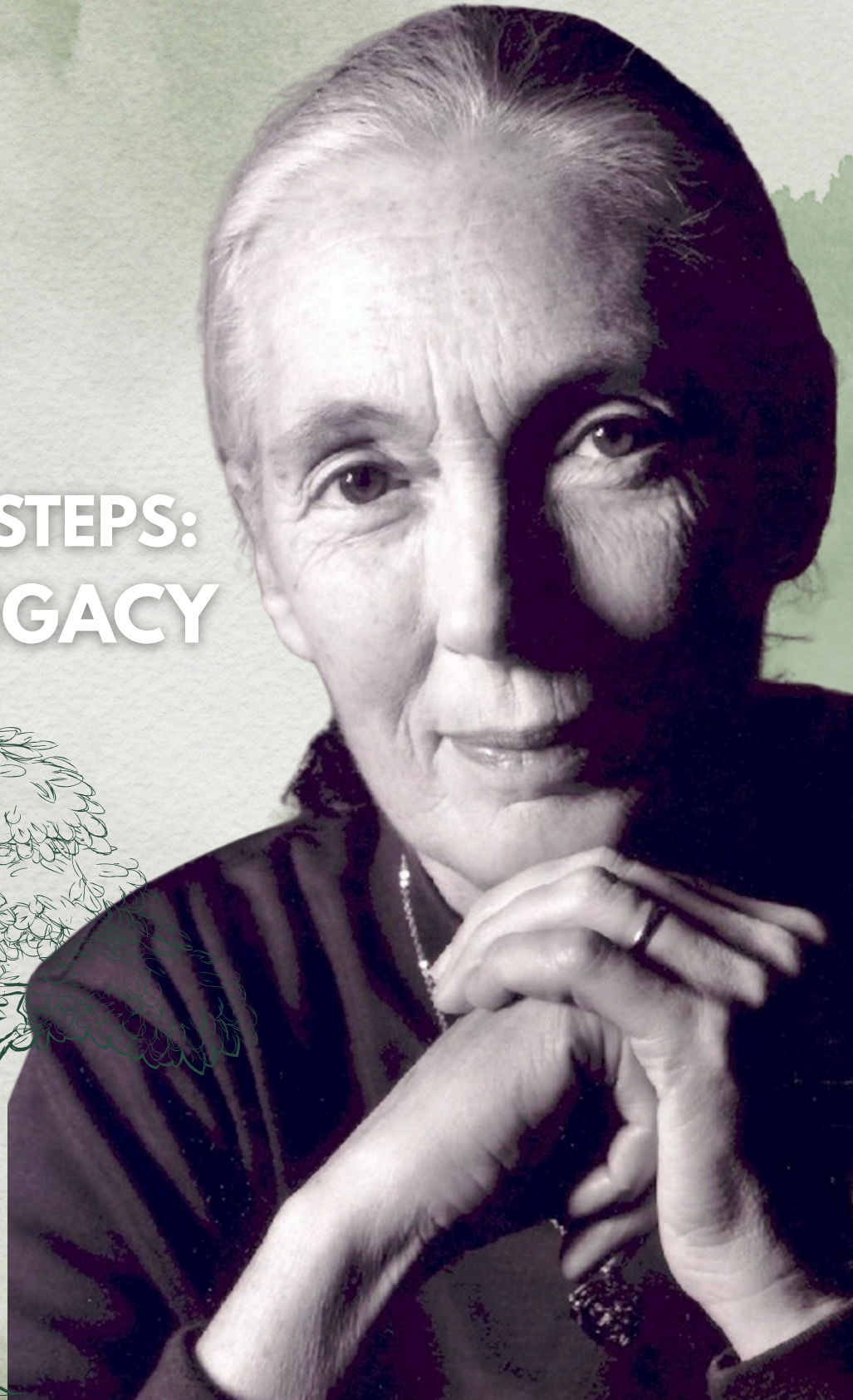




Jane Goodall's
Roots & Shoots
UAE

Spring Term 2026 NEWSLETTER

**IN HER FOOTSTEPS:
A LIVING LEGACY**



DEAR MEMBERS,
WELCOME TO OUR SPRING NEWSLETTER!

Many people have asked me about Jane's legacy in the last few months. I often struggle with the term Legacy, as it appears to reference something that has already happened.

In fact, AI refers to it as: something transmitted from an ancestor, predecessor, or the past, or value an individual leaves behind. But, in my opinion, this is not our future narrative.

Indeed, I feel Jane's legacy is very much a living one. It lives in the science that protects our planet, and the Scientists protecting our ecosystems; in the next generation of conscientious youth taking responsibility for our world and in a global community shaping sustainable futures, committed to acting with compassion, courage and hope. All the values Jane stood for. Her work redefined not only how we study nature, but how we value it—and ourselves within it. Each successful conservation effort, each empowered individual, each restored habitat is part of her ongoing story.

I had the privilege of working alongside Jane for 20 years of my life - what a life experience it proved to be. I remember, when Nelson Mandela passed away his family asked Jane to write a special tribute to him. One of her lines was that "It's hard to imagine a world without Nelson Mandela". And I feel the same now - it's hard to imagine a world without Jane in it.

A visionary herself and a woman whose life was defined by curiosity, courage and an unwavering belief in the power of individuals to shape change. Jane did not simply study the world; she paid attention to it. She listened deeply - to nature, to communities and especially to women — in fact one of her driving missions was to encourage more women into the field of science.

Roots & Shoots, her youth programme that was so close to her heart, is an ever-growing Global movement, now in 75 countries, the next generation who already understand that every action matters. It demonstrates, daily and globally, that young people are capable of meaningful leadership now—not someday in the future.

Jane understood that hope is not something we inherit automatically. It is something we choose — again and again. It is shaped through action, through responsibility and through the courage to imagine something better than what currently exists.

And so, may we continue to see the world through her eyes — with compassion, courage, hope and conviction — knowing that her work endures in all of us who choose to carry it forward. Jane showed us what it means to lead with purpose; our responsibility now is to live that purpose — together. The path she set before us is clear — and it is ours, together, to continue.

TARA GOLSHAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



A Day in the Life of a Changemaker

What does it mean to be a changemaker? It's often found in small actions that create real impact.

At American Community School of Abu Dhabi, students marked their 100th day of learning with a 100 Days of School, Friendship and Kindness food drive, with each class working toward collecting 100 cans for those in need.

The result—55 boxes of donations shared with the local Red Crescent.

A simple idea, turned into meaningful impact—and a reminder that even the smallest acts of kindness can make a difference.



Tara's Visit to the UAE

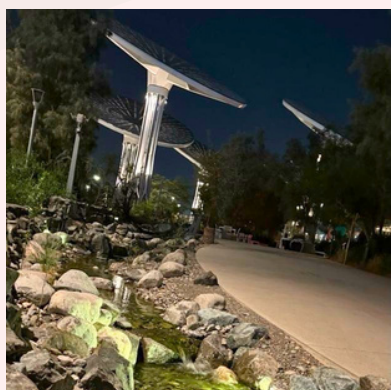
During her recent visit to the UAE, our Executive Director, Tara Golshan, spent time connecting with the Roots & Shoots community and experiencing firsthand the work happening across the region.

Throughout her visit, Tara met with colleagues and partners, witnessing the dedication, professionalism, and unity that continue to drive the programme forward. Despite the challenges unfolding globally, what stood out most was the team's calm commitment to the mission—a powerful reminder of the strength of this community.

One of the highlights of the visit was a tour of Terra, home of our Roots & Shoots office. From the addition of a family of goats to the growth of native plants, a mini forest, and a botanic garden, the experience showcased the incredible work being done and the impact of hands-on environmental initiatives.

Tara also visited Jane Goodall's Pollinator Garden, a space named in her honour. The garden, home to a swarm of bees, has grown significantly over the years, with bee populations increasing from 2,000 in 2019 to over 30,000 today—an inspiring example of how dedicated conservation efforts can create lasting impact.

Reflecting on the visit, one thing remained clear—this work is not something that stands still. It continues to grow, evolve, and move forward, guided by a shared purpose and a lasting commitment to creating positive change.





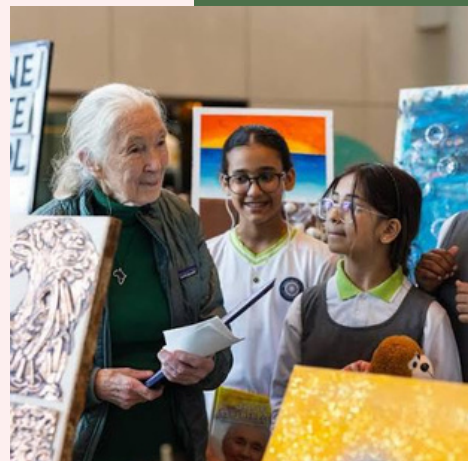
A TRIBUTE BOOK IN THE MAKING: HONOURING DR JANE GOODALL

We are working on a special publication celebrating the life and legacy of Dr. Jane Goodall. Students are invited to share a short tribute on how she has inspired you and how you will carry her legacy forward. Please include your name, class, and school, and **send your submission to isra@janegoodall.ae**. Selected entries will be featured in the book. We look forward to bringing this tribute to life through your voices.



An Inspiring Celebration Is on the Horizon

We're excited to announce our upcoming annual Awards—celebrating our community's achievements and honouring the legacy of Dr. Jane Goodall. Bringing together schools, students, and partners, the event will recognise the impact of young changemakers across the UAE. More details coming soon—stay tuned and keep your contact details updated. As we prepare for the fall, we encourage you to continue sharing your projects—your work is at the heart of this celebration.



WELCOMING A NEW VOICE TO THE COMMUNITY:

We are pleased to welcome Isra Ibrahim as our new Schools Liaison and Outreach Officer at Roots & Shoots UAE.

With a passion for youth engagement and community-building, Isra is committed to empowering young people to take meaningful action.



“I’m honoured to be part of a community that believes in the power of young people to create real change. I look forward to supporting our schools and growing this movement together.”



MAKING WAVES AGAIN: THE BAHRI PROGRAMME RETURNS



Making Waves Again: The Bahri Programme Returns
Last year, our Bahri Marine Roots Programme brought marine conservation to life, highlighting the UAE’s coastal ecosystems—from mangroves to marine life.

The programme saw great enthusiasm, with students exploring ways to protect these environments.

Following its success, we’re excited to bring it back. **Schools can register their interest at isra@janegoodall.ae.**

Let’s continue working together to protect our oceans.



Around the World – Roots & Shoots Canada



Change grows across communities, and around the world, Roots & Shoots members are turning ideas into action.

At Argyle, the Green Team is bringing environmental education to life through hands-on, outdoor learning. Students explore biodiversity, climate change, and sustainability—connecting knowledge with real action.

Across every country, one thing remains constant—young people turning ideas into impact.



A Thought to Carry Forward



**“What you do makes a difference,
and you have to decide what kind
of difference you want to make.”
— Jane Goodall**



In moments where the world can feel uncertain, this reminder feels more important than ever. Change doesn't come from one person alone—it comes from communities that choose to show up, support one another, and take action together.

Across our Roots & Shoots community, we continue to see this every day. In the way schools collaborate, in the way students take initiative, and in the way we stand united through challenges. Because it's not just about the difference we make individually—but the impact we create when we move forward together.



In times like these, the importance of supporting our community—and the next generation—has never been greater.

For the first time, we are inviting corporate sponsors to get involved, those who believe in this mission to help empower young changemakers.

If this is of interest, please contact tara@janegoodall.ae

