

## Student Workshop on Child Sexual Abuse



Child Sexual Abuse is a very critical issue faced by children which can lead to devastating effects on their young minds. Recognising the urgent need to mobilize action against sexual abuse and empowering children so that they can protect themselves and other children, a workshop on 'Child Sexual Abuse, Prevention and Indian Law' was conducted by the school counsellor, Dr. Vanita Dua on October 11, 2017 for classes IX and X as part of '**Bharat Yatra**', initiated by **Kailash Satyarthi Children's Foundation** to make India safe for children.

The workshop enlightened the students about POCSO- Protection Of Children from Sexual Offences Act. It covered various aspects of the POCSO Act: recognize safe and unsafe touches, and identify whom to tell if they have experienced an unsafe touch, salient features of POCSO, offences covered under POCSO Act, mandatory reporting. All these topics were assisted with true examples.

The workshop emphasized that if a child has been sexually abused, it is never the child's fault, thereby reducing the guilt or shame many child victims experience.

Children do heal from abuse, and they do best when a trusted adult supports and believes them.