

Morning light spreads
over the earth.

Once again, the Sky bows his head in respect,
For children are going to school.

The Sun, after his morning dip in the river
dressed up in his golden muslin turban
waits and smiles on one side of the road,
For children are going to school.



Through the green-topped branches,
Breezes sing their songs of blessings.
Fragrant flowers awaken the sleepy roads
with their melodies.

At the corner of the lane,
the Peepal in his lush deep foliage
waves his hands

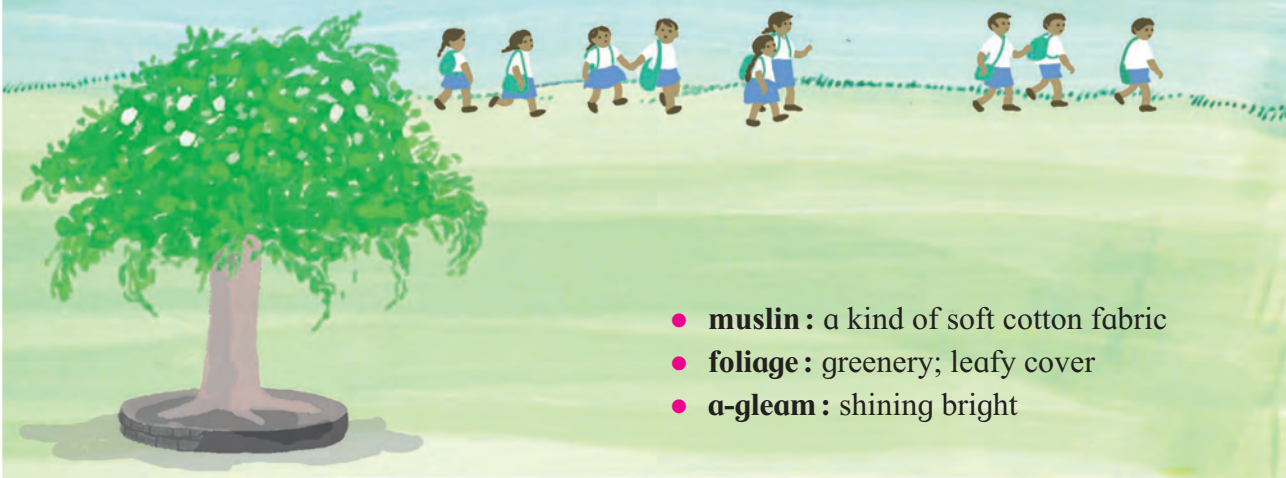
For children are going to school.

Angels of light have set out ...
Every road is a-gleam.

At this hour,
every particle of the earth
throbs like a mother's heart.

Time, sitting on an old roof,
flies pigeons in the sky.
For children are going to school.

- Translated from 'Bachche school ja rahe hain'
By Nida Fazli



- **muslin** : a kind of soft cotton fabric
- **foliage** : greenery; leafy cover
- **a-gleam** : shining bright

1. Read the poem aloud.
2. Find at least two things from the poem that show the following:
 - (a) It is early morning.
 - (b) The atmosphere is pleasant.
3. Apart from the children, no other human beings are mentioned in the poem. However, many natural elements are shown to act like persons. Name them and also write what they do.
4. Draw a picture of the scene described in the poem.
5. The whole world is happy because children are going to school. Why is it so? Discuss it in the classroom.
6. Write about how your family supports you to go to school.
7. What would happen if children didn't go to school? Discuss the question in groups of 5-8 and prepare a short composition on it.
8. Write in short about what your parents/guardians feel when they send you to school.
9. List five of your favourite Hindi or Marathi poems or songs. Try to translate any one of them into English.
10. Visit a library. Find a school poem. Recite it to your parents.

A Project : 'Sources of Light'

- (a) List all possible sources of light which enable you to see. Try to list at least 10 to 15. You may add the following to your list : Different kinds of lamps in your house, different sources you see in nature, different sources used by man in the past, etc.
- (b) Collect as many pictures as you can, or draw diagrams of all the sources you have listed above. Make a scrapbook using them.
- (c) Think of different ways of classifying them, for example, electric and non-electric, day-time sources and night-time sources.
- (d) What is your favourite source of light? Write its autobiography. (10 - 15 lines)