



The spectacular AD annual awards – Page 2



Represent R&S at Windsor Castle, UK – Page 4



Win a trip on location in Canada – Page 5

Our little hands can do big things!



We have not inherited the Earth from our fathers, we are borrowing it from our children
Lester R. Brownodall



Dear Roots & Shoots Members,



Welcome to the Summer edition of the Roots & Shoots newsletter. Doesn't time go quickly?

And what a great six months we have had. The programme has now spread to over 80 schools

across the Emirates, including Dubai and Al Ain. If you would like to know where your member schools are please visit our website at www.rootsnshoots.ae.

Inside you will find another packed edition of our activities over the last few months including our exciting annual awards held in January this year at the exclusive Park Hyatt Hotel; a set of fun filled resources now available in Arabic and a chance to win the trip of a lifetime to the beautiful Windsor Castle, the prestigious and world famous home of the Queen of England. Not to mention the launch of our programme in the Czech Republic.

We are so proud of all of you and what you have achieved and continue to achieve to make this world a better place, despite the challenges that we are up against.

Keep up the good work and keep inspired!

Tara Golshan

Tara Golshan
Executive Director, Education

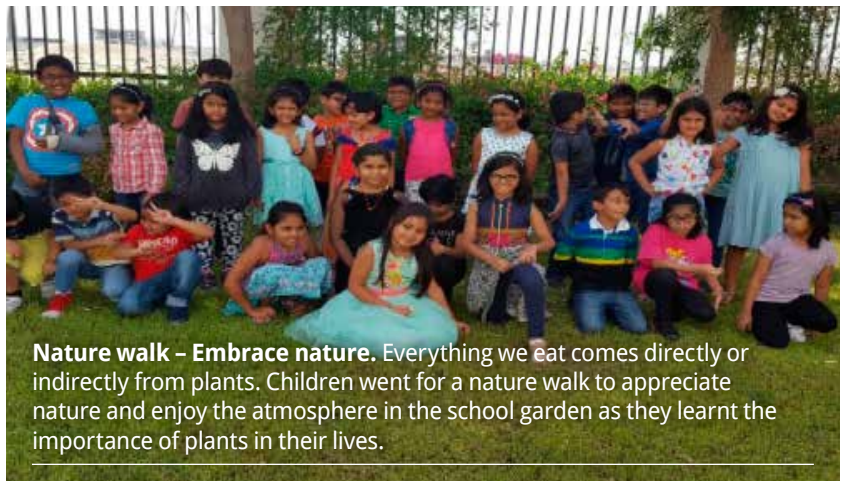
GEMS Modern Academy was proud to share a few of the environment activities done by their enthusiastic Grade 2 students. Plants are essential

to the balance of nature and people's lives. Teaching our kids the importance of plants and how to nurture them with love and care.

To nurture them with love and care. Children's Day special surprise! – Petunia plants as presents



Everything can be put to use... Children collected about 60 KGs of fruit and vegetable peels for the Bokashi bin to make their own organic compost.



Nature walk – Embrace nature. Everything we eat comes directly or indirectly from plants. Children went for a nature walk to appreciate nature and enjoy the atmosphere in the school garden as they learnt the importance of plants in their lives.

Our exciting annual Roots & Shoots Awards UAE – a spectacular event

On the 12th January, Roots & Shoots welcomed Dr Jane Goodall to the UAE once again to meet our passionate students and teachers from schools across the country. The ceremony took place at the prestigious Park Hyatt Hotel, Saadiyat Island. The celebration was combined with the 20th anniversary of the Environment Agency, Abu Dhabi and proud sponsors of the programme.

Students displayed their amazing projects in front of guests and Dr Jane who was impressed by the quality of the projects and the schools' dedication!

The theme for this year was the conservation and protection of Abu Dhabi's natural environment. Schools investigated different environmental issues in the UAE and provided their own solutions. They were also invited to research the work EAD has done, which gave them exposure into broader environmental issues such as biodiversity, air and water quality, waste and climate change.

Our members showed huge initiative and creativity in their chosen projects which included hydroponic and vegetable gardens; composting; action for animals; fund raisers; clean ups; upcycling into art; awareness days; water audits; and recycling water. They heard a rap song, watched a play about bird migration in the UAE and listened to poems written by the students themselves on Mother Nature.

Photos: Roots & Shoots UAE

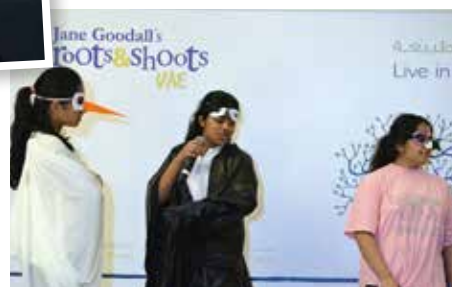


Here are what some of our students said...

'It was an experience we won't forget anytime soon.'

'The Roots & Shoots Awards gave everyone an opportunity to share ideas and projects for the betterment of our society, wildlife and environment in this region.'

'The Roots & Shoots award ceremony was unlike any experience we've had in our lives.'



Would you like to attend next year's exciting awards ceremony?

If so, start posting your mission updates on our website today! Limited schools will be selected to the event with Dr Jane in January next year. So tell us what you have been up to in making this world a better place!

The schools which attended the awards this year were:

Al Bateen Scientific Private School Abu Dhabi, Taleea Al Reman School, American Community School Abu Dhabi, Bright Riders School Abu Dhabi, Emirates Private School, GEMS American Academy Abu Dhabi, Gems Cambridge International School, GEMS Modern Academy, Private International English School, SKBZ Bangladesh Islamia Pvt. School, St Joseph's School Abu Dhabi, The British International School Abu Dhabi and the Universal American School.

The Sprinting Leopard – American Community School, Abu Dhabi

Photo: American Community School



Inspired by a connection with Roots & Shoots, the One Special Rhino initiative, Rameen Dogar organised an activity. The purpose was to write a book about the Arabian Leopard, an endangered animal. Under the guidance of grade 4 teacher, Cleo Burgett, Rameen slowly worked with the team.

She researched, drafted and contacted experts in the field at the Mohamed Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund. Rameen kept at it. Dedicated to the passion of the elementary school authors: Reyna Berry

and Olivia Bolz, she looked for collaborative partners and found middle school art students with the support of Matt McGrady who produced the wonderful illustrations.

In November, Rameen met Jane Goodall and shared her project. Now the project is complete and copies are on sale with profits going to support the work of the Jane Goodall Institute.

For more information on how to purchase this wonderful book, please contact Anne Russell at anne-russell@acs.sch.ae

Would you like to be the UAE's environmental ambassador at the 2018 Roots & Shoots international conference in the UK?



Photo: Roots & Shoots

We are providing the opportunity for a student based in the UAE to attend the 2018 annual Roots & Shoots gathering, hosted at the beautiful Windsor Castle in August 2018.

This annual gathering is attended by R&S representatives from across the globe including Dr Jane Goodall herself!!

You will be invited to represent the UAE and the environmental work that you are undertaking as well as participating in different focus groups around topical environmental themes.

To participate, you must:

- be a current university student in a university based in the UAE
- have a passion for environmental conservation
- demonstrate that you are an active community member and partake in environmental action

We would like you to:

- Send us an email with a short paragraph stating your interest, name, university, subject.
- Attach a short video (no longer than five minutes) about an environmental issue in the UAE or an endangered species here and what you would do to protect it.
- Write a one page summary on how you would engage more schools into the programme and reach students for events.
- Provide a short brief on how you would mentor younger students on environmental issues and activities you might engage them in.

**Deadline:
30th April,
2018**

Email with title **"R&S contest + (your name)"** to Mariam al Qassimi mariam.alqassimi@ead.ae

- Sign up your university to R&S <http://www.rootnsnshoots.ae/join-roots-shoots-uae/>
- Actively post mission updates <http://www.rootnsnshoots.ae/category/mission-updates/>

This opportunity will be available to one student only.

Twinning Programme

Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots is delighted to announce their new twinning programme between schools in the UK and schools in the United Arab Emirates.

We hope you're as excited as us about the potential for a twinning programme between the UAE and the UK. At a time of global uncertainty, it's essential for young people to be outward-looking, open-minded, and to have an understanding of other cultures.



Photo: Roots & Shoots

Your students will have the opportunity to learn about another group's homeland, environment, wildlife, culture, religion and languages. You'll be able to use technology such as email and video conferencing to give your students a personalised look at your partner school and its students and activities. The perspectives you gain from another culture will encourage your students to express themselves clearly.

Please visit our website to find a detailed step by step guide to the project, making it as straightforward as possible, with exciting and creative resources to accompany you on the journey. The resources can be found here: http://www.rootnsnshoots.ae/resource_categories/twinning/



Spotlight on the environment and how our passion to protect it can turn art into action.

The daily struggle to keep our beautiful Planet clean and healthy is not easy, but it is worth it! One of our hard working students from GEMS Modern Academy, Dubai was inspired to write this poem, and make us all think and act responsibly.

Don't you love your mother?

(Inspired by the 'Mother Earth' monologue by D.M. Larson)

*In the beginning, my children loved me;
We laughed and played, danced and sung.
I was as happy as I could be,
When my children were tender and young.*

*My children never ignored me,
All around us, bells of joy rung,
I was never forgotten or hurt,
When my children were tender and young.*

*I watched them grow, under my care,
Nursed them and gave them all they would.
I asked for little in return and rare,
And my children asked for only what I could.*

*As time flew by, my little ones grew older,
And something changed.
They asked more of their mother and ignored her,
Suddenly, I was estranged.*

*Our joyous days together were memories of yore,
I became a burden to my children,
I tried to give them what they wanted
but they wanted more
And when they took from me, they hurt me.*

*They kept taking and never saw my pain,
I cried out to them to let me be,
But all my pleas were in vain.
I ask my children, 'Do you still love me?'*

*My children, I have little left and I am old,
I have little to give and I am too weak to cry,
Stop, my little ones, is your heart this cold?
Do you want to see your mother die?*

*I gave you a tree, my children,
You chopped it down.
I gave you a sea, my children,
And you turned it brown.
I gave you the sky,
But you blackened it with smoke;*

*Don't you, my children,
love your mother Earth anymore?*

**Irene Mary Bobby, 14 years old,
GEMS Modern Academy Dubai**



Do you want your poem about Nature published in our newsletter? Send it to mariam.alqassimi@ead.ae to have it featured.

Tara Golshan's May visit to Abu Dhabi

Our Executive Director's last visit to Abu Dhabi resulted in more schools signing up to the programme. We now have over 80 member schools in the UAE and the number is rising on a daily basis. This time she visited our newest members, the Canadian International School and Sheikh Zayed Private Academy (SZPA) for Girls who presented their latest Roots & Shoots projects. Welcome aboard. Tara also gave presentations to the British International School and Jumeirah College, Dubai.



Committed members of the Roots & Shoots committee present at Sheikh Zayed school

STOP PRESS

Arabic version of resources to become available very soon!

جذور وبراعم

We are proud that Roots & Shoots is an international programme reaching many different nationalities across the globe. Today, it is in over 100 countries worldwide, and therefore translated into many different languages. Therefore, we are very happy to announce the translation of Roots & Shoots resources into Arabic for the first time. These are available here on our website:

www.rootnsnshoots.ae/resource/xeriscaping-creating-a-low-water-garden/

www.rootnsnshoots.ae/resource/water-activity-turtles-dugongs/

www.rootnsnshoots.ae/resource/reuse-recycle-breaking-the-bag-habit/



Photo: Roots & Shoots

Members create stunning displays at the annual Roots & Shoots Awards

On Friday 3rd March, Roots & Shoots groups from around the UK descended on the iconic Barbican Centre in London for the annual Roots & Shoots Awards, and were joined by Dr Jane Goodall herself.

The Awards are an exciting and innovative way to recognise the achievement and innovation of our young ambassadors for the planet.

The projects demonstrated imagination, determination and diligence, achieving tangible and measurable results ranging from fundraising for important causes to encouraging environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of society.

"Each year brings even more inspirational and exciting projects from our members. The quality of the projects this year was truly outstanding. The enthusiasm, commitment, dedication and perseverance of our youth is a valuable lesson for us all"

Tara Golshan, Executive Director.

The fact that there is a network of young people across the world, all



Dr Jane enjoys engaging with members and viewing displays

united in the same goal is one of Dr Jane's main reasons for hope. The success of this event was made possible through the support of our official awards sponsor Love Nature, dedicated to bringing nature lovers closer to the beauty and mystery of the natural world.

A very special congratulations to these individuals and groups that displayed exceptional dedication and creativity.



Photos: Roger Marks Photography

More information on the winning projects can be found here

www.rootsnshoots.org.uk/blog/2017/03/09/the-wonderful-roots-shoots-awards-2017/



Win a trip to shoot on location in Canada!

As a natural history streaming app, Love Nature believes in the absolute power of documentaries to connect viewers to the environment, ecosystems, and species around the world that are in desperate need of help. That's why they are teaming up with the Jane Goodall Institute's Roots & Shoots programme to offer current university-goers and students 16 years or older a very special prize in a competition to show off student filmmaking prowess.

First, second and third placed entries will be announced at the Jane Goodall Institute's annual Roots & Shoots Awards in Abu Dhabi, in January 2018. The overall winner will be flown out to join Love Nature's film crews on location in the channel's motherland—Canada—on an official Love Nature shoot. The top three entries will also be broadcast worldwide on the Love Nature Video Streaming App.

Whether you're a budding student naturalist, a creature-loving creative, or a fired-up filmmaker in the making, we're looking for entries for the Roots & Shoots Documentary Competition (RSDC) from those with a drive to make the most creative amateur natural history documentaries out there. Entries can be on any topic relating to environmental matters.

Love
NATURE

Love Nature
Competition

The finished shorts must be between 3 and 20 minutes long, created by current university students and on a theme of 'inspiring change'.

The documentaries can also be filmed on any device, in any format—the focus being on the creative process of effective and impactful storytelling rather than big budgets. First, second and third placed entries will be announced at the Jane Goodall Institute's annual Roots & Shoots Awards in Abu Dhabi next January.

To enter, simply send an email to chiara.mckee@blueskyentertainment.com from your university/high school email address with a link to your completed work, alongside a covering letter outlining the title of your entry, what the documentary is about, and why you were inspired to focus on that particular subject. The deadline for submissions is the **1st December 2017** for the Abu Dhabi awards. Further details can be found on the Roots & Shoots website.

Good Luck!



In Prague with Dr Jane

In December last year Jane visited Prague for just three days to officially launch our Roots & Shoots programme in the Czech Republic. No mean feat!

And, what a hectic three days it turned out to be! The itinerary included a visit to Prague Zoo which involved visiting the chimpanzee and other amazing animals from all around the world; interviews on National TV including one with the famous presenter Marek Eben, who like everyone else, was completely bowled over by Jane; a dinner cruise down the beautiful Prague river in honour of her visit and attended by the great and the good in conservation, politics and the media; an international school talk to our newly recruited young Roots & Shoots members; a grand city Hall lecture with the prestigious elite of Prague and finally Charles University, to a packed auditorium that had to be live streamed all over the country as tickets had sold out so early on. Phew! Only our Jane can pull off such a successful achievement in just three days!

Roots & Shoots is now firmly planted in Prague with the International School and others leading the way.

Watch this space for an opportunity to twin with a school in Prague

Roots & Shoots at the *Wild for Life* Exhibition in Prague

If we want to end the illegal wildlife trade, we need to change attitudes and motivate people to make informed choices that don't threaten biodiversity.

face onto an image of the species and share on social media. At the exhibition, such images appeared from Yaya Touré, Gisele Bündchen,

Photo: Roots & Shoots



Roots & Shoots at the Wild for Life Exhibition in Prague



That's the aim of Wild for Life, a campaign started in 2016 by the United Nations Environment team. Our Executive Director, Tara Golshan was in Prague to represent Roots & Shoots at the campaign's launch at Prague airport, which showcased a high profile celebrities poster campaign, representing different endangered species around the globe.

Wild for Life is the UN Environment's most successful digital campaign ever, reaching over 1 billion people, generating 4.5 million social media reactions, engaging 35 celebrity voices, inspiring 15,000 pledges to take action and winner of numerous awards.

As part of the campaign, people can choose a kindred species; morph their

Ian Somerhalder to Jane Goodall, Monika Leova and the football star Neymar Jr, among others.

Tara joined the event with the Deputy Executive Director of UN Environment, Czech Deputy Minister of the Environment Vladislav Smrz and Monika Leova who was crowned Czech Miss Earth in 2013 and is an ardent supporter of the campaign.

Find out more about the 'Wild For Life' campaign by visiting the website, and don't forget to share your support and spread the word on Facebook and Instagram! Why not try making a poster yourself using the website and sharing this with your school, or on social media?

Where is Jane?

Earth Optimism Conference, Cambridge

Photos: Mary Lewis



Photos: Roots & Shoots UK



Dr Jane Goodall returned early from her North American tour to give the opening keynote at the Earth Optimism Conference on Saturday 22nd April in Cambridge, UK.

A host of fascinating speakers gave short talks on their work to protect a wide variety of species around the world. The auditorium was packed with relays to two overflow rooms and the programme was live streamed around the world. From the work of the Jane Goodall Institute to the rescue

of the last Togo slippery toads, albatross, lemurs, plants and people. It was a very exciting and moving day. Aligned to this was the Solutions Fair, which was busy all day long sharing information on the positive ways we can all make a difference. Roots & Shoots UK was able to reach many young people, encouraging them to become involved in our global programme. A fabulous day ended with a visit to the stand from the one and only, Sir David Attenborough.

David Attenborough visits the Roots & Shoots stand delighting JGI staff members and volunteers