

NEWS INSIDE...



The newsletter of
Jane Goodall's
Roots & Shoots

UAE

Dear Members,

What unsettling times we find ourselves in. I'm sure I speak for a number of us when I say, three months of lockdown is becoming rather tedious. Certainly here in the UK, the future is both uncertain and unpredictable. And the shocking number of fatalities from Covid-19 has placed a very dark shadow across our planet.

Life, as we now know it, is extremely difficult and uncertain, not just on a national level, but global too. I understand you must be feeling worried and fearful of how things will turn out but I want you to know that R&S is here to support you through these challenging times.

And, I still have hope. Hope for our planet, hope for mankind, hope for the future and hope for the next generation. And on that note, I am proud to present you with the latest edition of our exciting newsletter, which proves, that even with a global pandemic and subsequent lockdown, there is every reason to hope, and no stopping our resilient and resourceful Roots & Shoots members!

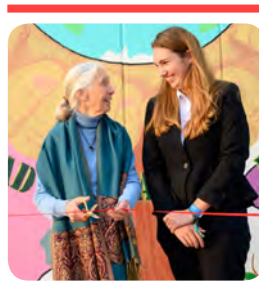
Dr Jane Goodall has shared some wonderful messages of hope and her unshaken belief in a brighter future, because when things are in crisis, [hope has the power to transform](#).

[Our special guide](#) has been specifically tailored towards Roots & Shoots activities that can be undertaken during this difficult period of isolation. For me personally, nature has always been a wonderful escape and indeed a healing tool in difficult times and I take every opportunity to embrace it whenever I can.

Stay safe and well, support loved ones, neighbours and your local communities.

We are with you all the way!

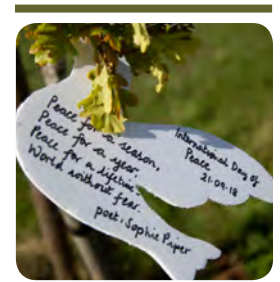
Tara Golshan
Executive Director, Education



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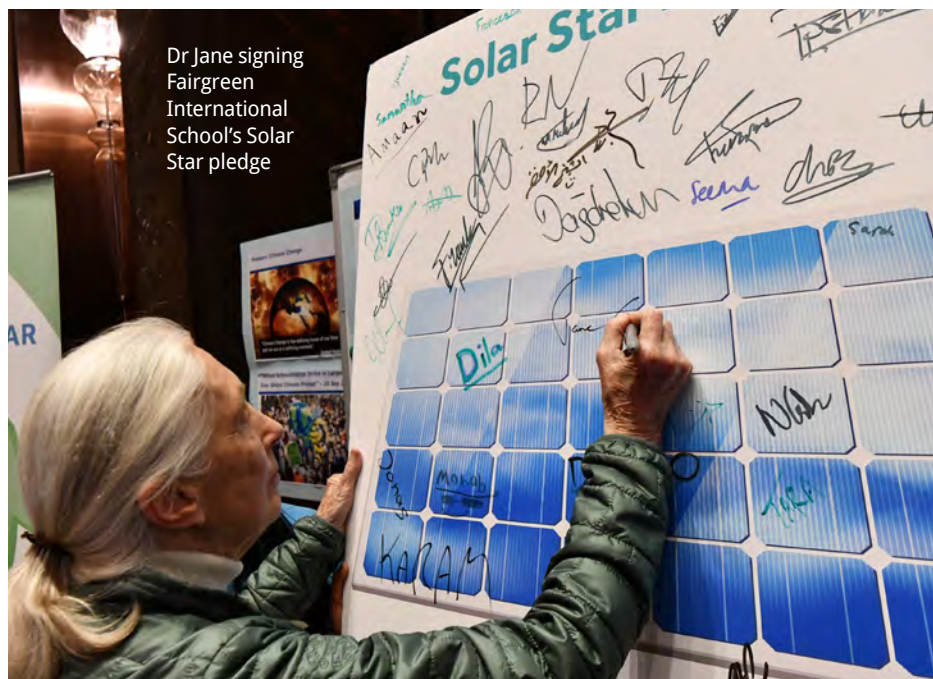


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An Uplifting and Inspiring Day at our UAE Awards



Dr Jane signing Fairgreen International School's Solar Star pledge

Photo: NYUAD

Our [Roots & Shoots UAE Awards](#), supported by NYU Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) was held at the beautiful Park Hyatt, Abu Dhabi in the presence of Dr Jane Goodall who presented 12 awards to UAE school members.

The following schools displayed a wide range of inspiring displays:

Al Ittihad National Private School, Abu Dhabi; Al Rawafed Private School; American Community School of Abu Dhabi; American School of Dubai; Cranleigh Abu Dhabi; Dunes International School; Fairgreen International School; Gems American Academy; Mayoora Private School, Abu Dhabi; Shaikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Bangladesh Islamia School, Abu Dhabi; Sunrise English Private School; The British School, Al Khubairat.

Dr Jane recognized students' achievements in a ceremony that was attended by NYUAD Vice Chancellor Mariët Westermann, alongside representatives from NYUAD, and over 100 youth from more than 20 schools across the nation.

Dr Jane commented, "I am excited that R&S now has groups across the UAE. During my current visit I attended the annual UAE R&S Awards Celebration. For the sixth time, we selected groups from around the UAE who have undertaken outstanding projects, some of which are ongoing, to come together to present their work and receive special recognition and certificates. It was a wonderful occasion, inspirational, and one of the events that gives me the energy to

continued ▶

UAE Awards (cont.)



Dr Jane with students



Dr Jane at schools' display



Photos: NYUAD

keep on travelling 300 days a year.” Projects undertaken by the Roots & Shoots clubs included planting Sidr tree saplings, designing bird feeders from plastic waste, helping Syrian children build their English language skills, planting school gardens, producing solar model windmills, managing smart waste and turning it into organic compost.

Tara Golshan, Executive Director, Education, JGI said *“Working in the UAE in the last six years has been such a rewarding and uplifting experience. Recently the Dubai Ministry told us that they are moving ahead with accrediting R&S as one of their recommended Educational programmes. This is a significant step forward. When I see the projects, dedication and commitment of our young members here, it has inspired me to continue on our often-challenging journey to protect our planet and develop responsible Global citizens of the future”*.

Suparna Mathur, Associate Director of Community Outreach at NYUAD said: *“NYU Abu Dhabi’s partnership with the Jane Goodall Roots & Shoots UAE program has been mutually beneficial and rooted in our core commitments to the environment and education. It has been a privilege to be a part of the growth of the UAE program, allowing us to both catalyse greater sustainable impact with our own campus community as well as be catalysts for increased environmental stewardship*

across the Emirates.”

Schools also created their own eco-friendly clubs to save the environment, launched initiatives in celebration of the Year of Tolerance, spread awareness about solar powered energy, and participated in the Great Nurdle Hunt, an initiative organized by NYU Abu Dhabi’s Office of Community Outreach, to educate participants about the impact of plastic pollution around the world through cleaning up nurdles from the local beaches.

Hannah Melville Rea, volunteer, NYUAD Research Fellow and Class of 2019 Alumni said: *“The awards ceremony gave Roots & Shoots students a chance to learn from Jane, but also from each other. Students came away with 12 new models and ideas for environmental action and gained potential partners for future collaborations. I think that the thousands of nurdles we collected in the 30min beach clean-up activity nicely captured how much impact we can have as a community.”*

Gila Waels, NYUAD Staff said: *“Having hosted Jane Goodall at her first NYUAD visit in January 2015 at NYUAD Institute, it is so rewarding to see the continuity of her work here in Abu Dhabi and the amazing impact she has had. One direct impact was at her first visit here, she insisted we remove all plastic water bottles, a practice we have since upheld at every single event!”*

Dr Jane’s 2020 UAE visit – what an amazing week!

We were delighted that in early 2020, and luckily, just before the Pandemic took hold, Dr Jane managed to attend her **annual UAE visit**

The few days she spent there, were packed with events, lectures, book signings, meetings and of course our landmark Roots & Shoots Awards!

A glimpse of Dr Jane’s schedule:

- Dr Jane Goodall gave a moving & inspirational speech at the Emirates Literature Festival in Dubai to a packed-out audience
- Dr Jane officially opened her Legacy Garden at Cranleigh School, Abu Dhabi!
- She inspired and educated at the prestigious Crown Prince Court Knowledge Seminar in Abu Dhabi
- The British Embassy Expo Launch event, Dr. Jane Goodall and Professor Tadgh O’Donovan, Associate Head of the School of Engineering and Physical Sciences at Heriot-Watt University Dubai, partook in a discussion on sustainability and efforts to combat climate change, alongside other notable industry experts from the UAE
- A day for interviews
- Awards day dedicated to Roots & Shoots



Photo: NYUAD



Photo: British Embassy

The panel at the British Embassy Expo Launch Event 2020



Photo: @julianjohnphotography

Dr Jane officially opens her Legacy Garden at Cranleigh Abu Dhabi



Photo: Crown Prince Court Knowledge Seminar

Dr Jane inspires and educates at the prestigious Crown Prince Court Knowledge Seminar in Abu Dhabi

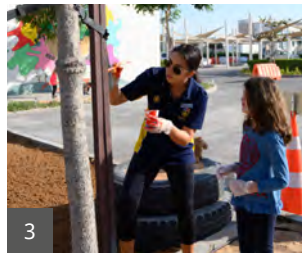
Cranleigh, Abu Dhabi, Legacy Garden: A Journey of Head, Heart and Hand

Educational establishments are an integral and central part of a person's development from early childhood into adulthood. Learning opportunities, whether they are academic, personal, social or emotional, provide vital tools for a flourishing and successful life. Developing the link between school, the wider community and home is instrumental in building and harnessing the holistic resources and coping strategies that children require to prepare them for a fulfilled and satisfied life in an ever changing and, at times, complex world.

At Cranleigh, Abu Dhabi we focus on wellbeing not just for the individual, but the impact you can have on others and the environment and this is represented through our committees Head (Mental Health), Heart (Environment) and Hand (Charity). It has been well documented that a focus on mental health, wellbeing and outreach must be recognized, invested in and embedded in daily living for a holistic, and ultimately meaningful, educational experience - one that is preparing and equipping our community - pupils, staff and parents - with the tools required to succeed and live happily with a sense of purpose. This is the responsibility of ALL and it should be for ALL.

Our community is diverse, individual and unique. It is important that we recognize this as a strength, and also account for the myriad factors inherent in this strength such as language, understanding, awareness and personal values. What we can hold firm to is that flourishing only occurs when we feel safe, have purpose, make a difference and are happy. This is something we all share, understand, believe in and ultimately need to succeed at, no matter our age or where we are in our learning journey. Wellbeing will not be deemed as an 'add-on' or linked to one 'initiative' at Cranleigh, Abu Dhabi. We want to ensure it is woven and bound seamlessly into the education we offer the whole community.

Our Legacy Garden was created by the community for the community. It is where the three committees Head, Heart and Hand came together to highlight the importance of unity, youth voice and making impact that we want to see in our world. [Click here](#) to learn more about the Legacy Garden and Dr Jane's special visit.



1. Michael Wilson (Cranleigh's Principal) signing the Year 13 pledge to acknowledge the commitment of pupil voice through the Head (mental health), Heart (Eco) and Hand (Charity) committees.
 2, 3 & 4 - The Community working on the Legacy Garden 5. The Legacy Garden Mural.
 6. Legacy Garden Building Work

Photos: Cranleigh Abu Dhabi

Launching our brand-new collaboration with the Ministry of Education, UAE

We are very excited to announce a [brand new collaboration](#) with the Ministry of Education in the UAE. The Ministry of Education (MoE) is launching a Smart Virtual National Clubs program, which is an assessment station that supports students' skills. The program, which is to be implemented after the final results of the academic year 2019/2020 have been issued, targets students of public schools and private schools.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



الإمارات العربية المتحدة
وزارة التربية والتعليم

As being one of the partners, Roots & Shoots has taken a part of smart virtual national clubs program in providing Educational programs and assignments for the students to enhance their life skills in different aspects. Smart Virtual National Clubs depend on student's self-learning through educational platforms. They are distinguished for their flexibility in dealing with the self-learning contents or assessment procedures available on the platform. This should contribute to raising the efficiency of a student's performance and enabling them to gain the skills targeted in the program and take responsibility for their learning and assessment.

Our resources will soon be available on the Smart Virtual National Clubs through educational platforms.

GEMS United Indian School

FEATURED SCHOOL

We at [GEMS United Indian School](#) are committed to protecting our environment and our efforts are complimented by the support of our parents, students and staff.

We emphasize the importance of working together to instill a culture of preserving the environment and its resources, which are the real assets for future generations and forms a pillar for achieving sustainable development.

We nurture and mould our students to be proactive global citizens by bringing in positive change to the world we live in. Our students participated in various campaigns and initiatives such as EEG Clean-Up, One Root One Communi-Tree, Can Collection. We collected around 6,500 kg of papers and handed it over to EEG for recycling.

We engage the entire school in the celebration of UN Environment days such as Earth Day, World Environment Day, World Day to combat Desertification, Earth Hour, and many more. Our students are provided various opportunities to raise awareness within their community by involving their family and wider community at large.

Tree planting is an incredible way for students to connect with nature and contributes significantly to our environment's betterment. One of the projects that we are attending every year is "For Our Emirate, We Plant". These projects widen their skills in learning and gives them the opportunity to discuss the environmental issues with experts from this field.

In line with the UAE Vision 2021's goal of maintaining a supportive and sustainable environment, our eco warriors initiated a tree planting event in Al Dahra Agriculture Farm for UN World Day to Combat Desertification. The initiative aimed to reduce the harmful impact of carbon emissions on the environment and explore ways of offsetting them. This event was initiated to preserve the local biodiversity and to protect, preserve and restore our natural habitats of indigenous flora and fauna.

We always encourage our students to practice sustainable lifestyle in their daily lives by following the 6Rs – reduce, reuse, recycle, repair, rethink and refuse.



For Our Emirate, We Plant



Earth Day celebration with pledge and microgreens



World Day to Combat Desertification



Desert clean-up campaign

Photos: GEMS United Indian School

Dunes Deliver an exciting Webinar on 'Connect Community, Connect Nature'

"The Earth is what we all have in common", a statement that speaks immensely with regards to the prevailing condition of our Mother Earth.

[Dunes International School](#) celebrated The World Environment Day 2020 under the theme "biodiversity" – a concern that is both urgent and existential. The very fact that human beings are gifted with wisdom and intellect, is to understand that our lives are dependent on nature and its millions of species. But sadly, we're losing biodiversity globally at an alarming rate, and we need a plethora of different plants and animals, for the planet's health and more importantly, our own.

Dunes International School arranged a [session](#) on 'Connect Nature, Connect Community' with Tara Golshan, Executive Director, Education at The Jane Goodall Institute, UK and UAE, to mark World Environment Day 2020. Tara covered the challenges of our current scenario and explained that, as human beings, how we can survive the pandemic and protect our mother earth.

Collective human actions are transforming, even ravaging, the biosphere - perhaps irreversibly - through global warming and loss of biodiversity. A change on our 'individual' bases can prove a vital factor in saving biodiversity.

It was a really inspirational and informative session, attended by parents and students of grade 4 to 6 and was followed by an interactive Q&A session. In the second half, children asked many questions to which the guest speaker explained very well. Ms. Tara concluded her session by giving a message for Environmental Day. "We should promise to do our part in promoting environmental awareness not just individually or in our own families, but beyond, to the community level as well. Let's create a balance and share the planet wisely with our surrounding species".

Main Points discussed in the session:

- Environment in pre-covid and after covid-19.
- How can we help preserve the environment?
- What can children do during lockdown to remain connected with nature?
- How children can look after the abundant animals.
- How to spread awareness about conserving nature.

Riya Rose Francis, 5G said: *"It was such a pleasure to listen to all the insights you gave us. It was so inspirational that more of us are definitely going to be more conscious and responsible about protecting our Earth and environment!"*

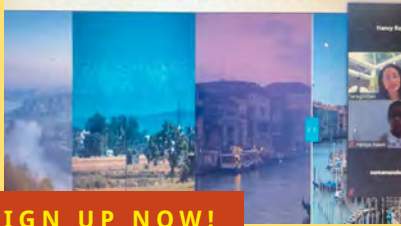
"It was a pleasure to give this workshop to Dunes. The students were proactive and interested in facing the current challenges and keen to develop methods for addressing them both in the current climate, but also in its future implications"

Tara Golshan, Executive Director, Education



Are you interested in a live Roots & Shoots Webinar

OUR PLANET IS SAVING ITSELF



SIGN UP NOW!



Photos: Dunes International School

Thanking Tara

It has been hard to adjust to studying from home. It is now even more important than ever to remember that even with social distancing we can continue making a positive difference! And, in some cases, it can actually be a benefit.

If you feel that your class needs that extra inspiration or has questions on how to contribute from home, get in touch! We are here to support you.

We can organise a Zoom call with our Executive Director, Tara Golshan, for an interactive session with the students; a talk about our new 'environment'; asking questions; sharing ideas and getting tips on how to help the environment, animals and your local community during these challenging times.

If you are interested in booking a session please e-mail Jasmina Georgovska at jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk

Gombe 60

2020 is the landmark year where we celebrate the amazing landmark of 60 years that the Gombe Research Centre has been running. [Watch this space](#) for some exciting upcoming events and merchandise

Elle India Exclusive: Dr Jane Goodall, our May cover star, in conversation with Livia Firth

Eco-Age co-founder and creative director Livia Firth chats to the ever-inspiring Dr Jane Goodall, DBE on the resilience of nature, hope in the indomitable human spirit and how this pandemic is an opportunity to start over.

Livia is a long-time associate and supporter of Roots & Shoots and was the prestigious judge of our UK Trashion Show last year! Their inspiring conversation can be found [here](#).



The Elle India cover

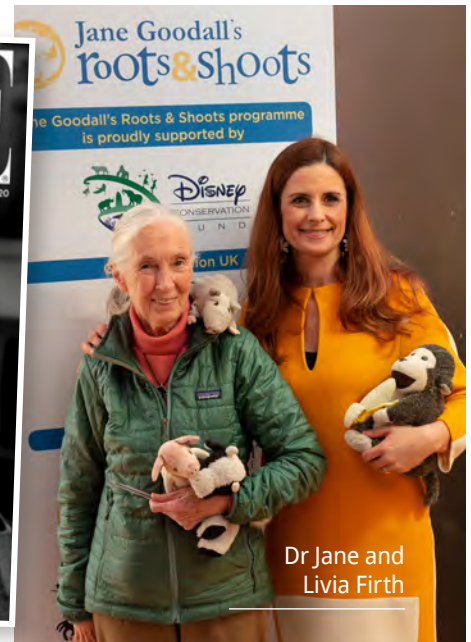


Photo: Roger Marks Photography

At last, a lockdown perk! Storytime with Jane – virtual book readings!

As we all know, Dr Jane travels about 300 days a year – lectures; conference; events; fundraisers to name just a few of her portfolio of activities... But the last few months our eminent traveller has had to spend the time in lockdown at her home in Bournemouth, UK.

Most might have taken this time to relax but not Dr Jane. In true style she has not stopped working – interviews; webinars; virtual events... she has done it all!

In keeping of her character she also did not forget all the young people at home and wanted to do something special for them – so began 'Storytime with Jane', where Dr Jane does a live reading of some of her



children's books. What a treat for all. Enjoy!

[Chimpanzee Family Book](#); [Elephant Family](#); [Me... Jane](#) and the [Eagle and the Wren](#)

Check out the pets of JGI and share a cute photo of your little bundle of joy!

The Jane Goodall Institute and its many worldwide programmes are the tangible demonstration of Jane's vision turned into reality. Just like the rest of the world, JGI staff all over the globe were at home, continuing to work tirelessly to fulfil our mission. But as we work toward that mission, we can sometimes forget how to restore ourselves and recognize our connections to one another.

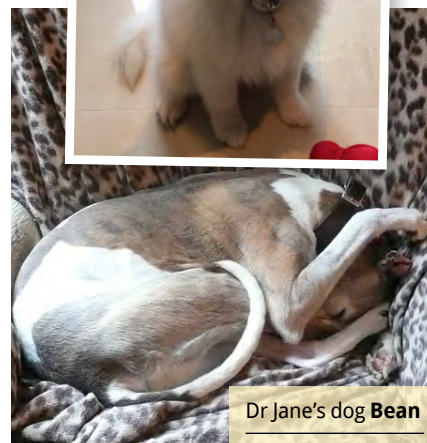
It's crystal clear, now more than ever, that the community we've built as a JGI team, and with our audiences, is precious.

Being in lockdown/isolation is tough and now more than ever we see the 'little' things that actually make us so happy – like our pets!

So, we wanted to share a few snaps of [our lockdown buddies](#) that made this time more bearable and very often fun, including Dr Jane's dog, Bean!

And we would love to see who you spend your precious time with at home! [Join us in sharing](#) your sources of inspiration and keep us all moving forward.

Please share photos on [Instagram](#) (and tag us) using the hashtag [#MyLockdownBestie](#)



Peace Day 2020 – we can still celebrate!

This Autumn, we might not be able to gather together to fly our giant doves but we can certainly celebrate [Peace day](#), and indeed, make it a special day!

This year is more important than ever to unite (even from afar), and the theme couldn't be more fitting – '[Shaping Peace Together](#)'

Here at Roots & Shoots we would like to encourage you to take part. Here are a few ideas to get you started;

- Sing the Peace Day [Song](#)
- Share ideas – what is Peace? What can we do together to have a more peaceful World?
- Make a Giant Dove [RSPeaceDay-GiantPeaceDoves](#) (get the whole family involved and fly it in your garden) and Small Peace day Doves [Small Dove Instructions](#)
- Write a pledge on your dove - what can you do to bring Peace and harmony to your local environment, and/or the world stage?



Photo: Burdock Photography



Artwork by Rachael Clark



Photo: Claire Quarendon

And of course, share your pledges and photos with us! We will create a gallery and inspire even more people!
E-mail Jasmina Georgovska at jasmija@janegoodall.org.uk