

# THE LAMB

Volume 6 | 2017 - 2018



# GOOD SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

## VISION STATEMENT

Good Shepherd International School, in its pursuit of a holistic education, envisages inspiring and fostering a community of caring, progressive, lifelong learners to embrace and celebrate all Creation.

## MISSION STATEMENT AND DESCRIPTORS

Good Shepherd International School endeavours to prepare each student for academic, social and personal success by creating a community of empowered and diverse learners striving to be globally-minded citizens in an atmosphere of mutual respect, understanding and trust.

### GSIS is an International School by:

- maintaining a global perspective in an Asian context wherein it is situated
- embracing a diversity of cultures represented by its staff and students
- being sensitive and accepting of all cultures
- upholding a secular perspective within the School community
- offering national and international curriculums

### Academic Success at GSIS is:

- acquisition of academic skills
- training to apply knowledge to real-life situations
- provision of qualified staff to ensure quality education
- being in a residential set-up that facilitates holistic academic growth and development
- benchmarked results and learning outcomes on global standards
- entry into leading colleges / universities in the country and worldwide

### Social Success at GSIS is:

- development of a strong identity and self worth; ability to relate, connect and communicate effectively with others
- cultural sensitivity and acceptance
- valuing justice and fairness in social living
- being service-oriented unconditionally
- having an acceptable level of decorum

### Personal Success at GSIS is:

- being a lifelong learner equipped with a keen spirit of inquiry
- developing a value-based and ethical outlook on life
- imbibing cognitive and behavioral skills to take on the world
- acquiring a sense of purpose and being goal-oriented
- possessing a sense of equanimity and ability to balance reason and emotion
- having acceptable standards of deportment
- having a spiritual-rootedness within a secular context

### Community Life at GSIS means:

- staff and students living in a multi-cultural ambience / context
- having a sense of being in a 'family'
- developing a sense of belonging and togetherness in all we do
- allowing for personal space within a structured environment
- experiencing the joy / art of living – joie de vivre

### Empowered Learners at GSIS:

- take responsibility and are accountable for their learning
- value and enjoy the process of learning as much as the outcome
- share and transmit knowledge
- develop initiative and leadership skills

### Diverse Learners at GSIS:

- acquire holistic learning and development through a wide variety of academic / extra-curricular activities
- have varied curricular options to choose from, catering to their diverse needs and backgrounds
- are recognized and accepted for their multiple ability levels and learning styles
- learn from each other in the diverse community they live in, learn and work in

### Globally-minded Citizens at GSIS:

- value the human spirit beyond the constraints of cultural boundaries
- develop awareness and sensitivity to global issues encompassing all aspects of life
- understand the impact of their thoughts and actions on the world at large
- think globally and act locally

### Mutual Respect at GSIS means:

- upholding the sanctity of teacher-student roles
- appreciating and accepting individuality and diversity
- safeguarding and promoting the values and ethos of the institution
- preserving and maintaining the environment we live and work in

### Understanding and Trust at GSIS means:

- Truth / Trust / Triumph (our school motto)
- caring for individual needs even as we live in the community
- belief in the goodness of the individual and the human race
- developing empathy and rapport amongst members of the community
- being active listeners and critical thinkers before being judgemental

## OBJECTIVES

- 1. VALUE EDUCATION :**  
To create a climate that encourages freedom of thought while inculcating the savor of self-discipline, punctuality, fair play and industry.
- 2. HOME AWAY FROM HOME :**  
To actualize a 'home away from home' atmosphere where a right proportion of care and control is administered catering to the emotional and intellectual needs of a child.
- 3. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE :**  
To nurture heuristic, lifelong learners and who excel in conventional academic demands; explore and discover the interconnectivity of disciplines and grow into active generators of knowledge.
- 4. CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES :**  
To ensure that ALL students gain experience, and appreciate ALL the creative and performing arts thereby promoting the acquisition of team spirit and development of individual skills needed for a holistic growth .
- 5. TEACHING STRATEGY :**  
To practise tailored teaching strategies incorporating the latest technology to facilitate the diverse learning styles and intelligence quotients of the student.
- 6. COMMUNITY SERVICE :**  
To disseminate awareness of environmental concerns and humanitarian issues and kindle a sense of responsibility towards the amelioration of the needy by working with charitable organizations.
- 7. TECHNOLOGY :**  
To allow opportunities for a guided, constructive and age-appropriate use of technology and other resources within and throughout the academic programme.
- 8. INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION:**  
To discover the latent potential in each child through individual attention and providing them with opportunities to hone their full potential.
- 9. COUNSELLING :**  
To monitor a complementary growth of social, cognitive and spiritual facets of a child and aid in making life fulfilling career choices.
- 10. MULTICULTURAL :**  
To foster respect for and tolerance of other cultures and creeds by creating a multicultural and secular ambience.
- 11. TO GROW FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH :**  
To conduct periodic review of all programmes and procedures to ensure consistency and continuous improvement in line with the ideals espoused in the Mission Statement and the Motto of the school.

## INTERNATIONALISM

GSIS fosters an ethically and culturally diverse learning environment wherein students transcend barriers through communication and mutual understanding which inspires them not only to become courageous leaders but also responsible citizens in the service of local and global communities.

## A Prayer

Our loving heavenly Father,

You, who are in heaven, are always with us. We entreat you, dear Lord, to keep us safe under thy protecting wings as we journey through this perilous world. We thank you for our supporting families, for each new day, which blooms with new opportunities and the comforting friends to rely on. We thank you for bringing our school across the forty milestones of challenges and rewards.

Teach us Lord, to honour you the most and commit everything we do in Thy hands. Show us your smiling face when we despair, stretch forth your guiding hands when we lose our way, whisper your soothing words when we are all alone.

Make this beautiful creation of this world of yours a heaven, as you had made it. Pour out your love in the hearts of humanity so that we may live in peace. May we always learn to be a true human being as Thou hast shown us. This we ask in Thy loving name.

Amen.

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# **THE LAMB**

**[2017 – 2018]**

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# THE LAMB 2018

## Editors' Letter...

*"Can I offer an hourful of happy  
Throw in an odd chuckle or two  
The time spent is worth while  
If the mirth brings a smile  
To the friend I am writing this to"*

- John McLeod

A new hour, a new day, a new year. These aren't just clichés. Life does not stagnate even though you might feel that you are caught in a circuit of doing the same things day after day. You may seek some change of pace, some change of setting just to gain that moment of novelty. What do you do when you feel that not much is in your hands and you have to go with the flow? There are two snippets of wisdom that you can keep in mind to remedy this conundrum. So take a deep breath and let each word seep into you. **Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum**, the current ruler of Dubai, rightly said that "My theory on life is that life is beautiful. Life doesn't change. You have a day, and a night, and a month and a year. We people change - we can be miserable or we can be happy. It's what you make of your life". This is a man who is one of the richest men on the planet but has his feet firmly rooted on the ground because he has to come face to face with the poorest people in Dubai and help them out in whatever way he can. Life doesn't have to change for you to be happy and do not think that if you were in someone else's shoes that happiness will be by your side at all times. Do not count the times you have stumbled during the day but be thankful for all the privileges that have come your way whether you deserve it or not.

Who has not heard of the fourteenth Dalai Lama, the Nobel Peace Prize Winner of 1989? Do note his words - "If you want to be happy, practice compassion." Sound sensible to you? Being compassionate means that you are a kind person and want to impart that kindness to others. There are compassionate souls in every nook and cranny of your life. You need to notice how tender and warm their actions are. Learn from their actions and promise yourself that you will model their behaviour. Life does not stagnate if you are compassionate since you will now be in a state to shun complacency.

As a new year dawns on you, do remember that maybe nothing will change in your life but count your blessings and surround yourself with people who will help you to smile and throw in a chuckle or two. Take each day as a new adventure. Life will be a lot more beautiful then.

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# Teachers



**Master Ritvik Rao Vaddi**

The whole of India celebrates Teachers' Day on 5th of September to commemorate the erstwhile President and eminent educationist Shri Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. There is a very famous Hindi verse -

*"Guru govind dohu khade, kake lagu paanye  
Balihari guru aapne govind diyo bataye."*

Its English version goes like this - *"Teacher and Almighty, both are standing before someone. He faces the dilemma of whose feet he must touch first. He then reasons that he is full of gratitude for his master as it is because of him that he has encountered God."*

So, these lines delineate the position of reverence earned by Gurus (teachers) among the Indian masses. This is because of the age-old custom that have built up this heavenly relation between the master and his disciples. What a teacher can give to his disciples is best illustrated from the following event. There was a gathering of five old school friends after a long period. They were boasting about their achievements. One said that he was a DC and enjoyed a lot of prestige. Another was a doctor who said he had earned a lot of money as well as reputation. The same reply came from the lawyer and the businessman. One of them was just listening to them. They looked at him with a sneer and asked him about his achievements. The person said that his only achievement was that he made DCs, Doctors, Lawyers and Businessmen. Yes, he was a teacher. All of them were speechless.

Teachers are considered one of the pillars of our society. They are expected to bring changes to society and reform it. Their role is becoming more and more significant with the youth of the country being exposed to a lot more media owing to the distractions which are the products of the modern age. In this way teachers will always have a significant role to play in society.

Even our **Prime Minister Mr Narendra Modi**, in his pet programme, **Mann Ki Baat** (on 27th August 2017) lauded the teachers of the country and requested them to *"Teach to Transform, Educate to Empower and Learn to Lead."*

A few words about Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan -

Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan was born on 5 September 1888 in a middle class family in the pilgrim town of Tirutani. His father, it is said, did not want his son to learn English, instead wanted him to become a priest. However, the talents of the boy were so outstanding that he was sent to school at Thirupati and then to Vellore. Later, he joined the Christian College, Madras, and studied Philosophy. Drawn by accident into philosophy, Radhakrishnan, by his confidence, concentration and strong convictions went on to become a great philosopher. He was the first Vice President and the second President of India from 1962 to 1967. He was also a prominent educationist.

Exceedingly popular among his students right from his early days as a professor at Presidency College, Madras, he was an evocative teacher. As a teacher, he served in various prestigious institutions of Higher Education. His effective way of teaching, relationship with the students and extra-ordinary knowledge made him a favourite among students. 5th September (his date of birth) was attributed as Teachers' Day in recognition.

- **Master Ritvik Rao Vaddi, FM 2E**

## What goes around, comes around!

I am telling you a small story. The story is about a kind boy named Rahul. It is about the quality of being considerate and generous.

One day, Rahul and his friends were walking along the pavement. They saw a beggar sitting there. Rahul asked the beggar politely what he wanted. The beggar told, "I am starving for days. I need food." Rahul sat beside him. His friends went away. Rahul started talking to the beggar, but suddenly the beggar fainted. Rahul called for an ambulance and took him to the hospital and saved his life. The following day, Rahul met with an accident. He was unconscious and was bleeding. This time, the same beggar came and saved his life. "What goes around, comes around." A person's actions, whether good or bad, will often have

consequences for that person. If someone treats other people badly, he or she will eventually be treated badly by someone else. You should not mistreat others.

- Master Aadesh Singh Arora, 7B

## Courage



Master Aadesh Singh  
Arora

Courage is not something that can be handed over to us through lessons or training. It is a way of life. Courage is a matter of routine more than anything else. We can define courage in terms of deeds. For example, courage in the battle field, courage showed by policemen in delivering their responsibilities or courage faced in some kind of danger or tragedy.

We can see in our surroundings that a lot of courage is a part of our routine. The fireman who gets into a burning building to save people demonstrates courage. The farmer who tills the land, not knowing whether he will have a good monsoon, shows courage. The child who gets seriously injured in the football field and goes back to the game after the recovery shows courage. A student, who is bent on following his goals, shows courage. The real test of courage is in our daily lives.

The courage to speak the truth, the courage to speak our mind and not stay silent, simply because we are afraid that other people might not agree with us. The courage to stand up for what we believe in, the courage to follow public for rules and laws and insist that other people follow them too.

So, a courageous person feels fear, recognizes fear and still goes on to do what he or she believes is just.

- Master Aadesh Singh Arora, 7B

## Time Management



Master Aditya Nagaraj

Time Management. We all know what this means and its benefits, but after knowing all this, we still ignore it. Is that the right thing to do.

It is said that a man who wakes up before 5:00 am is more successful than a man who wakes up after 5:00 am. These early risers have enough time to manage and organize their daily duties before the rest of the world wakes up, and so will be one step ahead in the world. We all know the answer to "Who is the richest man in the world", but we don't know the effort that was put into earning that money. Part of that effort was waking up early. We all waste time, taking numerous breaks and just being lazy. But remember, there will always be people waiting to get ahead of you in the race for a better future.

It is estimated that 7.5 billion people currently live in the world. The younger generation will have to compete for jobs in the future because of the population increase. In the current world, many people are unemployed because there are so many people waiting in line for a single job and only the brightest few get the job.

To be the best person out there, a person has to study hard and utilize every second that has been given to him and so time management is the best solution for a better future.

In the past, people used to think modern technology that we take for granted today were magic. Something only to dream about, nothing but silly thoughts, but some extraordinarily gifted people used their time wisely and made these impossibilities possible. So think about it. If you use your time wisely, you can usher the world into a brighter and better tomorrow. Make a bright future for yourself in the years to come and help the world to become better.

- Master Aditya Nagaraj, FM - 2D

# Music



Master Sidaarth  
Ramabhotla

Positivity, Negativity, Love and Heartbreak are just the few things found in music.

There is a saying that goes a bit like this - "Music to my ears". It doesn't only refer to a flute or a guitar. It can refer to anything like someone singing to a rhythm. Music is not just something you hear. It brings out your soul. You can feel positive energy rushing through you. I am sure that in every dormitory, songs are played in the morning to wake you up. This music fills you with positive energy. This energy will get you through the day with a smile. When I am having a bad day, I just play a happy song to give me some motivation. Music is a way to express yourself. I can just imagine myself on a green meadow, when suddenly I start hearing the sound of a violin or any instrument for that matter. It takes me to another dimension, another world, a world where I am free to do anything. When I can't focus on studying, I listen to music. It really helps.

Music not only helps youngsters but also elders. Be a part of the music.

- Master Sidaarth Ramabhotla, FM - 2E

# Are we unique?



Ms Rajvi Vilish Patel

Every single human being in this world is unique, but sometimes we don't know in what way we are unique. Uniqueness actually does not have a proper and specific meaning but what makes us unique, is our talent. Sometimes people think that they do not have any talent but, everyone has; and to know what are we talented in, we should work hard. We should work hard in academics, games and also in co-curricular activities. So, one day we will surely get to know what kind of talent we have and in what ways we are unique.

Uniqueness means not only in talent, but also it can be in sports and co-curricular activities. There are people who are unique in many different ways, for example, in playing basketball, in playing cricket, while some are unique in music. In simple words, we can say unique means only you have that kind of characteristic. Quite often, we also think that we are not unique but, it is hidden inside us and once we find that out we can be a successful person in our life.

- Ms Rajvi Vilish Patel, FM - 2A

# Anger



Master Akash  
Chandran

What is Anger? The English Dictionary defines Anger as "Fierce displeasure or extreme annoyance."

People often get angry either for simple reasons or when someone is harsh to you. But the question everyone is asking is, can you control anger? Scientists think that being angry can create many problems in life like memory loss, short temper or being hyperactive. According to me, some of the following simple steps may be useful to control anger. When you get angry,

1. Count 1 – 10
2. Take a deep breath
3. Think of something that makes you laugh. Like when I get angry, I always recite this small poem which I composed.

*Coca Cola went to town,  
Diet pepsy shot him down,  
Dr Pepper fixed him up.  
Now we are drinking 7 Up,  
7 Up got the flu.  
Now, we are drinking BRU,  
BRU fell on the mountain.  
Now, we are drinking from the mountain.  
People broke,  
Then they choke,  
Now, we are back to drink coke.*

- Master Akash Chandran, FM - 2E

## A Short Break



**Ms Stuti Sureka**

It was a fine day in the month of June, when my friends and I decided to go for a short break. We took each other's opinions and came to a conclusion to go to Maldives. When we decided to go there, we all had a common friend who used to live there and had lost his life in a plane crash. We were very close before we left school, but after we left school we all got busy with our work and families.

We finally met after 7 years. But out of our gang of 5 we were only 4 now.

We reached Maldives at around 5 p.m. We were all really tired as it was a long journey from Delhi to Maldives.

When we reached Maldives, Shreya said, "Why not visit Edward's house, straightaway?" But later we agreed to go there the next morning to meet his wife and children. When we reached the hotel, we called Edward's wife and informed her about our arrival and that we were going to visit her the next morning at around 11 a.m. She seemed to be overjoyed on hearing that.

We had our dinner and went into one room and recalled all the memories of our school days. We laughed all night and enjoyed ourselves to the fullest.

The next morning when we went to Edward's house, we stood before the partly opened gate and sighed. No one wanted to go where one of our dearest friend had lived. We stood in silence, when a small boy of five or six years of age came running out of the house with a warm smile and a twinkle in each eye.

Our breath stopped; someone even gasped. Is it Edward? Can Eddy come back to us as a child? Then a lady came out, stood unsure, then stretched out arms wide open and I am sure I gasped in shock! There stood our classmate, Sally.

'Did he not tell you that we married?' A day full of shocks did not do us any good after a sleepless night. But one thing was sure that we got a friend, where a missing friend was lost!

- Ms Stuti Sureka, ISC-1B

## Endangered Species

All are busy earning money. No one cares about the other world which is full of suffering. That other world is the world of animals. Animals don't know what money is but they know that they are used by human for human gain. Thousands of species have become extinct and some are on their way out. No one cares, as all are selfish. Due to millions of illiterate people, animals are dwindling in number. They are killed for their skins, teeth, horns or other parts of their bodies.



Master Nilay Agrawal

Due to massive increase in human population, forests are being cleared, which destroys homes of animals and their habitat, which leads to their death.

Tourists are one of the main reasons why animals are endangered. With them they bring a lot of diseases which are very harmful for the animals. Tourists think that animals will be happy with the food they offer to animals. It is true that they will be happy but tourists don't know that the food, which they offer to animals is very harmful to them.

I am sure that one day humans will understand, but I am also sure that, that one day would be very late.

- Master Nilay Agrawal, ISC-1B

## Money! Money! Money!



Ms S Rooshni

Without money one cannot lead a happy life or even survive on earth. This five lettered word has become a factor that determines our pattern of happiness and comfort. It has bred many negative characteristics such as greed and jealousy in the common man. Money is the root cause of all evil. Now-a-days, a man is respected not for his knowledge but for his wealth. Thus in the world around us, the rich become richer and the poor become poorer.

In the absence of money, people unwillingly and inevitably sow the seeds of sorrow in their lives and this ultimately leads to misery. But the irony is that even the rich cannot buy happiness with their riches. With the gradual improvement of human life, there is a greater need for money. This necessity unfortunately is earned by unfair means. Malpractices grow stronger by the day in the money-loving world.

People stretch out their hands wide in order to welcome money, but they are stringent to give money to the ones who need it. Bridges between humans that have taken eons to build are broken down in seconds, all for money. With money in our hands, we should not let it be our master, but make it our servants so as to build a better world where only peace exists. If money can neither buy nor sell happiness then why do we run at all after this wretched money?

- Ms S Rooshni, ISC-1B

## Pi( $\pi$ )



Master Chethan Gopal

**Pi( $\pi$ )** is a mathematical term which has not been completely defined by people to this day including Babylonians, Greeks and even modern scientists. It has the value 3.142857142857..... and continues with no end. It contains more than 700 digits after the decimal point in it. It is also named a mysterious number in mathematics.

Greeks and Babylonians used 'Pi' to find out many things which involved space findings, for great architecture, to find the scientific theories and many more. The term 'Pi' was first coined by Babylonians and then used by the Greeks.

- Master Chethan Gopal, ISC-1B

# The Story of “Life”



**Master Hitayu Kukatla**

That One Moment. Have you ever been through that one moment of epiphany where matter ceases to exist, where space time seems to wrap itself around you in that last effort to provide warmth and comfort, where the entire universe seems to crumble and your senses go partially numb?

Yes, that one unspeakable moment. The whole world revolves around US- the finer species with an evolutionary advantage which manifests itself in the form of emotions and intelligence. But do we forget that the world still revolves around the Sun? Nature is at the centre of our existence and always will be, we being a developed offspring of Mother Nature destined to bring change to our planet, yet being just one of its several components. Utilizing our evolutionary advantage we reached the top of the food chain, and have since believed ourselves to be the supreme forces on Earth.

Walking down the street, I observe the multitude of people walking past me. Looking at each of them whets my imagination and diminishes my mark in this grand canvas of life. Each of those people, irrespective of their caste, creed, colour, sex, religion has an equally vivid life story and has been through the same complexities as each one of us around. That One Moment, when you realize how your life is insignificant and miniscule against the sands of time and how the earthly qualities and demeanours you possess or breed are farce. That One Moment, when everything seems to crumble around you and ‘your’ world seems to collapse due to the unbearable pain either on the surface of your chest or deep within, you hear the sounds of nature, and you hear the sound of silence. It is then that you realize how every deep drawn ambition, aspiration, jealousy, elation, hatred, anger, ego, attitude et cetera arising from the materialistic gains and pseudo accomplishments are all the unspoken lies of life and are all a deception.

Our evolutionary advantage takes us in the direction we want it to take us in. Our thoughts and our actions just revolve around ourselves and ‘I’ is the most important being, we keep living our lives with our own problems and issues to solve and the whole biosphere seems to have been created just to suit our needs but in that One Moment we realize how our life is insignificant with all the trivialities we fill in and the only person who can make it meaningful is YOU. The human species’ significance in the Universe is equivalent to the significance of one electron of an atom of a pencil to the Earth. What if our solar system is nothing but an atom in the pencil of a bigger system or maybe our entire universe might be a pencil in a bigger system? How small are we, yet we believe that everything revolves around us. Becoming a Social Media star, taking revenge and demarcating our authority, flaunting the best goods available in the market- the list does not end, these seem to be the goals we seek to achieve in our life. We must shatter the barriers of such delusions created by the modern world and take conscious action to preserve the real meaning of our birth and to work for something bigger than ‘I’ because at the end of the day when our lungs are sighing for the last time, a sequence of events will play in our minds, and as any other movie critic we will at that point be capable enough to judge whether THIS movie was worth IT or not?

- Master Hitayu Kukatla, IB-2C

*“A quotation in a speech, article or book is like a rifle in the hands of an infantryman. It speaks with authority.”*

- Brendan Behan

*“Everybody is a genius. But, if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will spend its whole life believing that it is stupid.”*

- Albert Einstein

*“Success is a journey, not a destination.”*

- Ben Sweetland

*“Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly.”*

- Robert F Kennedy



### Chocolate Bungalow



**Master R Yeshwanth**

My father never likes me for whatever I did but I was the richest person in all of Europe and there was a very big reason to it. I used to look at things differently and come up with unbelievable inventions. I was sitting on the last floor of my esteemed company and was gazing out at the beautiful land of Venice. The weather outside was very windy and cold. I was sitting on a well reclined sofa, sipping my hot chocolate and I was thinking of a new project.

I wanted this project to be an extraordinary one. Without wasting much time I grabbed hold of a pen and paper trying to sketch out my ideas, but I had no idea of anything at all, so I stayed still with my pen pointing to a sheet of paper. It was 5 hours now and all I did was, drink 20 glasses of hot chocolate. I looked around for things that would throw some light on my project, but nothing struck me. When I was almost giving up on this project, an incredible idea struck me, and this was certainly not an ordinary one and I was sure that no one had or would have ever dreamt of this.

This wonderful and glorious idea was to build a Bungalow made of chocolate. I did not know if it was practical but strange ideas like this are the reason for who I am right now. Keeping all this in my mind I called out to my staff and explained the plan. Without any hesitation we began to work on the project. After a lot of hard work, we finally reached to the first day of our construction. The plan was to make a bungalow by only using chocolate. We ordered loads and loads of one of the finest chocolate and reached out to the best architects in the world.

The construction had started and there was no sign of the sun and the weather supported the construction. Four months had passed and we were halfway through making the bungalow. It didn't seem that difficult at all. Everything was going smooth and according to plan. The public started to get the news of this tremendous bungalow and no one could wait for it to get over. We were almost there and I was sitting in a corner looking at this bungalow and felt proud of my architects and myself.

The most awaited bungalow was finally complete and was all set to get recognition. The special day on which this bungalow would be inaugurated was finally here. The Secretary General of the United Nations was the chief guest. Soon after he finished delivering his speech the crowd was on their feet and suddenly the whole crowd was in silence, as the Secretary General held the scissor to cut the golden ribbon. As he did, the crowd began cheering and the media started taking photographs. I led the Secretary General into the bungalow. When he entered he was speechless at the sight of the usage of chocolate. Suddenly I got a message from my father saying that the sun was shining brightly, at first I thought he was appreciating my work for the first time, until I saw a drop of chocolate falling and it was then that I realized that the chocolate would melt due to the sun and that was exactly what happened. I was drenched with chocolate and my name collapsed as did the chocolate bungalow.

- Master R Yeshwanth, IX A

### Pilgrimage

My name is Wan-Sung. I have been living in India for five years and study at Loyola College in Chennai. I accompanied my grandmother for her pilgrimage. On the way, we had plans to take water as we weren't supposed to eat food. She had a wish to go on a pilgrimage before she passed away. To complete her wish we had taken the journey.

My family is originally from China and follows Buddhism. We are now settled in India but my grandma still misses her place in China. She wanted to go on a pilgrimage to her sacred land in the village which is quite far but achievable. During her days, the place was known for its miracles it had done. For some reason my grandma still believes in them but I don't.

Our journey to China was by plane. Even though my grandma is an octogenarian she still looks healthy and well. She doesn't like travelling in a plane but it was the quickest way to reach China and find the place. For your information, I have never been to China and know nothing about the place. For me it was the kind of adventure I had been waiting for many years. I even had





**Ms Eve Saha**

the responsibility of my grandma on my shoulders. I knew I could do it. From Chennai we had taken a flight. We were in that flight for a very long time, I think it would have been more than a day or so.

We both spent our time talking to each other about my grandma's past and my present. It's good to know about things we don't know about each other. After our flight had landed we managed to go to the old place where my grandparents stayed many years ago.

Before leaving for this pilgrimage I had done some research work about the place. I was able to get information but not enough to find that one particular place. I thought I could take some help from the people who stayed there.

After we reached that place, I talked to some people. I took extra classes to learn to speak a little Chinese. It was really hard but as I tried, I hoped people over there could understand what I was trying to say. I managed to get information about the place and where it is located. Handling my grandma was also tough. As she is aged she forgets things most of the time and sometimes repeats them. She had to take my support to walk but I managed everything somehow.

We had to climb a hill to reach the final place. Did I forget to mention. The place is green and surrounded by forests. The place is in the hills. You feel the fresh air. As we walked to the hill, it took time but the day was getting bright. We started our walk early in the morning and it was getting sunny. We managed to climb the whole mountain. The place we finally reached was like a temple. So architectural, the place had flowers of various kinds. I looked at my grandma and she had tears in her eyes. She was so happy. We went in. I was able to see different kinds of architectural carvings. My grandma had done a lot of hard work to reach the place. I was happy to see her so happy.

We spent many hours over there. My grandma's wish had come true. She prayed.

After returning to India we always noticed that she was very happy. It was like she had got some power in herself. After a week or more my grandma was able to walk without anyone's help. She was able to eat her food and no one had to feed her.

After going to that place a miracle took place which changed my grandma's life as a whole. She was fit again. She walked, talked, laughed. She forgot things very often. It changed her after the pilgrimage. The pilgrimage she took brought a miracle in her life and was a witness to that miracle which took place.

**- Ms Eve Saha, IX A**

## Sunrise



**Master Yugam Surana**

From a window, which was as generous as god, he could contemplate the picturesque view for what people from all over the world comes in droves to fill themselves with its ecstatic charm. Swelled up with intensifying excitement darting through his frail vessels, he put on only his pyjamas and picked up his cumbersome camera.

Within those two prized minutes, he stood amongst a horde of people embracing the prodigious scenery. As a professional photographer, Harvey Basser had not realised his dream of capturing the sterling scenery of Ladakh in his camera. With patience slithering away, he gazed upon his sullen watch. 4:53 a.m.

Once, while attending his photography classes, he had learnt that Leh, Ladakh has the most placid sunrise in the world. Till then, it had been his wonderful desire to visit Ladakh.

Bolting away from his distracting thoughts, he again glanced at his watch. 4:56 a.m. According to the meteorologists, it had been reported that the sun rises at estimate 5:00 a.m. which apparently meant four more minutes. Long enough to aid me to doze of, Harvey thought.

An extremely jovial atmosphere hung in the air generating a peculiar fusion of relaxation and comfort inside the enthusiastic tourists. Supported with the talented birds hollered their soothing melody as if it was their day. The active wind sprinted through the atmosphere propelling the tourists to tighten their jackets.

An overpowering feeling of joy engulfed Harvey as the last minute of his wait strolled on 4:59 a.m. Harvey recounted those sombre incidences in which he used to sob for his incapability to fulfill his dream.

“I have done it”, Harvey thought. “This is my day.” Within the last seconds of the last minute of his wait, his soggy eyes could contemplate the slight golden light fusing the pale blue colour of the morning sky. Being more vigilant than usual, he switched on his camera and angled it towards the source of the light. He was sure that it was what he had always craved for.

Within the next two blinks of an eye, Harvey could experience the best moment of his life with the fresh sun smiling at him. With just the support of the colossal star, the effect of the scenery travelled from better to best. Seeking his moment, Harvey captured a billion snaps in awe. The miniature seemed to possess an eerie pose as soon as the incandescent shaft of light fell on them drawing its attention to the flawless sky. The clear clouds didn’t dare to block the golden complexion inspiring the whole universe. The iridescent yellow shades stuck to the atmosphere offering the exhausted plants the motivation to perform photosynthesis.

So, what about Harvey? As he observed the nature with this dumbstruck mind, a bulb lit in his mind to add to the enjoyment of the nature. Somewhere from his bag, he diffed up his phone as well as his headphones.

Then, as expected, he commenced to listen to healing songs to intensify the unanimous pleasure.

- Master Yugam Surana, FM-3A

## ONE, TWO, THREE, YOU...



**Master Mayanka  
Agrawal**

Will Rhodes awoke with an emergency phone call from the Chief Commissioner of the London Police Department. “Will, you know where to find me? Please come as soon as possible. I need your help” and the line went dead. Taking five seconds to fathom what he had said as he was still in his half-sleep phase, he got up from his bed and started to get dressed.

“Ah! Finally another case” he thought. Will was a ‘consulting detective’, or so he called himself. Will took a cab to LPD and headed towards the chief’s office. “Thank God you’re here, Will. There have been three suicides on the same day. Guess what? All three of them poisoned themselves with the same chemical. I think that there’s something wrong with this; I don’t feel good about this. Do you also think these might actually be murders?”, the chief was almost out of breath. He seemed more panicked than Will had ever seen him.

“Perhaps, if I could check out one of the crime scenes, I might be able to figure out something out,” said Will.

“The third suicide scene is still under investigation. You can go there.”

“On my way, Sir”.

Will walked briskly to the address the chief had given him as it was nearby. He found himself at length face to face with an old mansion. It seemed that it had been abandoned a long time ago. He went under the ‘do not cross: crime scene’ tape and went up the rickety staircase. There was a woman lying on the ground, dressed all in pink from the coat to the sandals. Will wore his gloves and bent over the body. Her overcoat was wet, which meant she had come from somewhere other than London as it had not rained there in the last 48 hours. On the wooden floor, the lady had scratched ‘RACHE’ with her bare nails.

At first, Will thought that it meant revenge, as 'RACHE' means revenge in German. But after seeing her name in her identity card which read 'Julia Williams', he realized it meant something else as she was of course British.

Will asked the security if there was any suitcase found; but there wasn't. He felt absurd as it wasn't usual for tourists to travel without luggage. He continued on his walk to his apartment, that's when he saw a pink suitcase in the neighbourhood trash bin. It struck him, "A criminal always makes a mistake. This suitcase was this one's." He took the suitcase and headed home.

Excited, he scanned the suitcase, he found exactly what he was looking for; the contact information. There was a tag which read, 'If lost, please contact 07296069798 – Julia Williams'.

The cellphone had also not been found, realized Will. Right at that moment, everything came to Will as it was just given by God; he didn't know if it would destroy the case, or stack it up. It was like a puzzle joining together on its own. Anyways, Will chose instinct over doubt.

The lady in pink was clever, cleverer than anyone could possibly imagine. She had left her phone in the cab as she knew she was going to die. Will had earlier realized that he was told that all the three victims were last seen in a cab. So, there had to be some site that could track the phone. But the only problem was the password, to login. The lady had scratched 'Rache' but she had actually wanted to write 'Rachel' which was her daughter's name, as read by Will in the victim's information. But she died before she could write the last letter...

Faster than lightning, Will grabbed his laptop and searched 'www.findmyphone.org.' He clicked the 'login' button and typed the phone number and typed in the password as 'Rachel'. With his heart just about to burst out from his chest, he pressed enter.

BAM!

He had guessed it correct! The map showed up. But it was confusing. It was just under his apartment. Will ran down and found himself in front of a taxi. Stealthily, he opened the door and sat inside.

"Welcome Mr Rhodes", spoke a voice from the front seat. "Why are you doing this? What do you want from those innocent people?"

"Oh! You've encountered a clear misconception Mr Rhodes. I don't want anything from these people. They were just distractions. My final target is you. I did not even call you, you came walking into my nest."

"What?"

Before Will could even react, the driver started the engine and sped off. Will felt something that he had never felt in years. Fear. In under 2 minutes, Will was blindfolded and taken up some stairs. The kidnapper opened the blindfold.

"We're gonna play a game Mr Rhodes. Two pills. One will kill you, the other will do nothing. It's 50% on both sides; right? Well, the twist is that you take one and I take one."

"How can I trust you? And what if I refuse to play along?" The kidnapper put a gun on the table.

"How can you be so sure that you won't get the poison."

"It worked thrice, why won't it at the conclusion?"

"O.k.!"

Will chose one of the pills. Praying on his instinct.

"On three Mr Rhodes, Three, two, one."

They took their pills. Will was waiting for the blurry vision; but it never came. In under 10 seconds, the criminal started to choke and fell to the ground.

The case was solved! Justice given by one's own overconfidence. But one question remained: Why did the man do this?

- Master Mayanka Agrawal, FM 3B

## A Mysterious Affair



**Master Kaustubh Kale**

The thunder clap shook Moira and she rushed back to the guide in a jiffy. The shoe with mud icing lay sprawled at the doorstep of the tiny wooden cottage. She drove straight into the man on the couch. Mr Wembsley was startled by his ward's behaviour and did not waste a moment before he bear-hugged her.

He hushed and whispered in her ear, "Moira, my princess... did your brother trouble you again?" She shook her head, trembling with fear. She then stammered as she tried to explain, "He.. J-Jac ... go- g...". Mr Wembsley was utterly confused, yet he did not lose his temper and calmed her down.

Moira then explained to Mr Wembsley about what exactly had happened. He jumped up when he heard that she saw a blood soaked shoe of Jacob beside the river bank!

At dinner when all - Alex, Xam, T.J. and Moira were sitting around the fire, Mr Wembsley thought it would be a nice time to tell everyone why Moira had been crying all day long.

He told then about how Moira had planned to sneak out of the farm and head over to the lake for a lovely romantic time. Jacob then had decided to go for a swim and Moira was to collect some fruits. When she returned, all she saw was a blood soaked shoe which belonged to Jacob."

The whole assembly was in awe. T.J. was in tears and Alex declared, "Is this a traditional campfire ghost story as it is not a good time to make any more jokes!" The door suddenly burst open which sent a chill down everyone's spine.

Before the children started throwing things at the mysterious man in the long coat and a hat that covered his face, Moira came to the rescue.

"Are you the detective?", She asked. He gravely replied, "Yes." His voice sounded like a shaker bottle filled with stones – harsh and bitter. She announced, "I have called him to investigate about Jacob." No one uttered a single word. Maybe they were too startled and an eerie feeling that crept into the room when no one was looking.

They all knew looking at each other's faces and none of them slept last night. Mr Wembsley tried to look as jolly as he could. Though no one spoke about it, they all had negative vibes about the mysterious man, the feeling increased when he told that he would like to camp outside! All three friends whispered to each other that they should never have decided to come for the trip.

The mysterious man stepped in and said, "He was murdered and blood is definitely that of a human." Mr Walimer decided that they should focus on eating first and brought out a sumptuous plate of minced meat which was unlike anything they had even tasted before. Alex asked, "Wow!, this is great, what is it?" He replied, "It is my secret dish and it would stay a secret."

Detective Conan (that is what he called himself) then told that he was talking to one boy to help him with this investigation. He chose Alex which really annoyed T.J. as he also wanted to go. Finally after a lot of resistance, Moira and T.J. stayed back.

After a few hours of playing scrabble, T.J. got bored and decided to go after the investigator. Moira exclaimed, "Don't do, it is not safe!", but it was not heard by T.J. When Mr Walimer came to know, he rushed out to look for him. An hour later he returned all covered in blood. He claimed that even T.J. was dead. Moira let out a shrill cry.

After the detective and Alex returned, they were informed about the latest events by Moira. They saw Mr Walimer in a new sweater. Mr Detective said that he knew who killed them both. "Where is your sweater Mr Walimer?" asked Conan. "I threw it because it was dirty", replied Mr Walimer.

"It was you who murdered then, as T.J.'s eyelids were stitched with the same colour of thread as your sweater." He said, "Well, now that you know..." Bang! Bang! Bang! His shotgun blew everyone's brains onto the wall! "You have to keep my secret", he said it with the innocence of a toddler. Ping, the timer sounded, "It is time for my human pie...", he smirked.

- Master Kaustubh Kale, IB-1B

## The Enemy Within



**Master Yugank Deepak  
Kumar**

"Randy! Randy", the crowd cheered. The whole stadium was up in roars. The crowd went berserk when he came on stage. He was the biggest rock star on the planet at that moment, and he enjoyed it. The adrenalin pumped through everyone's body. They were trembling with excitement.

Suddenly Randy's hand goes up. He slides his guitar back and folds his hands. The crowd went silent with just a slight murmur here and there. Everyone waited in silence for the first word to be uttered. Randy, with his broken yet hauntingly beautiful voice, chilled everyone to the bone with just one sentence, "Today, I am going to tell the truth."

Everyone had heard of the murder trial Randy underwent fourteen years ago. His band's lead singer was mysteriously killed but the killer was never found. The prime suspect was Randy, as he soon took on the lead singer's position himself. Suddenly the crowd saw a feathering stare and Randy continued. "After every song I play, I will reveal one secret about my life." He went on to say,

"There will be seven songs today, that means seven truths. Each truth's intensity will keep on increasing, the seventh one will change your life."

The excitement in the air turned into restlessness. This was not what the crowd expected. They came here for Rock, not for some truth they didn't care about.

The first song started – the excitement grew, but so did the restlessness. It was a two minute long song. It would have been the best moment of their lives if only there was no truth on its way to be revealed. The song came to a halt, Randy started talking, "Now, for the first truth. For a long time I used to perform under the influence of cocaine." They already knew this, but this was the first time he openly admitted it.

It was time for the second song. Then the third, then fourth. Nobody wanted to go forward. The last truth about Randy hitting his girlfriend really tore people up. The smell of confusion and sweat was all over the air. People couldn't believe that their Idol, the person they revered, was so brash and so cruel. They just imagined what the last truth would hold, but still, three more songs were left.

"The evil within has been eating me for fourteen years. This black dog keeps on clawing at me, even if I try to run away, it catches up with me". Tears reflected in his eyes, he had reached his saturation. "No more!" He shouted and in a mix of fury and hatred or maybe contempt for himself he started the last song without playing the others. He wanted to get the truth out as soon as possible. The whole band was playing in anger and misery but there was something about Randy. He seemed vexed. There was guilt in every member's eyes. It felt like Randy was just speaking on the band's behalf itself.

Bam! Bam! Bam! The drums went on but in this noise and exasperation we didn't notice blood on Randy's clothes. When the guitar stopped and he fell down, hysteria broke out. The concert stopped, everyone was shocked. The band grieved, the fans cried. There was pandemonium all over.

Four weeks passed. The memory of the murder still intact and vivid in everyone's mind. Ching! came a sound from everybody's phone. A new video uploaded by Randy, sent the alert. Everybody was terrified, but if it wasn't for a group of young teenagers, we would never have known the truth.

It started off with Randy sitting on a chair in his living room, a black and white picture behind his back, his guitar all lined up to the left. He started by saying "Jamie Keathing, our drummer killed the singer." The whole planet was shocked. As Randy had said, the last truth did change our lives. He went on to say, "I took the place of lead singer to save Jamie, but if you're seeing this video, it means he killed me too." His tone gradually began to increase and by the end, he was screaming and the words he said haunts me till date every night.

"No more!" "No more!" "Please, make it go away!", he cried and on and on and on till his voice gave in. Then nothing more, only defining silence and static. Long before Randy lost his life by the gunshot, he repeatedly died of the beast within, until he decided to embrace it and get lost in its infinite blackness of the dark abyss and there was no more a Randy. Just silence and sorrow and all the bad emotions in the world.

-Master Yugank Deepak Kumar, IB-1D

## The Secret Mission



**Master Antony Joseph  
Parel**

The world trusted him and I grew up seeing him as the most upright man and I worshipped the very ground, he tended upon. But when his mask fell through, I saw him for what he really was – a spy!

My uncle was the greatest man I knew. He claimed to be part of the army and had a prosthetic left arm, which he made me believe had been sliced off in battle. After his death though, everything changed because I came across his personal journal, which the CIA had been after for years. As I opened it, a feeling of immense despair came over me as I began to uncover the dark secrets of the man I loved. My uncle was a spy who worked for Russia, but he was not always a spy. He was assigned by the US army to the Syrian border where by the orders of his General, he shot down three people who were protesting to open the neighbouring country's border to them, one of them was a child.

This is probably where the first seeds of hatred against his country were sown. Devastated, he could do nothing but stare blankly into empty space thinking of the heinous crime he had just done.

A little while later my uncle woke up to go out for a smoke. As he stepped outside, he saw a line of girls with armed guards in front of his General's tent. He had heard rumours of his General's sick habit but now seething hot rage filled him as he thought of these girls who were about to be violated. He grabbed his gun, a customized Desert Eagle and strode into the General's tent using the back entrance. As he let out a deafening blast of the gun, the General fell dead at his feet. My uncle knew the seriousness of what he had just done, so he found refuge with the Russians, who welcomed him with open arms and made him a spy.

Recently, my uncle's cover was blown and he was tortured for information. They boiled him alive till he was on the verge of death! But oh no, they did not allow the sweet embrace of death to take him. He was tortured till his mind shattered, as traitor to his country this was more than what he deserved. In the end, he was hanged.

As I read further I realized with sick realization that my uncle was never in league with the Russians but rather thwarted their every plan discreetly. He was my country's hero but one that worked in the shadows and was killed for it. Tears streamed down my face as I cried for the man I loved, who would never be given the recognition he deserves. With a tear-streaked face I thought of his last words, 'Enough!', he cried, thrusting his fingers into his ears. 'For heaven's sake, enough!'.

- Master Antony Joseph Parel, ISC-1B



# The Unexpected Guest



**Ms Rachel Nangrime  
Nengminja Sangma**

As soon as I saw his face, I could tell that he had important news. Without pausing to greet me, he continued walking towards the door to his office. He opened the door, stood behind it and as a gentleman, allowed me to enter first. I could feel my pulse rising in anticipation, I could sense the tension in the air. “This is it! I am going to get fired”, these were the words that kept ringing in my head at that moment. All I could think of was James. It would’ve been a great disappointment for him to know that his mother was going to get fired for the sixth time that year.

“Please, have a seat”, said Mr Jones. I sat and waited for him to speak. He sighed and said, “This is going to be very difficult for you, but please consider meeting this person only for a couple of minutes.” “Thank God, I’m not getting fired”, I said to myself as I exhaled with deep satisfaction. However, I was curious to know what Mr Jones was talking about. “Hello sis...” said someone from behind. When I turned back it was Brock.

My face turned hot and my hands were trembling in anger as I saw my younger brother. I was getting up to leave when he begged me to listen to him once. Even though I was furious I thought I should at least give him a chance, so I sat back and allowed him to speak. As he was speaking, all I thought about was what he did seven years ago. He was a drug dealer and was caught, of course. When he didn’t have any way to escape from the mess that he had created, he hid all the drugs in our parent’s garage and accused them of selling it. He got away with it and never returned to town. I had to spend months and a lot of money to get Mom and Dad out of the jail. And then he returned out of nowhere asking me for help.

“I went back home to apologise to Mom and Dad. They weren’t happy seeing me at first but eventually they gave me one more chance. I tried my level best to make it up to them for what I did. I was working in a gas station, was sober for months. But a month back I did the biggest mistake of my life. I went gambling with Simon and his friends. Never did I know where I was going to get that much money from. They threatened to kill me. I got nervous and stole all the cash from Dad’s safe and stole all Mom’s jewels. It wasn’t enough, so I tried to persuade them to leave out the other five thousand. They didn’t agree, instead, they broke into Mom and Dad’s house and ransacked the whole house leaving it upside down. Then I came to know that they were the same people who had been bullying and asking our parents for money. Now, I don’t know what to do. They’ve been beating Dad up and harassing Mom for money. They won’t stop until they get the money. Please help me sister.”

I was even more infuriated as I heard this. I stood up and gave him the hardest slap I could. He was crying by then. I told him to never see me again. As I walked off I faintly heard his voice that came in an echo in the empty corridor, “Please sister, if not for me, at least do it for our parents”, he said. Tears came rolling onto my cheeks that was already burning hot with anger. All I could think of was my parent’s innocent smiles and how Brock had been living his life like a recidivist, never failed in disappointing our parents. I thought, “How can one be so manipulating in playing with the emotions of old parents, who were already agonized by the selfish and greedy people?”

- Ms Rachel Nangrime Nengminja Sangma, IB-1A

## Falling

I set out from my family estate in the countryside and walked on the dirt road until I came across a fork in the road, guarded by a lone oak tree. Almost instinctively I felt the carving on the tree which I knew would be there. Thirty summers back, I was just a young, bony lad of 16 but was very much in love. Time could not come close to eroding my feelings for her; I love her now just as deeply as I loved her then and will love her even when the sun dies, the stars explode, the planet ceases to be and the universe does everything in its power to keep us apart.

I walked on the dirt road with a bath towel in my hand and took a left at the fork to go to the lake. I would not go so far as to say that it was love at first sight but my heart skipped a beat as I gazed at her. She became aware of my gawking at her as if she were some mythical goddess. She spoke, her voice was like the rustling of leaves but yet clear as the gushing of a brook. When she heard I was not from around, her face drooped a little but it brightened up when I told her, “I’m staying for the whole of



summer.” I was still standing on the shore, so I jumped in and reached her in two powerful strokes. The more I began to know about her, the deeper I fell in love with her.

The summer of '50s, I was drunk on love, though I knew in my heart of hearts that after this summer I might never see her again. Every evening, I used to meet her under the towering oak tree and we used to swim, climb trees, pelt the postman with stones for fun, or simply lie under the sun on fields of daffodils. Like everyone in love, I believed no one could love deeper than how much I loved her. Making her laugh with my 'elegant' attempts to woo her became my favourite past time. It's funny, how days have wings when one is in love. Before I knew it, it was my last day in the country, I sneaked out of my house at night with a blanket and met her, as usual beneath the oak tree. I spread the blanket on the patch of grass and we both lay on it, staring out to the night sky filled with stars and the gentle light of the moon enveloping us. As we lay, I carved A+C in a heart on the oak with my pocket knife. She saw me doing it and smiled that 1000 watt smile that never ceases to turn my knees to jelly. We talked and talked and talked until I felt that time was meaningless. Though it was our last night, it made us forget the possibility of losing each other.

I was jerked back to the present by the rumbling of thunder in the distance, I stared at the carving one last time and was about to head back when my wife, Charity, joined me. She saw the carving and smiled wistfully before saying, “I wish I could fall in love with you all over again.” I chuckled before kissing her and we began to head back hand in hand just as drops of rain were falling.

- Master Antony Joseph Parel, ISC-1B

## The Microchip



**Master Aaryan Agrawal**

BANG! A man in a black suit was standing at the door looking at everything his eyes would allow him to. “Lady, move out of the way.” He pushed away Reah and was searching for something in the living room, he checked every corner for it. Not having found what he was searching for, he came back to her. “Sorry Madam, I’m a CBI officer and I’m behind an international criminal who, according to my contacts, has just come to this apartment. The tracker pulls me to your apartment. If you could please let me check the other parts of your house,” he asked.

He was a very tall, handsome and smart looking person. “But Sir, I live here alone. For the past one week no one has visited me. How can someone be in my house without my knowing it?” she answered. The look on his face changed. He said, “Look Madam, he has stolen a microchip from the regional headquarters of the CBI in the city. The microchip contains a lot of information which can make the CBI vulnerable to the group he works for. And my dear lady, I’m searching for the chip too, which can be hidden in your house without your knowledge. So please let me check your house or I will have to be harsh.”

Reah was left with no choice but to let him inside and search for whatever chip-thing he was searching for. He was checking the living room once again. Reah kept herself at the door, observing the man. The man checked through all the small things kept on the table, everything he could see. Suddenly, he stopped at an old and antique radio kept on the table. He was suspicious. He thought why a person would keep such an old radio in their beautiful house. Understanding the man’s question in his mind, Reah replied, “It’s my grandmother’s favourite radio which she gifted to me on my 18th birthday. It is the only memory of hers which is left to me.”

He kept the radio back on the table and moved on with his search. He went inside the bedroom, checked the room, the bathroom and the cupboards in there. When he was satisfied and came out of the room, he said, “Thank you ma...”. He was surprised to find that Reah was not there in the house. BOOOOM! There was a blast in the apartments, it was Reah’s house.

A mile away on the Ragnar street a black hooded figure was seen walking away with an old and antique radio in one of her hands and a yellow microchip in the other...

- Master Aaryan Agrawal, ISC-1B

# The Story of Every Monday



**Master Siddanth  
Narayan Lohiya**

After a relaxing Sunday, when Sam had not studied anything and had just slept the whole day, the next morning, he was still sleepy. He woke up late on Monday morning as usual and received a scolding from his dorm-parent which is how his Monday starts every time.

He went late for taking his bath and came out relaxed and was not bothered about the time. He saw that his friends were also late and thus dawdled away his time talking to them. He slothfully got dressed and went to put on his shoes, wearing the wrong socks. He broke all the rules of the school regarding the dress. He did not wear a vest, he did not carry a handkerchief, he was not wearing a belt and his collar button was not buttoned and his nails were not cut.

He was late for his prep and was trying not to be caught by the Coordinator. He escaped her sight but was caught by the prep duty teacher. He was made to stand at his place for fifteen minutes.

After he got the permission to sit down, he started sleeping. His friends kept nudging him, asking him not to sleep, and to study something but he did not listen, but when he was reminded of the English homework he woke up in a second and started doing the homework. He could not complete it as usual and knew he was going to get scolding from the teacher.

As the day advanced he tried to concentrate during class hours but when the 5th period started which was English Literature he left all hopes of keeping awake. Such lovely stories served as lullabies! When the class started, within ten minutes, he was fast asleep. As usual he was pulled up by the teacher at the end of the class.

After a nice and tasty lunch, it was time for the Accounts period. He tried his best not to sleep during the class but when he saw his friend happily sleeping, he got a smile on his face and slept too. And when the day was half over and, it was time for the tea break, he heaved a sigh of relief and a broad smile broke upon his face because it was games time.

He ran to his dormitory and changed for games. He ran all the way to the stables and asked his master to get his horse ready. After the games, he was late for wash and change and subsequently, late for the roll call. During the evening and the night prep he tried to study but could not study at all. At dinner time he was scolded by his table teacher for not pushing his chair back in when he stood. When he went back to the dormitory he changed and merrily bragged to his friends about the day, eating a chocolate and watching T.V.

A phone call came for him and it was his friend. There too he narrated his day's glory for about forty-five minutes. At the end his friend told him "sudhar jaa bhai." And he thought that he would make the next Monday a bit productive. But that was the thing he thought every Monday night! And he knew that it was not going to happen!

**- Master Siddanth Narayan Lohiya, ISC-1B**

***"Life is not a problem to be solved, but a reality to be experienced."***

**- Soren Kierkegaard**

***"Life is a dream for the wise, a game for the fool, a comedy for the rich, a tragedy for the poor."***

**- Sholom Aleichem**

***"Ignorance more frequently begets confidence than does knowledge: it is those who know little, and not those who know much, who so positively assert that this or that problem will never be solved by science."***

**- Charles Darwin**

# Best Speeches at Elocution Competitions

[Ms Tejaswani Vardhan secured the first place in the Inter House Elocution Competition for Grade 7 students]

**Topic : “How we look is unimportant. It’s who you are on the inside that counts.”**



**Ms Tejaswani Vardhan**

My definition of beauty is without rules. It can be the face of a 90-year-old woman that is full of stories and emotions or an abandoned, wounded animal left unattended on the road with a face seeking attention. A rose can never be a sunflower and a sunflower can never be a rose. All flowers are beautiful in their own way.

My grandmother taught me at a very early age that “beauty is as beauty does.” She would take me aside and say “Teju, no matter how good looking a person is, if he is not beautiful on the inside, it does not matter, true beauty shines through, you must have a beautiful soul that lasts forever”. And her words are well woven deep within me.

You can be the best looking person physically; if you are ugly inside and lack character, all that good looks really won’t matter. Beauty attracts the eye but personality captures the heart. Our faces and bodies are the wrapping paper; the real gift is what is within. Some of the most beautiful people I have ever seen are actually not ‘conventionally beautiful’. The beauty in their heart shines out, transforming them and bringing life to what is otherwise just skin.

Good looks and beauty fade, but a good heart keeps you beautiful forever and if that is all people around you care about, they are missing out on the ‘true beauty’ of a person. Beauty is momentary and virtue lasts forever. People age, become wrinkled, and scarred. Emotions and experiences change our features. A beautiful, kind nature shines through in every feature. Outer beauty may turn heads at first, but is easily forgotten when the true nature is revealed. Inner beauty will be remembered and cherished. Outer beauty is only skin deep and people who are very much attached to it, live a superficial life.

Life is much more than this, it’s very vast and one does not live life as per outer beauty. It’s the inner beauty that determines the quality of life. A person who is beautiful doesn’t mean they are living a happy and blissful life. They can be miserable and frustrated and most of them are because they are so much attached to their physical appearance. They do not even give a thought to the inner beauty.

Beauty is what somebody’s eyes communicate. For the first 5 seconds, if someone looks at you in the eyes, their true feelings shine right through of how they feel towards you. True beauty is a lifelong asset. It’s not captured by the eyes or a photo but felt by the heart. So, if a heart is beautiful and in whose possession the heart is, that is also beautiful, then God is at his best. A beautiful heart is selfless, caring, sharing and compassionate to the whole world. A beautiful heart goes further. It touches the lives of those around them. While beauty may catch the eye for whatever amount of time, a good heart captures the soul!

Trust me when I tell you, the longer you are in a friendship with someone, the less looks matter. The longer you are with someone, the more and more important their personality becomes. Anybody can love your looks, but it’s your heart and personality that makes someone stay with you.

People who are attracted to you because of your pretty face or nice body won’t be by your side forever. But the people who can see how beautiful your heart is will never leave you. We get so worried about being ‘pretty.’ Let’s be pretty kind, pretty funny, pretty smart and pretty strong.

That isn’t to say physical appearance doesn’t matter. It certainly does, and it’s important to be attracted to your friends physically, but it’s more important to be attracted to their personality, because that is the part of them you are going to be interacting with the majority of the time. The most important thing is to have a sufficient combination of both beauty and kindness, so the kindness is wanted, trusted and received. Are you loving and compassionate or living in hatred and misery!

So what matters is what you are inside. If you have good thoughts, they will shine out of your face like sunbeams and you will always look lovely. Don't trust everything you see. Even salt looks like sugar.

- Ms Tejaswani Vardhan, 7A

**[Master Rishabh Narayan Sultania secured the first place in the Inter House Elocution Competition for Grade 8 students]**

**Topic : "Advertising targeting children is immoral."**



**Master Rishabh Narayan  
Sultania**

Good evening to one and all present here. My topic is "Advertising targeting children is immoral." Now, that may sound harsh, but it's the very truth! It means that children are targeted by companies to promote and sell their products. The companies care about their profit, not the outcome of such harmful practices.

According to the "Buy, Buy Baby" book research, 50% of all children ads in USA are about candies, snacks, sugary cereals and fast food because of which over 1/3rd of American children are overweight or obese. This shows how marketing activities directly targeted children and how it can affect their lives. It is something we should definitely pay more attention to.

Some of the ways they target the children are:

1. Television: 1.59 billion households have television. Children spend half their day watching cartoons and movies because of which they see a lot of ads in the breaks.
2. Internet: 3.7 billion users are there on the internet, out of which 15% are children. They encounter a lot of ads while web surfing.

Studies show that children are vulnerable to the ads and can be influenced easily. They don't have the strong sense of what's right and what's wrong and the logical thinking that adults may possess. Products that are likely to become a habit for children are ketchup, mayonnaise, toothpaste, coffee, soap, perfume and make-up products. Toy companies like Barbie promote gender discrimination. I don't know about you but for me gender bias is extremely immoral.

Parental control exists! But can it keep a watchful eye at all times? Rules and laws can come to the rescue to this situation. Advertising to children is completely restricted in Great Britain, Greece and Belgium, and in Sweden and Norway advertising to children under the age of 12 is illegal. This is something we can bring to our society. Let us all come together and put a stop to this immoral act. Now for those who are still not convinced, I ask you, "should we let the profit makers of the world exploit our children?" No, I don't think so, and I don't think you should either.

- Master Rishabh Narayan Sultania, FM-2A

## Best Speeches at Debate Competitions

**[Master Sriniketh Krishnan was adjudged the second-best speaker in the individual category at the Annual Inter School Nilgiri Library Debating Competition that was held at the Nilgiri Library in Ooty on Saturday, 11 November 2017.]**

**Topic : 'Media - Factual or Judgmental?'**

The necessity to connect is integral to our lives and media is the all-pervasive outcome of this very necessity. My stand on the topic: 'Media – Factual or Judgmental?', is that it is factual.

Across the span of a hundred years, ladies and gentlemen, we had two world wars, detonated the world's first nuclear bomb, sent a man to the moon, had a deadly cold war and then, when everything was going right, conjured a situation in which everyone thought that they would die at the end of the millennium. Wow! So, what connects all these major events in the history of man? Simple, a need for information. This is where media came to prosper and it's not getting sacked anytime soon.



**Master Sriniketh  
Krishnan**

The masterstroke of media comes into play when truth is throttled and generations have sought this means of communication to reach this elusive destination – pure, simple and revelatory – Truth.

9th of May 2016 – the Panama Papers are released and take the world by storm. The biggest leak in history was 11.5 million documents that dropped bombshells about the would-be powers. Revelation was brought to mankind like no other media's most potent form – visual media, brings to us what truly deserves our attention. Let's recall the picture of the body of three-year old refugee, Alan Kurdi, escaping from Syria, found on the shore of the Mediterranean Sea, drowned and lifeless. Eventually becoming viral, the picture offered the world the savage reality of the condition in war-torn nations like Syria.

The intervention of media into crises seems integral in today's world, where quite often, it could be a question of life or death. There are times when crises are largely a result of inadequate knowledge, a displeasing lack of awareness: an example being the traumatizing earthquake in Nepal (2015). With 4,800 lives lost as a result, the answer to avoiding such a fate lies in a media literate and informed population.

I am in agreement with my worthy opponents who point at the 'post-truth' world of today and the fake news that abounds Facebook. I'd like to address these disconcerting issues by wondering: does the problem really lie with media here?

Media is the media you perceive because we, the human race, made it so. It is full of facts and opinions, statistics and utter nonsense, yet what always prevails is the rationality of the viewer itself. What are we if truth cannot take dominance given the lack of wit? We must strive to get beyond this dichotomy. Our purpose here and so is the media's, is to outgrow this tussle and emerge a rational mind and a factual structure. Thus, ladies and gentlemen, media is factual, not because of the kind of information that it provides, but because any rational being would not be able to say otherwise.

- Master Sriniketh Krishnan, FM 4C

### **[Ms Mukti Jain secured the first place in the Inter House Debate Competition for Grade 9 students]**

**Topic : "The purpose of standardized tests is being misrepresented in the current times."** (For the topic)

There are millions of so-called educational institutions in this world, much so-called 'knowledge implementation', 'studying' and 'education.' These are nothing but mere axes which are destroying the slightest innovation and creativity left in a student, disintegrating talent into theoretical knowledge.



**Ms Mukti Jain**

A mere sheet of paper can never define your intelligence and will never decide your future. **Steve Jobs, Einstein, Nikola Tesla** and many more never passed any tests to prove their intelligence. Years ago, when standardized tests were created, they were created with the intention to measure a person's ability. However, these are no longer valid as our world is constantly experiencing change with every fraction of a second.

Respected Judges and my dear friends, today I stand before you all, stating that the purpose of standardized tests is being misrepresented in the current times as they were a 'faulty system' from the very beginning.

A great American Psychologist, **Edward De Bono**, once said, "*Many highly intelligent people are poor thinkers. Many people of average intelligence are skilled thinkers. The power of a car is separate from the way the car is driven.*"

The problem lies with the word 'intelligence' which, itself, means the speed of comprehending or understanding something and the ability to apply it to a high level.

Just give it a thought – the speed of comprehending or understanding something. Is this what intelligence is all about? Is this what everyone is striving for?

New knowledge, new creativity, new thoughts are generated through different types of thought processes such as hypothesizing, inferring, valuing, imagining and so on. And out of these dozens of thought processes, only two – recalling and applying are actually being measured by these standardized tests.

We need an intelligentsia to keep challenging and leading us forward. And they will still come from the traditional route of conducting exams unless we widen our criteria and improve our tools for identifying talent.

It struck me when I read that 7% of Oxford students along with 728 postgraduates are receiving counseling. This shows how too much focus on academics can stunt emotional and social development. And we call them the most ‘learned’ and the most intelligent because they are from the ‘Oxford University!’ Or is it that even the most intelligent brains are not able to handle the load and succumb due to these tests?

We lose too many talented and intelligent people by defining their intelligence by tests which are completely inadequate and constricting. We need to look wider to encourage the entrepreneur, the inquisitive, the creative and the downright cussed in our schools to make the most of who they are and to bring out the richness and diversity of thought and ideas in our society.

Learning is much more important than just writing something on paper. A child’s progress can be or, I would say, should be checked at different levels throughout the course of the year. Standardized testing only evaluates the individual performance of the student at a given point in time, instead of overall growth of that student over the course of the year.

This does a disservice to both the teacher who worked hard to help their students grow and the student who worked extremely hard over the course of the year and improved tremendously but failed to score proficiently.

Standardized testing causes many teachers to teach for tests. With so much riding on results, teachers often feel compelled to teach for tests. The greatest harm in this scenario is obstruction of learning.

It is like these tests are trying to sharpen all writing materials with a pencil sharpener. This is quite unfair and practically, it is not possible to sharpen all pens and markers with a pencil sharpener.

Coaching classes have turned the entire educational and learning system into a gaming process, where you are taught certain tricks to crack these tests. Practically these tests are just checking how many questions one can solve within a particular time.

One of the very eminent American psychologists and psychometrician, **Robert Sternberg**, worded his school experience, “I did poorly in my exams. As a result, my teachers thought I was stupid and since they thought I was stupid, I thought I was stupid. And since I thought I was stupid I did stupid work and they were happy. I did stupid work because I was meeting their expectations and finally I was named a loser in my life.”

People are living longer than ever before. There’s no need for kids to grow up faster. Let them be kids – give them fun, give them art, give them music and activities. Let them explore what will make them most successful instead of putting each one into a box. We need creative thinkers and problem solvers, not a nation where everyone has the same idea of how things should be done. Let them enjoy learning new things and it’ll serve them longer.

Don’t get too busy making a living that you forget to make a life.

- Ms Mukti Jain, IXA

### **[Ms Riya Malay Shah secured the first place in the Inter House Debate Competition for Grade 11 students]**

**Topic : Religion and Science go hand in hand: A reality?** (For the topic)

Religion and Science. Where have they come from? Why are they even here and most importantly, can they go hand in hand? This debate has been going on for so long, yet we have never been able to come to a proper conclusion. It seems as if they are on two opposite sides of a balance, but ask yourself again, are they? What is religion? What is science? According to the dictionary,





**Ms Riya Malay Shah**

religion is the belief in and worship of a superhuman controlling power, especially a personal God or gods and science is the intellectual and practical activity encompassing the systematic study of the structure and behavior of the physical and natural world through observation and experiment.

Religion is based on belief. Science is based on evidence. However, have you ever wondered where the evidence came from? If you don't believe in an idea, where will you get the motivation to prove it? Scientists always start out with a hypothesis. Their hypothesis is based on what they believe to be true or something they wish to prove to the world. In my opinion, I believe that science and religion are just seriously misunderstood. I'm not denying that they are not different but I'm just saying that they are more similar than we make them out to be.

Let's look at life. Humans are curious by nature. The common questions that we ask are why and how. How did we come here? Why are we here? Everything revolves around these two questions. Science is the one that answers the question how. Religion answers the question why. The backbone of science is the scientific method. The scientific method aids us to understand how the world works. Religions tell us why the world works in such a manner. In religion, meaning holds the utmost importance. Science cannot tell us why, only how. Religion cannot tell us how, only why.

Light is a form of energy. God can be considered as a light or a form of energy. Both science and religion depend on this light or energy. Without this common energy, neither one of these areas of knowledge would be substantial. In a way, science and religion complement each other. In almost all religions around the world, it is a common belief that when we die, it is only our physical body which we are relieving ourselves of. Our souls still live on. Our souls are considered to be eternal, never lost or created again. This belief is in exact accordance to the law of thermodynamics. The law of thermodynamics states that energy can never be lost nor be created. If we apply this law to our own lives, energy would represent our souls and the eternal lifetime.

In Hinduism, we chant the mantra *Om*. *Om* has quite a lot of significance both religiously and scientifically. When we chant, the word *Om* vibrates at a frequency of 432Hz. This frequency is the same frequency which is found throughout nature. Chanting this word shows that we are acknowledging our connection to other living things, nature and the entire universe. It is our link to everything around us, both smaller and bigger than us.

Science still hasn't been able to prove everything in our world. That is where religion comes into play. It is as if whatever cannot be proven by science is explained by religion. Religion gives you something to believe in so that people never lose faith or hope. If people lose faith and hope in the world, there is no point anymore. They will give up and let everything go. The world will not remain as we know it and we as the race of mankind may even disappear faster than anticipated.

Even great leaders in our world believe that science and religion work together. Saint **Thomas Aquinas**, who was an influential figure for Catholic priests in the 12th century, viewed God as the creator of nature. Now science is devoted to the study of nature. He claims that science was a legitimate path to god and did not believe that a path to god could be forced without reason and faith working together. *"I wonder why some people tend to see science as something which takes man away from god. As I look at it, the path of science can always wind through the heart. For me, science has always been the path to spiritual enrichment and self-realization."* - Dr A P J Abdul Kalam. I strongly urge all of you to think deeply and look at the bigger picture and how nature fits together with itself. Every living and non-living thing finds itself a place in the environment the same way religion and science find their own ways to go hand in hand together. I would like to leave you all with a quote by M K Gandhi. *"If science and spirituality go hand in hand, I am sure that one can create heaven on this Earth."* Thank you.

- Ms Riya Malay Shah, IB-1A

**"When a thing is true, there is no need to use any arguments to substantiate it."**

- Vinoba Bhave



# Christmas Celebrations at GSIS



Students enacting a Nativity Play



Christmas nativity scenes

The students and staff of GSIS celebrated Christmas at the Palada Campus on Saturday, 02 December 2017. The school celebrates early Christmas in December every year honouring treasured traditions. Christmas stars and cut-outs of bells were put up at different corners in the auditorium. The Christmas tree, a beautifully decorated tree with tinsel and lights adorned the side of the auditorium.

**Mrs Anila Kalyan**, Director of Counselling, delivered the welcome note. Students and staff actively participated in the celebration to make the event entertaining. The spirited students of the Middle School presented a short and impressive cultural programme. They presented a captivating Nativity Play that showcased their appreciable acting and oratory skills. The traditional carols that accompanied the Nativity Play exuded warmth and gaiety. Students expressed their delight by swaying and swinging to the tune of the Big Band's Christmas medley and the rendition of 'O Holy Night' by the Strings Ensemble. Rendition of the seasonal Spanish and French songs made everyone in the audience tap their feet. Santa also came visiting to greet the children! He was greeted with cheerful shouts as he went around distributing sweets and gifts to the children.

The celebrations came to an end with the Christmas message of **Mr Dominic Jude Hurst**, the Middle School Coordinator, who wished everyone a Merry Christmas! The Male Staff Choir also joined in with the rendition of 'Run, Shepherds Run.'

The happy smiles on the faces and the high Christmas spirit multiplied the splendour of the celebration. All were rejoicing with a hope for future happiness and prosperity as they wished each other 'Merry Christmas.' The celebrations ushered in a feeling of goodwill and joy in the school. We wish you and your loved ones a Happy Christmas and a New Year full of love, compassion, tolerance, forgiveness, affection and prosperity.

## Hindi, Our Hindustani Language!



'Kavisammelan' in progress



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



*A cultural programme presented by junior students as part of Hindi Diwas celebrations*

Like the previous years, Hindi students of GSIS celebrated **Hindi Diwas** with great enthusiasm and fervour. It was on 14 September in 1949 that the Constituent Assembly of India adopted Hindi, in Devanagari script, as the official language of the Republic of India. We celebrated the Hindi Day in our school on 11th September 2017. We, often burdened with our tasks and targets, forget to bow in reverence to the language of our motherland. Hindi is spoken as a mother tongue by more than 250 million people and it is the fourth most spoken language in the world. Hindi, one of the richest and sweetest language of the world, reminds us how rich our Indian culture is.

For one week, the students laboured to honour this day, under the able guidance of our Hindi faculty. They presented delightful dances, melodious songs and soul-stirring recitations. The self-composed hilarious poems on fear of exams





*Students reciting poems*



*Girls singing a Hindi song*



*Students dancing to the tune and rhythm of Hindi songs*



*Students dancing to the melody and pace of Hindi songs*



and the suffering of an average pupil were sensational. There were meaningful speeches to throw light on the importance of Hindi in our lives.

The programme ended with thanksgiving. The Coordinator of Middle School, **Mr Dominic Jude Hurst**, explaining how important it is for us to accept Hindi, brought an end to our spectacular evening of Hindi Diwas, 2017.

**- Master Prabhraj Singh Bhatia, IB-1C**

# An Educational Trip to Huntsville, USA



**The Shepherdians along with the chaperones who attended the space camp**



**The Shepherdians along with the Rotarians in Decatur**



**Girls at a restaurant in the United States**

A team of 45 students of Good Shepherd International School along with the chaperones visited the United States and attended a **Space Camp** at Huntsville, Alabama, USA from 29th May to 2nd June, 2017.

Members of the Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama, invited the students for an informal pizza lunch. The students attended the lunch treat and met the dignitaries of the Rotary Club. The students organized a small cultural event during which they presented souvenirs to the Rotarians. This was an opportunity to share their culture as they learned a lot about American food, lifestyles and made new friends during the interaction.

At the space camp, the students experienced, explored and learnt a lot of new things which were very exciting. Students spent five days training, touring the facilities at **Kennedy Space Center in Florida**, interacting with NASA astronauts, exploring the launching - landing facilities for space shuttles, shuttle manufacturing sites, making robots, riding on a shuttle launch simulator and many other such activities. The students were also taught to design and make their own model mini rockets using cardboard, plastic, string and glue. They were also taught the various steps to launch rockets. Robotics Camp that organized hands-on robotics classes served as a big part of the camp experience. Shepherdians also learned about the history and future of space exploration. At the Aviation Challenge, each cadet was given a military uniform and they were required to work together as teams to collaborate. It is all about aircraft, survival, and being a pilot. Students received training in safety lessons, to conduct rescue operations in various emergency situations and zip line rescue procedures. They had a taste of military lifestyle, trained like astronauts and participated in activities to develop their team-building and communication skills. This is the ultimate unique camp experience where children work as a team and confront mission scenarios that require dynamic problem solving and critical thinking skills.

**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!**





**Students during the tour in the United States**



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



***Boys in Florida, USA***



***SeaWorld theme park in Orlando***



***The Walt Disney World Resort in Florida***

Students also had an amazing time visiting amusement parks such as Busch Gardens, Sea World, Islands of Adventure, Volcano Bay Water Park, Magic Kingdom and Universal Studios, where they had fun-filled, gravity-defying rides and stimulating experiences. This was an educational trip where there was lot of learning along with amusement. Our students met incredible and interesting people, and the ties they forged together is a memory which will be treasured for a lifetime.

***"If you cry at trouble, it grows double.  
But if you learn to laugh at trouble, trouble will disappear like a bubble."***

## A Field Trip



**Debriefing your team of students**



***Students watching a ritual performed by the Toda tribe***



***Collection and disposal of trash, refuse & garbage waste***

Much has been said and written about the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve - the forests, lakes, dams, the watersheds and wetlands, but it is a different experience to go with a group of students for a field trip to the pristine Shola forests and discover the Nilgiris for its hidden treasures. The place does not wait to surprise you with its immense beauty, diversity and cultural prosperity.

A group of students of Good Shepherd International School made a three-day visit from 4th August to 6th August 2017 to the Nilgiris as part of their IB ESS / Biology curricular demands and came back much more enriched than a lifetime. The first day was the visit to the Avalanche forest and the Emerald lake. The beauty of the Emerald lake surrounded by Shola mosaic grassland was breathtaking. The students trekked to the Shola forest and saw the jungle filled with epiphytes, orchids, ferns, mosses, lichens literally falling off the trunk and branches. The forest was dense and difficult to manoeuvre but the students went into the forest and sampled soil, took the temperature of the soil and the GPS reading of the area from where the samples were collected.

The dense, dark Shola forests were interspersed with plantation forest of eucalyptus, wattle and other Australian species. There were a few bushes of beautiful violet Nilgiri *Stobilanthes* (Karvy / Kurinji) flowers in bloom everywhere along with very tall eucalyptus trees. Words cannot describe the peace and the pristine clean fresh air experienced. If there is paradise on





*Forest mensuration: Analysis of forest data*



*Students carrying out soil sampling in a shola forest*

earth, this is truly it. And may it remain so always. But what was sad to notice was the stark reality that the invasive forests have been slowly taking over the native forest and growing in large numbers. The Avalanche lakeside grasslands surrounded by pine and eucalyptus plantation forests with high mountains looked like a picture postcard but had a touch of artificiality due to the fact that man is tampering with nature by making it look more perfect than natural. The students took samples for further investigation from the banks of the emerald lake and streams which were gushing down the mountains. The place was picturesque and worth trekking. The major part of the post-lunch session was involved in trekking and discovering the area.

The second day was phenomenal. The students were able to participate in a ritual performed by the Toda tribe of the Nilgiris. As soon as news came to us that the ritual was being performed, we rushed to the spot only to see a deluge of people gathered to see the small hamlet of Toda villagers perform their ritual of dancing around a stone and singing in their native language. It was a pleasant surprise for our students who later joined the celebration. The stone marked the attaining of manhood and denoted strength by the participant picking up the stone and holding it for some time. Our students tried it, but could not pick up the stone.

Then followed the forest mensuration study by visiting the native and invasive forest area cover where the biodiversity study through random sampling by quadrat method was undertaken to find the Simpson's Biodiversity Index which is a measure to find the biodiversity of an area. It was very evident that there was zero biodiversity in invasive forest and one biodiversity in native forest only to prove the fact that we need to protect the native forest of the Nilgiris. It was a very interesting and an exhausting exercise for the students.

The third day was devoted to Pollution Study and it started with a perimeter walk of the Ooty Lake where the sources of pollution and the effect of tourists on the lake were identified and spoken about. The lake, being declared Heritage Site, has an influx of visitors on a daily basis and is leading to the lake getting heavily polluted. The solutions and the various reclamation measures undertaken by the government to protect the lake was discussed. It was good to see great ideas emerging from discussions among students.

The pollution study was then taken to Kamraj Sagar Lake which is the source of water supply to most parts of Ooty town. Students carried out a cleanliness drive along the banks of the lake and did a classification of the various types of waste that were procured. The classification resulted in a discussion about the source of the pollutant and the effect of pollution on the



drinking water. On the whole, the students did the audit of the major waste that they collected. They brought back water samples for further study in the labs.

After lunch, the debriefing session for the three days of field trip was quite interesting as the students said that they had learnt more in the three days of field trip than in the one-and-a-half years of classroom teaching providing food for thought for the teachers.

## Love, Charity & Service



*Boys of ISC-2 distributing cake at Smyrna Home*



*Students learning more from the women to support them*

Our school believes in giving first-hand experience of the life of underprivileged people and it is a school initiative meant to sensitize the young to the sufferings of the aged and the needy. The boys of ISC II were taken to **Smyrna Home** on Sunday, 1st October 2017. The services of Smyrna Home reach out to needy children, to the poorest of the society, destitute women and physically challenged people in the Nilgiris. They also have a rehabilitation center for physically and mentally-challenged children and individuals.

The residents have the support of sponsors from across the globe. This sponsorship programme has become the foremost feature of Smyrna Home. They are able to sponsor the education of hundreds of children hailing from poor families in the Nilgiris district.

The boys met a few aged people there, those who have been either neglected or have been alienated by their family. Their family consider them useless baggage. Some of them were alone and had made Smyrna Home their family. Some of them were handicapped and were undergoing treatment for a terminal ailment.

The boys spent two hours with them. They interacted with them, sang for them and provided them cookies and brownies. The residents shared their feelings with the boys and enjoyed their presence. They felt good that there were people who sympathized with others and were joyful when the boys visited them. A few of them work in the knitting center and the bakery unit. They cook their food and do not need any assistance. They have regular visits every Sunday from our juniors in the Fernhill Campus.

The boys were shown around the campus and were told about their daily activities. The boys learnt a lot from this visit. They learnt that everything does not come easy in life.

**- Master Satyam Bhimsaria, ISC-2A**

***“Charity begins at home, and justice begins next door.”***

**- Charles Dickens**

## Celebration of the National Science Day



*Model of an automatic water level indicator*

The **National Science Day** is celebrated on 28th February. The day is celebrated in India to mark the discovery of the *Raman Effect* by Indian physicist **Chandrashekhara Venkata Raman** which was discovered on the same day in 1928.

A **Science Exhibition** was organized in the classes of the Middle School on Wednesday, 28 February 2018. **Mrs Elsamma Thomas**, Senior Vice President of the school, inaugurated the exhibition by gently tapping on the first domino of a long line of dominoes using a golf club that created a chain reaction which knocked down each domino in the chain.

Over 200 students from grades 7 & 8 of the Middle School participated in the exhibition with great scientific temperament and exhibited their knowledge about science and its innovations. They showcased various activities based on science and related research by presenting various interesting projects to other students and staff during the exhibition.

With the encouragement and guidance of **Mr Dominic Jude Hurst**, Middle School Coordinator, and the science teachers, the students presented working models related to chemistry, physics and biology depicting different themes such as rain water harvesting, industrial pollution, global warming, power generators, solar system, volcano eruption, use of sustainable and renewable resources, health and hygiene. Demonstrations and explanations were given by the students.

The exhibition is aimed to encourage scientific instincts among the school students. The event provided a platform for the students to nurture scientific temperament, express their creativity, exhibit their innovative models, bring out their latent talents and gain confidence. New ideas continue to develop and grow in the minds of children. Exhibitions are opportunities where students can present their ideas and the ideas will begin to bloom. Students and teachers were greatly impressed by



their performances and appreciated their efforts. Students accepted the feedback given to them and realized that there is scope for improvement.



*Mrs Elsamma Thomas, Senior Vice President, inaugurating the Science Exhibition*



*Science experiment: making a volcano erupt*



*Girls demonstrating Heron's Fountain*



*A student presenting facts about Diabetes*



*A girl explaining the use of different types of laboratory equipment*



*Robotics project*

# Interesting / Curious Facts

A few surprising facts are mentioned below that are amazing and interesting. Read, enjoy and share these curious and amazing facts with your friends.

1.  $111,111,111 \times 111,111,111 = 12,345,678,987,654,321$
2. The name of all the continents end with the same letter that they start with.
3. Minus 40 degrees Celsius is exactly the same as minus 40 degrees Fahrenheit.
4. People say "Bless you" when you sneeze because when you sneeze, your heart stops for a millisecond.
5. A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out.
6. In 1567, the man said to have the longest beard in the world died after he tripped over his beard running away from a fire.
7. At an altitude of 2,444 meters, the Chail Cricket Ground in Chail, Himachal Pradesh, is the highest in the world.
8. A surprising number pattern in Mathematics.

$$1 \times 8 + 1 = 9$$

$$12 \times 8 + 2 = 98$$

$$123 \times 8 + 3 = 987$$

$$1234 \times 8 + 4 = 9876$$

$$12345 \times 8 + 5 = 98765$$

$$123456 \times 8 + 6 = 987654$$

$$1234567 \times 8 + 7 = 9876543$$

$$12345678 \times 8 + 8 = 98765432$$

$$123456789 \times 8 + 9 = 987654321$$



**Master Yash Sharma**

9. New born human babies have around 305 bones in their body. However, when a person reaches adulthood, they only have 206 bones. This occurs because many of them join together to make a single bone.
10. It takes only 8 minutes for sunlight to travel from the sun to the earth, which also means, if you see the sun go out, it actually went out 8 minutes ago.
11. An interesting number pattern in Mathematics is shown below.

$$12345679 \times 9 = 111111111$$

$$12345679 \times 18 = 222222222$$

$$12345679 \times 27 = 333333333$$

$$12345679 \times 36 = 444444444$$

$$12345679 \times 45 = 555555555$$

$$12345679 \times 54 = 666666666$$

$$12345679 \times 63 = 777777777$$

$$12345679 \times 72 = 888888888$$

$$12345679 \times 81 = 999999999$$

Look for an explanation for this pattern.

12. Killer whales are not whales, but a species of dolphin.

- Master Yash Sharma, IB-1C

## Winter Night

Once a long winter night  
Swallowed up all the light  
A dark veil covered the sky  
Before we heard the wolves cry.

Then came a chilly breeze  
Which made my world freeze  
I was consumed by the darkness  
And could think of nothing less.

This was the cold winter night  
That filled me with sorrow and fright.



*Master Sidaarth Ramabhotla*

- Master Sidaarth Ramabhotla, FM - 2E

## Best Love!

Love is what the world longs for,  
But not everybody gets it all.  
One who gets it, wants more  
And those who don't, their dreams fall.

Love is all about happiness.  
Could be of any type but the greatest is mother's,  
Because that is everlasting and timeless.  
Thus my wish is to be one of the best daughters.

For all her love,  
When she is old, I'll be her support.  
Even with my childish behaviour,  
I will love her the most.

All that she did for me is incomparable.  
Even if the time comes for her to depart,  
The moments will be memorable,  
And she will always be in my heart.



*Ms Sakshi Bhadani*

- Ms Sakshi Bhadani, ISC-1B

## Life of a Brand-o-Holic!

Wearing Givenchy's high tops,  
Wait! Gotta look at that Fendi,  
Oh!Oh! that Gucci purse,  
Cheaper than my Emilio Pucci.  
He wore the same Rolex,  
When I saw him at the toll tax,  
Basking in his expensive scarf of Burberry,  
Yet he lost to me in the game of Archery.  
His favorite is Antony Morato,  
And mine is Salvatore Ferragamo.  
Flaunting watches of United Color of Benetton,  
And I..... I wear French favorite Balmain!



*Master Swachit Sanjeev Chhajer*

- Master Swachit Sanjeev Chhajer, ISC-1B

## On Life

When one door closes, another opens;  
But we often look so long and so regretfully  
Upon the closed door  
That we do not see the one  
That has opened for us.  
Life! What does it mean?  
Life is something which is beautiful  
And it is everything to us.  
It is very important for everyone  
To know how to handle the situations,  
Which arrives in our life.  
The situations can be handled positively  
And can be also dealt negatively.  
But we should always think positive,  
We should be optimistic  
Then only we can drive our life well.  
Remember people, in life-  
"YOU ONLY LIVE ONCE"!  
So, do everything you want in life,  
Do not keep anything for later.  
Do whatever you want  
But do not harm anyone for your good,  
Because what goes around, comes around.



*Master Devyansh Agarwal*

- Master Devyansh Agarwal, ISC-1B

## Pi( $\pi$ )

Babylonians brought up the Pi  
Used by Greeks and others by and by,  
Which has the value longer than sky  
And people find hard to try.  
So, to mathematicians they keep this  
The aim to find out the new value  
Which will end with numbers at last.  
That infinite number is a mystery to us.



*Master Chethan Gopal*

- Master Chethan Gopal, ISC-1B



# Earth - A wasteland

The Earth turned into  
What it wasn't meant to.  
Through the veil of night  
When the moon hid to hide its light.  
It let the souls not see what lay  
Or rather what's left.

Once wet, lay the lands in bloom.  
Now lay, the wastelands in glow.  
Killing whatever it could  
The glow worked as hard on its toes.  
Once black, boasting a flag  
Now vapour, resulting in a glow.

The war had taken it all away  
It ended as the last ship left.  
Searching in the clusters of stars  
To find a grain of salt in the deserts of Sahara  
The eyes never closed as the ships rose.  
And the ones which closed, never opened  
Too guilty to see the truth, these eyes kept closed.

Finally, the heartless King rose  
Staring in awe at what was left  
Everything now so visible.  
The dry oceans and lifeless jungles  
Weeping to what had happened  
Saw the wasteland, as it stared in wonder.



*Master Armaan Jain*

- Master Armaan Jain, FM-3D

## Location

"You can't be with him  
For you're a Capulet"  
I guess that's exactly  
What her "friend" said.

At the end of the day,  
Isn't it just a "Play"  
Or is it?

Is 'us' a bane or boon?  
We will hopefully figure out soon  
Or not  
For good things take time.

Time, we do not have in ample amount  
Yet, with you it's not something I count.  
Masked we were, when we first met  
Still discovering you, as of yet

This, Verona I'm not keen to call home  
Yet, she houses us together



*Master Arnob Saha*

Thus, stopping me from leaving her alone  
Yet, it is the same place.

Where even a bit too soon  
Is a little too late  
Sun and moon  
Meeting against fate.

- Master Arnob Saha, IB-1C

## Copycat

In every "Poetry Place"  
There is a copycat corner.  
We know it's a disgrace  
So here's another "Warner".

Why they do it I'll never know,  
Those Copiers and Pasters.  
Their words, they seem to glow,  
But they're a bunch of Wasters.

Taking all that praise,  
For stuff they haven't written,  
It seems to be a craze,  
And many do get bitten.

Just Google their "fine words" or  
Use those plagiarism sites,  
And you will find the original poems  
Bedecked with copyrights.



*Master Dhruv Sharma*

- Master Dhruv Sharma, FM-3C

## Nightmare

Those days  
In the mornings,  
I stay longer in bed.  
Just gazing at the ceiling,  
Trying to forget those nights,  
I'm unable to dream.  
Just over everything to the point,  
I fail to silence my thoughts,  
And my eyelids are denying sleep.

Those times,  
I feel non-existent,  
I stand still,  
Watching everything fall into place,  
Or fall apart.  
Unaware that time is still going on  
And I'm standing stuck.  
My faith isn't good enough,  
That I'm too weak,  
Too weak that for my own sake,  
But I never go on the path



*Ms Diyansha Magesh*

I'm not destined for.  
So I just lay in bed,  
Sick of pretending someone I'm not,  
Sick of people changing my identity.

- Ms Diyansha Magesh, FM-2C

## Fluff

You and me, for a moment, nothing seemed to matter,  
Found a cloud in my house, names you Fluff.

Your chocolate brown eyes burned with the fire of  
All the stars in the sky tonight, the rays of  
The sun and the waves of the sea, as you  
Looked up at me, redefining puppy love,  
Setting afire love.

You and me, for a moment, nothing seemed to matter.  
Held you in my arms, till I couldn't anymore.

You'd grown so big,  
Played with you in the rains till you couldn't anymore.  
Watched the stars come out and play  
As they danced in the moonlight, till you got better.

You always did. Did this for years  
Until last, when we couldn't anymore.

Dance with me, we can dance like the stars in your eyes.  
Are you sleeping, love? Wake up, love.

Why won't you get up, love? Take my hand,  
You can sweep me off my feet.

The wind will help me fly. But I flew too close.  
I didn't know I could, but I fell.

No bones were broken. No hearts were broken.  
At least, not mine. But I didn't know I could but I fell  
For you love. Did you fall too? Please wake up.  
You and me, for a moment nothing seemed to matter.

Daddy swooped you in his arms, but I thought  
We couldn't anymore. He said we can.

The first and last times. We can. But daddy, where  
Are you taking him? Please don't let him go.

11 years you stayed with me,  
11 years you stayed within me, and now,  
I stand here with you still hidden somewhere inside me.  
My better half. Why did you have to go?

I called you a cloud. Maybe you're going up, where you belong,  
But I thought heaven was a place on Earth.  
Heaven is wherever you are.

One last glance, everything started to blur.  
My eyes swelled up with oceans for you, love.  
You and me, for a moment, nothing seemed to matter.

One last touch, you felt like the poems I wish I could write, love.

I look up at the stars tonight.  
Can't you see them too? They remind me of you,  
Or maybe..... You're looking down at me,  
With those galaxies of eyes.



*Ms Gayatri Madan Lund*

Maybe you're finally with them dancing.  
I knew you would, even when I thought  
You couldn't, anymore.  
Because one last time, it was you and me  
And for a moment, nothing seemed to matter.

- Ms Gayatri Madan Lund, IB-1A

## The Bird

My eyes filled with rage  
As I set eyes upon the cage.  
The one that entrapped me for days  
Not letting me go my ways.

How I wish I could fly  
Stretch my wings with glee  
Strangely I'm a prisoner in my own world  
Strangely I'm stuck with a mold.

I cry out in pain  
Although I have nothing to gain.  
Trapped for my beauty  
Have some pity!



*Master Joseph Joseph  
Parel*

- Master Joseph Joseph Parel, FM-3C

## END

I wanted to write this,  
Because this has been running on my mind,  
About that truth you can't find.  
Their hearts are filled with dirt,  
And I know how much of hurt.  
That feeling that you set,  
When you put your life on a bet.  
Staring at the black sky,  
You ask yourself why?  
Is this all you're made for:  
Or is there something more?  
You've been living a life of rules  
Set by a bunch of fools!  
For now,  
This is one time to scream,  
And let your light gleam!  
For you know that there is more in life!  
Then just, an annoying wife!  
Or stupid, small children,  
I won't stop. For...  
There's more to pen!  
The Armageddon will only come when,  
You stand high amongst one!  
Divide and conquer!  
Crush your matter!  
Destroy the Earth!  
For it is just the Birth!



*Master Kris Patrick*

Decide the future!  
For every plant and creature!  
Destiny is in your palm!  
The pow's to cause harm!  
The strength to rebuild!  
Bring back to life!  
Everything you've killed!  
Hold my hand,  
And walk with me,  
To set the world free,  
Off its misery.

- Master Kris Patrick, 9B

## Fire the Fears!

We engrave deep fears,  
In the grey rains,  
In the blue oceans  
In the yellow sands.

I have been gazed by fear,  
Broken by my fears,  
My eyes water, I sabotage myself, blink blank -  
And moan more.

O Great Fear, you had burnt my inside.  
Well, I charge you Fear, I have been damaged enough!  
I stand utterly to change ever!  
My might would have crouched over again,  
But this daylight detained you, Fear!

This victory over you  
Is like...  
The crackling fire on stars  
Right now, I am blowing

'Thank you!'



*Master Krish Surana*

- Master Krish Surana, FM-3C

## Life in Seconds

The life my mother gave me  
About fourteen years ago -  
A treasure I consider  
That is yet to mould.

My trembling limbs so bare, so weak  
As I took my first steps with my mother by my side, so tall  
Always there to help me, watch out for me,  
Whenever I would fall.

The morning sun rising in the sky,  
Reminding me that someone was  
There, always by my side.  
To give me all necessities



*Master Nikhillesh  
Mahesh Kumar*

That still keep me alive.

The sun, now, at its highest point,  
Where many years have passed,  
The longest stage of life,  
Almost, at its last.

The brightness of the sky now fading,  
As the sun has almost set,  
Memories slowly dying,  
Reminding me of my people, all the rest.

The sun now sinking into the horizon,  
All memories, now destroyed  
The life my mother gave me,  
Now, I have behind.

- Master Nikhillesh Mahesh Kumar, FM-3D

## KFC

My eyes filled with rage  
As I turned the menu page  
I was starving for KFC -  
In this world there is nothing more  
Important for me.

Those tangy juicy breasts  
Without which I can't rest  
I can only be quenched  
By those succulent thighs  
The smell of chicken invade my mind  
As I stare at the counter  
Eyes full of hope, purse full of notes

I wait and I wait  
Guess... I was late  
KFC was closed... closed.



*Master M K Pritesh*

- Master M K Pritesh, FM-3A

## How can they know?

How can they know?  
They haven't wasted an ocean, haven't tasted rust  
Everything is a lie – that is how I feel  
Can I please have it  
A moment for myself  
Don't have to love, cheat, hide just myself.  
Can I please feel the breeze on my own  
Clean the wound on my own, stand on my own  
Why is it that I have to think of everyone else  
Before me? Me.  
Will I get to please myself? Know myself? Breathe myself?  
What I have, What I'm doing, Is it real? Or is it fake?



*Ms Rachel Nangrime  
Hengminja Sangma*



Or is it all just a big mistake?  
Pondering just breaks everything  
So I shouldn't ponder?  
I can't undo the things I've done  
Can I?  
I need my strength, I need my spirit,  
I need my roots.  
I need what I need. All I ask is -  
Please be there for me...

- Ms Rachel Nangrime Hengminja Sangma, IB-1A

## The Point

What is the point of living?  
If we are nothing but a speck-  
Are we really worth saving  
If we are so easily blown off deck?

Being in a ship in an endless sea  
It is hard to find a reason to sail  
Wondering what we were meant to be  
The Creator's task should we fail?  
What is the point of living? With no hate

The point of living is living to the point  
We don't need saving when we brave the waves of fate  
As we fix our weary joints with oint  
Whilst we pass through the final stretch.



*Master Saahas Sunil*

- Master Saahas Sunil, FM-3D

## Change & Difference

I never went to elementary, middle or high school.  
Never wore those dresses made of cotton or wool.  
It is hard for me, as they called me such a fool.  
I, or rather my parents married me to a girl of thirteen  
While I was getting prepared by Mr Jean.  
I wouldn't say she was bad  
For such long, beautiful hair she had.  
I was young then –  
No knowledge of what happened and when.  
I could not deny them,  
They were my only school – “You are a diamond among the gems”.  
“Listen boy” he would say, “You are going to marry a girl named Gwen”  
I had no idea, for I was seven,  
Don't judge me, my sister married at the age of eleven.  
I have been taught about sex and children  
But not about the cycle and the timing for when.

I was young then –  
 No knowledge of what happened and when.  
 She cries every night, next to me on the bed.  
 “Are you okay?” Is that what I should have said?  
 All the restrictions on her have led  
 Her to live with only anger and sadness.  
 I have tried, but the conversation turns to madness,  
 I cannot blame her, for she was thirteen  
 Brought in a society she called ‘mean’.

I was young then  
 No knowledge of what happened and when.  
 Now, I am old  
 With wise words and white hair to behold.  
 We never had a son, I always imagined him to be bold.  
 All her life she has searched for her lover.  
 Most certainly, she treats me like a brother,  
 I gave that freedom.  
 To a lady whose life was hell  
 That is what you may think  
 I have cared for her in every wink.  
 She is my heart, my soul.  
 And I will not stop her from pursuing her goal.  
 This is my story or maybe my LOVE STORY,  
 My life  
 I live with her,  
 She lives in me.



**Master Shaikh Sumair  
Ahmed**

**- Master Shaikh Sumair Ahmed, IB-1D**

## Undefined

Fear wakens from its slumber  
 When my mind has to face numbers-  
 My heart and my mind get a divorce  
 And trust me it's the worst!  
 Asymptotes, Domains and Range-  
 To me they seem so strange,  
 Vectors and Pythagoras Theorem-  
 What others see as wonder, my eyes see mayhem.  
 In class my mind wonders-  
 If all this is nothing but a big blunder?

But then again they say,  
 "Math is required in every step of the way"  
 I try my best to like it  
 In my pursuit of its benefit  
 I want to see what my classmates can see  
 But I'm back to square one and math remains a mystery!  
 I try and try to get it in my head  
 But maybe we weren't meant to be  
 Because I see beyond numbers  
 Where my mind wanders free!  
 Everyone gets it, I'm sure they do  
 Whereas I don't have a clue.  
 I'm logical in many ways apart from Math  
 Give me an extract and I'll analyze it in a flash.  
 It's inevitable, math is going to chase me forever  
 It's going to help my boss decide whether I'm clever.  
 But I'm not an equation or a line  
 I'm a girl who has a spark that will shine  
 "You've a Maths problem, waiting to be solved"  
 The teachers tell me all the time  
 But like dividing a number by zero  
 The solution for me remains undefined.



**Ms Shikha Kurian**

- Ms Shikha Kurian, FM-4A

## The Misunderstood

Look into me, not through me  
 What am I?  
 A human? Well, people would say, otherwise!  
 But, as true as the raging sun, or as bold  
 As a snarling snake!  
 I am not, what I seem to be!  
 If you dare, peel off the facade  
 Look!  
 Search!  
 Illuminate, decipher the code.  
 What, am I?  
 From day, to day! I change myself-  
 A King! A Brother! A Friend!  
 I am all what they get not



**Master Shubhankar D  
Chakraborty**

A raging voice! A scythe to slice through the soul,  
Edge inside a message so deep, the world will  
Scream, to behold the deep well within,  
Try not to doubt me, try not to hurt me.  
All I need is trust, a person against the "I can't".  
I am a chanter, I chant spells to conjure emotions  
Words, Worlds wonders of what?  
Well, what do they call me, well never mind!  
Again and again,  
I am a boost within but helpless outside  
Stop hurting me for I'll hit thy inside!  
Enough has been told! exclaimed! Proclaimed! Now burn!  
Pound on it!  
I Am Not What I Seem  
To Be!  
I am not What I Am!  
Answer Me What Am I!

- Master Shubhankar D Chakraborty, IB-1B

## Yet all I see

Square one. I was left behind  
Despite the sleepless nights  
Yet I still see a light,  
Now fading slowly,  
I've been banished to hell,  
She pierces my heart.  
Hoping to be forgiven,  
Yet all I see,  
Is the edge of a shadow,  
She still dances by the meadow,  
Yet all I see,  
The devil in I,  
Is the image of the angel that once showed me.



*Master V Pranavharshan*

- Master V Pranavharshan, FM-3C

# Crossword Puzzle: Lessons in English

A crossword is a word puzzle that usually takes the form of a square or a rectangular grid of white-and black-shaded squares. Suitable words according to clues have to be written in the blanks crossing vertically and horizontally in the grid. Play the crossword game which is engaging and fun.

When you have completed the crossword puzzle, check your answers in the answer key.

8		1 P						
I				2			N	
			9 A					10
3 A								E
4 S			R					
		11						
	6 N		M					
		W						
	5 M							
7 I			U					

## Across

1. A short, well-known pithy saying, stating a general truth or piece of advice.
2. A word that functions as the name of some specific thing or set of things, such as living creatures, objects, places, actions, qualities, states of existence, or ideas.
3. A describing word naming an attribute of a noun, the main role of which is to qualify a noun or noun phrase, giving more information about the object signified.
4. A nickname or a substitute for the proper name of a familiar person, place, or thing, for affection or ridicule.

5. A figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to an object or action to which it is not literally applicable. It directly refers to one thing by mentioning another for rhetorical effect. It may provide clarity or identify hidden similarities between two ideas.
6. An arch-enemy.
7. An instance of a wrong or misinterpreted perception of a sensory experience.

**Down**

8. An immoral act considered to be a transgression against divine law.
9. A serve in tennis that is so strong and fast that the other player cannot return the ball.
10. Attach or fasten with string or similar cord.
11. A precious fashioned ornament for personal adornment.



**Master Durgadathan  
Namboothiry**

**Answer key:**

**Across:**

1. **PROVERB**
2. **NOUN**
3. **ADJECTIVE**
4. **SOBRIQUET**
5. **METAPHOR**
6. **NEMESIS**
7. **ILLUSION**

**Down:**

8. **SIN**
9. **ACE**
10. **TIE**
11. **JEWEL**

- Master Durgadathan Namboothiry, FM-4D

## Puzzles, Riddles & Brain Teasers

1. Name two words in the English language that have all five vowels in their normal order:
2. Name four ten-letter words that can be made using the letters only on one row of the computer keyboard.
3. Name a seven-letter English word without a vowel.
4. Name the only food that doesn't normally spoil and consumed by human.
5. Mention a sentence that uses every letter in the English language.
6. What is the name for fear of fun?
7. What do you call a group of crows?
8. Name a twelve-letter English word without a vowel?
9. Name two 15-letter words that can be spelled without repeating its letters.
10. What do you call a group of flamingos?
11. How many 9s are there between numbers 1 – 100?



**Master Akash Chandran**

- Master Akash Chandran, FM-2E

**Answer key:**

1. *“abstemious” and “facetious”*, 2. *perpetuity, proprietor, repertoire, and typewriter* 3. *Rhythms*, 4. *Honey*, 5. *“The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog”*, 6. *Cherophobia*, 7. *Murder*, 8. *twyndyllyngs which means “twins”*, 9. *uncopyrightable, Dermatoglyphics*, 10. *flamboyance*, 11. *20*



# Kaleidoscope of Colours

Our young artists sketched out their ideas, worked out the problems and moved on to paint on canvas.

The Departments of Visual Arts, Art & Craft at GSIS offer instruction in drawing, painting (oil colour painting, watercolour painting, acrylic painting, collage painting, pottery painting, glass painting, mural painting, clothes painting & designs), sculpture, ceramics, origami and more. Their work is an expression of their creativity. Drawings, sketches and art paintings of talented, upcoming, young GSIS artists are showcased below.



**Topic: Flower**  
**Ms Aakriti Kedia, X A**



**Topic: Tree**  
**Ms Vibhuti Nitinbhai Hapani, VIII A**



**Topic : Girl**  
**Ms Shamanti Joya Barman, FM-1B**



**Topic : Mother & Son**  
**Ms Eve Saha, IX A**



**Topic : Mother & Child**  
**Ms Shafiya Mariyam Ismayil, FM-3D**



**Topic: Girl**  
**Ms Yashvi Navneetbhai Vadalia, IB-1A**



**Topic: Parrot**  
**Ms S Akshara, FM-2B**



**Topic: Bird**  
**Ms Nancy Dipak Vaghani, FM-2C**





**Topic: Landscape**  
**Master Pratham Lingadalli, FM-1A**



**Topic: Bird and its nest**  
**Ms Ravina Jaywant Patil, FM-2B**



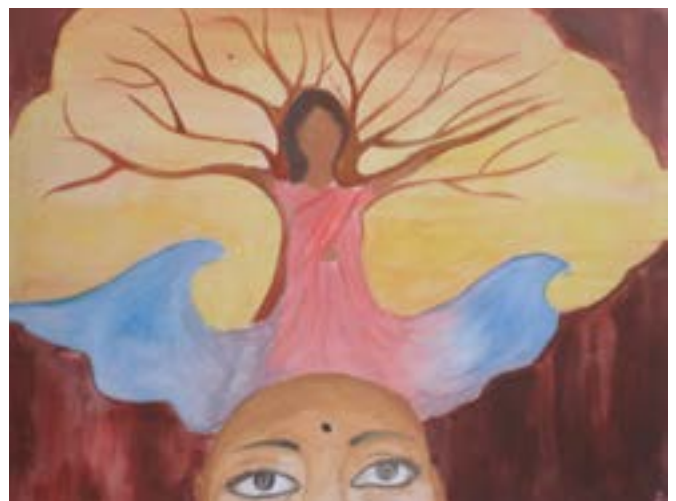
**Topic: Reindeer**  
**Master Hariyanth Nagesh, FM-2D**



**Topic: Two girls**  
**Ms Adisri Preeti Devaraj, FM-3D**



**Topic: Bird and its nest**  
**Ms Tanishka Jaspreet Saluja, FM-1A**



**Topic: Mother tree**  
**Ms Gayatri Madan Lund, IB-1A**



**Topic: Two sides of a face**  
**Ms Rachel Nangrime Nengminja Sangma, IB-1A**



**Topic: Beginning of Time**  
**Ms Mahima Samir Kale, IB-2A**



**Topic : Piece of Art**  
**Ms Muskan Inayatoli Pirani, IB-2A**



**Topic: A plant in a pot**  
**Ms Jasleen Kaur Gandhi, ISC-2B**





*Topic: Precision of Time*  
*Ms Mahima Samir Kale, IB-2A*



*Topic: Chess*  
*Master Sarvesh M Raul, IB-2D*



*Topic: Wardrobe*  
*Ms Rhea Prashant Bhandari, IB-2A*



*Topic: A Gathering*  
*Master Sarvesh M Raul, IB-2D*





**Topic: Brain power**  
**Master Sarvesh M Raul, IB-2D**



**Topic: Commotion**  
**Ms Neeha Tabessum, IB-2A**



**Topic: Self portrait**  
**Ms Neeha Tabessum, IB-2A**



**Topic: Plant**  
**Ms Sakshi Kamalia, ISC-2B**



*Topic: Sitarist*  
*Master Sarvesh M Raul, IB-2D*



*Topic: The Attractive Killer*  
*Master Udhayan Rajoo, IB-2C*



*Topic: Unbreakable bond*  
*Ms Muskan Inayatali Pirani, IB-2A*

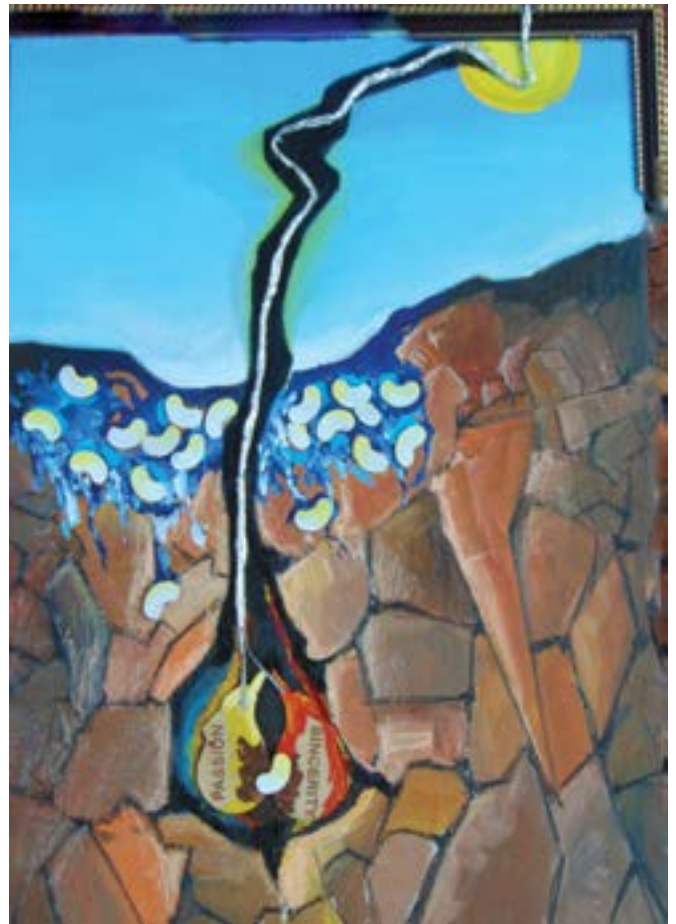


*Topic: Dreams*  
*Ms Rhea Prashant Bhandari, IB-2A*





**Topic : Zodiac signs**  
**Ms Rhea Prashant Bhandari, IB-2A**



**Topic : Growth**  
**Master Sarvesh M Raul, IB-2D**



**Topic : Technology**  
**Tejshwaraj Singh Bhatia, IB-2C**



**Topic : The Dirt of Love**  
**Master Udhayan Rajoo, IB-2C**



**Topic: Vase of wild lilies on a table**  
**Ms Jasleen Kaur Gandhi, ISC-2B**



**Topic: Flower in a vase**  
**Ms Sakshi Kamalia, ISC-2B**



**Topic: My handbag essentials**  
**Ms Aakriti Kedia, XA**



**Topic: Fruit**  
**Ms Aakriti Kedia, XA**



# Inter House Classical Dance Competition 2017

## High School & Higher Secondary School

The **Inter House Classical Dance Competition** for girls of High School and Higher Secondary School was held in the Palada Campus auditorium of GSIS on Thursday, 30 November 2017. The results in the various categories are mentioned below:

### Grade 9 : Classical Duet Dance

Names of students	House	Position
Yashitha Madanapalli	Autumn	I
Lisa Amit Patel		
Eve Saha	Summer	II
Harshita Amitkumar Khemka		
Adisri Preeti Devaraj	Spring	III
Debakshi Sarkar		



*Autumn House team*



*Summer House team*



*Spring House team*



## Grade 11 : Classical Group Dance

Names of students	House	Position
Nairuti Vishnubhai Patel	Summer	I
Eva Ann Raju		
Riya Malay Shah	Spring	II
S Ashmath		
Rhea Jain	Winter	III
Ardra Ravindran		



*Summer House team*



*Spring House team*

*Winter House team*

## Grades 9 & 11: Classical Group Dance

House	Position
Summer House Team	I
Autumn House Team	II
Winter House Team	III



*Summer House Team*



*Autumn House Team*



*Winter House Team*

Overall Winner in Classical Dance Competition: **Summer House**

Well done!

# Inter House Dramatics Competition 2017

## Middle School



*Scenes from the play, 'Fools'*



*A scene from the play, 'Elf'*



*A scene from the play, 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz'*

The Inter House Dramatics Competition for students of Middle School was held on Monday, 20 November 2017. The results are as mentioned below:

- Best Play** : **'Fools'**, a comic fable, by Neil Simon (by Autumn House)
- Second Best Play** : **'Elf'**, a Christmas comedy classic, by David Berenbaum (by Spring House)
- Third Best Play** : **'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz'**, a musical play, by L Frank Baum (by Summer House)
- Best Actor** : **Master Sidaarth Ramabhotla** (Autumn House)
- Best Supporting Actor** : **Master Teerapat Sripiboonpanich** (Autumn House)
- Best Actress** : **Ms S D Nakhshathra** (Summer House)
- Best Supporting Actress** : **Ms Megha Elizabeth Stephen** (Autumn House)

**Congratulations to all the participants and the winners!**



# Annual Inter House Cross-Country Championship 2018 Abhilash Patnaik Memorial Rolling Trophy



*Autumn House: Winners of the Cross-Country Trophy*



*Off they go: The cross-country races being flagged off*



*The cross-country race in progress*

The **Annual Inter House Cross-country race** was held at GSIS on Monday, 23 April 2018. The excitement surrounding this event was as evident as the races of the previous years. The race was organized under different divisions – one for the boys and one for the girls. The boys’ divisions had nine students from each of the four houses and in the girls’ divisions there were six students from each of the four houses. The results are as follows:

**Grade 7 Inter Boys:**

Individual Champion : **Bhavya Sarawgi** (Autumn House)  
Team Championship : **Spring House**

**Grade 7 & 8 Inter Boys:**

Individual Champion : **Heneel Vishnubhai Patel** (Winter House)  
Team Championship : **Autumn House**

**Senior Boys:**

Individual Champion : **Yatharth Agrawal** (Autumn House)  
Team Championship : **Winter House**

**Super Senior Boys:**

Individual Champion : **L Cibi Saran** (Spring House)  
Team Championship : **Spring House**

**Inter Girls:**

Individual Champion : **Aswathi Ravishankar** (Autumn House)  
Team Championship : **Autumn House**



*Bhavya Sarawgi*



*Heneel Vishnubhai Patel*



*Aswathi Ravishankar*



*Yatharth Agrawal*



**Senior Girls:**

Individual Champion : **Harika Cherukuri** (Summer House)

Team Championship : **Summer House**

**Super Senior Girls:**

Individual Champion : **Yashvi Navneetbhai Vadalia** (Summer House)

Team Championship : **Summer House**

**Cross-country Trophy (Overall 1st Place) : Autumn House**

**2nd Place : Spring & Summer Houses**



*Harika Cherukuri*



*L Cibi Saran*



*Yashvi Navneetbhai Vadalia*

You never know what you can achieve until you test your limits. This was a morning that every runner will never ever forget and thus hopefully gain a huge amount of experience. Running the cross-country is all about strength, stamina, resolve and courage.

**Congratulations to the winners!**

# Inter House Symphony Competition 2018

**Annual Inter House Symphony Competition** was held at GSIS on Wednesday, 04 April 2018. The competition was organized in three categories - Symphonic Band, Strings Band & Rock Band musical presentations. The results are as follows:

## **Symphonic Band musical presentations:**

**First place** : **Spring House**

Second place : Summer House



*Symphonic Band of Spring House*



*Symphonic Band of Summer House*

Symphonic Band is a performing ensemble consisting of members of the woodwind, brass, and percussion families of instruments, along with the double bass or bass guitar. Symphonic Band's repertoire includes original wind compositions, transcriptions/arrangements of orchestral compositions, light music and popular tunes.

The Spring House played the music of selected songs from *Moana*, a 2016 American 3D computer-animated musical adventure film produced by Walt Disney Animation Studios. It was arranged by **Jay Bcoock**, an internationally-recognised professional composer and conductor. The Summer House played the music of the *Highlights* from *Pocahontas* arranged by **John Moss**.

## **Strings Band musical presentations:**

**First place** : **Summer House**

Second place : Winter House



*Strings Band of Summer House*



*Strings Band of Winter House*



The String Bands comprised instruments such as violin, viola, cello and guitar. A string instrument is a musical instrument that makes sound by vibrating the strings on it. The strings are plucked to produce sounds.

Summer House played the music of the theme song, *Speak Softly, Love*, that featured in the popular movie, *The Godfather*. The song was published in 1972, with music by **Nino Rota** and lyrics by **Larry Kusik**. Winter House played the music of the song *New York, New York* from the 1949 MGM musical film of the same name. The song was composed by **John Kander**.

**Rock Band musical presentations:**

- First place : Autumn House
- Second place : Winter House



**Rock Band of Autumn House**



**Rock Band of Winter House**

The Rock Band musical presentations are based around amplified instruments, especially the electric guitar and electric bass, and is characterized by a strong bass line and driving rhythms. In this category, keyboard, bass, electric guitars and drum kit were played together with vocalists singing a selected song.

Autumn House presented the music of *Burn*, the album by the English hard rock band *Deep Purple*, released in February 1974 whilst Winter House performed the music of the song, *The Wicker Man*. *The Wicker Man* is a song by *Iron Maiden*, released from their album, *Brave New World*, in April 2000.

**Overall Winner : Summer House**

**Congratulations to the winners!**

## Special Awards & Prizes (2017 - 2018)



**Best All-rounder [Boys]: Samraat Sujoy Gupta, IB-2C**



**Best All-rounder [Girls]: Mahima Samir Kale, IB-2A**



**Best in Sports [Boys]: Maanav Trehon, IB-2B**



**Best in Sports [Girls]: Nidhi Murali, ISC-2B**



**Best Prefect [Boys]: Ujjwal Barlota, ISC-2B**



**Best Prefect [Girls]: Ghanta Hari Chandana, IB-2A**



**Best Dancer : Jasleen Kaur Gandhi, ISC-2B**



**Best in Academics [Grade XII, ISC - Science] :  
Anushka Sarawgi, ISC-2A**





**Best in Academics [Grade XII, ISC - Commerce]:  
Himanshi Naredi, ISC-2B**



**Best in Academics [Grade XII, IB - Science]:  
Samraat Sujoy Gupta, IB-2C**



**Best in Academics [Grade XII, IB - Commerce, Boys] :  
Ishaan Vinod Dulhani, IB-2B**



**Best in Academics [Grade XII, IB – Commerce, Girls] :  
Aarti Gobind Mohinani, IB-2A**



**Best Musician : Rahul Thomas Kurian, IB-2B**



**Best Cadet : Parnika Mandeep Bajaj, IB-2A**



# GOOD SHEPHERD FINISHING SCHOOL

Good Shepherd Knowledge Village, Palada P.O.,

Ootacamund - 643 004, Tamil Nadu

Phone : 91-423-2550555, 2550450 Mob : 75985 50371

Visit us at [www.gsfs.ac.in](http://www.gsfs.ac.in), Mail us at [infoadm@gsis.ac.in](mailto:infoadm@gsis.ac.in)

## Give us a girl and take back a lady!



### The Certifications

- Business English Certificate - BEC (Cambridge University)
- DELF A 1 - French (Government of France)
- Diploma in Fashion Design (National Institute of Fashion Technology)
- Trinity Guildhall Examination in Music (Theory), Trinity College, London, UK
- The International Award for Young People
- Rotaract Membership



## REGISTRATIONS ARE OPEN

9 months : 15th July, 2018 to 16th April, 2019

3 months : 25th July, 2018 to 26th October, 2018  
20th January, 2019 to 20th April, 2019

6 weeks : 22nd April, 2019 to 4th June, 2019

### THE CURRICULUM

- Protocol & Social Graces
- Public Speaking
- Creative Writing
- Business English
- French
- CAD
- Fashion Design
- Food & Beverage Production and Service
- Housekeeping
- Beauty Therapy
- Fitness Training
- Yoga
- Dietetics and Nutrition
- Health & Hygiene
- Career Guidance Sessions
- Art & Craft
- Flower arrangement
- Music: Keyboard, Guitar, Violin, Piano, Vocal
- Ballroom Dance Sessions
- Event Management
- Styling Workshop & Photoshoot
- Events - Fashion Show, Cultural Programmes, Bridal Makeup Competitions
- Mountaineering
- Games: Golf, Squash, Shuttle Badminton, Lawn Tennis, Billiards
- Swimming, Horse Riding
- Social Activities

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## **GOOD SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

(ACCREDITED TO THE COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS)

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GSIS is a Fully Residential, Co-educational School at Ooty, with Academic Curricula of ICSE/ISC/IGCSE/IB and with Co-curricular activities like Mountaineering, Rifle Shooting, Horse Riding, Swimming (Heated Pool), Golf (9-hole golf course), Lawn Tennis, Squash, Basketball, Volleyball, Football, Cricket and Hockey, etc. Student - Teacher ratio 4:1.

A well-equipped Hospital with two Resident Doctors. Integrated Farm with Poultry, Dairy and Vegetable cultivation. In-house Laundry facilities.

- Separate kitchens & dining halls for Vegetarian / Jain food and Non-Vegetarian with Gujarati, Chinese, Continental and Thai cuisines.
- We have no franchisees / branches anywhere

