

Snapshot

April 2012
Issue 2

OPINION POLL

Let's hear your views!

VOICE
Community Awards!

HOT NEWS
just gets hotter!



Junior Corner
explores the universe!

Science
and
Business
EXPRESSIONS
Music
Quiz
Theater
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Technology
Environment

Open Boat
poems and more . . .

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PARENTSPEAK

EDITORIAL

Welcome Back!

If anything is to survive in the world, it has to change. We all know that change is what drives us forward in life, making it a journey to remember. Just imagine a life where everything is the same day in and day out. It would certainly be boring! We will ultimately become more like robotic automations doing what we are told to do. So, any change – good or bad-- makes us more human than before. Change and renewal is indeed the best way to enjoy life!

The Tamil New Year ushers in new possibilities for such a renewal. On this occasion, I would like to welcome you to our latest issue of SNAPSHOT! – Our last this school year. Despite it being the exam season, the students, especially the younger ones, have been commendable in their effort to put in contributions in time.

We continue to ensure that the content available is as diverse as possible, to interest all types of readers. The knowledge seekers can expect sections with a lot of facts on space. Hot News, Window and Potpourri are tailor-made for the experience seeking and fun loving readers!

Finally, I would like to introduce a new concept in this issue – opinion polls. We would like to hear your viewpoint on national issues, starting with this issue's question – With DOW's presence, should India take part in the London Olympics?

We hope to keep evolving with every issue. But first, we would like to hear your views on the magazine, whether you liked it or not and, more importantly – what would you like to see in future issues? The best comments will be published in the next issue!

Let your voice be heard!

Cheers!

Harsha Jayanthi
Grade 12

Editorial Team

Content: Harsha Jayanthi, Taha Fathima Khan, Naomi Nash, Vishweshwaran V
Layout and Design: Sasha Ahuja

Disclaimer

We acknowledge that some of the images used are from the internet, modified to suit our educational magazine, not intended for commercial purposes.



Readers' Response

I am father of Roghan who is studying in 9th grade. I read through the magazine that was published by your students on your school web-site and thought of sharing my views.

The magazine is really awesome and mind blowing. I did not expect such perfection from the students. Kindly pass my congrats to all those students who were involved in publishing this magazine.

It's colorful, informative, creative and has information for all ages. Hope and wish the students maintain the same excellence in future releases also.

Cheers!

Baskar

Vice President

BA Continuum Private Limited

Snapshot- APL Global's first online magazine made for an excellent read!

The articles were fun, upbeat and informative . I especially loved the interview and the opinions page. The various sections of the magazine have been balanced very well such that it doesn't overwhelm / overload the reader and entertains at the same time. Can't wait for the next issue!

Shruthi (reader)

"It was awesome."

"I wanted to read more."

"It is very colorful!"

"My friend's art work was beautiful."

"My poem was there, I felt happy to see it."

Grade 5 students.

"It was a reflection of young minds, bringing together talents and creations."

Akshatha (Mentor, Grade 4)

"I felt proud to see how well the children have learnt and created wonderful work. Through Snapshot we could see the student's potential."

Indira (Hindi and Art teacher)

"I thought it was very innovative and brought out a lot of talent among the children."

Rajini (Mentor, Grade 1)

Congratulations to Team- SNAPSHOT on their first edition, a commendable student initiative with dedicated teacher support. The layout is eye-catching and colourful; it has a wide variety to feed diverse interests; various segments have been neatly formatted. An interesting read. I particularly enjoyed the 'Open Boat' and 'Art Work' sections - a pleasure to see the creativity of blooming talents at APL.

Looking forward to enjoying more 'SnapShots' of APL.

Hemalatha Jayagopalan
Faculty and Expressions Co-ordinator
APL Global School

We will love to have your feedback on the magazine! Click on the link and leave your comments and we shall do the needful.

<https://docs.google.com/a/apl.edu.in/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dGx3aVA0cnFsbHloNnhOcnFPbEd1b2c6MQ>

APL FEATURES IN INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

"APL is profiled in the (official) Cambridge University Students' Union 2012 'Guide to Excellence', a publication dedicated to global academic and professional excellence."

The link takes us to chapter 6 in the soft version of the directory - Guide to Excellence. APL Global School appears on page 202.

<http://www.cusu-excellence.org/about-the-book/chapter-six>

HOT NEWS

SCHOOL EVENTS

APL Global School's Sports Meet

It was the day before our Republic Day that APL Global School held its 3rd Annual Sports Meet. The event commenced at 8 a.m with students in their house uniforms lined up for the march past. Weeks' worth of hard work was visible as the students swung their arms and marched in tune to the music. Our chief guest Mr. Vidyut Sivaramakrishnan, India Team A cricketer and a member of Chennai Super Kings, our MD, Mrs. Gita Jagannathan and our principal Mrs. Kiran Merchant took the salute.

As soon as the torch was lit to signal the start of the sport events, the sports captain, Akshay Vaidyanathann took the oath on behalf of the students to ensure fair participation.

The ground came alive with a display of talent with our Pyramid boys radiating perfection and balance with their pyramids' formations which were 5 tiers high. The umbrella and the Zoomba dance by the primary school students left the spectators spellbound. The middle and senior school put up a coordinated Hoop and Ribbon dance with great zeal and fervor. The junior school displayed their karate skills as they broke tiles with their heads, leaving the audience looking on in amazement. Events for parents and grandparents created an air of fun filled sportsmanship.

The chief guest delivered a concise speech which covered all elements of sportsmanship. The Guest of Honour, Mr Neville Billimoria, a marathon runner with a distinction of completing 12 marathons in 12 months, distributed the prizes to all the prize winners with a cheerful smile and a pat of encouragement.

The vote of thanks signaled the end of the event. Students, teachers and parents left the area with a spring in their steps and a smile on their lips.

Priya V.
Grade 9

Student Achievements

'India Spells 2012' - Spell Bee competition was conducted by HDFC and NIE and students of grade 5 to 9 participated. SHEONA of grade 8 was runner-up at the city final. Well done, Sheona!



All India Karate Championship-2012 was conducted by Gurukulam Shitoryo Karate School. In the individual event GIRISH of grade 6 won 2nd Prize and TARUN of grade 6 won the 3rd Prize. In the group event TARUN and GIRISH won the 2nd Prize. Congratulations!

NIVASINI of grade 9 stood 1st with the highest score of 100 percentile in her grade in the "4th ALL INDIA MATHS SCIENCE TALENT EXAMINATION, 2011-12" conducted by Centre for Excellence in Academics, Delhi on 13th December, 2011 across India.

'All for Kids' conducted Chennai Inter-school Elocution Championship- 2012 and PRANAV PONNIVALLAVAN of grade 3 won the 2nd prize.



Photo credit: Daniel Philip



Photo credit: Akash Sabharwal



Parliament Building

BONJOUR!

As a part of French project on Francophone places combined with Travel and Tourism coursework of Sanjith Bhaskaran of Grade 11, we, the Grade 8 students visited Pondicherry on February 24th, accompanied by Seetha Ma'am and Radhika Ma'am. After a bus journey of three and half hours, we arrived at the French quarter of the city. We visited various places – the serene and peaceful Ashram, the majestic Light House, the green Bharathi Park, the solemn tribute to the unknown soldiers, a few churches (Sacre Cœur de Jesus and Notre Dumas Église), statues of Gandhiji, Dupleix, Joan d'Arc, and Le Promenade. We could view only the exterior of a few of them like the Romain Rolland Library, French Embassy and the Government buildings. Still, it was intriguing to read the French street names and we marveled at the French architecture of these buildings. We also enjoyed walking down the quaint streets, peeping into the pink and pale green/yellow French houses. We conversed with our tourist guide, Mr. Kathiravan. in French, and it was fun practicing the conversational French we had learnt in class. After a hearty Indian meal at the famous Le Café, we boarded the bus for our final destination, Auroville. Though hot and humid, it was a soothing and very beautiful experience. We returned enriched by what we had experienced and learnt. One wonders at the existence of a tiny French corner in this vast land.

MERCI.

AU REVOIR.

Students of Grade 8



Aayi park monument

Field trip to Pondicherry



Sunrise point



Group photo



White water rafting

Coorg Excursion

Grades 6-8 went to Coorg as part of their excursion for this year in January, accompanied by Radhika ma'am, Chandrika ma'am and Rajeev sir. We travelled by train to Mysore and from there took a bus to Coorg. We stayed at the Parumpara resort in Coorg. There was a lot to do at the resort. We played on the skywalk and other jungle gyms. Once we had settled down, we went to Abbey falls. We had to walk a lot but it was fun. The view was drop-dead gorgeous. We took a lot of pictures. We also went to Raj view point from where we got a bird's eye view of Coorg. Some danced on the stage and then we all danced in the disco. It was real fun. We then huddled up together around a bonfire and shared spooky stories till we went to bed.

The next day we went trekking which was a fun experience. We got to see suicide point which was really scary. We went back to the resort as we were very tired. We celebrated Aman's birthday and got to eat cake. We danced in the disco yet again and then went to sleep, with mixed feelings in our heart because we were sad that the trip was nearing its end but also looking forward to the next day's activities.

We went to sunset point, and also did "white-water rafting" (which was not in the least white). It was the highlight of the excursion and we had a good time. We splashed in the water and splashed water on the other boat, as we were divided into Jade and Amethyst houses. Later we even walked in the shallow parts of the river. It will be a cherished memory, forever.

We then went to the Golden monastery which awed us with its beauty. We took a train back to Chennai from Mysore and stayed awake for most of the night. It was an unforgettable trip.

Sheona and Tanya
Grade 7

APL GLOBAL PROJECT DISPLAY

Middle school



Student showing the PPT on the Golconda Fort



Grade 6 Road signs



Siva demonstrates that metal is a good conductor of heat.



Lap book -Reproduction of flowering plants-Flower origamy



Gadin playing with 2 eggs!



Teachers wearing a smile

Primary school

SHOULD INDIA TAKE PART IN THE LONDON OLYMPICS?



The IOC has rejected India's request to remove DOW, the chemical company responsible for the Bhopal tragedy as a sponsor for the 2012 Olympics. This rejection was made on the basis that DOW chemicals wasn't the owner of Union Carbide when the tragedy occurred. But, the Bhopal tragedy was on a scale of unimaginable proportions - thousands were killed with many more disabled for life. Despite this, DOW bought Union Carbide, hence taking over its responsibility to provide compensation to the victims.

Olympics are the world's greatest sporting event and even a single Olympic medal is a matter of national pride. Some say it isn't correct to take the dispute with DOW out of the courts, into an unrelated matter, such as a prestigious sporting event like the Olympics. While others feel that we must not support an event which is backed by a company who is shirking their responsibilities. So, the debate goes on - should India boycott the Olympics or not?

Click on the link to give us your stand on this issue.

<https://docs.google.com/a/apl.edu.in/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dHBjZmpxRU8yWkdrcm9WLWZYdXNCT3c6MQ>



The teacher

As she walks into our classroom, we, the students look on in wonder. She has no name - we just call her our teacher. For all of us, she is a faceless phantom – but for her eyes, which are beautiful and exude a sense of gentle wisdom and her smile, which is whole and pure.

To her, we are the students, not just children or friends, but we feel in our hearts that we are in a whole new category made exclusively for us. Everyone in the class, from the rich to the poor and from the brilliant to the dunce become equals in her class. It is a well known fact that society has many differences, which causes the divides within it. One of the lessons she teaches us is how to walk through the barriers, and more importantly, teaches us how to teach the people around us to do the same.

Any problem we might have is dispersed when we look into her eyes. All our worries vanish and are replaced with a sense of calm, which make us stronger than before, giving us the strength to solve the problem on our own.

As the students, in her presence, we feel that we can be young forever. To her, age is just a number – a passing of time. Inside our shell, deep in our soul, all of us are still young, we all are filled with a burning passion to learn, to keep on learning new things to the end. She stays with us all along and teaches us all that we need to know in our journey through life.

Harsha
Grade 12





We are proud to share the news that **Taha Fathima Khan** and **Gayathri Nilakantan** were finalists for the 2012 Pramerica Spirit of Community Awards and are going to Delhi for the final round. The Pramerica Spirit of Community Awards is a school-level youth recognition programme for volunteer community service to encourage the efforts of school children engaged in voluntary community/ social service and hold them up as role models for all young Indians. The programme is an extension of the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards conducted by Prudential Financial, Inc. (PFI), the largest youth recognition programme in the United States. In India, this community service recognition programme for school students was introduced last year and more than 550 students from across the country participated in this initiative. Taha and Gayathri share their experience:

Search for Thamana

I am the founder of the online community - Search for Thamana- that helps locate missing children. We are on Facebook "Search for Thamana" and Twitter "@Search4Thamana". These are the most accessed websites. Thus sharing information about missing children, their photos, any details about how they went missing is most likely to reach many people.

This community was started after Thamana, a 5 year-old girl, went missing on Marina Beach in Chennai on 11th May. It all started when one night, I came to hear that Thamana, the niece of one of my father's employees, had gone missing during the late hours of the evening. Thamana was not found and her family was growing anxious by the minute. The next morning, I searched the newspapers for at least a small article covering Thamana's disappearance, and was infuriated to find nothing, in spite of her parents reporting the crime to the police. After all, children go missing everyday. Why would the media take any interest in a missing child from a middle-class family! I sat thinking what best I could do for the bereaved family. I could not go around and help putting up posters and distributing flyers as I had my IGCSE Exams going on at the time! That prompted me to start a facebook page.

Thamana was found on 19th May abandoned in GH Hospital. Televised (NDTV), Print (Times of India and Deccan Chronicle) media and Radio Channels (Chennai Live 104.8 FM) had spotted this and within a span of a few hours, Thamana's photo and details were flashed across screens and spread to many people. It was speculated that it was thanks to the attention Thamana's story had caught over the past week due to the spread of the message.

2 weeks after Thamana was found, I read about another child who had gone missing- an 11 month-old boy. It got me thinking about the many Thamanas out there who were still not found. I decided to continue this search till all missing children are restored to their families. Today, this community page with 570 members helps locate thousands of Thamanas who go missing everyday.



Taha
Grade 11



Painting for Charity

I started selling my paintings for charity from the age of six. My aunt is a trustee in the Tanker Foundation that helps underprivileged people who cannot afford to pay for their kidney treatment. Seeing that I had a talent for art she asked me if I would help her raise funds through my art. Ever since then I have been raising funds through my paintings to pay for the treatment of patients at the Tamilnad Kidney Foundation. The highest amount that I raised for one painting is 2 lakhs and I hope to raise more.

Gayathri Nilakantan
Grade 9



OPINION POLL

Are exams necessary?

Generally what do you think of exams and why so?

Here is what some of our students and teachers think . . .

Maybe. Not fun to do but useful. There is too much to think at one time.

*Shiva
Grade 11*

No, They are annoying and stressful!

Iffa, Grade 10A

No. They are ok but cause stress. We need to study so much!

*Gayathri Nilakantan,
Grade 9*

No. It is not bad but they cause so much of stress.

*Vidhya shree,
Grade 9*

Yes. Not fun but interesting.

*Varun Vinod
Grade 10*

No. It isn't bad but I hate it. I don't want to study every year.

*Kim,
Grade 10*

Yes. Exams are necessary because it gives kids the knowledge to learn.

*Cynthia,
Grade 11 C*

Yes but not as much. It is a revision / recap of what was learnt but is very stressful.

*Hariti Mehta,
Grade 10A*

Yes. It tests the extent to which a student has understood and is able to apply his understanding. Its important as it will help in applying in real life situations and decide his career based on his interest and performance.

*Sarija Santhosh,
Faculty*

Yes. But I think they're boring. Not fun to do. I hate writing lots.

*Vishweshwaran,
Grade 11*

Yes. They let us know if students have mastered the concepts taught. Exams let us know where they stand at national or international level.

*Sangeetha Rajamani,
Faculty*

Yes. To assess the ability level and evaluate the understanding of the students.

*Aruna Sivaram,
Faculty*

Exams are not natural; they are the bane of academics.

*Varun C,
Grade 12*

Madras Naturalists' Society, celebrates World Sparrow Day on 20th March 2012.

WINDOW

The first World House Sparrow Day (WHSD) held on March 20, 2010 can be best described as a campaign by the common man, for the common man and of the common man to save a common species from the brink of extinction.

The lack of awareness on the various sparrow species and its habitat has initiated this campaign. The idea of this event was to collate information from the public to create a sparrow map of Chennai and suburbs, and to distribute nest boxes in select areas. If you could place a shallow bowl of water and grains, rice, thinai and kambu, this will go a long way in inviting these little birds into your neighbourhood.



If anyone notices sparrows frequenting a certain species of trees, please send a mail with details to MNSsparrow@yahoo.in.

Check the site:

<http://www.worldsparrowday.org/Blastfromthepast.html>

Art Chennai Event



A painting at Lalit Kala

On Friday the 16th of March, we, the APL Art and Design Department, went on a field trip. We went to the Lalit Kala Akademi Regional Centre to view an Art Exhibition. The exhibition was happening in connection with a weeklong art event called 'Art Chennai'. The exhibition was called 'To let the world in: Narrative and beyond in contemporary Indian Art'. It was an extensive exhibition of art works from different part of the country. The artists had dealt with a range of different mediums like paintings, installations, sculpture, photography and video imagery. The works exhibited were of senior and young artists. We were stimulated by what we saw. We were filled with curiosity and spent a considerable time with each work.

The next session was a series of lectures by different participating artists at Taj Coromandal. This was a rare opportunity for us students to listen to artists speak about their work. We got to listen to senior artists like Sudhir Patwardha, Anita Dube, Gulam Mohammed Sheikh and Atul Dodiya speaking. Younger artists like Jitish Kallat, Gigi Scaria, Sumakshi Singh and Pushpamala. N spoke next. They presented slideshows of their works. This session was particularly interesting as they spoke about their working process, challenges they faced and how they understood 'visual art'. We were left with a feeling of having spent an entire day soaked in art.

Gayathri Nilakantan
Grade 9



Lalit Kala Academy

art
CHENNAI
March 11-18 2012



Interview with Mr Neville J Bilimoria

Sports Day 2012 in APL Global School was a great success in many ways. Our Guest of Honour was none less than Mr Neville J Bilimoria, the famous marathon runner. He undertakes astonishingly long marathons, once going 12 hours non-stop, to raise funds for charities and to create awareness about health and fitness. We caught up with him at the end of the event and got to know him better:

1) So, you used to row... was rowing the first sport that introduced you to the sporting world?

Rowing was the first sport that I ever took up. I also used to do long distance and short distance running in school. To be honest, I was an all rounder. I loved studying and I made sure that sport was a big part of my life.

2) Can you tell us about a particular experience that you remember from your rowing days?

I think the most memorable rowing experience I had was during the Pagal Regatta. After all the races were over we would just have fun. The main idea was to throw everyone off the boat. It was great fun.

3) The main reason you started running was because you wanted to keep fit. What was it about running that made you carry on?

Well, after I won competitions and medals, I took it easy and kept at it to keep fit. and then it becomes a passion. I did the half marathon which I loved. I think what is important is that you make time for your health, which is exactly what I did. And it is definitely paying off.

4) If not for the Chennai Runners group, do you think you would have gotten into running?

A lot of the running I do is for charity. I think it is important to give to charity. The Chennai Runners group definitely got me started but the fund-raising made me carry on. On the 8th of January, I did a Dawn to Dusk run for charity. I raised around Rs. 720,000 for underprivileged children. The two most important things in life are education and health. It is important to mix and match. I am also a strong cyclist. I did 300 km in 14 hours. I usually go for a run in the morning and run about 300- 400 km a week.

5) Do you have any fitness tips?

The three things that I like to remember about keeping fit are remembering to rest well, eating right and taking up a sport that suits your body. If you enjoy dancing, then that is what you should do. If cricket does it for you, then that is your sport. For me, it was running and I kept at it.



Shwetha Sairam
Grade 10

Living and travelling in space

Living in space is something of the future, but it started way back out in 1969, in one of humankind's most famous missions - Apollo 11 by N.A.S.A. This mission was to achieve something considered impossible for millennia - landing on the moon.

In 1971, the world's first space station went into space, but fell back to earth in 1980. Now the international space station is being used, with a docking space for space shuttles.

The space shuttles came to us in 1981. People travel on shuttles to dock on a space station, fix the humble space telescope or release satellites into orbit. The first space shuttle was space shuttle Columbia, with the second being "Challenger" which was destroyed in 1986 by an accident. This tragedy led to a two-and-a-half year grounding of the shuttle fleet, with missions resuming in 1988 with the launch of space shuttle Discovery on STS-26. Challenger itself was replaced by the space shuttle Endeavour, which was first launched in 1992. Endeavour was constructed from spare parts originally meant for Challenger and the other shuttles in the fleet. On 2003, the shuttle Columbia exploded while entering earth's atmosphere, which led to the further grounding of the space shuttle fleet.

Currently, the shuttles have been decommissioned, but NASA plans on replacing them with a powerful new rocket system, popularly known as the space launch system.



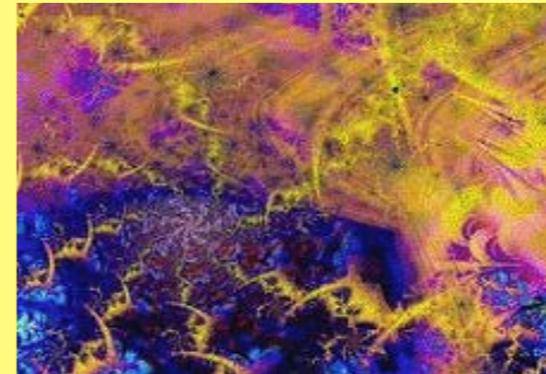
By Yeshwant, Grade 5

The chaos Theory

A great equilibrium which existed before the universe came into being was momentarily disrupted. A small spark, where two mysterious particles evaded elimination led to a great chain reaction which produced the universe and everything in it. Years later – somewhere in the young universe, a great star exploded due to an unknown radical event, creating a huge cloud of gas. These gases combined to form our own sun and the planets. A further series of events led to our earth landing in just the correct orbit round the sun, transforming our planet from a magma ball into a watery haven.

Several years on, strangely, a cocktail of chemicals combined in just the right conditions. This led to the creation of something which was miraculously - alive. For all we know, due to cosmic events this life could have been snuffed out, only to reappear again and again by chance, until it finally broke through and flourished. Further events which happened as the life thrived, transformed it in a way which we call evolution to what it is now. It took nonstop random evolutionary changes through 100 million species to finally create something which resembled us.

All this perfectly describes the chaos theory at its grandest – a small event causes an infinite series of events to happen. As it appears, chaos is what drives our lives, contributing to the glorious uncertainty which makes everything all the more fulfilling.



Harsha Jayanthi, Grade 12



THE SEA

The sea speaks to my soul
with its thundering waves
as they crash—
on the rocky shores,
only to roll out once more.
The sound of the tides
breaks the morning silence.

A calm breeze sweeps—
across my face.
Have you ever heard the sea breathe?
The salty smell lingers in the air.
The breath of the evening surf
pierces through me.

The milky froth rolls gently ashore.
The coast, decorated with
pebbles and seashells,
glimmers under the first rays of dawn.
Birds soar—
above the horizon
as they await the break of dawn
The sound from the flock
echoes off the nearby mountains.
The sea gull searching for its prey
dives headfirst into—
shades of green and blue.

Nearby, a whale song
erupts from the ocean depths.
Its haunting yet beautiful melody
rings in my ear.
I can glimpse the backs
of fish swimming through the current.
Fiddler crabs scurry about the shore—
trying to find their first meal.



Man has not yet silenced—
this morning chorus of sights and sounds.
The hypnotic waves—
call to me
as I gaze back at the sea.

Kavya Sridharan
Grade 11

PRICE OF INNOCENCE

One mistake and always mistaken
Once in the wrong place; always misplaced
Always understanding, yet misunderstood

Was going in the wrong way; ended in the right place
Never held it against them; now chased by grudges
always been forgiving but never been forgiven

Brought along the devil, all the way to heaven
One kiss and called the devil's mistress
Now the saints are sinners; heaven, the devil's home

Giving away chances; forgot to keep one for myself
Once called an optimist; now just naive thought
I fell in love; without the love, it's just falling

Amritha J
Grade 10

TOGETHER FOREVER

How green were the valleys
I once played in as a child

How beautiful was spring
Making my heart always sing

Looking at the blooming flower
I wish you were in my arms forever

Then came the time of war
Driving men from home afar

Leaving you, for duty, I depart
Comrades lost hurts my heart

Thoughts about me going to die
Makes my heart cry

Heartbroken and sad
Making me a very lonely lad

Yearning for a glimpse of your face
Wanting to see you decked up in lace

Your love, my dear, makes me stronger
So here I am yearning to live longer

To make a world for you and me
With a bond that everyone can see

Wanting to come back to you safe and sound
Hopefully tomorrow I am homeward bound

Aditya Sivaraman,
Grade 10





The Memorable Moment with Chao

I was reading when I looked out of the window, to my left. The clouds were pregnant with raindrops and the branches of neem trees bowed down their heads to the superior power of the wind. A few minutes later, the raindrops presented me a symphony. It was melodious and sweet. The symphony rose to crescendo, as if it would make holes on the roof.

Suddenly, I heard hurried whispers of an animal from the window. I wondered what made the sound. I rubbed the window panes to clear the fogged effect of the rain and I was astonished! A tiny and wet green parrot was shivering on a pot on the window sill. It was looking at me desperately for a helping hand. I could not reject the wee and beady eyes of the abject, helpless life.

I opened the window and extended my arms to rescue the parrot from the chillness of the rain. The raindrops beat my arms like bullets. When my hands hugged it, I could feel its warmth though it was wet and quivering.

I kept the parrot on a dried towel on my desk. Its vigorous shaking sprinkled water all over my desk. It shook its wings for a few times and started to walk. It was amazing to watch that its two short legs could walk very fast! I thought it would be hungry due to the rigorous exercise.

Fortunately, I had some biscuits in my room to eat when alone. I took them out of my cupboard and broke a few of them into small pieces on my palm. I showed the biscuit pieces to the parrot. It did not come near me at first, but soon it bowed its head and cleaned my palm in no time. It lifted its head for more. It looked at me as if it was observing me with its round, limpid eyes. I could not resist its cute winsomeness. I gave it the four biscuits that were all I had. I was happy that it accepted my biscuits.

As the parrot was fully fed and energetic, it was trying to fly. However, it flew for a short time and it fell, repeatedly. It was struggling to fly. I felt sorry for it. I wondered why it could not fly and I observed its wings when it was sitting. Its left wing was torn a bit. The wound made me hesitate about what to do. After a minute, my idea to cure it had come-- to ask help from mom, because she was a nurse. She would definitely scold me as she does not like animals, but it was an emergency!

Surprisingly, she did not scold me. She brought a huge box from the cupboard in her room and applied some ointments on its wound. She said that it was fortunate that its wound was not serious and the parrot would be able to fly soon. What a great relief! Luckily, the permission to take care of the parrot had been granted to me until the parrot could fly. I named the parrot as Chao, which means grass in Chinese.

Chao and I had had a great time for a few days. We liked each other a lot. Sitting on my shoulder or the window sill was Chao's favourite hobby. When Chao was sitting on the window sill, it enjoyed watching the trees and flowers. Time passed so fast that it could fly much better. I did not want to, but I knew that it was the time to say goodbye to Chao. I gave powdered biscuits to Chao as the last supper and Chao loved them. Mom and I opened the window. Chao seemed cheerful and happy. It began to flutter its wings and flew away into the bright sky.

Suna An
Grade 11



Impressionists



Nomita working on her coursework



Clay modelling



Fashion sketch by Nomita



more artists at work...

THE ANCIENT MYSTERY OF TARA



Saisharan paints a pot



Finger painting



flowers by tanya grade 8



Taeun at work



creating impressions

To: Emily Sands
-A true account of the excavation of Tara

I was heading a project on the uncovering of Tara, a 5000 year old mummy who was yet to be recovered in Egypt. Though you think it is very exciting to head an adventurous expedition, I am not really the mummy type. Nathaniel, my friend who was moving to Egypt, wanted to see a mummy. So I agreed. The Center for Egyptian Discovery had been begging me too.

To me it seemed like visiting a 5000 YEAR OLD WOMAN, analyzing every single bone of her body, painstakingly digging SAND before.

We had a sandstorm today morning. All of us were blinded and buried under sand, luckily not too much. We soon emerged from the sand looking like mud men. All of us hate sandstorms now. That is, all of us except Nathaniel. He was grinning like a raccoon. Typically Nathaniel.

The excavation continued without delay for five more days when one of my men uncovered a steep staircase. With my nerves tingling I asked the man, Bart, to lead us there. We climbed down a very steep staircase, almost straight, made mainly of dust, insects and cobwebs. Suddenly I tripped. But when I followed Nathaniel's gaze I looked at something golden. I started scratching with my tools and as the workers helped us we had soon uncovered a coffin. I never understood why but a huge sandstorm arose. I shouted for Nathaniel, but he was busy picking at the coffin. The sand soon blocked the entrance but the storm stopped a few minutes later.

Although it lasted for only a few seconds, we were surprised that there was a lot of sand piled up.

As before we picked and forced our way through the sand and came out, the sun blinding our eyes, dragging the coffin behind us with great difficulty. Suddenly I realized Nathaniel wasn't there. The last time I saw him he was trying to carry the treasure instead of the coffin.

My tools fell down and so I bent, but I saw something red in the sand. I pulled at it and it came free. Opening it (it was a book) I saw it was full of spidery handwriting, with thick upstrokes and thin downstrokes.

It said:

Herein lies the tomb of Tara and all her secrets and treasure. Those overcome with greed shall try to take her treasure and so disturb her peace. I curse whosoever dare to disturb her, to vanish leaving no trace, and whosoever searches for them, shall pursue the same fate.

The rest had faded out to be replaced by red marks of blood. Nathaniel was cursed and all his pursuers vanished.

I had no clue about Tara, but I found out something more important- that there are such things as curses, and greed is an attribute we should do without in life.

P.S.-I wish to search for Nathaniel, please help me.

Ruthu
Grade 6B

Junior Corner



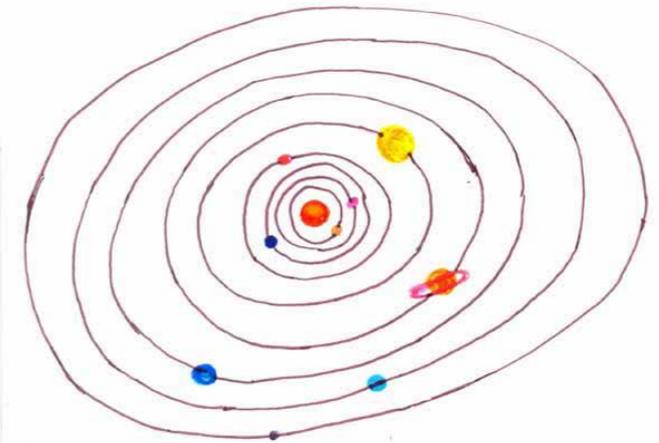
Happy with you

You shine like a star,
And round like a ball.
I see my grandpa's face in you,
And feel as happy as you.
The days you are not there,
I feel something missing.
But the days you are there,
I feel like floating in the air.
You shrink and shrink at times,
And grow and grow sometimes.
Each time you shrink,
My heart sinks.
Every time you're full,
My heart sings.

Manasa Rao, Grade 5

LIVING IN SPACE

Living in space
in a totally unrestricted place
where no window or wall
or barrier impenetrable,
Becomes your prison,
Where no physical demarcation
or weighty gravitation
prevents suspension,
Where arms and legs
float outward and become
part of a greater expansion,
With freedom to move without violent excess
and with such gentleness,
That all achieve a kind of gentle expresiveness



I look up from Earth and try to see
And the planets look back at me.
It is bright and distant stars
Are the Mercury, Venus and Mars.
Where are Saturn, Uranus and Neptune?
They are far away like the moon.
I look for planets in the sky.

Pranav 3A

Pranav, Grade 3A



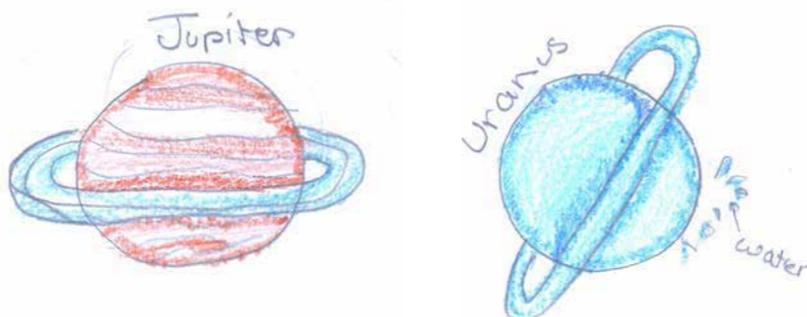
When asked which planet they would like to visit, the primary students had this to say:

I would go to Pluto because it is not a planet anymore and I want to discover what the problem with that planet is. I will take a torch and a spacesuit and tons and tons of water and food. And 2 TVs with Recorder and HD. It will be fun!

Surya, Grade 4

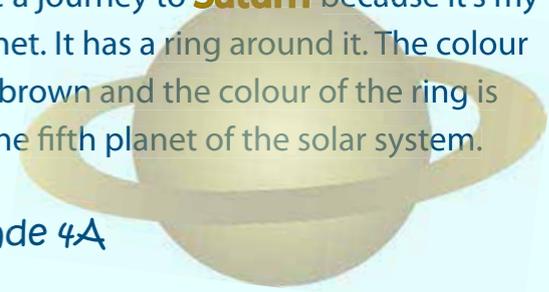
I would like to go to Jupiter because it has various colours. It is a beautiful planet. I also would like to go to Uranus because I want to explore its secrets and see if you will get water if you heat it up. Both Uranus and Jupiter are fascinating planets.

Simran Sabarwal Grade 4A



I would take a journey to **Saturn** because it's my favorite planet. It has a ring around it. The colour of Saturn is brown and the colour of the ring is white. It is the fifth planet of the solar system.

Sahna Grade 4A



I want to go to Saturn because I can do wind surfing.

Adithya S Grade 4

About space, they say:



Space is a place where there is no gravity.

Amogh Grade 1

In space it is dark. The stars in space will twinkle and in space there are lots of planets.

Aahana Grade 1

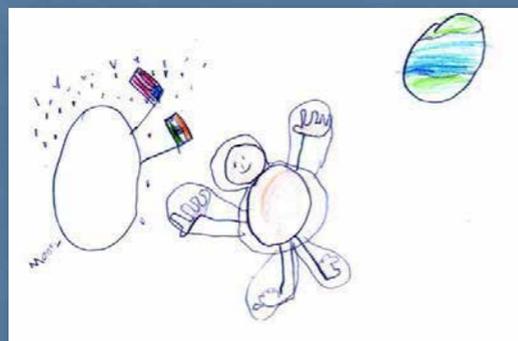
I wish I get to go to space because I think it's a cool place and surely I will race with my mates. It will be fun. It would be great to have a race in space.

Eloksi Arun Grade 3

Space has no gravity. Space has planets

and stars. Neil Armstrong was the first to walk on the moon.

N.A. Raghavan Grade 1

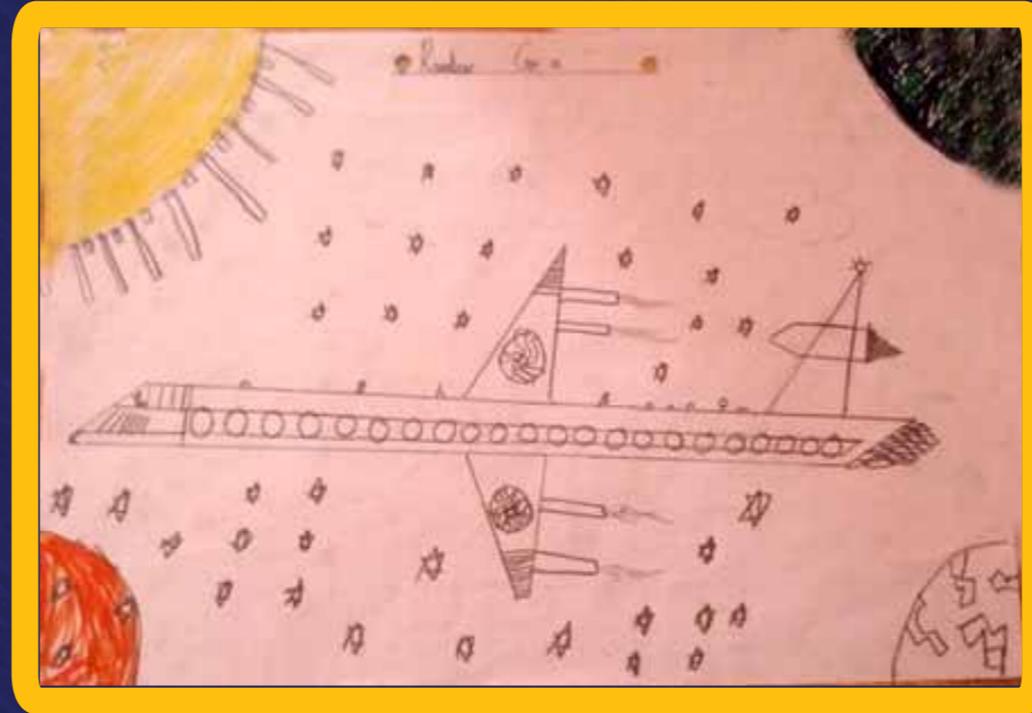


Space never stops and nothing blocks it. It goes on and on. Some astronauts go to find about space but some of them don't know about the black hole in the milky way galaxy.

Abhijith Grade 1



JUNIOR ARTWORK





QUIZ CORNER

1. What 'S' describes the relationship between living things that depend on each other for life?
2. What "P" is the name for thin, roasted or fried crisp bread made from lentil flour, in Indian cookery?
3. What "O" is the process by which water enters into plant roots?
4. What "T" is a person who visits places away from home for pleasure?
5. In Physics, what "L" is measured in lamberts or lumens?

WORD SEARCH

Spaced Out!



Words to find:

asteroid, atmosphere, comet, earth, galaxy, jupiter, kuiper belt, light year, moon, planet, rocket, solar, star, supernova, universe.

FASHION

Dip Dye Jeans

With the summer holidays just round the corner, most of you must be looking for something new and interesting to do. If you have a taste for fashion then here is a very simple and trendy 'Design It Yourself' that will keep you occupied and fashionable.

This simple project is perfect for the summer and instead of spending all your allowance on a pair of jeans, you can simply make it at home! The inspiration came from fashion designer Dries Van Noten's Summer/Spring 2011 runway show.

All you need is

- 1) A pair of denim jeans
- 2) A pair of protective gloves
- 3) Bleach
- 4) A ruler
- 5) A bucket
- 6) Vinegar

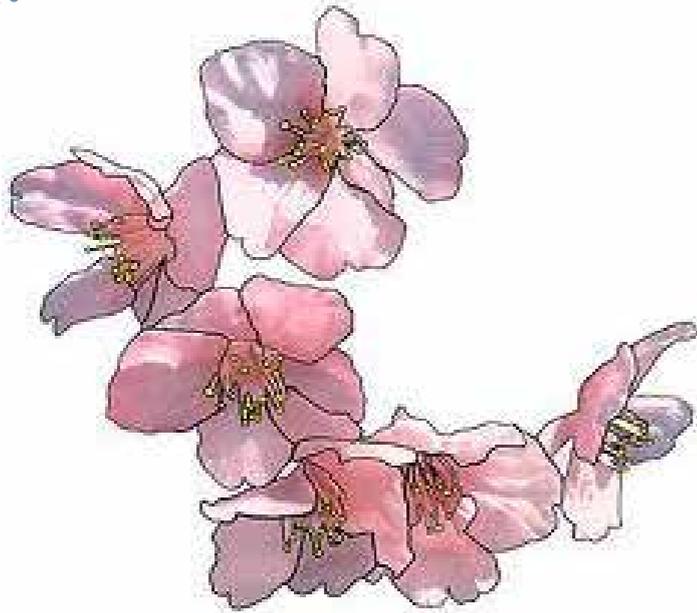
To make the bleach solution mix 2 parts water and 1 part bleach in a plastic bucket. Thread the ruler through the belt loops of your jean. Dip your shorts in the solution at the desired length (leave an extra inch out since the bleach will run) for about 30 minutes. Dip it a few more times till it reaches the desired shade of white. Then dip the shorts in a sink with 2 parts water and 1 part vinegar for about 10 minutes to stop the bleaching process. Leave the jeans to dry completely and your Dip Dye Jeans are ready to wear!

Note: Hand wash the garment after the first wear.

And, if you are not a fan of jeans then you can always dip dye your shirts or shorts - the possibilities are endless!



Sasha Ahuja
Grade 11



Hanami – hana – flower; mi – see

"It's that time of the year!"- how often do we hear this phrase, especially now, and with each person it holds a unique thought. It may be anywhere from examination time to the end of a school year or starting of summer vacations.

For me, it brings back memories of springtime in Japan. Ah! Those long paths with trees on both sides, stretched in an endless stream, laden with cherry blossoms and not a speck of green. Each tree is soaked in sweet pink; the slight breeze makes your heart skip a beat as those lovely blossoms flutter and float around you.

'Hanami' is the word of the season. It is hard to keep that inner joy spreading as a smile on your face when you are amidst those lovely cherry blossoms. It's that time of the year in my memories and Japan.

- Richa



MY JOURNEY AS A LEARNER

Four years ago, when I joined APL as a member of faculty, I never realized that it would be the beginning of a new learning. APL began its journey from a small house in Besant Nagar with a few students to the main building in Thoraippakam housing 250 students. Along with the school, my journey as a learner also began.

The concept of personalized learning, differentiated teaching, and multiple intelligence was new to me. Under the guidance of our director, Gita Jagannathan, and principal, Kiran Merchant, we as teachers in APL practice the same. I love the organised, transparent and systemized working of the organisation. We teachers have the freedom of space and thought which gives vent to creativity. I enjoy the in-house training programmes we often have on various aspects of education. I love working in APL and more than that, I love the children and the atmosphere here at school.

- Gomathi Prabhakar

Beyond Lokpal Bill

No one can dispute the fact that if there was anything occupying prime space in all the leading dailies every single day in the last few months, it was the Lokpal Bill and the crusader behind it, Anna Hazare. While the fate of the former is still being debated by our 500 odd representatives in the parliament house, let us focus on the latter- Anna Hazare. No, I am not going to talk about his oft reported background or his humble lifestyle, no, not even the Lokpal Bill! What I am going to focus on is the by product that we received from this entire Lokpal Bill movement.

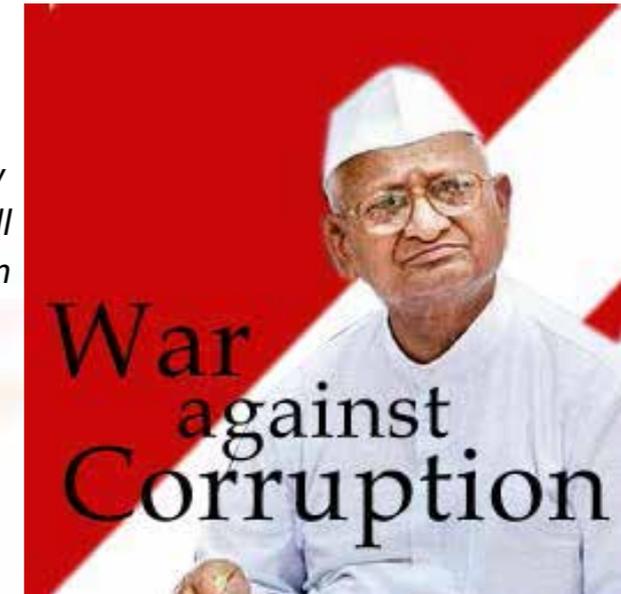
Through this movement Anna and his team not only warned the country of the magnum of corruption and what this money could do [if you have not seen the e-mail forwards giving you the figures and its worth for nation building, you have not checked your inbox properly!] but he helped us understand many things: that nonviolence is still the most desirable and successful formula for any movement-be it for or against a change; that in spite of 28 states and 7 union territories with varied regional problems, we unite to fight any anti elements that creep into our system or country; but most importantly, he helped us understand the youth of our country and made us change our outlook on them!

The youth are easily the most misunderstood population of the country. Perceived as a mindless cohort with confused ideologies and affinities, generally disconnected with reality, they are labeled as having an 'I don't give a damn' attitude. Well, Anna surely got us to believe that they care! How else could one explain the turnout of Gen X every time there was a call from him? Why would the pubs see decline in their footfalls every time Anna called for a congregation? What should we make of the rage that the Anna cap has gathered on the fashion circuit?

So how did we miss such an obvious phenomenon called 'youth power' before Anna came in to our lives [read papers]? Well, simply put, we never bothered to pause and reflect on how to derive that power. We never got ourselves to accept the youth power and that the youth can also be concerned about the same issues as the rest of us! We always criticized them but never bothered to give them any direction. So what did Anna do differently to demystify all the myths? Well, he simply gave them a direction, which helped them harness their power constructively, he gave them a cause to be a part of the movement and showed them the effect, he gave them a path which they could tread and see light at the end and most importantly, he walked that path himself.

What relevance does it have for people like you and me? We can imbibe Anna's approach in our dealings with the young generation in any sphere of life we want to work with them. We have to take them along just as Anna did. We need to give them clear objectives and outcomes of every responsibility that we ask them to undertake. We have to earn their confidence just as Anna did and trust that they will arrive at our intended destination.

We do not know what will become of the Lokpal bill, but we thank you, Mr. Hazare, for this enlightenment!



KIRAN MERCHANT
Principal



Shobha shares her experience . . .

At APL, besides online subject specific training courses for CIE, teachers register for CIDTT (Cambridge international Diploma for teacher trainers). The training consists of 4 modules and many of our teachers have passed the training with distinction. **Shobha Vishwanathan, Head - Primary**, has achieved distinction in 3 modules. Shobha shares with us her experience of doing this course along with her various responsibilities.

1. What made you choose the teaching profession?

Hailing from a family which has been into teaching since decades, I would say, it came naturally to me. I had always been observing my elders dealing with kids with patience, which I liked the most. I personally think that teaching is one of the few jobs in the world where the main goal is change and renewal. Also, there is a great space for creativity in teaching.

2. What brought you to APL?

At first, it was just another switch in my teaching profession until I met the management. After getting to know about their vision and mission, I decided to become an integral part of APL's drive towards realizing the true potential of every child. Needless to mention, the joy of learning and growing with students at APL is exhilarating.

3. Congratulations on your recent achievement of distinction in CIDTT. How does it feel?

I have always tried setting realistic goals and gradually worked towards achieving them. The CIDTT has raised my self confidence. I have learnt more about the process of planning, assessments, evaluation and feedback. The diligence in planning and the intricacies that follow have further honed my administration skills.

After achieving a distinction in module 2, my happiness knew no bounds. I soon realized that people around me had high expectations and I was really not sure whether I would be able to meet those, but the drive to accomplish continued to award me distinctions in module 3 and module 4 as well. Of course, it feels great to be an overall distinction holder...

4. What motivated you to do this course?

"Don't set some ambitious goals. Just set your sight on something's that's so easy, so effortless, that it's really impossible for you to not achieve it. That's how you can build the habit of winning." This I believe is timeless advice. So often, we think and are taught that to achieve all that we must in life; we have to set extremely ambitious goals. But we end up getting overwhelmed. I am basically a person who strongly believes in positive affirmations. I quite often repeat with faith and strong feelings that "I have the desire and inner strength to achieve my goal".

5. How did you balance working on this course with the demands of being the Head of Primary?

It was not as simple as it seems to be. Challenges at the workplace and the domestic front were to be managed efficiently. I started setting my priorities to balance my multiple responsibilities and roles as an academician, manager and a mother. I also used to revise my plans often, to suit the needs of all. Late working hours at home to complete the modules, no leisure time, was quite a fatigue at times, but the sweet fruit made it all worthwhile!!

6. Anything you would like to share or suggest to your colleagues?

Start with doing something small concerning your goal. Success in small matters leads to greater success. Everyone has their own interpretation and belief about what success is. For me, it is our ability to reach our goals as easily and effortlessly as possible; however, success could be right under your nose, and we might not see it.

Expressions is something which should be in every school. People wonder if it is necessary and is a waste of time - but it's not. Expressions are basically extra –curricular activities. Expressions at APL provides a wide variety of choices such as speaking, writing, debate, MUN, quiz, art, dance, music, theatre and many more. I enjoy Expressions because it gives me a break from my academics!! Throughout the year Expressions has given me the opportunity to improve myself in various skills. At the end of each class when we are supposed to write our journal on the club, I realize how much I learnt in that class while having so much fun!!! The three clubs I picked were -

Art
Speaking
Business

I specifically picked these clubs because I thought I needed help in that particular area and I have great interest in them. On the whole Expressions has helped me a lot and made school more fun.!!!

Varsha
Grade 9

**EXPRESSIONS
UNLIMITED**

APL BUSINESS CLUB

OUR MAIDEN VENTURE

At the Business Club we are constantly looking for opportunities to learn through practical experience. One such opportunity came to us when our school hosted Synergy, our first inter-school cultural event. Students from many schools were to participate and Grade Ten Business Club students wanted to do something big on the two special days. We thought for a long time on what we could do and we got an idea to put up a food stall. We all agreed that it would be really helpful academically as well as help us be involved in our first inter-school event. Our team consisted of Amy, Amritha Suresh, Varshini Suresh, Neel, and me, Srikarran. The initial plan was that Amritha and Varshini would make instant noodles, Amy would make Korean noodles, Neel would make brownies and I would buy packs of chips, bottles of aerated drinks and sell them. Sadly, aerated drinks or packaged chips weren't permitted by our Principal.

I then hit upon the idea that we could make sandwiches and instead of aerated drinks, we could serve concentrated fruit juice! We got complete permission to set up our stall and we were ready, except for finance. Each of us contributed two hundred and fifty rupees and also got a loan of one thousand rupees. With this we were able to buy our supplies to sell at our stall. We now just needed to finalise the venue to put up our stall and a name. We wanted the cafeteria at the first floor but were turned down as there were events taking place around that area. We then got an offer to put up our stall near the sports ground next to the staff room. We accepted and started working on the prices for the food. We couldn't really think of a very good name and so we named our stall "The Food House". Everything was set and ready, it was the first day of Synergy and I was really excited to be part of something like this.

Our first customer was already there waiting for his sandwich! We had a tough time, we kept mixing orders, spilling things around and there was a lot of noise. I made a perfect sandwich after several tries and I dropped it. We really had a very tough time till lunch. Afterwards, we started becoming more consistent in our work and it showed in the revenue we got at the end of the day. It was Day Two and we were better prepared. This time we got extra brownies and more juice as they were sold out the previous day. The second day was not as bad as the first. It went smooth in the beginning but half of us were exhausted. I was really tired and was unable to do any work after around five hours. Apart from that, the day was great and being a leader was great. We were all a leader in "the food house"; a leader of different things. It was fun and tiring at the same time and w'd love to do it again!

Srikarran
Grade 10

Genesis - Literary Club

The Debating Experience

The Debate Club is very helpful as our speaking and argumentative skills are enhanced, as are our research and general knowledge skills. In Debate Club we prepare for the monthly interschool debate which follows the World School debate style. We debate once every month throughout the academic year, but we do not debate during the summer holidays. During that period we sharpen our skills to get ready for the next debating session.

We have battled against different schools on different frontiers. Often we received topics that required research, which was very helpful as we learnt a lot of things. Our debates are very sophisticated and polite and we often feel the intensity of the team spirit on both sides. We have a proposition team, who propose the topic, and an opposition team, who oppose the topic. The teams are graded according to various things including style, presentation, points, rebuttal and strategy. We have debated on different topics, for example, "This House Believes (THB) that the unique identification program will fail". Debating has been an enriching experience as we have learnt a lot.

Sheona
Grade 8



The Ant and the Spider - from the Creative writing Club

I was reading a book when I looked up. There in the window I saw an ant struggling to get out of a spider web. Then, I remembered the time I myself was just like that little ant. I had got cornered by three big mean bullies. I was looking for some gaps between the three people so maybe I could escape. That thought of the bullies made me shiver and so I just got up and went to my room.

After a little while, I felt like checking on that little ant to see how it was doing. Maybe I could help him out, just like my friends did when I was cornered. So I went to the same window and I saw that the big spider was going towards the little ant. But before it could, I took the broom and whacked it. The spider fell and I blew it outside the window. Then I brushed the web and the little ant fell on my hand but I didn't notice. I was busy thinking about the spider. After some time, I saw the ant crawling on my hand. So I put it down and it went off as fast as it could and I was really happy.

Devika Kejriwal
Grade 7A



Question Breakers

Primary Quiz

Every morning, the kids are bubbling with enthusiasm waiting for the daily assembly. Everyone waits for one person to enter the diaz and mesmerize them with her questions. The quiz master Seetha Ma'am does the trick. This year Jade and Amethyst were in full swing and the audience cheered their respective teams, when the primary children actively participated in the quiz rounds. The various sections of the quiz such as the audio visual rounds, science and technology round, food and the general knowledge round, humanities round, sports round, entertainment round, art and literature rounds kindled interest in teachers as well. Teachers' Quiz was a great hit. The different teams were decked in similar colored saris and what's more, the most popular name amongst the students happened to be Chelsea team which won the quiz by 5 points due to its unique name. There was fun and frolic, zeal to win and most importantly, the extraordinary mind boggling questions that changed the tense atmosphere into a light mood.

Senior School Quiz



Monday and Friday mornings, middle and senior school students listen attentively to their grade-wise quiz challenge in the Public Address System conducted by the 'Question Breakers' Club. Additionally, every Friday Special Assembly is never complete without the clash between the two houses - Jade and Amethyst - another Quiz challenge relating to the topic in the special assembly.

GO GREEN CLUB

LEARNING TO GO GREEN

The environment club or the Go Green club is one of the amazing clubs we have in our Expressions clubs. Go Green club did a lot of things this year including going to Bala Vidhya Mandir to see and understand how they reuse and recycle their paper. After seeing how they reuse and recycle their paper, we learnt how easily anybody can recycle paper.

Go Greeners also took the initiative to learn and make paper bags from old newspapers with eco-friendly glue. These bags can be used by local shops.

In our Inter-house Culturals, Go Green hosted a competition called the Recycle race in which participants got a box of junk and had to put them in 2 boxes labeled recyclable and non-recyclable.

And now Go Green has started to make 'creative' envelopes from used A4 papers using marbling technique'. They hope to meet quality standards and make enough to meet the requirements of the school administration.

Akash Sabharwal
Grade 10

Abstract Elements

Abstract Elements, as we call the art club, is the most interesting and fun club ever and I wait for it all week! We do pottery, painting and many other fun things. I love painting and found that I love pottery and playing with clay as well. Archana Ma'am makes the class interesting with lots of fun activities. Art club is the one club I would hate to miss.

Sophia,
Grade 8



CAMERAS

In the Art Club we are given the option to explore art through various mediums. I do photography. While other students are busy painting or modelling we photographers go around documenting and capturing the fun and quirky moments of the club. And in the process I realized how important it is to use a good camera to get the right effect.

As amateurs, we often wonder how to pick a good camera from the market. While buying one for myself, I did some research and analysis, which I would like to share with you.

Canon Digital Rebel XT:

The Canon EOS 350D (Canon EOS Digital Rebel XT in North America and the Canon EOS Kiss Digital N in Japan) is an 8.0-megapixel entry-level digital single-lens reflex camera manufactured by Canon. The model was initially announced in February 2005. It uses Compact Flash storage and a Lithium ion battery. Part of the EOS, it is the successor to the EOS 300D and the predecessor to the EOS 400D (or Digital Rebel XTi), which was released in August 2006. Since early 2008, the 350D has been remaindered (production ceased in 2005). It was also the world's most popular sub \$1000 D-SLR. The XT is probably the only canon left out there that you could pick up for around 32,000 Rupees if you are a beginner and want to learn. It has a few competitors like the Nikon D40 and the canon power shot s2is.

Nikon D40:

The D40 is a now-discontinued Nikon F-mount entry-level digital SLR, announced November 16, 2006. Compared to its predecessor, the D50, the D40 had several features removed, a few added, and a lower price: US\$499.95 ESP as of November 2009 with the 18–55 mm G-II kit lens, positioning it as an entry-level model compared to the D80. The D40x (released March 6, 2007) has a 10 megapixel maximum resolution, up from 6 megapixels of the D40. The D40 was the first Nikon DSLR with no in-body focus motor. Autofocus requires the use of a lens with an integrated autofocus-motor. Despite being superseded by newer offerings, the Nikon D40 retained some significant advantages. It enjoyed a long production run which finally ceased in March 2009, shortly before its introduction of its successor, the Nikon D3000.

The D40 is a very good second hand camera for beginners who want to join the Nikon camera system. Yet with such close competition to the Rebel XT and the introduction of the XTi the Nikon does not look like a very good deal.

Daniel Philip
Grade 10

Model name	Nikon D40	Canon Rebel XT
Price Range(INR.)	31,990.00	38,995.00
Pros	Cheaper, Lighter, Feels Rugged and also is actually very ergonomic.	Nicely weighted, Penta-mirror view finder, nicely placed buttons and spinning wheel.
Cons	Rattling noise, no built in image stabilizer, limited storage bolder file format, CCD family sensor.	Flash comes up so fast it almost takes your eye out, view finder has very bad coverage 95%, and infrared remote trigger is sometimes glitch.
Megapixel	5.981	8.01
Lens compatibility	53	160+
Screen size	2.5	1.8
Shutter speed	1/8000	1/4000
ISO Level	800	1600
Sensor	CCD	CMOS
FPS high speed	2.2	2.9
ISO boost	800	None
Image quality	60	71
Overall review	You want a rock bottom no nonsense beginner DSLR, then the Nikon is the way to go. It has a good feel and relatively fast process completion time.	The REBEL is for you if you are willing to learn slowly and are willing to make some mistakes. Yet the canon is the clear winner here with its superiority in almost every segment.



APL THEATRIX

THE MAKING OF MACBETH - THE UNTOLD VERSION

ANNUAL DAY... Celebrations and jublations... That word certainly brings a lot of elation for the entire school! The vibrant colour, the laughter, the... Wait a minute! Are you anxious to know how it all broke ground?! Here, we share our thrilling experience of the making of Macbeth- the Untold Version...

It was the 4th of October, 2011. The two of us were despairingly sitting in the library. Just then we were called by the club co ordinator, Hemalatha ma'am, for a meeting with the management regarding the annual day...hold on a second...ANNUAL DAY!?! We were flabbergasted!

We hesitantly entered Gita madam's office. Gita ma'am, Kiran ma'am, Hans sir and Aiswariya of grade 12 were seated already and the meeting began once we settled in. After the meeting, we realized that we had to write an entire script!! We thought, "The two of us and script writing - don't go together, at all!"

On the 21st of October, during the semester break, we brainstormed a few concepts and we all came up with a brilliant idea - a satire on Macbeth! A challenging work it was - making a comedy out of a tragedy. The two of us, Aiswariya of Grade 12 and Vignesh of Grade 11 sat together and created a basic skeleton of the script.

As this was the first time in our lives that we were writing a script, we took the advice from a writer, who was a good friend of our father. The delineation of the script started shaping and blooming into a beautiful comical play under the supervision of Hans sir.

We kept our fingers crossed hoping that this play would come out magnificently but it turned out to be much more. All we can say is that it was truly memorable and has left a mark in our hearts...

Amritha & Varshini Suresh
Grade 10

My theatre club experiences

I am Gayathri Nilakantan of grade 9. I am a part of the theatre club in Expressions. I really enjoy theater because it is one of my passions. I only joined this semester and I have already fallen in love with the whole session. I have learnt a lot in theatre like how to throw my voice, how not to be shy and how to express with my voice. Mr Hans Kaushik, our theatre instructor, is very skilled in what he does. He always makes it a point to keep the class interesting and informative. We have lots of interactive classes. We play games and have group activities. I remember one activity that we did on the first day of my classes. We were all made to read a book out loud and then we were taught how to read the pauses and how to throw our voices. I feel that my school has given us a great opportunity to learn skills like these.

Gayathri Nilakantan
Grade 9

Techno Freaks

Fun with Science

During Science and Technology class, we did a lot of interesting experiments such as making a circuit and connecting LED lights to them. We made the LED lights blink, and made them in beautiful colours. I liked this experiment a lot. After this we did an experiment on magnetism. We took iron filings, put them in a container of water and put a magnet under the container. Then we moved the magnet and it looked like the iron filings were dancing.

We enjoyed this experiment very much. Also, in another experiment, we put 4 magnets at the corners of a container filled with water and aligned them to the edge of the container. Then we explored the magnetic field of attraction in the water. We also saw how a compass works, and we tried to "confuse" the compass by putting two magnets on opposite sides of the magnet. Our classes in Science and Technology Club have been a lot of fun and are very informative!

Rjithwik Sivakumar
Grade 6



TAPPING FEET



MY EXPERIENCES IN THE DANCE CLUB

As part of the dance club, we have enjoyed as well as learned many things.

We have learnt many forms of dance, but covered two forms of dance much more than the other forms. The first one is "the basics of jazz" and then we moved on to free-style.

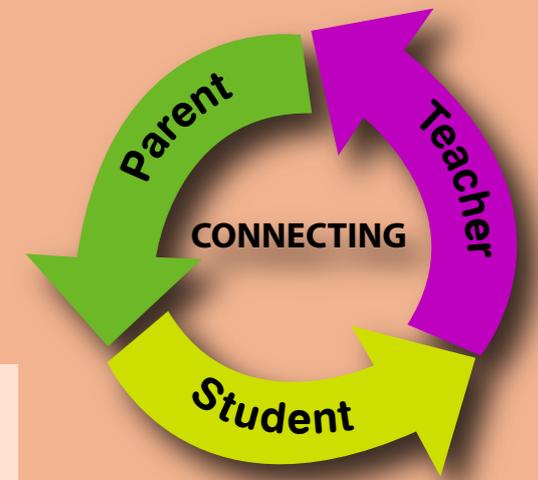
We have performed in school assemblies in various styles - western, folk and free-style. We have participated in inter-school competitions too. Apart from the joy of participation and the recognition and appreciation we get from our friends after a performance, what is invaluable is the boost to our confidence. The critical review from judges and our school instructor has helped us correct our mistakes in aspects like body postures, expression, timing and co-ordination. Stage shows have also helped us get rid of stage fear and evolve as more confident individuals. We students in dance club enjoy ourselves.

We in the dance club, apart from choreographing for our stage performance, have also choreographed and trained the primary students for their performance. I felt very proud when our efforts were mentioned in the assembly.

Spadeka
Grade 10



ParentSpeak



In our inaugural issue of Snapshot in January this year, parents had raised certain concerns:

The annual sports venue could be changed to accommodate the increasing numbers attending. Also it makes logical sense to have the annual day after the sports day because the annual day is the culmination of the year's events.

*Mrs. Sreelatha Vinod
Parent of Vishwajit Vinod Kumar*

APL responds to ParentSpeak -

Thanks a lot for your feedback and suggestion. The venue for sports day is under consideration. It was not envisaged as an annual day but as an opportunity to showcase our students' cultural talents. In earlier years we have had it at the end of the academic session and our experience showed that teachers and students felt it was overwhelming with the demands of semester / mock exams and preparations for Annual Day all at the same time.

The Mom Factor

As a parent of two young boys I have always introspected on my capacity as a mother. Every mother who has had a particularly hard day with her cranky and tired four year old, an anxious twelve year old or a confused- about life teenager, will surely agree with me.

Most of us worry about our capacity for parenting. Is it as rewarding as the exaggerating movies depict or actually a thankless job? Every mother has struggled with the question of whether she is doing a good enough job. But we must remember that God gave us children for a reason. He obviously thought we could do the job perfectly and so it is up to us to conquer these inner uncertainties and become mothers who know they are not only good enough, but great.

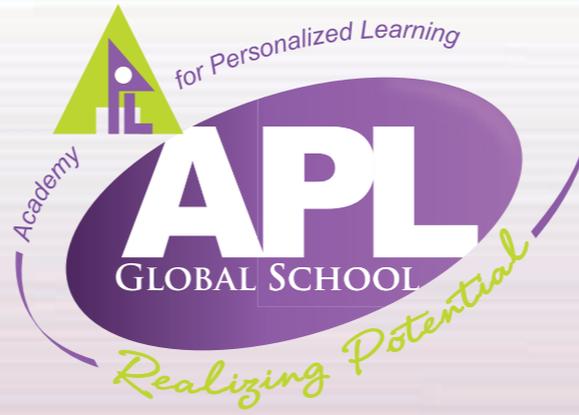
Some of the points below could help to uncover our hidden strengths.

- 1 The inner critic has to be released: We are always our own worst critic, and compare ourselves to others. Just like children, no two mothers are alike, and each parenting style has its own place. Mother Nature knew exactly what kind of parenting your child would need, and she matched each child to the right parents.
- 2 Your best is good enough. All of us do our best, but we feel like our best isn't good enough. But our children love all we do for them.
- 3 Take better care of yourself so that you can do your best. A mom who doesn't take care of herself is unable to take care of her children.
4. Less is more. Children enjoy the simple things in life. They won't remember the big pile of presents that they got for their birthday, but they will remember that one small special gift you bought.
- 5 Communicate: Communication is not just about talking. By being actively involved in your children's hobbies or interests, we can help them express themselves fully.
- 6 Do less well. Often we feel like we have to be a 'SuperMom' and try to do everything right from having the house perfectly clean at all times, helping our kids with their homework, being 'excellent employee of the year' and still putting a hot, homemade meal on the dinner table. It is not possible to do everything. Let's take time to unwind listening to silly jokes from our kids with a big happy grin. My experience about dinner time has been that kids open up a lot about their day in school.
- 7 Let your kids fail. Sometimes it is necessary to let them fail. We can't fix everything for them.

We are all good mothers, and it is important to believe that.

Children are Nature's tools for letting us experience every facet of life in order to mature into effective parents. As a mother and also a teacher at APL, I am learning that children, in their innocently demanding ways, teach a lot about unconditional love. I may be a flawed human being in my own eyes but to my children, the ones at home and the ones at school, I may after all be a Superwoman.

*Padmini Remella
(Mother of Rahul Grade 7 & Arjun Rambhatla Grade 1)*



Students, Teachers, Parents,

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We will love to have your feedback too! Click on the link and leave your comments.

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