

# EDUCATION TODAY

Sathya Sai Education in Human Values

NEWSLETTER

1

January 2023

Editorial: Children as co-creators of a value-based society

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*"A school should not be considered just as a commonplace arrangement designed for teaching and learning. It is the place where the consciousness is aroused and illumined, purified and strengthened, the place where the seeds of discipline, duty and devotion are planted and fostered into fruition."*

*— Sathya Sai*

## EDITORIAL

### Children as co-creators of a value-based society



When we look at the world today we see that there is a need for change. By teaching our children to live in harmony, we help them become co-creators of a society that reflects the values of Truth, Right Conduct, Peace, Love and Nonviolence. These Human Values guide us to have the strength of mind and the courage to stand up for them. As Gandhi said, *"Become the change you wish to see in the world"*. And what do we wish to see in the world? A value-based society! When we have these Values as a basis, we start changing the way we think, the way we act as well as the way we respond to the challenges we meet in life. We cannot avoid challenges, because it is the challenges that are pushing us to re-evaluate our lives. Challenges are steppingstones for new insight, and the more we practice, the more we will be able to stay positive and serene despite of the

difficult moments we may be facing. If they help us to grow and reinforce a heart-to-heart connection, if they result in clarifications of important issues and solutions to our problems, then the challenges are meaningful.

Learning how to deal with them and to reconnect to the source of inner wisdom, will initiate a path of transformation and character development. As we live the values, by integrating kindness, patience, compassion in our interaction, we can become an inspiration to others and may encourage them to change their own lives. The truth is, that the only way to transform the world is to transform the individual; this process starts within the individual based on a strong inner motivation **to change oneself**.

The cultivation of Peace is a powerful tool for preventing and neutralizing stress or sorting out solutions to various life predicaments. A calm, quiet mind strengthens our capacity to connect to the Love energy within our Hearts. This energy which is the undercurrent of all Values, uplifts relative peace to Universal Peace. Peace is a state of being,

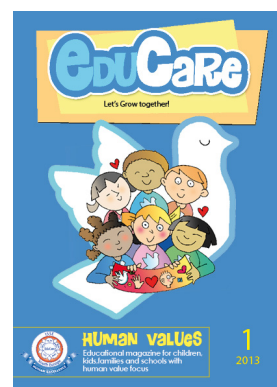
it is where our heart speaks and from where Love flows. This means that the heart is the foundation on which a peaceful and happy world can be raised. Learning to establish ourselves in a state of Inner Peace increases our foresight and discrimination and allows us to make conscious choices. The Sathya Sai Education in Human Values programme (SSEHV), is a wonderful tool to reach a state of balance, well-being and contentment at all levels. It gives us insight into the greatest gift we

can give to our children today: the pathway to Peace. To teach them to follow their hearts, elicit the Human Values therein and bring them to the world is important, because when each and every one of us will be true, kind and compassionate - the world will enter an era of Peace and Joy.

*"We can only have Peace in the world, when there is Peace in the individual."*

*— Sathya Sai*

*Ms. Marianne Meyer*  
EC Co-Chair



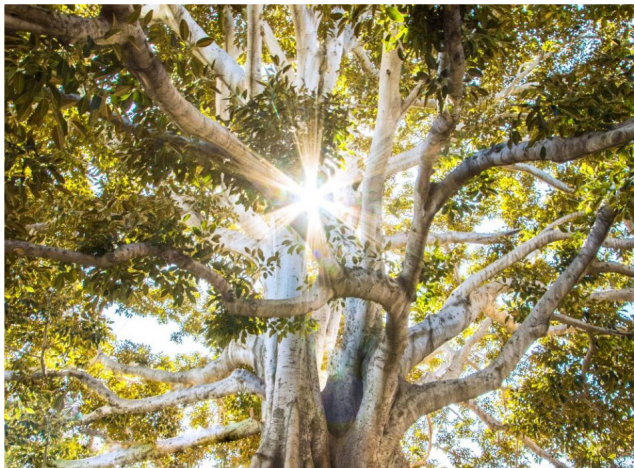
### EduCare Magazines

*"The **EduCare** magazine, developed and published by the Institute of Sathya Sai Education of South Europe (ISSE SE), is a 9 issue series. Conceived as practical support for parents and teachers keen on fostering value-based education in their homes and communities, it reaches out to all age*

*groups. In a child-friendly way, the issues walk us through the five universal Human Values of Truth, Right Action, Peace, Love and Nonviolence, as well as the topics of Unity of religions, Discipline and Creativity. The magazines provide practical inspiration and tips, and are replete with captivating stories, activities, quotations and more, to share at school or in the family and that go directly to the heart of the reader.*

Downloadable at: <https://www.isse-se.org/en/en/publications-new/educare-magazines>  
or at: [www.valuestransform.org](http://www.valuestransform.org)

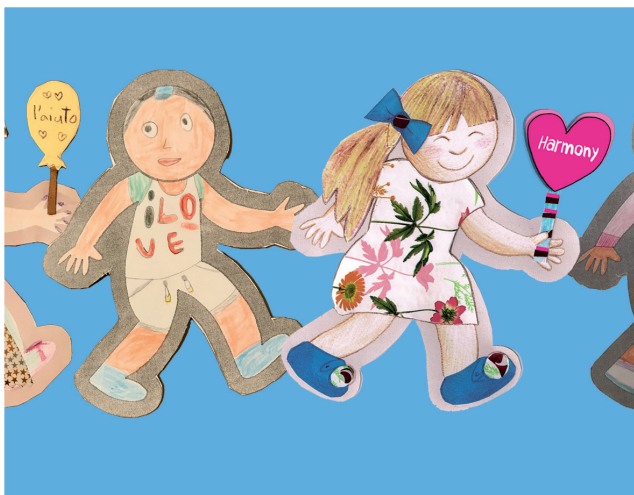




EDUCATION IN HUMAN VALUES  
"A PATH FOR LIFE" (Italy, 2021-22-23)



A SPECIAL TRIBUTE to the  
ISSE BRAZIL (Brazil, August 26, 2022)



PEACE FRIENDS  
A PROJECT FOR EVERYONE

This unprecedented programme for public school teachers designed to uplift **civic education with value focus**, and approved by the Italian Ministry of Education, is ongoing. Its overall concept is linked to the area of education concerned with sustainable development and is being carried out by the Italian team of the Institute of Sathya Sai Education of South Europe (ISSE SE). The first module of the Training Programme "Education in Human Values - a Path for Life", highlighted by the acrostic "P.A.C.E.: *Pensieri in Armonia, Comportamento in Equilibrio*" (**PEACE: Thoughts in Harmony, Behaviour in Balance**), was held online from October 2021 to June 2022. The programme will continue throughout 2023 with modules 2 and 3.

<https://www.isse-se.org/en/en/seminars-and-events/training-activities/1000>

On August 26, 2022, at a Special Session in the nation's capital, the **Federal Senate of Brazil**, the Upper House of the National Congress, honoured the contribution of the Institute of Sathya Sai Education of Brazil for its tireless work over 22 years in developing value-based education in the country. The first Sathya Sai School was established in Brazil in 1993. There are now three schools in three different regions which offer education to underprivileged children. Food and other basic necessities are also provided to their families.

<https://www.isse-se.org/en/seminars-and-events/highlights/1009>

**PEACE FRIENDS** is a **virtual walk for Peace**, to raise awareness about the need to promote Peace in our homes, at school, at the workplace, in all countries and everywhere in the world! But walking is not enough! If we want Peace to prevail, we need to foster Human Values! This is why the colourful characters partaking in this project represent our commitment to march through life by practising at least one Human Value. Since its launch on the 21st of May 2022, 176 colourful Peace Friends Characters have joined this initiative from 12 different countries, all of whom have received a **Peace Friends Identity Card** in their new capacity of "members of the Peace Friends World Community".

Material and further information can be found at:  
<https://www.isse-se.org/en/resources/peacefriends>

## An Effective Approach to Grow Together

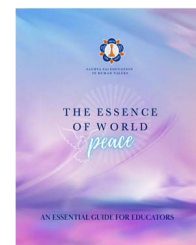
The **Australian Sathya Sai Colleges** (in Murwillumbah & Dunbar, NSW) have adopted an effective approach to professional development in both the primary and secondary campuses that ensures teachers in-depth understanding of the Human Values and promotes their own growth. Fortnightly staff meetings explore the value aspect for the following fortnight. In turn, teachers prepare activities for the chosen value and lead the staff through these. Together, they do silent sitting, sing songs and work through group activities as if they were the students, followed by a brainstorming session to improve, add suggestions and share ideas about how to extend the value into all curriculum subjects and the whole-school environment. The approach encourages the use of the “6Es” to facilitate the growth of the values inherent within teachers and students: **Engage** students in the topic through questioning; **Explain** the values and their place in life; **Explore** the topic from different perspectives; **Elaborate** and apply to daily life; **Evaluate** the impacts of the values on students’ daily lives; and **Excel** – take ownership of the values through thought-provoking take-home messages or examples. Through this process, the students benefit from the richness of this communal planning and the teachers come away from the meetings with an enriched understanding of the values and their application to their own lives.



Like all toddlers Tom likes to get his hands on everything. His parents put the breakables on higher shelves and lock the family library. But one day the child finds the door open... The room is replete with books. Long scrolls of paper seem to be peeking down at him from the highest shelves. Oh, how Tom would like to play with them! Just then, a gust of wind opens the library window, and a cool breeze enters the room. The scrolls tip over and fall onto the floor. The boy picks up the biggest one and unrolls it. He doesn't know the worth and beauty of the antique world map he is holding in his hands. It is a work of art, an undatable masterpiece. He crumbles and tears the map into pieces and is having a bundle of fun when his dad walks in the room. “Oh Tom!”, cries his father aghast. The floor is covered with torn paper. “Playing with the world you have torn it to pieces!”. He said. “Now how will we put it back together?” Father and son try to match the pieces of what is now a gigantic puzzle. But the design is too intricate, it is impossible to reassemble. Then a new breeze flips a few pieces over. “An eye!”, cries Tom. The boy's father makes his guess and turns all the pieces over. Even a small boy can identify them. “A nose... a mouth... an ear...”. Father and son find a sense to the puzzle: it is the image of a human being. They tape the pieces together and flip the image around. The world is in one piece again. No more “pieces but Peace”.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

***The Essence of World Peace; An Essential Guide for Educators*** introduces simple but effective methods and ways to manifest Peace within ourselves, the community and, from there, hopefully the world. It offers a range of practical activities that can stand alone or be integrated into subjects across the curriculum, and it can be used in a variety of community venues. The book is available online at: <https://issea.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/The-Essence-of-World-Peace.pdf>



*“With every true friendship we build more firmly the foundations on which the peace of the whole world rests. Thought by thought and act by act, with every breath we build more firmly the kingdom of Nonviolence that is the true home of the spirit of humanity.”*

*- Mahatma Gandhi*

Front cover: Children of the Sathya Sai School of Vila Isabel, Brazil



The Sri Sathya Sai International Organization (SSSIO) is a spiritual and humanitarian organization active for over 50 years and in over 120 countries. The SSSIO Education Committee supports and promotes Sathya Sai Education worldwide including 40 Sathya Sai Schools, 27 Institutes of Sathya Sai Education, and programs of Sathya Sai Education in Human Values (SSEHV) and Sai Spiritual Education (SSE). For more information please contact: [ec@sssio.org](mailto:ec@sssio.org)

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