

SYNERGY BYTES



18th & 19th July 2019

INAUGURATION



The auditorium was decorated with artwork true to its theme - retro and sustainability. The microphone stand was hidden by a vivid car from the 80s while the stage was lit by bright disco balls hanging from the ceiling. Our cultural secretary, Mahita Manikandan, welcomed everyone which was followed by the lighting of the lamp by the senior most member of the faculty Mrs. Chandra. This was followed by the invocation song, "Sriman Narayana". APL students performed a wonderful dance. Nila Srinivas, our ASPL, introduced our chief guest, Mr. Prakash Raj and the guest of honour, Miss Taha Fathima Khan. Our principal, Mrs. Kiran Merchant, welcomed them and shared a few anecdotes. Mr. Prakash Raj our chief guest was then invited to speak and he shared his childhood attraction to cultural events and how it had helped him find his identity as an actor. The guest of honour, Ms. Taha Fathima Khan, is an alumnus from our school. She was the SPL during APL's first synergy. In her illuminating speech, she recalled the incident which showed her how a small action could make a huge change. The third guest was Mr. Gnanavel who is also from the film fraternity. The finale of the inauguration was a fusion dance performed by our students from grade 12. This marked the end of the inauguration ceremony and the start of a promising Synergy 2019.

- Meenakshi, Grade 12



- Divyadarshani Grade 12

PRINCIPAL'S INSPIRING WORDS

Our beloved principal, Mrs. Kiran Merchant, gave an inspiring talk about the importance of sustainability, and about learning from our forefathers. She mentioned that lifestyles in the past were very different in terms of indulgence, and that we should try and adopt those principles again. Citing an anecdote, she spoke about how the move towards sustainability was often possible, and it was only our hesitance and lethargy that held us back. To conclude, she spoke of an addition to the well-known adage 'Reuse, Reduce, Recycle' - Refuse!

- Nishka, Grade 11



WORDS FROM HEAD OF SENIOR SCHOOL



The feedback that I received, was that this year's Synergy was better organised and executed. The events went well, without any sort of hassles. The volunteers were doing their work well and I could see a lot of enthusiasm in them. The event was fantastic and fabulous and I appreciate the efforts put in by the **teachers, volunteers and Synergy Bytes**.

- Pranav P, Grade 11

Editorial Team

Writers: Pranav P, Nishka, Sanjana, Shridula, Shreya B, Meenakshi, Varshini, Haeul, Reshma, Pranay, Tejeswini, Arundathi, Rafi, Fawaz, Adil

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Chief Editors & Designers: Niranjana, Udit

Cartoonists: Sun Woo

VINTAGE FASHION

There were twelve schools that came to the venue. The topic was “Modern take on tradition”. The event was delayed quite a bit. Twenty-five minutes after the scheduled time, the teams were off!

They were all given a piece of chart paper and they started with the planning and sketches. Some of the schools that had come late did not have time to complete their designing.

As time came to an end, all of them were rushing their work. They coloured, painted, glued pieces of cloth on the chart, and most importantly they were creating new designs.

In the end, all of them rushed to finish their designs on time with a final push to glory. In the end, the judges chose **BVM global school** as the **winners** and **GTA Vidya Mandir** as the **runner-up**

- Varshini, Grade 11

Mallavika, Grade 12



Tamilselvan, Grade 11



STICK ON BILLS

The participants were excited to show-off their poster-making skills. The topic aligned with the general theme of sustainability: think globally and act locally. There was a variety of colourful and flamboyant display of local efforts to work towards the betterment of our society. The **winners** were **Shiren.S (S.B.O.A School and Junior College)** along with **Manoj (San Academy, Pallikarnai)**. Mrs. Sarija, our junior school head, spoke a few words regarding the efforts of participants. She talked about how the participants took the topic given and how they portrayed it on the charts in their own, unique way. She mentioned how relevant the topic was today, given the current crisis the world is facing.

- Eshan and Arundathi Grades 12 & 11

FUTSAL

The day started off with the schools warming up for the futsal event. With much enthusiasm and motivation, they had begun their first rounds as the densely packed crowd cheered on. From children to grandparents, the event had the most cheerful audience. The most overwhelming match of them all was between SBOA and GTA for the ticket to the finals. SBOA had overpowered their opponents with a seven to nil victory.

There were ingenious passes and shots, paired with great spirit and unity between the players. The final was a battle of the two titans. The teams clashed fiercely. Turn overs were very frequent, and the crowd had many moments of silence. However, Sunshine pulled through towards the end and won with a one to zero lead.

- Pranav, Grade 11

RETRO



LOONEY TOONS

Looney Toons required the contestants to create a comic strip on the topic, 'Plant for Planet'. Up to two participants were allowed to take part from each school. 19 students participated from a total of 14 schools. They were each judged on 5 aspects: quality of language, humour, overall presentation, neatness, regard to the topic and after careful evaluation, the judges announced the results. Although there weren't too many schools who stuck to the idea of a comic strip and instead presented a poster, there were a few exceptional comics that genuinely stood out, which consisted elements of dark humour, causing the student to bag the *first position* for their school, *San Academy*. The *second* and *third position* were won by *Gateway International School*.

- Meenakshi, Grade 12



Divyadarshani, Grade 12

RETRO GAMING

While gaming often brings to mind imagery of high quality animation and immersive technology, retro gaming took things back to the classics - arcade games. Competitors played games such as Pac-Man, Donkey Kong, Street Fighter and Mortal Kombat. The room was tense as they glared at their screens, fingers moving rapidly to outdo each other. BVM emerged as the winner of the first round, but the finals were between Saraswathi Kendra and Sri Shankara. The competition was tough, and it drew a huge crowd that filled the room. Ultimately, *Saraswathi Kendra* emerged victorious after an epic showdown between the two team.

- Adil & Pranav P, Grade 11



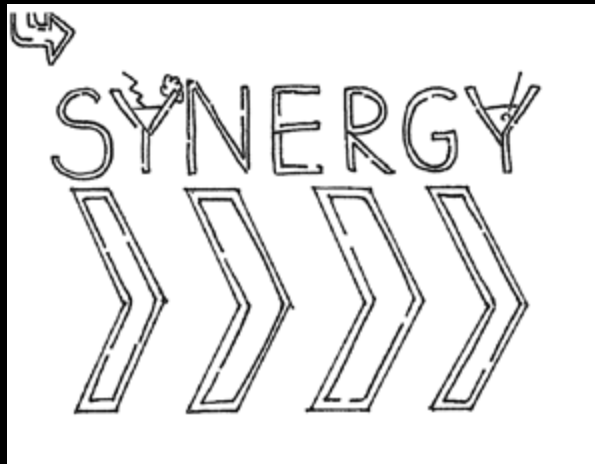
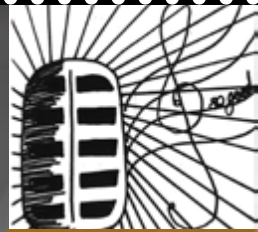
Anush, Grade 11

QUIZ FINALS

The quiz finals for grades 9-12 was held at the end of Day 1. Four schools had shown the skills to advance to this level. The quiz comprised of four rounds with an additional exciting, rapid fire round at the end. Round 1 and round 3 were pass rounds, round 2 was a no-pass round with four options for each question and round 4 showed images of movies and celebrities which the contestants had to dig deep into their pop culture knowledge. The rapid fire round had 5 questions for each team with 5 seconds given to answer each question. Students from *SAN Academy* emerged as the champions with 50 points while *Sri Sankara global* was the *runner-up* with 30 points.



Anush, Grade 11



ENLIGHTENING WORDS FROM MR. PRAKASH RAJ

How do you feel being back in school amongst enthusiastic and intelligent children?

School is where you grow, learn and unlearn. It is a place where you interact, share thoughts, ideas and the place where you evolve. It is not like a film set, where people just gather for one particular event, and that's why I like to visit schools often.

Have you been to other schools' cultural events?

Yes, I have been to a lot of schools. I keep going to other schools to discover the potential hidden among students. Students are a lovely group of people and in today's generation, they are quite open-minded and I love talking to them too.

Compared to other schools, what difference does Synergy present to you?

I love it here, as it is more theme-oriented and most importantly focuses on sustainability which is quite important in today's world. It marks an important gathering of expressions and learning and I think this particular event will let students think and learn, let students express their mind and that is what I've noticed of how Synergy is different from other cultural events.

During your school or college days, what sort of cultural event did you participate in, and did that help you later in life?

That is exactly what has helped me today, and where I am right now. There was theatre, debate, poetry and essay writing. I was a part of everything and they were different forms of expressing yourself and to know your identity and such events have made me what I am today.

In conclusion, what are your other interests besides acting and how are you able to juggle between them amidst your busy schedule?

Smiles I'm not the busiest man on Earth; I do have quite some time to pursue my interests. I do a lot of farming, empowerment of government schools and developing villages. It is time to give back to the society that brought me up. I like sustainable living and I have ideas for sustainable architecture. I also read and write books, I cook pretty well, and my profession is just 5% of my life and that's about it.

Thank you very much, Sir, it was an honour interviewing you.

- Pranav P, Gr 11



Anush, Grade 11

HOOPS...I DID IT AGAIN

Before the initial fixtures, all the teams waited eagerly for their games to begin. The eight teams were ready to showcase their immense passion for the sport, basketball. A 3v3 tournament was fixed. The draws were made and the game had begun. Each team played with great stamina and strength as their friends cheered on. The atmosphere was tense as the matches went on. All the teams showed great team spirit and understanding. In the **girls' category**, **SBOA won against PSBB** with a score of 9-1. In the **boys' category**, **CHSV won against SBOA**, it was a very tense match and in the final quarter CHSV outsmarted SBOA with a 11-9 score.

- Pranav P, Grade 11



Mallavika, Grade 12

MANNIN MARUDHANI

Marudhani compeition had a total of 12 schools with 24 students participating. The judges were Mrs. Vaidheki and Mrs. Vijaya. The school provided the participants with henna cones. Each of them created intricate designs on their partner's beautiful hands. They kept wiping off their designs till they found perfection. Following the competition, the teachers applauded the students for doing an wonderful job with the marudhani cones and telling them that they were all winners. **SBOA** was the *runner- up* and **Vaels** received *first place*.



Malavika, Grade 12

FACE PAINTING

Marudhani compeition had a total of 12 schools with 24 students participating. The judges were Mrs. Vaidheki and Mrs. Vijaya. The school provided the participants with henna cones. Each of them created intricate designs on their partner's beautiful hands. They kept wiping off their designs till they found perfection. Following the competition, the teachers applauded the students for doing an wonderful job with the marudhani cones and telling them that they were all winners. **SBOA** was the *runner- up* and **Vaels** received *first place*.



Anush & Malavika Grades 11 & 12

"Very nice. One of the best cultural events that we have attended." - SKNC

"It was really good... different from other schools."

-Neha Kadiyda,
SAN Academy

"It was a very good performance."

-Student from
Akshaya Global



"The gaming event was good. Loved the theme!"

-Mutha, Saraswathi Kendra

"Beautiful atmosphere, very nice and cool auditorium, liked your shirts!"

-CHSV

"Enlightening and unexpected."

-Shrey and Johan, senior school students

WORDS FROM A DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS



Anush Grade 11 & Divyadarshani Grade 12

You can be anything you want to be- but can you be everything you want to be?

Yes, says Dr. Taha Fathima Khan- M.D., Child Rights Advocate, Founder and CEO of the Child Awareness Project, Medical Education Resources Advisor, Volunteer for Inclusive Education, and United Nations Global Youth Ambassador. All of this as an alumnus of our very own APL Global School!

In fact, her school played a huge role in supporting and fostering her passion, and her passion is what fuelled her journey to excellence and achievement. Having a clear, focussed vision is key if one wishes to make an impact. Your passion is your gospel, and it infiltrates almost all aspects of your life.

Her experience teaching children face to face, she says, is a great motivator. However, specifically looking out for tangible results can also be very frustrating, and working with teams who are equally passionate can make a huge difference. The exchange of ideas is crucial because it enhances your worldview, and because some ideas can stay with you forever. The outreach of social media is truly helpful in creating sensitisation.

That said, with all this talk about underprivileged children, we often forget the other side of the story. We, as students, are extremely privileged, and recognising this privilege is the first step towards using it to take meaningful action. The world of activism is diverse and accepting, and there is always something you can do.

- Nishka S, Grade 11

ECOCHEF

A cup of excitement, a tablespoon of passion and a dash of stress is the perfect recipe to describe this event. The participants from grades 6-8 and 9-12 were asked to cook a vegetarian meal without using fire. There was a mix of various sweet and savoury recipes from rich chocolate cakes to spicy tomato salsa. Anybody passing by could get a whiff and those who took a peek witnessed a treat for the eyes. The master chefs who blew the judges away from the middle school event was Roshan from Hindustan International who whipped up “Supreme Sandwich rolls”, and Aakriti from CHSV who’s fruit cream was nothing less than a dream.

- Shridula, Grade 12



Mallavika, Grade 11



Anush, Grade 11



COLOUR THE EARTH

Marudhani competition had a total of 12 schools with 24 students. Fourteen teams and an hour, to perfectly illustrate the theme given on the spot: “Blooming colours of nature”. What the teams delivered was not far from spot on. The rangoli seemed to be springing to life. Images of flora and fauna from stunning peacocks with patterned plumes to lush green verdant trees dotted with red and orange fruit, to pristine flowers and brilliant rainbows, finished with delicate lamps. The innovative minds and creative hands stunned the judge, who was none other than our own Mrs. Yusra. The **winners** from **PSBB Millennium OMR** embellished the school with large and blossoming flowers with shades of pink and purple.

- Shridula, Grade 12

APL GIRL UP - BAKE SALE

The bake sale, a charity event run by our very own APL Girl Up Club, sold brownies, chocolate chip cookies and sugar cookies over the last two days.

The money raised from this event would be transferred to the United Nations for a cause related to period poverty.

All the products made good profit and had a lot of crowd coming in. The food items were sold out by the end of the day. A hectic day, but at the end a lot of profit, positive feedback and the customers were satisfied with the delicious and scrumptious bake sale.

- Pranav, Grade 11



- Adil, Grade 11

RCP PROJECT

A team of 8 volunteers from our school decided to combine our theme of sustainability with their dream of 'sending junk to space' by building a model rocket with bottles, tin wires, and waste cardboard. Decorated with bright colours, it is not only attractive but also cleverly designed, with the bottles stuffed with smaller junk for stability.

A special mention to SBOA School, who donated more than 18 kilograms of junk for this innovative project. The initiative was taken by the Responsible Citizenship Program (RCP Committee) of our very own school.

The end result was a colourful, ground -breaking showcase of recycling and sustainable living.

- Reshma & Sanjana, Grade 11



- Mallavika, Grade 12

EDITORIAL TEAM

This year's editorial team are the true heroes of the event. We worked relentlessly behind the scenes to cover as many of the thirty events as possible. Long lunch queues and missing reporters did not help. At one point reporters and photographers were running to their events with an ice tea in one hand and Alfredo pasta in the other.

However, Fiza ma'am came to our aid: running around calling missing individuals, and bringing the team snacks at the most optimal time. Anecdotes aside, we would like to thank Fiza Ma'am and Shirley Ma'am for all their support. They were always there to clean up our mistakes. We hope we have done justice to the role of Chief Editors and designers, as well, this Synergy 2019.

- Udit & Niranjana, Grade 12

