

Dear Members,

It seems that Summer always comes around so quickly. The beginning of this year marked a very special return to our in person Roots & Shoots awards event – after three years! And what a celebration it proved to be! Held at the DP World Pavilion, EXPO where our teachers and students gathered to display and share their inspirational projects with invited guests, sponsors and partners. See inside for a full report of this truly magical day.

On another note, I have been reflecting a great deal on the passage of time. And how fast it goes. As a society, we are so busy rushing from one matter to the next, that we often fail to observe or indeed witness the passage of time. That is, until there is a significant event to remind us.

This year, my son, who has travelled this environmental journey with us, turns eighteen. He is now launching into adulthood and all that comes with it. I am encouraged that he will take the right values and commitment to the environment and the Planet into his future journey. As will all our members reading this newsletter and engaging with our programme.

Today, many of our earliest Roots & Shoots members across the Globe, hold senior positions of responsibility in different sectors and are thus able to bring these values along with them, making a positive contribution to the ongoing well being of our Planet and all its inhabitants.

For those of you who are embarking on your Summer holidays this year, remember to always keep in mind a healthy respect for the environment, and indeed each other, and those small acts you can make each day that contribute to a brighter future for the next generations to come.

Happy holidays,

Tara Golshan
Executive Director, Education



SUMMER TERM 2023



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Dr Jane back in the UAE after three years of virtual appearances!

A sneak peak of Dr Jane's UAE diary:

25th January

After landing in Dubai, it was straight to a meeting with the Minister for International Cooperation, followed by the first interview of the week with [The National News](#)

26th January

An exciting day at the Roots & Shoots Awards

27th January

[The Arbor School](#) visit – Dr Jane met with board members, teachers and students and was given an uplifting tour of the school grounds before delivering an inspiring talk to a large audience. Then more interviews followed with [Philanthropy Age Magazine](#) available on [Apple](#) and [Spotify](#).

28th January

Off to the studios for interviews with [Nas Daily](#); [Sharjah Media](#)

30th January

Dr Jane [visited Fairgreen International School](#) and officially opened

the 'Goodall block'; attended a presentation with participants from a Roots & Shoots Roundtable before delivering an amazing talk to encourage students to take positive action.

The afternoon involved an interview with [Ananke Magazine](#).

Dr Jane at The Arbor School



Dr Jane on a tour around The Arbor School

Photos: The Arbor School



Dr Jane at the official opening of the Goodall block



Dr Jane with inspired youth at Fairgreen

Photos: Fairgreen International School

There was no better way to celebrate Dr Jane's return to the UAE after three years than the **Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots Awards**

The inspiring day was sponsored by [DP World](#) and hosted in their spectacular EXPO Dubai Pavilion.

The theme of the event was **'The resilience of Roots & Shoots through the Pandemic'**, where 10 of our amazing Roots & Shoots members presented their outstanding projects and filled the room with hope and positivity.

We would like to thank them for putting together amazing videos and displays showcasing their hard work and dedication – from gardening to recycling, from caring for animals to raising money for important causes, they highlighted the importance of never giving up, even in the hardest and most challenging circumstances.



American School of Dubai is a long time Roots & Shoots member, and their students love planting in their school garden and composting, caring for their beehives, building an insect hotel and caring for the cats on the campus. During the pandemic, they took part in an artificial coral reef programme and created a coral reef replacement.



Delhi Private School, Sharjah care about the community and people, so they organised a campaign to support under privileged schools in India by donating their school supplies and toys. Locally, they volunteered to plant indigenous trees and provide households that do not have access to electricity with sustainable sources of energy.



Abu Dhabi Homeschoolers Association fundraised for an organisation that provides clean drinking water to communities in Africa. On a trip to Pakistan, the team visited a senior citizens home and bought gift cards for its residents and school supplies for the kids at an orphanage. Their love for animals inspired them to foster and find homes for stray cats and dogs, and their passion for a better world, encouraged them to do a beach clean-up, where they collected over 150kg of trash.



Dunecrest American School started the wonderful seed to garden project and planted lots of herbs and vegetables that they continue using for school and in the school kitchen. They also learned about climate change and educated their classmates on food security.



Abu Dhabi Indian School, Muroor started the campaign 'Hold That Drop' to convey the message that 'We must save water and respect water resources'. They also organised a single use plastic collection drive and continue to raise awareness about how important it is to respect and care for our planet.



GEMS United Indian School loves being part of Roots & Shoots and spreading Dr Jane's message that together we can create a better world for all. One of their great projects is when students went to local baqalas and asked them to reduce their usage of single use plastic carrier bags, aiming for zero usage. Growing microgreens was a very productive project during the pandemic.



Fairgreen International School students are dedicated to making the world a better place. They love planting herbs and veggies in their school garden. They also turned Halloween into a Hallogreen, where students and teachers dressed up in sustainable costumes to remind the Fairgreen community to be mindful of their carbon footprint and impact on the environment even on special occasions such as Halloween.



Pristine Private School encourages every single one of their students to make a positive change. Their eco team takes part in numerous projects and collaborations – from learning about trash and doing desert clean ups to giving them the platform to raise their voice on issues, such as environmental activism.



Safa Community School is passionate about charitable projects – from Pink Day to their 'From Safa with Love' initiative where they collect donations for support staff. They aim to make sustainable choices around the school by reusing old products such as tyres and pallets for building materials. They reuse plastic to make new items and each year, eco warriors take part in a desert clean up.



The Arbor School is very proud of the work they did with the The Dubai Oyster Project, where the oyster shells were donated to the school, and the secondary students filled discarded fish traps with the shells in order to repurpose them, as they provide structures where marine plants and animals can grow. They also devised a Circular Economy Entrepreneurship for their winter fair, concentrating on the impact of waste and how they can minimise it – so they started a second-hand book swap business with eco-friendly wrapping that was created from used materials.

Thank you

We would also like to thank all our guests and guest schools for joining us to celebrate their amazing work in making a positive difference for animals, the environment and our communities. Dr Jane was delighted to visit each stand and talk with the students about their work.

Reflecting on the day, she said: *"It was so inspiring and uplifting to be back in the UAE and attend the Roots & Shoots Awards. The projects were exceptional given the challenges the students & teachers have faced during the Pandemic. I am so proud of all of them"*.

Our Executive Director, Education, Tara Golshan commented: *"This has been a very special awards for us. It is Dr Jane's first return trip to the UAE in 3 years, and our first "in person" event post Pandemic. Today, the standard of the projects truly demonstrated the resilience of our Roots & Shoots programme and the remarkable achievements of its members, despite the challenges of a Global Pandemic. We have now reached over 150 schools in the UAE and look forward to continued collaborations and growth across the region of the UAE. A very special thank you to our sponsors at DP World. Their generous support has enabled us to continue our great work in this region.*

In a world where everything is instant and fast paced Roots & Shoots has tremendous value, not only through our long-term relationships with our teachers, schools, sponsors and partners, who have travelled this journey with us, but also in the longevity of the projects that are creating a sustainable future."

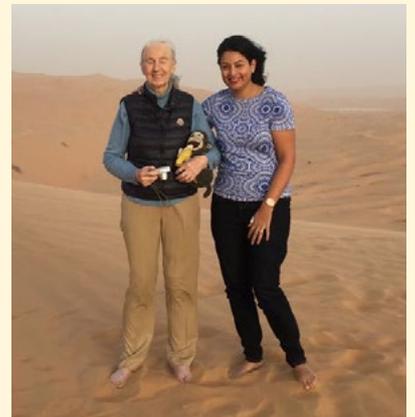


Dr Jane giving her inspiring speech at the Roots & Shoots Awards 2023



Our ED Tara Golshan at the Roots & Shoots Awards 2023

Our ED Tara Golshan, reflected on the week with Dr Jane



Dr Jane and Tara Golshan

I have had the fortune of working with Dr Jane for seventeen years and what a privilege it has been.

We have been visiting the UAE

together since 2011 when we first attended the Eye on Earth Summit in Abu Dhabi. Jane has an incredible magic about her that never fails to inspire every person she meets. From Presidents to Royalty, to the youngest student members of Roots & Shoots, she always displays her own brand of compassion and empathy; encouraging positive action for the environment and more importantly, hope and inspiration, especially to those in challenging environments and climates, the UAE being a good example of this. Her energy and enthusiasm never wavers, and her commitment to visit each and every school and speak to individual students is steady and unflinching, no matter the circumstances. I am always awed by her level of commitment where many of us tire way before a 12-14 hour day is complete.

Thank you Jane for all that you do and continue to do for our Planet and its inhabitants.

The must watch: Children's TV series 'Jane' finally released

The Jane Goodall Institute partnered with Apple TV+ and Sinking Ship Entertainment to launch the children's television series 'Jane' on the 14th April on Apple



TV+, described as "A new 10-episode mission-driven series for kids and families inspired by the work of Dr. Jane Goodall."

Each episode of this exciting new live-action and CGI-blended children's TV series **'Jane's Animal Adventures'**, focuses on a quest to save a different endangered animal around the world. The series follows the story of Jane Garcia, a nine-year-old on a mission to protect the planet & save animals with help from her friends, including her toy chimp 'Greybeard'.

And it's all inspired by Dr Jane Goodall, who stated: *"I'm excited about this opportunity and relationship with Apple and Sinking Ship. The program 'Jane' spreads a message of hope and reminds children that the environment is something that we all have to be concerned about while also inspiring them and their parents to make a difference."*

All episodes are available to stream now on @AppleTVPlus (subscription required)

Join us to celebrate Peace Day

Every year on the 21st September, Roots & Shoots groups from around the world gather together to celebrate Peace Day and honour the [UN International Day of Peace](#).

Dr. Jane has been a UN Messenger of Peace since 2002 and she inspires us all to live in harmony with nature and each other. Each Roots & Shoots project is a step towards a future in which humans can live in peace in an environmentally sustainable way – a step towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

2023 Theme Actions for Peace: Our ambition for the #GlobalGoals

There is so much we can do to foster peace, and we would like to encourage you to join us. Here are a few ideas to get you started:

- 👉 Sing the [Peace Day Song](#)
- 👉 Share ideas – what is Peace? How can you contribute to a World of compassion and empathy? [Create a poster](#), [talk to each other/ to others](#) – what does peace mean to you and what you can do to inspire and foster peace around you
- 👉 Host a Peace Day Parade. Make a [Giant Peace Dove](#) (get the whole class/ school involved) and [Small Peace Day Doves](#) (colour each dove in a different skin colour and fly them together)



- 👉 Write a pledge on your dove – what can you do to bring Peace and harmony? And of course, share your pledges and photos with us! We will create a gallery to inspire even more people! E-mail Jasmina Georgovska at jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk

Let's connect

About the Twinning Programme

At a time of global uncertainty, it's essential for young people to be outward-looking, open-minded, and to understand other cultures. If your group joins the twinning programme your students will have the opportunity to learn about another group's homeland, environment, wildlife, culture, religion, and language.

We provide step-by-step resources to help you establish your [twinning programme](#). Once you're up and running, educational resources specifically tailored to twinned schools will help you get the most out of the programme.

Below are some of key areas on which you need to focus to ensure you get the most out of your twinning programme. Here are some of the possibilities; you may want to incorporate.

- Language development
- Cultural understanding
- Specific educational development e.g. science, history, geography, literature, religious studies

the Twinning Programme between the UAE and the UK

- An exchange programme, allowing children to experience each other's cultures directly
- Out-of-school development such as a pen-pal or email communication scheme

You may wish to start your [twinning programme](#) with just your Roots & Shoots group, with a view to introducing new groups in subsequent years until the programme encompasses the entire school. We recommend that at least two members of staff take ownership of the programme; this allows it to continue should one member of staff leave, and eases communication when staff are not always available. You'll need to plan your programme to revolve around the school year. Schools in the UAE and UK share similar term-times, which is helpful. One of the key essential elements of your programme will be communication. Be structured but realistic from the start. Things to ascertain from the beginning are, 1) Who are the main points of contact in each school 2) Will you communicate solely by email, or will you also have phone conversations or

conference calls 3) You may choose to adopt an ad-hoc approach to communication or agree a regular weekly contact time. After you've put all the effort into setting up your twinning programme, it would be a shame for it to falter due to lack of support, enthusiasm or resources. You can help avoid this by planning plenty of time in advance. For example, you may wish to agree a framework of activities across the course of the academic year. At the end of the year, don't leave it too late to organise Year Two; aim to have the following academic year's twinning plans in place before the summer.

We would love to hear about your twinning experience so don't forget to post on the Roots & Shoots website.

Roots & Shoots is in Qatar!

Dr Jane was delighted to visit Qatar earlier this year, and as a result, we are excited to welcome our first Qatar member school – Qatar Academy Sidra.

Neema Saleem. M.

[Qatar Academy Sidra \(QAS\)](#) is a Qatar Foundation school established in 2012 to challenge today's learners and empower them to be the change-makers of tomorrow. As a part of Pre-University Education, QAS is a non-profit co-educational international school that offers a broad-based international educational program.

QAS inspires and empowers our learners to be equipped as future agents for a sustainable world. As such, we have numerous programs for our students to create awareness about various global and local issues and what can be done to tackle them. Some of these programs have been recognized locally and internationally, and they keep inspiring our students to take action.

Roots & Shoots was launched at QAS on Jane Goodall's 89th birthday, 3 April 2023. On this day, we planted fruit trees around our campus and celebrated Dr Jane.



Students working in the garden



Local connection Preserving food workshop



Students in the field

Photos: Qatar Academy Sidra

Roots & Shoots at QAS aims to achieve five main objectives over the next two years: creating awareness about food security, nutrition, carbon footprint, biodiversity, and the circular economy. To achieve these objectives, we are committed to working consistently, improving by adding value to what we already have, and implementing additional projects to educate our community about the urgency of taking action to save our planet.

For more details [click here](#)

Roots & Shoots UAE members act to help those in need in Syria and Türkiye

“That is our hope. Because if we all start listening and helping, then surely, together, we can make the world a better place for all living things. Can't we?”

– Jane Goodall, DBE

Members from [Abu Dhabi Homeschoolers Association](#) and Al Saad Indian School were touched by the plight of the people who lost their homes and loved ones during the Syria and Türkiye earthquakes. As a result, Abu Dhabi Homeschoolers Association members brought long life food supplies and rushed it to a donation centre, in the hope that it gets to those in need fast and helps ease their worries.

[Al Saad Indian School](#) members wasted no time when they heard about the devastating earthquakes. The whole school got involved with donations of dry food, clothes, and cash aid. They were reminded of Mother Teresa's words: *“If you can't feed a hundred people, then just feed one.”*

When we work together, when we have compassion in our hearts and take action, do good, we are stronger and a better future for all is not only possible, it is achievable.



Shopping for those in need



Students and teachers packing up the donations



Donations going in for packing



Students sorting out the donations

Photos: Abu Dhabi Homeschoolers Association

Photos: Al Saad Indian School

FEATURED SCHOOL

THE INDIAN ACADEMY, DUBAI

The Year of Sustainability

His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan has announced that 2023 will be the 'Year of Sustainability'.

His Highness said, *"Today for Tomorrow embodies the UAE's approach and commitment to sustainability and its responsibility to protect the future. By working, making efforts and initiating actions today, we are ensuring that we leave behind a legacy of stewardship for future generations, just as our ancestors did for us."*

Here are some of the projects The Indian Academy Dubai took on:

1. Nature walk-Lesson integration to sustainability

Going on a nature walk and deliberately noticing things encourages children to observe with all their senses. The Indian Academy enhances teaching and learning by focusing on the integration of Sustainability in all walks of school procedures. Children can learn to focus their attention and take in the details of things around them. We provide Nature Walks to the students to share a peaceful, reflective experience for you and your children.

SDG Stamping: - SDG 4 - Quality Education - A nature walk can be an effective tool for providing experiential and hands-on learning opportunities for students, helping to enhance their understanding and appreciation of the natural world.

2. 'Invest in our Planet'- Say No to Plastic

We celebrated a day to remind the students of their duties towards 'Mother Nature.' As a part of environmental education, the school Primary Section initiated the students to engage with the environment in making a difference on the theme of the year 'Invest in our Planet'.

Children learned the importance of preserving planet earth through activities. Students expressed their views by making short speeches on 'Say No to Plastic' and the 'conservation of environment'.

Students of the Eco club presented an awareness campaign to the classes, staff and the parent community to make them aware of the need for everyone to put together their efforts and take action, in protecting our environment. SDG 14 & 15: A major threat to marine and terrestrial living beings.



Nature walk



Eco Entrepreneurship



Say No to Plastic



Clean Campus Initiative

See more of The Indian Academy projects

3. Seed Bank

Students of the eco-club have taken the initiative to start a Seed Bank in the school by collecting a variety of fruits and vegetable seeds. The main objective of establishing the seed bank is to spread knowledge about agriculture and gardening among the new generations and to instill learning among the students regarding the importance and significance of the varieties of seeds and how to preserve them.

The seeds are used for school gardening. We have stamped Seed bank to SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production, and SDG 15: Life on Land.



4. Clean campus initiative

Clean Campus promotes Hygiene, improves hygiene levels on school premises and helps to reduce the spread of sickness, maintaining a clean college environment and thus setting a good example to students. Cleanliness encourages learners to take pride in their school, which makes them less likely to drop litter and as such, they will potentially make a bigger effort to maintain their environment.

The Indian Academy, Dubai has organized a Clean Campus campaign to educate and promote civic sense among the student community. Eco Club students went to the classes and were briefed about the importance of the cleanliness of the campus. Students were advised not to litter garbage on the school premises, which is very unhygienic. They urged to make the school campus & classrooms a beautiful place and also contributing to healthier individuals as the environment around them is healthy.

Sustainable Cities and Communities- SDG 11 and Quality Education: SDG 4.

Photos: The Indian Academy, Dubai