

3 R PAPER PROJECT – AN EARTH DAY INITIATIVE (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Paper waste):

This year as a combined celebration of the Earth Day and Mr. Kurt Hahn's birthday a 40 Day long activity was planned for the entire school.

Objective: To build awareness about paper usage, wastage and applying the 3 R's to make the best use of the waste paper.

Background: Paper is a necessity in all schools at every level; be it academic, art/craft or administrative work and this results in a substantial amount of paper misuse / waste. This year the school initiated a **3R paper project** involving **Reduction, Reuse and Recycling**.

The Action points were:

Reduce Paper waste:

A poster campaign developed by students to build awareness of the environmental impact of indiscriminate use of paper and how to save it.

Reuse Paper waste: Children painted recycled cartons and placed them in each classroom, lab, printer points and faculty rooms. They briefed everyone that any waste paper should be placed in these boxes. This was then sorted further into 'usable' to make stationery items, paper mashie items etc and 'non usable'. The latter was then picked up by an NGO which supports the rag pickers families by recycling paper and paper waste.



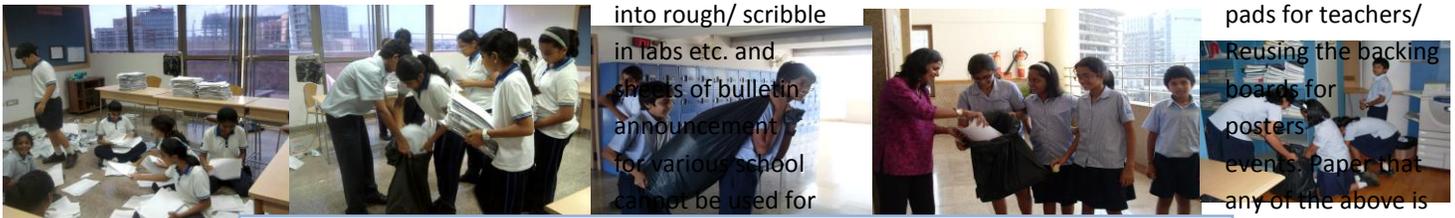
Outcome of the Project:

This activity is now an ongoing process in the school with participation from all sections.

The waste paper is regularly placed in the collection bins, then sorted and used to make useful paper products.

These items will later be sold during the school fete to fund NGO's supported by the school.

Several groups are in the process of undertaking the Recycling of this waste by making handmade paper, 1 sided paper converted



Paper Santas at work – Sorting and Collecting.

TO SIR WITH LOVE : KURT HAHN PORTRAIT

Kurt Hahn's birthday (founder of Round Square), falls on 5th June every year. As a tribute to him, the children of Dhirubhai Ambani International School planned a unique activity that involved all students from Lower Kindergarten to IBD 12.

Activity: Students put together a 5 ft x 5 ft portrait of Mr. Kurt Hahn using only their finger prints and palm prints. The portrait was made on canvas using oil. Each of the 1000+ students marked the portrait with their finger prints resonating Mr. Kurt Hahn's philosophy and the IDEALS of RS. The objective was to get the entire school to collective pay tribute to the founder of Round Square. The pre-etched portrait was divided into 25 equal pieces, one for each class. Every child from a class contributed by adding colour to the portrait with his/her finger print in the area designated for their class. Once the pieces are ready, they were all put together and mounted on a jute canvas as a complete picture. This was then displayed in the school atrium with information on Kurt Hahn and his philosophy. The portrait was shipped to Round Square Headquarters.



Planting sprigs of peace in deserts of hostility – PAIGAAM 2011



“Peace...can only be attained through understanding,” once said that stalwart of American individualism, Ralph Waldo Emerson. Little did he know that more than a century after his death, a motley group of teenagers from around the Indian subcontinent would gather together yearly, with a message to spread and decades-old barriers of animosity and mistrust to overcome, and follow his words of wisdom, in a bid to rid themselves of unfounded bias and misgivings about the people across the borders. This gathering of the young and dynamic from three nations (despite the Pakistani delegates’ inability to be physically present, we still include them – for they were with us in mind and spirit, and in Skype video chats) spent a week packed with

activities and surprises, at our long-established, well-beloved, home-grown peace conference – PAIGAAM. And understanding could well be the most important quality that grew within us all – after all, peace (paradoxical as it may seem) is an individual’s battle against half-baked conceptions handed down to us. It is a test of our tolerance and persistence, and at PAIGAAM, we are fortifying ourselves with information and awareness, and a recognition of our biases (which, in our view, is as important as their elimination).

The aim – to mature into discerning citizens of the world with the ability to filter out the facts from the prejudiced conjecture and to explore multiple points of view with sensitivity and openness. And our path to discovery was not the serious sequence of heavy-handed discussion several delegates had been expecting. It was a more low-key and informal process. One of the first activities – Labelling – saw delegates placing themselves at the receiving end of a torrent of stereotypical accusations, all along the same negative lines and targeted at the flimsy paper label they stuck on their foreheads, notwithstanding the depths of their individual personalities.



After the startling revelation that however open-minded they purported themselves to be, they still nurtured their own preconceptions, the participants examined the subtle imposition of views in supposedly objective history textbooks from India and Pakistan. It was disturbing for us to learn that the “dry, uninteresting” (sic) subject some of us had grown to hate was a fragile thing – it was fraught with patriotism and the glorification of certain individuals (and the abasement of certain others. The Media Game took this issue up to the scale of a far more influential force on the public imagination. Should we leave aside our personal pride, and tell it like it is – or do we need to fuel our communities’ faith

in ourselves by revealing, concealing and even distorting this elusive truth? PAIGAAM focused on the power of the individual, asked us to look within and gauge for ourselves the reliability of an information source and of the ‘facts’ as they are given to us, for the media is as governed by ulterior motives as anyone else. This propensity of ours to blame the “government” was called into question during the Role Play, where, despite our peaceful ideals, we were just as ineffective at preventing war as the 1971 politicians we simulated.



A quick glance through the posts on PAIGAAM 2011’s Facebook group will tell you that the bonds we forged will last lifetimes. And this is PAIGAAM’s fundamental objective – to bring us all together and show us we are one.