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## Care for Our Common Home RNDM News

The purpose of this newsletter is to provide news of RNDM involvement in actions and activities related to our ministry of Caring for Our Common Home.

Good news story from India South: Part One

## "When Children Heal the Earth"



At Mariam Niketan English Medium School, Belvai, our school seeks to form young minds and hearts not only in academic knowledge but also in the values of care, compassion, and responsibility. In response to the call of Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'*, we are committed to caring for our common home and raising new generations of stewards of God's creation.

The students actively participate in cleanliness drives, both within the school campus and in the surrounding areas. These simple yet powerful efforts teach them that discipline and responsibility extend beyond personal life into the wider community. Declaring our campus a *plastic* -free zone is another concrete step in nurturing eco-conscious habits. Through awareness programs, the truth resounds again and again: "When we heal the earth, we heal ourselves."

Nurturing the school garden has become one of the most joyful expressions of this mission. Students water saplings, watch flowers bloom, and taste the fruits of trees they have lovingly cared for. These moments bring lessons in patience, gratitude, and reverence for creation. The wisdom of the proverb echoes among them: "The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second-best time is now." Every planted seed becomes a symbol of hope and a promise to the future.

Through these daily practices, the children also discover a deeper truth: caring for the Earth is inseparable from caring for one another. They learn that harmony with nature fosters harmony in human relationships, and that protecting creation is inseparable from protecting the dignity of every person.

Thus, ecological awareness grows into a culture of kindness, compassion, and unity—values at the very heart of the RNDM mission.

This mission of care does not stop at the school gate. Students are encouraged to



plant trees at home, tend to family gardens, and carry the message of ecological responsibility into their neighbourhoods. In this way, the spirit of environmental care becomes a movement that extends into the wider community, bringing to life the RNDM vision of nurturing life, justice, peace, and the integrity of creation

Planting trees, reducing waste, raising awareness, and building bridges of solidarity. Together, these local actions form a global movement of hope. They remind us that caring for creation is not only an ecological duty but also a spiritual vocation and an expression of our shared RNDM charism.

Children learn that caring for the Earth is caring for life itself. Small acts of love for creation grow into a global mission of hope, justice, and peace.

"A green campus today, a brighter world tomorrow."