



The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter



GOOD SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Good Shepherd Knowledge Village

M. Palada Post, Ootacamund - 643 004, The Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu, India

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15th Annual Inter School Athletics Festival 2017



Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS, The Collector of the Nilgiris District, along with Mrs Elsamma Thomas, Senior Vice President of GSIS, Mrs Sheila Alexander, Senior Vice Principal (Academics) and Brig Suresh Kumar VSM (retd), Senior Vice Principal (Administration)

In keeping with the tradition of maintaining a close link with the local community, Good Shepherd International School opens its doors every year to the athletes of the schools in and around the Nilgiris District to participate in an Inter School Athletics Festival. This year, on 19th August, our school hosted the **XV Annual Inter School Athletics Festival** in the Open Air Stadium of the Palada campus.



Inspection of the Guard of Honour



Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS, taking the salute during the march past of the athletes



March Past of the athletes



Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS, along with the Senior Vice President of GSIS, Senior Vice Principal and the Principals of schools in the Nilgiris



Athletic Torch Run

All the teams from various schools lined up for the Opening Ceremony just before the arrival of the Chief Guest, **Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS**, the Collector of the Nilgiris District. The gathering greeted the Chief Guest by the gesture of the General Salute. Following the hoisting of the Athletics Festival flag by the Chief Guest, all the teams marched past in their respective squadrons, which was a feast for the eyes, as each school, while maintaining its identity, marched in unison with the rest of the teams. The Athletic Torch was passed on from one great athlete of a school to another and all came together to complete the Athletics Torch Run, expressing their promise of solidarity during the festival. The Athletics Torch Run culminated in the Lighting of the Athletics Festival Flame.



Students of participating schools assembled on the athletic field



Welcome Address by Mrs Sheila Alexander, Senior Vice Principal (Academics)



Address by the chief guest



Athletes taking the Oath



A dance display

The Vice Principal (Academics), **Mrs Sheila Alexander**, delivered the Welcome Address welcoming Mrs J Innocent Divya, the Chief Guest, other dignitaries, the Principals and teachers of various schools, the participating teams and our very own teachers and athletes. This was followed by the speech delivered by the Chief Guest who “fully supports the power of the youth towards building a stronger, healthier and safe society valuing diversity and equal opportunity.” She expressed her happiness for the encouragement given by Good Shepherd International School to the youth and appreciated all the athletes for their initiative. Finally, the Chief Guest declared the Festival open. The athletes took the Athletics Festival Oath led by the Games Captain of Good Shepherd International School, **Master Manav Trehon**.



Boys' Discus throw



Girls' Discus throw



High Jump event in progress



Finish of the Boys' 100-metre event



Boys participating in the 100-metre dash



Finish of the Girls' 100-metre sprint race

The formal expression of gratitude delivered by the Director of Counselling, **Mrs Anila Ann Mathew**, was preceded by a counter-march by all the contingents and a cultural presentation.

The Athletic events began from 10.30 am and went on till lunch. All the participants were either on the field or on the track putting in their best to claim medals and applause. As lunch time approached, the sky over the villages of Palada and Muthorai was covered with dark clouds, and as expected, due to a heavy downpour, the fun and enthusiasm was washed away. The visiting teams returned to their schools with mixed feelings as a few had collected medals but many



Senior Girls' 100-metre sprint race in progress



Winners on the podium, seen along with Wing Commander (Retd) Prabir Chakraverty, the Principal of Brindavan Public School, Coonoor

had hoped to gather more. However, all of them had a chance to practise on the lush green fields and the 400m track of the stadium and had got an opportunity to nurture their sportsmanship.

Special Assembly held

“A fearless mind is the happiest mind. A fearless mind is the most successful mind in the world. But, you know, there is an amazing system designed in this world today to instil fear even in a newborn baby.”

- Murali Sundaram



Mr Murali Sundaram addressing the students and staff

A special assembly was held in the Palada Campus auditorium on Wednesday, 23 August 2017. **Mr Murali Sundaram**, Happyness Coach and Author, addressed the students and staff on the topic, *“Why Unhappy People Fail?”* During the interactive session that followed, he answered related questions raised by the students.

Words of Appreciation...



“My admiration, my thanks and my best wishes to the most splendid school, its students and inspirational Founder and his associates.”

- **Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi, IAS (Retd),
Former Indian Diplomat,
Former Governor of Bihar and West Bengal,
14 September 2017**



“ Just amazed!! I was here to be a speaker at GSMUN 2017. The campus, the architecture and facilities created for the students’ overall development are models for the rest to follow.

This could not have been possible but for the vision, the dedication, the devotion with which it is built by Dr P C Thomas Sir. The commitment and dedication of the staff are seen to be believed. A wonderful experience and an education in itself. Wishing GSIS all the best!!”

- Mr Gopal B Hosur, IPS (Retd)
Former Inspector General of Police,
Former Head of Karnataka State Intelligence
15 September 2017



Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi, IAS (Retd), seen along with the Principal, Mr V Selvaraj, IAS (Retd) and the Members of the Academic Council



Mr Gopal B Hosur, IPS (Retd), along with the Principal and the Members of the Academic Council

GSMUN 2017: Resolutions Rule the Day!



Flag presentation ceremony



Mr Gopalkrishna Gandhi, IAS (Retd), during the inaugural ceremony

Every thought we think makes our future. The thoughts of today are the forts of tomorrow. Since the students are in Good Shepherd International School, they are constantly being moulded to become good global citizens. The Model United Nations provides a strong platform and forum to the children to formulate and express their thoughts and opinions on the various burning issues of the world.

The **Good Shepherd Model United Nations** was formally inaugurated on 14th September, 2017 at 11 am in the school auditorium. The theme of the GSMUN 2017 was *‘Global Sustainability and Maintenance of Unity amongst Nations.’* The school was blessed by the presence of **Mr Gopalkrishna Gandhi, IAS (Retd)**, the former Governor of Bihar and West Bengal. He was awestruck by the ambience of the auditorium and proudly acknowledged how the Indian spirit was ignited during the presentation of the Indian tricolour and the flags of other nations. His experience of being an Indian diplomat and his well-articulated speech captivated the attention of the audience. For every question asked by the student body, an apt and witty question was in place.



Mr Gopal B Hosur, IPS (Retd), addressing the delegates



Mr Bharat Joshi addressing the audience



Model Security Council in progress



Model Special Political and Decolonization Committee in progress

Master Ishan Vinod Dulhani, the Secretary-General of the GSMUN, addressed the gathering followed by an introduction of each committee Co-Head. There were eight Committees, namely -

1. Disarmament and International Security [DISEC]
2. Economic and Financial Council [ECOFIN]
3. Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee [SOCHUM]
4. Special Political and Decolonization Committee [SPECPOL]
5. Economic and Social Council [ECOSOC]
6. United Nations Human Rights Council [HRC]
7. United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [UNODC]
8. Security Council [SC]

On day 2, the delegates dressed in their smart formals, represented every part of the world, put forth their views, refuted other's views, debated and contended with each other, charging the atmosphere with a strong current of thoughts. In the evening, we once again witnessed an auspicious opportunity to hear and interact with **Mr Gopal B Hosur, IPS (Retd)**, the former Inspector General of Police and Head of Intelligence, Karnataka. His eventful nationwide accomplishments aimed at ameliorating the law and order situation was inspiring and motivating for the children. They learnt that *'Problems are not reasons to give up, but a challenge to improve ourselves, not an excuse to back out, but an inspiration to move forward.'*

The third day saw a change in our students. They were emboldened, empowered and most of all enthusiastic to present their resolutions - some were passed, some were vetoed. The eyes of all Shepherdians shone brighter with more knowledge and confidence at the end of the day. On the 16th, the GSMUN concluded at 6 pm in the school's auditorium under the eminent presence of **Mr Bharat Joshi**, the British Deputy High Commissioner. His encouraging and striking speech stimulated the student body. The evening came to an end on a bittersweet note when the Heads of each committee presented their reports and bid farewell to the GSMUN 2017 and welcomed an enriching year ahead! All hail MUN!

Tamil Nadu State Inter School Shooting Competition 2017



GSIS shooting team

The **Tamil Nadu State Inter School Shooting Competition** was held at Mission Academy of Shooting Sports, Chennai, under the aegis of Tamil Nadu State Shooting Association from 11 August to 15 August 2017. Ten students of GSIS participated in the event.

The results of the competition are given below:

S. No.	Name of student	Class	Event	Performance
1	Aditya Bhavesh Vaghasia	IB-IB	10m Air Pistol	Gold*
2	Shaun Rupin Rajasekar	FM-IIC	10m Air Rifle	Bronze*
3	Snehit V G Swamy	FM-IIB	10 m Air Rifle Team	Gold *
	Daiwik Locherla Satisha	FM-IID		
	Shaun Rupin Rajasekar	FM-IIC		
4	Snehit V G Swamy	FM-IIB	10 m Air Rifle Team	Gold **
	Daiwik Locherla Satisha	FM-IID		
	Shaun Rupin Rajasekar	FM-IIC		
5	Armaan Jain	FM-IIID	10 m Air Rifle Team	Silver*
	Chavanvit Cheaphaisanjaroen	FM-IIIE		
	Shaun Rupin Rajasekar	FM-IIC		
6	Eapen Benny	IB-IC	10m Air Pistol Team	Bronze*
	Aditya Bhavesh Vaghasia	IB-IB		
	Pranav Gandhi	8A		

* NRAI (National Rifle Association of India) category

** ISSF (International Shooting Sport Federation) category

Congratulations!

A Day for Lauding and Appreciating the Teachers



A warm welcome!



A musical presentation



A dance performance



Senior boys presenting skits



5th of September is a special day to honour teachers. It is also the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepally Radhakrishnan. The Shepherdians took to the stage to manifest their love and gratitude towards the Good Shepherd teachers.

There were plays from all three sections – Middle School, High School and Higher Secondary School - showcasing the theme of loving bond between the teaching community and the student body. This is yet another proof that our school is indeed a 'home away from home.' Beautiful rendition of songs and accompaniment by the orchestra enthralled the audience. There was fun and laughter galore and the teachers highly appreciated the latent talents of their students. All hail the love, respect and bond between the teachers and students!

Elsamma Thomas Gold Medals 2017



Shivam Garg



Mohak Gupta



Bhavika Mukesh Agarwal

The students whose names are mentioned below are awarded the Elsamma Thomas Gold medals:

- Topper of the ISC Science Group** : **Master Shivam Garg** (Distinction, 94.4%)
Topper of the ISC Commerce Group : **Master Mohak Gupta** (Distinction, 94%)
Topper of the IB Diploma Programme : **Ms Bhavika Mukesh Agarwal** (41 points; three 7s & three 6s)

The Gold medals will be presented to them during the Founder's Day celebrations in October 2017.

Scholarship for Academic Excellence

The School Management gives awards of financial aid to students each year to further their education. Students who top the ICSE and IGCSE Board examinations and decide to complete Grade XI & XII in Good Shepherd International School are awarded the '**Scholarship for Academic Excellence.**' The scholarship is given for their proven academic ability and achievement. This is an educational recognition given to meritorious students who have achieved excellent results in the Board Examinations held during the academic year 2016 – 2017.



Yash Sharma
(ICSE - Science)



Ayush Agarwal
(ICSE - Science)



S Rooshni
(ICSE - Science)



Swachit Sanjeev Chhajer
(ICSE - Commerce)



Khush Vardhan Saraf
(IGCSE - Science)



Aarya Robin Goenka
(IGCSE - Science)



Yashvi Navneetbhai Vadalia
(IGCSE - Science)



Rhea Jain
(IGCSE - Science)



Dwij Dipak Patel
(ICSE – Science)



Prabhraj Singh Bhatia
(IGCSE - Commerce)

These scholarships are awarded to our students by the **Good Shepherd International School** and the **Trust of the Old Shepherdians' Association (OSA)**. The following two tables show the details of the scholarships awarded by **Good Shepherd International School** and the **Trust of the Old Shepherdians' Association** for the academic year 2016 – 2017:

ICSE Science & Commerce

Name of student	Course	Board Examination results	Scholarship	
			GSIS	Trust of OSA
Yash Sharma	ICSE (Science)	Distinction 94.3%	2 lakhs	2 lakhs
Ayush Agarwal	ICSE (Science)	Distinction 93.2%	2 lakhs	1.5 lakhs
S Rooshni	ICSE (Science)	Distinction 91.5%	-	1 lakh
Swachit Sanjeev Chhajer	ICSE (Commerce)	Distinction 89%	2 lakhs	-
Total			6 lakhs	4.5 lakhs

IGCSE Science & Commerce

Name of student	Course	Board Examination results	Scholarship	
			GSIS	Trust of OSA
Khush Vardhan Saraf	IGCSE (Science)	Distinction 7A* & 2A; 89.7%	2 lakhs	2 lakhs
Aarya Robin Goenka	IGCSE (Science)	Distinction 6A* & 3A; 90.9%	2 lakhs	1.5 lakhs
Yashvi Navneetbhai Vadaliala	IGCSE (Science)	Distinction 6A* & 3A; 88.6%	-	1 lakh
Rhea Jain	IGCSE (Science)	Distinction 6A*, 2A & 1B; 88.4%	-	1 lakh
Dwij Dipak Patel	IGCSE (Science)	Distinction 4A*, 4A & 1B; 89%	-	1 lakh
Prabhraj Singh Bhatia	IGCSE (Commerce)	Distinction 7A*, 1A & 1C; 86.8%	2 lakhs	-
Total			6 lakhs	6.5 lakhs

The initiative to provide financial rewards and recognize students for their academic success helps them pursue future academic accomplishments and continue their education at GSIS. The awards will be distributed during the Founder's Day celebrations in October 2017.

Board Examination Results 2016-2017

Our students have again produced excellent results for the academic year 2016-17. Students mainly took the **Indian Certificate of Secondary Education [ICSE]**, the **International General Certificate of Secondary Education [IGCSE]**, the **Indian School Certificate [ISC]**, the **International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme [IBDP]** and **The Trinity College**

London [TCL] Theory and Practical Music Examinations. Students of Grades 6 and 8 appeared for the **Cambridge Primary Checkpoint** test and the **Cambridge Secondary 1 Checkpoint** test respectively.

We present a brief report of the results of the Board Examinations for the academic year 2016-17.

Indian Certificate of Secondary Education Examination – March 2017 [Grade X, ICSE]

The ICSE examinations were held in the school from 10 March to 17 April 2017.

Of the 36 students who took the examination from Good Shepherd International School in the academic session 2016 – 2017, **30 secured distinction** and **6 were awarded first class**. **The topper scored 94.3%**. 9 students scored 90% or more, 20 students scored 85% or more and 24 students scored 80% or more. The school registered a centum pass percentage this year as well, the students securing either Distinction or First Class.

Results of ICSE Examination 2017 (Science)

Total Appeared	: 30
Distinctions	: 26
First Class	: 4
Scores of 90% & above	: 9
Scores between 80% & 90%	: 13
Scores between 70% & 80%	: 7
Scores between 60% & 70%	: 1
School Topper	: Yash Sharma (94.3%)



Yash Sharma



Arnav Goenka

Results of ICSE Examination 2017 (Commerce)

Total Appeared	: 6
Distinctions	: 4
First Class	: 2
Scores of 85% & above	: 2
Scores between 75% & 85%	: 2
Scores between 70% & 75%	: 1
Scores between 60% & 70%	: 1
School Topper	: Arnav Goenka (89.3%)

International General Certificate of Secondary Education-May/June 2017 [Grade X, IGCSE]

The **International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)** examinations were conducted at GSIS from 23 February to 09 June 2017. A total of **79** candidates from GSIS appeared for the examinations. The majority of our students have done exceptionally well and have come out with flying colours. There were some impressive individual performances. **Srikhush Allu**, who is also an exceptionally gifted musician, performed brilliantly. He **excelled in all subjects with 9A* grades** and **achieved the top rank in the school**.

The information given below outlines the overall results:

Total number of students	: 79
Distinctions	: 31
Merit	: 34
Pass	: 9
Number of A*s in individual subjects	: 126
Number of As in individual subjects	: 151
Number of Bs in individual subjects	: 159
Number of Cs in individual subjects	: 137
Number of Ds in individual subjects	: 69



Srikhush Allu



Prabhraj Singh Bhatia

Results of IGCSE Examination 2017 (Science group)

Total Appeared : 66
School Topper : **Srikhush Allu** [9A*]; 92.4%

Results of IGCSE Examination 2017 (Commerce group)

Total Appeared : 13
School Topper : **Prabhraj Singh Bhatia** [7A*, 1A & 1C]; 86.8%

Srikhush Allu topped in the Science stream of IGCSE achieving the highest grade in all his nine subjects - a remarkable effort and achievement. Our students secured 126 A*s, 151 As, 159 Bs, 137 Cs, 69 Ds, 46 Es, 12 Fs & 4 Gs. 39% of all grades achieved are A*s & As.

Indian School Certificate Examination – March 2017 [Grades XI & XII, ISC]

Council for Indian School Certificate Examination (CISCE) board conducted the ISC Class 12 Examinations. The **Indian School Certificate (ISC)** examinations started on 30 January and ended on 24 April 2017. CISCE has declared the result of the Examination.

27 students from GSIS appeared for the ISC examinations. **19** students secured distinction and **8** were awarded **first class**. 6 students scored 90% or above. **The school once again achieved cent per cent pass.**

Results of ISC Examination 2017 (Science)

Total Appeared : 11
Distinctions : 7
First Class : 4
Scores of 90% & above : 2
Scores between 80% & 90% : 5
Scores between 70% & 80% : 1
Scores between 60% & 70% : 3
School Topper : **Shivam Garg (94.4%)**



Shivam Garg



Mohak Gupta

Results of ISC Examination 2017 (Commerce)

Total Appeared : 16
Distinctions : 12
First Class : 4
Scores of 90% & above : 4
Scores between 80% & 90% : 5
Scores between 70% & 80% : 5
Scores between 60% & 70% : 2
School Topper : **Mohak Gupta (94%)**

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme – May 2017 [Grades XI & XII, IB]

A total of **82** GSIS students took the two-year course and appeared for the IBDP examinations in May 2017.

Overview of the results:

Diploma Awarded : 60 candidates
Diploma Course Awarded : 22 candidates
Average Diploma score of GSIS students : 30 points
Highest Diploma score awarded to a GSIS candidate : 41 points

Average grade of GSIS students who attained the diploma: 5.04

School Topper : Bhavika Mukesh Agarwal [41 points]; three 7s & three 6s



Bhavika Mukesh Agarwal

17 students achieved maximum scores of 7 points and 52 students acquired scores of 6 points in different subjects. Students achieved the highest score of 7 points in English A Language & Literature SL & HL, Spanish ab initio SL, French ab initio SL, Mathematics SL, Mathematical Studies SL, Physics HL, Economics SL & HL, Business Management SL & HL, Psychology HL and Environmental Systems & Societies SL. 16 students achieved A grade for their Extended Essay and 6 students for Theory of Knowledge. 9 students scored the maximum of 3 points in Extended essay / Theory of Knowledge.

Cambridge Secondary 1 Checkpoint Examination – April 2017 [taken in Grade VIII]

77 students appeared for the Cambridge Secondary 1 Checkpoint examinations held in the school from 18 April to 20 April 2017. The tests were conducted in English Papers 1 & 2, Mathematics Papers 1 & 2 and Science Papers 1 & 2. The tests provided valid assessment of knowledge, skills and understanding in English, Mathematics and Science. Most of our students did well in the tests. **Aashish Prakash Parmar** and **M K Pritesh** secured the **first position** scoring **17.9** points each. **Aashish Prakash Parmar** achieved the highest possible score of 6 points each in English and Mathematics. **M K Pritesh** achieved the highest possible score of 6 points each in Mathematics and Science. **Armaan Jain** secured second position with 17.3 points. He also achieved the highest possible score of 6 points each in Mathematics and Science. **Hemang Arora** stood third with 17 points.



Aashish Prakash Parmar



M K Pritesh

The highlights of the overall scores of our students in English, Mathematics and Science are shown below:

Overall scores	English	Mathematics	Science
6 out of 6	1	15	9
5 out of 6	7	14	28
4 out of 6	7	26	27

Subject averages in Mathematics and Science are **4.5 & 4.6** points respectively.

Cambridge Primary Checkpoint Tests – April 2017 [Grade VI]



Pratham Lingadalli



Rishi Rohith V Guna



Rohan Ramesh



Siddh Kekin Dedhia

Cambridge Primary Checkpoint Tests for students of Grade VI were held in GSIS on 18, 19 & 20 April 2017. **36** students studying the Cambridge stream appeared for the tests held in the Examination Hall at the Palada Campus. **Pratham Lingadalli, Rishi Rohith V Guna, Rohan Ramesh** and **Siddh Kekin Dedhia** jointly topped the batch of students with a maximum possible score of **18** points each. **All of them scored the maximum of 6 points each in English, Mathematics and Science.** **Akhilesh Sai Bikkina** and **Utkarsh Niraj Arya** jointly stood second with an overall score of 17.6 points. **Adhik Raghuram** secured the third position with an overall score of 17.3 points.

The highlights of the overall scores of our students in English, Mathematics and Science are shown below:

Overall scores	English	Mathematics	Science
6 out of 6	4	10	11
5 out of 6	9	6	12
4 out of 6	8	8	7

Congratulations to the high achievers!

TCL Practical Music Examinations - February & April 2017

Trinity College London (TCL), an international examinations board for performing arts and English language, offers graded examinations for a wide range of musical instruments and singing right from the Initial Grade to Grade 8.

99 students took the Practical Music Examinations in February 2017. **21** students achieved **Distinction**, **43** secured **Merit** and **10** were awarded **Pass** certificates. **113** students took the Practical Music Examinations in April 2017. **53** students achieved **Distinction**, **46** secured **Merit** and **10** were awarded **Pass** certificates.

TCL Theory of Music Examinations - May 2017

357 GSIS students appeared for the TCL Theory Examinations in May 2017. **187** students achieved **Distinction**, **78** secured **Merit** and **62** were awarded **Pass** certificates. **Well done!**

Hindi Diwas Celebrated

Good Shepherd International School celebrated **Hindi Diwas** with great enthusiasm and gaiety. It was on 14 September 1949 that the Hindi language, written in Devnagari script, was adopted and approved as an official language of the Republic of India by the Constituent Assembly. Hindi Diwas is celebrated to give importance to Hindi which is widely spoken in India.



Lighting the lamp on the occasion of Hindi Diwas



'Kavisammelan' in progress



Girls dancing to the tune of Hindi music





Junior students dancing to the tune of Hindi music



Mr Vijaya Kumar, Hindi teacher, singing a Hindi song

A special assembly was organized with lots of cultural activities. On this day, all Hindi students, interested teachers and students attended the programme. The Chief Guest of the event was **Mr Dominic Jude Hurst**, the Coordinator of Middle School.

The programme started with the lighting of the 'diyas' and a welcome address. **Master Prabhraj Singh Bhatia**, a student of IB-1C, was the anchor of the programme. There were three dances performed, one by the students of the junior school and the other two by the girls of grade 9. A 'kavi sammelan' was also organized during which the young Hindi poets got together to recite, appreciate and encourage poetry which served as a platform to showcase their talents. Mr Sumanto Dutta, a computer science teacher, recited a short poem and delighted the audience. The middle school girls sang two Hindi songs. **Ms Diyansha Magesh**, FM-2C, proposed the vote of thanks.

- Ms Aastha Dinesh Dulhani, FM - 4A

Service and Gratitude



Mr Murali Rambha, Superintendent of Police of The Nilgiris, addressing a tribal community in Kinnakorai



Distributing food to the people in the village

On the 6th of August 2017, a few of us from Grades 10, 11 and 12 visited **Kinnakorai** in the Nilgiris. We started off from school at 9.00 in the morning after having a sumptuous breakfast, not yet mindful of the value of the food. We had fun in the bus as we danced and played games. It took us two hours to reach our destination. **Kinnakorai** has several *hattis*. As soon as we alighted from the bus it started drizzling and so we could not spend much time in the open. We visited many *hattis*.

Kinnakorai is a village of the Badagas of the blue mountains. Badagas are believed to have descended from Canarese colonists from around Mysore area, who migrated to the Nilgiris three centuries ago owing to famine, political turmoil, and / or local oppression in their native place. When we approached the next *hatti*, we found a large crowd sitting on the ground, waiting for us. We had taken many things to distribute to the villagers. The Superintendent of Police of the Nilgiris, **Mr Murali Rambha**, the Vice Principal (Administration), **Brigadier Suresh Kumar, VSM (Retd)** and his gracious

wife, **Mrs Renu Suresh** spoke to the villagers in the local language (a dialect of Tamil) and encouraged them to take up development activities. We distributed food, pens, pencils, notebooks and other stationery among the children of the village. Suitcases, pillows and other necessities were distributed among the adults.

After having our lunch, we headed back to the school. The visit was a great learning experience: helping the villagers and seeing the smiles on their faces was a source of great satisfaction to us. No longer do we take the facilities that we have for granted. We are ever grateful to God for having blessed us with such abundance. We have seen a bit of the Badaga heritage and experienced little of the never failing Badaga hospitality. We listened to the sound of silence and also experienced peace of mind.

- Ms Amisha Agrawal, ISC 2B

Charity Trip: We lifted the spirits of others



Girls of IB-2 at Smyrna Fellowship Trust

It is always said, 'We rise by lifting others.' That is what a charitable trust does! Last week, I visited a charity home called the SMYRNA FELLOWSHIP TRUST which is a public trust helping disadvantaged people lead their lives and providing them with food and shelter, and all other basic requirements. The Trust was established to guide and support social work that was rapidly growing and making a difference in the lives of hundreds of underprivileged people in the Nilgiris. Their very first task was to reach out to needy children empowering them to break the cycle of poverty. They looked after and cared for disabled children. They also helped many of them attend school who would otherwise not have been able to afford it. Their service soon expanded to reach out to the poorest of society, providing a home for young girls and looking after abandoned older people, destitute women and disabled persons in the Nilgiris.

We visited the charity home on Saturday, 29 July 2017. I danced with them and learnt how to stay happy in life despite the worst situations. I served them food and felt very happy as I am the kind of a person who loves to help people, and their blessing means a lot to me. A lady there taught me how to knit, which was a fun activity. The people living there are very sweet and they explained how they ended up there. Hearing their life stories I had goosebumps, but it also taught me how challenging life is!

I have gone there many times but still I never get bored of the place. I have many memories of my association with all the occupants of the Home and always have a good time. Whenever I meet old people there, it always reminds me of my own dear grandparents because they are as knowledgeable as my grandparents; everytime I meet them I get to learn something new and I feel thrilled! While I was leaving that place, I took a glimpse of it again as I will miss it. I told them that I would pray for all of them and they will always be happy! The final lesson I learnt from this trip was 'charity sees a need not a cause'. I became more sensitive to all their needs – physical, material and emotional - and tried my best not to hurt them. We are pleased to understand that this makes an incredible difference to the lives of many people.

- Ms Rachita Ramrakhyani, IB-2A

Theatre Workshop

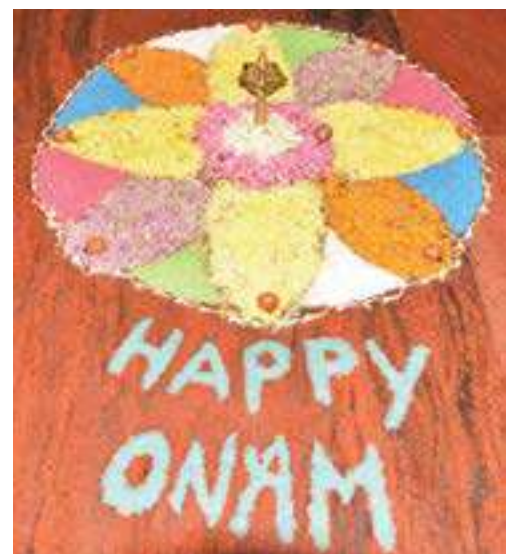


IB students of Literature and Performance participating in the theatre workshop

The Coimbatore Arts and Theatre Society (CATS) conducted a theatre workshop for the students of Literature and Performance in Good Shepherd International School on the 17th and 18th of August 2017. The Workshop Leaders **Chanda Khaturia** and **K V Siddhartha** trained twenty-five students along with five teachers. The workshop focused on Voice, Body, Imagination and Ensemble as essential parts of performance.

The students learnt to project their voice, develop sensitivity in their non-verbal communication and to present tableaux at various levels. The students enthusiastically participated in honing their performance skills and applying them to imaginative situations. The two-day workshop culminated in a performance of the adaptation of a short story, *The Five Guardians* and a poem, *Lord Ullin's Daughter*.

Onam Celebrated



Onam Pookalams



Flower carpets put together by staff

Students and staff celebrated **Onam** at GSIS on Monday, 04 September 2017. Onam is an important annual festival for Malayalees in Kerala and they celebrate this harvest festival with much fanfare across the world. According to popular legend, Onam is celebrated to welcome and honour Mahabali, a popular king who is said to have once ruled Kerala. It is said that on *Thiruvonam*, the spirit of the King Mahabali visits his people and the festival is a preparation to welcome him and show him that his people are prosperous and happy.

The lady staff made a number of beautiful floral carpets – *pookalams*, of different designs. Students and staff gathered in the dining hall and enjoyed *Onasadya*, an elaborate, nine-course, vegetarian lunch.

Cricket News



Master Dwij Dipak Patel



Master Khushin Nilesh Patel

Master Dwij Dipak Patel, IB-1B and **Master Khushin Nilesh Patel, IB-1D** represented the Nilgiris U-19 cricket team and participated in the Tamil Nadu Inter-District U-19 Cricket Tournament held at Karaikudi from 17 August to 19 August 2017.

A very good start!

GOOD SHEPHERD FINISHING SCHOOL Ballroom Dance Workshop: Learning to Dance

GSFS offers a number of choices for beginners who are seeking to learn to dance. Because of its performance and entertainment aspects, **ballroom dance** is very popular and is widely enjoyed on dance floors, stages, in films and on television.

Ballroom dance is a set of partner dances, which are performed and enjoyed both socially and competitively around the world. Ballroom dance may refer to almost any type of partner dance performed as a form of recreation. However, with the emergence of the sport of dance in modern times, the term has become narrower in range. Ballroom dance



The 3 months' batch of girls learning to dance



The 9 months' batch of girls learning the basic dance steps

traditionally refers to the five International Standard and five International Latin style dances. The two styles, while differing in technique, rhythm and costumes, demonstrate core elements of ballroom dancing such as control and cohesiveness.

Ballroom dance was developed in England where most of the English population did informal social ballroom dancing. It was acceptable ballroom decorum for a woman to dance with her sister or friend as a matter of respect for the conservative culture. The pair dance holding one hand of their partner.

Our various beginner programmes are the perfect introduction for anyone aspiring to learn ballroom dance. Dance classes will teach five dances: the Waltz, Tango, Cha-cha-cha, Rumba, and Jive. Basic steps and fundamental techniques will be both covered in the classes.

The instructor will demonstrate and dance along with the rest. All of our outsourced instructors are professional dancers who are successful competitors and performers. They understand that dance classes ought to feel relaxed, light, and comfortable. Students of GSFS danced to the tunes of Cha-cha-cha, Jive, Salsa, Waltz, Tango and Rumba during the ballroom dance training sessions which were held for 6 days. The 9 months' batch as well as the 3 months' batch of students actively participated in the dance training with great rigour and enthusiasm. The trainers helped the students to master the dance forms which added to the disposition, confidence level and skill of the students. Students were given the opportunity to practise, drill and repeat on their own to learn the basic core elements of ballroom dancing and develop their confidence in their abilities. The school prides itself on the quality and variety of its training sessions.

"People who use time wisely spend it on activities that advance their overall purpose in life."

- John C Maxwell