

“To cherish what remains of the earth and to foster its renewal is our legitimate hope of survival.”

20 August 2016, was an eventful day for DPS, Bopal, Ahmedabad as they organized the Green School Workshop wherein different schools from the city came together with zeal and fervor to discuss and learn ways to save the environment and impart the value of preserving the milieu and being global citizens. DPS Bopal has been hosting the green school workshop from the past two years. With the dawning of the third year, two erudite and proficient speakers from TERI (the energy and resource institute), Ms Saltanat Kazi and Ms. Pallavi Barua, eminent in the environment sector were invited.

The Principal, Mr. Surender P Sachdeva emphasized that ‘Growth cannot be achieved in isolation, instead it is a joint effort of students and teachers. Sr. Vice Principal, Ms. Vandna Joshi motivated all the attendees to take the lead forward to the community through Sustainable Practices. The workshop comprised of six tracks with each elaborating on different topics.

Ms. Kazi began with some icebreakers by interacting with students and teachers alike and making them feel alike. She was then followed by Ms. Pallavi Barua who talked about TERI’s role globally. TERI has partnered with UNESCO and is focused on implementing ESD worldwide. She emphasized on the fact that the level of development, equality, education and culture should be equal for ESD to work. Ms. Saltanat Kazi said that a sustainable school is a school which is eco-friendly on a day to day level. Furthermore she went on to elaborate on the 3C approach i.e. curriculum, campus, community. She summed up by saying that we should monitor our usage and be more conscious.

Ms. Barua spoke about how to discipline the students and teach in a more innovative way. She talked about the pyramid of learning and emphasized more on activity based learning. She concluded by saying, “For the things we have to learn before we can do them, we learn by doing them.

Ms. Kazi cited examples of different schools which have been working hard towards being a green school in India. In the end, students were asked to chart out a sustainability plan towards making their school cleaner and greener.

The three schools awarded for the best ‘**Eco Friendly Practices**’ were Cosmos Castle International, Calorx Public School, Ghatlodia and Podar International School, but as rightly said, “If you’ve tried your best, then you’re already a winner.”

