

Snapshot

January 2014
Issue 8

Hear our students' opinions in -

VOICE

"Does Sachin Tendulkar alone deserve the Bharat Ratna when other sportsmen are equally worthy of it?"

WINDOW

Refresh your ears with the
TOP TEN TUNES..!

JUNIOR CORNER
Read what our children
have to share...

*Heartfelt interview with Dr. Natarajan,
International Athlete and Superintendent of
Customs and Director - ISPA*

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EDITORIAL

HERE WE ARE AGAIN!

Happy New Year! It's 2014 and SnapShot is back with more exciting and interesting articles from students, teachers and parents.

We had a multitude of events happening in school and we were on our toes all the time in order to capture, collate and condense everything into an e-magazine.

We really acknowledge your valuable feedback as it gives us an opportunity to make the most of the coming issues. Here's a glimpse of what we have in this issue:

Enjoy the wonderful stories and poems shared by our students and bubbling juniors in 'Open Boat' and 'Junior Corner' and watch their imaginations run wild. Colours come alive in the beautiful art work displayed.

We also have the spicy side of the magazine. The section 'Voice' catches fire as our students express their opinions on the debate – "Did Sachin Tendulkar deserve the Bharat Ratna?"

SnapShot truly is a platform to break the ice as it covers heart-to-heart conversations with students, teachers and also renowned sportsmen like Dr. Natarajan, who was our chief guest for our 5th Annual Sports Meet.

Once again 'Window' turns musical with the Top Ten Tunes to soothe your ears and get you humming. Also, check out a review of the annual production of Mellow Circle, 'Skipping Christmas' – a play that celebrates the spirit of Christmas.

So please leave all your thoughts behind and explore what this issue has in store for you...

– Varshini and Amritha Suresh, Grade 12

Editorial Team

Content: Sara, Tanya, Varshita, Oshin, Nikhil Madhavan, Amritha & Varshini Suresh

Layout and Design: Varshini & Amritha Suresh, Tanya Gupta

Disclaimer:

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



SnapShot is amazing! The sections I like the most are Voice, Open Boat, Potpourri, and Expressions Unlimited. I find the articles and other contributions by students and teachers are informative and made the reading interesting. Kudos to the team, keep up the good work. More can be done with lay outs, for example, Open Boat and Expressions Unlimited.

R. Kumar
Reader



Wow! APL has once again taken that great leap forward. SnapShot shows a 100% effort on the part of both the students and the teachers. I enjoyed reading it and all the 21 pages cover a variety of aspects and are all co-related and co-ordinated in a fabulous manner. I loved the sections Open Boat, Junior Corner, and Expressions Unlimited. The design is excellent! I am sure SnapShot is a wonderful tool that would enhance the creativity and imagination in the students and would definitely widen their horizons of knowledge. I would like to congratulate everyone who had contributed and wish them success in their future endeavours. APL rocks!

Jhansi Singh
Reader

The last issue of SnapShot is wonderful! The Editorial is great and I really like the sections TeacherSpeak and Expressions Unlimited. The background colour of the content page can be in a light shade. The titles/headers can be maintained in one colour with non-italics font type. The logo of the school can be added.

Chandni
Reader



Awards Galore!

Cambridge International Examinations announced the winners of the **Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards**, India, in the November 2012/June 2013 Cambridge examination series. The awards celebrate the outstanding academic achievements of secondary school learners in India.

They are conferred upon those learners who have been recognised for 'High Achievement' based on outstanding performance in subjects which are not yet so widely taken in India and learners who have achieved the total highest cumulative marks across a number of subjects.

Two of our students, Sanjana Chandrasekhar for Art and Design, and Sangitha Sara Harmsen for Spanish, received the 'Cambridge Outstanding Learner Award, India' certificates for being India top-per in the Oct-Nov 2012 examination session.

This is Sanjana Chandrasekhar's third consecutive award in Art and Design with the A level award being her favourite! This gave the 18 year old the confidence to pursue Art and Design and she is now enjoying her higher studies at the University of Arts London.



Chittesh Thavamani, grade VIII student of APL Global School crowned Math Whiz

Chittesh Thavamani of APL Global School, Chennai, was declared the 'Student Mathematician of the Year' in the Raffles Institution Maths Challenge 2013 presented by The Hindu In School and conducted by online maths education service provider HeyMath!

Chittesh was among the 100 students who made it to the second round of the test that had 15 questions to be answered in an hour. Over 3,200 students of classes VII, VIII and IX from 1,100 schools participated in the online test held on October 20 2013.

Chittesh says, "My previous experience with other math contests helped me stay calm and spend my time wisely during the contest".





Announcing CIE Oct / Nov 2013 results!!

AS AND A2 LEVEL



A - ART & DESIGN
MARK S THOPPIL



A* - ECONOMICS
a^ - ENGLISH LANGUAGE
A - MATHEMATICS
A - PHYSICS
SURYASRINIVASAN KUMARAVEL



a^ - APPLIED ICT
VARSHINI SURESH



a^ - ENGLISH LANGUAGE
MATHURA RAGHURAM SAMARAM



a^ - APPLIED ICT
AMRITHA SURESH



a^ - ENGLISH LANGUAGE
A - PSYCHOLOGY
SAKSHI. V



a^ - MATHEMATICS
JITTHEN KUMARR

IGCSE



A* - PHYSICS
A* - CHEMISTRY
A - MATHEMATICS
RUTHU HULIKAL ROOPA RAGHUNATH



A - COMP. STUDIES
VARSHA VADLAMANI



A - FIRST LANG. ENGLISH
A - EVM
VARUN ANAND RAVIKUMAR



NIE Newsmakers' Meet 2013

It was a privilege to participate in and represent APL Global at this year's NIE Newsmakers' Meet. The seminar was filled with interesting and interactive conversations with the chief guest about ways in which our country can change from a developing country to a developed one. Our peers from other schools asked questions and discussed issues like why graduates move to foreign countries rather than stay in India, how we could provide education for children in rural areas, etc.

Following the mind opening conversation, we had some trivia quiz based on the information from the NIE Newspaper Student Edition. It was obvious that many questions required a reader who paid close attention to the newspaper to answer correctly. Afterwards, we were given two images and we had to write a newspaper report based on the image. Finally, the top 10 participants were to be Star correspondents for the NIE.

Nikitha

Grade 9



Children's Day Celebrations

Every event is celebrated in a most enjoyable and unpredictable way at APL. Children's Day was no exception. We started off on the 13th of November by participating in a variety of inter-house competitions that ended on 14th of November. We sang our hearts out and danced like hares. There was space to show our advertising skills, design posters and also make delicious food without fire. We were treated to hilarious spoofs of movies and also mimicry of Lady Gaga in the event Shipwreck. Some students came up with intricate designs for Rangoli and Mehendi while others were engrossed in the Face Painting event. To top it all, the teachers entertained us throughout by making the events fun. As part of their short and sweet variety entertainment programme for us, teachers shared with us memorable instances of what they learned from us. They sang a song about us and also danced towards the end. It was the most memorable children's day filled with unexpected humorous twist and turns.



Oshin Shirley Maria Joseph

Grade 12



This year, I participated in the **Raffles Institution Mathematics Contest** (RIMC 2013). This contest is at the national level, but most participants were from South India because the finals took place in Chennai. There are two rounds in the contest, Round 1 and Round 2. To take Round 1, all that is necessary is the internet. From Round 1, a total of 100 participants are chosen for Round 2. Finally, the winners of Round 2 are awarded.

My experience with this contest was generally good. Round 1 and Round 2 were both relatively easy. Also, the organisers of this contest were quite considerate. Rather than making us wait out during the hour they were grading Round 2, they served us snacks, which was very convenient.

To prepare for RIMC 2013, I took the online preparatory course offered by HeyMath. The course contained previous contests, which was helpful because the types of questions asked were constant. Also, my previous experience with other math contests helped me stay calm and spend my time wisely during the contest.

Finally, the day of the contest comes. I wake up early, and go to the PSBB School, where the contest will take place. Initially, I am calm. However, as I register and wait for the contest to start, I see about ninety other nervous faces, which naturally induces some anxiety in me too. As I start the contest, it takes me about five minutes to lose this anxiety and calm down. But after I calm down successfully, I get into my pace, steadily solving problems. As the final minutes of the contest approach, I speed up, doing last minute calculations. Then, the contest is over. Soon, I realize that I have won the contest. Then, after a lot of pictures, I finally get to return home.

Chitteshwaran T
Grade 8 B



Cultural Evening – Showtime!



Parents on Sports Day!

Great place for Sports Day!
Well organized.

A M Sanjeevi
Mahima's father, grade 7

Nicely done. Could have been more organized. Parents and grandparents' games could happen at the end. Events were interesting and good. Arrangements were fantastic!

Mother of Ramakrishnan,
Grade 9

The day was filled with lots of activities. The best sport I thought was karate and pyramid. Excellent job, teachers and children!

Malavika
Mother of Shweta



It was a wonderful show as always! Enjoyed watching the kids and parents play. Saturday was never such fun. Keep up the good work, APL! Hope to see more of this next year.

Archana Nischal
Mother of Aahana, grade 3

It was a fun filled event. Nice to see the participation from everyone including the house keeping staff. Thanks to the entire sports staff for organizing this event very well.

Jegan Fernando
Parent of Vanshika

Had a fantastic time with the parents and children! Really enjoyed the events organized for the parents and grandparents. Keep it up!

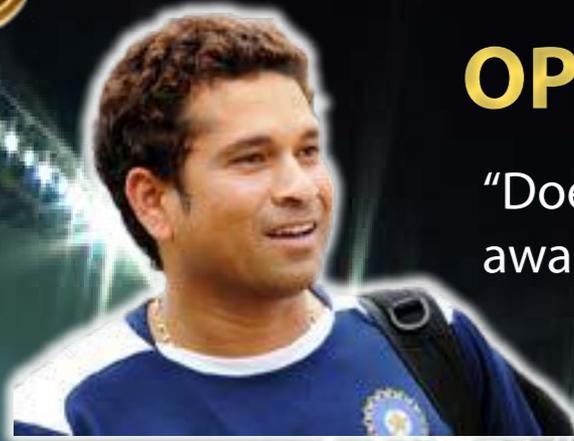
Anjana Rakshit
Srishti, grade 6



Great show with lots of participation and enthusiasm. The tiny tots did very well and all performed with dedication. Great event. Would be good to keep the kids in shaded tents outside of their performance. Great organization.

Sridhar Narayanan
Dad of Nikhil & Sneha Sridhar





OPINION

“Does Sachin Tendulkar alone deserve the Bharat Ratna award when other sportsmen are equally worthy of it?”

Here is what some of our students have to say:

I think Virat Kohli deserves it more.

– Renyta, Grade 9

I think Sachin deserves it, for all his hard work. Among many other people his contribution to Indian cricket is immense. I am sure many other players deserve the award too.

– Subhiksha, Grade 9

Sachin does deserve the Bharat Ratna but so does Vishwanathan Anand. They have been carrying the burden of India for many years and others should follow their example.

– Aashirsh, Grade 12

Sachin does not deserve the Bharat Ratna. He might have contributed a lot to the country but he played for his own records.

– Sri Karran, Grade 12

Sachin is unbeatable. Greatest player, international icon and broke all records.

– Vikram Adhityan, Grade 9

Sachin deserves the award. He propelled India to the forefront in sports, not just cricket. He inspired many people to take up sports as a career.

– Sriniketh, Grade 12

What kind of question is that? Which player other than Sachin has over 20 trophies, 50 records, 100 centuries and 29 years of loyalty? Of course, he deserves it more than other people.

– Balaji, Grade 10

I don't believe that Sachin deserves the Bharat Ratna. He's been in cricket for 24 years and he did not allow other players to show their talent.

– Sai Ajeet, Grade 9

I don't think Sachin deserves the Bharat Ratna, because cricket is not a great sport. People with great talents like Somdev should be given the award.

– Neel Madhav, Grade 12



TALKING WHOLEHEARTEDLY - SHWETHA SAIRAM

A bright student, who has also played arresting roles in our annual day productions. While interviewing Shwetha Sairam, our former School Pupil Leader, I discovered so many facets to her personality.

Sara Zacharia, Grade 9

One word to describe APL?

Family.

What brought you to APL?

I moved to India and wanted to be in a school that offered a Cambridge curriculum - APL seemed like a great place and so did the management.

How do you spend your free time?

Finding free time in 12th grade is a little tough! But when I do have a little time to myself - music, TV, reading and Bharatanatyam are fun - and who can resist food, of course.

What are your plans after graduation?

I want to do medicine and hopefully, become a doctor someday and help people.

You were SPL in our school last year— how was the experience?

It was amazing. I don't think I've ever felt so humbled, yet so confident at the same time. I got to know a lot of people, made a lot of friends and I also formed professional relationships with many people.

What was the most memorable moment here in APL?

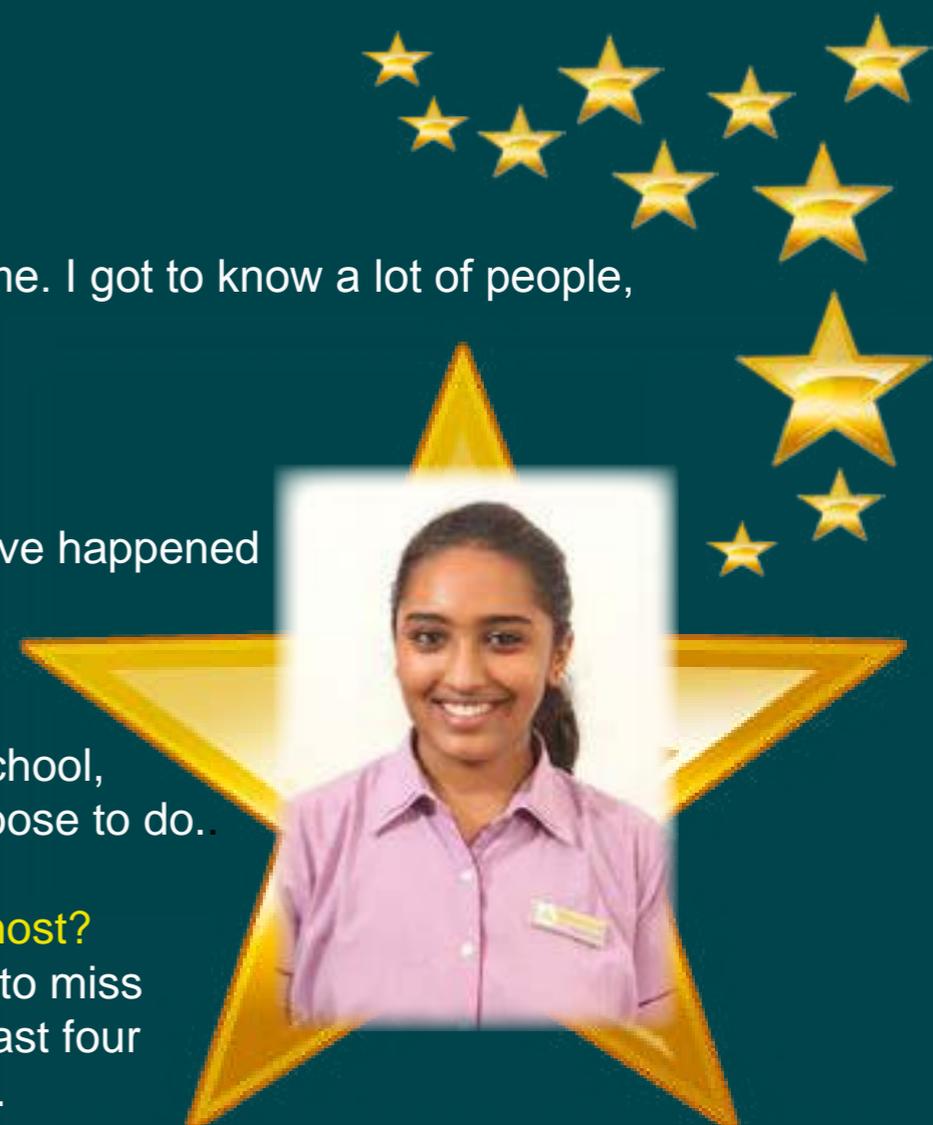
There have been so many moments - every day something new happens, just like any other high school experience, I guess. A lot of hilarious conversations have happened at the lunch table and in the bus.... I'll definitely miss that.

What are your wildest dreams?

I don't really think my wildest dreams are too wild. I want to get into a good medical school, form a career for myself and enjoy what I'm doing and be passionate about what I choose to do.

This is your last year in APL, how do you feel about leaving? What will you miss the most?

I'm already starting to feel the lump in my throat when I think about leaving. I'm going to miss APL so much! I'll miss the people here the most... my friends and my teachers. The past four years have taught me so much and I will treasure every experience that I've had here.





THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

- A PLAY REVIEW



Reindeer footsteps are heard, along with bells and a distant 'Ho, ho, ho'! It's that time of the year again, when hot turkey is on the table, and stockings are above the fireplace. Although Chennai might not exactly match our fantasies of a cozy little snow town, it's not like the birth of Christ isn't celebrated in this city as much as it is in any other part of the world.

APL Global School was honoured to be one of the few schools who were given the opportunity to watch the 14th production put up by the *Mellow Circle*. A registered society of professionals from all streams, the organisation pools their talent to work towards the benefit of HIV affected children facing all sorts of inevitable problems. Bringing John Grisham's original story *Skipping Christmas* back to life, the play was directed by Hans Kaushik, with music direction by Augustine Paul and script adaptation by Rajiv Rajendra.

Luther and Nora feel that they've been spending too much on Christmas, and decide to skip it and go to the Caribbean instead, as their only daughter had just moved out. However, their neighbours don't appreciate their decision and insist that the Spirit of Christmas always wins. Filled with humour, music by the lovely choir group and brilliant acting, the play concluded with Blair, the daughter, showing up on Christmas, bringing the family together after all, proving the neighbours right.

With just two people in charge of technical support, we had bright lights and fantastic surrounding sounds, which is laudable, and having 40 plus people sing together, that too - quite beautifully, is not an easy task. "We practise for about a month or two, every time we put up a play. It's lots of fun and anyone is free to join us", said one of the 60 cast members, a student from Church Park. The Mellow Circle provided the packed hall with lots of laughter, smiles and enlightenment towards the importance of family and togetherness. Hats off to every single person involved in the show, your efforts sure paid off!

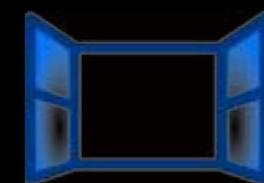
Varshita Ramesh
Grade 10





In this issue we have a selection of 10 songs from various artists and genres. From Classic Rock and Pop to Electronic and Rap, here are some new, and some classics!

Compiled by Varshita Ramesh, Grade 10



TOP TEN TUNES

1 ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALL - PINK FLOYD

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P2zpA5dvUI4>

The kind of band generations will keep on listening to. With beautiful lyrics, fantastic guitar solos and complex, yet easy-on-the-ears drumbeats, this is an amazing song, especially for students :) Click on the link to find out why!

2 THE WAY YOU MAKE ME FEEL - MICHAEL JACKSON

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rllpYEUEC0I>

The king of pop will forever remain in our hearts. This legendary song will surely get you prancing around your room!
Give it a listen :)

3 UNCONDITIONALLY - KATY PERRY

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Urv-OBENMo>

Moving on to what's new in pop music! Soothing music and 'right to the heart' lyrics, you'll really enjoy closing your eyes and listening to this hit from Katy Perry's latest album 'Prism'.

4 GET LUCKY - DAFT PUNK <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HXEJjtBouRA>

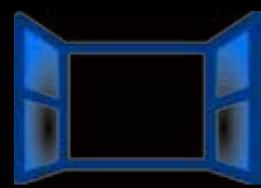
A brilliant mix of funk and techno/electronica, all that synth and the catchy chord progression, this song just gets you groovin'!

5 TECHNICOLOR - MADEON <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vois0RMtPHE>

We can never get enough of electronic dance music now, can we? xD Here's an artist I had actually never heard of before, and this is exactly why sharing music is awesome!

Continued on next page...





6 [POUR SOME SUGAR ON ME - DEF LEPPARD](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RaG8faaFUMM) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RaG8faaFUMM>

Ah! We can always go back to classic rock. The vocals in this song are insane and the guitars! Check it out!

7 [UPRISING - MUSE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-yyy2vSbzEY) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-yyy2vSbzEY>
When we put British accents and rock music together, we have this mind-blowingly creative English rock band!

This is one of their many amazing songs.

8 [ROUGH WATER - JASON MRAZ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RYPlomFLNml) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RYPlomFLNml>

Everyone knows Jason Mraz for his song 'I'm Yours', and Travie McCoy for his song 'Stereo Hearts'! Both these talented artists have come together with this laid back, enjoyable song.

9 [DARE YOU - HARDWELL](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9p-SnAC8U_k) http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9p-SnAC8U_k

Number One on the Top DJs list, he recently toured India, putting up a great show in Bangalore. This hit of his is one of my favourite EDM songs!

10 [MAN DOWN - RIHANNA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EWNd08-Rcs4) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EWNd08-Rcs4>

I don't know what's better in this song, Rihanna's super chilled out voice, or her Caribbean accent! Not very new, but hey! Old is gold! You will keep singing the chorus for a long time.

TOP TEN TUNES





SPRIT OF SPORTS

Interview by Sakshi V,
Grade 12



Our Annual Sports Day was graced by none less than the ace sprinter and international athlete Dr. R. Natarajan who is also the Superintendent of Customs, Chennai, and Director –India Sports Promotion Academy. He has a doctorate in Track & Field Athletics, has studied yoga and has won many national and international sprinting championships and awards. He was awarded the Best Sportsman Award of the State for many years, South Asian Best Award for the year 1990 and was honoured by the Indian Vice President for Meritorious Services in Sports-Athletics in 2008. Excerpts from a brief interview:

You've been consistent on your opposition against the commercialization and the glamorization of sports.

What is your take on maintaining the true fundamental spirit of sports?

Life itself is a great art. To attain supremacy, to attain the utmost self-realization, there are various pathways, stages and footsteps. I feel that sports are one of the main ingredients that make you a complete person. Considering other co-curricular activities, this can mould and complete a person – his personality and his character is decided by that.

You recently finished a PhD in Biotechnology and Sports, while you continued to run your institution and pursue your other prospects. What were some of the challenges you faced while doing so and how did you overcome them?

Time constraints were an issue, but we have to manage time in a brilliant way. Also, your passion will automatically overcome the thought of constraint. Your financial commitment also plays an important role in continuing your research as there might be failures and successes. And to overcome every obstacle you need support. My family, parents, friends, and above all my mentor and guide, were present there to support me. That was incredible – to help me make my dream come true and accomplish my passions.

How was the experience of residing in a hostel from the age of fifteen and what were some of the returns you received from that experience?

That's an interesting question! Though you may miss the love, affection and care of your parents, you become a more 'self-made' person in the process of your stay. You learn how to handle a difficult situation and how to tackle a problem. You can overcome them successfully. It was truly a beautiful experience. And after that experience, you can still give back love to your parents.



Open Boat

Saturday's Violin

Unlike every other kid in this place,
I wake up on Saturday with an angry face.

Because today I know I have to do,
Something I can term as doom.

I get up and start my chores,
Closing my eyes and praying for no more.

In the middle of my breakfast I hear the sound of
terror,

The door bell, something that could give me a
fever.

So I cross my fingers, hoping it's the maid,
What else can I do than be afraid?

I take my things and head towards the door,
Only to find my violin tutor.

Based on a true story
Renyta, Grade 9



The Purple Stain

The walls were plastered in graffiti over crusty paint, beneath which there were, no doubt, more layers of crusty paint. Political cartoons, rude words and filth blanketed it. Among a cluster of gutters welded to the walls, faulty pipes leaked and used water dripped down from some to mix with the dirt on the pavement. A purple stain was splattered across the wall to my left and the thought of the poor soul who was murdered in this very spot made me shudder!

I moved closer to examine— who on earth would have purple blood? Was it a joke? It looked real enough and an overpowering stench infiltrated my nostrils. I took a step closer and stared at the stain. A picture flickered across it for a second and vanished. Was this an illusion or did it actually happen? Intrigued, I drew closer to the grotty stain till the tip of my sunburnt nose was mere centimetres away.

The image flared up again, but this time for longer. I reached out to touch it and for a moment the whole world went a purplish hue, absolutely everything as purple as a red cabbage. I retrieved my finger and everything was back to normal but I had just caught quick glimpses of those images. A bloody axe, a severed head, a mutilated body and finally, a gravestone with my initials on it.... it couldn't be...

Phani, Grade 11



My Horse Riding Experiences

It all started when I was 5 years old. Every time I saw a horse I used to ask my mom if I could ride it and the reply was always yes. Luckily for me, my previous school 'The Scottish High International' had horse riding and again, I asked my mom if I could join it. She said yes and I felt like it was a dream coming true. When you are on a horse you actually get a strange but good feeling. Then I came to India and forgot about it for almost two years.

It suddenly hit me again and I was back on horseback until an incident happened that freaked me out. A girl was riding on a horse called Alex, a retired race horse re-trained as a lesson horse. The horse was a sensitive one and when one of the helpers hit it with a whip, it spooked before the girl could even get off. It took off and the girl hit the ground several times as her shoelace was stuck in the stirrup. She wasn't that injured, but it totally scared me. I quit horse riding for almost six and half months after that but again this year I wanted to join horse riding. I had this chance to ride a horse in my friend's club. At first I was scared, but then I got the hang of it. I've decided to join horse riding again as it means almost everything to me and it's the best thing that ever happened to me. Imagine galloping on an empty beach— it is a great feeling. It is just peaceful!

Simran Sabharwal, Grade 6A





Art Work



Neha, 8A



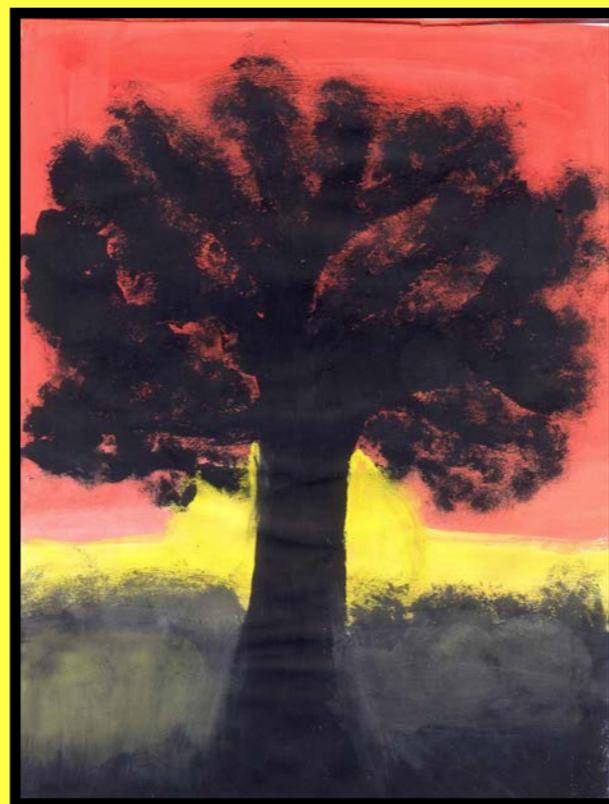
Hah Yeon, 8A



Slaghyasree, 7B



Anisha, 8A



Mithavani, 7B



Hah Yeon, 8A

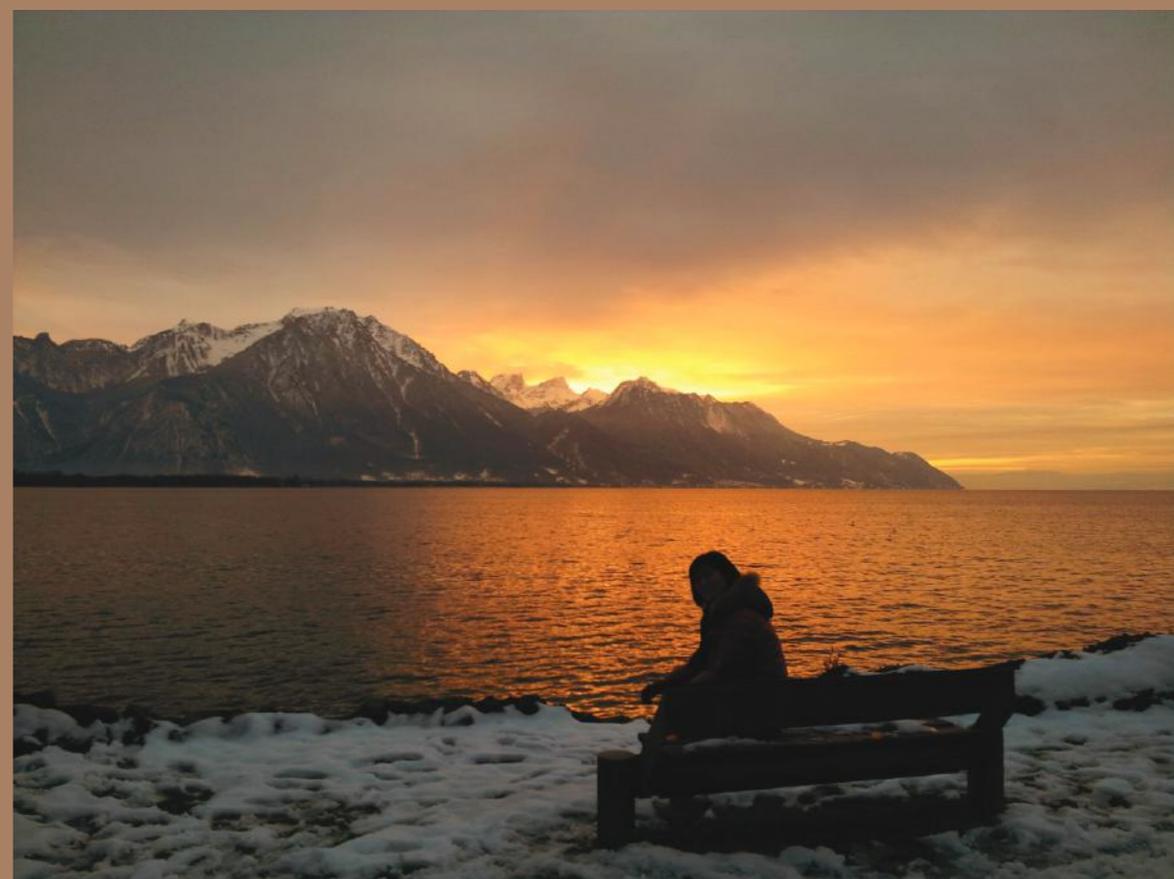


Pathway



Threshold

Photo Gallery



Sunset

Photography by Brian, Grade 12



Photo Gallery

Photography by Ramakrishna, Grade 9

Flight



Dragonfly



JUNIOR CORNER



CRESCENT MOON

Oh moon! So high up in the sky!
Sometimes when I see you,
You look like a bed with
a pillow for me to sleep on!
You are so bright and beautiful
and nicely surrounded by stars.
Oh moon! I wish to visit you soon.

- Adhya Balakrishnan Beeravalli
Grade 3 B

SUNSET ON THE BEACH

One evening, I sat on the sands of the
beach.
I looked up at the sky that was peach.
It was the sun going down.
I saw lots of birds fly home.
I felt like crying as it was time to go
home.
I wanted to come the next day to
watch the sunset,
but I had to study for my tests.

- Aahana
Grade 3B

SUPERHERO

I will be a superhero,
Just not the kind who jumps from
high
buildings,
Or rescues screaming people from
danger.
What kind of a superhero are you?
You may ask.
I will be the best son, best brother,
Best student and the very best friend.
That is the kind of superhero I will be.

- Arjun Rambhatla
Grade 3 B



THE THREE GHOSTS



Once upon a time there were three ghosts: Ultimate Ghost, Ghost Grandpa and Good Ghost. They lived near the coast.

One day, the Good Ghost wanted to go to the ocean. He asked the Ultimate Ghost's permission to go. The Ultimate Ghost said, "OK. You can go, but carry Ninja blades with you to protect yourself."

When the Good Ghost came to the ocean, he felt like going under the water. So he swam deep into the water and saw a cave with sharp stones. There, he saw a three-eyed monster. The monster began to chase him. He swam and swam till he reached the end of the ocean. Suddenly, he turned back and climbed on the three-eyed monster's leg. He jumped on its hand and reached its head and broke its horn. He jumped off the monster's head and when it looked back, he threw his three Ninja blades at its eyes and killed it.

He did not know the way back home. Just then, he saw Ghost Grandpa flying up in the air. Ghost Grandpa saw Good Ghost. He took Good Ghost home and they all lived happily ever after.

Krishiv
Grade 2C



CHILDREN'S DAY



What is so fascinating about Children's Day is that all of us wait for 364 days every year for it. Is it because we are the centre of attraction, or maybe because we get sweets and gifts, or maybe even because we get free periods in school? Well, it differs from child to child. Here are a few responses from the little children in our school on what they like about Children's Day and how they would like to spend it.

I like Children's Day because I like the activities on that day. I would also want the elder students to teach the younger students.

- Neha
Grade 5B

I want it to be fun, I don't want to study. And I should get my favourite lunch!

- Akshaya
Grade 5B

Children's Day is fun and nice because I can play and rest the whole day. We can play and eat whenever we want!

- Jin
Grade 5A

I like Children's Day because there is no school timetable on that day and only fun.

- Adithya Sundar
Grade 5A

I like it because my father and mother buy gifts for me and take me out to hotels to eat. Everyone should have fun and enjoy the day.

- Chaeyun – Song
Grade 5B

I like Children's Day because we can have fun playing games. I can also watch TV for as long as I want and wear colour dress to school.

- Rianna Moses
Grade 5A

I like Children's Day because it is the birthday of our Nehru. Schools should have a holiday and we should pray for the past children.

- Pranav P
Grade 5A

'Children's Day is fun because I can do whatever I want to do, and I don't have to study on this day.

- Ji Hun
Grade 4A



BOOK REPORT

Name of my book

Christmas Wishes

The author's name is

Normal Bridwell

Who is the story about?

The story is about Clifford who wishes to make everyone happy.

Name two characters from your book and give a brief description about both.

Clifford - The big red dog, Mac - Clifford's friend.

Write two sentences about your book.

The book was very nice and colourful.

Where does your story happen?

The story happens in Bridwell island.

Sachita, Grade 1 B



BOOK REPORT

Name: Sachita

Grade: 1 2

Section: 1B



What happens in the beginning, middle and end? Draw pictures to show.

Beginning	Middle	End

How many stars would you give this book? Colour the stars.

(5 - Excellent, 1 - Poor)



Draw a picture to show your favourite part of the book.



Would you ask a friend to read this book? Circle any one. Yes

No



BOOK REPORT



Name of my book

Are you my mother?

The author's name is

P.D. Eastman

Who is the story about?

The story is about a baby bird.

Name two characters from your book and give a brief description about both.

Dog - It helped the baby bird understand that he was not his mother.

Snort - The snort was helpful in putting back the baby bird on the tree.

Write two sentences about your book.

The book was interesting. It had a happy ending.

Where does your story happen?

The story happens in a tree which grows in a city.

Abhay, Grade 1 A

Name: Abhay

Grade: ▶ 1 ▶ 2

Section: A

What happens in the beginning, middle and end? Draw pictures to show.

Beginning	Middle	End

How many stars would you give this book? Colour the stars.

(5 - Excellent, 1 - Poor)



Draw a picture to show your favourite part of the book.



Would you ask a friend to read this book? Circle any one. Yes No



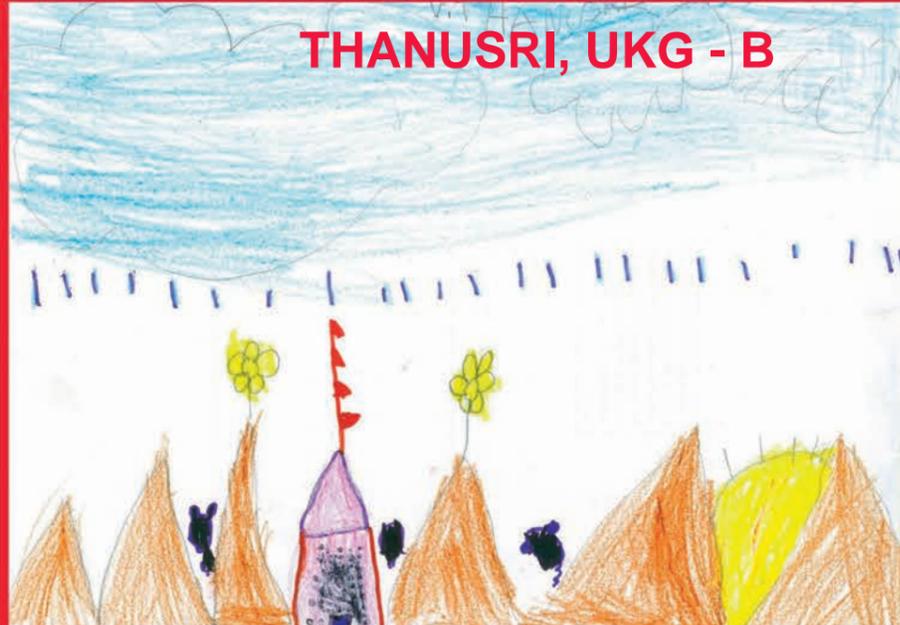
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HASHWANT, UKG - A



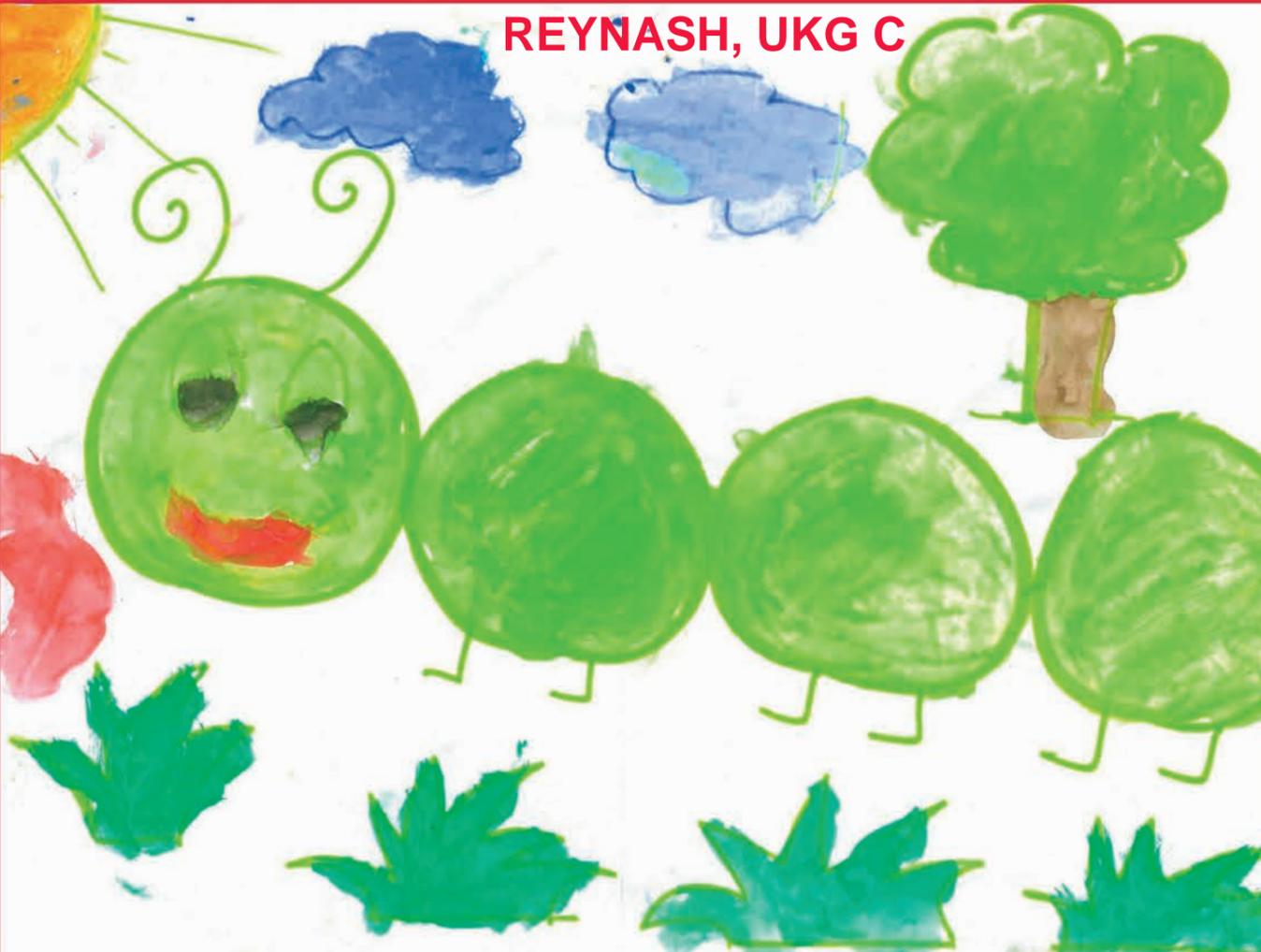
THANUSRI, UKG - B



ANGEL NAIR, UKG - A



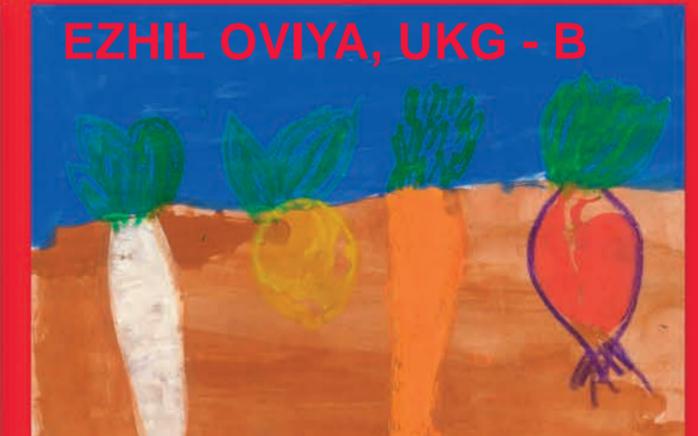
REYNASH, UKG C



BROOKLYN, UKG - A



EZHIL OVIYA, UKG - B





TeacherSpeak

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A Night on the Street!!!

The dampness of the floor

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In this haven of beauty
called Kalakshetra*
I try to do my duty
and face Kurukshetra.*

Painting, pottery,
History of art...
My eyes are watery,
Where to start?

All around me
Are bubbly youth,
Not aging like me,
That's the truth.

In my dreams
Paint flows free,
Water colour streams,
I'm all mastery.

But oh, my bones creak,
My memory's jaded,
What I learnt last week
has already faded.

My pencil breaks,
Water spills,
My hand shakes,
I'm down with so many ills.

But a tiny ray
gleams in my head,
On opening day,
the teacher said,

"You haven't missed the bus,
There's no age to start.
Tagore* was seventy plus
When he took to art.
But who knows,
you may go
Beyond Tagore."

That's enough seed
For a hoping mind
To sprout
Crazy wishes galore.



Faculty, English Language & Literature

* Kalakshetra is a well-known college of fine arts in Chennai.

* Kurukshetra is an archetypal, holy battle in the Indian epic Mahabharatha.

* Rabindranath Tagore is a Nobel Prize winning Indian writer, who was also an artist.



PLAYING HIS PART WITH PANACHE

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I don't have any free time. Every second I try to spend on things I find interest in.

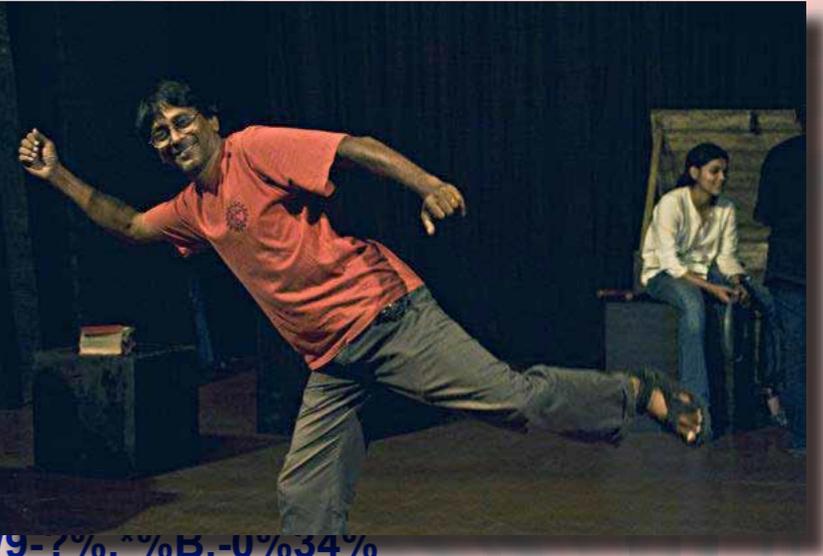
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DON'T LET IT BREAK. . .

Have you ever spent 45 minutes with an egg without cooking it? Ever thought of dropping an egg without breaking it? Sounds impossible?? Well, not for the students of **'Textures'**, our **Art Club**, who attended the workshop conducted by Raffles Millennium International.

Yes, we were given an egg, 20 straws and a 15cm cellophane tape. We exchanged glances in wonder and suspense. We had no clue what we were expected to do. They announced that we were to make a protective box around the egg but they had one problematic condition – when we drop the egg, it **SHOULDN'T** break! And the box was to be made with nothing but straws - Just 20 straws and some tape.

What was worse was that we were given only 15 minutes to do it!! Gasps filled the air and we were divided into groups of four. All of us were engrossed in the task assigned to us. The clock was ticking. We managed to tightly pack the egg by bending the straws on all corners. We then tightly taped it all together.

The clock struck. We gulped heavily.

They began dropping the egg of the first group. Then others followed. Some were pretty good but somehow managed to create a small crack on the surface. Then came ours. They dropped the egg. There was silence. They started to dismantle the box to see the egg. We kept our fingers crossed.

Then they announced, "The egg didn't break!! Congratulations!!" We jumped in excitement!

The activity was to test our creativity and they really tapped it. Art is all about thinking out of the box; it is all about creativity even for the simplest of things such as dropping an egg.

- **Varshini & Amritha**

Grade 12



EXPRESSIONS UNLIMITED

THE ACTOR PREPARES

'Lights, Action, Theatre', the Theatre Club, 'shows' the audience the expressions that an actor can bring out by using both himself as a tool for these expressions and the objects around him as well. The activities done in the theatre club are hands-on and interactive between teacher and students. The students of 12th grade find that the exercise done before the class is a good warm up and also a good way to start the class.

Some of the theatre club activities were:

- Using the purpose of an expression to give the audience a sense of what the character's objective is.*
- Using the weight, shape and make of an imaginary object to create the image of a real one.*
- Making use of all the body movements, actions and muscles to help the actor's personality become one with the character.*

In this way the theatre club is one that captures the image of the character, the feel of the stage and control of the body to create an exciting and interesting play. Our annual cultural evening is a test to show what we have learnt and I think anyone would agree we learned a lot.

- Arman Rajaratnam

Grade 12



My Visit to Dakshinachitra

On 6th of December 2013, I went on a field trip to Dakshinachitra as a student of 'Parampara', the Culture Club. I was very excited as some of the other members of our club had already been there and told me that it is an amazing place to help us understand our culture and heritage.

The weather was very pleasant and I loved the whole village scene displayed there. All the houses were made of wood with antique doors and windows. All the houses have low ceilings and low doorways and we learnt that inmates had to bow low to enter any part of the house. This is a way of showing reverence to the house that protects and shelters us.

Our teacher divided us into 3 groups so that all of us could get a chance to make something. One group made palm leaf puppets, one made parrots and my group made palm leaf baskets. The lady in charge of this taught us very patiently and it was a wonderful experience for me as we do not have this kind of palm trees back home in Korea. I particularly loved the Kerala house that had a canoe attached to it with lots of rooms and antique furniture inside. We also went to a house that displayed a lot of brass lamps and items of decorations used in ancient times in Tamil Nadu. Next, we went to the weaving centre where we saw how beautiful saris are woven.

We went around the whole place and finally came to the bazaar where the girls had a great time shopping for trinkets. Some of us bought wooden tops and some neck pieces to take back home as souvenirs. The school had organized a good lunch for all of us, which we had sitting under the gazebos. Around 1.30 pm we started back for school. Though a bit tired, I had an amazing exposure to the Indian culture and heritage. Thank you.

Hah Joon, Grade 7 C





Good Citizenship Programme

GCP provides the opportunity for experiential learning to our students through visits to various schools and NGOs.

Sharing Happiness

As part of our school's Good Citizenship Program, we, the students of Grade 9, visited Asha Nikethan, a home for mentally challenged people. We interacted with the people there and they were delighted when we shared some of their daily activities. We also helped with gardening. They make and sell simple handicrafts and earn money to run the home. We also shared with them our knowledge of the art of tie and dye that would help them make dupattas, curtains, skirts and sarees that they can sell and earn money.

Seeing them happy gave us a lot of joy.

- Renyta
Grade 9





PARENTSPEAK



Mother: complete happiness

Daughter: cherry of the cake

*I looked at you when you were born,
And knew then straight
My beautiful daughters,
I know I am blessed,
That's wonderfully true.
Whenever I think or look at you,
I know I am lucky, to have two of you.
You are my angles and I'd like to say,
You are way too special, you thoughtfully care,
A helping hand always, willing to share,
You are always determined, what is in your mind,
Think of others, your actions are kind.
A wish from my heart, I wish every day for you,
One day you'll be blessed, with daughters like you
I shall admit, we are a wonderful team
To have daughters like you both
It was my ultimate dream
Which completes the circle of happiness to me?*

Hema Agarwal (Mother of Lavanya, Grade 7C)





ANXIETY IN CHILDREN

All of us must have felt anxious at some point in life; we may have experienced rapid heartbeat before exams, interviews, public presentations or at the dentist's clinic. Some amount of anxiety is normal because it prepares our body to respond to danger. So it is not something to be worried about, unless it starts interfering in day-to-day life. That is when it is named as 'anxiety disorder'. It is a very wide topic and I will try to cover just a part of it, related to children.

The disorder affects children more and more these days than in the past. The exact reason for this is not identified yet. Most parents and teachers do not realize that these kids are suffering with this because such kids are very quiet and compliant. Even if we notice the symptoms, some of us ignore them thinking the children would grow out of it. So, how do we identify this problem in its early stages and most importantly, how do we help children cope with this?

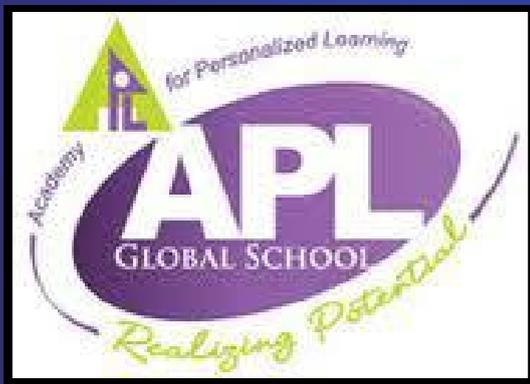
Okay, here are some of the symptoms but not exhaustive: Excessive shyness and/or fear, avoiding social situations, frequent complaints of stomach or headache, constant worrying about insignificant things, too much clinging or becoming too aloof and so on. Children spend more of their time in school than at home. So teachers can identify the problem from the way the children behave in school. For example, they will never speak out in class due to fear of being criticized, consistently avoid competitions out of fear that they may lose; in short, they try to be unnoticed. Even if the children have a talent it will never be exposed and hence they miss opportunities right from childhood

and it become a practice throughout their lifetime.

Therefore, as parents, what can we do to help them? Firstly, we should keep in mind that we are not alone. Be open to take the help of teachers and the children's close friends. Never criticize the children for not socializing or participating in events; instead, reassure them that you are there for them, whatever may be the outcome. Explain that there is nothing to be ashamed in losing and what matters most is the participation and effort. Above all, with our patience and consistent effort, we can help them practise coping skills and slowly they will learn to face their fears. Teachers, please do not label the child or teen as "stubborn", "difficult" or "too sensitive". When you identify irrational behaviour, you may have to talk privately to the child and also to his/her friends to really understand what is going on. Talk to the parents and share your concerns. Please do not misunderstand that I am saying a child should not be disciplined. We are only talking about dealing with consistent irrational behaviours and fears.

Children also respond better to their friends. Kids who read this may be able to help their friends who have these issues by encouraging them to be more sociable. They can also share their own experiences of how they manage to overcome their fears and anxiety, which are normal to any child. With such a group effort from parents, teachers and friends, a child will be able to cope with anxiety disorder and lead a normal life.

- Karpagam Mahadevan (Mother of Maya, Grade 8C)



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