

THE BLEAT

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GOOD SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Good Shepherd Knowledge Village
M. Palada Post, Ootacamund - 643 004, The Nilgiris, Tamil Nadu, India
Visit us @ www.gsis.ac.in | www.gsfs.ac.in

41st Founder's Day Celebrations: The Sparks of Magnificence



The chief guest, Smt. Nirupama Rao, along with Shri Sudhakar Rao, IAS (Retd), the Principal and the Senior Vice President

The school glowed and sparkled with the beautiful lights around the school complex. Just as the tiny lights threw their beams far and wide, so did the talents of the Shepherdians brighten the world around. The iridescent sparks were manifested by the dances, musical presentations, musical plays and excellence out on the fields. The two days kept the Good Shepherd spirit agog. On the 15th October evening, the constellation of stars endowed its blessing upon the school when **Smt. Nirupama Rao**, the Former Foreign Secretary and retired Ambassador of India, **Shri Sudhakar Rao**, the Former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, **Mr Stuart Mclay**, the Associate Director of CIS, the enthusiastic parents and warm wishers gathered under the same roof of Good Shepherd International School. The much awaited days of celebration began with many sonorous melodies and heart-warming classical dances in their



The Principal cutting the Birthday cake on 15 October 2017 along with the students whose birthday is also on 15th October



A musical presentation



A view of the audience



A musical presentation



The School Choir

mind-boggling costumes and on themes of secularism and spectacular performance of the musical drama 'The Lion King'. Our tiny toddlers of the Fernhill campus brought a beautiful message of saving our environment through their Light and Dark presentation. The air was full of awe and admiration.



Strings Ensemble



Junior School presentation



Pooja dance: Saraswathi Vandanam



Junior students performing a Marathi folk dance



Sufi dance



Welcome Address by the Principal, Dr P C Thomas

The next morning, the school dressed up in entirely different attires. The musical bands in their colourful uniform, the House contingents, the Equestrian contingent and the Sea Cadet Corps, all added to the glow of the day. The Chief Guest, Smt. Nirupama Rao took the salute. The sundry performances like the dances from around the world, Equestrian display, the gymnastic finesse and formations of three T's are worth mentioning. The air resounded with the beautiful rendition of Indian classical music accompanied with oriental musical instruments and the rhythmic beats of Djembe drums.

The Chief Guest delivered a beautiful message marvelling at the fact that our school had blended the Indian values of 'Satyameva Jayate' with our school values of 'Truth, Trust and Triumph'. Mr Stuart Mclay presented the plaque of the **CIS International Certification** to



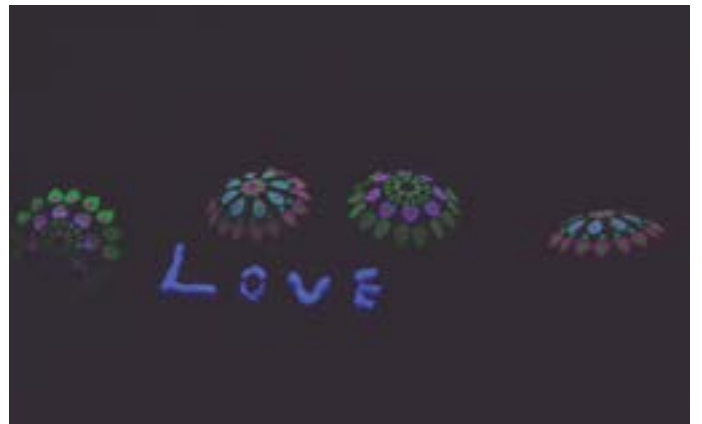
Address by the chief guest, Smt. Nirupama Rao



The Principal presenting a memento to Smt. Nirupama Rao



Students performing a stage show: musical presentation – Lion King



The Light & Dark presentation



Parents and guardians in the dining hall enjoying dinner on 15th October

our Founder-Principal for the contribution to the development of global citizens and international education programmes. Deserving trophies and medals were awarded to the ones, 'who ran to win and won to lead'. The day ended in a joyous mood with the children looking forward to going home for the mid-term break.



Smt. Nirupama Rao inspecting the Guard of Honour



Inspection of the Guard of Honour



Smt. Nirupama Rao viewing the march past of the contingents



March past of the horse contingent



March past of the Winter House



The chief guest, Smt. Nirupama Rao, along with Shri Sudhakar Rao, IAS (Retd), the Principal and the Senior Vice President



View of spectators in the stadium



The Band Display in progress



Drummers' Call



Dance display by students of junior school



Display of mountaineering skills



Gymnastics display



The Principal interacting with the Old Shepherdians



Indian music ensemble



Equestrian display



Boys playing the African djembe drums



The chief guest, Smt. Nirupama Rao, seen along with Shri Sudhakar Rao, IAS (Retd), the Principal and Mr Stuart McLay



Winter House: Winner of the Cock House Shield

Special Guests at GSIS



Mr Jožef Drofenik

Mr Jožef Drofenik, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia, visited the Palada Campus on Sunday, 30 July 2017.

The school warmly hosted the Ambassador and his guests and they were escorted on a guided tour of the campus to show the facilities available in the school. They were shown the rifle shooting range, stables, cricket ground, indoor sports complex, visual art studio, design technology workshop, maths lab, co-curricular block and ship model room. He was much impressed with what he saw in the campus. Later, they had lunch with the Principal and the members of the Academic Council.



Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS

Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS, The Collector of the Nilgiris district, was the chief guest of the 15th Annual Inter School Athletics Festival held in the Open Air Stadium of GSIS Palada Campus. She hoisted the Athletics Festival Flag during the opening ceremony. She inspected the parade and took salute at the march past of the athletes.

Mrs J Innocent Divya was a former special officer at the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister's Cell and has also served in the Chennai Corporation. She has a strong commitment towards good citizenship and responsible living. She is greatly devoted to the prosperity and welfare of the people in Tamil Nadu. We thank her for taking the time out of her busy schedule to attend the Athletics Festival.



Mr Murali Sundaram

Mr Murali Sundaram is the Executive Director of BNI (Business Network International), Chennai and Head of Training & Leadership Development for BNI Asia Pacific, the world's largest referral organization with more than 200,000 members. He is the Founder of the charitable trust 'Happyness Institute,' which is involved in spreading happiness to one million houses. He has till date successfully trained more than 150,000 business leaders, entrepreneurs and executives across the world on Happiness, Peak Performance, Leadership and Personal Effectiveness. He is also the best-selling author of several books.

Mr Murali addressed the students and staff at a special assembly held in GSIS Palada Campus on Wednesday, 23 August 2017.



Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi, IAS (Retd)

Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi is a Former Diplomat and Governor of Bihar and West Bengal. He graduated with a master's degree in English literature from St. Stephen's College of Delhi University. His paternal grandfather is Mahatma Gandhi and maternal grandfather is C Rajagopalachari. He joined IAS as an Officer in 1968 and served in Tamil Nadu state till 1985. Thereafter, he remained Secretary to Vice-President of India (1985 - 1987) and Joint Secretary to President of India (1987 - 1992). Shri Gandhi teaches at Ashoka University, where he is a Professor of History and Politics.

He was the Chief Guest of Model GSMUN held in the Palada Campus on 14 September 2017.



Mr Gopal B Hosur, IPS (Retd)

Mr Gopal B Hosur joined Karnataka state police force in 1980 as the deputy superintendent of police. He was later promoted to the IPS cadre. He was appointed IGP (western range) on February 18, 2009, and then as ACP, Bangalore in August 2010. He has made invaluable contributions to good governance in the core area of Law and Order, Crime and in the administration of Criminal Administrative System. He is known as one of the most upright officers in the police department and in the state. His focus has been to redress grievances of law-abiding citizens and provide a safe and secure environment.

He was the Chief Guest of Model GSMUN held in the Palada Campus on 15 September 2017.



Mr Bharat Joshi

Mr Bharat Joshi is the present British Deputy High Commissioner in Chennai, typically responsible for consular, visa and trade activities in the region. A major part of his portfolio in Chennai is focussed on enhancing the trade and investment partnership between the UK on the one hand, and Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Pondicherry on the other. He joined the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) in 1995 and has had diplomatic postings to the Gambia, Dhaka and Qatar. He was most recently British High Commissioner to Cameroon, and non-resident Ambassador to Gabon, Chad, Equatorial Guinea and Central African Republic.

He first visited the Palada Campus of Good Shepherd International School on Sunday, 30 July 2017. He was the Chief Guest of the Model GSMUN held in the Palada Campus on 16 September 2017.



Shri Sudhakar Rao, IAS (Retd)

Shri Sudhakar Rao is a retired Indian Administrative Service (IAS) Officer of the 1973 batch. Shri Rao has a Master's Degree in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. He has held various important assignments in the Government, including Chairman & Managing Director of the Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation (KUIDFC), Principal Secretary of Finance, Home, to the Chief Minister of Karnataka, Development Commissioner and finally, Chief Secretary of Karnataka, from which post he retired from Government service on 30 September 2009.

He attended the Founder's Day celebrations held at GSIS on 15 & 16 October 2017 and distributed prizes to the students.



Smt. Nirupama Rao, IFS (Retd)

Smt. Nirupama Rao is a 1973 batch Indian Foreign Service officer who served as India's Foreign Secretary from 2009 to 2011. She was also India's Ambassador to the United States and China, and High Commissioner to Sri Lanka during her career. She graduated from Mount Carmel College, Bangalore, with a BA in English in 1970, topping the Bangalore University. She then went on to obtain her master's degree in English Literature from what was then known as Marathwada University in Maharashtra. In 1973, she topped the All India Civil Services Examination for both the Indian Foreign Service and the Indian Administrative Service, and joined the Indian Foreign Service.

Smt. Rao was the Chief Guest of the 41st Founder's Day celebrations held at GSIS on 15 & 16 October 2017.



Mr Stuart McLay

As Associate Director of School Support & Evaluation, Council of International Schools, **Mr Stuart McLay** is based in Leiden in the Netherlands and is closely involved with the CIS International Certification programme in addition to supporting and visiting schools applying for CIS membership and participating in the CIS accreditation process. Mr Stuart is a British national who spent the early part of his teaching career working in the county of Hampshire before embarking on a 20 year educational journey which included senior leadership roles in schools in Thailand, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, India and El Salvador, before finally enjoying a six year tenure as Principal of Kinabalu International School on the island of Borneo.

Mr Stuart visited GSIS from 6th to 8th of November 2017 as an evaluator of CIS.



Dr Diane Ullman

Dr Diane Ullman has a PhD in Educational Leadership from the University of Colorado, Boulder, a Master's degree from Northeastern University and a Bachelor's degree from Regis College. She is an International Accreditation Leader for Cambridge International Examinations / New England Association of Schools and Colleges. As a member of CIE since 2006, Diane has led visiting teams in Asia, Africa, South America and Europe. Her passion lies in leadership development. She also serves as professional development facilitator, mentor and coach for school and district leaders in Connecticut.

She was a member of the CIE / NEASC evaluation team that visited GSIS from 6th to 8th of November 2017.



Mr Jean Claude Chalouhi

Mr Jean Claude Chalouhi has an illustrious background in finance, development, budgeting and resourcing alongside extensive experience in teachers recruitment, evaluation and professional development. He has handled positions varying from Assistant Principal, Principal, Deputy Director and Superintendent. He has extensive experience in accreditation through CIS, NEASC and QNSA which includes seven international school accreditation visits in a span of eight years across five countries. He enjoys the feeling of making a difference where he works and is always committed to raise the bar to higher standards.

He was a member of the NEASC evaluation team that visited GSIS from 6th to 8th of November 2017.



Mr Simon McCloskey

Mr Simon McCloskey has served as an Accreditation Team Chair and Visiting Team Member for the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) since 2010. He has been working in international education for almost twenty years and has held school leadership roles in Tanzania, Malawi, Thailand and Sudan. He is a British national and is currently the Deputy Head of School and Primary Principal at Stonehill International School in Bengaluru. He has been part of accreditation teams evaluating international schools in Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

He was a member of the CIS evaluation team that visited GSIS from 6th to 8th of November 2017.



Dr Kannan M Moudgalya

Dr Kannan M Moudgalya, Professor of Chemical Engineering, Systems & Control and Educational Technology, IIT, Mumbai, visited GSIS and addressed the students at a special assembly held in the Palada Campus on Friday, 10 November 2017.

He received a B Tech and PhD for his work in Chemical Engineering at IIT, Madras, and Rice University, USA respectively. He also received a Master of Electrical Engineering degree from Rice University. He is the author of *Digital Control* and *Optimization: Theory and Practice*. He believes that it is possible to provide high quality education to all our children through a combination of education and information and communication technologies, making India a developed country in the process.



Nawab Shafath Ali Khan

Nawab Shafath Ali Khan, a sharpshooter and an expert on wildlife and man-animal conflict, and a member of the Royal family of Hyderabad, attended a special assembly held at GSIS on Saturday, 18 November 2017 and addressed the students.

He has set up an NGO, **Wildlife Tranqui Force**, that provides hands-on training to veterinarians and field staff on tranquilizing free-ranging dangerous animals. He has been called upon numerous times by forest departments across the country to help them in eliminating dangerous rogue elephants, man-eating tigers / leopards from the time he was nineteen years old. Later in life, he transformed his expertise of cautiously tracking and stalking dangerous beasts to tranquilizing and capturing them instead of shooting.

GSIS is awarded the CIS International Certification



Mr Stuart McLay, Associate Director, School Support & Evaluation, Council of International Schools, presenting the International Certification plaque to the Principal, Dr P C Thomas

Good Shepherd International School received **International Certification** from the Council of International Schools (CIS) on 02 May 2017. **GSIS is the first and only school in India and one among the five schools in the world to earn this prestigious award.** **Mr Stuart McLay**, Associate Director, School Support & Evaluation, Council of International Schools, presented the certificate plaque to **Dr P C Thomas**, Founder-Principal of GSIS, during the 41st Founder's Day celebrations held at GSIS on 16 October 2017.

The Council of International Schools (CIS) is a global non-profit membership organisation that provides services to schools, higher education institutions and individuals focused on international education. GSIS is a member of the Council of International Schools (CIS) and is one among the member schools that has achieved full accredited status. International Certification is a catalyst for whole-school development, helping schools reflect, take action and move forward, with a focus on students and their outcomes. Due importance is given to the community's values on international education, the translation of these values into authentic learning across the community, developing intercultural understanding, values, and a range of skills for the students. The Certification signifies that the school is focused to achieve international competencies and on the development of global citizens.

A team of Evaluation and Support Officers from the Council of International Schools Evaluation and Support organization methodically and meticulously evaluated the school for its commitment to the development of global citizens and international education programmes during an in-depth, 18 months long, whole school, project-based certification process. **Congratulations!**

Educon 2017 Golden Leaf Award for Excellence in School Education



Shri Justice (Retd) P Sathasivam, the Honourable Governor of Kerala, addressing a gathering of Vice Chancellors and special invitees during the Future Kerala Education Conclave 2017

Dr P C Thomas, Founder-Principal of Good Shepherd International School, was awarded the **Educon 2017 Golden Leaf Award for Excellence in School Education**. Mrs Sheila Alexander, Senior Vice Principal (Academics), received the award from the Honourable Governor of Kerala, **Shri Justice (Retd) P Sathasivam**, on behalf of Dr P C Thomas, at **Future Kerala Education Conclave 2017** that was held at CROWNE PLAZA in Kochi on Wednesday, 21 June 2017.

Vice Chancellors of prominent Universities and other dignitaries who shared the dais with the Honourable Governor on the occasion shared their thoughts and spoke on various issues related to education. **The school community felicitates the Principal, Dr P C Thomas, for this achievement.**

British Council International School Award

The **International School Award** is a British Council accreditation scheme rewarding schools with a notable global element in their curriculum. The scheme began in 1999 and since then, over 1000 International School Awards have been granted.

It gives us immense pleasure to share with you the assessment results for the International School Award (ISA) 2016-17. The portfolio submitted by the school has been approved and GSIS has been successfully awarded with the **British Council International School Award** for the period 2017 – 2020.

This globally recognised accreditation helps to enrich learning and improve teaching by guiding international learning activities, from introducing international education into the curriculum to embedding it within the school's culture. International education enriches teaching and learning. It introduces educators to new practices and perspectives, furthering their professional development and raising teaching standards. It gives young people a window into different cultures and countries, helping them develop as responsible global citizens and preparing them for life and work in a global society. This award provides a supportive and motivational framework to guide international learning activities and helps gain recognition for ongoing international work. **Congratulations!**

Moving Forward as an IB World School: Five-Year Self-Evaluation Process

Schools like GSIS, after authorization as an IB World School, participates in the self-study process every five years. As part of the process, the school was engaged in a self-study that is a key element in the school's continual improvement. An IBDP Evaluation Team visited GSIS on 1st, 2nd & 3rd of March 2017 as part of the **five-year self-evaluation** process. The Team evaluated the IB Diploma Programme, the ongoing process of action and reflection, to ensure that the standards, practices and requirements of the programme are being maintained.

GSIS has been commended in the Five-Year Evaluation Report for the meticulous implementation of the standards and practices for the IB Diploma Programme. The school uses the feedback it has received to update its action plan to continue to improve delivery of its IB Diploma Programme. **Well done!**

All India Cambridge Outstanding Learner Award 2016-2017



Master Khush Vardhan Saraf,
IB-1D

We are happy to inform you that **Master Khush Vardhan Saraf** has received the **High Achievement Award** in Design and Technology in the **All India Cambridge Outstanding Learner Award 2016-2017** of the Cambridge Assessment International Education. Cambridge Assessment International Education is a part of the University of Cambridge which prepares students for life, helping them develop an informed curiosity and a lasting passion for learning. We are very proud of this outstanding academic achievement by Master Khush Vardhan Saraf in the IGCSE June 2017 examinations.

The credit goes to him, his parents, the school, the Design & Technology team and other faculty members. **We congratulate** Master Khush Vardhan Saraf for this outstanding achievement and wish him many more academic accolades in future.

Inter School Nilgiri Library Debate Competition



Master Sriniketh Krishnan



Master Hitayu Kukatla

The **Annual Inter School Nilgiri Library Debating Competition** was held at the Nilgiri Library in Ooty on Saturday, 11 November 2017. The competition was organised by the 158-year-old Nilgiri Library, located on the Commissioner's Road in Ooty town. The Nilgiri Library, established in 1859, is one of the prestigious visages of the Nilgiris district. The library, which is the hub of several cultural activities in the Nilgiris, has a chequered history.

Forty speakers from twenty schools from various parts of the Nilgiris district vied for the top honours. Two students represented each school and presented their arguments. Judges were assigned to select the best speakers and the top schools

from the group. The topic chosen for this year's debate being "*Media – Factual or Judgmental?*", we were sure that it was going to be an intense and interesting debate.

Students were well-informed, brilliant and they spoke with great fluency and ease. Our students expressed their views with eloquence, argued their points in a convincing manner and handled the pressure quite skillfully. At the end of the debate, **Master Sriniketh Krishnan** was adjudged the **second-best speaker** in the individual category, and the **GSIS team** consisting of **Master Sriniketh Krishnan, FM 4C,** and **Master Hitayu Kukatla, IB-2C,** was declared **overall second** in the school team category.

The road to success is not very easy to navigate. But, with hard work, drive and passion, our students set the standard very high. **We congratulate both of them for their self-discipline, hard work, dedication, passion, patience and perseverance!**

12th TAISI Leadership Pre-Conference & Conference



Mrs Julie Pradeesh, Vice President & Vice Principal and Mrs Sheila Alexander, Senior Vice Principal (Academics), during the Leadership Conference held at Taj Exotica Resort & Spa, Goa



Mrs Julie Pradeesh, Mrs Sheila Alexander, Mr Mathew Lawrence and Mrs Raji Narasimhan seen along with Mr Peter C Mott during the NEASC Pre-Conference workshop

The **12th TAISI Leadership Pre-Conference & Conference** was held from 18th to 23rd September 2017 at Taj Exotica Resort & Spa, Goa. The **NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges) pre-conference workshop**, a part of the TAISI Leadership Conference, was held on the 20th of September 2017. Good Shepherd International School, in its pursuit of excellence, is a participant in the synchronized joint evaluation process of the CIS and NEASC accreditation.

Mrs Julie Pradeesh (Vice President), **Mrs Sheila Alexander** (Senior Vice Principal), **Mr Mathew Lawrence** and **Mrs Raji Narasimhan** attended the NEASC pre-conference workshop that was led by Mr Peter C Mott. **Mr Peter C Mott** was the director of the NEASC Commission on International Education (CIE) from 2012 to 2017. He currently serves in a part time capacity as NEASC International Accreditation Leader.

The one-day pre-conference workshop was an introduction to ACE learning, NEASC/CIE's groundbreaking new accreditation protocol, which aims to change the educational paradigm by taking a fundamentally different approach to accreditation. The workshop was designed to familiarize the participants with the ACE conceptual framework and provide them with the first hand, interactive experience of what it means for a school to engage with ACE and the journey of the school. The key elements of the workshop were later shared with the school community as we prepared for the NEASC/CIE's Learning Principles Review visit.

Mrs Julie Pradeesh and **Mrs Sheila Alexander** also attended the **Leadership Conference** from 21st to 23rd September 2017. The Annual Leadership Conference is a three-day event for school leaders, Principals, Heads, Coordinators, Board Chairs and Trustees as well as senior teachers and administrative staff. It features plenaries and breakaways as well as full-day specialist strands. This conference explored the inter-connected threads of leadership.

Seminar on English Language Teaching and Neuro-Linguistic Programming



Teachers from schools in the Nilgiris who attended the seminar seen along with Ms Mini Joseph, the resource person



The seminar in progress at HOTEL PREETHI CLASSIC TOWERS in Ooty



English teachers of GSIS seen along with Ms Mini Joseph

Madhubun Educational Books, a leading publisher of school books, organized a one-day workshop for English facilitators at HOTEL PREETHI CLASSIC TOWERS in Ooty on Thursday, 16 November 2017. Four teachers from GSIS, Fernhill, attended a seminar on English Language Teaching (ELT) and Neuro-Linguistic Programming (NLP) techniques. The resource person was **Ms Mini Joseph, MA (English), MEd, PGDTE, EFLU**, a Kolkata-based expert who has about 25 years expertise in the field. The teachers were exposed to several ways to approach various topics with different students. They also got to play individual and team games. It was a premise for the teachers to empathize with children of various classes and understand their mindsets and plan lessons according to their mental demand.

The teachers also got the opportunity to interact with their peers from about fifteen other schools in and around the Nilgiris. They were also exposed to newly published books and were made aware of certain indispensable changes in the syllabi especially pertaining to the ICSE board.

The seminar concluded after a 25-minute meditative NLP session, where the teachers were instructed on how to effectively free their minds from stress, especially while handling younger children. "Patience is the key, and a 15-minute meditation every day to free yourselves from the hurt or stress you might be feeling is an effective way to keep your mental and physical health intact," declared Ms Mini who also mentioned that ideally, meditations are best done with ease of time and not restricted with alarms and deadlines.

Space Camp Fun & Adventure



The Shepherdians when they visited Magic Kingdom, a theme park at the Walt Disney World Resort in Bay Lake, Florida, near Orlando in the United States



The Shepherdians along with the chaperones who attended the space camp



The Shepherdians along with the Rotarians in Decatur

Going for a camp in some other country fascinated me a lot. I always loved to explore. Adventure was the one thing that I always wanted to do. NASA Space Camp was another chance for me to experience something new. A group of 45 students of Good Shepherd International School along with the chaperones were in the United States Space Camp at Huntsville Alabama, USA from 29th May to 2nd June, 2017.



The U.S. Space & Rocket Center in Huntsville, Alabama



Students at the space camp



Boys at the entrance to the Universal Studios in Florida



Girls near the Volcano Bay, a water theme park in Orlando

The students were invited to attend a pizza lunch and meet the dignitaries and members of the Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama. The students organized a small cultural event during which they presented souvenirs to the Rotarians. Our students learned a lot about American food and lifestyles during the interaction.

The space camp extended a warm welcome to all of us and it was very exciting for all of us. We learned about the space programme and the wonders in the space camp. The chaperones were always there with us to cater to our needs. During the camp, we experienced, explored and learnt a lot of new things. We got the opportunity to make new friends of different age groups. We performed a lot of fun-fulfilled and learning activities such as rescue options, zip lines and safety lessons. Robotics Camp organize hands-on robotics classes for the next generation of engineers and designers to provide engineering solutions to real-world problems. Aviation Challenge camp is for kids who want to be Air Force pilots. **Master Nithik Chalasani** of FM 4C was presented with the **The Right Stuff Award** in Aviation Challenge Mach 2 group of the space camp. **Congratulations to him!** Rocket construction using cardboard, plastic, string and glue is also a big part of the camp experience.

We got a taste of the life of a soldier and understood their struggle and sacrifices. Moral values such as teamwork, cooperation and patriotism were inculcated into us. On the other hand, we had spent another whole week in visiting amusement parks such as Busch Gardens, Sea World, Islands of Adventure, Volcano Bay Water Park, Magic Kingdom and Universal Studios, where we had amusement rides and invigorating experiences. The 20 days of the trip to the United States left us with so many memories which will be cherished forever. It was not just a trip with a purpose of education but a trip that had taught us many life lessons that would never be taught to us by anyone.

- Ms Naveena S, ISC - 2B

"Mystery creates wonder and wonder is the basis of man's desire to understand."

- Neil Armstrong

15th Annual Inter School Athletics Festival

*“Athletics keeps us healthy, gets us up and running around.
It also gives you an opportunity to meet a lot of different people,
which is very important.”*

- Derek Jeter



The Chief Guest, Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS, the Collector of the Nilgiris District, hoisting the athletics festival flag

On 19 August 2017, GSIS hosted the **XV Annual Inter School Athletics Festival** in the Open Air Stadium of the Palada campus. The Chief Guest for the occasion was none other than **Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS**, the Collector of the Nilgiris District. Athletes from various schools in and around the Nilgiris District arrived early to participate in the Inter School Athletic Festival. All of them were greeted and made to feel comfortable in the stadium, and even before Chief Guest arrived the field was lighted up in colour and splendour.

When the Chief Guest arrived, she was greeted by the General Salute, and, as per tradition, she hoisted the Festival flag. All the athletes of the school formed their own contingent, big or small, marched past the Chief Guest, displaying their sense of discipline and team spirit. The Athletics Torch was relayed from one great athlete of a school to a star performer of another school and finally, the best athlete or Games' Captain of each school joined the Athletics' Torch Run to light the Athletics Festival Torch.

Mrs Sheila Alexander, the Senior Vice Principal (Academics), welcomed the Chief Guest, Mrs J Innocent Divya, appreciating her for having graced the Festival taking time off her busy schedule. The Senior Vice Principal also welcomed the other dignitaries and well-wishers, the heads and teachers of the participating schools, the students of the participating schools, the members of the press. Following this was the speech of the Chief Guest, Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS. Mrs Divya was highly appreciative of the hospitality and service extended to the other schools of the Nilgiris District by Good Shepherd International



The Chief Guest along with the Senior Vice President and the Senior Vice Principal (Academics)



Inspection of the Guard of Honour



March Past of the athletes



Athletic Torch Run



Students of participating schools assembled on the athletic field



The Senior Vice President presenting a bouquet to the Chief Guest



Address by the Chief Guest

School. She also inspired the athletes to put in their best in a spirit of healthy competition. The Chief Guest ended her speech by declaring the XV Annual Inter School Athletics Festival open. After the countermarch of all the contingents, the non-participants put up a cultural presentation. The Senior Vice-Principal (Administration), **Brigadier Suresh Kumar, VSM**, delivered the formal expression of gratitude.



Athletes taking the Oath



A dance display



Discus throw event in progress



High Jump event in progress



Winners on the podium: Prize distribution

The events began soon after the athletes took the Athletics Festival Oath led by the Games' Captain of Good Shepherd International School, **Master Manav Trehon**. As the track and field events took place one after another, students from most schools bagged medal after medal. This went on till lunch time when the sky above the Palada and Muthorai villages became overcast with dark thunderclouds. Though no events could be conducted beyond lunch time due to a heavy downpour, all the students of the visiting schools returned home feeling quite jubilant following their experience of having used the Olympic-size stadium to their maximum potential.



Finish of the Girls' 100-metre sprint race



Boys participating in the 100-metre dash

71st Independence Day Celebration

On 15th August 2017, we had the **71st Independence Day celebration** in our school. On this auspicious day, all of us, after breakfast, gathered at the co-curricular block when our Tricolour was unfurled while the band played the national anthem.

The chief guest of the day was **Mr Pradeep Chakraborty**, senior History teacher, who gave a very informative speech on the unsung heroes of the history of India. The middle school Indian music choir sang various patriotic songs to commemorate this bright day. **Master Sriniketh Krishnan**, FM 4C and **Ms Ghanta Hari Chandana**, IB-2A, paid rich tributes to our motherland by their highly motivating and awe-inspiring views and opinions on the progress of India in the past 71 years.

After a hot cup of tea and delicious goodies, we went to the stadium for the dance performances presented by students. Each class had a different dance form to show. The multi-coloured wig dances, the Charlie Chaplin dances and the colourful dances with multiple props brightened up the gloomy sky. A group of three people from Mumbai had choreographed all the dances. For the grand finale, the students displayed a huge portrait of India's father, Gandhiji, to show the significance of this day.

After the dance performances, we went for lunch. The rice and the sweets were tricolour with green, orange and white colours. It was a delicious meal and an exciting day all together.



The Chief Guest, Mr Pradeep Chakraborty, along with the Senior Vice Principal (Academics), Mrs Sheila Alexander, after hoisting the national flag



The assembly in progress



Master Sriniket Krishnan addressing the audience



Ms Ghanta Hari Chandana speaking on the occasion



The Chief Guest along with the Senior Vice Principals of GSIS



The Indian music choir singing vande mataram



The Chief Guest addressing the students and staff



Senior girls dancing to the tune of the music



Senior boys dancing



Dance presentation of the Junior students

Good Shepherd Model United Nations 2017: Building skills to solve world problems

"Imagine what seven billion humans could accomplish if we all loved and respected each other. Imagine."

- A D Williams



Flag presentation ceremony

Model United Nations is an educational simulation of academic activity in which students can learn about international problems, international relations, diplomacy, and the United Nations. Every year, GSMUN presents themes to highlight upon and the theme of the GSMUN 2017 was *'Global Sustainability and Maintenance of Unity amongst Nations.'*

GSIS hosted a three-day **Model United Nations Conference** in its Palada Campus on 14, 15 and 16 September 2017. Model United Nations 2017 opened up to an intellectual extravaganza with enthusiastic participants from Grades 9 and 11 with Committee Heads from Grade 12. The Model United Nations 2017 was headed by the Secretary-General, **Master Ishaan Vinod Dulhani** and a diligent and intellectually stimulating, enthusiastic team of Heads, Co-Heads and Rapporteurs who did all the groundwork to set the ball rolling on 14 September. Students, roleplaying as delegates to the United Nations, simulated the following UN Committees -

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]
9. General Assembly



Opening ceremony of the Model UN



Mr Gopal Krishna Gandhi, IAS (Retd) at the opening ceremony



Address by Master Ishaan Vinod Dulhani



Speech by Master Manav Sushil Thadani, Co-head of Special Political and Decolonization Committee [SPECPOL]

Each Committee was given several issues to debate on, present their opinions and develop resolutions to help find solutions for them. Students are assigned to represent several individual member UN countries and they debated on various global issues. They debated their positions on world problems and tried to resolve them. They donned the hats of diplomats, came up with several ideas, spoke on various global issues, presented resolutions and tried to find solutions to the issues presented by them.

The Opening Ceremony on 14 September was graced by **Mr Gopal Krishna Gandhi, IAS (Retd)**, former Indian Diplomat and the erstwhile Governor of West Bengal and Bihar, who enlightened the young delegates with inspirational words on honesty, individuality and sincerity of purpose. The following two days saw intense deliberations, debates and passing of resolutions in every committee. There were perceptive and productive deliberations in this simulation of UN tackling of crisis situations which cropped up in the world affairs during the MUN week. The Chief Guest on the second day was **Mr Gopal B Hosur, IPS (Retd)**, the former Inspector General of Police and Head of Intelligence, Karnataka. He has made invaluable contributions to good governance in the core area of law and order, crime and in the administration of criminal justice system. He addressed the delegates on the topic, *Responsible citizenship towards peace and progress for the nation and the world*. The Chief Guest for the closing ceremony of GSMUN 2017 was **Mr Bharat Joshi**, British Deputy High Commissioner, Chennai, who felicitated the team of Heads, Co-Heads who delivered their reflections on the three days of hectic participation of the delegates.

Students used real data and learned the art of public speaking, debate, critical thinking and negotiation skills, which gave them a broad view of the world's problems and how to solve them. The IT, Admin and The Press did a brisk job of setting the technological support system, monitoring the usage of laptops and doing a wonderful coverage of the GSMUN 2017 which was presented post the Chief Guest's address on both the Opening and Closing ceremonies. The speakers presented through their speeches some glimpses of the protocol, strictly followed by all delegations: the funny moments, the eloquence of some participants and the solutions offered in the wake of international crisis. The whole exercise involved extensive researching, writing, public speaking and debating as well as teamwork, leadership abilities and critical thinking. May the UN continue to remain relevant and strengthen its effectiveness in solving disputes and crisis situations, maintenance of peace, security and its humanitarian efforts.



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



Address by Mr Bharat Joshi, the British Deputy High Commissioner



Model UN Security Council in progress



Model Disarmament and International Security [DISEC] session in progress



Model Special Political and Decolonization Committee [SPECPOL] session in progress



Model Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee [SOCHUM] in session



Model Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee [SOCHUM] in session



Model United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [UNODC]



Model Economic and Financial Council [ECOFIN] session in progress



Model Economic and Social Council [ECOSOC] in session



Model United Nations Human Rights Council [HRC] in session



Student officers who participated in the GSMUN 2017

Children's Day: We had Moments of Joy and Fun

"Children are like buds in a garden and should be carefully and lovingly nurtured, as they are the future of the nation and the citizens of tomorrow. Only through right education can a better order of society be built up."

– Jawaharlal Nehru



Teachers' Choir singing the school prayer song



Mrs Rema Madhu presenting an invocatory dance



Ms Ela Singh addressing the students

The day that children wait for anxiously and plan meticulously to look their best is the day dedicated to them. Though Universal Children's Day is scheduled on November 20 every year, India celebrates the birthday of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on November 14 as **Children's Day**. Children are the prized possessions, the crowning glory wherever they are, be it at home or in school. Good Shepherd International School makes the day very special for our children, with the whole school community coming together to organize a very special programme for them. It is a wonderful collaboration of all members of staff at all levels who enthusiastically extend their skillful hands to do many things for the children.

This year in 2017, Children's Day was celebrated with that enthusiasm, zeal and ebullience which presented the children with a colourful bouquet of programmes marking the day. It was a holiday from routine and studies when the teachers took over the student's role of saying the dining hall graces, to begin the day. But the day began for the teachers at 6 am in the morning when they came to the dining hall kitchen to prepare the delicacies for our precious children, adding the mother's touch.



Teachers presenting a yoga dance



A musical presentation



Teachers dancing to the tune of a popular Hindi song



A musical presentation by the bandmasters

The School Assembly began at 9 am in the school auditorium with the school prayer led by Mrs Beena Manoj. This was followed by the teachers' choir presenting the School Song *Hail Good Shepherd*, invoking the graces of the Almighty for our wonderful student community. This was followed by the School Prayer Song, *The Lord's My Shepherd*, another melodious number by the teachers' choir. Surprises were the greatest prizes for the children when they were greeted by the emcees of the programme, the High School Coordinator Kalyan Sir, masquerading as Dr Sabyasachi Bandopadhyay from Bengal with the Bengali accent and Mr Mathew Lawrence.

The variety programme that followed drew standing ovation from the students who were overwhelmed to see their teachers and coaches on the stage performing their favourite numbers. The programme commenced with an invocatory dance presented by Mrs Rema Madhu followed by a melodious rendition of *Sayyoni* by Mr Nirav Patel. Ms Ela Singh addressed the students with a vibrant speech on teacher-student relationship, followed by fusion dance, musical presentations from the western music department with mellifluous vocal renditions and reverberating bands playing popular tunes. The Bhangra dance and a Mauritian folk song were beautiful gifts from the teachers to the children. The band masters also presented beautiful foot-tapping numbers. The special assembly culminated in a fast-paced song, *We are Friends*, and the School Anthem.

The special lunch time was the much-awaited food fete held in the stadium with delectable mouth-watering dishes which beckoned the students to try out everything. Students went around to all the stalls where their teachers were just waiting to serve them with a platter full of food and smiles. The students thronged the games, tattoo and mehendi stalls and waited with determination to get tattoos done. They flaunted each other's tattoos in the afternoon. Their choice of music was played and the children danced and sang and won prizes for lucky draw. They thoroughly enjoyed the day and all unanimously agreed that nothing can beat GSIS food fete and the love that all Shepherdians have for each other. Not to forget, the Children's Day was also a day of thanks conveyed by all the students to the staff members at all levels, the kitchen helpers, the members of the light and sound department and the staff who put up those wonderful and colourful shamianas.



Food fete in progress



Students participating in fun games

Teachers' Day 2017: Tribute to Teachers



Students showing their appreciation to the teachers for planting the seeds of knowledge that will last a lifetime



A warm welcome to the teachers on Teachers' Day

The Shepherdians celebrated **Teachers' Day** on Tuesday, 05 September 2017. In India, we celebrate Teachers' Day on 05 September, the birthday of the great teacher and second President of India, **Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan**.

A special assembly was organised to honour the teachers, commemorate their efforts, acknowledge their contribution in moulding the careers of students and shaping the destiny of India. One day was all we got to put our acts together and win the hearts of our



Musical presentations



Dance performances



Students presenting skits

friends and beloved teachers. On the eve of 5th September, we gathered together to blend our ideas to showcase our talents. Time was short and it was running even faster, but the students of Grade XI were undeterred. We were determined to present a good performance for the teachers who had done so much for us all along our journey of learning. During the cultural event that followed, students of Middle School, High School and Higher Secondary School enthralled the audience with their musical renditions of songs, dance performances and presentation of skits. All the skits that we presented were based on the importance of teachers and their indelible impact on our young minds, which have drawn loud applause. The dances gave added colour and shine to the day.

We surprised ourselves and made the day count. There were vibrant activities and excited shouts accompanied by happy laughter. Everything came to a fulfilment when the programme brought a happy smile on the faces of the teachers.

- Master Vijaya Lakshman Meka, IB-1D

Hindi Diwas: A Day to Celebrate Hindi



The Senior Vice President lighting the lamp on the occasion of Hindi Diwas

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. The Hindi Department of GSIS, under the guidance of the Hindi teachers, organized various events on 11 September 2017 to highlight the importance of Hindi. It has to be remembered that Hindi plays a significant role in connecting the people of India.

Mr Dominic Jude Hurst, Coordinator of Middle School, was the guest of honour. Hindi Diwas was celebrated with great enthusiasm. Various activities were arranged to commemorate the day to celebrate Hindi, an official language of the Republic of India. The participants were very eloquent that they recited Hindi poems, sang Hindi songs and danced to the tune of the music. The programme had started with a refreshing welcome address which was given by **Master Prabraj Singh Bhatia** of grade 11B, shedding light on the significance of Hindi Diwas. Speeches were delivered highlighting the importance of Hindi. Girls of Grade 9 performed two sensational dances. **Mr Sumanto Dutta**, our Computer Science teacher, recited a humourous Hindi poem written by him. **Mr Birendra Nath Ghosh** also recited a Hindi poem. **Mr Vijaya Kumar**, our Hindi teacher, boosted the celebrations with a melodious rendition of a Hindi song. Two girls of Grade 9 sang the Hindi song 'Tum Hi Ho.' A 'kavisammelan' was also held during which few of our students recited Hindi poems. The entire programme used only Hindi as its language of communication.

Overall, it was a successful presentation which delighted the audience with its combination of learning and fun. It was a very enjoyable and fun-filled event which inculcated values of deep respect and appreciation for this old Indian language.

- Ms Mansi Akash Agarwal, FM 4A



Welcome Address by Master Prabraj Singh Bhatia



'Kavisammelan' in progress: A student reciting a poem



Girls singing a Hindi song



Junior students dancing to the tune of Hindi music



Girls dancing to Hindi songs



Orientation Programme for Staff



Orientation Programme: Mrs Sheila Alexander, Senior Vice Principal (Academics), addressing the staff community



Introduction of new members of staff



Members of staff attending the orientation programme

The academic year 2017-18 commenced with the customary two-day **orientation programme** for the entire staff community. The new teachers introduced themselves as they were welcomed into the GSIS family.

The purpose of the orientation programme was not just to help new teachers adjust to the school community but also as a refresher programme for existing teachers on the school system's philosophy, vision, mission and written and unwritten code of conduct. In keeping with the school's ideology of raising the bar, the focus of the orientation was to empower and equip through education, student-centered learning and student-driven decision-making.

Mrs Sheila Alexander, Senior Vice Principal (Academics), addressed the gathering, laying emphasis on school improvement through aspiration, self-awareness, professionalism, integrity, respect and endeavour. She made a special mention of David Boddy's



Members of staff attending a workshop



Members of staff participating in various activities

Mind their Hearts. **Brigadier Suresh Kumar VSM (retd)**, reiterated on the History of Good Shepherd International School and the wide range of facilities that it provides to the staff and students. He also threw light on the future plans for the GSIS community. **Mr T Suresh** shared his ideas on the metacognition of *Learning how to learn*, while **Mrs Anila Kalyan** enlightened the group with *Ikigai*, the Japanese *Raison d'etre*, emphasizing the need for self-reflection and prioritizing.

The second day of the orientation included a session on *Inclusive Education* by **Ms Christine Maurice**, followed by a session by **Mr Ajith P Jacob** on *The Millenium Onward*. **Mr Mathew Lawrence** of the Spanish faculty presented ideas to the teachers on activity based teaching and learning. The orientation programme was interspersed with faculty meetings and department meetings through the two days and culminated in the open forum, where the management addressed the concerns of the school members. The year began with motivation and vigour!

Finding Happiness by Helping Others

*"If you want happiness for an hour, take a nap.
 If you want happiness for a day, go fishing.
 If you want happiness for a month, get married.
 If you want happiness for a year, inherit a fortune.
 If you want happiness for a lifetime, help somebody else."*

- Chinese proverb



Adoption of tribal village: **Mr Murali Rambha**, Superintendent of Police of The Nilgiris, addressing a tribal community in Kinnakorai village



Distributing food to the children in an orphanage



Distributing clothes to the children in an orphanage



Community Service: Helping a physically handicapped girl

Happiness depends on one's behaviour and daily activities. Pursue activities that boost your happiness. Helping someone else and practising kindness generates happiness.

Good Shepherd International School takes groups of students every week either to an old-age home or a local orphanage such as the one run by the **Smyrna Fellowship Trust, Mizpah Home, Maranatha Children's Home, Little Sisters of the Poor** and **Mercy Home** for serving the community in whatever little way they can, as we strongly believe that charity is not about pity, it is about love. The community service programmes, designed by the school are, however, not limited to the boundaries of Ooty. In January, this year, 10 students were selected for a service project in a small tribal village named *Kollikarai* near Kotagiri. The students were busy for 7 days in the service of the local tribal people living in the village.

The charity trips conducted by the school give the students opportunities to lend a helping hand and make a difference to the lives of the less privileged, the orphans, the elderly as well as themselves. Community Service has become a regular activity of the Shepherdians and we take pride in doing it, but we do it with humility.

- Ms Anushka Sarawgi, ISC-2A



Inter School Hockey Championship 2017



GSIS U-15 Boys' Hockey Team



GSIS U-17 Boys' Hockey Team

The **Inter School Hockey Championship** for boys was held at Hebron School in Ooty from 15 November to 18 November 2017.

In the U-15 division, the **GSIS team** secured the **first place**. In the final match, the GSIS team defeated Brindavan Public School, Coonoor. The score was 2 – 1. Master Tharun Vikash, FM 4E, scored the two goals for the GSIS team. In the U-17 division also, the **GSIS boys' team** won the **first place**. In the final match, they defeated Lawrence School, Lovedale. The score was 2 – 0. Master S Sachin Velu, Grade 10B, scored both goals. **Master Aaryan Luke Mehra, IB-1C**, was adjudged the **Best Player** of the tournament in the U-17 category.

Congratulations!

Good Shepherd Rolling Trophy : Inter School Soccer Tournament 2017

The **Annual Inter School Soccer Tournament** for U-17 boys was held at the Palada Campus Open Air Stadium of Good Shepherd International School on Sunday, 26 November 2017.



The U-17 football tournament in progress

The following five teams participated in the tournament:

1. JSS International School, Ooty
2. St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Ooty
3. Nilgiris Matriculation School, Lovedale
4. Crescent Castle Matriculation School, Ooty
5. Good Shepherd International School

Good Shepherd International School emerged runner-up. In the final match, JSS International School defeated Good Shepherd International School and won the trophy. The score was 1 – 0.



JSS International School team (Winners) & the GSIS team (Runner-up)

The following students received special prizes:

- Best Player** : **Master Salman Imtiaz** (Crescent Castle Matriculation School, Ooty)
- Best Midfielder** : **Master Aryan Mohan Menon** (JSS International School, Ooty)
- Best Goalkeeper** : **Master Magesh** (JSS International School, Ooty)
- Best Defender** : **Master Sahukari Praveen Kumar** (GSIS, Ooty)
- Best Striker** : **Master L Cibi Saran** (GSIS, Ooty)

Congratulations!

The **Annual Inter School Soccer Tournament** for U-19 boys was held at the Palada Campus Open Air Stadium of Good Shepherd International School on Sunday, 05 November 2017.



The U-19 football tournament in progress

The following six teams participated in the tournament:

1. Nilgiris Matriculation Higher Secondary School, Lovedale
2. The Laidlaw Memorial School & Junior College, Ketti
3. Lawrence School, Lovedale
4. Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu (SDAT) Team
5. Good Shepherd International School - Team A
6. Good Shepherd International School - Team B



Runner-up: GSIS U-19 Boys' Football Team

Good Shepherd International School Team A emerged runner-up. In the final match, Lawrence School, Lovedale, defeated Good Shepherd International School - Team A and won the trophy. The score was 3 – 2.

The following students received special prizes:

- Most Promising Players :** **Master Maanav Trehon** (GSIS Team A) & **Master Vansh Agarwal** (GSIS Team B)
- Best Midfielder :** **Master Mohammed Nafih Kalathil** (GSIS Team A)
- Best Defenders :** **Master Samraat Sujoy Gupta** (GSIS Team A) & **Master Naveenraj Rajadurai** (Lawrence School, Lovedale)
- Best Striker :** **Master Kasan Dercha Sangma** (Lawrence School, Lovedale)

Congratulations!

Inter School Basketball Tournament : GSIS Rolling Trophy 2017



The Basketball tournament in progress

In the **Inter School Basketball Tournament** for boys held at the Palada Campus basketball courts on Sunday, 26 November 2017, **Good Shepherd International School – Team A** won the **GSIS Rolling Trophy** in the U-17 yrs category. In the final match, GSIS - Team A defeated Crescent Castle Matriculation School, Ooty. The final score was 54 points – 17 points.



GSIS U-17 Boys' team

The following six schools participated in the tournament:

1. St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Ooty
2. Morning Star Higher Secondary School, Gudalur
3. JSS International School, Theetukal
4. Crescent Castle Matriculation School, Ooty
5. Good Shepherd International School - Team A
6. Good Shepherd International School - Team B

The following students received special prizes:

Best Player : **Master Rohit Sur** (GSIS)

Most Valuable Player : **Master Sandeep Sudharshan** (GSIS)

Most Promising Player : **Master R Vishnu** (Crescent Castle Matriculation School)

Well done!

"Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships."

- Michael Jordan

GOOD SHEPHERD FINISHING SCHOOL

Soup & Salad-making Competition



The girls' team that won the first position



Soups, Salads & tasty accompaniments prepared by the girls of GSFS

The Soup and Salad-making Competition of the 9 Months' batch of girls was conducted at Good Shepherd Finishing School on Friday, 10 November 2017. The students presented different types of Soups and Salads with appropriate accompaniments.

Several teams participated in the event, made a variety of items and displayed them at the exhibit. The girls offered a wide variety of interesting cooking activities for the others to enjoy. It was indeed a tasty treat.

The girls' team comprising Ms Sheetal Agarwal, Ms Radhika Ashwin Agarwal, Ms Twinkle Ordia, Ms Devanshi Goyal, Ms Gowthami and Ms Riddhi Shah was adjudged the overall winner of the competition. The team of Ms Nimisha Bansal, Ms Megha Mehta, Ms Parakh Agarwal, Ms Sumathi, Ms Surbhi Jaiswal and Ms Saranya Devi was placed second. The team of Ms Khushbu Khatri, Ms Khushboo Sandipkumar, Ms Charmi Barai, Ms Samiksha Kanted, Ms Dhiekshithaa and Ms Prerna Mundada came third.

Welcome to the world of cooking competitions. **Well done!**

Sari Draping Competition



Girls of GSFS displaying various styles of sari draping

Sari is a single piece of 5 - 9 yard material, probably one of the time-honoured piece of clothing still worn today. *The sari* is not a costume reserved only for traditional festivals or ceremonies. It is worn by Indian ladies going about their daily chores. Women wear *saris* regardless of their religion, nationality, caste, class or region of origin. You have to look around if you are looking for proof of *sari's* persistent ubiquity. The sari is the gift of Indian tradition and it marks our ethnic culture. It is an inseparable part of most of the Indian women. According to different ethnic groups, states, religion or class, *saris* are draped in different styles and they represent India's multiplicity. A variety of sari-draping methods are taught to the girls. *Saris* reflect the cultural heritage of our country. For a country as varied as India, there are distinct differences in the ways that a *sari* is draped. Different draping styles include Nivi style, Gujarati style, Bengali style and Coorgi style, to name a few.

The **sari draping competition** of the 9 Months' batch of girls was held in the Good Shepherd Finishing School on Tuesday, 10 October 2017. Students came up with different and innovative ways of draping saris which was a treat to the eyes. The judges had a tough time deciding on an overall winner. The first three positions are mentioned below:

1. First position : Ms Anagha Umesh Tated
2. Second position : Ms Twinkle Ordia and Ms Shivani
3. Third position : Ms Abarna Pooja and Ms Mahima Agarwal

Dressing up is the best part of being a girl and it is a way of life. **Congratulations to the winners!**

"Because you are women, people will force their thinking on you, their boundaries on you. They will tell you how to dress, how to behave, who you can meet and where you can go. Don't live in the shadows of people's judgement. Make your own choices in the light of your own wisdom."

- Amitabh Bachchan