**Hrimon**: Good morning, respected teachers and dear friends, today 8D is here with an assembly about honesty, integrity and humility. We hear this word everyday, but what really is honesty?

**Jyoshika:** According to the Cambridge Dictionary, honesty is the quality of being able to tell the truth or being able to be trusted and not likely to steal, cheat or lie.

**Mihika:** Honesty is a fundamental aspect of human interaction and ethics, encompassing the quality of being truthful, transparent, and sincere in one's thoughts, words, and actions. It forms the cornerstone of trust within relationships.

**Anika**: Now that you all have learnt the meaning of honesty. Let’s play a game.

**Vedant:** We will show you different situations and you, the audience, have to tell us whether you should lie or not. Hope you all are ready because here is the first situation.

**SCENE 1**

**Advitha:** (Dramatic) The Parent Exam Situation

**Sagnik**: Hey, what did you get in the test?

**Vivaan**: (Tearfully) I got an A.

**Sagnik**: Awesome! I got a B.

**Vivaan**: (Panicking) No, wait! You don't get it. I didn't get an A+. My life's over. I'll be homeless!

At home...

(Narrators shift to the living room)

(Freeze)

**Advitha:** (Engaging) Audience, you are the decision makers now!

**Reet**: (Exciting) If you want **the student** to lie to his mother, raise your hands.

Alright, if you want him to say the truth, raise your hand too!

(Narrators pause for audience response)

**Reet**: Very well!

(Child 2 and Mom unfreeze)

(**if lie)**

**Vivaan** (Lie): Mom, I aced the test! The teacher praised me saying, "You're a genius!"

**Aadya**: (Suspicious) Genius, huh? Then why did I get an email about your "genius" grades?

(Aadya chases Vivaan with a wooden ruler in her hands)

**Reet:** (Chuckles) Team Lie had its fun, didn't you? (Grinning) But now, lets see what happens if the student chooses honesty…

**(Truth scenario)**

**Vivaan** (Truth): Mumma, I got an A. I know I could've done better, and I'm sorry.

**Aadya**: (Proud) I'm glad you're honest about it. Let's work together to improve next time!

**Reet**: (Appreciating) And that, friends, is the power of honesty!

**Joanne:** Honesty will help retain the trust you have built up with the other person, and will help them empathise with you.

**SCENE 2:**

**Scene: School Library - The Chess Conundrum**

*(Characters:*

*- Narrator: Engaging and interactive, addresses the audience directly.*

*- Leo: The student who lost the chess game and is accusing his opponent of cheating.*

*- Ethan: The student who won the chess game.*

*- Sophie****:*** *A neutral observer and friend of both Leo and Ethan.)*

Setting:

Scene:

**Leo(Janav) :** Good morning Ethan. I missed you yesterday. I went to watch F1 car racing. Wish you had been there. I would have enjoyed it more.

**Ethan(Pranav):** Good morning buddy. Wow. That must have been really fun. We have always been going together for many events all these years. I do understand that you would have missed my presence. Come on. Let’s make up by having a game of Chess.

A chess table. **Leo(Janav) and Ethan(Pranav)** are sitting opposite each other.

**Manish**: **Leo and Ethan** are playing chess. They are both good players, but Ethan is better.

**LEO :** Hey Bro, what are the chances! We’re playing against each other!

**Ethan**: Yeah! It's so cool! But it's just a game, it doesn't matter who wins. BFFs Forever. Right?

Each player makes 1 move after which…

**Ethan**: Checkmate! Good game! Good game! You played well too.

Leo stands up in shock and pushes his chair back

**Leo:** (Nawwwww! This can't be! NONONO! (softly) Ooh wait…

**Arya**: Fidel gets an idea - he will silently make a change in his notation pad which he will use as proof.

Actors freeze.

**Samvritha:** Hey guys y’all know the drill. Raise your hands if you feel Leo should cheat. (5 seconds pause) Alright, Lets see what happen when Leo chooses to cheat.

**Leo**: (quickly makes changes in notation book) Wait. (Hesitates) Ethan, I am so disappointed in you.

**Ethan**: What is it, Leo?

**Leo**: You cheated. How could you? You cheated against your best friend. BFFs forever remember? What happened to the TRUST?

**Ethan**: What? Me and cheating !! No, I didn't!

**Leo**: Yes, you did. I saw you move your knight illegally.

**Ethan**: No, I didn't! You know me well. I am a person of integrity. So don’t say that I cheated.

**Leo**: Yes you did, I have proof right here (points to notation pad)..

**Ethan:** (Sees what Fidel has done) OH MY GOD HOW COULD YOU? WHAT HAPPENED TO BFFS FOREVER? You lying little brat.

Leo: (smirks) ARBITER!!! ARBITER!!!

**Aarush J**: (with a label saying he’s Arbiter): Hello, I like cheese. What is the issue?

**Leo**: He cheated. He moved his knight illegally. I have a proof right here.

**Aarush J**: (flippantly) Hmm seems legit. Sorry Ethan, you lost.

Ethan walks off in a rage but Leo celebrates.

**Deekshitha**: See, what has happened because of Leo’s dishonesty. He has lost the trust of Ethan forever. He has lost his BFF. Leo also has ruined his reputation in front of his other friends.

**Prajeet**: Sometimes short-term gains can lead to long-term losses. “So be honest friends. Even though you win the battle now, you may not win the war in the future.”

**Aditya:** Leo knows that Ethan is not lying. But Leo couldn’t accept the fact that he lost the game.

**Aditya** : What should Leo do? How many of you agree that Leo should be honest to Ethan, raise your hands!!

**Leo:** I can’t believe I lost! I guess I shouldn’t be too complacent. What a Game! (shakes hands)

**Ethan:** That was a game well played, Leo. Keep it up.

**Joanne**: It is important to be honest, even when it is difficult. Lying will only make things worse in the long run.

**SCENE 3:**

Classroom scene:

Students are seated and the teacher (Shriya) enters the class.

Chorus: Good afternoon ma’am

Shriya : Good afternoon students.

**Noyan**: Ma’am, the English poster is due today. Can I submit it now?

**Shriya:** Sure. Pass it on.

**Prashray**: Ma’am, I forgot to pack the poster. I have completed it actually. Please pardon me. I shall hand it over tomorrow.

**Shriya:** I understand. Give it tomorrow.

**Issac**: He always submits everything late.

**PranavR**: Ma’am, I forgot to make the poster, Give me 2 days time please ma’am.

**Shriya**: Submit it day after tomorrow without fail.

**Aryan**: (loudly) Ma’am, I made the poster, but yesterday my pet dog ate it. (Class bursts into laughter)

Everyone freezes.

**Rhea:** Friends, Do you think This student Kabir is being honest? Raise your hands if you think so.

**Chaithanya**: Kabir, you don’t have a pet at home. Why are lying?

**Aryan**: softly) Hey be quiet. I will give you a chocolate later.

**Shriya**: I would like to call up your mother and enquire about this incident. Does your dog like only English posters? Or it happens with other subjects too?

**Aryan**: No no ma’am. Very sorry. Don’t call up my mother. I told a lie because I wanted to get more time from you to complete the poster.

**Issac**: Good that you learnt your lesson atleast today.

**Lathifa:** Honesty is like a light that helps us see our way through life. It helps us make good decisions and build strong relationships. It's important to be honest with ourselves and with others, even when it's difficult.

**Scene 4**

**The Grandfather White Lie Situation**

1. Alberto: The child whose grandparent is in danger. Loves grandfather very much
2. Giorgia: The father of the child whose father is in danger. Very sad.
3. Elisabeth: The mother of the child.

**Sagnik:** (suspenseful) Well everybody, now it is time to move on to (pause) our last scenario. But this time, it’s a bit different. There is no single answer. Let’s move to the living room of this Italian family.

(Alberto and Elisabeth walk in, holding a paper in their hand.) *(optional: grandfather also present)*

**Chaithanya-Alberto**: Mumma, is that grandfather’s CT scan results. Well, tell me! What happened to him

**Reet-Elisabeth**: (tearful. Find some way to be sad) W-well. Th-The results a-are n-not so g-good.

**Aditya-Giorgio**: (*who has been hearing everything from the passageway or something walks in try add an Italian accent please)* WHAT? Elisabeth, my dear, did you just say my *padre* is not well. I thought the doctor said everything is fine. Then what is this now?

**Reet- Elisabeth**: Well Giorgio, I thought so too. But just to be sure, the doctor said to conduct a CT scan. A-and (nervously and tearful and sad) these are the results.

*(hand over paper)*

**Aditya-Giorgio**: (*glances at paper)* WHAT! NONONONONO This can’t be. My *padre* cannot be positive for da cancer. (*starts crying)*

**Chaithanya-Alberto**: No! No! No! I love my *nonna*! This cannot happen. *Madre*, You sure are lying right?

**Reet-Elisabeth:** (nervous breakdown) N-n-n-no darling!

**Aditya-Giorgio:** (shaking and stuttering): (silently, almost to himself) he has only six months to live (shakes himself) Well, the question is whether we should tell *padre.* I’m afraid he might not be able to take the news.

(*freeze)*

**Sagnik:** Well, everybody, your wise choice could dictate this entire families’ happiness. Raise your hands if you want the family to lie to the grandfather.

(**if lie)**

(grandfather walks in)

**Aryan-Grandfather**: Well, I see you are holding my scan reports. Well tell me, I’m sure everything is fine right?

**Chaithanya-Alberto**: Of course, nonna.

**Reet- Elisabeth**: Yes of course nonna, everything is fine. We can do whatever we want now!

**Grandfather**: I am happy and lucky to be so healthy at my age. Thank God for your grace. (Laughs happily looking up to heaven)

(**if truth):**

(Grandfather enters)

**Aryan-Grandfather**: Well tell me, What is happening. I know something is wrong.

**Aditya-Giorgio**: Well padre. I can’t say this. (nervously breaksdown)

**Reet-Elisabeth:**  (shakily) you – uh- have cancer, padre.

**Aryan-Grandfather:** (solemnly) how much time?

**Chaithanya-Alberto**: si-six months.

**Aryan-Grandfather:** Oh God, I that’s a terrible news. I wish I could be healthy till my last minute.(hmm crying). (After a few seconds of crying) Anyway, Let’s enjoy the time we have rather than feeling sad.

**Pranav R**: Well, that was a hard one. There was a chance to say a white lie, making the family happy. That would have made the grandfather also little more peaceful. But on the other hand, telling the truth to grandfather would let him create a will.

Prajeet : In Tamil, there is a Thirukural written by Thiruvalluvar

A close up of a sign

Description automatically generated

If what we are saying is for the greater good of fellow beings, then a lie can replace the truth.

**Rhea:** Now it’s time for our assembly to come to an end. Hope you found it enlightening. Our sincere thanks to Pranav Asrani, Vivaan, Janav, Aadya and Reet for making this script. Our heartfelt thanks to our teachers Ms. Sumathy and Ms. Wen for editing the script. Now, I request our Principal to say a few words.