WALKING
ICE

7

TRAVEL
CCCCC

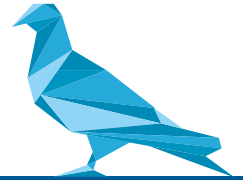
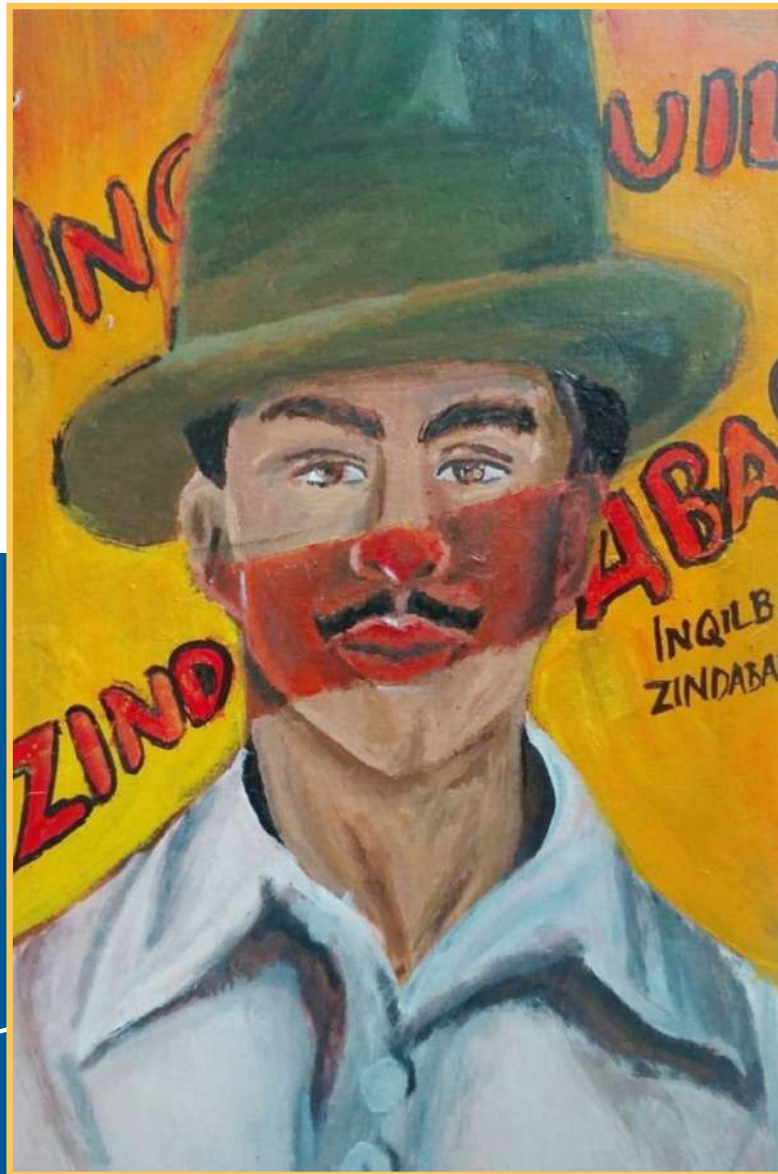
8

R + R

Answer Key:

- 1. Misunderstood
- 2. Walk in the park
- 3. One in a million
- 4. Slow down
- 5. I see you understand
- 6. Walking on thin ice
- 7. Travel Overseas
- 8. Summer (Sum R)

ARTIST OF THE MONTH



Submitted by Anaya Ansari
Class 9, VBSV

SCHOOL CORNER

Bhagat Singh our mentor

Bhagat Singh is considered a National hero of India's freedom struggle against colonial rule. He gave direction and impetus to India's freedom struggle through strategic planning and supreme sacrifice that eventually made him a hero to millions of Indians. He is remembered by Indians as a great thinker too. We are proud to have him as the mentor of our school. And so, our educators help instill the qualities of being fearless, taking leadership, showing courage, being able to face challenges bravely, and developing a love for the motherland through various activities and situations. Learners are thus moulded to imbibe the qualities of the mentor.

Ms. Jayshree Seshadri
Head Primary, VBSIS

Did you like our newsletter? Do send your feedback and share your stories of positivity in real life.
Be a part of the movement to build a positive and a harmonious society.
Write to us at studentcouncil@vbsis.org