

THE SHEPHERDIAN

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Good Shepherd International School
Ooty, India,
has achieved



INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATION



Inspection of the Guard of Honour

GOOD SHEPHERD FINISHING SCHOOL

LOCATED AT THE GOOD SHEPHERD GARDENS

E-mail: info@gsfs.ac.in

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THE SHEPHERDIAN

[2017 – 2018]

Good Shepherd International School

Good Shepherd Knowledge Village,
Palada P.O., Ootacamund - 643 004,
Tamil Nadu, India

Phone: 91- 423 - 2550371 (30 lines)
Fax: 91- 423-2550386
E-mail: info@gsis.ac.in
Web: <http://www.gsis.ac.in>

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.

THE SHEPHERDIAN 2018

From the Editors' Desk...

If the world around you is becoming a lot more competitive and you are caught in a state of confusion about whether to compromise your moral bearings or just accept the way things are, what would your actions be? The constant power struggle between altruism and selfishness weighs on our hearts with more gravitas when it involves two very disparate entities - one who has a lot more to lose and you, who has less to lose in comparison. As a civic minded citizen of our society we have to remember that we owe some debt to our country; as a sibling of an erring individual we owe some debt to our parents and then as an acolyte of a celebrity owe some debt to him/ her even if they do not know we exist. It is our right minded volition that will redeem us when we speak up against injustice. Where and when do we say that we shall no longer accept injustice perpetrated by our society, parent, role model? The fallibility of mankind may be exonerated by our languid law courts, by biased media outlets but they must not ever be exonerated in our hearts and minds because we have it in Mathew 5: 48 'You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.' We are meant to be exemplary in our dispositions. Let it be etched in stone, never to be effaced.

In Sophocles' (497 - 406 BC) Oedipus Tyrannus, the blind Teiresias stands his ground in front of the towering Oedipus who very rapidly transforms into a human maelstrom when his anger froths and bubbles inside him. Teiresias was summoned by Oedipus to divulge who the murderer of Laius was and Teiresias did not! It was not incumbent on Teiresias to do so. Could we hold up Teiresias' example for future generations when we teach them about doing the right thing? One can only hope that they do not succumb to the debts they owe to the society, their kin and their role model. Albert Camus (1913-1960), the French writer, philosopher and journalist, espoused that in the face of evil one must revolt. Conversely, appropriate and salubrious actions and words of individuals have to be validated by us so that the flame of decent behaviour, a rare currency nowadays is never bartered for momentary gain. A pat on the back or a verbal acknowledgment of an individual's grit is laudable because it will only have positive ramifications.

It is the need of the hour to take stock of the situation and stop injustice from being perpetrated further because we must mould the future generation to be harbingers of a world where everyone lives in harmony. I am not ready to throw in the towel because I know there is a better world for us tomorrow: no more apartheid, no extinction of species, no suffering, no pollution of our planet. It is time for Pandora's box to be sealed shut.

Editorial Board



Mr Alexander Kuruvilla



Dr K S Sajani



Mrs Sangeeta Ray



Mrs Raji Narasimhan



Ms Ela Singh



Ms Rumpa Sarkar



Ms Manisha Mann



Mrs Priyamvada Gopal



Ms Amy Stuart

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The Good Shepherd Family



Academic Staff - Palada Campus



Academic & Co-curricular Staff - Fernhill Campus



Co-curricular Staff - Palada Campus



Administrative Staff & Dorm Parents - Palada Campus



Administrative Staff & Dorm Parents - Fernhill Campus



The Prefects' Council - Palada Campus



Prefects - Fernhill Campus



Electricians & Support Staff in Palada campus



Cooks, Bakers, Helpers in kitchen, washing area & dining hall - Palada Campus



Mechanics & Drivers - Palada Campus



Electricians, Drivers, Gardeners & Groundsmen - Fernhill Campus



ETP Helpers, Gardeners & Groundsmen - Palada Campus



Dorm Nurses in Palada Campus



Dorm Nurses in Fernhill Campus



Cooks, Helpers in kitchen, Washing area & Dining hall - Fernhill Campus



Classroom & Outdoor cleaners - Palada Campus



Classroom & Outdoor cleaners - Fernhill Campus

"You need a really solid foundation of friends and family to keep you where you need to be."

- Lilly Singh

"You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist."

- Indira Gandhi

"I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that life was service. I acted and behold, service was joy."

- Rabindranath Tagore

"Don't limit a child to your own learning, for he was born in another time."

- Rabindranath Tagore

"Three things cannot be long hidden: the sun, the moon, and the truth."

- Buddha

"The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong."

- Mahatma Gandhi

Visiting Guests and Dignitaries during the Academic Year [2017 – 2018]



Mr Jožef Drofenik

Good Shepherd International School warmly hosted **Mr Jožef Drofenik, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia**, when he visited the Palada Campus on Sunday, 30 July 2017.

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



Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS

Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS, The Collector of the Nilgiris district, hails from Tuticorin in Tamil Nadu. She did her schooling in Tuticorin and completed her Bachelor of Fisheries Science from the Tamil Nadu Fisheries University. Mrs Divya is highly motivational and inspirational in her leadership with a penchant towards youth empowerment, conservation, health and hygiene, infrastructure development coupled with special emphasis on overseeing welfare schemes for the tribals of the district.

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



Mr Murali Sundaram

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

Mr Murali is the Executive Director of BNI (Business Network International), Chennai and Head of Training & Leadership Development for BNI Asia Pacific, the world's largest referral organization with more than 200,000 members. He has till date successfully trained more than 150,000 business leaders, entrepreneurs and executives across the world on Happiness, Peak Performance, Leadership and Personal Effectiveness. He is the Managing Trustee of 'Fortune Foundation', a charitable trust to serve the needy and poor. He is also the best-selling author of many books.



Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi, IAS (Retd)

Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi, the Former Diplomat and Governor of Bihar and West Bengal, was the Chief Guest of the Model GSMUN held in the Palada Campus on 14 September 2017.

Shri Gandhi is the grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and C Rajagopalachari. He is a retired IAS officer and was the 22nd Governor of West Bengal serving from 2004 to 2009. As a former IAS officer, he served as Secretary to the President of India and as High Commissioner to South Africa and Sri Lanka, among other administrative and diplomatic posts. He was the United Progressive Alliance nominee for Vice President of India 2017 elections. Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi and his wife Tara Gandhi have two daughters.



Mr Gopal B Hosur, IPS (Retd)

Mr Gopal B Hosur was the Chief Guest of the Model GSMUN held in the Palada Campus of GSIS on 15 September 2017.

Mr Hosur joined the police force in 1980 as a Karnataka State Police Service officer of the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police. He was later upgraded to the IPS cadre. He took over as Inspector-General of Police (Western Range) on February 18, 2009 and was in charge of Udupi, Uttara Kannada, Dakshina Kannada and Chickmagalur districts. He was also the Head of the Anti-Naxal Force and a member of the Special Task Force that was set up to nab the notorious forest brigand, Veerappan. He is a recipient of the President's Police Medal for gallantry in 2014.



Mr Bharat Joshi

Mr Bharat Joshi was the Chief Guest of the Model GSMUN held in the Palada Campus on 16 September 2017. Earlier, he visited the Palada Campus of Good Shepherd International School on Sunday, 30 July 2017.

He is the current British Deputy High Commissioner in Chennai, typically responsible for consular, visa and trade activities in the region. Bharat has experience of crisis management and has been deployed to the scenes of major incidents involving British nationals. A major part of his portfolio in Chennai is focussed on enhancing the trade and investment partnership between the UK on the one hand, and Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Pondicherry on the other. His interests are cricket, badminton, history, reading and travelling. Bharat speaks English, French, Gujarati, Hindi and Spanish, and is learning to speak Tamil.



Shri Sudhakar Rao, IAS (Retd)

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

Shri Rao has held various important assignments in the Government, including Development Commissioner, Principal Secretary of Finance, Home and finally, Chief Secretary of Karnataka, a post from which he retired Government service on 30 September 2009. He has a Master's Degree in Economics from the Delhi School of Economics and a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. Shri Rao is a recipient of the *Kannada Rajyotsava Award*, under the public service category, that was awarded by the Government of Karnataka on 01 November 2010.



Smt. Nirupama Rao, IFS (Retd)

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

Smt. Rao is the second woman to hold the post of India's Foreign Secretary, the head of the Indian Foreign Service. She was also India's Ambassador to the United States and China, and High Commissioner to Sri Lanka during her career. She is a topper of the All India Civil Services Examination for both the Indian Foreign Service and the Indian Administrative Service in 1973. In February 2016, she received the Vanitha Rathnam Award from the Government of Kerala. In retirement, she has been active on the lecture circuit in several universities and institutions of higher learning. She has also written a book of poetry, named *Rain Rising*.



Mr Stuart McLay

Mr Stuart McLay visited GSIS and presented the International Certification Award to the School on 16 October 2017. He also visited the school as an evaluator of CIS from 6th to 8th of November 2017.

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



Dr Diane Ullman

Dr Diane Ullman was a member of the CIE / NEASC evaluation team that visited GSIS from 6th to 8th of November 2017. Diane brings to CIE experience as a superintendent as well as extensive management consulting and leadership development experience with educators in a wide range of settings.

As a consultant for the District Management Council, Diane has led work across the United States in areas such as leadership development, human capital management, strategic planning, resource allocation and school and district turnaround efforts. Diane also serves as professional development facilitator, mentor and coach for school and district leaders in Connecticut.



Mr Jean Claude Chalouhi

Mr Jean Claude Chalouhi has several years of proven leadership skills and abilities wherein he has handled positions varying from Assistant Principal, Principal, Deputy Director and Superintendent. He was a member of the NEASC evaluation team that visited GSIS from 6th to 8th of November 2017.

He has notable experience in starting schools from designing, construction, resourcing, staffing and programme implementation. A visionary and a true global citizen, he enjoys the feeling of making a difference where he works and is always committed to raising the bar to higher standards.



Mr Simon McCloskey

Mr Simon McCloskey is a British national and is currently the Deputy Head of School and Primary Principal at Stonehill International School in Bengaluru. He has been working in international education for almost twenty years and has held school leadership roles in Tanzania, Malawi, Thailand and Sudan. He was a member of the CIS evaluation team that visited GSIS from 6th to 8th of November 2017.

He has served as an Accreditation Team Chair and Visiting Team Member for the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) since 2010. He has been part of accreditation teams evaluating international schools in Africa, the Middle East and Asia.



Dr Kannan M Moudgalya

Dr Kannan M Moudgalya visited GSIS and addressed the students at a special assembly held in the Palada Campus on Friday, 10 November 2017. Dr Kannan is a Professor of Chemical Engineering, Systems & Control and Educational Technology, at IIT Mumbai. He has held the posts of Associate Dean (R &D), Head of Application software Cell and Head of the Centre for Distance Engineering programme at IIT Mumbai.

Prof. Kannan is now devoting his time to spreading education on a massive scale, without quality dilution. He believes that it is possible to provide high quality education to all our children through a combination of education, and information and communication technologies, making India a developed country in the process.



Nawab Shafath Ali Khan

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

He is an advisor to several States in India on the tranquillization of wild animals especially tigers, leopards and elephants, which play a lead role in man-animal conflict. A dedicated naturalist and wildlife photographer, his life is a passionate plea for realistic conservation. His exceptional courage in the face of danger is a true measure of his character. He has put together his experiences in the field in a book, *Man-Eaters and Wildlife Challenges*.



Mr Gerry Arathoon

Mr Gerry Arathoon, Chief Executive and Secretary, Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi, was the Chief Guest of the Investiture and Graduation Ceremonies held in the Palada Campus on Saturday, 17 February 2018.

Mr Arathoon has supported several initiatives of the CISCE to be amongst the most forward-looking and child friendly board by introducing transparency in evaluation and accountability in teaching-learning processes. He has played a pioneering role in the modernization of the Council by way of introducing online modules of e-affiliation, e-registration, conduct of examinations, archival of documents and Live Ink Character Recognition (LICR) technology for evaluation of answer scripts.



Mr P Jayasanker

Mr P Jayasanker is a Commander in the Indian Navy and since May 2014, he has been holding the post of Officer-In-Charge at Naval Construction Wing, Kochi. He is a Member of the Institute of Naval Architecture and Institute of Marine Engineers. He was the Chief Guest of the Annual Inter House Athletic Meet held in the Palada Campus on Thursday, 5 April 2018.

Commander P Jayasanker is an alumnus of Good Shepherd International School, having passed out from the school in Grade XI ICSE batch in the year 1987. He completed his B Tech in Naval Architecture and Ship Building from Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) and his Post Graduate Diploma in Naval Architecture and Warship Construction, Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.



Ms Georgina Davies

Ms Georgina Davies, a graduate of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, was the TCL music examiner at GSIS in April 2018. She has for over thirty years been involved in music education. She has played professionally as a clarinetist and continues to perform with regional orchestras and bands.

Ms Georgina was a head of music at schools in Hampshire and West Glamorgan. Most recently her role as head of music in Cornwall saw her leading a successful and flourishing department, her percussion ensemble winning the rock, pop and urban category at the National Festival of Youth Music. She is a member of the Association of British Choral Directors. In her spare time, she enjoys playing her saxophone in a Nile Rodgers tribute band.



Mr Gerry Arathoon, Chief Executive and Secretary, Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi, and his wife Mrs Anita Arathoon seen along with the Heads of Schools in the Nilgiris

Scholarship for Academic Excellence

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



Yash Sharma
(ICSE - Science)



Ayush Agarwal
(ICSE - Science)



S Rooshni
(ICSE - Science)



Swachit Sanjeev Chhajer
(ICSE - Commerce)



Khush Vardhan Saraf
(IGCSE - Science)



Arya Robin Goenka
(IGCSE - Science)



Yashvi Navneetbhai Vadalia
(IGCSE - Science)



Rhea Jain
(IGCSE - Science)



Dwij Dipak Patel
(IGCSE - Science)



Prabhraj Singh Bhatia
(IGCSE - Commerce)

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

ICSE Science & Commerce

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

IGCSE Science & Commerce

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

The initiative to provide financial rewards and recognition to students for their academic success helps them pursue future academic accomplishments and continue their education at GSIS.

International School Award

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

IB Diploma Programme: Five-Year Self-Evaluation Process

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

GSIS has been commended in the Five-Year Evaluation Report for the meticulous implementation of the standards and practices for the IB Diploma Programme.

Educon 2017 Golden Leaf Award for Excellence in School Education

Future Kerala Education Conclave 2017 was held at CROWNE PLAZA in Kochi on Wednesday, 21 June 2017. The one-day event included thought-provoking sessions and informative, enlightening speeches delivered by eminent

dignitaries. The conclave discussed value-oriented education system, education reforms and the future of the education sector which triggered several constructive responses from many educationists.



The Principal, Dr P C Thomas



Mrs Sheila Alexander, Senior Vice Principal (Academics), receiving the 'Golden Leaf Award For Education Excellence' from the Honourable Governor of Kerala, at Future Kerala Education Conclave 2017 held in Kochi

Eminent entrepreneurs and educationists who have contributed greatly to the field of education were honoured for their achievements. **Dr P C Thomas**, Founder-Principal of Good Shepherd International School, was awarded the **Educon 2017 Golden Leaf Award for Excellence in School Education**. **Mrs Sheila Alexander**, Senior Vice Principal (Academics), received the award from the Honourable Governor of Kerala, **Shri Justice (Retd) P Sathasivam**, on behalf of Dr P C Thomas.

Delivering the keynote address, the Honorable Governor of Kerala, Shri Justice (Retd) **P Sathasivam** said, *"We need to re-engage and re-align the education landscape according to the changing needs of the society and industry. The education environment is constantly changing, and using the present technology we can revamp our education sector. We have to promote, help and fulfil a commitment to build world-class educational institutions across the state, keeping up with the international standards."*

Several Vice Chancellors of prominent Universities in Kerala, government officials and other dignitaries were present and they shared their valuable thoughts during the event. The school community and all stakeholders felicitate Dr P C Thomas for his invaluable visionary leadership and commitment towards excellence in education.

"The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential... these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence."

- Confucius

CIS International Certification Awarded to GSIS

The **Council of International Schools (CIS)** has over 700 member schools spread across 110 different countries. Of these 700 plus member schools, approximately 450 have achieved full accredited status and GSIS is one among them. Good Shepherd International School was awarded **International Certification** by the Council of International Schools on 2nd May 2017. **GSIS is the first and only school in India and one among the five schools in the world to earn this prestigious award** for its commitment to the development of global citizens and international education programmes after being methodically and meticulously examined by the Council of International Schools Evaluation and Support Officers.



Mr Stuart McLay, Associate Director, School Support & Evaluation, Council of International Schools, presented the International Certification to the Principal, Dr P C Thomas and the Senior Vice President, Mrs Elsamma Thomas

The school demonstrated its progress through a project-based, collaborative learning model in its evaluated and developmental journey focussed on the attributes, values and a range of skills for its global citizenship education. The school was involved in putting the school's Mission and Vision into practice, evaluating competencies and commitment, developing curricular and co-curricular programmes and exploring the importance of community support.

This accomplishment demonstrates significant school-wide commitment to international and intercultural learning for students. This award is an endorsement of Good Shepherd International School in developing a student body with all of the skills, knowledge and values of outstanding global citizens. This achievement validates the school community's provision of international education and demonstrable outcomes, reflecting students' growth as global citizens. This is an achievement to be recognized and shared throughout the school community. The process involved a collaborative effort on behalf of the staff and the school community beyond the classrooms to develop Global Citizenship Standards and Benchmarks. It is the result of many years of focussed work with a keen sense of purpose. The faculty, staff and the school community took this in-depth, 18 months long certification process very seriously to achieve international competencies. GSIS has the capacity to not only continue its growth, but to support others in learning to develop a student body with all skills, knowledge and values required for global citizenship. **Congratulations!**

"The secret of joy in work is contained in one word - excellence. To know how to do something well is to enjoy it."
- Pearl S Buck

"Excellence is the gradual result of always striving to do better."

- Pat Riley

Annual Report of Good Shepherd International School for the Academic Year 2016 - 2017

INTRODUCTION

Every academic year is a significant milestone. Exploring new horizons, improving quality, finding new dimensions in growth, introducing innovative methods and new technology, we have continued to do our best in the last academic year. According to the *Education World India School Rankings 2017*, Good Shepherd International School is ranked as **India's No. 2 International Residential School** which is indicative of the hard work and dedication of our students, faculty, staff and alumni.

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

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



CIS / NEASC visiting team

Good Shepherd International School was awarded **International Certification** by the Council of International Schools on 2nd May 2017. This achievement validates the school community's provision of international education and demonstrable outcomes reflecting students' growth as global citizens. These accomplishments demonstrate significant school-wide commitment to international and intercultural education, an achievement to be recognized

and shared throughout the school community. It is the result of many years of focused work with a keen sense of purpose. GSIS is the first and the only school in India and one among the three schools in the world to earn this prestigious award after being methodically and meticulously examined by the Council of International Schools Evaluation and Support Officers for its commitment to the development of global citizens and international education programmes. This accomplishment demonstrates significant school-wide commitment to International and Intercultural learning for students. This award is an endorsement to Good Shepherd International School in developing a student body with all of the skills, knowledge and values of outstanding global citizens. GSIS has been commended in the Five-Year Evaluation Report for the meticulous implementation of the standards and practices for the IB Diploma Programme.

Dr P C Thomas, Founder-Principal of Good Shepherd International School, was awarded the ***Educon 2017 Golden Leaf Award for Excellence in School Education***. The Honorable Governor of Kerala, **Shri Justice (Retd) P Sathasivam** presented the award during the **Future Kerala Education Conclave 2017** that was held at CROWNE PLAZA in Kochi on 21 June 2017.

SCHOOL PROFILE



Good Shepherd International School - Palada Campus

Good Shepherd International School is a co-educational, fully-residential and fully-accredited international school affiliated to the **Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE), New Delhi, University of Cambridge, England and The International Baccalaureate (IB)**, an international educational foundation headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. The school is an autonomous institution and is one of the premier residential schools in the country. Since 1977, the school has maintained a reputation for providing a rigorous education for young boys and girls. The school provides academic excellence in a caring community and empowers the students to achieve their greatest potential.

The school is located in the Nilgiris district of Tamil Nadu. The school has two campuses – the **Fernhill Campus** for junior students of Grades 1 to 6 and the **Palada Campus** for senior students of Grades 7 to 12. The junior school has a strength of over 133 students while the senior school has over 619 students. The Palada Campus is situated about 8 kilometres from the Ootacamund town and 5 kilometres from Fernhill. The school stands on its own estate of about 160 acres at a height of 2240 metres above mean sea level.

Over 752 children from many communities from all parts of India and over 20 countries study here. The school has approximately 133 academic staff and 71 co-curricular / extra-curricular / administrative staff. The student-teacher ratio is 4:1. Students are brought up in an atmosphere that fosters a spirit of co-existence and respect for the feelings and beliefs of others. The school maintains a secular culture. English is the language of instruction. Classes are offered from Grades 1 to 12. The school has state-of-the-art facilities and infrastructure. The school

provides excellent educational programmes in a wonderful teaching-learning environment, with eager learners who are encouraged to reach their full potential in a wide range of disciplines and extra-curricular activities.

The Annual Report shows a brief glimpse of the functions that marked the school calendar and a comprehensive report on the school's activities, details of key facts, figures and achievements throughout the preceding academic year.

ACADEMIC DETAILS UPDATE



Girls at the Palada Campus

Students' academic performance is influenced by numerous factors that include teaching faculty, parents, daily study hours, tuition trends, self-motivation and learning environment. At GSIS, students work hard and get good results.

GSIS offers the following courses of both Indian and foreign educational boards -

- The **Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE - Grade 10)** and the **Indian School Certificate (ISC - Grade 12)** of the **Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE)**, New Delhi (Grade I to Grade XII)
- The **Cambridge Primary, Cambridge Lower Secondary, Cambridge IGCSE** of the **University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE)**, United Kingdom. GSIS is a registered **Cambridge Assessment International Education Centre** to conduct these examinations.
- The **Diploma Programme (IBDP)** of the **International Baccalaureate, Geneva, Switzerland**. The Assessment Centre is located in Cardiff, Wales, in the United Kingdom. The programme provides an internationally-accepted qualification for entry into higher education, and is accepted by many colleges / universities worldwide.
- The school is also a registered centre for conducting **Trinity College London (TCL) Theory and Practical Examinations in Music**.

Our students have performed well in their board examinations held for the academic year 2016 – 2017.

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

The ICSE examinations were held in the school from 10 March to 17 April 2017. Of the 36 students who took the examination from Good Shepherd International School in the academic session 2016 – 2017, **30 secured distinction and 6 were awarded first class. The topper scored 94.3%**. 9 students scored 90% or more, 20 students scored 85% or more and 24 students scored 80% or more. The school registered a centum pass percentage this year as well, the students securing either Distinction or First Class.

The topper scored 94.3% (Science stream). **Master Yash Sharma** and **Master Arnav Goenka** topped in the Science and Commerce streams respectively. **Master Yash Sharma** scored 94.3% and **Master Arnav Goenka** scored 89.3%. The school average for different subjects is shown below:

English – 85.39%, Second Language - 83.44%, History, Civics & Geography - 85.06%, Mathematics - 74.19%, Science – 81.01%, Computer Applications - 93.94%, Art - 89.5%, Economics - 80.83%.

The percentage of our students who scored 90% or more in various subjects is mentioned below:

English – 16.7%, Second Language – 38.9%, History, Civics & Geography – 38.9%, Mathematics – 13.9%, Science – 40%, Computer Applications – 81.3%, Art – 50%, Economics – 33.3%. A significant percentage of our students have achieved Grades 1 and 2 in several subjects compared to the all-India position.



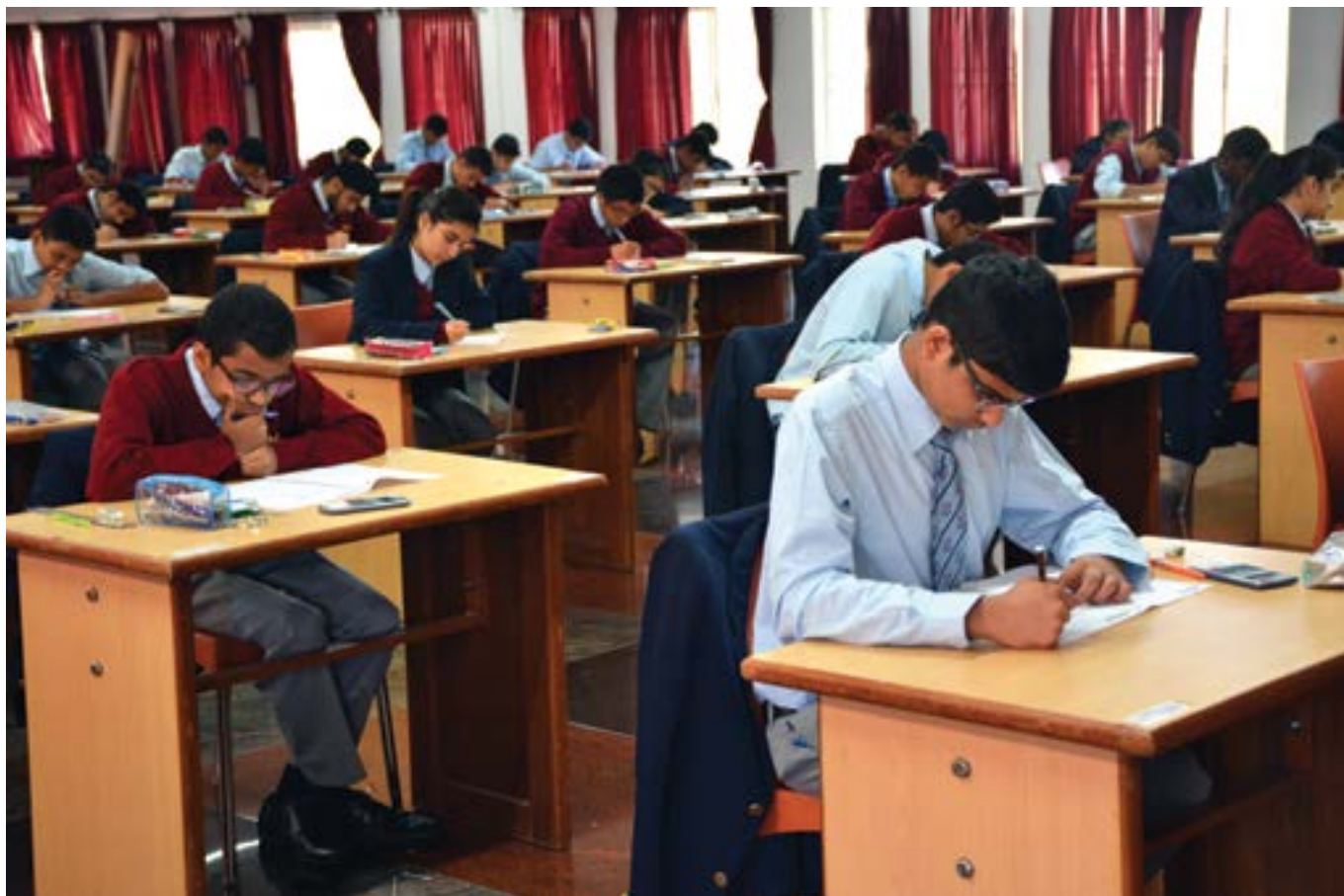
Students in the classroom

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

The International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) examinations were conducted at GSIS from 23 February to 09 June 2017. A total of **79** candidates of GSIS appeared for the examinations. Majority of our students have done exceptionally well and have come out with flying colours.

31 students secured distinction and 34 were awarded merit. Individually, there were some impressive performances. **Srikhush Allu topped in the Science stream of IGCSE achieving the highest grade in all his nine subjects - a remarkable effort and achievement. He scored 92.4%. Siddhi Sanjeev Desai stood second with 7A**s & 2A's; 92.1%. Prabhraj Singh Bhatia topped in the Commerce group [7A**s, 1A's & 1C's]. He scored 86.8%. Dev Ashok Sultania secured the second position with 2A**s, 6A's & 1C's; 84.1%. Our students secured 126 A**s, 151A's, 159B's, 137C's, 69D's, 46E's, 12F's & 4G's. 39% of all Grades achieved are A**s & A's.**

We are happy that our students have achieved good results in the IGCSE examinations 2017. This is truly an outcome of the exceptional hard work of our students and the dedication of our teachers. Heartiest congratulations to the students and their teachers for their good performance! **Well done!**



Students in the Examination Hall

Results of the Indian School Certificate Examination – March 2017 [Grade XII, ISC]

The **Indian School Certificate (ISC)** examinations started on 30 January and ended on 24 April 2017. The result declared by CISCE is as follows:

27 students from GSIS appeared for the ISC examinations. 19 students secured distinction and 8 were awarded first class. 6 students scored 90% or above. The school once again achieved cent per cent pass. Master Shivam Garg topped in the ISC Science stream (94.4%) and Master Mohak Gupta topped in the ISC Commerce stream (94%). 6 students scored 90% and above. 19 students secured distinction and 8 were awarded first class. Our students achieved a higher Mean Grade than the All India Average in most of the subjects.

Another excellent performance! Congratulations!

Results of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Examination– May 2017 [Grade XII, IB]

In GSIS, a total of **82** students enrolled for the two-year course and appeared for the IBDP examinations in May 2017.

Overview of the results:

Diploma Awarded	: 60 candidates
Diploma Course Awarded	: 22 candidates
Average Diploma score of GSIS students	: 30 points
Highest Diploma score awarded to a GSIS candidate	: 41 points
Average grade of GSIS students who passed the diploma	: 5.04



Ms Bhavika Mukesh Agarwal, the School Topper in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Examinations 2017, receiving the 'Best in Academics' Trophy from Mrs Ruchira Ghosh, Regional Director for South Asia, Cambridge International Examinations

Ms Bhavika Mukesh Agarwal is the **School Topper** with **41 points**. She secured **three 7's & three 6's**. 17 students achieved maximum scores of 7 points and 52 students acquired scores of 6 points in different subjects. Students achieved the highest score of 7 points in English A Language & Literature SL & HL, Spanish ab initio SL, French ab initio SL, Mathematics SL, Mathematical Studies SL, Physics HL, Economics SL & HL, Business Management SL & HL, Psychology HL and Environmental Systems & Societies SL. 16 students in Extended Essay and 6 students in Theory of Knowledge achieved A Grades. 9 students scored the maximum of 3 points in Extended essay / Theory of Knowledge. The school average grade is higher than the world average grade in most of the subjects. 2% of our students achieved scores between 40 & 45 points, 14% of them scored between 35 & 39 points, 40% of them scored between 30 & 34 points and 26% of them scored between 25 & 29 points.

Our students did well in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) examination held in 2017. Our felicitations go to the IB students of the class of 2017, to their families who supported them through the two challenging years of the IB Diploma Programme, and to all of the members of staff who worked alongside them. **Well done!**

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

77 students appeared for the Cambridge Secondary 1 Checkpoint examinations held in the school from 18 April to 20 April 2017. The tests were conducted in English Papers 1 & 2, Mathematics Papers 1 & 2 and Science Papers 1 & 2. The tests provided valid assessment of knowledge, skills and understanding in English, Mathematics and Science.

Most of our students did well in the tests. **Aashish Prakash Parmar** and **M K Pritesh** secured the **first position** scoring **17.9 points** each. **Armaan Jain** secured the second position with 17.3 points. **Hemang Arora** stood third with 17 points. The highlights of the overall scores of our students in English, Mathematics and Science are shown below:

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

Results of the Cambridge Primary Checkpoint Tests – April 2017 [Grade VI]

The school uses the integrated assessments of **Cambridge Primary Checkpoint Tests** to monitor students' progress in English, Mathematics and Science at the end of Grade 6. **Cambridge Primary Checkpoint Tests** for students of Grade VI were held in GSIS on 18, 19 & 20 April 2017.

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

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

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

SCHOLARSHIP FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Students who top the ICSE and IGCSE Board examinations and decide to continue in Grades XI & XII in Good Shepherd International School are awarded '**Scholarship for Academic Excellence**.' This is an educational recognition given to meritorious students who have achieved excellent results in the Board Examinations held during the academic year 2016 – 2017.

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

ICSE Science & Commerce

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



Master Yash Sharma receiving the academic scholarship

IGCSE Science & Commerce

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

The initiative to provide financial rewards and recognition to students for their academic success helps them pursue future academic accomplishments and continue their education at GSIS.

ELSAMMA THOMAS GOLD MEDAL RECIPIENTS - 2017

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

SCHOLASTIC ASSESSMENT TEST I & II [SAT I & II]

Good Shepherd International School is a **registered center for SAT I and SAT II examinations**. The SAT is a standardized test widely used to assess skills of writing, critical reading and mathematics. Almost all US colleges and universities use the SAT to make admission decisions to their undergraduate programmes. SAT II are Subject Tests.

INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTING SYSTEM [IELTS]

IELTS (International English Language Testing System) is a very popular English language test. IELTS assesses all the English skills — reading, writing, listening and speaking. British Council, Chennai, conducts the IELTS examinations in India. Good Shepherd International School is a **centre for IELTS**.

IELTS is a test accepted for immigration purposes by all countries that require one. If students apply for a visa to move to or stay in the UK, IELTS is on the list of approved secure English Language Tests. It can help students live, study and work around the world. More than 10,000 organisations in 140 countries accept IELTS, including schools, universities, employers, immigration authorities and professional bodies.

OLD SHEPHERDIANS' ASSOCIATION (OSA)

The **Annual Alumni Reunion – Back 2 Roots** - was organized at GSIS on 21, 22 & 23 April 2017. Forty-three Old Shepherdians came together for the reunion with great anticipation of meeting old friends, a chance to reconnect and renew their ties. The programme was thoughtfully prepared to accommodate all the Old Shepherdians.



The Annual Alumni Reunion – Back 2 Roots: Lighting the Lamp

A Graduation Ceremony aimed at the alumni from the Grade 10 ICSE classes of 1992 who were celebrating twenty-five years since passing out from the school was also organized. The event attracted a good turn-out again this year with alumni travelling from all corners of the globe to attend the ceremony at their alma mater. The 1992 batch of students in their gowns and caps attended a Special Assembly and Graduation Ceremony in the auditorium. A minute of silence was observed in memory of three students of the 1992 ICSE batch who had passed away under tragic circumstances. Three Old Shepherdians delivered their insightful speeches regarding their days at the school and their successful career. The slide show on the white screen took them back to a time of many great memories and recollecting those good times. It rekindled many memories of their journey through school. The Old Shepherdians participated in several rounds of Antakshari and Quiz representing their former houses. A sparkling

drinks reception and a grand dinner was organized at Hotel Taj Savoy on 22 April. A tour of the Palada Campus and Fernhill Campus brought back many old memories. They planted saplings in the Fernhill Campus.

Their participation has enriched the event and renewed the joy of the reunion. It was three great days and a wonderful celebration. We thank all the alumni.

SPORTS & GAMES UPDATE

In the light of growing inactivity among children, we take students' exercise seriously and encourage our boys and girls to participate in games, sports and exercise programmes. We believe that sports and games encompass more than just the benefit of physical activity. The school has many facilities to encourage students to participate in different games and sports. Not only does it empower the youth, promote higher self-esteem and increase mental alertness, it also enables them to earn better grades in their examinations. Obtaining certain grades / marks in the monthly examinations is also a pre-requisite to be included in the school team. There is a separate department working under a **Director of Activities** to efficiently organize and conduct various games, sports activities, co-curricular & extra-curricular programmes.



Boys participating in the relay race

Regular training sessions in football, basketball, hockey, tennis, table tennis, badminton, squash, cricket, swimming and shooting are organised before and after school hours. Students participate in inter-house matches and inter-school competitions. Some of our students were selected to represent the Nilgiris district to participate in the inter-district cricket tournaments, basketball and shooting competitions. The numerous certificates, medals and trophies won by our students are standing tributes to the sports prowess of our players and athletes. The year 2016-2017 has been an eventful one for the school with a string of successes.

Cricket

The Nilgiris District Cricket Association (NDCA) organized the **Under-16 Inter School Cricket Tournament** for the **Azhar Hassan Memorial Rolling Trophy** from 10 September to 14 November 2016. GSIS won the championship and the trophy. In a keenly-contested final match held at The Laidlaw Memorial School & Junior College of St. George's Homes in the Ketti Valley on 14 November 2016, GSIS defeated Riverside Public School. GSIS was declared winner of the final match by virtue of a better run-rate. Eight schools from the Nilgiris participated in the tournament. **Master Dwij Dipak Patel**, FM 4D, took 13 wickets in the tournament and was adjudged the '**Best Bowler of the Tournament.**' **Master Khushin Nilesh Patel**, FM 4D, is the '**Best All-rounder.**'

Master Meet Dobariya, FM-1C, was selected as the **Best Bowler** in the U-13 yrs Inter School Cricket Tournament for Selma / Selai Gowder Memorial Rolling Trophy for the year 2016 - 2017. He took 10 wickets in 4 matches. The tournament was held in February / March 2017 in the Nilgiris.

Master Maanav Trehon, IB-1C, was selected for the Nilgiris District U-19 cricket team. He participated in the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA) U-19 Inter District Cricket Tournament that was held from 19 - 20 January 2017 at Dindigul, Tamil Nadu.

Master Aryan Bhavesh Patel, Grade 8A and **Master Meet Dobariya**, Grade 8C, were selected to represent the Nilgiris U-14 cricket team. They participated in the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association Inter-District U-14 Cricket Tournament that was held at Thanjavur from 21st to 23rd July 2017.

Master Dwij Dipak Patel, IB-1B, represented the Nilgiris U-16 cricket team and participated in the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association Inter-District U-16 Cricket Tournament for P R THEVAR Trophy that was held at Tiruvarur from 30th June to 2nd July 2017. He was the captain of Nilgiris under- 16 District team. **Congratulations!**

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



A cricket match in progress in the new cricket ground

NDBA District-level Basketball Tournament

The **District-level Basketball Tournament** for U-19 boys for the year 2016-2017 was held at HADP Indoor Basketball court under the aegis of Nilgiris District Basketball Association from 31 October to 02 November 2016. The GSIS U-19 Boys' team emerged runner-up. In the final match, The Lawrence School, Lovedale, defeated GSIS. Score: 55:48

Master Aditya Singh, Grade 9A, represented the Nilgiris district in their sub-junior team. He was selected to the Tamil Nadu state Basketball team and participated in the 44th sub-junior Basketball Championship that was held in Rajasthan from 08 October to 14 October 2017.

Nilgiris District Badminton Tournament 2017

The **Nilgiris District Badminton Tournament** was held at Anna Indoor Stadium, Ooty, from 02 August to 05 August 2017. Our boys and girls participated in the tournament and performed well as mentioned below:

S. No.	Names of students	Class	Category	Position
1	Ishan Abhay Shah	ISC -1B	Boys' U-17 singles	Runner-up
2	Nilay Agrawal	ISC -1B	Boys' U-19 singles	Winner
3	Fatima Dechawaleekul	FM -1C	Girls' U-13 singles	Runner-up
4	Aanya Devabhaktuni	IB - 1A	Women's doubles	Winner

Congratulations!

District-level Table Tennis Tournament 2016

The Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu (SDAT), Nilgiris, organized a District-level Inter School Table Tennis Tournament on 23 August 2016 for the Higher Secondary School boys. The tournament was held at Anna Stadium in Ooty. In the boys' doubles category, **Master Eshwar Vankadari**, IB-2B and **Master Yuv Asthana**, IB-2D were the runners-up.

Good Shepherd Rolling Trophy: Inter School Soccer Tournament 2016

The **Annual Inter School Soccer Tournament** for U-19 boys was held at the Palada Campus Open Air Stadium of Good Shepherd International School on Tuesday, 22 November 2016. Six teams participated in the tournament.

Good Shepherd International School - Team A emerged runner-up. In the final match, the resolute Good Shepherd International School - Team A was held to a frenetic goalless draw by The Laidlaw Memorial School & Junior College at the end of the stipulated time. In the penalty shoot-out that followed, The Laidlaw Memorial School & Junior College defeated Good Shepherd International School - Team A and won the trophy. Score: 3 – 1



GSIS U-19 Boys' Football Team

Our students received the following special prizes:

- Best Player : Master Pratyush Jigar Mehta, IB-2C
- Best Midfielder : Master M Satheesh Raja, IB-2C
- Best Goalkeeper : Master Hari Prasath Manokaran, IB-2D

Inter School Hockey Tournament 2017

The **Annual Inter School Hockey Tournament** for boys was held at Brindavan Public School, Coonoor, on 29 January 2017. In the U-14 yrs division, the **GSIS team** secured the **second place**. In the final match, Brindavan Public School defeated GSIS team. The score was 1 – 0. Two players of GSIS were awarded special prizes. **Master Tharun Vikash**, Grade IX, was adjudged the **Best Player** of the tournament. **Master Havi Patel**, Grade IX, was declared the **Best Goalkeeper**.

Tamil Nadu State Inter School Shooting Competition 2017



GSIS rifle shooting team

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

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

* NRAI (National Rifle Association of India) category

** ISSF(International Shooting Sport Federation) category

Congratulations!

15th Annual Inter School Athletics Festival 2017

On 19 August 2017, our school hosted the **XV Annual Inter School Athletics Festival** in the Open Air Stadium of the Palada campus.

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



Inter School Athletics Festival 2017: Discus throw event in progress

The Athletic events began from 10.30 am and went on till lunch. All the participants were either on the field or on the track putting in their best to claim medals and applause.

THE INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE [IAYP]

The International Award for Young People (**IAYP**) is the most adaptable and successful youth empowerment programme. The Award is an exciting self-development programme available to all young people worldwide, equipping them with life skills to make a difference to themselves, their communities and the world. Anyone aged between 14 and 25 can experience challenge and adventure, acquire new skills and make new friends. The Award has a presence in more than 143 countries and over 8 million young people worldwide have taken up the Award challenge so far. Its flexible programme ensures that it is of relevance to all young people, regardless of their background and circumstances.

In 2015-2016, our students received IAYP Awards as mentioned below: **8 Gold Awards, 107 Silver Awards and 125 Bronze Awards**. In 2016-2017, our students received **10 Gold Awards, 83 Silver Awards and 137 Bronze Awards**.

The Gold Award aspirants undertook an additional requirement, the Residential project at *Kollikarai village* in the Nilgiris district, and it has helped them broaden their horizons through a worthwhile adventurous residential experience.

ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Our students undertake activities that facilitate in the development of various domains of mind and personality such as intellectual development, emotional development, social development, moral development and aesthetic development. It keeps them more active and helps them to develop creativity, enthusiasm and positive thinking. Students are involved in activities such as quiz, recitation, elocution, debate, short story writing, art & craft, making charts and models, mental mathematics, music, dance, drama, sports, gym, swimming, games, charity work, organization of exhibitions, celebration of festivals, etc., that take place normally outside class hours during the day. We provide a holistic approach to learning.

Our students celebrated Diwali, Republic Day, Raksha Bandhan, Independence Day, Onam, National Hindi Day, Teachers' Day, Children's Day, Founder's Day and their birthdays.

The Sea Cadet Corps, Ootacamund Unit



The Sea Cadets of GSIS

The Sea Cadet Corps is a voluntary, non-political youth organisation, with membership unrestricted by race, sex or philosophical or religious convictions, which offers practical and theoretical training in nautical and maritime subjects within the context based on naval traditions. This formal uniformed youth organisation is for young people with an interest in water-borne activities and / or the Indian Navy. The Sea Cadet Corps, Ootacamund unit, at present, has 261 cadets that include 166 boys and 95 girls.

Sea Cadet training includes the teaching of basic nautical skills with emphasis on the valuable attributes of discipline, smartness, good character, skills, confidence and leadership which together contribute towards all round youth development. Our cadets receive their lessons in practical sailing and watermanship skills training at Watermanship Training Centre, Pykara. The naval wing of the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, has extended this facility to the sea cadets in GSIS.

NASA Space Camp

A group of 45 students from Good Shepherd International School, Ooty, attended the NASA Space Camp from 29th May to 2nd June, 2017 at Huntsville, Alabama, USA to realize the dream of reaching Space and Mars for themselves.

The students also got an opportunity to meet the Rotary Club members of Decatur, Alabama, where they were invited by Mr Mark and Gay Maloney for a get-together at their beautiful home over a pizza lunch which had Rotary Club of Decatur President, Rotary Club of Decatur Past Presidents, the Vice Chair of the Trustees of The Rotary Foundation and Past Vice President of Rotary International and the Past District Governor, all come to welcome the students. The students staged a small cultural event and sang the school song and school prayer song, and gave souvenirs as a token of gratitude to the Rotarians. In all, it was a chance for interaction and the learning of American food and lifestyle.

The Shepherdians shine bright and clear wherever they go, which was proved by **Master Nithik Chalasani** of FM 4C who got **The Right Stuff Award** in Aviation Challenge Mach 2 group of the space camp. Congratulations to him! The week's stay at Space Camp was followed by a week of fun and frolic at various theme parks in Orlando. The students visited the beautiful Busch Gardens, Sea World, Islands of Adventure, Volcano Bay Water Park and Magic Kingdom.

Good Shepherd Model United Nations 2017

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



GSMUN 2017 in progress

The **Good Shepherd Model United Nations** was formally inaugurated on 14th September, 2017 at 11 am in the school auditorium. The theme of the GSMUN 2017 was 'Global Sustainability and Maintenance of Unity amongst Nations.' The school was blessed by the presence of **Mr Gopalkrishna Gandhi, IAS (Retd)**, the former Governor of Bihar and West Bengal. He addressed the UN delegates. He proudly acknowledged how the Indian spirit was ignited during the presentation of the Indian tricolour and the flags of other nations.

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

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

On day 2, the delegates put forth their views, refuted other's views, debated and contended with each other, charging the atmosphere with a strong current of thoughts. In the evening, we once again witnessed an auspicious opportunity to hear and interact with **Mr Gopal B Hosur, IPS (Retd)**, the former Inspector General of Police and Head of Intelligence, Karnataka. His eventful nationwide accomplishments aimed at ameliorating the law and order situation was inspiring and motivating for the children. They learnt that '*Problems are not reasons to give up, but a challenge to improve ourselves, not an excuse to back out, but an inspiration to move forward.*' The third day saw a change in our students. They were emboldened, empowered and most of all enthusiastic to present their resolutions - some were passed, some were vetoed. The eyes of all Shepherdians shone brighter with more knowledge and confidence at the end of the day. On the 16th, the GSMUN concluded at 6 pm in the school's auditorium under the eminent presence of **Mr Bharat Joshi**, the British Deputy High Commissioner. His encouraging and striking speech stimulated the student body. The evening came to an end on a bittersweet note when the heads of each committee presented their reports and bid farewell to the GSMUN 2017 and welcomed an enriching year ahead!

Music (Western & Indian)

GSIS provides varied musical enrichment to its students. Musical activities improve the cognitive abilities, memory recall, confidence and self-esteem of students. The school focuses on each individual student's learning needs, and encourages them to reach their potential. The school has well-qualified and experienced musicians in its music faculty to train students in Western and Indian music. A number of music programmes were conducted successfully by the music department in the academic year 2016-17 for the students with the help and co-operation of the Indian and Western music teachers. Students were trained to play musical instruments such as the sitar, tabla, dholak, flute, tambourine, ghatam, veena, mridangam, violin, viola, recorder, cello, guitar, drum kit, snare drum, djembe drum, piano, baritone, bugle, clarinet, french horn, keyboard, trumpet, euphonium, xylophone and saxophone. They are also trained to perform on stage and appear for TCL theory and practical music examinations.



The Choir singing songs

Our students participated in several recitals and music performances during the celebrations of Founder's Day, Independence Day, Republic Day, Hindi Day, Teachers' Day, Children's Day, school assemblies and on several other occasions. Our students appear every year for the Trinity College London Theory & Practical Music Examinations.

Results of the TCL Practical Music Examinations - November 2016, February & April 2017

119 students took the Practical Music Examinations in November 2016. **75** students achieved **Distinction**, **38** secured **Merit** and **5** were awarded **Pass** certificates. **99** students took the Practical Music Examinations in February 2017. **21** students achieved **Distinction**, **43** secured **Merit** and **10** were awarded **Pass** certificates. **113** students took the Practical Music Examinations in April 2017. **53** students achieved **Distinction**, **46** secured **Merit** and **10** were awarded **Pass** certificates.

Results of the TCL Rock & Pop Practical Music Examinations, November 2016

66 candidates appeared for the TCL Rock & Pop Practical Music Examinations in November 2016. 12 students achieved **Distinction**, 11 secured **Merit** and 11 were awarded **Pass** certificates. In the Group presentation category for Foundation and Intermediate Certificates, **two groups** achieved **Distinction** and **three groups** secured **Pass**.

Results of the TCL Theory of Music Examinations - November 2016 & May 2017

The school registered 43 GSFS students for the TCL Theory Examinations in November 2016. 28 students secured **Distinction**, 10 were awarded **Merit** and 3 received **Pass** certificates. GSIS registered 2 students in **Grade 8** for the TCL Theory Examinations in November 2016. One student achieved **Merit** and another secured a pass. **Ms Viveka Shanmugasundaram** achieved the **Merit** and **Master Srihush Allu** received the **Pass** certificate.

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

Dance



Girls performing a Manipuri dance

The students of Good Shepherd International School get an exposure to different forms of dance, both national and international. The year 2016-17 saw the Dance Department actively involved in all the events of the school. The children celebrated Independence Day through various dances. Mr Naresh Kathak and his team taught the children several dances in Western and Bollywood style to both English and Bollywood songs. The Indoor function of the Founder's Day witnessed the Middle School students presenting a dance in Bharatnatyam style on Goddess Saraswathi. The highlight was the dance drama, *Sri Krishna Leela*, performed by about 52 students in the Bharatnatyam form of dance. The Zorba dance enthralled the audience with the lively music and performance of the students and brought in an element of internationalism.

The students were exposed to several classical dance forms in the Inter House Dance Competitions conducted for the Middle School, High School and Higher Secondary School. The students performed Odissi, Kuchipudi, Kathak Dance etc. The students also choreographed and performed Folk Dances representing several states of India like Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Goa, which was greatly appreciated by the audience. The students also choreographed and performed several dances during the celebrations like Republic Day, Hindi Diwas, World Tourism Day, Teacher's Day etc. They performed a dance on Beauty of Nature and how to save our Environment, which was well received by the team of members of Council of International Schools who visited the school.

The introduction of Dance as a subject in IB not only mainstreamed Arts into the regular academics, but also witnessed students enthusiastically taking up the subject at the Higher Levels and scoring A in their Extended Essays. Students of GSFS were also taught the basics of Bharatnatyam during their 9-month course and they exhibited their knowledge during a performance conducted in the school.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS, FIRE PREVENTION & CONTROL, DISASTER & CRISIS MANAGEMENT



Mr Srikumar Sikkari conducting a drill of emergency evacuation

Safety, emergency and crisis readiness are the key to a successful operating environment. Emergency response preparedness has now become a new reality for schools. A comprehensive Emergency Response Plan is in place at GSIS that includes evacuation plan, in-place protection plan, arson prevention plan and the incident alleviation plan.

A professional in this field, **Mr Srikumar Sikkari**, Executive Director of Infernotech Engineers, deals with our Emergency Response Protocols. He trains our students and staff members to deal with all humanitarian aspects of emergencies - preparedness, response, rescue and recovery - in order to reduce the harmful effects of all hazards, including *disasters*. He conducts mock crisis exercises, drills of emergency evacuation, lock down drills and debrief students and staff to consolidate the good practices and lessons learnt. Personnel are trained to operate the fire engine and mobilize emergency equipment, resources and networks.

Security cameras are installed in classrooms, corridors and playfields for surveillance. The cameras are used to monitor, record and review activities of people in the campus. Security guards from G4S Security Services (India) Pvt Ltd are posted at multiple locations in the school campus and they patrol the campus day and night.

The **Safety Committee** is convened twice every month. The Committee discusses medical issues, assesses each risk, addresses the safety and health concerns of students and employees in the campus.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES UPDATE

Students of Grades 4 to 12 are given personal **Hewlett Packard [HP] laptops** and backpacks. Students in the higher classes are given the **HP ProBook 440 G3 Notebooks (laptops)** 7th Generation – Core i5 / 4 GB RAM / 1 TB HDD / Win 10 Pro. The wireless broadband available in the senior school has a bandwidth of **32 Mbps** (Airtel) and 100 Mbps (BSNL). The junior school is provided with a bandwidth of **24 Mbps** (Airtel).

A new **Firewall (Cyberoam CR750iNG-XP)** with captive portal is installed which offers inline application inspection and control, website filtering, HTTPS inspection, Intrusion Prevention System, VPN and granular bandwidth controls.

All classrooms in the High School and Higher Secondary sections feature smart boards. The school has installed next generation classroom management software such as the **SMART Sync** and **SMART Response softwares**. **SMART Sync** allows to easily connect the computer quickly and easily to every other computer in the classroom and can allow the teacher to teach, monitor and collaborate with students. **SMART Response softwares** allow increased student engagement by providing immediate feedback for teachers and students. A few **SPECKTRON** interactive whiteboards have been introduced in the Junior and Middle School classrooms.



Security guard watching CCTV screens

More than 420 CCTV cameras are installed in classrooms, stores, corridors, hallways, lobbies and playfields. They provide constant mass surveillance and recorded data to bolster security. The school has provided more telephone lines (VoIP) in dormitories so that the parents can communicate with their children without any delay.

First In Math, an Online Programme, has motivated our students of Grades 1 to 8 to solve Mathematics problems and helped them to acquire, reinforce and retain essential math skills and has developed their critical thinking, problem solving and communication abilities. Our students have earned several achievements in the First In Math online programme for the academic year 2016-2017.

We use **Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)** assessments to **measure** students' growth in Mathematics and Reading. These tests are online computer adaptive tests conducted by Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA). The scores reveal the academic level of students and how they are performing compared to other similar schools. Students participated in the online **International Schools' Assessment (ISA)** programme conducted by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) to test core skills in mathematical literacy, reading, writing and scientific literacy. Students from Grade 2 to Grade 8 appeared for the **Information and Communications Technology (ICT)**

Examinations conducted by the **Cambridge International Examinations (CIE)** in the academic year 2016 – 2017. They appeared in different modules of the ICT - 'Initial steps', 'Next steps' and 'On track' that were held throughout the year.

Teachers use **InThinking Subject Sites** that support the development of high quality educational resources which incorporate cutting-edge ideas, encourage independent thinking, and help students to prepare effectively for exams. Students can access online resources of **American Library** and **Questia Online Library** that offers the largest online collection of books and articles from authoritative academic and commercial publishers. Teachers use **Atlas Rubicon**, an accessible and secure web-based system designed by educators to document the curriculum and advance student achievement. The school is using **ManageBac**, a Curriculum-First Learning Platform, a leading planning, assessment and reporting platform for the IBDP. The school uses **Naviance**, an American college and career readiness software provider, as a platform to provide students with a variety of features, including college research and matching tools, course planning, career assessment and personality tests.

The school continues with the live broadcast of special assemblies and other events, activities in classes and at school, and the parents can log in to view the **live streams**.

INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE

The work of the new campus for accommodating boys of Grades 7 – 12 is progressing fast in the Palada Campus. The proposed new campus has indoor sports halls, academic block, dormitories for boys, dining hall, staff residence, a gymnasium, hospital and an auditorium. Synthetic flooring has been laid for indoor shuttle badminton courts, table tennis courts and basketball court in the Gymnasium complex of the Palada campus. A new hockey ground has come up at the Palada campus.



Residential apartments of staff members

The Founder's Day is an occasion to celebrate, a time to look back with pride and look ahead with vision. The school has successfully completed 40 years since its inception in 1977. We continue our commitment to excellence in serving the cause of education. We are all set to move forward, build our past successes and scale greater heights in the years ahead. We consider it our responsibility to nurture young minds, strengthen their values and motivate them to reach their true potential and make them worthy human beings and productive citizens. We strive to make our students knowledgeable, skilled and responsible citizens. We wish to express our most sincere gratitude and heartfelt thanks in no small measure to all those who contributed to the building up of this glorious institution. We are privileged to partner with enthusiastic parents whose trust, understanding and unstinting support has been a great source of motivation to us.

I conclude with a prayer to **Lord God Almighty** thanking Him for his benevolence and grace and seeking His blessings and guidance to make our tomorrow more rewarding and more fulfilling. **Thank you.**

Dr P C Thomas
Principal

WE ACHIEVED



INTERNATIONAL
CERTIFICATION

Good Shepherd International School
India

has achieved

International Certification

by the

Council of International Schools

Certified May 2017

Orientation Programme: Training and Motivating Staff



Teachers attending the orientation programme



Mrs Julie Pradeesh, Vice-President, delivering the welcome address



An interactive session in progress

The second term of the academic year 2017-18 was kick-started with the customary orientation programme where the staff community was refreshed on the teaching and learning at Good Shepherd International School. The Palada Campus auditorium thronged with enthusiasm as teachers assembled once again after the Winter break.

Mrs Anila Ann Mathew was the Mistress of Ceremonies for the two-day event. The programme began with a prayer of gratitude followed by a brief introduction of the new teachers. The Vice President, **Mrs Julie Pradeesh**, welcomed the gathering reiterating that education in GSIS was "Magic-weaving Service." Her message of inspiration to the school community centered around opportunity, passion, belief in oneself, lifelong learning and teachers leading



Brig. Suresh Kumar, Senior Vice Principal (Administration), addressing the faculty



The orientation programme in progress



Teachers participating in various activities



Mrs Sheila Alexander addressing the teachers



The Founder-Principal Dr P C Thomas

by example. The Senior Vice Principal (Administration), **Brig Suresh Kumar** (Retd) presented a virtual tour of the new campus, which is under construction and will be completed in 2020.

The Coordinator for Curriculum and Professional Development, **Mr T Suresh**, addressed the teachers on *Exploring Tools for Teaching Conceptual Understanding*. The focus of his presentation was Growth Mindset and Student-Centered Learning. **Mr Praveen Chellappan** and **Ms Bhakti** from the Department of Design Technology, further



A view of the participants



The Open Forum in progress: Addressing the appeals and needs of the staff

reiterated these ideas with a session on Transformation Learning. The day ended with the Section Coordinators' meetings and collaborative department meetings.

The second day began with a fun-filled and creative session from the Mathematics department on Design Thinking and Reflective Practices by **Mrs Rekha Jacqueline, Mrs Angelin, Mr Hemanth Rohan and Mr Nishanth**. **Mr Uday Shankar** presented a refresher session on *Formal Dining Etiquette* at GSIS. The orientation programme drew to a close with the address of the Senior Vice Principal (Academics), **Mrs Sheila Alexander**, who briefed the community on the CIS/NEASC report and motivated the teachers to make the change from *inside out*. The Principal, **Dr P C Thomas**, addressed the teachers and inspired them to be their best self. He quoted J K Rowling: "We do not need any magic to change the world. We carry in each one of us all the power we need inside ourselves already. We have the power to imagine better." The day ended with the open forum.

"Education is our passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to the people who prepare for it today."

- Malcolm X

OOTOPIA 2018: A dream for an eco-friendly and a culturally sensitive Ooty



Ootopia celebrated with other schools of Ooty



The logo of Ootopia



The student organizers of Ootopia



Students playing music to celebrate World Water Day

Living in a boarding school, the students are never directly exposed to the ills of unclean water that is prevalent in the world outside school. Seeking to know more, a group of students of Good Shepherd International School

stumbled upon the polluted condition of the Ooty lake, the biggest tourist hub in the town, that attracted approximately 326,900,000 tourists in 2017. Since they found it an integral component of Ooty, they decided to channelize their efforts towards improving the condition of the lake.

Upon gaining some clarity, they got in touch with the local **Citizen Voluntary Group, Make Ooty Beautiful (MOB)** and achieved the outcome of organizing the celebration of **World Water Day** next to the lake as 'Ootopia': a dream for an eco-friendly and culturally sensitive Ooty. By inviting 18 schools of Ooty, there was a two-hour lake-friendly programme with performances promoting festivity related to the bicentennial year of Ooty town.

People often ask - Why should we save the Lake? It is a man-made lake formed by blocking water coming through different streams from the hills and accumulating in a basin and was not of much significance as it was only used for a recreational purpose and not for drinking.

In the 1970's, the ecologically sensitive Nilgiri Sub-Cluster, a part of the Western Ghats, was declared a biosphere reserve. According to Man and Biosphere Programme in mountain areas, the Project of UNESCO core zone comprises a strictly protected ecosystem; a buffer zone is used for activities compatible with sound ecological practices; and a transition area is where the greatest activity is allowed, thereby fostering economic and human development that is socio-culturally and ecologically sustainable.

Strict legislation is advocated for the core and buffer zones, but for the transit area, the UNESCO lays more emphasis on creating awareness about the ill effects of certain human activities on the former two, and this calls for a multidisciplinary approach.

It's quite strange that we in this district have a core zone, the National Parks, but no worthwhile buffer zone, and the strangest of all, that neither the people nor the department knows that there is such a thing as a transit area.

It is within the ambit of the transit zone that the Ooty Lake lies, provides the lion's share of the tourism industry. It is the sole source of any sort of worthwhile revenue in these hills. The health of this water body has an indirect influence on the core and buffer zones. These are the two chief reasons why the lake should be preserved for posterity, and measures should be taken to prevent its further degradation.

"Great things are not accomplished by those who yield to trends and fads and popular opinion."

- Jack Kerouac

"Only those who will risk going too far can possibly find out how far one can go."

- T S Eliot

"The first to apologize is the bravest. The first to forgive is the strongest. The first to forget is the happiest."

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant."

- Robert Louis Stevenson

"All our dreams can come true if we have the courage to pursue them."

- Walt Disney

The Forty-first Founder's Day Celebrations

"Patience, persistence and perspiration make an unbeatable combination for success."

- Napoleon Hill



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

An Evening of Music, Dance and Drama

Two aspects may be pointed out to validate the quote of Napoleon Hill: the forty-one years of the school's journey has been characterized by Patience, Persistence and Perspiration, and every Founder's Day for the past forty years is the culmination of days and months of Patience, Persistence and Perspiration. The evening programme, as usual, began with the Musical Presentation which preceded the arrival of the Chief Guest.

The Chief Guests for both the days, 15th and 16th of October, **Smt. Nirupama Rao**, Former Foreign Secretary and retired Ambassador of India and **Shri Sudhakar Rao**, Former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, arrived. A grand welcome was given to the couple when they alighted the steps to the auditorium accompanied by a fanfare.

In keeping with the tradition, the School Choir sang the School Song and the School Prayer Song. The Grand Opening of the Founder's Day Evening Programme, a Broadway Medley comprising 'I Dreamed a Dream', 'Seasons of Love', 'For Good' and 'Defying Gravity', was rendered by the Senior School Choir and the Symphony Orchestra. The Symphony Orchestra continued to add to the atmosphere of music by the rendition of *Beauty and the Beast* and the *Radetzky March*. A different genre of music was presented by the children of the Junior School who sang 'Samba-Lele', 'I'd like to teach the world to sing' and 'Going to the zoo' bringing Brazil, the US and the UK to the stage.



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



A musical presentation



The choir singing songs



Strings Ensemble



Junior School presentation



Pooja dance: Saraswathi Vandanam

The entire atmosphere changed when the students of Classical Dance presented the Pooja Dance in praise of Goddess Saraswathi, the goddess who is believed to endow human beings with the powers of speech, wisdom and learning. The auditorium was once again filled with the sound of instrumental music when a Xylophone Solo with the accompaniment of a piano tune was rendered.

Now it was the turn of the students of the Fernhill Campus to enthrall the audience. They played a lively *Fanfare* followed by the soulful *Starlight on the Snow* on the Recorders. It is not music alone that the tiny tots excel in. They danced excellently in the Marathi Folk Dance style, representing the incarnations of Goddess Parvati, the



Junior students performing a Marathi folk dance



Sufi dance



Welcome Address by the Principal, Dr P C Thomas



Address by the chief guest, Smt. Nirupama Rao



The Principal presenting a memento to Smt. Nirupama Rao



Students performing a stage show: musical presentation – Lion King

representation of Female Power. As it was the season of Navaratri, the festival of nine nights and ten days, the dance was indeed appropriate.

The *Super Mario Bros* Theme was played by the young musicians, adept at playing the Woodwind. Once again there was a switch from Western performance to the Eastern one when a group of older students performed the Sufi dance symbolizing the human communion with the divine. The *Bollywood Medley* was sung by Rishika and Preethi, the Day Breakers.



Musical presentation – Lion King



The Light & Dark presentation



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



Smt. Nirupama Rao inspecting a Guard of Honour

The Strings Ensemble comprised the rendition of *'Ashokan Farewell'*, a song coming out of 'a sense of loss and longing'. The atmosphere changed completely when the Chief Guests, the special invitees, parents, guardians and Old Shepherdians were welcomed by the Founder-Principal, **Dr P C Thomas**. This was followed by the highly motivating address by the Chief Guest, Smt. Nirupama Rao. Mr Sudhakar Rao, the Former Chief Secretary, Government of Karnataka, presented special awards to the Gold Medalists in the Tamilnadu State Inter-School Rifle Shooting Competition, Aditya Bhavesh Vaghasia, Shaun Rajasekar, Daiwik L S and Snehit V G Swamy. The prize distribution ceremony was aptly followed by the Expression of Gratitude by **Mrs Julie Pradeesh**, Vice President and Vice Principal of the school.

The percussion instrument players took over the stage as they played *Island Jam 8* and *Oye Como Va*, the first resembling Caribbean music and the second from America. More music greeted the ears of the members of the audience as *Syrinx*, composed by Claude Debussy, was played on the saxophone.

Then followed the first of the three long-awaited programmes, the *Ashtalakshmi Dance*, representing the eight different forms of the Hindu Goddess of Beauty, Wealth and Fertility, Lakshmi who is believed to fulfill the human necessities and desires. The dance included the various classical dance forms of India, *Bharatnatyam*, *Odissi*, *Kathak*, *Manipuri*, *Mohiniattam*, *Kuchipudi*, *Sattriya* and *Kathakali*.

The Middle School Choir then entertained the audience with their rendition of two songs, *'Put a Little Love in Your Heart'* and *'Roar'* inspiring the members of the audience by their lyrics suggesting the need for love and self-empowerment respectively.

The second of the long-awaited programme, *The Lion King - Musical* followed the Middle School choir. While the students acted on stage, music was provided by the Big Band and the Middle School Choir. Elaborate props provided by the Art Department supported the show as usual. The *Lion King Musical* was aptly followed by the *American Patrol* played by the Big Band.

Finally, came the tiny tots of the Fernhill Campus to enthrall the audience by their *Light and Dark presentation*. Their message this time was the need to preserve the forests of the earth. The show was accompanied by two popular numbers, 'You Raise me Up' and 'All of Me'.

Music provided by the School Choir brought the programme to a close. They sang three songs 'Celebration', 'We built the City' and the school anthem 'O Brightest Light', all three spreading the aura of enjoyment while celebrating the school's pursuit of excellence.

Unison and Camaraderie Outdoors

The Founder's Day programme of 16th October, 2017 began with the Bugle Call announcing the Arrival of the Chief Guest, Smt. Nirupama Rao, the Former Foreign Secretary and Ambassador of India. She was greeted by the General Salute by the contingents of the Sea Cadet Corps, the Band and Pipe Bands, the mounted guards and the four houses, Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter. The Chief Guest then inspected the Guard of Honour, which was followed by the march past of all the contingents comprising all the students of the school.



Smt. Nirupama Rao along with the Principal Dr P C Thomas



March past of the Brass Band



March past of the Autumn House



Dance display by students of junior school

It was now the turn of the Bands to entertain the guests seated at the pavilion. Accompanied by the songs 'Swagatham' they formed the shapes of a Star and a Torch. Following this was the rendition of 'Que Sera Sera' by the Pipe Band. The First Drummers' Call brought forth the invigorating beats which enthralled all the members of



The Band Display in progress



Display of mountaineering skills



Gymnastics display

the audience. The Bands then moved for the next formation, the Peace sign and three T's symbolizing the school motto, *Truth, Trust and Triumph*. The Brass Band played '*Priyadarshini*' and the Pipe Band played '*Porbandar*' in their position following the formation. The Second *Drummers'* Call was played accompanied by three numbers, '*By the Rivers of Babylon*', '*Freaks*' and '*Mi Gente*'. In keeping with the tradition, the Band Display was followed by the hymn '*Abide With Me*', played by the members of the band, who then retreated from the ground while playing the tune '*Sare Jahan Se Achha*'.

Abiding by the Guiding Statements of the school, the students of the Junior School showed their exposure to the variety of cultures existing around the world. They presented the *Hula* and the *Sega*, the first, a traditional dance by Hawaii people and the second, a musical presentation of the Mauritian way of life.

All the parents and guardians gathered were thrilled on seeing the opportunities offered to their children when many of them took part in the displays of Mountaineering and Gymnastics. The Principal, Dr P C Thomas, in the meantime, met the Old Shepherdians who had come back to the fold to relive their fond memories. The exposure to a variety of opportunities was revealed in the Indian Music Ensemble followed by the Equestrian Display. On the one hand, the sensitivity to a variety of tunes was evoked, while on the other, the affinity between man and animal was shown to bring forth a smooth and powerful movement. The last item was the Percussion Ensemble which comprised the playing of the djembe. The stadium reverberated with the sound of the Western African drum, inviting one and all to gather together.

Aptly, following this was the formal Welcome Address delivered by the Founder-Principal, Dr P C Thomas. It was a proud moment for the school when **Mr Stuart McLay**, the Associate Director – School Support & Evaluation, Council of International Schools, handed over the **CIS International Certification Plaque** to the Principal. Many more special awards and prizes were distributed. They were the Elsamma Thomas Gold Medals for 2017, scholarships for ten students of Grade 11 who had scored excellent grades in their Grade 10 board examinations. Following

this was the turn for the four houses to be appreciated for their excellent performance in the various competitions held through the year. All waited with bated breath the announcement of the final cock house winners, the **Winter House**.

Our esteemed Chief Guest, Smt. Nirupama Rao, then addressed the gathering. Not only did she appreciate the school for all the achievements but she also established a link between the Indian motto '*Satyamev Jayate*' with the school's motto '*Truth, Trust, Triumph*' while she explained the significance of the Sanskrit words. Our Senior



The Old Shepherdians along with the Principal, Senior Vice President and senior teachers



Indian music ensemble



Equestrian display



Boys playing African djembe drums

Vice President and Co-Founder, **Mrs Elsamma Thomas**, expressed the school's gratitude to all who had been part of the ceremony. The Brass Band brought the grand show to a close by playing the National Anthem. All who had been witnessing the show or had been part of it promised to return the next year, enjoy two more days of fun and frolic once again and thus celebrate the school's move towards excellence.



Winter House: Winner of the Cock House Shield



View of spectators in the stadium

Good Shepherd Model United Nations 2017

"More than ever before in human history, we share a common destiny. We can master it only if we face it together. And that, my friends, is why we have the United Nations."

- Kofi Annan



Flag presentation ceremony

On the 14th September 2017, the three-day **Good Shepherd Model United Nations (GSMUN)** was inaugurated. The Chief Guest for the day was none other than **Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi**, the former Indian Diplomat and Former Governor of Bihar and West Bengal. The formal ceremony began with the Flag Presentation. This was followed by the Welcome Address delivered by **Atul Thard** of Grade 12.

Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi, addressed the gathering, educating all on the practices of diplomacy and the need for the students to understand global issues, and debate to identify the possible ways to solve them. When Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi's speech came to an end, a long queue had already been formed by students who wanted to participate in the Interactive Session. All the questions posed were answered wittily and the answers revealed the immense knowledge and wisdom of the diplomat.

Mellifluous tunes echoed in the auditorium as a musical interlude was played. This was followed by the Address by **Ishaan Vinod Dulhani**, the **Secretary-General** of the GSMUN 2017. He spoke about the plans for the next three days in brief. Elucidating the plans for their respective committees were the Heads/Co-Heads of the four constituents of the General Assembly, Disarmament and International Security (DISEC), Economic and Financial Council (ECOFIN), Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM), Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL). Their speeches were followed by the Heads/Co-Heads of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC), United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and most importantly, the Security Council.

Then followed a video presentation focused on all the activities of the GSMUN in the past years. **Sakshi Kamalia** of Grade 12 then delivered the formal Expression of Gratitude. The members of the audience had just witnessed what



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



Address by Master Ishaan Vinod Dulhani



Opening ceremony of the Model UN



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



Address by Mr Bharat Joshi, the British Deputy High Commissioner

was going to be a grand occasion, the beginning of following the UN protocol, providing well-researched points for debates and finding solutions for the problems confronting the world.

The Chief Guest on the second day was **Mr Gopal B Hosur, IPS (Retd)**, the former Inspector General of Police and Head of Intelligence, Karnataka. He has made invaluable contributions to good governance in the core area of law and order, crime and in the administration of criminal justice system. He addressed the delegates on the topic, *Responsible citizenship towards peace and progress for the nation and the world.*



Model Disarmament and International Security [DISEC] session in progress



Model Economic and Financial Council [ECOFIN] session in progress



Model UN Security Council in progress



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



Model United Nations Human Rights Council [HRC] in session



Model United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime [UNODC]

On the 16th of September, 2017 the Good Shepherd community of learners and faculty alike converged at the auditorium for the Closing Ceremony of the GSMUN. It was a privilege to listen to **Mr Bharat Joshi**, the British Deputy High Commissioner, who is currently deputed to the High Commission in Chennai. The Chief Guest's arrival was made more august with the Welcome Address by **Ms Arachemveettil Nawrah** of Grade 12. Master Ishaan Vinod Dulhani, the Secretary General of GSMUN 2017, narrated the various milestones reached during the three days of debating. His crisp keystone speech about the significance of the MUN sessions duly conveyed that our very own students were future diplomats in the making. The various student-leaders took centre stage one after another to further demonstrate how robust their committee sessions were. **Anushka Sarawgi** represented Disarmament and International security Council (DISEC); **Vedant Sagar** represented Economic and Financial Council (ECOFIN); **Divyakshi Nath** was for Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM); **Manav Trehon** was the



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



Student officers who participated in the GSMUN 2017

spokesperson for Special Political and Decolonization Committee (SPECPOL); **Hitayu Kukatla** eloquently laid a speech as the President of the General Assembly; **Jeffrey Kolenchery** deliberated on his committee, Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), **Thomas Siby** and **Palak Jain** fluently spoke about United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC); **Aarti Mohinani** exuded full confidence when she brought our attention to United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and soon after **Samraat Sujoy Gupta** rounded up the committee speeches by telling us about Security Council.

The musical interlude gave us a moment to reflect on all that had transpired and the GSMUN video presentation attested to the experiential learning that the students could take full advantage of during the three days. Mr Joshi's speech clearly pronounced for the attendees how important it is to be forthright leaders with sound visions in place so that the catastrophes of yesteryears may never be repeated. **Lithia Anil** of Grade 12 expressed her gratitude to various agencies that aided in the seamless functioning of GSMUN, 2017. The Closing Declaration of GSMUN was the swansong of the evening as the young brigades swore to uphold values that will one day, some day solve the conflicts that mar us. The school anthem was sung by all of us and it once again rekindled our joint identity as Shepherdians.

"The United Nations is designed to make possible lasting freedom and independence for all its members."

- Harry S Truman

15th Annual Inter School Athletics Festival: Proud Moments to Cherish

"Sports teach us the value of facing ourselves and others honestly. You can only grow if you let go of denial and embrace what is real and true."

- Corey Irwin



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

Moving along the lines of the school motto "*Truth, Trust and Triumph*", the athletes of Good Shepherd International School 'face themselves and others honestly' when they invite all the athletes of the district to enjoy a day of athletics. The academic year, 2017-2018, saw our athletes practising hard to take on the challenge of facing all the great athletes of the district in a spirit of healthy competition on 19th August 2017.

As it was a day on which most students of the Nilgiris district would gather, it was only appropriate that the Chief Guest of the day would be **Mrs J Innocent Divya**, the Collector of the Nilgiris district. The Chief Guest was greeted by General Salute given by the platoons of all the participating schools. Mrs Innocent Divya then hoisted the Athletics Festival Flag that had already witnessed the festival for fourteen years.

The contingents of the participating schools then marched past the Guest of Honour displaying various forms of marching, united in the pace and rhythm of movement. All the participating schools displayed the pride of their own schools when their star performers took part in the Athletics Festival Torch run which culminated in the lighting of the Athletics Festival Flame symbolizing the eagerness that every sportsman carried in his or her heart to face the challenges of the day.

Mrs Sheila Alexander, the Senior Vice Principal (Academics), a sportsman at heart, delivered the welcome address, not only welcoming the Guest of Honour, Mrs Innocent Divya, but all the students, teachers and other dignitaries of the visiting schools. This speech was followed by the Chief Guest's address. Through her address, the District Collector appreciated the school for hosting the Athletics Festival for the schools in the district, enabling them to partake of the facilities of the school. Besides this, she infused in the students the spirit of healthy competition in the arena of sports. Following her speech, she formally declared the Fifteenth **Annual Athletic Festival** open. The Games' Captain of the school led the athletes in taking the Athletics Festival Oath. The formal function came to an end with the Expression of Gratitude delivered by **Brigadier Suresh Kumar, VSM**, Senior Vice Principal (Administration). He thanked the Chief Guest Mrs J Innocent Divya for gracing this occasion. He also thanked the Principals and well-wishers of the visiting schools. Needless to say, he thanked all the athletes of all the schools for being enthusiastic about taking part in the Festival.

Now came the moment that all the athletes had been waiting for: the countermarch signaling the beginning of the events slated for the day. Soon, those seated at the pavilion were able to feast their eyes on the various events that were taking place, both on the field and on the track. Perseverance and resilience were two qualities that were evident in every event. Every moment brought on joy and sorrow as event after event took place in quick succession. This went on till lunch by which time many had gathered medals and certificates. Though the downpour in the afternoon brought about an end to the Festival, all the students went back with enthusiasm and promises of returning next year with a renewed spirit of sportsmanship.



Inspection of the Guard of Honour



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



March Past of the athletes



Athletic Torch Run



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



Address by the chief guest, Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS



Athletes taking the Oath



Expression of Gratitude by Brigadier Suresh Kumar, VSM, Senior Vice Principal (Administration)



A dance display



Boys' 100-metre sprint race in progress



Girls' 100-metre sprint race in progress



Discus throw event in progress



High Jump event in progress



Students of the participating schools assembled on the ground

GSIS Celebrates 69th Republic Day with Fervour



Mrs Elsamma Thomas, Senior Vice President, hoisting the national flag

On the 26th of January 2018, Good Shepherd International School celebrated the **69th Republic Day** of India. The Chief Guest for the occasion was **Mrs Elsamma Thomas**, Senior Vice President. While she was hoisting the flag, the school Brass Band played the National Anthem under the supervision of the bandmaster, Mr Rasheed.

Master V Pranavharshan of grade 9 gave a spectacular speech on the uniqueness of being an Indian by drawing an ingenious parallel between us and Batman. He acutely pointed out that Batman couldn't stab Superman because both their mothers were named Martha. Batman saw his mother in the eyes of Superman and could not deliver the fatal blow. Similarly, if we seek Mother India in our hearts, we shall emerge as true Indians. **Ms Yashvi Navneetbhai Vadalia** of grade 11 continued to uphold the patriotic fervour by reminding us of the planning and confluence of great minds that are responsible for drafting the Constitution of India. Her overarching theme was that since we are Indians, we must stand united at all times and celebrate each other's diverse cultural practices. She alluded to Indians who have done the nation proud in the last few years - **Ms Manushi Chhillar, Ms Shubhangi Swaroop, Mr Sushil Kumar** and the Indian women's hockey team who won the Asia Cup in 2017. Her rallying call was that we must follow our dreams to make India great.



Special Assembly at the co-curricular block quadrangle



The school choir singing patriotic songs

The School Music Choir sang *Vande Mataram* and *Tum samay ki reth* par mellifluently and were praised for the same by Mrs Elsamma Thomas. Mrs Thomas' speech was edifying as she explained to us the genesis of the Constitution of India, stressed the need to follow *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan* campaign launched by Honourable Prime Minister, **Shri Narendra Modi** and emboldened the student community to be "ambassadors for positive change."

Master Samraat Sujoy Gupta of grade 12 gave the vote of thanks and the ceremony came to an end. After the assembly, our students performed a music recital and showcased their talent in drawing and painting.



Master V Pranavharshan delivering his address



Address by Ms Yashvi Navneetbhai Vadalía



Mrs Elsamma Thomas, Senior Vice President, addressing the students and faculty



Vote of thanks being delivered by Master Samraat Sujoy Gupta



Students participating in drawing and painting



Performance of young singers and musicians

Independence Day Celebrated at GSIS



The Chief Guest, Mr Pradeep Chakraborty, hoisting the national flag



The assembly in progress



Master Sriniket Krishnan addressing the audience



Ms Ghanta Hari Chandana speaking on the occasion

The 71st Independence Day was celebrated with great fervour in Good Shepherd International School on Tuesday, 15th August 2017. It marks the day when India became independent after a period of hard struggle and sacrifices made by the Indian freedom fighters. In GSIS, Independence Day is celebrated by the people of all religions, cultures and traditions with great joy and happiness as witnessed during the morning assembly.

The celebration started with the ceremonial bugle call at the arrival of the chief guest, **Mr Pradip Chakraborty**, Senior History Teacher at GSIS. He hoisted the national flag at the co-curricular block quadrangle in the Palada Campus. The national anthem was harmoniously played by the brass band followed by the speech on freedom and its importance by **Master Sriniket Krishnan**, FM 4C and **Ms Ghanta Hari Chandana**, IB 2A. The rendition of popular patriotic Hindi songs like *Vande Mataram*, *Nanha Munna Rahi Hun* and *Pyara Hindustan* by the school choir filled the hearts of the audience with pride and love for the nation.

The chief guest stressed on the need for national unity against aggressive jingoism. He advocated the need for empathy and healthy dialogue. He emphasized the role of youngsters and the need to be global citizens.



The Chief Guest addressing the students and staff



The Indian music choir singing patriotic songs



Dance presentation of the Junior students



Senior girls performing a folk dance

Master Ishaan Vinod Dulhani, the Head boy, expressed his gratitude to the staff and students alike and closed the assembly by acknowledging the kind assistance extended to all present.

Our students also presented various folk dances at the athletic stadium and thrilled the audience.



Senior girls dancing



Senior boys dancing



A dance performance of senior boys

Hindi Day Celebrated



'Kavisammelan' in progress: A student reciting a poem



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



Welcome Address by Master Prabraj Singh Bhatia

Hindi students and teachers celebrated **Hindi Diwas** with great fervour on 11 September 2017 to highlight the importance of Hindi. It was on 14 September in 1949 that the Constituent Assembly of India had adopted Hindi, written in Devanagari script, as the official language of the Republic of India. Many Indians still communicate and express their feelings in Hindi. It was **Jawaharlal Nehru**, the first Prime Minister of India, who announced that this day has to be celebrated as Hindi Diwas in the country to learn and respect Hindi, and inculcate love for the Hindi language.

A special assembly marked the occasion during which various events related to Hindi language were organized. The guest of honour on the occasion was **Mr Dominic Jude Hurst**, Coordinator of Middle School. **Master Prabraj Singh Bhatia** of grade IB-1C started the programme with a refreshing welcome address in which he also highlighted the significance of Hindi Diwas. Students recited Hindi poetry, sang Hindi songs and danced to the foot tapping numbers. Students also presented a few lines of inspirational speeches on the importance of Hindi language and



Mr Vijaya Kumar reciting a poem



A student reciting a poem



Junior students dancing to the tune of Hindi music



Girls singing a Hindi song



Girls dancing to the tune and rhythm of Hindi songs



their views on different topics in Hindi. **Mr Sumanto Dutta**, the Computer Science teacher, recited a self-composed humorous Hindi poem. **Mr Birendra Nath Ghosh**, the SCC instructor, recited a poem in the Hindi language. Grade 9 girls performed two amazing dances. The audience appreciated the melodious rendition of a Hindi song by **Mr Vijaya Kumar**, our Hindi teacher. Students enjoyed listening to the Hindi song, 'Tum Hi Ho', sung by two grade 9 girls. During a 'kavisammelan' held during the programme, few of our students recited Hindi poems.

The participants were very eloquent and exhibited their command of the language. It was a very enjoyable event as fun and excitement filled the air.

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, today is a gift of God, which is why we call it the present."

- Bil Keane

IAYP Gold Award: Making a Positive Difference in Our Lives and in the Lives of Others



Our student volunteers at the Kolikarai village



Motivating local tribal people to keep their village clean



Our student volunteers with the villagers of Kolikarai

The Irulas are an aboriginal ethnic group of the Nilgiris. "Irula" literally translates as the dark people from the word *Irul* in Tamil. The five-day IAYP programme took nine students to the village of Kolikarai to live amongst the tribal people and understand their way of life.

Those 5 days, 4 nights, 120 hours, 7200 minutes and 432000 seconds of our lives are unforgettable. We learnt something that a classroom cannot teach. There are a few things that only experience can teach. For those five days, we did not sit in front of a qualified teacher on a perfectly designed table but were amidst the most amazing people we did not know existed. They had no Masters degrees but they taught us more than just Physics, Chemistry or Mathematics. We learnt what it meant to work hard and what it meant to be happy.

We reached Kolikarai village in the evening. We were given two rooms for our accommodation. The girls had a hall located above the local hospital and the boys had one of the classrooms of the local school. We had another



A cleanliness drive



Girls learning embroidery skills from tribal women

small room that we used as our kitchen. One bulb was all we had for electricity. We had three teachers, who took turns to chaperone us. The school provided us with the basic vegetables, fruits and bread and the challenge was a minimalistic living. Only two of us had some knowledge about cooking but by the end of the 2nd day, we were all pitching in, in the kitchen. Our teachers divided us into 3 groups and each group was given the task for cooking, washing utensils or cleaning the kitchen every day in turns. For me, the toughest of all was washing utensils. I always thought that washing utensils was the easiest of all until I realized how stubborn oil can be and how bad milk in a pan can make one's life miserable.

In the course of these 5 days, we interacted with many villagers, learnt about their culture and understood their problems. Language was a barrier but two of the students could speak Tamil and the teachers helped translate too. And of course, the heart to heart connection grew that didn't need translators to translate for us. Despite living with bare necessities, without the luxuries of comfortable sofas or televisions, the villagers were very content. They didn't have proper roads and had to walk a lot just to get a day's supply of drinking water. These things were a part of their life and yet they loved the way they lived and were satisfied with everything they had. We listened to one of the villagers as he narrated to us with satisfaction about life in their village. His words will forever ring in my ears and whenever I feel disheartened, I know I will think of him and say to myself that my problem is not greater than his. This realization has indeed changed the way I look at things, take up tasks and solve problems.

We even became good friends with children of the village. We could barely understand what they said but we laughed, sang and danced with them. The excitement and happiness on their faces brought smiles to us with an enthusiasm that could win over fatigue. They taught us the tribal dance and the tribal language of the Irulas. Some of us even learnt numbers in Tamil. We taught them origami and painting. We made swings out of tires for the children and painted a well that was located at the entrance of the village. We also helped the local farmers in their field. The first day we cleared a small piece of land, loosened it and planted *Aloe vera*. Farming was tiring work and to know that what nine students did was one man's job, made me think hard about the food we eat.

I don't think I will ever be able to share the learning of those five days accurately. What we did, what we felt and what we experienced can barely be expressed in words with the same fatigue, happiness and enthusiasm. All of us live in our own bubbles of pride and luxury. This bubble grows thicker and thicker as time passes, making us oblivious of the most explicit things. This experience burst this bubble and I will refuse to let it build up again. We were geared to give to them, to lend our hand and help them, but it didn't take us long to realize that we were there to get from them. They had given us some of the most valuable lessons of life - of patience, tolerance and simplicity.

- Ms Rhea Jain, IB-1A

Invested with Responsibility and Duty

"A good leader takes a little more than his share of the blame, a little less than his share of the credit."

- Arnold H Glasow

17th February 2018 was an important day for many students of Good Shepherd International School. It was a day when they would not only be given the right to lead but also the responsibility to ensure that all the activities of the school and their respective houses function smoothly. As the school has been certified as a CIS accredited



The new Prefects' Council



Inspection of the Guard of Honour



March past of the Brass band

school and is undertaking the journey of being accredited by NEASC (New England Association of Schools and Colleges), the implications of leadership and prefectship takes on a whole new meaning. It entails being an active participant in the world of learning, both within and outside the four walls of the classroom. In this context, the students chosen to perform the leadership roles took the **Investiture Ceremony** very seriously.

The ceremony began with the arrival of the Chief Guest, **Mr Gerry Arathoon**, the Chief Executive and Secretary of the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi. Mr Gerry Arathoon was greeted by the bugle call following which he inspected the Guard of Honour. The March Past of the four houses of the school, Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter and the platoons of the Sea Cadet Corps accompanied by the Brass and Pipe Bands showed to the guests the skills of coordination and the discipline of the students.

The slow march by those to be invested as members of the Prefects' Council preceded by the installation of the school flag and the house flags brought forward a set of students who had proved to have nurtured their academic

and co-curricular skills with a sense of self-discipline. The formal investiture followed the School Song, School Prayer Song and School Prayer. The Badges and the Certificates were given by Mr Gerry Arathoon and his gracious wife, Mrs Anita Arathoon.



Students assembled on the ground for the swearing-in ceremony of the new Prefects' Council



The Chief Guest, Mr Gerry Arathoon, and his wife along with the Principal, the Senior Vice President and the Chairman of the Board of Governors



The new Head Boy and the Boys' House Captains



The Chief Guest presenting the certificate to the new Head Boy



The Chief Guest presenting the certificate to the Boys' Captain of Summer House

Mrs Julie Pradeesh, the Vice President and Vice Principal delivered the Welcome Address. Mr Gerry Arathoon addressed the gathering, focusing on the qualities of leadership, the need for all to be aware of the intense competition in the outside world and the importance of maintaining integrity in this corrupt world. He also laid emphasis on the qualities of confidence, determination and fearlessness to be nurtured by the leaders. The 2018 Investiture ceremony came to a close after the Expression of Gratitude by Mr Kalyan Ram and the School Anthem. All the prefects were set on translating the school's vision into reality.

"Leadership is a way of thinking, a way of acting and, most importantly, a way of communicating."

- Simon Sinek



The Chief Guest presenting the certificate to the Girls' Captain of Autumn House



The Senior Vice President delivering the Welcome Address



Address by the Chief Guest, Mr Gerry Arathoon



Expression of Gratitude by Mr Kalyan Ram



Students, parents and guardians in the pavilion

GSIS conducts Graduation Ceremony



The graduates of Grade 12



The Ceremonial March



Invocatory prayer by Master M C Nisarg

17th February, 2018, was a special day for the Shepherdians as the seniormost batch awaited the **Graduation Ceremony** and the rest had mixed feelings of longing to be in their shoes and sad on having to bid them 'goodbye'.

The Chief Guest for the ceremony was **Mr Gerry Arathoon**, the Chief Executive and Secretary of the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi. Accompanied by his gracious wife, **Mrs Anita Arathoon**, when Mr Gerry Arathoon entered the auditorium, the formal Graduation Ceremony commenced with the entry of the graduating students of the year 2018 and the Ceremonial March of the graduands.

The student who had been studying in GSIS for the longest period, right from his Grade 1, **Nisarg M C**, delivered the Invocation. The solemn words were followed by three meaningful songs - the School Song, the School Prayer Song and 'We are in this Together'. The last song was rendered with the enthusiasm natural to those who were promising support to each other for the last time.

The Senior Vice Principal (Academics), **Mrs Sheila Alexander**, welcomed one and all with warmth and cheer. Parents, guardians, the Principal, the members of the Board of Governors, those of the Academic Council, teachers, students and other well-wishers felt at home on hearing the words of welcome.



The school choir



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

The School Captain of the academic year, 2018-2019, **Master Prabhraj Singh Bhatia** of Grade XI, addressed the graduating students, remembering each and every one of the batch, expressing his gratitude for all that he had gained from his seniors and his fondness for them. The reply to the farewell address was delivered by the Head Girl of the academic year, 2017-2018, **Ms Mahima Samir Kale**. A speech infused with humour, feelings of nostalgia and gratitude to everyone in the school who had contributed to the growth of everyone in the graduating batch, kept her listeners engrossed.

The School Captain of the academic year, 2017-2018, **Master Ishaan Vinod Dulhani**, the grave and sincere student that he is, appropriately led the graduating students in taking the Graduation Oath. Following this, was the rendition of the Graduation Hymn 'O God, Our Help in Ages Past'. Then came the moment that all had been awaiting: the presentation of the Graduation Certificates by Mr Gerry Arathoon and the distribution of the Special Awards by Mrs Anita Arathoon.

Mr Gerry Arathoon then addressed the gathering, especially the graduates. He advised them to be what they want to be and go where they want to go having imbibed the qualities of perseverance, loyalty, integrity and critical thinking. He reminded all that the world outside is not ideal, nor is it fair. He advised all to handle freedom wisely, live up to the ideals of the school (*Truth, Trust and Triumph*) and those of their parents. His words of wisdom culminated in his reminder, "give back to the society what you have gained from it" and that "*new and exciting adventures await you*".

Mrs Vimala Jacob, the Higher Secondary Coordinator, expressed her gratitude to all those who had graced the occasion. Couched in the speech were words of advice to the graduating students. Moments of reminiscence followed soon as a Video Presentation by the graduating students reminded them of the days, months and years of studies, games, fun, frolic and togetherness that they had spent at school.

The lighting of the traditional lamp was led by **Mrs Elsamma Thomas**, the Co-founder and Senior Vice President of the school. Symbolizing the spreading of Shepherdian values all over the world by the alumni of the school, the light of the lamp was passed on to candles held by the graduates. Simultaneously, the Graduation Batch song '*This is Me*' and the traditional '*Pass it On*' were sung mellifluously. As the graduates moved out of the auditorium carrying the lighted candles promising to light the world with the lessons imbibed at school, many eyes were bleary with the thought that these moments shared with those about to leave their fold would soon be moments of the past.

All were silently conveying this Message to the Graduates:

"That diploma you hold in your hands today is really just your learner's permit for the rest of the drive through life. Remember, you don't have to be smarter than the next person, all you have to do is be willing to work harder than the next person."

- Jimmy Iovine



Mr Gerry Arathoon and Mrs Anita Arathoon seated on the dais along with Mrs Sheila Alexander and Mrs Vimala Jacob



Master Prabhraj Singh Bhatia delivering the Farewell Speech



Ms Mahima Samir Kale replying to the Farewell Address



Graduation Oath by Master Ishaan Vinod Dulhani



Distribution of graduation certificates



Distribution of special prizes



Address by the Chief Guest, Mr Gerry Arathoon



Expression of Gratitude by the HSS Coordinator, Mrs Vimala Jacob



The chief guest, Mr Gerry Arathoon, lighting the Graduation Lamp



The Vice President, Mrs Julie Pradeesh, lighting the Graduation Lamp



The outgoing batch of Grade 12 students along with parents and guardians



The outgoing batch of Grade 12 students singing 'Pass It On'



Graduands in their gowns and graduation caps



The Chief Guest, Mr Gerry Arathoon, and his wife, Mrs Anita Arathoon, seen along with the Principal, Dr P C Thomas



The Graduation luncheon in the school dining hall

Adventure of a Lifetime in Space Camp



The Shepherdians along with the chaperones who attended the space camp



The Shepherdians attending a pizza lunch in Decatur



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



Our students at the space camp



NASA has been the champion of aeronautics and space science since its establishment in 1958. For the past 60 years, the agency has conducted intense explorations of space such as the Apollo Moon Landing, the Skylab space station and the Space Shuttle, and has inspired numerous generations of budding astronauts.

One lucky group of aspirational space explorers from Good Shepherd International School were given the great opportunity of visiting United States Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama to turn their childhood ambitions into plans for careers in space science. The NASA Space Camp took place from the 29th May to the 2nd of June 2017 with a total of 45 students in attendance, accompanied by chaperones from the school's faculty.



Our students at the entrance to the Universal Studios in Florida



The Shepherdians when they visited Magic Kingdom, a theme park in US



Seeing unspoiled countryside



Students enjoying snacks in a restaurant

Upon arrival in Decatur, the students and staff were invited to a pizza lunch in which they met the dignitaries and members of the Rotary Club of Decatur, Alabama. During this, the students took the opportunity to organise and present a small cultural event in which they gifted souvenirs from India to the Rotarians. They were also fortunate to learn a great deal about American food and lifestyle during their interaction with their hosts.

Our students and staff were warmly welcomed when the time came to attend the US Space Camp facilities. During the five-day camp the students were able to learn and discover a lot according to their area of interest and their age group. Each day was packed with fun-filled learning experiences such as rescue operations, zip lining and safety lessons. Other activities included: hands-on robotic classes in which the world's up and coming engineers and designers came up with engineering solutions to real-world problems; aviation training for those who intend to be Air Force pilots; and rocket construction using cardboard, plastic, string and glue. The Aviation Challenge resulted in **Master Nithik Chalasani** of FM 4C being awarded the **Right Stuff Award** for his participation. Congratulations!

During the cultural visit to the USA, the students were also able to meet a soldier and, through discussion with him, began to understand the struggles and sacrifices the armed forces of a country face. Because of this experience, they came away having greatly improved their skills in teamwork, cooperation and learned of the importance of patriotism.

Once the Space Camp had been completed, the students spent the rest of their 20-day visit to the US visiting amusement parks including: Busch Gardens, Sea World, Volcano Bay Water Park, Magic Kingdom and Universal Studios.

Overall the experience left each student with knowledge, inspiration and memories to be forever treasured. We wish all the participants all the best of luck in furthering their aeronautical education and taking further steps on the path to become true world changers.

"The sky is the limit only for those who aren't afraid to fly!" - Bob Bello

Inter House Competitions (2016 - 2017)

Competitions	Winners
Academics	Summer
Art	Spring & Autumn
Athletics	Spring
Badminton	Summer
Basketball	Spring
Chess	Autumn
Cricket	Autumn
Cross Country Race	Spring
Football	Summer
Golf	Winter
Hockey (Palada)	Summer
Dance	Winter
Dramatics	Autumn
Essay writing	Autumn
Elocution (Fernhill)	Spring
Swimming	Spring
Rifle Shooting	Autumn
Table Tennis	Winter
Throwball (Fernhill)	Summer
Tug of war (Fernhill)	Autumn
Volleyball	Summer
Lawn Tennis	Summer
Symphony (Palada)	Autumn
Spelling (Fernhill)	Spring
Short story	Summer
Squash	Autumn
Handwriting	Spring
Indian Music	Spring
Quiz	Winter
Recitation	Winter
Yoga	Autumn
March Past	Winter
Carrom (Fernhill)	Winter

COCK HOUSE (2016 – 2017): WINTER HOUSE

Congratulations!

The Annual Inter House Athletics Meet 2018

"The quality of a person's life is in direct proportion to their commitment to excellence, regardless of their chosen field of endeavour."

- Vince Lombardi



Autumn House with the Hassan Ali Khan Memorial Trophy



Students assembled on the ground for the opening ceremony of the Inter House Sports

The Annual Inter house Athletics Meet 2018 commenced on a bright and sunny morning on April 5th, 2018, in the sprawling open air stadium in Palada campus. With eager spectators comprising parents, guardians, students and teachers, waiting to see power packed athletic feats on the tracks, the much awaited event started with a formal opening ceremony.

The bugle call heralded the arrival of the Chief Guest **Commander P Jayasanker**, an alumnus of GSIS 1987 Class X batch, and his gracious wife, **Mrs Maya Jayasanker**. He is a Commander in the Indian Navy and since May 2014, he has been holding the post of Officer-In-Charge at Naval Construction Wing, Kochi. He completed his B Tech in Naval Architecture and Ship Building from Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT) and attained his Post Graduate Diploma in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi.



Inspection of the Guard of Honour



March past of the Autumn House



Athletics Torch Relay



The Chief Guest and his wife along with the Principal, the Senior Vice President and the Chairman of the Board of Governors



Drummers' Call

The greens soon got filled with House contingents in their files, immaculate in their school uniform and resplendent red school caps to present the Guard of Honour. The Chief Guest inspected all the four Houses – Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter and the SCC contingent which was followed by the March Past. The students displayed precision in rhythm and time, marching smartly to the marching tune played by the Senior and Junior Pipe Band, Brass Band respectively. Following the tradition of lighting the Athletic Torch, our prominent athletes lighted the athletic torch and took the athletic oath to abide by the norms of the event and to participate in the spirit of sportsmanship. The formal opening of the Meet was declared by the Chief Guest amidst applause from all gathered in the pavilion. This was followed by the Drummers' Call resonating with drum beats.



Boys' 100 metres sprint race in progress



Girls' 100 metres sprint race in progress



Boys' relay race in progress

The heats for the events had been a week long affair starting from March 24th and culminating with this grand ceremony. The highlights of the event were the track and field events, the 100 metres finals for all divisions. New Meet Records were made by many students, both boys and girls, who displayed extra ordinary mettle and agility in Triple Jump, High Jump, Discus Throw, 800 metres, 1500 metres, 4x400 metres relay and 4x100 metres relay.

The major attraction of the event was the 4x100 metres relay races for boys and girls of all divisions. The nail-biting excitement was at its zenith as the runners handed over the baton to the next runner and the whole pavilion reverberated with the applause coming for the winning team. Several records were broken. **L Cibi Saran** of Grade 11 broke the 200-metre dash record with a time of 23.30 seconds. He cleared 1.75 metres in the high jump and set a new school high jump record. The day saw exciting victories and the near misses. This was followed by the much awaited sensation of the day - the Guest event for the parents, which had enthusiastic participation from parents, young siblings of our students in the craze of the season of IPL.

The Director of Counselling, **Mrs Anila Ann Mathew**, delivered the welcome address, welcoming the Chief Guest, Commander P Jayasanker and his wife Mrs Maya Jayasanker. The Chief Guest addressed the school community and the parents congratulating the participants on their spectacular performance and highly appreciated their self-discipline and their meticulous precision in all the activities. Medals and certificates were given away by Mrs Maya Jayasanker to the winners and outstanding athletes who set new records. The **Autumn House** was the winner of the Athletics trophy. The Director of Activities **Mr Ajith P Jacob** expressed gratitude to all the athletes, staff at all levels, the Physical Education Department specially, for training the children and the parents for being a great motivation for the children.

The curtains came down with the declaration of the Meet closed and the playing of the National Anthem, but the enthusiasm to go for mid-term break was evident as the students hurried to the dormitories to get ready and meet their parents.

"The will to win is important, but the will to prepare is vital." - Joe Paterno



Winners on the podium



Distribution of trophies to the champions



Parents, guardians and other guests in the pavilion

Swimming to Glory



The overall winners: Winter House



Students assembled along the poolside

The month of February saw the **Annual Inter House Swimming Competition** being held at the Palada Campus, GSIS with great fervour, on the two days: 24 and 25 February. The championship was inaugurated by **Mr V Kalyan Ram**, High School Coordinator and the oath was taken by **Riya Malay Shah**, on behalf of all the participants.

The divisions for the swimming competition were organised under: U-14, U-16 and U-19 for both boys and girls. The competition brought both participants and non-participants in great numbers to the poolside and the place was chockablock with enthusiasm and energy. The competition began once the participants had prepared themselves in the changing rooms. The participants jumped in, set the pool ablaze and the atmosphere turned ecstatic with the cheers from the spectators and the enthusiasm of the participants. The swimming competition progressed event after event as swimmers dove into the water and swam the length of the pool to the cheers of the crowd. Students competed with each other in freestyle, backstroke, butterfly stroke, relay and medley and there were several moments of anxious anticipation over the chase to the end of the pool. Certificates and medals were



Start of the girls' freestyle event



Girls' backstroke event in progress



Start of the boys' freestyle event



Boys' freestyle event in progress

presented to the winners who took to the podium, to much enthusiastic applause and recognition by the audience. The following students were awarded the individual championships in the various divisions:

S. No.	Name of student	Division	Class	House
1	Teerapat Sripiboonpanich	U-14 Boys	FM-1C	Autumn
2	Vama Dharmesh Gathani	U-14 Girls	FM-2B	Summer
3	Krish Hariharan Iyer	U-16 Boys	FM-3E	Spring
4	Ayushi Rajesh Panjri	U-16 Girls	8-A	Autumn
5	Aaryan Luke Mehra	U-19 Boys	IB-1C	Winter
6	Riya Malay Shah	U-19 Girls	IB-1A	Spring

Winter House emerged in the first place as **Overall Winners**. The overall points were as mentioned below:

Position	House	Points
First	Winter	399.5
Second	Summer	399
Third	Autumn	397
Fourth	Spring	386.5

The competition came to a close with the afternoon session on 25 February where **Mrs Vimala Rani Jacob**, Coordinator, Higher Secondary School, gave away the prizes and declared the championship closed.



Start of the girls' freestyle event



Boys' relay race in progress



Winners on the podium

Inter House Classical Dance Competition 2017

High School & Higher Secondary School

Dance does everybody a great deal of good. Just dance and let your soul be free and you enter a state of pure ecstasy. You will go wild and crazy.

Indian classical dance, or **Shastriya Nritya**, includes eight or more various performance arts rooted in religious Hindu musical theatre styles, whose theory and practice can be traced to the Sanskrit text Natya Shastra. 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

Best Dancer : **Lisa Amit Patel**

Second Best Dancer : **Eve Saha**

Grade 11 : Classical Duet 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

Best Dancer : **S Ashmath**

Second Best Dancer : **Eva Ann Raju**

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 2018

High School & Higher Secondary School



Scenes from the play, 'Gone with the Wind'



Scenes from the play, 'Jane Eyre'

Dramatics is one of the key activities that helps to manifest inherent skills of acting, direction, teamwork and leadership qualities in students. The **Inter House Dramatics Competition** for students of High School & Higher Secondary School was held in the auditorium of the Palada Campus on Monday, 19 March 2018.

The four plays included *The Scarlet Pimpernel*, *Gone with the Wind*, *Tara* and *Jane Eyre*. Each drama vividly flashed a story before the audience. The competition was pretty intense as each team vied for more points to add to their house tally. Students and staff of GSIS came together to enjoy the drama competition. The students worked hard and put on a wonderful performance. The result of the competition is mentioned below:

- Best Play** : **'Gone with the Wind'** (by Summer House)
- Second Best Play** : **'Jane Eyre'** (by Winter House)
- Best Actor** : **Shahvir Gustad Anklesaria** (Autumn House)
- Best Actress** : **Rachel Nangrime Nengminja Sangma** (Summer House)
- Second Best Actor** : **Kaustubh Kale** (Spring House)
- Second Best Actress** : **Khushi Bhavin Parikh** (Autumn House)

Congratulations to the winners and all the participants!

Prefects' Council (2017 - 2018)

School Captain	ISHAAN VINOD DULHANI	
School Vice Captain	SAMRAAT SUJOY GUPTA	
Head Girl	MAHIMA SAMIR KALE	
Vice Head Girl	PARNIKA MANDEEP BAJAJ	
Games Captains	Boys	MAANAV TREHON
		ADARSH M
	Girls	NIDHI MURALI
		R SAHITHYA
Library Prefects	Higher Secondary School	ANUSHKA SARAWGI
	High School	V P LAKSITH
Co-curricular Prefects	Higher Secondary School	DIVYAKSHI NATH
		VEDANT SAGAR
	High School	SHIKHA KURIAN
		SRINIKETH KRISHNAN

Environmental Captains	BOYS	GIRLS
Higher Secondary School	MOHAMMED NAFIH KALATHIL	AARTI GOBIND MOHINANI
High School	VINOD SELUAM	GAYATRI DINESAN

SPRING HOUSE	BOYS	GIRLS
House Captain	VEDANT SANDEEP GOENKA	SAKSHI KAMALIA
House Vice Captain	YASH PARIN SHAH	VARSHA JOHN
Prefects	TOUSHIF BISWAS	DISHA PRAJAPATI
	NITHIK CHALASANI	PADMANIDHI K

SUMMER HOUSE	BOYS	GIRLS
House Captain	JEFFREY KOLENCHERY	CHANAMOLU KRITHI RIDHI
House Vice Captain	MANAN DILIPBHAI PATEL	JENNIFER JAISON
Prefects	PRANAV SARAWAGI	GHANTHA HARI CHANDANA
	PRANAY BATHWAL	SHANMITHA

AUTUMN HOUSE	BOYS	GIRLS
House Captain	HITAYU KUKATLA	VEDSI NIRAJ ARYA
House Vice Captain	ADUSUMILLI RAHUL	RITHIKA VIRGIL
Prefects	UJJWAL BARLOTA	LITHIYA ANIL
	S SACHIN VELU	JAHANVI AGRAWAL

WINTER HOUSE	BOYS	GIRLS
House Captain	THOMAS SIBY	NAVEENA S
House Vice Captain	KARAN RONAK SHAH	NIKITHA P
Prefects	SAHAAJ SINGH CHAWLA	SHIKSHA SINGHANIA
	SIDDHARTH JHA	KHUSHI S V MEHTA

House Reports

Winter House



March past of Winter House

Winter Has Arrived! This has been a year for Winter House to emerge as winners and wave the blue high! The academic year 2016-17 brought with it great hopes and promises for Winter house. We emerged winners in the Carrom, Golf and Table Tennis competitions. It was through rigorous practice and tenacity that Winter was able to lift the Athletic Shield. Kudos to the house on bagging the most coveted march past shield!

The Dramatics competition is still considered a great success even if we didn't bag the trophy. It was great pleasure to watch our students take initiative and own the scripting, blocking and the direction of the play. It was a great source of gratification to watch the students evolve as leaders as they motivated the others, delegated and prioritized their work efficiently. We are very proud of you!

We have done very well in Academics as well this year with 150 points. We bagged the Recitation Shield and emerged winners in the Quiz Competition. On account of good teamwork and the inspired leadership of its Captains and Prefects - **Thomas Siby, Naveena, Kushi Mehta, Nikita, Hatshit Shah, Pranav Trehon, Denize D'Souza** and **Mangalam Karupiah**, the house saw solidarity and a spirit of unity. A special mention must be made of **Samraat Gupta, Mahima Kale, Jasleen Gandhi, Shanmuganathan, Vedant Sagar, Karan Shah** and **Sriniketh Krishnan** for shouldering a great deal of the responsibilities and contributing to the house.

Our greatest glory is not in never falling but in rising every time we fall. We extend our sincerest thanks to all our students and teachers for their co-operation and co-ordination. We thank our outgoing students of the house and wish them a fantastic future. And to those who will pick up the baton "May the odds be ever in your favour"!

Well done Winterians!!

"Success isn't a result of spontaneous combustion. You must set yourself on fire."

- Arnold H Glasgow

Summer House



March past of Summer House

Summer is the season of delights and the house sustained its delightful spirit with some worthy wins in the many Inter-House competitions held during the course of the year.

The new academic year brought new challenges, hopes, joy, obligations and responsibilities. The house was lead in the academic year 2016-2017 under the able leadership of Jeffrey Kolenchery and C Krithi Ridhi as House Captains and Mannan Patel and Jennifer Jaison as House Vice Captains. The Prefects Pranav Sarawgi and Pranay Bathwal for boys and Harichandana and Shanmitha for girls proved to be a great support system for the house with their constant help.

The Summerians proved their mettle in academics, winning the trophy for the same and the house congratulates all its high achievers: Siddhi Desai, Pranav Sarawgi, Harichandana, Srikush Allu and Yashvi Vadaliala, among others. Summer lost the top position in Dramatics but some notable performances came from Anirudh Krishnan, Akshay Chandran, Mannat, Krithi and Rahul Thomas Kurian. The Summerians also shone bright and bagged the top position in Badminton, Football, Hockey, Lawn Tennis and Volleyball. Significant efforts on the badminton court were made by Vishal. The trophy for football was won with the striking efforts of the Saha brothers (Jayanta and Arnob Saha) and the win in Lawn Tennis was made possible because of the stellar performances on the court by Ayush Patel and Arham Hundia. The house's win in Hockey was owing to the great performance on the field by A Gautam, Yash Jariwala and M Jayakrishna. The Summer House students wove powerful narratives to win the Short Story competition with distinguished contributions by Akshay Chandran, Yashvi Vadaliala, S V Meha and Arnob Saha.

The House has put in some good work and it congratulates all that lent a helping hand to aid in positioning the house as second in lead to the Cock House - 2017. As the journey takes the house from strength to strength, let us all be thankful for the wins we get and never lose hope in the face of loss. It has been a year of hopes, learning, teamwork, responsibility and success. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking our House Master, House Mistress and House tutors for their advice, guidance and help that they have willingly and constantly given in all House affairs.

No matter the length of the cold season, summer, as ever, shall prevail.

"One benefit of summer was that each day we had more light to read by."

- Jeanette Walls

Autumn House



March past of Autumn House

***"Thou comest, Autumn, heralded by the rain,
With banners, by great gales incessant fanned,
Brighter than brightest silks of Samarcand,
And stately oxen harnessed to thy wain!"***

- Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

The academic year, 2016-2017, saw Autumn House carrying banners of victory and shattering stereotypical ideas about the house. Having procured the least Cock House points in 2015-2016, the house members were determined to bring about a change and with the best of efforts put in, the House went up a notch higher and stood third for the year 2016-2017.

Every inter-house competition saw Autumnites fighting tooth and nail, putting in their best, and so, she bagged the first position in Art, the trophy of which she shared with Spring, Chess, Essay Writing, Rifle-Shooting, Squash and Yoga. In the Senior Campus, the Autumnites shared the Cross Country Cup with Winter and Spring.

The tiny tots were no less spirited than the seniors: they won for the House the shield for tug-of-war. With the star cricketers like Ishaan and Manav, the School Captain and the Games' Captain respectively, we bagged the Cricket Trophy. The cup for Symphony was bagged by the Autumnites. The icing on the cake, however, was a victory which has been eluding Autumn House for a long time: the first place in Dramatics. With the dramatic adaptation of the movie *I Am Sam*, done by the team effort of the students led by the House Captain, Vedsi Arya, and the superb performance of Hitayu Kukatla, playing the role of an autistic father, the play was undoubtedly a huge success, with the judges, teachers and students emerging bleary-eyed at the end of the play.

As it was team work, it is impossible not to mention the enthusiasm and house spirit shown by Ujjwal, Ankur, Niraj, Sanmit, Kathik, Amisha, Nidhi, Lithia, Aarti, Shobika, Shikha, Rithika, Shreya, Adarsh, Pritesh, Nakul, Shamak, Praveen, Mayanka, Sachin, Abigail, Lisa, Yashita, Athish, Rajesh, Aditya, Darshil, Nehma, Diyanasha, Kristi, Reejula, Dhruv, Ram, Shreyansh, Karmesh, Aswathi, Gayathri, Aastha, Khushi and the little ones from Fernhill campus.

As another new year begins, a new set of Autumnites along with the old ones are all set to carry on the legacy of putting in their best, striving to be the best.

Spring House



March past of Spring House

"You can cut all the flowers but you cannot keep Spring from coming." - Pablo Neruda

Spring marks a season of unlimited possibilities and cheerful ventures. This spirit is exemplified in our "Young Springsters" who set out with renewed vigour to a new season of dance, drama, recitation, debate and sports.

This year too the talents of the students were displayed in various avenues. Spring House was the front-runner at different levels in Athletics, Badminton, Basketball, Cricket, Cross country, Dance, Hockey, Music, Rifle Shooting, Swimming, Throw ball, Volleyball, Lawn Tennis, Squash and Golf. There was wholehearted participation of students in all the inter house activities.

Under the able leadership and participation of **Vedant Goenka, Tushif Biswas, Devyakshi Nath, Palak Jain, Viknesh Selvadason, Nafih Kalathil, Atul Thard, Sai Sanwariya, Sudeept Gupta, Aman Dubey, Sakshi Kamalia, Divyakshi Nath, Parnika Mandeep Bajaj, Disha Prajapati, Anushka Sarawagi, Rhea Shah, Kaustabh Kale, Aarya Goenka and S Ashmath** Spring House had a year of high spirited involvement.

The Co-curricular participation by the students of Spring House was noteworthy, with almost all the students showing their talents. The House won various Inter House Competitions. Dance, Dramatics, and Symphony were the activities looked forward to by the students. The enthusiasm amongst the students was evident from their participation in the cultural activities. *Springsters* overcame their inhibitions and took part in events to realise their potential in events like elocution, debate and inter house dance events, realizing that winning a pedestal position is not a defining factor in life. The chance to participate and overcome one's fear of participation was understood by most of the students, thereby making the process of learning a 'journey of self-discovery'.

The achievements of the Spring House this year is the result of the team work the members exhibited. Each one stood together in every success and failure, encouraging for participation over victory! Every single member of both the campus contributed to this great success.

We also extend our thanks to the House Master, House Mistress and Spring House teachers for their splendid work, valuable help and experienced advice. We are sure that our juniors will continue the fine traditions at GSIS. Everyone had a bit of fun and the activities unified us a little more as a House. It has been a memorable year for the *Springsters* as students discovered unknown facets about themselves and realized that success and achievement is a collective effort made by like-minded individuals.

"Spring is the time of plans and projects." - Leo Tolstoy

You Made GSIS Proud!

Nilgiris District Badminton Tournament 2017



Ishan Abhay Shah



Nilay Agrawal



Fatima Dechawaleekul



Aanya Devabhaktuni

The Nilgiris District Badminton Tournament was held at Anna Indoor Stadium, Ooty, from 02 August to 05 August 2017. Our boys and girls participated in the tournament and performed well as mentioned below:

S. No.	Names of students	Class	Category	Position
1	Ishan Abhay Shah	ISC -1B	Boys' U-17 singles	Runner-up
2	Nilay Agrawal	ISC -1B	Boys' U-19 singles	Winner
3	Fatima Dechawaleekul	FM -1C	Girls' U-13 singles	Runner-up
4	Aanya Devabhaktuni	IB - 1A	Women's doubles	Winner

Congratulations!

District Cricket Team



Master Aryan Bhavesh Patel



Master Meet Dobariya



Master Dwij Dipak Patel

Master Aryan Bhavesh Patel, Grade 8A and **Master Meet Dobariya**, Grade 8C, were selected to represent the Nilgiris U-14 cricket team. They participated in the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association Inter-District U-14 Cricket Tournament that was held at Thanjavur from 21st to 23rd July 2017.

Master Dwij Dipak Patel, IB-1B, represented the Nilgiris U-16 cricket team and participated in the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association Inter-District U-16 Cricket Tournament for P R THEVAR Trophy that was held at Tiruvarur from 30th June to 2nd July 2017. He was the captain of Nilgiris under- 16 District team. **Congratulations!**

Tamil Nadu State Inter School Shooting Competition 2017



GSIS shooting team

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

The results of the competition are given below:

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

*NRAI (National Rifle Association of India) category

** ISSF(International Shooting Sport Federation) category

Congratulations!

Cricket News



Master Dwij Dipak Patel



Master Khushin Nilesh Patel

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

A very good start!

Basketball



Master Aditya Singh

Master Aditya Singh, Grade 9A, represented the Nilgiris district basketball team in the sub-junior category. He was selected to the Tamil Nadu state Basketball team and participated in the 44th sub-junior Basketball Championship that was held in Rajasthan from 08 October to 14 October 2017.

Well done!

Inter School Hockey Championship 2017



GSIS U-15 Boys' Hockey Team



GSIS U-17 Boys' Hockey Team

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

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

Congratulations!

Inter School Hockey Tournament 2018



GSIS Hockey Team (U-14 yrs division) with the trophy



Master Vedaant Vinodkumar Jain receiving the Best Player Award

The **Annual Inter School Hockey Tournament** for boys was held at Brindavan Public School, Coonoor, on Saturday, 03 February 2018.

In the U-14 yrs division, the **GSIS team** emerged champions in the tournament. In the final match, GSIS team defeated Crescent Castle Public School, Ooty. The score was 2 – 1. **Master Vedaant Vinodkumar Jain, FM 2C**, was adjudged the **Best Player** of the tournament. **Well done!**

Good Shepherd Rolling Trophy: Inter School Soccer Tournament 2017

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



The U-17 football tournament in progress

The following five teams participated in the tournament:

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

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



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

The following students received special prizes:

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

Congratulations!

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

The following six teams participated in the tournament:

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

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

The following students received special prizes:

- Most Promising Players** : **Master Maanav Trehon** (GSIS Team A) & **Master Vansh Agarwal** (GSIS Team B)



The U-19 football tournament in progress



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

Best Midfielder : Master Mohammed Nafih Kalathil (GSIS Team A)

Best Defenders : Master Samraat Sujoy Gupta (GSIS Team A) & Master Naveenraj Rajadurai (Lawrence School, Lovedale)

Best Striker : Master Kasan Dercha Sangma (Lawrence School, Lovedale)

Congratulations!

Inter School Basketball Tournament: GSIS Rolling Trophy 2017

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

The following six schools participated in the tournament:

1. St. Joseph's Higher Secondary School, Ooty
2. Morning Star Higher Secondary School, Gudalur
3. JSS International School, Theetukal



The Basketball tournament in progress



GSIS U-17 Boys' team

4. Crescent Castle Matriculation School, Ooty
5. Good Shepherd International School - Team A
6. Good Shepherd International School - Team B

The following students received special prizes:

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

Most Valuable Player : Master Sandeep Sudharshan (GSIS)

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

Well done!

Inter School Basketball Tournament 2018



U-15 Boys' Basketball final match in progress

The **Inter School Basketball Tournament** for U-15 boys was held at the Palada Campus of GSIS on Saturday, 17 March 2018. The following teams participated in the tournament:

1. Riverside Public School, Kotagiri
2. The Lawrence School, Lovedale
3. Good Shepherd International School Team A, B & C

The GSIS U-15 Boys' Team A emerged **runner-up**. In the final match, **The Lawrence School, Lovedale**, defeated GSIS. Score: 50 – 35. The following students have won special prizes:

Best Player : Master Kian G (The Lawrence School)

Most Promising Player : Master Manus (Riverside Public School)

Most Valuable Player : Master Devansh Mirani, FM-3D (GSIS)

Inter School Table Tennis Tournament 2018



GSIS Boys' TT team



GSIS U-14 Girls' TT team

An **Inter School Table Tennis Tournament** for boys and girls of all divisions were held at the Palada Campus of GSIS on Saturday, 17 March 2018. The following schools participated in the tournament:

1. Riverside Public School, Kotagiri
2. Crescent Castle Public School, Ooty
3. Unique Public School, Ooty

4. Good Shepherd International School, Ooty

The overall results of the tournament is mentioned in the table shown below:

Divisions	Winner	Runner-up	Best Player
U-12 Boys	GSIS	Riverside Public School	Manthan Atul Thakkar , Grade 6-B, GSIS
U-14 Boys	GSIS - A team	GSIS - B team	Shreyaan Jain , FM-3D, GSIS
U-14 Girls	GSIS - B team	GSIS - A team	Rashi Kedia , Grade 8-B, GSIS
U-16 Boys	GSIS - A team	Riverside Public School	Aryaan Amit Gokarn , FM-4D, GSIS
U-16 Girls	Riverside Public School	GSIS	Haashini (Riverside Public School)
U-19 Boys	Riverside Public School	GSIS - A team	Prathmesh Fomra , IB-1C, GSIS
U-19 Girls	Riverside Public School	GSIS - A team	Haashini (Riverside Public School)

Well done! Congratulations to the Winners!

All India Cambridge Outstanding Learner Award 2016-2017



Master Khush Vardhan Saraf,
IB-1D

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

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

Inter School Nilgiri Library Debate Competition



Master Sriniketh Krishnan



Master Hitayu Kukatla

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

Forty speakers from twenty schools from various parts of the Nilgiris district vied for the top honours. Two students represented each school and presented their arguments. Judges were assigned to select the best speakers and the top schools from the group. The topic chosen for this year's debate being "**Media – Factual or Judgmental?**", we were sure that it was going to be an intense and interesting debate.

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

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

Annual Cricket Prize Distribution



Dwij Dipak Patel



Aryan Bhavesh Patel



Yugam Surana

The **NDCA (Nilgiris District Cricket Association)** awarded special prizes to the following students on the basis of their outstanding performance in the Inter School Cricket Tournaments for the year 2017 -18:

Sl. No.	Name	Class	Category	Achievement
1	Dwij Dipak Patel	IB-1B	U-16	Best all-rounder
2	Aryan Bhavesh Patel	FM-2A	U-16	Best batsman
3	Yugam Surana	FM-3A	U-16	Best bowler
4	Maanav Trehon	IB-2B	U-19	Best bowler

The special awards were distributed at the Annual Prize Distribution Function held at Hotel Preethi Classic Towers in Ooty on 05 May 2018.

Congratulations!

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”

- Aristotle

Speeches delivered at Important Functions

Speech of Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS, The Collector of the Nilgiris district, on the occasion of the Annual Inter School Athletics Festival held at GSIS on Saturday, 19th August 2017



Mrs J Innocent Divya, IAS, delivering her address

Respected Madam Correspondent, Vice Principal, Principal, the Heads of the participating schools, Teachers, Physical Educators and my dear students and parents, a very good morning to all of you.

It gives me immense pleasure to be present here in your midst to inaugurate the Fifteenth Annual Inter School Athletic Festival in this most prestigious campus of the Good Shepherd International School. This scene I witness here is indeed exhilarating. All of you clad in colourful costumes, prim and smart and ready to go.

This reminds me of my school days, when I had also participated in similar sports events. There is one thing that comes to my mind now. When I was in Class III at the age of 8, I was selected to participate in the lemon and spoon contest, was the most difficult thing, even now I feel it was difficult, you know with the spoon and balancing that lemon, it's very difficult. So I somehow managed to come 3rd but that's what I thought. Somehow, the teachers at the end of the line, when I completed it, were busy looking at the 1st and 2nd and they had no time to look at me the 3rd, the one who finished 3rd. And there was another girl who went in and told the teacher, "I came 3rd". So she was selected as the 3rd contestant, the one who finished 3rd. So that affected me a lot. I felt so discouraged. I felt I was not given my due. My mother was a working woman but she had come to see me there. So I went to her and cried. I told her, "I'm not going to participate in any of the events again. This is injustice." The words she told me I still remember. She said, 'I came here not to see you win, I came here to see you run. I came here to see you participate.' So it doesn't matter whether you win or lose. That is one thing I would like to tell you today. Because sports is such a beautiful thing, it's an arena which brings together children from various cultural backgrounds. In spite of your ethnic and social divide, you come together in this playground to display that spirit of sportsmanship. That is what matters the most.

Winning is not important here. The spirit of participation, that's what matters. This is a place where your commonalities are highlighted, your divides are bridged and where you learn to accept success and defeat both in the same stride. This is what you need to learn from events like this. So, it also provides a forum to learn skills such as discipline, confidence and co-principles like cooperation and respect.

I quote from a famous athlete that "The Five S's of sports training are Stamina, Speed, Strength, Skill and Spirit", but the greatest of these is Spirit.

There was one very important study conducted by the students of the Harvard University. When they looked at common predictors of success in students, interestingly, the results found that the common predictor of success is not getting good grades in school, not intelligence either, but something called grit. Grit is the strength of character. And participating in sports events brings out this grit in you, this determination in you. It's o.k. if you fail for one time. If you are defeated once, you get up and strive again to succeed. This is one important predictor of success. This is one thing that you should develop, when you participate in an event like this. It also expounds the value of effort and how to manage victory as well as defeat.

These sort of event inculcates a sense of oneness in you. It fires competitiveness in you to excel in whatever you do. Sports is a great unifying force and as citizens of tomorrow you need continuous reassessment. In terms of your mental and physical fitness, it is a test of endurance, both physical and mental.

And I congratulate all the teams participating in this event. In this most prestigious event, I congratulate the winners and I extol those who cannot win this time to strive and win and succeed in your life.

Thank you very much.

Speech of Mr Murali Sundaram, *Happyness* Coach and Author, at a Special Assembly held in GSIS on Wednesday, 23 August 2017



Mr Murali Sundaram addressing the students and staff

Good Morning!

How many of you had breakfast yesterday morning, yesterday lunch and dinner? The food is still in our tummy, so let's have a little sound "Good Morning". Thank you very much.

I'm going to request each one of you to sit straight for a moment and I am going to request all of you to close your eyes. If you are wearing spectacles, please remove your spectacles. Please put your spectacles back in your pocket or keep it safely. And I'm going to ask everyone to close your eyes and whatever sound I'm going to produce I'm going to ask all of you to produce the same sound. Is it possible? Thank you!

Until I say, 'open your eyes', do not open your eyes. So please sit straight with the head and neck in one straight line, gently close your eyes and whatever sound I'm going to produce, produce with a lot of energy. All of you say

have to write anything. I'm not going to give a boring lecture to you, don't worry. I'm going to tell you something very, very, very interesting that for the rest of your life, not only just the school life, for the rest of your life, you will never be unhappy in your life. How many of you are interested to be always happy in your life, till the last breath? Thank you.

Then let me share with you the two keys of unhappiness. The number one key for unhappiness is called "The Donkey". What do donkeys do? They kick? That's the first thing they do? They also carry loads of weight, they carry loads, that's the role of a donkey. We have also become like donkeys. You guys have not reached that level, you need not worry. The reason why I am happy to share this here is so that you guys don't become donkeys. Once you cross 18 years many of us go into a donkey stage. You know why? There may be many times in your life, when you really want to give one tight slap to your friend because he irritates you to the core or even your teacher. She will ask you to submit a project of yesterday and you know that it's not possible, she also knows that, you also know it, but still she will tell you "Please submit, I want this project to be done on time, you have to do this". And you know what we will do? We will look at our teacher and say, "Yes Ma'am, I'll do it, Ma'am". How many of you understood, what I just said? Oh, it is all happening in your life then. Ok. So there are many, many situations in our day-to-day lives when we really want to tell what we feel. I really want to tell you exactly what you feel but because of the house rules, family rules, society rules, we do not express our actual emotion. Instead we suppress the emotion and show a different emotion. How many of you understand, what I just said? So like a donkey, from childhood memories, if you start and each the age you are right now there are various situations in your life when you have not expressed the original emotion. You have suppressed these emotions. And any emotion that you do not release; it can be with your parents, your friends, your teachers or anyone, any emotion that is not expressed and is suppressed, will become a very good emotional burden within us. Like a donkey we start carrying loads and loads of emotional heaviness within us. Today many communities say that the primordial cause of every disease is these emotional burdens that we are carrying.

So our job here, as you are students, is how to get rid of this donkey so that this donkey doesn't exist in our life. How many of you are interested to know how to kick the donkey out of your life? So let me share with you a technique. By the end of my speech, I'll show you a technique of how to get rid of the donkey. How many of you are interested in learning a technique with me today? Thank you, so I'm not going to give you a lecture or knowledge, I will share with you some signs and also at the same time, I will share with you a technique to kick the donkey out of your life.

The second key is for our unhappiness, is this fellow. How many of you have seen this fellow? It's called a Monkey. How many of you here have seen a monkey in your life? Not in a mirror, o.k? In real life. What does a monkey do? It keeps on jumping from one tree to another tree, one branch to another branch. Am I right in saying this? Like this monkey, we also have one monkey inside us called the mind. We all have a monkey mind within us, which keeps on jumping. Look at your own self: right from morning, half the time your mind is running to the past of yesterday and all that happened. Half the time your mind goes to the past of your life. If the past channel is bored, your monkey mind jumps to the future channel. How will the holidays be? When will I go home? Or what will I do tomorrow? How much score will I get in my academics? The Mind goes there.

If both these channels are boring, your monkey mind takes you to a fantasy world, where you are the Superman, you are the Spiderman, you are the Hulk, you are the Wonder woman and you will solve every problem in your fantasy world. How many of you understand what I said? So each one of us has a monkey mind and this monkey mind is of a very wild monkey not an ordinary monkey, and this monkey is also drunken; it's a wild drunken monkey. And these two 'keys', the donkey and the monkey are the number one reason for all our unhappiness. You take all your unhappiness that you suffer in your life; it will boil down to these two, the donkey within you and the monkey within you, because we have never learnt how to handle the monkey to stay in the present moment. Let me give you an example: How many of you have the habit of brushing your teeth in the morning? Wow, everyone? That's a medical miracle! I want you to think back to when you were brushing the teeth this morning and tell me what were you thinking of when you were brushing. You were thinking: What time should I wake up? What is the project to submit? What time I'm supposed to... the hand is just naam ke wasta, it is doing this action but the mind is somewhere else. We've never allowed our mind to stay here. The grip of the brush, the feeling of peppermint taste of the paste inside your mouth and the feeling of the bristles in the gum, that pressure inside, we never allow the mind to stay there, instead we went out. How many of you took bath today? Tell me, what were you thinking

of during bathing? Instead of enjoying the water on the body, instead of enjoying the bath, we end up thinking of something else, and this is how we start training our monkey to go outside for mental excursion instead of standing over here.

So it is our responsibility in this younger age to train this donkey and the monkey. Once you have learned how to handle these two for the rest of your life, you will not be unhappy. Even if you become unhappy you will know instantly how to snap back into happiness. How many of you are interested to know a technique for this? Say Yes! Thank you. So each one of you here wants to become happier. Am I right in saying this? You all want to be more successful, am I right in saying this? Can I give you an honest answer? You can't be. You know why? Because all of us sitting in the room are all victims of the top three industries of the world. You all want to become happier. You will go out after the school and you want to achieve more success, but one of the reasons why many many adults suffer a lot, is that they become permanent victims of the top three industries of the world.

Is there anyone in this room who knows of these top three industries of the world? Take a rough guess and shout! Thank you. Let me share with you. The number one industry in the world is called the "Arms and Ammunition's Weapons Industry." The number two industry is the "Health Care Industry" and the number three industry is the "Alcohol Industry". Look at all the three industries: the number one industry kills people, the number three industry makes you sick and the number two industry tries to maintain you, tries to revive you; they just maintain you. If all these top three industries have to remain the top three they need one element common with every human being. If that one element is common with each one of you, they always stay at the top three. And that one element is called "fear". We want every human being to stay in a state of fear. A fearless mind is the happiest mind. A fearless mind is the most successful mind in the world. But you know there's an amazing system designed in this world today to instill fear, even in a newborn baby? Do you know what that number one system of installing fear is? It's to make sure that every human being watches a box called television and make sure that all of us read newspapers every day. Watching television and reading newspapers is one of the best tools to instill fear.

How many of you have seen good positive news in the newspaper? The first paper you will see, on the first page of any newspaper you take – this many people died, car accidents and crashes. Have you seen any positive news? Has any of the positive things of the Good Shepherd School come on the first page any day? Rarely one or two days. The rest of the days we hardly see good things in the world. So I request everyone here, I know we are all students, you guys need to grab lots of knowledge, reduce as much as possible the consumption of TV. Why? I told this example to my friend and he was literally shocked when I said this and he challenged me "Murali, I will take up this challenge, that I will not watch TV for 30 days. Will I become happy?" I said "Go and experiment with it, then only will you know". My friend did this exercise and no TV watching, no newspaper reading for 30 days and after that he comes and tells me, "Murali, I'm 25% happier now, because my mind is more clear". As you grow up, as an adult, please remember how to handle the extra information that you are going to consume in your life. Every information that we are consuming, every information is going to stimulate the donkey or stimulate the monkey. Please remember that always.

So you should be very cautious of any information that you are going to take in. How many of you understood, what I just said? You know the question that everyone asks is "How can I be happy with all this negative information passing around everywhere?" You guys are in a very safe environment inside this school. But once we get out, the world is not as safe as what we see here and it's full of negative people out there. And negativity is like velcro, it attracts quickly. Positivity is like Teflon coating, you have to search for it. You would have done hundred good things but one bad thing. Your friend keeps on telling only that. How many of you understand that? Hey, everyone? Very good. That's the power of negativity which I am talking about. So, we as students, we as young children over here including me, I'm also a child now. When I'm with you, I also am a kid. So we as young minds, we need to know how to sharpen our positive mental attitude, because I've been working with lots and lots of successful entrepreneurs across the globe. Many of my friends are millionaires and billionaires, successful businessmen who have achieved great success. One thing I've seen common with every successful businessman or with successful people is they always carry a positive mental attitude and they work every day to develop this positive mental attitude. You don't have to do anything for negative attitude; it comes quickly. But you need to do this little bit of workout for the positive mental attitude. How many of you understand, what I just said?

Now let me ask you this question – What is the first thing that we all do when we wake up in the morning? What’s the first activity? Are you sure? Let me tell you what happens the minute the alarm rings. The minute the alarm rings, you know what will be the first activity? – “I just now slept, immediately morning has come.” One thought will come inside your head. The first activity will be that first thought – “Oh my God, just now I slept, morning has come?” Before your hand reaches and switches off the alarm or the general alarm of the school, the first thing that every human being does is one non-stop nonsense that starts talking to you. He starts talking to you the minute you open your eyes or the minute you wake up from your sleep, and right from that moment till now or till you go back to sleep “Nanananananana...” he keeps on talking. How many of you understand what I just said? Right now also he is speaking to you more than I’m speaking to you. In between my voice, his voice is going inside. Why? Because today research has shown very clearly that a human being gets more than sixty thousand thoughts per day. In that more than 70% or 80% are the same, repetitive negative thoughts. We all get only a few handful, useful, positive, constructive thoughts. Now everyone here in this room, you want to flourish in your academics, you want to flourish in all your co-curricular activities, you want to become more successful, and for that you need to understand one thing about this machine. How many of you are very good in using computers and comfortable with computers?

Let me ask you one general question. What is the controlling part of a computer? Not the mouse man, it’s the CPU. If the CPU is gone, the whole computer is gone, am I right in saying? Similarly, what is the controlling organ of this machine? Brain! Heart! Anyone for kidney! Stomach! Go to a medical doctor. The medical doctor will tell you that the controlling organ of this machine is the brain, which controls each and every movement and function of our life from morning to night, birth to death, and you are declared dead by the medical doctors only when the brain stops functioning. And you all as students have to understand one thing about the brain. There are specific areas in the brain responsible for a specific function. If you are very good in Mathematics there is an area in the brain responsible for Mathematics and that area works very effectively. If you are very good in communication, public speaking, thinking, time management, any of the co-curricular activities, sports, there are specific points in the brain. If that point is active, you become more successful in that particular task. That’s how the brain is alive and organized and develops. How many of you in this room are very good in public speaking? I’m sure that everyone will put your hands up. How many of you are a little scared? When I put you here your legs will be shaking, because for some of us it’s comfortable, for some of us it’s not comfortable. Let me take an example: because I’m speaking it’s easy for you to understand. Some of us are very good in one-to-one talking but in a group we struggle, the words will not come. Am I right in saying this? Why is it that for some people public speaking is very good? Because that area in the brain is very effective. It’s very active, thereby, that person quickly gets that skill. For another person, the reason he is not able to get that skill is that area is not active. How many of you understood what I just said? If you have understood, one question should have come in your head. Why is it that for him alone that place is active? Why not for me? Neuroscience, the science of the brain and the nervous system points out very clearly that wherever the blood goes into the brain, - (What does blood carry? Oxygen, very good) - the oxygen is delivered and that area becomes active. How many of you understood what I just said? So you should have got another question in your head. So I don’t stand every day and pray to God: “Go straight, turn left, deliver more oxygen here. I get very low scores in Mathematics, go and deliver here.” Do you pray like that? No, we don’t pray like that. The answer is very simple. Our ancestors who lived in this country five thousand years back and also the Neuroscience today says that the way you breathe determines which area of your brain will function effectively. The way you breathe determines the peak performance of this organ. The way you breathe determines who you are and who you are going to be also. You know, today technology has developed so much that you can actually calculate how many times you all breathe also. How many of you breathe here? Wow! Everyone? When was the last time you took breath? Right now? Very nice. What will happen if the air doesn’t go inside your nose? What are you called? Whatever scene you’ve put in is all over? So since the breath becomes the most important tool in our life, how many of you here know, how many times we breathe per day, per minute? Does anyone know how many times? Do you all breathe? Has anyone checked how many times you are breathing per minute? No? Our ancestors long long ago, said that if you really want to become more successful, happier, always healthy, a human being requires only five breaths a minute. If you can place yourself under five breaths a minute you’ll be the Rock star of whatever you guys are doing. You will always perform the best if you take five breaths, but if I ask you guys to do five breaths what will happen? It’ll go and get stuck over there. Yes, so let’s not attempt five breaths. Now, the reason why I am sharing this with you is that there is an advanced technology available today and through that you can actually find out how many times a human being is breathing, how many times a heart is beating, how

effectively the brain is functioning. So what I did is I went into this research very deeply and I tested more than twenty five thousand human beings including students, adults, managers, business owners and CEOs across the globe, I went and tested using a very advanced neurotechnology, whichever, the advanced technology, using this technology you can exactly measure how many times you breathe per minute, how deep you are breathing, how many thoughts you are getting in your head, and because of this, how much the impact of your heartbeat is and how badly your brain performs. You can actually measure it live, thanks to technology.

You know once I happened to test a 12th standard girl. Can I show the results of that without telling her name? How many of you are interested? Now, that's the graph which you are seeing on the screen, of a 12th standard girl who, according to her friends is the emotional volcano in the class. She is an emotional volcano because she gets upset, just at the snap of a finger. She gets irritated, she gets frustrated, she immediately cries or she jumps and screams at people. And she is termed as an emotional volcano by her friends. When I tested this, you know what I found out? She was breathing 22 times a minute. Her heart is beating 115 times a minute. What is the average heartbeat? 70, but it is working overtime 50 per cent more -115, 12th standard! And the brain? So you see lots of green hills over there? That's the amount of stress there is in the body of this young child who is only studying, that's all! Just going to school and studying has become a huge stress for her. And all you see there on the screen, on the red bar and the blue bar; the red bar talks about how 85% of the brain is not at all working in sync with the heart and the breath. So anything she does, she will forget, she will study the whole night, and the next day when she goes to the exam hall, nothing comes out. I just taught her a very simple way to increase the performance of her brain, thereby to handle the donkey and handle the monkey with a very simple breathing exercise. After 3 weeks of daily practice in the morning for ten minutes and in the evening for ten minutes and this is how her score became suddenly. See the difference in her breathing graph, the first one and after 3 weeks of daily practice she started breathing very, very slowly, deeply and the heartbeat has come down to 67 and the brain has started working with a 100% efficiency. Someone like this, to someone like this, here. Why? She took her life very seriously now. She says "No, come what may, I will become successful. Come what may, I will achieve whatever dreams and goals I have in my life. She took that very seriously. Interestingly, this is how a successful person's graph also was when I went around the world. Most of the successful people, the happy people in the world were all not breathing at 20 or 22. They were all breathing at 8 breaths a minute. Their breathing rate was 8 per minute. Almost everyone who's at the top of the success ladder, who is making lots of money, who is very healthy, are always happy. They are not at 5 breaths still, but at 8 breaths was a very good starting point. As students, for us to achieve more excellence in the subjects that we are studying and whatever activities that we are involved in, eight breaths is a starting point of a perennial source of happiness and success. 8 breaths a minute, helps you to get out the donkey and the monkey.

How many of you in this room are interested to practice right now like this. Are you sure? Can you all practise right now? Then let me ask you to close your notebook because still some of you are taking notes, I know that. Let's practise it. Now is theory; whatever I just shared with you - some stories and examples - are theory. Let me give you a very simple practical technique that everyone in the room can practise. So you need to sit straight for a moment and I am going to play an audio, which has two sounds – how many sounds? Two sounds of a Sitar. When you hear the first sound, slowly inhale. You know what is 'Inhale'? Inhale means breathing in. So here comes the million dollar question from me. It changed my life. Can I ask that question? More than 50% have given me a wrong answer so far. Can I? I know that we are all intelligent people. Can I ask you? If I inhale, my tummy has to come out or go in? O.k. Hold on, hold on. How many of you say 'comes out' raise your hand. Let me see. Very good. Thank you. Put your hands down. How many of you say 'goes in'? Hands up. Thank you. How many of you say, "Who the hell knows, Sir? Only my shoulder is going up and down". That's the three answers I've always got. 50% always gives me the wrong answer that my tummy goes in and 25% always gives me the right answer that the tummy has to come out. When you blow a balloon, tell me, the balloon goes inside or comes out. Similarly, the lungs also; when you breathe in, the tummy has to come out. That's the natural way of breathing. See, already we are not breathing correctly and you do the exact opposite way of it. Tell where the oxygen will go here. And that's the reason we get tired very quickly. You just read one paragraph in the book, we suddenly start yawning and pay attention to a class like this; suddenly you start yawning. Why? The oxygen supply is coming down. So successful students, successful businessmen have all understood the secret of success of how to operate this machine. The only way I can handle this machine is by supplying enough oxygen here. If this fellow has lots of oxygen and energy he will start bursting out with all the things that I want to do. That's the reason it's very, very important to pay attention.

So when you breathe in, the tummy has to come out. Everyone understood? And when we breathe out, it has to go in. So can we practise right now? So I'm going to play the music now, please sit straight and I'm going to ask you to close your eyes but let me first play the music. Tell me whether you guys have understood the music? And then we will get into the practise. Now this is the music I'm going to play, pay attention. This is the first sound ... ♪ second sound ... ♪. This is one beat, so on one beat slowly inhale and for the next beat slowly exhale. How many of you understood this? Say 'yes.' You have to say it a little louder 'Yes', then only will I know that you've understood. Thank you.

One beat inhale and another beat exhale. Do you think it's possible to pay attention for two minutes to this music. Let me tell you the minute I'm going to ask you to close your eyes, who will take over? The monkey inside, "Hey what are you doing man? Why are you sitting like this and breathing? Don't do all these things". One voice will start talking to you. Why? Because the monkey doesn't want to stay in the present moment. The monkey always wants to jump up and down. So do you think it is possible to handle the monkey for two minutes?

O.k. Now let me tell you one thing. This is quite natural, your monkey mind will not allow you to practise. Your mind may wander here and there, quite naturally. Do not worry about it. If you catch your mind wandering somewhere, come back to the practice and start practising. Possible? So please sit straight. Close your eyes. Take a nice deep breath in and breathe out when you hear the music. Go along with the music. 1 beat is to inhale, 1 beat is to exhale. Inhale slowly – exhale slowly according to the music speed. Follow the music.

Now without the music do it on your own 7 times, keeping your eyes closed. Play the music mentally and do it 7 times on your own. Count for 7 breaths on your own. Now bring both your palms together and start rubbing your hands until you generate sufficient heat in your palm and apply the heat of your palms on to your eyes, your face, neck. Put a beautiful smile on your lips and open your eyes. Put both your hands over your head and take a nice stretch up, a right stretch and a left stretch, give a Hi to your friend and say "You are awesome!" Thank you.

Now, how many of you were able to concentrate 50% and above of the time? 50% and above? More than 50%? - give a Hi to your friend and say, "That's good!" Now what we just practised is called deep abdominal breathing. That's it. When can you align this in a school life like this? This is very simple. Every morning, you must have 5 minutes of practice. The minute you wake up from your sleep do 5 minutes of this practice in the morning and then when you go back to sleep again for 5 minutes or if you have more time, spend 10 minutes for this practice, that's one place where you can align it in your day-to-day life.

Number two, how many of you stand and sit every day? Can all of you stand and sit down? Do you know whether you are inhaling or exhaling when you stand and sit? Can all of you inhale and stand, breathe in and stand up and breathe out and sit? Now many a time throughout the day, we are doing this. Am I right in saying this? Just align the breathing to your inhale and exhale. Thereby your brain starts kicking up more oxygen and is more efficient. Before starting any class, before any lecture starts, start the class with one minute of beautiful breathing, may be one minute of abdominal breathing along with your teacher. Start doing this practice. Probably before starting your studies, your prep or an exam, you can align it in your day-to-day life. Probably you may take a phone call, very few phone calls, you guys are blessed to have phone calls. But whenever you are talking to someone, your parents, every day or on a weekly basis just take one or two nice deep breaths, before attending a phone call or even before making a phone call, and if you are writing a message to your parents, do still the same.

Now there are various places in which, like this, you can align it in your day-to-day life, before you have your breakfast or lunch or dinner or a snack. Before you put anything in your mouth, remember, anything you put inside your mouth and mind, once inside it's very difficult to erase. So just become aware, take just one deep breath before the food goes inside. Is it a very difficult task? Possible, the more you start remembering that I have to breathe correctly the more you'll start practising because our monkey is much more intelligent than we are. The monkey inside you doesn't want you to stay in this present moment and stay happy. Why? The mind is a survival tool; it's a negative instrument. That's how it has been designed. So you'll always be very cautious but it's our responsibility to stay focused.

Speech of Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi, IAS (Retd), former Indian diplomat, during the Opening Ceremony of the Good Shepherd Model United Nations held at GSIS on Thursday, 14 September 2017



Shri Gopalkrishna Gandhi, IAS (Retd) addressing the audience

Mr Thomas, Mrs Thomas, Mr Selvaraj, Mrs Sheila Alexander, Mr Suresh Kumar, and students, I'm a little speechless today. I have never been to a school, which has this personality to it. By personality, I mean, not just its physical form, which is as impressive as it is, but its spirit, something of which I have already seen and much more of it I will discover in the few minutes ahead of us. I thank the school from my heart for giving me this opportunity and offer to all of you the greeting of a very old man, who through all his life, has had only one basic introduction, which is that of being 'the grandson of the grandfather that I'm the grandson of'. But more recently, I have been promoted to a position, which is the greatest promotion that I have had, which is that of becoming from a 'grandson who does not deserve his luck.' to a 'grandfather who is now dearly trying to measure up to the expectations of his granddaughters' My one and only introduction is that of a grandfather and so I give to all of you students, a grandfather's loving blessings.

Having said that, I want to share with all of you, knowing fully well that you are today in the form and spirit of the United Nations Delegates, a simple question that was put to me some years ago, by a girl who was about your age when she put that question to me. The question was: 'Is the world a good place or a bad place?' I had no answer to that question: is the world a good place or a bad place? I did not have an answer then and I do not have an answer now. Many answers suggested themselves to me. One answer was: I do not know what is good and what is bad. The world is sometimes good and sometimes bad. But none of those answers were good enough. Today that girl is herself a mother and her daughter will perhaps be asking her the same question. One thing about the world is clear, whether it is good or bad and that is, it is very varied; it has a variety that you cannot imagine. The maintenance of unity among nations is the subject that you have given to yourselves, for your deliberations today as delegates, to what may be called a 'Model United Nations.' I would like to put it to you: that unity is a very desirable objective

but it is not necessarily the most desirable objective. There are things beyond unity, which do not undermine unity, but which are also very important. When I was asked, 'Is the world a good place or a bad place?', among the answers that occurred to me was: it is not this and it is not that. Sometimes you can answer a question about what is something by saying what it is not. So let me put it to you, as I see all of you, for me I see you are all wearing the same uniform, there is a great similarity between you. I see a lot of young faces; almost all of you suppressing your laughter, wanting to look and be very correct, suppressing your questions, wanting to look and be attentive, suppressing your jokes, wanting to be and look serious. Whatever it be, you're trying to look the same, not be too loud, not giggling and gossiping, because your teachers are here, Mr and Mrs Thomas are here, Mrs Alexander is here, Brig Suresh Kumar is here and what will they see and say if they catch you laughing and giggling. You have a similarity in all this. But let me say this, in this similarity and this unity, if you are afraid, if your unity is a result of fear, it is a unity that you will have. Unity is not uniformity: that is something, which you must remember. Unity is not uniformity; to be the same is not a goal you should have. Unity, is basically, understanding. If one of you is fidgeting and the student next to you gives you a nudge, I think that is wonderful. If none of you fidgets, if all of you sit rock-like robots, I think I will be a very unhappy man. If you were to heckle me, barrack me, if you were to be, what can be called, a troublesome member of this group, I would not be happy, but I would be far less happy if you were to sit and behave like you have been programmed into being automations.

Take the Nilgiris; it is a miniature world, but look at the variety in it. You all must have been to those parts of the Nilgiris where the Todas live. I'm sure you have. Can those of you who have not been to the Toda land raise their hands? Not been to Toda home? You know, I'm so glad that so many of you have raised your hand to say that you have not been to a Toda home. Because it just shows that you are so honest. You must go to a Toda home. How many of you, now may raise your hands, have heard of the Todas? All of you have heard of the Todas? That is absolutely wonderful! There are the Todas. Then there is another great community called the Badagas. And then there is all of you who are from different parts of India, different parts of the world, all of you in the Nilgiris. So is the Nilgiris about being the same, about being uniform? It is about being very different. And yet, being together. Unity is basically about understanding. It is about being able to think with the other person, think for the other person. It is about being able to sympathize with the other person. If the person amongst you, right now, has a headache, you should feel free to conquer that headache and sit through this programme if the headache is not so serious. But if the headache is serious, that we feel like doing this (mimics pressing the head uncomfortably) then the person next to you should say, 'Come I'll take you out of the auditorium back to the room or back to the dispensary.' That is understanding.

In the world today, United Nations stands for understanding, not necessarily for the same understanding but, for understanding. It is very important that the smallest voice in the United Nations should have the same value as the biggest voice in the United Nations. It is wonderful, that all of us clapped the loudest for our flag, the flag of India. It is wonderful that a large round of applause for one or two flags and a different grade of applause for other flags is not unnatural but applause is applause. The value of each flag in the United Nations is identical, whether it is of a small country or a big country, which is why we've had problems with the institution of the Security Council, which is why we've had problems with the composition of the Security Council but that is not what should detain your thoughts today. I want to take ten minutes of the time that I have to say some very few things to you. Supposing I had just ten minutes to live, I have ten minutes to speak, if I am lucky I will have those ten minutes, but supposing I had only ten minutes to live, what would I do in those ten minutes? I would reach out to those I love. I would just grasp their hands, I would say, 'Go away everyone else, I just want to be with those I love.' And I would say sorry to some people whom I had not loved. I would say, 'Forgive me.' And I would expect to be forgiven. I would also say, 'I'm sorry if I've hurt you but I believe in what I believe in very strongly and you have to understand why I believe in what I believe in.' Well I would say that I want to go at the end of my ten minutes that there's no malice towards any of you, towards anyone at all, to be at peace with my maker. Now supposing I was to translate that into the ten minutes I have now, or the eight minutes that I have now, what would I do? What will I say? I will say, 'I love you' to a few things; what is that? That is the absence of war. I hate war. But some wars cannot be avoided. How many of you study Indian History, can you raise your hands? A great many! How many of you have heard of the Emperor Asoka? Even those who haven't studied history? Now Asoka is known for his remorse at a war, which he waged in Kalinga because he found it was a wrong war but Asoka did not disband his army. Asoka remained an emperor, he did not become a monk, though he became a Buddhist and he kept an army, though his army did not aggrandize it, it did

not conquer any territory after he had finished with Kalinga. So one can be strong in peace and in fact one can be in condition of peace, only if one is very strong. Strength is not just about power; it is also about the strength of ideas. What I love, I love peace, but now the peace of the coward; it is the peace of the strong. And peace, let me tell you, requires strength, enormous courage. The United Nations work for maintaining peace across the world through its peacekeeping operations, which is a work of great importance.

Next, I would say, "I hate inflicting pain and I don't want anyone to inflict pain on me." You have all heard of the word 'Ahimsa'. Those who have heard of the word 'Ahimsa', will you raise your hands? Thank you. Ahimsa means just this: 'I will not make anyone threaten me and I will not threaten anyone.' That is Ahimsa. 'No one will mess with me and I will not mess with anyone.' That brings me to a very important and a very disturbing subject and it has seven letters in English, the word is Torture. I do not want to trouble young mind with too many details about torture but everyone knows what torture is; there is physical torture, there is mental torture. We see torture around us all the time. There are forms of torture that are practiced across the world by countries, by states and the United Nations has a convention against torture and that is great step taken by the United Nations. India initialed the convention against torture, it is yet to sign it. I would like to see India sign that convention against torture, because torture is one of the worst things that can be done by anyone to anyone else.

How many of you have heard of the philosopher, J Krishnamurti? Great! I thought none of you might have heard of him. Let me tell you just one sentence of his. Krishnamurti was a philosopher from the south of India, who was reared in this part of the country and he said, 'What we are the world is,' which is no different from what we are. So if we talk about global sustainability and unity, these are just words, just guff, if we do not have what we want the world to be, the world will never have it. So, if we do not want the world to be tortured, we must have a global initiative against torture. And now, in the remaining five minutes, I want to just say that there are kinds of pain that we inflict on each other. Terrorism is the pain of our times. Inequality is the other great pain of our times. But one pain, which we have inflicted on ourselves, is the pain caused by human greed, which has led to what is called Climate Change or Global Warming. Terrorism, Inequality and Climate Change are the three great challenges before us. If we have seen rain over the last month in the Nilgiris, which should really come a month later from now, and if parts of our country are blighted by drought, which is making farming unsustainable, and leading farmers to commit suicide because of they are already in great debt, we are to blame, 'what we are, the world is.' And finally, armaments.

The United Nations has done a great deal but not nearly enough to rid the world of weaponisation. If you can remember one name, which I will mention, Martin Rees, Lord Martin Rees, he's the astronomer lawyer in Britain, astronomer: about stars, he studies the stars. He has written a book called 'The Last Century', and he says in that book that Nuclear Terror and Nuclear Error, in the world which has chemical Weapons and Biological Weapons, are great threats to human survival and that this century may very well be the last century. What a morbid thing to say to young minds! That you are young, you are not incapable of receiving serious messages. Error, which can cause the annihilation of life and Terror, which can cause the annihilation of life. Now into a new technological dimension called Cyber warfare, an issue which must feature in your minds, as you proceed into your adulthood. These are thoughts that bring me back to that first question: 'Is the world a good place or a bad place?' Do not seek an answer to that question. Just try to understand that question. Do not look for a false or a cosmetic unity that is meaningless. Look for real understanding; understanding of the suffering of another being, understanding of causes of suffering in yourself, and as you see yourself, see the world. And when you go back, either on your holidays or when you finish with school, from Good Shepherd to your own homes, just remember that the pioneering initiative of the founder of your school, the great support which he received from his family and from his colleagues, represents the will of the human mind to overcome this question: 'Is the world a good place or a bad place?', not with an answer but with a desire to make it a just place. A place where innocence and honesty, and above all a place where the freedom to be yourself is protected. Each of you must seek unity but each of you, even in your most doubting, quizzical, skeptical moments, is unique. You all heard of this Indian Scheme called Aadhaar. All of you know that there are different views in whether a uniform number should or should not be there in a country like ours. I do not want to go into that but please remember that the U in UID, stands not for 'uniform' but 'unique.' Each one of you is unique. In the protection of your uniqueness and in the respect that you give to another's uniqueness lies the key to unity, which is not uniformity. I thank you.

Speech of Mr Gopal B Hosur, IPS (Retd), Former Inspector General of police, at a Special Assembly held in GSIS on Friday, 15 September 2017



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

Good evening to you all. Let me do a special act today standing before you and that act would be to pay obeisance to my teacher Dr P C Thomas by offering him my gratitude. So I will take permission from you to get down from the stage, honour him and then come back to address you. He is our Maharaja - The founder-Principal of Good Shepherd International School, Dr P C Thomas, gracious lady Madam Elsamma Thomas, the Governing Council Member Mr Selvaraj, Mrs Julie, Mr Suresh Kumar, distinguished invitees, members of the staff, my dear Shepherdians, it gives me immense pleasure, not just pleasure but also pride to be the Chief Guest today at the Good Shepherd Model United Nations 2017. The speaker who introduced me was quite generous and I must thank him for his generosity. The pride and pleasure is for two counts. First and foremost, Good Shepherd International School is one of the finest schools, a school which is also world-class and you are all lucky to be here and I find great pride to be here standing before you all! At the same time I have another pride, that I am at a school which was founded by my teacher. He was my teacher five decades back, when I was studying in a Public School like you all are studying today in a remote place called Bijapur, Northern part of Karnataka. It was called Sainik School, Bijapur.

Sir, my memories of you being a teacher there are still green and I owe it to you all the progress that I have been able to make in my life. So I find it a matter of great privilege and pride to be here. More importantly, I am truly impressed by the kind of devotion and dedication, the kind of trials and tribulations which Dr P C Thomas has gone through in establishing a school of world-class of which you are students today. It is often said that success comes to those who dare and act, it seldom goes to the timid. It applies in true measure to Dr P C Thomas and his family and the group of people whom they assembled to ensure that the school reach the level that it has been able to reach today and I am sure, you as Shepherdians will climb the ladder of success after a year and become beacons of the society to help maintain peace and progress.

I congratulate Good Shepherd School for organizing this Model United Nations as events like this have a far reaching effect in moulding your personalities to become future leaders and it is one of the activities in which you are taking part with huge amount of enthusiasm. I am also conscious of the fact that this year and the previous few years you had invited some outstanding personalities to address you all, personalities who have made a mark in their lives through their own service, through their own contribution. Educationists, philosophers, you have invited them, good speakers.

I, as a police officer, who has put in 34 years of service, I do not know whether I will be able to measure up to that place. For 34 years I did practical policing, policing of maintaining law and order, of preventing crime, of detecting crime and so on and so forth. I am only used to speaking to people who violate law, who are not law abiding. So, you may find that during the course of my talk, I may be touching upon policing quite a lot than what you may have all heard it earlier. As I have said, when I began my career in Police, somewhere in the 80s, it was just preventing a crime, detecting a crime and maintaining public order. I never ever realized what the implication of my job was. It

was just plain, doing some duty. But as years passed, when I grew up in my service, I suddenly found that my role has began to change, not in just handling conventional crime but crimes which has undergone a sea change. We had the crime syndicates operating, we had terrorism, we had left wing extremism and so on and so forth. So the job became more and more challenging and the requirement of maintaining peace became equally challenging for me. But however, it was a very interesting journey and a very exciting journey in my career.

My subject for today is **responsible citizenship towards peace and progress of the nation and the world**. In simple words, how a citizen needs to be responsible so that peace can be ensured to facilitate development and progress. So it is therefore necessary, dear Shepherdians that we need to look into the issues that confront the society today. I understand how each one of us can contribute to a better society. It is often said that those who do not learn from History are condemned to repeat it. I am saying this because I want to give you a little historical perspective to what we need to be doing today. Probably you will all agree that the darkest period in human history was in the first half of the 20th century. In the 20th century, we had 2 big wars, World War 1 and World War 2. World War 1 spread from 1914 to 1918 and World War 2 was from 1939 to 1945. The kind of effect this had on the world was tremendous. It was horrendous! The World War 1 was fought with conventional weapons where 20 million people died, not a few hundred but 20 million, and a large number of people became injured. They were homeless. They were destitute. As a consequence of the 1st World War, the League of Nations was set up. The League of Nations which came into existence tried to negotiate between countries which were at war, to bring peace to the earth but unfortunately the effort of the League of Nations was short lived. It could not prevent the 2nd World War and by the time the 2nd World War broke out, conventional weapons were replaced by more destructive, more powerful weapons and World War 2, when it broke out, it engulfed the whole world. More than 80 million people lost their lives in the 2nd World War and number of countries were demolished. There was a great economic depression and humanity had hung its head in shame but there was a silver lining to the 2nd World War, that is the establishment of the United Nations.

The United Nations which came to be established, began to play its role in a way which was little more different from what the League of Nations had done earlier. The United Nations through its own effort was able to bring about understanding between nations and its scope and its activity just did not focus on ending conflicts but it spread to other areas. It took up the other challenges that were before the human race. The challenges of hunger and poverty, the challenges of health, the challenges of education, the challenges of climate, the challenges of maintaining the environmental technology and so for the last 17 years, the United Nations has been so effective that we have not had any major war. Einstein once said after the 2nd World War, "God forbid if the 3rd World War takes place, it would be the end of humanity and probably the 4th World War would be fought with sticks and sickles! Now this being a horrendous situation, so it was necessary that the United Nations begin to assert itself in more ways than one and the fact that today we are all meeting here for the Model United Nations in school, you can understand the effort the United Nations has been making to maintain peace because you as youth will be the citizens tomorrow and you will have to play a very important role and we must applaud the effort of the United Nations in doing so.

The impact of the United Nations was manifold. First and foremost it aimed at liberation of large number of countries from subjugation to colonization and India was also one of them. There was a rise of progressive democracies, the framing of the Constitution for the rule of law and the ethical treatment of all human beings. Education being recognized as the right to lead a life with dignity, preserving the natural resources as forest, wildlife, air, water, so very essential for sustaining life. Growth of technology has helped to communicate, trade exchanges and bring up the whole world on one single platform and concerned share by societies are making national boundaries, only lines on the map. The concept of global citizens, the concept of one world as enshrined by Wendell, refer to what Wendell Willkie said. Wendell Willkie went around the globe in 49 days and at the end of that he said, "Mood of the people, the aspirations of the people, the emotions of the people and the desires of the people are so, so very common all across the globe that the whole world looks as if it is one city or one town. So this being the case," he said, "Unless we have a world, one world and world governance, this place will not be very safe to live in."

Today nations are able to trade freely and go to one another's support during crisis, either man-made or when natural disaster strikes. We all know that utopia is an imaginary concept. Despite all the efforts of the United Nations, still conflicts have not come down. We find that conflicts are taking place in at least about 90 locations

across the world today. These conflicts are based on ethnicities and territorial integrity. Day in and day out we hear of terror attacks on security forces, on innocent civilian population which both have a very serious overtone in public life.

The 21st century began with a rise in terrorism across the globe. The episodes of 9/11 in the US, the episodes of 26/11 within our own country are illustrations of how small groups of people who are radicalized by religion, who are radicalized by certain ideologies are creating violence across the world. So peace is still elusive and it is the duty of every citizen to bring in peace through their own efforts. But if you look at the ethnic conflicts that are taking place across the world today, most of them are in areas which are economically weak and you find them to be taking place in West African countries, South Saharan countries, in the Middle East and just across India and some of its neighbourhood. So you must understand that peace is not an absence of conflict. Peace means giving justice to the people. If we are not able to give justice to the people, we will not be able to have a society which is free from anxiety and tension. So the only way conflicts can be avoided is to promote development in economic growth, development in health and education, ensure the rule of law and justice through good governance and address a very important issue which is catching the attention of the whole globe today, in climate change.

The mother Earth has enough and plenty for everyone of us and everyone's needs but it is definitely not enough for everyone's greed. There are plenty of resources available in the world, plenty of resources, natural resources available in the world but unfortunately it is 20% of the population which has access to 80% of the resources and 80% of the population just has access to 20% of the resources. This inequality in the world needs to end and for this there is a need for governments, for civil societies to ensure that we have governments which are responsive to the needs of the world. The UN's millennium development goal aims to address these issues and let us hope that the United Nations will achieve it during our times.

I have been to the Olympics, the RIO Olympics 2016. I went there as a Security Advisor to Indian Olympics Association. One thing I observed there, is that there are 206 contingents participating in the Olympics. I stayed with all the Olympians for almost close to a month. One thing I observed is that there is fierce competition in the field of sports but when the competition is over, they are all one. Why can't we bring in sportsmanship spirit in politics, in governance, and in understanding, creating understanding. So I would suggest Olympic movement has been one of the finest movement post World War 2.

Now let us come closer home. We are the citizens of India. India has a huge, rich tradition of being one of the oldest civilization with a rich heritage, culture and history of more than 5000 years. But in the contemporary context, I would like to draw your attention to the period that I was growing up. When I was growing up it was in the middle of the 20th century. India was called a country of poverty. India was called a country of disease. We were treated as 2nd grade citizens in the committee of Nations. But thanks to globalization, privatization and liberalization that came in the 90s, today India can hold its head high in the Committee of Nations.

You are the youth who are now part of a resurgent India, you have huge opportunities and huge challenges before you. We had either to do engineering or medicine or join a government job, but you have huge opportunities and huge challenges and huge ability, much higher than our earlier generation. The role of social media has impacted us very severely. I would say rather, the other day I was giving an interview and the lady asked me, "What do you think of the social media?" I said, social media can be a good source of communication of ideas but unfortunately today the social media has ruptured the very fabric of the society and has created more intolerance, more hatred! Very recently there was a murder which took place in Bangalore city, of a journalist who was shot dead point blank and it was all because of some certain ideological reasons and I am sure societies which have intolerance are bound to suffer of lawlessness, lack of peace which would impact on the overall administration, overall prevalence of peace in the society.

Now I would come to the point. How can a person or a citizen be responsible? How do we make ourselves responsible as citizens to ensure peace and progress in the world? Now being a citizen it would cover many areas. If you want to be responsible, you need to respect the law. There are certain legal obligations that you will have to adhere to and many more social and moral values. Therefore being a responsible citizen is not just staying within the purview of law, it is going beyond the requirements of law. Peace and progress is the need of the hour for the nation and the youth today are many a times disgusted with the environment. They have become cynical but remember what

Mahatma Gandhiji said. Mahatma Gandhi then said, "You must not lose faith in humanity. Humanity is an ocean, a few drops in the ocean, even if they are dirty, ocean will not become dirty." So there may be certain elements who are radicalized into violence but the vast majority of the human race wants peace and progress and it is the duty of a responsible citizen to ensure that the people are not radicalized. People are taken on the right path by interacting with them, by advising them, bringing them on the path of law, bringing them on the path of good conduct. So how do we now become? As youth, you are now much brilliant assembly of people, the first and foremost you need to remember is that you are all governed by a constitution, Constitution of India, and governed by moral values, so learn to respect the constitution of the nation, for which you just have to read the constitution again and again, reading of the Preamble to the constitution, which has in itself a huge message to humanity, to the people, people of this country deals with. We, the people of India having solemnly resolved to constitute India as a Sovereign, Socialist, Secular, Democratic Republic and to give justice, social, economic and political liberty of thought, expression, belief and worship, equality of status and opportunity and promote among them all fraternity, assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation. If you keep reading this again and again, it's just like a mantra, it is not to be recited like a mantra but it needs to be practised by each one of us in our daily lives. You must all resolve to strengthen democracy by actively participating in it. When I say actively participating in a democracy because democracy is the best form of government available to us today. The worst democracy is better than the best of the communism available now. So you must respect democracy and be a part of democracy and take an active role in democracy.

Couple of you will be turning 18, you will be turning as citizens entitled to vote. So you must make your choice. What is happening today? We have governments in which voting percentage is around 60-65, sometimes it is much less, so do we have a popular government? We must have a popular government that reflects the aspiration of the citizens. So every citizen, very important that he participates in the celebration of democracy by taking part in the election, going to the voting booth and casting his vote for a party, for a person, who is far better than the rest.

Another decision that you as a youth will have to take is not to practise social evils. What are the social evils which you understand it contemporarily, are untouchability, gender discrimination, dowry system and religious intolerance. We all belong to one or the other religion. We maybe a Hindu, we may be a Muslim, we may be Christian, we may be a Sikh, we may be a Parsi and so on and so forth. None of us becomes a Hindu, none of us becomes a Muslim, none of us becomes a Christian, none of us becomes a Sikh unless we live in the spirit of the Holy Scriptures- the Bhagvad Gita, the Bible, the Zend Avesta and so on and so forth. It is respecting each and every human being, not just respecting each and every human being but respecting even non-living things. So it is important that you may belong to any religion, caste or creed, it is important for us to practise the spirit of those religions. I must conclude with a very famous poem, which I am sure you all know, which used to be sung in my school when I was a student. Rabindranath Tagore wrote in those days

"Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high"

I know many of you are repeating it, as you are so conversant with it.

*Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high
Where knowledge is free
Where the world has not been broken up into fragments
By narrow domestic walls
Where words come out from the depth of truth
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection
Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way
Into the dreary desert sand of dead habit
Where the mind is led forward by thee
Into ever-widening thought and action
Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake.
let us all awake..*

As John F Kennedy rightly said, "Ask not what the country has done for you. Ask yourself what you can do for the country."

What you can do for the society, because in a couple of years you will be passing out of the portals of this institution and the motto of your institution has been 'Truth, Trust and Triumph.'

I will share a small anecdote from the freedom movement about what trust is. At the time when the freedom movement was on, there was a call for freedom. People began to violate the law. They began to come out on the roads and block the roads and the British officers who came to the spot said that, "You cannot block this road: in case you block this road, we are forced to arrest you" and the protestors said, "We are peaceful, we will get arrested peacefully." So the police officers arrested them, put them on to a van and just before the van was to start, the lady who was also being arrested, removed all the jewellery from her person, she put them in a handkerchief and she called a person standing outside in the van and said, " Eh come here." She handed over that handkerchief with her jewellery to him and the van started. As the van started somebody sitting next to her asked her, "Madam, how come you gave this jewellery to a stranger whom you don't even know?" The lady replied, "I gave it to him because he was wearing a Gandhi topi and Gandhi topi means that I can trust that man that he will deliver it to me when I get out of the prison." Now that is what is trust!

I am so happy that the motto of your institution is 'Truth, Trust and Triumph' and I am sure that if you follow the path of Truth, Trust and Triumph which will be ingrained in you during your stay in this institution, in your growing years, you will ultimately triumph in your life. You will become beacons of the society, you will lead the society and wherever you are you will remember this institution as having given you that strength to proceed in life and once you become a strong citizen, I am sure you will be able to influence the society around you. You will be able to influence the peace and thereby ensure the progress of this nation.

I thank you all for having given me this wonderful opportunity to address you as I rightly said in the beginning as a police officer we hardly speak. We are used to talking to or shouting to people who are rioting, protesting, who are committing crimes. We have never spoken in such august, peaceful, vibrant assemblies. So if there has been any amiss in my talk, I am sure you will bear with me and also request Dr P C Thomas – it was out of love for my Guru, my teacher, Dr P C Thomas, that I am here and it has been a wonderful opportunity for me to see such young vibrant faces, so dedicated, so sincere and the kind of discipline, the way you conduct yourselves, this has been exemplary. It is just like you drop a pebble into a pond of water, what happens? Concentric circles go around till the end. So I have been here for just a couple of minutes today, this itself is enough for me to draw conclusions as to what effort has gone into this and I must really complement the Management of this school, the Principal, the esteemed staff and all of you for giving such a wonderful opportunity for me to stand before you, to address you and be a part of you, this evening.

Thank you very much.

Speech of Mr Bharat Joshi, British Deputy High Commissioner, at the Closing ceremony of the Model United Nations, held in GSIS on Saturday, 16 September 2017

Thank you, good evening, all. I am an old man, so I don't use computers, so excuse me. I've gone the old fashioned way of using paper. Good afternoon and thank you all so much for inviting me to attend this event as an active participant in global affairs.

I am pleased to see so many of you here, interested in international relations. I am also very pleased to be back at this school. I was here for the first time about five weeks ago and it is an absolute delight to see what you have achieved here in this school and I have the opportunity to engage with all of you. Good Shepherd is a reminder to me that is happening best in India. What is not happening in the tier 1 metros, it's happening outside. I am also very conscious that I am following in the footsteps of my very good friend, Gopal Krishna Gandhi, so I hope I won't let him or let you down. I just want to commend all those people who spoke today. I know from my career how difficult it is to do public speaking and we were all seeing how confident and how accomplished all of you seemed to be and to use humour in a speech, which takes huge confidence. Congratulations to all the speakers! I am proposing to structure my intervention into three parts. So In the first, I am going to say something about my own personal journey as a diplomat. I am a British diplomat but I am of Indian origin. I was born in the United Kingdom, so my



Mr Bharat Joshi addressing the delegates

journey is different from many of my colleagues and then I'm going to say something about what I think diplomacy means in the 21st century. I think it's a very different world for diplomats from the one I had and I think I'll say finally what has changed about diplomacy in the face of that hanging environment in which we live but also something about how diplomacy has stayed the same.

I'd never expected to become a British diplomat, never mind to become a British Ambassador at a relatively young age of thirty nine and that too to be the first of Indian origin British Ambassador employed by the British Government. In those days I felt that Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service was very much a place for white, male, 'Oxbridge', Oxford or Cambridge educated, privileged white people and that was quite a commonly held view. When I joined the Foreign and Commonwealth office in 1995, I was one of the handful, literally handful of ethnic minority diplomats and in fact thanks to my mother that I am doing the job that I am doing now. I was working in the private sector and she could see that I hated the job that I was doing and she brought a cutting from the newspaper and said the Foreign Office wants people. I said they don't want people like me and she said, "Well, no, you should apply" and she herself brought me the application form. She stood over me while I filled out the application and then she even went to post the application form for me and I was

shocked when I passed the whole battery of tests and interviews that you have to do to pass to become a diplomat in the same way you do to become a member of the Indian Foreign Service, but my mum knew that this was what I was destined to do. So if there is one lesson you take away from my speech today is to always listen to your mother. I'm really sorry, I know you are really teenagers. I know you hate the idea that your parents might be right but trust me my mum was. When I joined the Foreign Office, I came from the private sector, so I looked different. All of my white colleagues thought I was older than them. So I spent my first few years as a diplomat trying to fit in with the rest of my colleagues. But I gradually realized that it's impossible to be someone in life pretending to be someone that you aren't and I started to be much braver in expressing my own opinion on foreign policy, on doing things, asking for approval from my bosses. I'm becoming much more of an activist but I also started to become much more visibly Asian. I started to wear the fact that I was an Indian on my shoulder. I had to balance the fact that I was of Indian origin with the fact that I was a British diplomat. And that brought me to the understanding that what made me unique as a British diplomat and gave me the confidence to rise through the ranks quite quickly and become that first Ambassador of Indian origin at a fairly young age and I continue to live in that way. So I am very proud to serve the British Government but equally incredibly proud of my Indian heritage. I am a practicing Hindu. I am a vegetarian. In fact our residence in Chennai is the only residence that the British Government has anywhere in the world. I am essentially an evidence of the UK's commitment to multicultural society in which people succeed due to their ability and talent; not because of their colour, their race or their religion. And it is that recognition which has made me different and made me a better leader rather than the things that make me the same as everyone else.

So what I would say to you, all of you is that as you go through life, don't forget that we are all unique and it's actually that uniqueness which turns us into better leaders, so don't always try to fit in with your peers. I said I would say something about the world in which we live. I think that the world you are entering is a very different world into which I grew up in. I think of the time in which we are living now in as being a hugely disruptive age and I'll be clear. I think the world has always faced disruption in some form. In fact the things like the crazy suggestion that the world was round or that we evolved from single-celled organisms were in my view more disruptive in their time than any single idea in the 21st century. But the pace of disruption that we see now driven by technological

change and innovation and external factors is unprecedented in my lifetime. Globalization brings opportunities to address income inequality to tackle global shocks like the 2007 Global Crisis by countries coming together to work as partners and to deliver positive social change across the globe. But it also magnifies risks from things like cyber security or from criminal networks which have become transnational in the way in which they behave and form international terrorism. Yesterday's attack in London is a horrific reminder.

Like India, our cities are symbols of multiculturalism, tolerance and secular democracy and they are under attack. I would also highlight the impact of climate change which is not only happening but increasingly restricting the way we are able to live our lives especially for people living in coastal communities. Access to scarce resources like water will bring growing pressure around the world but the impact will be much more challenging for developing countries. Demographics means that there is a growing pool of young talent ready to transform countries like India but they will demand opportunities and high value jobs and technology brings unprecedented pace and uncertainty to the world that we live in. I think Tamil Nadu is a really good example of that. It's a major automotive hub but it is going to have to adapt really quickly to that growing appetite for electric vehicle. My own country faces disruption of itself. The decision that we took a year ago, a year and a half ago to leave the European Union will inevitably be disruptive. It will require changes to our foreign policy, to our economic policy, to our trade policy and to our own internal laws and policies and as with all change that disruption brings huge new opportunities for the UK to take responsibility for its own destiny in a rapidly changing world.

My government is clear; a post Brexit UK will become a beacon for free trade based on clear, simple and fair international rules. That change has important implications for our relationship with India. The UK is the largest G20 investor in India and our companies are responsible for one in twenty jobs in the formal sector and Indian companies invest more into the United Kingdom than they do into the rest of the European Union combined. And last year India created or safeguarded more jobs in my country than any other country. Companies like TVS Logistics employs about four thousand people in the UK. Brexit is going to create new opportunities for our companies in both directions with a possibility of a new preferential trading arrangement that will benefit our companies and our countries and in parallel we are going to be investing over a 1000 crore rupees and supporting India's growth over the next few years in things like smart cities and urban growth in providing India's energy needs, especially in renewables on ease of doing business. On financial service and entrepreneurship to help secure the finance on trillions of dollars that India needs to support her infrastructure ambitions. So our future together is bright and transformational one and finally since you're all observers in global affairs, I thought you might welcome my personal thoughts on what it means to be a 21st century diplomat. I think there is no question that diplomacy has changed over the course of my career. When I joined in 1995, before most of you were born in what my youngest daughter calls the olden days and yes we did have televisions and they were colour. Information about a foreign country came primarily from the country's Ambassador and it usually came in the form of a telegram that were sent days and sometimes weeks after an event had happened. That's completely changed. I just want a show of hands: how many of you read newspapers? Okay. How many of you get your news from the internet? How many of you guys get your news from the social media? How many of you are on social media? That's pretty much. What that means is that we diplomats are living, we are working in, we are living in a very congested space so when diplomats are trying to get their voices heard we are having to compete with all sorts of other voices, some of which are louder, more visible than we are. That means our ministers can sometimes have quite developed views on particular issues before we even have the chance to talk to them depending on what they have seen on TV or what they have seen on their twitter feed. In a crisis the speed at which media organizations are able to get on the ground and broadcast those stories is shocking and what it means we are, we as governments are having to make policies much faster without having that chance to think up much more complex political solutions.

There is a lot more peer competition to traditional diplomatic institutions like the United Nations, from NGOs, increasingly involved in advocacy works. It comes from thinktanks that have more and more power. It comes from individuals who have particular causes, are able to bring to bear. People like Bob Geldof, for example, the way they were able to force governments to support Ethiopia after the famine.

In those days when I joined, Ambassadors were much more likely to be policy wonks and there were greater writing, long policy documents and think pieces without using split infinitives. That's all changed. Today's diplomats in very many ways is different. We are different creatures. We have to do that policy work, we have to be much faster

thinkers. We have to not just be aware of the impacts of social media but we need to embrace it. I'm on facebook, instagram and twitter. Anyone's interested, you can follow me on twitter. We need to use technology ourselves rather than relying on our teams. When I joined the Foreign Office, an Ambassador like me wouldn't write anything. We were dictated to in a little tape machine and then my PA would type it up for me. That's all gone. I now type things up myself. The 21st century diplomat spends much more time outside the office building relationships with a wide group of people; not just other diplomats and government officials, business leaders but next generation influences, civil society actors, representatives from vulnerable groups. We do a lot of work with victims of sexual violence. We do a lot of work with LGBT community. Today's diplomat has to be much more comfortable with taking risks than what we were twenty years ago. I have to make decisions on the spot and I have to be responsible and accountable for those decisions to my government. When I first became a diplomat, Ambassadors were responsible for only delivering foreign policy. We would talk to governments and we would try to persuade them the things we wanted to do. That's changed. I am now responsible for delivering the whole of the UK government agenda in my Geography. Working with a widespread team, most of the people who work with me in Chennai don't come from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. They are employed by the Home Office. They are employed by our Consular Directorate. So diplomacy has changed in a lot of ways.

But I still think, in the most important ways, diplomacy, at its very heart, remains the same. For me, this is still very much a people business. It's about building sustainable and mutually beneficial partnerships based on trust. Diplomats still need to understand the countries in which they operate. Whether that's by learning the local language or by learning about its history and its culture or by engaging with its cooking. And for me most importantly, diplomacy is still very much about making the world we live in a better place whether that's by preventing wars or managing crisis by alleviating poverty or by helping our businesses grow. It all comes down to making people's lives better. And that's why after 21 years I still feel that I have the best job in the world. You're all here because you care about the world that we live in and as you move through life, this one plea that I would make to each and every single one of you, is to try and hold on to some of that idealism. You and the world will be a better place for it. Thank you.

Speech of Smt. Nirupama Rao, IFS (Retd), Former Indian Foreign Secretary, on the occasion of the Founder's Day, on Sunday, 15 October 2017

Dr Thomas, Mrs Thomas, Ms Julie Pradeesh, Chairman and Members of the Board of Governors, members of the staff and faculty, dear parents and students,

It has been such a feast for the eyes to witness the beautiful cultural performance that was presented before us this evening. Every single one of the children excelled themselves and I think they deserve a huge round of applause. I also want to congratulate Dr Thomas and the school for the CIS International Certification and all the awards that are very justifiably coming your way. Congratulations!

It is wonderful to return to the Nilgiris and renew my personal connection with this part of the world. I spent my adolescent years in Coonoor where I went to school. In fact, I finished school in Coonoor and then went on to university and the whole wide world beyond. And this region, the Nilgiris, is very close to my heart because it is essentially where I believe I not only grew up but where I spent my most impressionable years and I think the memories of that time do not fade. I think it is the same for all of us, for those last few years we spent in school, in many ways, shaped us and moulded us for the future.

I was reflecting on what I should focus on in my remarks for this evening. And before I forget I should extend warm birthday greetings to Dr Thomas. Today is his birthday – a very happy birthday to you and many, many more to come in the service of our country. Thank you.

I think Dr Thomas's vision and his leadership, the fact that he is one of those unique persons who has dared to dream and to achieve his dreams makes him very, very special. Because when you look at the school you recognize and you understand what a stupendous achievement it represents in every sense.



Smt. Nirupama Rao, IFS (Retd), addressing the parents, guardians, teachers and students

understand the need to educate parents about educating their children. Too often, we, as parents we proceed on the assumption that our duty is only to impart and not to imbibe. My own belief is that we are never educated enough and that unless we expand our horizons day in and day out we cannot become better persons and thereby better teachers to our children.

Now this is a point I thought which was very important for me personally – what does a 21st century education mean? Let's not be guided by 20th century pedagogy that still governs most of the classrooms across the world, I would say, also in our country. And while I say it I realize that the virtual global classroom has replaced the brick-and-mortar classroom of yesterday.

This is a brave new world and we must learn to come to terms with it. We are living in a technology-driven society. The touchscreen, the click of the mouse, the youtube video with 40 million views, these are just some of the examples of what define a day in the life of the 21st century human being. The human brain and our sensory apparatus are being bombarded with an information and data overload. We need a collaborative process and it has to be a three-way process of communication between teachers, students and parents to glean the best from this 360 degree information 'blitzkrieg' as you would say in German. This sort of attack of information from all sides. Now let's turn to 360 degree learning, take a topic for study for instance, let us assume the subject is China, a country with which I've been associated for some time. Every class in the school, for example can be assigned this topic, I mean every class from Primary to Higher Secondary and the study of the topic need not be confined to just one classroom or one subject, Geography or History or Physics. But it should be a class-wise process, so that the project when it's complete provides a holistic awareness of the topic at each level Primary, Middle school or High school. And the parent can also provide his / her own unique inputs to this study based on his / her own life experience. Life, you must realize is the best textbook of all.

The second point I wanted to make is that education is about connecting, connecting minds, reaching across borders, across science, the humanities, it's about open mindedness and the sharing of knowledge and I always say that

Now, since so many parents are here today and I extend my greetings to all of you, I was reflecting on what the role of parents should be in the education of their children and what is the connection that they establish with their children's schools. Obviously creating a partnership between parents and the schools in which their children study is very clear and obvious. It's a requirement that you cannot deny because we all know that as parents children look up to their parents in many ways. They idealize them, they emulate their example, they seek their approval and praise. You are your children's learning models. Therefore, it's very important to have give and take conversations with your children, listen to their voices, understand their hopes and their fears and be their friends, their philosophers, their guides. You must find out what their natural talents are because I don't think children can be sort of slotted into convenient categories. I think they are born with some innate talent. There is a phrase in Spanish that we all entered, you know come into this world with a divine music within us. I am not speaking of music in the conventional sense, but instead that essential harmony, that balance and that spirit and soul within us which I think must be nurtured and that is what every child has and we must take care of.

You have to not only be the guide for your child, you must understand that it's a vast ocean of life that stretches before them. All those of us who are interested in education must

there can be no greater tragedy than the tragedy of the closed mind. The mind that feels that it knows all and there is nothing further to absorb and I hope that never, never, ever confronts us. There is a quote which goes as follows, "Age may produce wisdom, but relevance needs to be worked on everyday." How relevant is our knowledge in today's day and age? We have to regard ourselves as voyagers in the depthless, churning, ocean of learning. One can never stop learning. Knowledge, as the old Sanskrit saying goes, is the greatest wealth of all, the greatest gift and it is depthless. Knowledge has to unite us, not to divide us. It has to create a community of learners, enrich life on a daily basis and that is why I say Vidhya Dhanam, the wealth of education is the greatest wealth of all.

This process of learning, I regard as a kind to cartography, a subject that has fascinated me greatly where you learn about maps and about scales of maps and grid references and all that you internalize but I'm trying to apply that image, that metaphor as well to life and the acquisition of knowledge. Now what is the process of cartography? Why do you use a map? You use a map when you have to sail the seas, when you have to discover new places, when you have to reach a destination, you follow the map and you use it to explore the world beyond. This notion of cartography, I'm not talking of the physical map here, I'm talking of the map in your mind, that spirit of enquiry. Just as through maps you explore new places, what happens outside the class is also what learning is about, for instance in the cultural performances that we saw today, in discovering the joys of the spoken and the sung word, on the sports field, in short, in understanding would I call the grid references of the map of life.

This process is about seeing every bend in the river, every ridgeline on the horizon and that way the map of your life can become bigger, it can become more detailed. You start a map with very little detail, you know it's very small in terms of its reach but as you add places to it and as you add routes to it and as you add destinations to it the map becomes so much richer and so much more detailed and it becomes your guide. You keep adding to the missing segments and deepen learning. All of you who saw the film, the latest film of Star Wars, think it was 2015, the whole story is about searching for that missing segment in the map that will lead you to **Luke Skywalker**. So that's what maps are about.

You must realize that this is not formal process. This process of learning, it's in many ways incomplete because it's so depthless but there is a way to access it and there is a way to go about acquiring it. It's about Cartography, it's about discovering new and unheard places and creating your new places, it's about creating your own destinations, it's about thinking not only out of the box, not only in the box but without the box. I think that's what it is about. And, as has been said before, you see that little bit of shoreline, as your ship is sailing the seas and you want to explore it: that is really is what life is about. You constantly need to ask questions. And, asking questions is not reserved for the young alone.

Finally, I think education should not dislocate you from your natural talents as I just referred to. And also, you know, we talk about education reform, we say education has to be reformed and we have to practice new methods of teaching, but let's approach this challenge not just by saying we need to evolve. I think each and every one of us has to think that there has to be a revolution. There has to be a revolution in education and it has to include all these new aspects of 21st century life that I spoke about. We have to really open our doors as our founding fathers said. Innovate, be creative and for me, I heard somebody use this phrase the other day - the tyranny of common sense- for me that is the worst deterrent to exploration and new discovery. Because we think, oh, this is common sense and we should approach an issue in this stipulated way. But why not think otherwise? Think of a new way to approach a problem or a challenge and that's what I said thinking without the box is all about.

I remember **Abraham Lincoln**, here, and what he said in 1862 to members of the US Congress. His words were "The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew. We must disenthrall ourselves and then we shall save our country." I think, too often, we are in thrall of something. We are in thrall of a leader, or we are in thrall of something in life around us. But, let's move away from that, let's constantly question, let's constantly quest, let's constantly explore and that is really what Lincoln meant by the need to disenthrall ourselves. Let's not take too much for granted. Let's not be hypnotized by older ideas.

I understand that today we are living in a digital world. You know that the Prime Minister has spoken about Digital India and you know we have many of these new processes taking root around us. Understand that education today is also digital and the classroom as I said before is a virtual classroom, it's a global classroom. So life is no longer

linear, it's not about you know following a straight line from Primary through Middle to Higher Secondary and then on to University. It's not about these orthodox pre-established methods of existence. I think the challenges are much, much greater than all that and let's develop our talents as somebody said, "Let's not have a fast food model of education", where everything is set and prescribed. We need new passion, we need spirit, and we need energy.

Finally I would like to revert to the children and when I saw them performed today it was like a cloth of heaven, a cloth of dreams had been spread before us. I was reminded of the beautiful poem by **William Butler Yeats**, it's called the "Cloths of Heaven" and I would like to close with words from that poem:

*Had I the heavens' embroidered cloths,
Enwrought with golden and silver light,
The blue and the dim and the dark cloths
Of night and light and the half-light,
I would spread the cloths under your feet:
But I, being poor, have only my dreams;
I have spread my dreams under your feet;
Tread softly because you tread on my dreams.*

Thank you!

Speech of Smt. Nirupama Rao, IFS (Retd), Former Indian Foreign Secretary, on the occasion of the Founder's Day Celebrations, on Monday, 16 October 2017



Smt. Nirupama Rao, IFS (Retd), addressing the parents, guardians, teachers and students

Dr Thomas, Mrs Thomas, Mr Stuart McLay, Mr Sudhakar Rao, members of the faculty, parents of students gathered here today and of course, my dear students,

It has been a wonderful experience to be here this morning on a beautiful day. I couldn't think of a more perfect setting for this day of celebration, the **Founder's Day** of Good Shepherd International School. And, I am so impressed by the spirit and the vision that the school expresses under the leadership of Dr Thomas that when they announced that old Shepherdians are invited to meet with Dr and Mrs Thomas, I wished so much that I was an old Shepherdian, who would be able to go and greet the Principal and I mean it from the heart. As I said yesterday, I grew up in the Nilgiris, it was very different of course, I am talking of almost half a century ago. It is still a beautiful place, but of course as the country has progressed, as the population has grown, as the scenario changes with every decade, of course it is a different place today. But when I come back here and I try to come back as often as I can, you know, past memories crowd upon my mind's eyes as it were and I really think I was fortunate to spend five years of my growing up period here in the Nilgiris. It shaped me in so many ways as I am sure the experience of being at Good Shepherd International School shapes the girls and boys, who come here to study from all parts of India and also from around the world. I saw the flags of various countries carried in the March Past today. Truly, truly

impressive. And the word International, especially in these days and these times, where people unfortunately tend to look inward rather than outward, I think the word 'International' has a very special meaning and connotation for all of us because it speaks, it signifies a willingness to look beyond your own neck of the woods, to look beyond other shorelines, as I mentioned yesterday in my speech, to explore, to discover, to observe and to be willing to learn from experience outside your own little neighborhood. I think that is what the school strives to teach.

And I was telling Dr Thomas that in my personal opinion, Good Shepherd International School would be a wonderful feeder institution for the Indian Foreign Service, and I really mean that - because diplomacy and foreign affairs is essentially about connecting people, about spreading your message, the message of the country that you belong to, the need to defend your interests and also to make friends, to build bridges, to learn from others and to get the best for your country in the process. So, I believe the message of the school is essentially that message, and I think we should be proud of that. I was also reflecting on the motto of the school, which is *Truth, Trust and Triumph*. And to me the English word *Truth* made me think of the Sanskrit word for Truth, which as you all know is *Sathya*, and *Sathya* refers to the virtue that we speak of in our own religions of India, about being truthful in one's thought, in one's speech and in one's action. And it also signifies restraint, an unwillingness to be false and not to distort reality, to always be conscious of one's expressions and actions. So, I think, the concept *Truth* is a wonderful concept to incorporate in your motto. Now, the next word is *Trust* and in Sanskrit, it signifies faith, it signifies confidence, it signifies loyalty. And it also speaks of the constant alertness that arises from love and loyalty. In English, we use the word awareness and I think *Trust* also means awareness and diligence which is all about hard work, discipline and self-motivation. The Sanskrit word for Trust is 'shradha'. There are a lot of girls who are named 'shradha' and I think that is a beautiful word to describe the feminine spirit. And in the words of **Shri Aurobindo**, one of our great religious thinkers, it signifies the soul's belief in the divine's existence, in wisdom, in power and in grace. And the last word *Triumph* and when you bring it all together – *Truth, Trust & Triumph* – I recall the national motto of India which is '*Satyamev Jayate*' which means truth alone triumphs. It is only through truth that we are able to achieve progress, success and the ultimate happiness. So, all these, I think, comes together in your motto. And, I hope, on some occasion, your music department will be able to compose a piece of music around the words Sathya, Shradha and Vijaya, which means triumph. So, that if possible, is a 'to do' thing for the future.

Now, what does the word education mean? The word education comes from the Latin root *educere* which means to lead out. Essentially, lead out a young spirit or a young soul to achieve their true talents, their true ability and that awareness of the world around them. I think, that is the essential meaning of education today. And, I referred yesterday to the 21st century classroom and how all of us who are in a position to do so as parents, as teachers, as public intellectuals, all have the obligation to teach our young ones that awareness of the 21st century - of not only the technologies that sustain communication today that bring the world together but also the need to be open in your outlook, in the open mindedness that brings depth of knowledge and awareness. It is our obligation, I think, for all of us who are in the field of education. Today, because, what is education, it essentially helps to unfold the powers of the mind.

Today, when we saw the equestrian display, the various bands, the bagpipers and the march past of the houses and the beautiful dances by the primary school, it spoke, I think, about the values of discipline and organizational skills that the school brings together so that the young ones understand what team work and discipline can bring - how much success it can bring to you personally and how much it can improve you as a human being. So, I can only say positive things about things I have seen at Good Shepherd International School in the last few days. I think it is really a tribute to the vision of Dr Thomas and his team. Yesterday, at the cultural performance at the Founder's Day celebrations part 1 that we saw yesterday and today too, I think, all these were very much in evidence, very much on display. And I think, anybody who is associated with the school should feel extremely proud about it.

As I said yesterday, life is about constant learning and Stuart mentioned today about creating the global citizen, the citizen of the world. Today, I believe, borders, that is artificial borders, borders that are drawn on maps which of course we should respect, nobody wants to intrude into the territory of the other - but I think borders need not confine our minds. When they confine our physical existence, we need a passport to cross or we need a visa to get across to another country. But, your mind can soar as high as possible. There should be no hindrance, no obstacle, nothing that should stop you from being able to access any part of the world.

Today, the world is at our fingertips because of the advances in technology. I think, that is the greatest gift that is given to humankind in this generation and presumably in generations to come, things will be even more easy to bring together. It is increasingly clear to all of us that borders are increasingly becoming irrelevant in many ways because for the true *karma yogi*, the doer, the action oriented person it need not be a hindrance. And I think we want our children to grow up like that, we want them to be those *karma yogis*, you know, you all know the message of the *Mahabharatha*: The person who does right, the person who acts right and is able to achieve what he has to achieve without fear of the consequences and without the sense of ego but at the same time being able to access the highest state of what being human means.

And I think being human is what unites all of us. We are all mortal, we are all aware of the mortality that stares us in the face whether we are young or old, but I think also of the divinity that exists within each of us because we're all created by a force that is much more powerful and higher than us. So I think that divinity within us should enable us to separate good from evil and thereby achieve something even better than even previous generations have achieved. The way is open for us as a country, as India, the largest democracy in the world, the second biggest country in terms of population, to be able to achieve our true potential. We've been through difficult times in our history. We have been subjected to conquests, to colonialism, but we have set that behind us, we have put that behind us. Our freedom struggle showed us the way, our founding fathers created this Republic, this Democracy that is so stable, that has grown from strength to strength, this respect for diversity, for pluralism is what makes us what we are, which constitutes the idea of India. We should keep aloft this idea of India. That flag, which we saw flying in these grounds today means so much to us - respect for diversity and being able to absorb, to adapt, to change, to welcome change and at the same time to be stable and to be conscious and confident about who we are, where we stand, not to lose our basic identity but always to grow. I think that sense of growing should never stop. We should never be satisfied with what we've achieved.

'Stay hungry', as `said, for we should stay hungry because we should want much more for our country and for our progress. And that's the message I'd like to leave with the children and with this institution, this great institution. I wish Dr Thomas and his team every success for the future in taking this school to even greater heights and much more success internationally. Like the certification has shown, I think you can be an example for schools all around the world about how to not only build an institution, but to build a tradition of excellence. We should strive for that in everything we do. There should be no second best for us as a country or as a people. Thank you.

Address by Mr Stuart McLay, Associate Director – School Support & Evaluation, Council of International Schools, on Monday, 16 October 2017

Dr Thomas, distinguished guests and members of the Good Shepherd International School community, it is a genuine pleasure and indeed a privilege to be with you today to take part in this wonderful celebrations associated to the 41st Founder's Day. We had a fantastic morning so far today and for those of you who attended the incredible programme that also took place yesterday. You'll have heard a wonderful speech by the Chief Guest Ambassador Rao. Everything that Ambassador Rao said yesterday evening, when she talked about the global clustering, resonated and complemented, when she mentioned what is Global citizenship is all about. I want to offer before I do anything else, my thanks and congratulations for the wise inspirational words by an Ambassador, thank you.

And I should say, Ambassador Rao, if you are ever looking for a second career for a job in the Council of International Schools, you would be very welcome. So I'm particularly placed today here on behalf of the Council of International Schools to say a few words about International Certification. But moreover, to talk about your school's deep rooted and successful commitment to develop global citizenship within your school community. The understanding and development of global citizenship is one of the key drives of the CIS accreditation process. CIS developed the idea of international certification for schools who wanted to and perhaps more importantly have the capacity to take it deep in dive into the key concept. Good Shepherd International School is certainly one of the schools. As Dr Thomas said, just a few moments ago, this is quite some achievement. The Council of International Schools



Mr Stuart McLay addressing the parents, guardians, teachers and students

has over 700 member schools, presently those 700 member schools have spread across 110 different countries. Of those 700 plus member schools, 450 approximately have achieved full accredited status. Good Shepherd International School is indeed one of those. However, only 4 schools across the world have successfully completed CIS International Certification. And only one school in India has achieved this status. I'm over here to celebrate that. You know many schools around the world and I'm privileged in my capacity to be able to visit schools in all different areas. And many of the schools focus on the development of global citizenship considering the learning outcomes and a whole school support is necessary to achieve this goal.

When CIS worked with Good Shepherd International School, what we found here was very encouraging indeed. Over the course of the 18 month period through a project based learning model, your school demonstrated its progress with an evaluative developmental journey taking the whole school approach to the development of global citizenship involved. Putting the school's Mission and Vision into practice, evaluating leadership competencies and commitment developing curriculum and co-curricular programmes and exploring importance of community sport.

When confirming the Award of International Certification, CIS wrote to the school and this is a quote here from me, which we sent to Dr Thomas, CIS wrote that the school accomplishments

validate the school community's provision of international education and demonstrable outcomes reflecting student's growth as global citizens. The evaluators who visited the school on a final visit just a few months ago wrote their final report. It is of the belief that Good Shepherd International School has the capacity to not only continue its growth but to support others in learning to develop a student body with all the skills, knowledge and values and come out as valued global citizens. We have seen much of that in the last two days.

So I'm presenting this CIS Award. CIS has not only recognized the school for its impressive achievements but it is also recognized in the commitment to best practice, development into global citizenship that is somehow embedded in the school that students will continue to benefit from its ethos today, tomorrow, next week, next year and I'm sure long into the future.

This should be a source of both great pride and inspiration for everybody here today and everybody associated with the school in the years to come. On behalf of the Council of International Schools, Dr Thomas and your school community, please accept my sincere congratulations on behalf of everybody associated with us.

Thank you.

Address by Dr Kannan M Moudgalya, Professor of Chemical Engineering, Systems & Control and Educational Technology, IIT, Mumbai, on Friday, 10 November 2017

I am really delighted to be here to explain to you what we have been doing during the last about 6 years or so in spreading IT training to students, mostly students in India in a massive way. So what is the motive of this work? It's a somewhat state of affairs in India. Fifty percent of Indians are below 25 years, 2/3rds below 35 years. There are



Dr Kannan M Moudgalya addressing the students, teachers and Members of the Academic Council

paying points, education quality in finding good teachers, providing jobs but in terms of markets and opportunities, India is like a continent to give some numbers, the entire African continent has a population of a little more than a billion people, whereas India has more than 1.25 billion people. So if you take it as an opportunity, possibly lot of things can be done. An IT training can get through employment potential to our children. So that is the objective of this world.

Employment, employment, employment! That is the objective of this world. It tells out that most students in India do not have access to good teachers, they do not go to good colleges. Since they don't have teachers we still want to train them on IT, so we asked ourselves the question, is it possible to come up with a method that is suitable for self-learning, so that they can learn even if they don't have access to good teachers. So I said, "Can we make the content suitable for self-learning." If it is suitable for self-learning they can learn on their own. So we said do novices check a script before recording. You know movies have script, similarly our videos will also have script, what are these videos called? These are to provide IT training.

I am going to show you a video. 'C' is of course a very popular programming language:

"Welcome to the spoken tutorial on tokens in C and C++. In this tutorial we will learn how to define unused tokens. We will do this with the help of an example. We will also see some common errors and resolutions. To record this tutorial I am using Ubuntu operating system version 11.10".

You can understand that she reads out what is in this script. In other words it is not extempore. She reads a script, so before we record it we pass this script to begin through a novice check. A novice has to certify, yes I can understand every one of the scripts. The beginner test is important, beginner check is important, then only we accept it for recording and this makes it suitable for self-learning, because if a novice can understand, so can a beginner. Then we say learning pedagogy should be effective. For that, we came up with a special method, we called it, side by side method.

What you see on the screen is, I have divided it into two parts. On the left part I'm playing the video and on the right part I have opened this software itself. So what the person does is listens to the video one command at a time because it is a video, it has buttons, so you can pause it, try it out on the software. If it works, goes to the next

line, if not, rewind, listen to it again and practice again, it will always work because it is created for self-learning. Of course, another important thing is required. A student should be able to download the video and this software, so we said that both of them should be available free of cost for everyone in India. So how do we do that? We create video, so we can release it free of cost as an open source. What about the software? We said that we would consider only open source software, software that is available free of cost to everybody in the country, so they will download each of them, both of them and practice side by side, so this is what I have written as possible only with open source software.

Lack of computers is another problem. So we decided to organize workshops through colleges, so let the students come to the colleges and practice there although I'm talking about colleges, you will see that it is eminently suitable for schools as well. As a matter of fact I believe that you use softwares such as GeoGebra, Jmol and things like that. Organizing workshops, we came up with what I call self-workshops, spoken tutorial based educational learning through free 'FOSS' study workshops. What is 'FOSS'? FOSS stands for Free and Open Source Software. These are two-hour workshops and can be organized by a volunteer. Expert is not required, because learning happens through the video. One volunteer can run different workshops. The method is same whether it is C programming or JAVA programming, PHP, Perl, Ruby, you name it, it's the same method, it can be offered through educational institutions. Individual computers are not required and everything is available free of cost, so there is no policy decision required to use it.

We thought that we had solved the problem, but then we found that there are other problems because the class hours were packed and the students leave at 5 o'clock. School buses, college buses leave and we also had a problem of continuity, because of various reasons the organizers didn't continue. The moment organizers leave that college falls off our map. So we said let us improve the time table. We mapped them so that we say to them that BCA student pursuing JAVA lab, lab course will be on the first week. We listen to these tutorials and practice, on the second week we listen to these tutorials and practice their lab, do their assignments and so on. Now we have twenty nine thousand college lab courses in about 500 districts, about 4000 colleges have put them in the time table and lab courses, about 50 students using a series for a whole semester.

English fluency is another problem they have to contend with, so we said we will dub the spoken part into all 22 languages. So let me revert and state that they do this in Hindi, they take the same study here: (08:50 – 9:24 – in Hindi). So you can see that the video continues to be in English, only the spoken part is dubbed. So for that, we have come up with this script. I have come up with a question for students – what method should I use so that I can dub this into all 22 languages? In fact, we have samples in Spanish, Arabic, Persian, Thai, Qaber, some of the languages like this, but our students don't want to learn in Devnagari, they don't want to use Devnagari keyboard, because they want IT jobs, so we said we'll dub only the audio, the video is in English, they will use normal keyboard, normal computer, the Employers wouldn't even know that the students are thinking in their mother tongue.

It turns out that audio dubbing alone requires only 5 per cent effort, which is very important for a country like ours which has many languages. Lack of internet is another problem. So we said, let's come up with an offline shopping card like download application unlike what 'YouTube' does. It is very difficult for you to download. It's not impossible, we can download and we made that possible. So how did you do that? So here we have this application called create on disk image, so you can say whether I want to see C++, I want basic level, I want English and Hindi for example. It says the file size is going to be 200 MB. Let's say I want JAVA, let's say I want basic level and I want for example let's say Gujarati, so it says file size is this and then icon, create a zip file, you need to download it once. Once you download it you have the zip file, you can copy that zip file into every machine and then run it locally. So I'm going to play, I have already downloaded for some other activity, I will not download this now. We were training some volunteers in Gujarat. We were trying to teach 12th and 10th pass volunteers how to use a spreadsheet. So for that we created these videos, when you download this zip file, for example it says click here to download. I will not download this, I've already created one earlier. If you unzip, it will give a file called Index.html, so let me open that, it has the same look and feel of what I showed you just now. You maximize it. So let's say that I want to use calph. May be I can make this bigger and I want only Gujarati, let's save the data, you play this before I play. Look at the URL, if you can read it, it says where it comes from.

So you can see that it has no buffering at all. You don't need internet, that's the important thing. Our reach increased fifty times because of that. I'm going to give some examples of this a little later. These are all various topics we created, these are some workshops. I'll come back to this. Why this internet? The offline method is useful, I'll talk about it. Summarizing it is a ten minutes long tutorial created through screencast. It is created by capturing a live session with the running government. So here is a massive self-learning but silent workshop conducted at IIT Bombay where 250 college teachers from the Mumbai colleges came and participated, they all have a headphone, they all have a computer and they practiced. We did this workshop also in Mandalay in Myanmar where of course here you see electricity but electricity was erratic, kept coming and going and there was absolutely no internet. During this facility we could actually run these workshops without any problem. Because the laptops were fully charged, not depended on the electricity at that time and software was already installed, videos were already installed and people could practice. So what is the current status of spoken tutorials? We have seven million page views in 2016, one can actually go and see that. So for example, here we have 25 million page views, if you click here, it gives you all information. For example today is 10th Friday, so there are 42 thousand views, so let me go to yearly views, we are already in 8.5 million page views. Mind you, our reach is fifty times because of this, so you will have to multiply by 50 because most of them people actually use it offline. So 8 million page views already in 2017, 10 minute average visit time, 30% bounced, these are considered to be extremely good parameters in using website of this type.

We trained in addition to this. These are people who come to our web page. We don't even know who they are, we don't even ask for login, for example you see here, it asks me to login which means I haven't logged in. So we don't even ask people to login. We found right at the beginning that if we ask people to register and login, 90% of the people leave, they don't like to share their e-mail address. So, we said that look, this is being created with government support, so we want this to reach as many people as possible, I don't need to know who they are, so as long as it goes to lots of people. So we removed that, the number of page views we don't even know who they are, they are doing from all over the world but we don't know who they are.

In addition to this, remember, I also told you about conducting workshops in classrooms, in labs. We know their names, they even appear in online tests. So I know their names and who they are? We actually make available the statistics through the statistics page. So I told you 4 million, it is actually 3.99 million. So last year we trained 1.65 million students. This year we trained 1.34 million students. Who are they? All the names are here - in which college, which state and so on and so forth. It is possible to find out people coming to any particular site, for example, if you want to say how many people are getting trained in Tamil Nadu, you can just ask, so it is about half a million students who are getting trained in Tamil Nadu. I can get complete information on city-wise and so on and so forth. So we trained 1.6 million students last year and we reached 1.4 million in 2017 and as I mentioned earlier, 29000 college programmes are using this. So here is the histogram, visitors to our website. Wipro, one of the largest IT companies in India uses spoken tutorials. Remember this is supposed to be a low cost method. Low cost, easily available, anybody can download and use even if they don't have teachers. It turns out that Wipro, one of the largest IT companies in India, has accepted this and an in-house learning material for its own employees for JAVA training.

And then we got the first prize in QS and Watton school. Now QS award is the one that ranks Indian institutions and every year we get ranks in 200 and so on and, we came first in this nurturing employment category. This is the plaque we gave. Keep Google moves. Google is an online company. They were impressed by our offline work. So they gave this offline work. Money is not a big deal but the research award is an award from Google for this. This is the biggest recognition. Mumbai has 23 million people and we are not writing Harry Potter, right! Just doing some academic work and they say that here is something somebody in this world and what is interesting is some of the other people who are nominated. There was one person who has been giving meals for 500 people, 500 cancer patients every day for fifteen years. Such a big activity and he was also nominated and I was also nominated. I didn't make it, I didn't feel bad about it, but what I mean to say is given that there are 23 million people, this is a great honour.

O.k., I'm going to give you the feedback of 25,000 participants. I'm going to present an education technology work, in fact it was done by my Ph D student and I'll come to that shortly. So we asked people, so 25,000 people gave feedback, quality of instructional material – Good or Very Good, quality of infrastructure, quite a people said it is only fair. Remember, workshop happens only in their colleges, it doesn't happen at IIT. So they say their infrastructure is only fair, quite a few, quality of college organizer – Good or Very Good, actually the Organizer doesn't do anything, they don't teach anything. IIT Bombay Mentor also connect through Skype and say "Hi we are here, don't worry you can do it yourself." So we can do it very well. Overall quality is Good or Very Good, usefulness, many people said only somewhat good. Why it was offered free of cost? So don't know whether it is going to be useful but when they recommend to others they say likely, quite likely, definitely they were all very happy about it.

O.k., now I told you this is created for self-learning, so everything has to be articulated, nothing is to be left for imagination. So will it be boring, that is the question? We tell everything, so we asked these 25,000 people. Some people said extremely boring but only a few. Most people thought it was interesting or extremely interesting. For these people learning is what matters, not repetition. Good teachers often repeat, students don't mind, o.k., so here is the work done by my PhD student. We did this in a college in Hyderabad. There were about 400 students who participated who are doing a JAVA course. We told that instead of attending a live lecture for one week would you instead come to a lab and learn from JAVA's spoken tutorials. Remember the self-workshop and 220 students did through 6 workshops, there were 148 males and 72 females and traditional class was taken by 180 students. They were together, 400 students, males and females were roughly about the same and at the end of it we compared their performance. How well did they understand? We gave the same exam to both the groups and we found that overall performance in both tests were equal. As a matter of fact, the workshop group did slightly better. But what is interesting was that we found the people who underwent the workshop had their self-confidence very high. They said, look nobody taught me, I learnt it myself, I am capable of doing it myself. So that self-confidence is something you like. You know, people who are from lower economic strata and we believe that this makes an important contribution that they can do it themselves. So we wrote this as a journal article in a journal called "Educational Technology and Society" and we wrote several conference papers. I'm not going to spend time on that, I would like to complete the first part of my talk where I said we design an instructional method to provide IT training and then we rolled it out and we trained 4 million students and we have received testimonials from many, many students. In case there is a question, I'll ask later, I'll answer them but because of lack of time I'm going to just say that there have been many responses, many feedback. Just to quote one, a Principal of an Engineering College in Pondicherry said that 80 people got job in this year's recruitment and 75 of them said that thanks to spoken tutorial. So we have got many testimonials from students, so it is indeed working. Now I want to point out that this method, can we extend it to some of the other topics. So we said remember whatever we did was something on IT skills. We were not teaching conceptual topics, it is something that you can see, practice and learn so I can call it IT skills. So we said can we replicate it, can we extend this to other skills o.k. So that's what I am going to talk about for the next few minutes, so it should be applicable to carpentry, plumbing, circuit layout etc., etiquette skills that many people you know how to use a washroom in an airplane. First time users haven't used such a washroom and they make a mess of it but nobody teaches them. So it can be easily rolled out through this method dubbing to all languages made available in every village. Jobs, how to locate job openings in internet, how to participate in an interview the government has made it mandatory to advertise all governmental jobs in internet but only people who know how to access it will benefit by that, not people who rely on newspapers. Bridging difficulty by how to open an account, how to buy a train ticket, health related skills I'm going to talk about this a little more detail, in fact that's how I met Dr Thomas.

I'm going to give three or four sample case studies – Biogas plant. In India there are lots of cows many of them are on the roads but if only we can handle the waste then it could be very useful. It can provide good amount of cooking gas. In fact we found that a family of four, husband, wife, two children with two cows can get all the cooking gas required for them from this biogas plant. It can also help keep the surroundings clean, it costs only twenty thousand rupees with some subsidy, it can be even cheaper and it is very popular in Sindhurg district of Maharashtra. So we said, here is the technology that is useful. Can I make learning of this possible through spoken tutorial? Because, if I can do carpentry, I can do plumbing, why not this? What's the problem in spreading

the biogas plant technology? Training is slow they train only 25 people in a week in Sindhudurg. Everybody has to go there and they don't have any resources, accommodation for example. Can we see a training through spoken tutorials, can a Mason do this by himself after seeing. Instead of having to go there, a Mason who already knows how to construct a wall he has to be taught how to construct a biogas plant, what are the additional things he should learn. Can he learn most of it by seeing this spoken tutorial by seeing this video and an actual construction. He sees somebody constructing, it's almost like a cooking class, somebody who already knows how to cook goes and attends this cooking class and end of it they can make fancy Pizzas, cakes and so on and so forth, so why can't they do the same thing here.

So they don't have to go to Sindhudurg, there is a mason who can come and construct a biogas plant in their own village and people from the neighbouring villages can come, just watch it, they've already seen the video and in no time they pick it up. Current status, it was spoken tutorial created, in fact I told one student who did a Master's degree at IIT Bombay in a department called Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas. We give M.Tech degrees there and I told him that if only he can validate this method by a mason actually constructing a plant using this approach. So we created the tutorials, it is in pilot plant tests, pilots tests, made sure that people could understand we rolled it out and we asked the mason to create it and in fact I have a video in case anybody wants to see it I'll show it later – o.k. So here is the biogas plant, biogas flame you can see this here, I think you can see there are flame here it's one more in a Village, the next one remember the Gujarati video that you listened to. This is for Sevaks collecting health information in Gujarat, what they do, they collect health data. By the way, Gujarat has been people predict Gujarat to be the diabetic capital of the world. Not a great honour but then we need to do something about it. So here is a group that is trying to find out, can we find out can we do something about it and volunteers collect health data one village per district of Gujarat. They used to collect data on paper, they are mainly tenth passed, we taught them how to fill a spread sheet using this software called "Libreoffice Calc", which is equivalent to Excel. It ran on our low cost laptop, I'll talk about it later.

So here is one person Ram Leelaben of Sonal Nagar Village from Kutch district. Here she is collecting blood sample, small amounts and she is entering into the computer, you can see that she has not even removed the plastic sheet – right. And she was trained with Gujarati dubbed spoken tutorials, how to use a computer. So here she is measuring the blood pressure another person from Ahima Village and he is also doing the same thing look at his surroundings, look at his computer his also has this plastic sheet there.

The next project, this is how I met Dr Thomas. This is called stemi project which was undertaken in Coimbatore done by Dr Thomas Alexander of Kovai Medical Centre Hospital. Was he a student here? He conducted a one year pilot in Coimbatore, so what did he do. He brought the heart attack patients, he started the treatment for heart attack patients in less than half the time – right. Half of the existing time and he did this for a whole year and showed that he could save 9 out of 10 people. How did he do that, he just brought them in a special ambulance fitted with ECG and 3G enabled android device. As the patient was brought they did the ECG and the paramedic transmitted it across and the doctors in KMCH told them how to administer this drug so on and so forth and even tested the blood group and so on, so that the treatment could start in about half the time and he could save 9 out of 10 people. So as I mentioned earlier paramedic helps to test, administer medicine etc., Paramedic training is an issue. So on the job training for paramedics, large turnover of paramedics, the moment the paramedic gets trained they get some other job, they get a better job. But before getting a job hundred people come in the queue for one job, so we selected one out of hundred, the moment they get trained they go away. So I told Dr.Thomas, we will create spoken tutorials for you, we'll flood the market. Anybody who wants a job should come and demonstrate their proficiency and only then they will get recruited and they may be given 20 per cent higher salary, if they leave there are ten other people waiting. I didn't spend a single day, I didn't waste a single day in training. This method can be extended to several other disciplines not just paramedic training. In our companies for example, wherever on the job happens we can actually implement this method.

English proficiency is an issue, because whoever are paramedics, they are 10th pass, 12th pass they have some medical technology diploma background or they have some B.Sc., Zoology, Biology whatever it is so that can be easily handled. But there is something more interesting that Dr Thomas told me, didn't occur to me, wasn't obvious

to me, he said in our country when the ambulance arrives at the patients house an auto also appears and the auto says I will take the patient in half the amount in ten minutes less time. Why do we need that ambulance? Now that ambulance driver cannot explain, convince the patient and the paramedic cannot explain, whereas, if only I had your video I can easily convince the public, please use my ambulance don't take that auto. So we created spoken tutorials. In fact Telangana government is supposed to launch this.

The next, I think probably this is the last case study – Nutrition. I'm working with a doctor, Dr.Nupur Dalal, who is an M.D., trained in the U.S in fact she practices in the U.S three months a year and Pediatrician, she is also a Nutritionist, she trains about thousand volunteers every year through contact programme and she trains them for example, one of the focus areas is breastfeeding. How is the baby to be fed? That is crucial for the first six months. Because if you use synthetic feed it has to be mixed in water one of the major problems we have in India is providing clean water. It also costs about five thousand rupees per baby for the first sixth months, which is a tremendous amount of money for most people in India. If only they learn this technique properly then all that money is saved and it is a fight against the market, there are market forces vested in this groups that want to sell the powder, they don't want this to happen. So Dr.Nupur Dalal is doing it, I have a person with Ph.D., in Microbiology Beladony, she is leading this project, we have five staff members doing this. We are creating spoken tutorials on the technique. So we are going to create about forty tutorials of ten minutes duration each to cover the entire 1000 days and with an initial focus on first six months and that we expect to allot very soon and so I told Dr.Nupur Dalal that instead of thousand people, we will help you reach hundred thousand people in a year, because our reach is much larger.

That completes my presentation on spoken tutorial. We have also come up with a low cost laptop, so this is the laptop, it's like any other laptop with not much difference, I can even project this in fact I have checked that indeed what I will do is I will project it later, let me quickly run through, because you might have heard of the Akash project. Through Akash project we came up with the world's lowest cost tablet 35\$ - o.k. So whatever, experience we gather in that, we got in that we have invested in this to come up with this laptop so let me quickly, just as I did earlier quickly run through and then I will open the session for discussions. When we came up with the Akash tablet, this was our objective, can we give a device every one of our students in India 300 million students is equal to the population of the U.S., so many students in India. And we wanted to keep the cost actually minimum because if we save 10\$ per laptop, per tablet we would have saved 3 billion dollars, it's a lot of money for India. We could save even 100\$ per tablet. But I was interested in the laptop because a tablet is consumption device, we consume things, we can of course play angry bird, we can write e-mails, we can take photographs but you cannot use a tablet for writing a code, it's not a creation device unless you give a keyboard, you can attach it and so on. So we said, let me come up with laptop. So, we came with a laptop, a precursor to this laptop and then we said that this will cost about 110\$. So these are some of the specifications of that laptop and it ran many things because we got Linux running, then we tested by giving it to our own students at IIT Bombay. She is one of our first programming course in any graduate programme, any undergraduate programme, Bachelor's Degree.

We gave it to 55 students in January 2015 semester and gave it to 90 students. So many students were IIT Bombay with our laptops in their first semester. If this is case in IIT, then imagine colleges in other places. In fact we thought that this was an unfair comparison, unfair competition between the students, there were about 450 students. 360 students had their own laptop 90 students did not have a laptop and it's a programming course, everybody had to create a project. So these students happily took it 90 students and we asked these questions – I have the question and answer here, so we asked this question, "Do students like the Fosse laptop"? Yes, in fact because I'm giving the answer also let me show you the paper that we wrote, Yeah – I must show this, so this is the paper we wrote, it appeared in the proceedings of the 24th International Conference on Computers in education, Asia Pacific Society for Computers in Education, it was in India, in fact in IIT Bombay so we conducted this study and published it. For example, we asked this question, "Do the students like these laptops" – what does Fosse stand for – Free and Open Source Software for Education that's another project that we have done. So we called these laptops as Fosse laptops, these low cost laptops is 7500 rupees or 110\$. Do they perform adequately – o.k. What is meant by adequately? Do they do reasonably well? If somebody asks me what it is, I'll explain later. Is the overall performance comparable – it turns out that every one of them was yes, yes, yes. But we also got some feedback, even though it is low cost, even though the students cannot afford they said, can't you make my computer look

better. Can't you make it look sleek? So that seems to be aspiration. Everybody wants nice looking machines. So our students who are from lower economic strata who cannot afford their computers are also no exception to that. So that is one of the things. First requirement – I want it to look better and feel better. We want the track board and the keys to perform better, graphics should be faster, we want larger RAM and larger storage. So we came up with this new device and this is the device. After this talk is over I'll just connect it, so you can actually see this on this screen. So you can see that in the place of 10 inch its 11.6 inch, RAM instead of 1 GB it's going to be 4 GB, its four times. Similarly, RAM flash is going to be 32 GB instead of arm press Intel processor, Intel atom, instead of dual core it's going to be quad core, SD Card its important you can actually use the SD Card that you use in your mobiles into this Micro SD Card that only runs about 3 times it gives time, it gives about 12 hours of battery time which is very important in the Indian condition. It has a graphics accelerator the weight is slightly more actually it is about 1.2 kg not 1 kg, slightly more. Sleek, yes it is not more sleek in fact it has the look and feel a Macbook Air the one I'm using, the only difference is this costs one tenth of the laptop that I'm projecting now. This is hundred thousand rupees, whereas this is ten thousand rupees. And the support we are going to make it self-supported because this government is not interested in supporting it that's the reason why we have taken time. That's one of the reasons I stayed back in Coimbatore met some College heads yesterday and this morning also and many of them have shown interest.

To conclude my talk, spoken tutorial is designed to provide IT training through self-learning route, it has a largest collection in Indian languages, trained four million students at using very low cost training method. I didn't talk about it, if anybody asks me I'll tell the cost to train one student on one topic comes out to fifty rupees, about 80 cents and we believe that it will go to 10 cents in a few years because it has been already created for anybody to use. Not only the IT topics but several other things that I talked about though this method has the potential to make us a developed country and the low cost laptop is a good accompaniment. Our project is supported by the National Mission on Education through ICT, NMEICT MHRD, Government of India for the past 8 years, even though governments changed, even though the Secretaries changed and Mission Directors changed we are lucky to have been funded by the government all these years. In fact the government has said that they are trying to perpetuate this activity. So with that I come to the end of my Presentation.

Address by Nawab Shafath Ali Khan, Environmentalist and Wildlife Conservationist, at a Special Assembly held in GSIS on Saturday, 18 November 2017

Dr and Mrs Thomas, esteemed staff and my friends, the students of Good Shepherd School,

This august institution is very nostalgic to me and our association for the past three decades is very, very heart-rendering and especially Dr and Mrs Thomas have been part of our family. My nephew, **Hassan Ali Khan** was the head boy of this august institution and unfortunately he passed away while going home from this school to Bangalore.

Now, man/animal conflict, as you all know, is becoming more and more acute by the day and several state governments are worried the problem is snowballing into areas where it is becoming uncontrollable, not only for the government but also for the farmers, forest dwellers and tribal people who are living around the forest. There are approximately 5 crore people in our country who are directly and indirectly connected to the forests – they live off the forest, their cattle go into the forest, they depend on forest produce. What has happened over the past few decades is, as you all know, the forest cover has been shrinking and the number of wild animals in certain pockets has increased due to conservative measures. Human population on the other hand has gone up by 100% from 1980 to 2017. So this human population explosion coupled with an increase in wild animals has created a scenario where human beings are entering the forest and wild animals are coming out of the forest. This is the crux of man/animal conflict across the country.

Animals don't know the boundaries of the forest, they come out in search of food. Unfortunately, our forests across the country are not being managed the way they should be managed. There are invasive weeds like Lantana and *Parthenium* which have eaten into the forests and this is resulting in lack of fodder and drinking water for the animals within the national parks. This is the reason animals are straying out and coming into human inhabited areas. We have a lot of problems with elephants in the southern states. They're highly intelligent animals and they grow wise to the fact that there is far more nutritional food value in cash crops compared to what they get in the government forests. So they stray out, they come out miles together into human habitation and a poor farmer has to protect his own turf and his family and he designs and invents his own methods to keep the elephants out and this triggers man/animal conflict. People get killed, revenge killings start and animals get poisoned.



Nawab Shafath Ali Khan addressing a special assembly

Basically, I hail from a family of target shooters. My grandfather was an advisor to the British government on man/animal conflict and he shot a lot of rogue elephants and man-eating tigers. So we had this traditional knowledge percolating down to me. When I was 19 years old, a rogue elephant killed 12 people in Mysore and I was called by the government (I was into target shooting and a national champion by then). I was called by the forest department and I shot this elephant. Basically, I don't like killing animals but what happens is, in the absence of a professional, the animals are put to a lot of pain and agony when they are eliminated. If the police is called to shoot a tiger or an elephant, neither do they have the expertise, the right hunting weapons nor the knowledge of the anatomy of the animal. So this results in random firing, making the animal more dangerous and prolonging its death. So this is what I don't like and I started working on these.

Now, as you all know, it was a transition I went through in life from a hunter to a conservationist. In 2009, a tigress came out of Pilibhit in Uttar Pradesh, travelled 350km and in this process she killed a lot of people. She had strayed out of her jungle, strayed out of her habitat (she was a young tigress) and during this long journey from Pilibhit to Faizabad, which was more than 350km, she killed a lot of people. She couldn't be trapped, she couldn't be tranquillized. All efforts from the government to tranquillize her failed. And finally, we had to, unfortunately, put her down. This tigress had a very lasting impact on me. And the day I shot this tigress I made up my mind that I would now work for conservation and would see that somehow my traditional knowledge which I had inherited over generations should be used for saving animals because the forest department (those who have studied IFS, all the field staff) don't have this traditional knowledge of tracking and following an animal. So these are my areas of expertise and being a national level target shooter, we combined the traditional knowledge. So this was my transition from hunter to conservationist.

This was the first elephant I shot at the age of 19 in Mysore that had killed 12 people.

This is our hunting attire and the hunting rifles we use. We generally use a double barrel 470 rifle which is enough to stop a charging elephant. The forest department or the police department don't have these weapons. This rifle is used traditionally for dangerous game across the world.

This is tracking a tiger.

This is the tigress I was talking about in Faizabad who killed quite a lot of people, especially young children.

This is how the forest department used to handle man/animal conflict situations. Now the net which is being used here is absolutely insufficient for a big animal like a leopard. This is a rare photo of a leopard actually mauling a range officer on the neck and he ultimately died. So these were all the lacunas that we discovered.

This is another attack from a leopard on a forest guard. After this leopard was darted in a house, it came out of the roof and you see this red mark here, this was the dart that was fired to tranquillize the animal. Actually, this is the right space. This rifle is ideal for darting. If the animal is facing you, then, we go for the neck but this thoracic region is totally forbidden for darting because we use very powerful medicine – ketamine and xylazine – very, very potent drugs we use for sedating animals which are almost 100 times more powerful than the anaesthesia given to human beings or domestic animals. So these were the follies.

Now, this is another accident of a veterinarian who tried tranquillizing a tiger and he didn't have proper knowledge of his dart gun and the tiger mauled him. This is the state of his hands. Now, all of these things demoralised the forest department across the country and they were not in the position to safely tranquillize animals.

Let me tell you that the animals that we tranquillize are not normal animals. These are stressed animals that have strayed out of the forest. They have entered human habitation, are killing human beings and are very stressed all the time. Tranquillizing a normal tiger in Mudumalai sanctuary will be much easier than going near a man-eater which has been stalking human beings. There is a barrier of fear that all wild animals have for human beings.

Lakhs of people in our country go in to the forests every morning – shepherds, woodcutters – and they come back home. A normal tiger, a normal leopard or a normal elephant will not attack them. But once they lose the natural fear of man, either by accidental killing or hunger or stress or displacement from their territory, they begin to see man as their prey. This is a very dangerous phenomenon. These are the animals we have to target and capture.

So this is a tranquillizing gun that we use and call a dart gun or a syringe projector which I'll show you and this is a chronograph. A chronograph is a computer which determines the speed of a bullet, arrow, an air rifle pellet or a tranquillizing dart when it is fired through two screens. The computer calculates the speed of the bullet travelling from screen A to screen B and it gives you the reading. Now, what happens is, these tranquillizing guns that we use in our country have a lot of rubber parts and rubber O-rings and over a period of time gas leaks from these **O-rings** and the velocity of the dart drops. Now when the speed of the dart drops the dart may not hit the target at all, it goes low. So these were all the factors the government of India and the agencies tranquillizing wild animals didn't know. This is where I came in with my background of shooting (computers, chronographs, velocities) all these are part of the target shooter. International level target shooters use these. This was a grey area in our country when the department didn't know all this. Moreover, the veterinarians who are actually supposed to tranquillize wild animals have training that is confined to captive animals. They know that a tiger in the zoo weighs 180kg, so 2ml of ketamine, 3ml of xylazine will knock a tiger off for two hours – it's all in the book. But when it comes to tranquillizing a wild tiger, it's a different ball game altogether. It depends on the clothes you wear, understanding the psychology of the tiger.

All animals are blessed with a super developed sense. Tigers have extremely good ears and very good eyesight but are totally bereft of the sense of smell. All the tiger's prey – spotted deer, sambar, wild boar, Indian gaur – all these animals are blessed with acute sense of smell. That is how mother nature has made them. So all the tiger's prey can smell the tiger and they get away. So the tiger has to plan his hunt, he has to know the direction of wind. The tiny hair in a tiger's ear indicates the direction of the wind. With the help of this, the tiger knows the direction of the wind and he has to go upwind. If the wind is blowing from A to B, the tiger cannot follow this, has to come around and it is only then that he can catch his prey. On the other hand, elephants have weak eyes, weak ears but their sense of smell is highly developed. An elephant can smell a man from 3km and when we go there, the elephant can differentiate between the smell of a man from the city and a tribal man or a farmer because we smell different because of the toothbrush we use, the toothpaste we use. So all these little things matter a lot in a safe rescue

operation and this is traditional knowledge that I am now slowly imparting upon forest officers at different levels right from IFS officers down to the guards.

Now, if you see a leopard like this, it's virtually impossible to dart him because a small blade of grass is enough to deflect our dart – we cannot place our dart properly. A blade of grass is enough to deflect it because we use a plastic dart travelling at the speed of 270ft per second whereas a rifle bullet is travelling at almost 3000ft per second. So if I have to shoot this leopard it's very easy for me. This is the head and this is the neck. In any of this vital area I can put my bullet and drop him there. But this darting site has got a lot of bushes and in the wild you very rarely get to see a complete animal. Especially stressed animals, as I said, will expose themselves for a few seconds and in those few seconds the dart has to be fired. So one should be extremely good. Only an extremely good marksman can dart a wild animal.

Now, this was another man-eating tiger in Maharashtra which I tranquillized, but it took me almost 45 days because he would never give himself up. Now when we tie baits to lure a tiger, this is how a bait is tied. Two ropes: one on the neck, one on the shoulder, so that the goat doesn't get suffocated.

When we are operating in an area where there is a man-eating tiger or a man-eating leopard, you have to be alert all the time because you can expect an ambush at any time from any side.

This is a chair being put on a tree with the help of a tame elephant for me to sit on the chair and wait. The tiger had killed a young girl, this was again in UP. A nineteen-year-old girl was killed by a man-eater and we had a lot of resistance from the villagers. Most of our forest department staff were beaten up, four of our vehicles were burnt. What is happening is, when animals stray out from the forest and enter private lands, the villagers feel that the forest department has released these animals, which is not true. Animals spill over from the forest. There is something called land to animal ratio. Now, when this ratio goes haywire and the carrying capacity of the forest is overridden and we have more animals, the dominant, strong, breeding, alpha male tiger holds onto almost 30-35 square kilometres of area and he won't allow another tiger to come in. So what has happened is most of our national parks across the country are saturated. They have reached the saturation point as far as tigers are concerned. But the media, NGOs, invested interest don't talk about this. They say we are losing tigers. But if you ask me and my experience of working in six states, we cannot have any more tigers because we don't have the area. There is no way we can increase the forest cover. All our forests have been completely surrounded by human habitation and if any animal strays out he is in direct conflict with man.

This is how we sit on a tree, fully camouflaged because man-eaters are extremely clever. The slightest sound and the slightest whiff, they know there is a man close by, they won't come back to the kill. They abandon the kill.

This was a young tigress that I tranquillized for the first time in my life. She was again a young tigress in Maharashtra, Chandrapur district. She had killed 5 people and I'm very proud to say that in spite of having shooting orders in hand, my son and myself, we struggled and put our lives at stake and we captured this tigress alive and unfortunately I'm reviving her. Once we put them in the cage we give them a reversal agent. The reversal medicine dissolved the effect of the anaesthesia and then in a few minutes the animal wakes up again. That's what I'm doing here. Let me tell you I'm not a veterinarian but the government of India, the ministry of forests and environment, has given me a license to carry these drugs, to own a tranquillizing weapon. I'm the only person in the country who has got this privilege.

This was the tigress after she revived in the cage, completely knocked off. You can see the look in her eyes; she has accepted defeat. This was when she was coming back to her kill. That's a buffalo she had killed and when she came back I tranquillized her. And here she is radio-collared: we have radio-collared her. I sent a long report to the government not to release her because her behaviour was not of researched tiger behaviour. She was coming extremely close to villages and stalking people. But in spite of that, within nineteen days of her capture, this tigress was released again in another national park about sixty kilometers away from Nagpur. The same day she ran out of the park and the next day she killed a man. There were a lot of problems and a lot of resistance and we tried very hard to capture her again but I couldn't. For the second time we couldn't capture her and then shooting orders

came. I didn't want to shoot her because I had rescued her once and there were a lot of sentimental feelings within me. In the process she ran into a fence which was electrically charged for wild boar protection and she died.

This is a rogue elephant in Bihar, a young tusker, which had killed a lot of people. I'm firing the dart at it. This is an actual photograph of me stalking an elephant and firing a dart. You see, these are the types of clothes one wears in the forest; you have to be completely camouflaged. That's the dart in the right place. This is the first rogue elephant capture operation in Bihar. We didn't have mahouts, we didn't have trained kumki elephants, so it was an uphill task but I managed to rope this elephant. We covered his eyes like this. There was no way of getting this elephant into the truck because we didn't have tame elephants, so I had to use a JCB. We made a pit next to the sedated elephant, reversed the truck into it and pushed the elephant into the truck using a JCB. The elephant is being pushed into the truck and he is there loaded in. We brought him to Patna zoo and I trained him for three months and he has become the pride of Patna zoo, recognises me. I carry a lot of bananas every time I go and the moment I go he's looking for the bananas and he knows me.

In south India (Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka), we have a lot of elephant problems, so I'm just giving you figures from Project Elephant of how the numbers of Asiatic elephants in our part of the country have increased. In 1980 we had 15,627 elephants when our human population was 60 crores. In 2012, the last census, the elephant figures have gone to 32,000, so there has been more than a 100% increase in wild elephants and the forest cover, as I have told you, has reduced. When elephants increase, when their numbers increase, they don't get the desired fodder in the parks – an elephant requires 200 kg of fodder and 200 litres of water every day. Now, when water gets contaminated and the elephants don't get clean water in the parks (this is a water hole in one of India's best national parks, Corbett National Park, in summer. You can see the insects in there) they get a lot of stomach infections and worms. To get rid of these worms the elephants eat the bark of trees. This is what a tusker has done using his tusks. They damage the bark of a tree and the acidic content in the bark of the trees acts as a vermifuge and they deworm themselves in a natural way. Once the bark is removed, carpenter ants get to the labrum layer of the tree and they start eating the tree and ultimately trees die. So, when we have excess animals, we lose our forest cover which is already threatened, exploited by human activities and global warming. All of these takes its toll on the forest and we have made them a sink.

Now this is a coconut farm near Gundlupet, almost thirty kilometers from Bandipur national park. Elephants have been straying here. You'll see no forest around. They come here and break these plants and do considerable damage to the agricultural community. Farmers start poisoning them when they don't get timely compensation from the government. I'm fighting for timely compensation the government has to give our farmers for loss of life, when a man gets killed. If compensation comes after three years the very intent of giving that compensation is diluted.

Even large Ficus trees are ripped by elephants. This huge branch has been pulled and it will take six months for that branch to grow again. Now, here, the coconut trees have been pulled on electric wires and the elephants got short-circuited and died.

This is a molar of an elephant. The molars of elephants fall off five times in its lifetime. Finally when the Asiatic elephant is about 54 years old, the last set of molar gets completely worn out and you see it's fractured here. Once this condition starts, the elephant is not able to chew and they go for a soft diet and, in turn, come close to human habitations where they can steal bananas, jackfruit, sugarcane, paddy. It's because of the few rogue elephants which are less than 2% of the total population that mankind, the people living around the forest, develop a hatred for all elephants. Now, every 15 days, you see in the newspaper that an elephant is dead; most of those elephants are being poisoned by the farmers.

Plastic. Now, you see elephants eat plastic and it gets stuck in their intestine, they get severe colic and it gets passed out in their dung. A packet of Amul butter.

Now, as I told you this dirty drinking water... There is no shortage of funds as far as the government of India is concerned; they're sitting on 35 thousand crores of CAMPA funds (Compensatory Afforestation Management and Planning Authority funds) not knowing what to do with it and the money has been put in fixed deposit. Now, I have moved the Supreme Court, we have asked the government of India to release these funds in the interest of wildlife.

This is my brainchild and my plan. We have set up a solar power here. This is in a national park in Madhya Pradesh and this is a borewell. Now, as summer advances and the heat increases, the cells get charged and more and more water is pumped out. We have made a little artificial dam where all sorts of animals come and they can drink. This is a local company, they have fabricated these and this has become a very successful project for the first time.

In summer, you can see the conditions of elephants – totally emaciated, you can see their bones. This was a cow elephant in Jharkhand that had killed 26 people. The moment she would see a human being she would come tearing out and crush him to death. Finally we tranquillized her and saved her. These are angry elephants, the very look on the face. The picture is not very clear but they are coming dangerously close to human habitation.

This is a condition all of you should look out for. This black mark you see is a pituitary gland here and testosterone hormone. Every year, male elephants come into a state of musth for a period of one month to three months and during this period you have this liquid oozing out of this gland here and this is called musth condition. During this period, elephants become extremely aggressive. The first victim is the mahout himself. He is killed by the elephant. So, if you ever happen to see an elephant in this condition, avoid him, don't go near him, don't try to take photographs.

The front foot of the elephant is larger (these are of course trophies in our Hyderabad house) than the hind foot. If you take the circumference of this, where it's touching the ground, and multiply it by two you get the exact height of the elephant. This is a traditional method, by reading the pad mark (tiger marks are called pugmarks). When a normal elephant walks, the hind foot superimposes the front foot, so if you take the circumference of this and multiply it by two, that is precisely the height at the shoulder of the elephant. So when we follow rogue elephants, just by seeing its impression on the ground I can tell you the precise height of the elephant. This is the hind foot and the elephant places the hind foot exactly where it's lifting the front foot. But when the same elephant is injured or sick or old, then it can't move the hind foot right to the front, so you get a different impression of the hind foot and a different impression of the front foot. Now, here the hind left leg has a bullet injury fired by some farmer, so it's dragged its foot. So all these things tell us a story and this is all traditional knowledge which you will not find in any book. We are imparting this to the departments for better conservative methods in the days to come.

This is a house broken by elephants in Jharkhand. Three people died. The elephant has virtually walked through this house. He's broken the wall here, broken the wall there and he's gone through. There was some salt and homemade brew in the house, so he came for that. These are villages which are totally abandoned in Jharkhand. Jharkhand is a very backward state and it has a border with West Bengal and Orissa. Elephants stray into this state. The department calls them migratory routes but there is no such thing as an elephant migratory route, let me tell you very clearly. An elephant in a well fed forest migrates locally. It is only when it doesn't get its required food and water that they stray out and they travel miles together. I have trapped a rogue elephant which had moved almost 600 km from its original habitat in search of food and water. When they do these long migrations, they are bound to cross human habitations, railway lines, highways and that's how they meet with accidents and a lot of accidents happen.

This is another bamboo house completely brought down by elephants. This was a rogue elephant that I had to shoot last month. Unfortunately this august assembly of this school has been postponed for the third time now; every time I was asked to rush to some place or the other and at the eleventh hour it had to be cancelled and I apologise for that. But this was the elephant before our last assembly. It had killed fifteen people in Jharkhand. In spite of having shooting orders, I tried to tranquillize him and he turned and charged and almost got us; he was within 10 meters when I had to put a bullet and stop him.

They're basically destructive by nature. Anything an elephant sees which belongs to man, it will try to push down. This is a road sign in Mudumalai that elephants have pushed down, for no rhyme or reason.

These are elephant-proof trenches that we are planning so that elephants don't cross and come into human habitations. But again, after the monsoon all this loose mud slips in and they push it down (they're very clever) and they somehow find their way of coming into human habitation. This is a design I've given to the government of India. We're using old, discarded railway lines as a boundary, as a fence for a national park to see that elephants

don't stray out. This is successfully done in the Addo Elephant National Park in South Africa: for the last 20 years elephants have not come out.

Africa has 4 lakh elephants and they have been managing. Of course, their managing techniques are different because they cull elephants. Excess elephants are culled and we don't do that in our country, so the numbers keeps swelling. So this project is also under consideration.

These are orphans, two twin girls of a leopard attack in Himachal. We look after most of these, my NGO looks after most of these orphan children, we try to provide some education and see that they get the due compensation.

This is another rogue elephant I had to put down in Bihar which had killed 14 people.

Now, how do we identify animals? A tiger's pugmark, if you put a square over it, it falls in a square whereas in a tigress the pug mark is like this: it's slightly rectangular and the forefingers are more rounded in a tiger compared to that of a tigress. This is how I identified the Faizabad man-eating tigress. All government records said it was a male tiger. The first time I saw the pug marks, I said, it was a tigress and finally it turned out to be a tigress.

These are the canines of a leopard and this is an old leopard which had killed fourteen people. You see the canines are fractured; this lower canine is broken. Generally the forest department and the lower staff are confused when they come upon a body or a cow whether it has been killed by a tiger or a leopard. The gap between the top canines here in this case is 4.6cm. Now for a tiger, it's almost 8cm. So the gap between the canine of a tiger is much more than what you see on a leopard.

This is the paw of a male leopard that had killed 19 children in Himachal; this is how it looks in reality. This is the hind foot.

This is a tiger and the fingers flatten out with age; this was an old tiger. Tigers generally live up to 11 to 12 years in the wild. In captivity they live up to 15/16 years but in the wild it is survival of the fittest. As long as he can hunt and protect his territory, he survives. The moment he is slow, old, injured, sick, another tiger takes over and this tiger is pushed out of that area, bereft of prey.

This is a bullet injury on the paw. This is the pug mark of a male tiger. Here, again like the elephant, this is the hind foot which has super imposed the paw of the tiger. This is the canine of a tiger. A young, strong tiger has a 4 inch-long canine. This portion is inside the jaw and this is the exposed portion.

This was a man killed in Bandipur, not very far from you all. If you see this canine hole compared to this, this is how we match whether he was killed by the same tiger or not. This is a woman killed in Himachal Pradesh by a leopard, some gory pictures. This is a man; (those two young children I showed you) this is their father.

These are cows which generally tigers kill around our place. Here, I have researched how much a tiger eats because when a tiger kills, other animals also eat. So, here we protected this kill, had a **machan** on the trees and we didn't allow any other animal – leopards, wolves, hyenas, wild dogs, wild boars – nothing was allowed to eat this except the tigress who had killed it. So four days I could chronicle this. This was the first morning. When I went on my morning ride in Masinagudi, I found this cow. About 20kg it had eaten. The next day, the carcass was in this condition, the second day. The third day it had eaten from the front also. This is what was left on the fourth day. So if a tiger is left undisturbed, it will eat for four days and it will finish everything. But when a tiger kills, it is a very clean eater. He doesn't puncture the intestines at all. Very carefully, like a surgeon, it removes the intestinal bag and keeps it away because the carcass becomes light and it can preserve it for a longer time. This is a spotted deer. You can see how well the intestinal bag has been removed by a tiger. This was killed by a leopard; it has made a mess. Leopards, wild dogs, wolves, hyenas, when they kill, they eat in a messy way compared to a tiger which is a very clean eater.

Now, these are the trainings we are giving forest department people on how to use weapons, how to fire, how to hold the weapon. Of course, here, you are blessed with a shooting range, so you know what it is. But these are trainings we give the forest department on how to hold the weapon, how to shoot, how to aim, the follow through.

We'll quickly demonstrate the tranquillizer gun before we finish. This is a tranquillizing gun that we use for the capture of wild animals. It has a gas cylinder here and the gun is operated with compressed air, just like the compressed air guns we have. This is a special gun I use which is double barrel; it has two barrels. The dart is loaded from the back. This is how the dart is loaded. There is a pressure gauge here. Now, I can increase and decrease the pressure (you see the needle going up) for different ranges and different animals. For soft skin animals, like tigers and leopards, we don't require much pressure. But for elephants, gaurs, rhinos we have to increase the pressure because of the thick skin. So, it has a telescope on it and up to about 30m we can dart any animal with this.

This is the needle. This is the dart we use and it has a special needle, not like the needle that is used for human beings. The needle here has holes on two sides, not like the hole in front and there is a plastic sleeve which covers these two holes and the hole is closed. Now, once the hole is closed, assuming this is the medicine, the medicine is loaded into the dart. The needle is fixed. This dart is in two chambers. In the front is the medicine and the second is the compression chamber and it has a valve here which you see going up and down. From the second chamber we compress air into it. This is a feather we attach at the back to stabilise the dart which will fly in the air. When this hits the target, this sleeve moves back and the medicine is injected into the animal. We have different types of needles but this here is a collar needle. The collar needle gets stuck into the animal so the dart remains. So this red portion is radium so even in the dark if you put a torch you will see where the dart is. The animal runs for around 200m-300m after being hit and then falls. So this is how the dart works.

I'm very, very thankful to Dr and Mrs Thomas for having invited me. All of you are the future of the country, the young generation and you have to work for the environment. You have to work for protection, deforestation, the protection of animals and strike a balance between man and animal and find a win win situation for all of them. All of us should take a pledge to plant a tree. We have to save our environment, we have to save our planet, otherwise it'll perish. All life depends on the forest, all streams come out of the forest, so we have to take care of that, look after that.

I wish you all the best in life and thank you Sir, thank you once again.

Address by Mr Gerry Arathoon, Chief Executive and Secretary, Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi, on the occasion of the Investiture Ceremony held in the Palada Campus on Saturday, 17 February 2018



Mr Gerry Arathoon addressing the students, their parents, guardians and teachers

Mr Selvaraj, IAS (Retd), Chairman, Respected Founder-Principal Dr P C Thomas, Senior Vice President Mrs Thomas, Members of the Board of Governors, Mrs Julie Pradeesh, Vice President & Vice Principal, Senior Vice Principal Academics Mrs Sheila Alexander, Faculty, Staff, Members of the newly-inducted Prefects' Council, Parents and my dear Boys and Girls,

It is indeed a pleasure and proud privilege for my wife and me to be present here this beautiful morning, amongst you in this marvellous school, which has been ranked as the Best International School in India in the year 2016. We, at the Council, are indeed proud to have Good Shepherd International School, a Premier institution as one of our affiliated school.

An Investiture Ceremony is a time honoured academic tradition and a very important date in the school calendar.

What we see before us today are young leaders who have been invested with certain responsibilities and a certain amount of authority. This reflects the true spirit of democracy where there is collective responsibility.

My dear boys and girls, what makes a good leader?

A good leader is one who becomes **responsible** towards the school. Responsibility has been bestowed on you, by you becoming a Prefect. May I remind our young leaders here today that it is for each one of you to take up the task of being **role models** for your juniors. They must be able to look up to you and emulate you in your behaviour, attitude and discipline. As a Prefect, you must lead by example.

A good leader will be able to establish **an honest connection** with those around him or her. A relationship based on trust and reliability makes others know that their leader is always there for them, which in turn inspires them to be there for their leader.

A good leader must have **the ability to delegate in an impartial manner** – the different duties to his team in order to make sure that the best is being done - be it towards discipline, students being punctual, being correctly dressed, showing respect to their teachers and being polite to other staff members. A good leader must have the **ability to communicate** clearly his or her ideas and goals to his/her team for the betterment of the institution so that the team can strive towards a common goal.

As a good leader, you will **blend firmness with tact** and above all, learn **never to compromise your values and principles**. Remember, it is these values and principles which won you the approval of your teachers and people in authority who felt that you are the best person for this role that you have been given. Learn from the great leaders of the world - their **humility and dedication to their task** which was an integral part of their character. According to them, **Leadership must be rooted in service to others**. Learn to imbibe these qualities within yourself and always keep introspecting. Think of ways in which you can bring more honour and glory to your school and help the school to progress. Keep aside **negative traits** like arrogance, aloofness and favouritism towards fellow students but - do keep your **sense of humour** intact.

A good leader will **show confidence** in the face of challenges and will inspire confidence in others – remember, motivation is the key to success and by motivating your team, you will achieve much more. **Inspiration** can take many forms but a capable leader will be able to demonstrate his or her **ability to lead and inspire** the students in the team to give off their best to the school. A good leader **nurtures the strengths and talents** of his team and will build teams committed to achieving all that is good for the students and the school.

To the other young students present here, I would like to point out that a leader becomes effective only when he or she has **committed followers**. Without you, your leader and his Council cannot operate. There will come times when you will think to yourselves, "I could have done this better," Don't let envy or frustration overtake you in such situations. Go to your leader and politely give him or her, your suggestions. All of us need the help of others to get along in life. A leader is only as effective as the people he leads. Dear boys and girls **observe and learn** from your seniors so that when the mantle of leadership falls on you, you are ready and well prepared.

Today, all around us, there is a crisis of leadership. We do not have many leaders whom we want to follow or emulate. As an educationist, I operate on hope. I have great hope for the future and great belief that in the hands of young leaders like the ones I see before me here, the world will surely become a better place to live in. I appeal to all, you dear parents and teachers – both of you are such important pillars of the school, to join hands in this task, of creating a better society and a better world, for it is only with your advice, support and guidance, that our young leaders will be able to create a better world.

My congratulations to the students who have been inducted as the new Prefects of such a great institution. What a proud moment for you and your parents, not to forget your dear teachers and your classmates to see you in this position of leadership. I wish each one of you all the best for the coming year of your leadership.

On behalf of my wife and myself I wish to thank Dr Thomas for his kind invitation, his warm welcome and kind hospitality. I wish the school all the best in the years to come and pray that this institution be a lighthouse of service, love, communal harmony and peace to its neighbourhood.

May God Bless you all.

Address by Mr Gerry Arathoon, Chief Executive and Secretary, Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations, New Delhi, on the occasion of the Graduation Ceremony held in the Palada Campus on Saturday, 17 February 2018



Mr Gerry Arathoon addressing the students, their parents, guardians and teachers on the occasion of the Graduation Day

Chairman, Mr Selvaraj, Respected Founder-Principal Dr P C Thomas, Senior Vice President Mrs Thomas, Members of the Board of Governors, Vice President and Vice Principal Mrs Julie Pradeesh, Senior Vice Principal (Academics) Mrs Sheila Alexander, Faculty, Staff, Students and my dear Graduates of Grade XII,

It has been a delight and great privilege for my wife and me to be present here in an educational institution such as Good Shepherd International School and I deem it a great honour to deliver the Graduation Speech.

My dear Graduates, what a great day in your lives, as you prepare to leave the portals of your alma mater – yet another batch of students to enter the adult world. The years you have spent here at school have all been for your future – your alma mater has already prepared each one of you to face life as you take different paths – different colleges, different universities, different careers, different countries. Go where you want to go, be what you want to be, it is time for you to move on – to construct your future, your world, your life – but remember all the good things that Good Shepherd International School has taught you – integrity, honesty, loyalty, hard work, dedication and critical thinking... all these values – should guide every footstep you take towards building your future. Always remember with gratitude – the care, concern and love you received from your parents, grandparents and your dear teachers who have guided you all these past years.

A new adventure, a new milestone in your life awaits you. You are stepping into an adult world where there will be no spoon feeding or things served to you on a platter. Remember, in college, you will be just a roll number, that is when you will realise that it is time to do things all by yourselves.

Let me assure you that the 'big bad world,' as it is often called is one in which you will be tested, every step of the way. In the professional world that we talk about, the mantra is 'shape up or ship out.' You have to measure up and accept all the challenges that your work environment throws at you.

The world is progressing very fast and there is a knowledge explosion all around us. Technology is growing in leaps and bounds, so almost every day we have to learn new skills. You have to learn to be a member of a team and yet retain your individuality.

I would like to remind our young people here that the larger world is not an ideal one. Everything will not be fair and just – people around you will adopt short cuts. Sycophancy and dishonesty will be around you – these are the moments which will test your character and you may have to make choices which may be difficult. Living up to your parents and teachers' ideals may prove to be difficult but you will have to keep in mind that you can fool the world but not yourself. Your self-respect and dignity and all the values you imbibed at home and school will prevent you from adopting shortcuts to success.

Remember the famous quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson: *"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."* Most importantly remember your school motto – what does it say? (Yes) Truth, Trust, Triumph – Truth will always triumph – You will be a winner all the way.

My dear boys and girls, you must wisely handle the freedom that awaits you, enjoy the experience of life, have time for your hobbies and interests, give back to society in terms of social service and deeds of kindness, devote time to your family and friends, experience life's ups and downs - only then will you be a complete human being.

For each one of you, young people here before me – a new and exciting adventure is about to begin, so march forward, embrace this new adventure called LIFE and always be inspired by the ideals of your alma mater.

In conclusion, I wish you all the best for the Board examinations 2018, I once again thank Dr Thomas for his warm welcome, his kind words and warm hospitality.

May God Bless you all.

Speech of Commander P Jayasanker at the Annual Inter House Athletic Meet held at GSIS on Thursday, 5 April 2018



Commander P Jayasanker addressing the students, teachers, parents, guardians and other guests

Good morning!

As a student here, as a proud Old Shepherdian, first of all let me give my thanks to Dr P C Thomas for inviting me here for this function. There's no better award one can achieve in their life than being granted such an opportunity by your own alma mater, where you are called in as a chief guest to an event in which you participated during your school years.

Dr P C Thomas, Mrs Elsamma Thomas, the Board of Governors of Good Shepherd International School, other dignitaries here, parents and my dear colleagues, the reason I call the students as my colleagues is, I personally believe that all of us remain students all throughout our life. The word student may not stand for what you represent today but the sanskrit word Vidyarthi would be then described; let's describe each one of us. It's a person who has hunger for learning, hunger for knowledge and that's precisely what we all should earn to be.

I was happy to witness a wonderful march past by all of you. I was told that you had very little time for practice, but if this is what you can perform without practice I am pretty sure what you perform with practice, would be an envy to all of us in services. Excellent show by all of you. I'm really happy to see the entire contingents including the leader of the school being led by the ladies. That's wonderful to notice that all the girls have taken this role, I think the boys will have to catch up.

A wonderful Guard of Honour by the Sea Cadet Corps! When I was in GSPS in my old days, the same Sea Cadet Corps refused my entry stating that I was not fit enough to join the Sea Cadet Corps. So I missed joining the Sea Cadet Corps. As they could have it I joined the navy later. Now, coming to this place I am a little jittery standing here because I would be standing in front of luminaries, those who are sitting on the dais here and mainly speaking to Dr P C Thomas and Mrs Elsamma Thomas, whom, we, during the school years feared. The reason, I would not say feared, it would be a matter of respect. This means to me, for the other point which I would like to share with all of you youngsters is leadership. Being in Services as Officers, we are taught to be leaders, again it's poor manners to

say that you are taught to be a leader. You can never be taught to be a leader. The big examples are here in front of you. If you are afraid of coming in front of the Principal or then Headmistress, now the Senior Vice President here, it is because of your respect for them. It is because we respected and looked up to them. We try to emulate their standing, emulate the way they are conducting themselves and that has to be at least personally in good state all through my life here.

The point of time when I was trying, when I got selected to Navy, I was confused. Should I join the Navy or continue the B Tech programme which I was otherwise doing? The person who came to my help at that point of time was none other than Dr P C Thomas, who without any hesitation said to take this up. There was no proud moment then, than at 28 years down the line. I'm still proud of that decision which was taken. I thank Sir, I take this great opportunity to say thank you for guiding me correctly, I would say, at that point of time.

One of the reasons I am standing in front of you is that I am not the only person who has joined the Services, certainly that would be, it's just not me, there is a Commander Levi Mark, who is there in the medical branch of Indian Navy who is also an alumnus of Good Shepherd. Thank God to be one among the two, who have joined the Services, of the three Services.

Sports is what we witnessed, athletic events, that we witnessed today. Yesterday, Ambassador Nirupama Rao had told all of us what importance music plays, what importance the arts in general plays in bringing all of us up. Whether it is our nature, whether it is our stress that can be taken off, I would say sports is no different, whether it is chemically speaking the endorphins that release in you, the euphoria that is created when you win or lose, there are many more things that sports give you other than fitness. Fitness, of course, is a very important part of life today. I have personally felt that what sports teaches us is camaraderie and humility. Camaraderie when you play a team sport supporting each other. Take the case of football. The person who scores the goal is not the only person, the person assisting, in basketball, in football, the person assisting plays an equally important position, that's what it teaches us about camaraderie. Humility: to lose in a sports but at the same time keep your head high, teaches all of us humility. These are trades which all of us need to carry all throughout our life.

It is on a similar field when I came and joined this great school as Good Shepherd Public School. Then in 1984, I had no idea what I was capable of. It was this school, the teachers here who guided me and said you're wasting your height, you're wasting your capability if you don't participate in sports. Then I started with volleyball as instructed by my then History teacher. He said that you should pick up the game and I took up volleyball. From volleyball, they said, you can jump high and go to high jump. I did high jump and then somebody said 'Hold a pole in your hand and you can do pole vault' and I started doing pole vault. So one left another and very soon I realized that being part of the school team meant that we got many outings outside. So that was an added attraction to this. I tried to get into as many school teams as feasible because that gives us an opportunity to visit various other schools and certainly the girls in the other schools are an added reason we tried to go into any other schools. My wife is here, it's been twenty years, doesn't matter, we'll speak. I was a little unhappy when Dr Thomas told me that most matches are being, athletic meets are being held here right now, but anyway there are always some people coming in here, you can meet more guys here.

I'll not take much time, you all must be pretty tired of the events that you have participated in. I wish each and every one of you all the very best. Do well in your life, keep the spirit high and keep playing and keep the flag of Good Shepherd International School flying high.

Jai Hind!

Graduation Ceremony 2018: Toast



Master Prabhraj Singh Bhatia

***“Without my crew
I am Nothing.
With my crew
I am an Emperor.
With my family
I am a mortal, being more powerful and richer than any Emperor.”***

Good Morning,

Respected Chief Guest Mr Gerry Arathoon, his gracious wife Mrs Anita Arathoon, Principal Dr PC Thomas, Senior Vice President Mrs Elsamma Thomas, Vice President Mrs Julie Pradeesh, Senior Vice Principal Mrs Sheila Alexander, HSS Coordinator Mrs Vimala Rani Jacob, Members of the governing body, the Academic Council members and my dear fellow mates,

Today, as I stand before you all, I feel honoured and sad at the same time, honoured because I have the opportunity to deliver this valedictory speech, sad because I have to do the tough job of wishing goodbye on behalf of my batch to all of you. It is the universal truth we all have to face, whether we want to or not, everything eventually ends. As much as I've looked forward to this day, I've always disliked endings. But endings are inevitable.

I embarked my journey in this school 4 years ago and from that moment whenever I was confronted by any problem the only people I looked up to, were you.

Like an explorer without a map in an unknown realm beyond the reach of time and space, lost in oblivion: that is how we were feeling on the first day in this huge labyrinth, the higher secondary block. We were lost, stranded, alone, and you became our map: a map which guided us through the unfathomable life of Higher Secondary School.

Class 11 and 12 have shared an inexplicable bond. We couldn't have been more comfortable with our seniors, and you couldn't have had better juniors. Obviously, you can close your eyes to reality but not to memories that we have created. For Example: The MUN 2017. Our global forum, our chairs, epidemics, pandemics, wars of MUN 2017. A place where impossible literally said I am possible. A place where we cherished and fostered the greatest memories of our school life. A place where an unbreakable bond was forged. A place where companionship turned into brotherhood. It all took place due to your presence. Yes you, right in front of me, wearing those imperial robes.

How can I forget about the football field which was an expert testimony to the young ones who were taught to stand their ground, no matter how ginormous the opponent was?

How can I forget the disclaimers which we were exposed to? Every time we took a walk around the block, our seniors proclaimed only one thing, " You haven't experienced the pressure of 12th standard yet." Well your TED talks gave us horrifying sleepless nights. But at the end, these sleepless nights moulded us into knights who were destined to fight the beast called IB and ISC.

How could I neglect the extremely talented seniors who were such marvellous dancers that I could blindly bet upon them. You guys were so diverse in your dance style that you took inspiration from *Bhangra* to *Hip-hop*. Moreover, one of the seniors himself taught me to execute the ultimately calculatively hard, nerve wracking, serious and determined form of dance, yes none other than *nagin* dance. You inspired us to listen to and appreciate a variety of song ranging from *lollipop* to *slipknot*.

It seems like only yesterday when we were announced as prefects and it is freshly edged in our memories. Especially, the excitement and happiness with which you people welcomed our new Prefects' Council created a memory so deep that we will never forget it. Well, what appeared shocking to me was that my seniors were excited about my being a prefect more than me.

Like a computer system that contains an unformatable drive D, are memories of you in our minds which will not go away. Twenty years from now, the graduating batch of 2018 will have a lot of great and eminent personalities spread all across the world. Twenty years from now, this batch will have one of the greatest scientists, one of the distinguished engineers, one of the exceptional entrepreneurs and one of the most inspirational musicians. I can say this very confidently that within few years from now my seniors will have themselves soaring as high as a tall tree. But remember, just as a tree can never stand tall without its roots, in the same way, never forget about your roots. Always remember where you're going, but never forget where you came from.

If only I could stop time,
If only I could live,
If only I could take a single breath,
I would trade all the others away,
Just to be with such awesome people till the end.

Well, I conclude my speech by wishing that this brotherhood and relationship between you and us may be forever groomed by Honour, Loyalty and Respect, that you realize the truth in the following lines –

***"Without my crew
I am Nothing.
With my crew
I am an Emperor.
With my family
I am a mortal, being more powerful and richer than any Emperor."***

Thank you!

- Master Prabhraj Singh Bhatia, IB-1C

Graduation Ceremony 2018: Reply to the Toast

A TIMELINE

**You and I
Against a rule
Set for us by time.**

**A marker drawn
To show our end
Etched into its line.**

**The briefest moment shared with you -
The longest on my mind.**

- Lang Leav



Ms Mahima Samir Kale

Good afternoon, everyone present here. Last year, same time, I was sitting amidst the audience, watching my seniors graduate and now it is us adorning these graduation gowns and caps.

I never thought this day would come so soon. I crossed days off calendars, counted hours, minutes, seconds and now that this moment is finally here, **my heart swells with tears.**

GSIS has been my home away from home for a mere 4 years whereas some of my batchmates have been here for 5, 6, 8, 10, 12 and even 14 years! So, instead of talking about my experience, I am going to talk about our experience, the journey of the batch 2018.

Today, standing here, we a batch of 86 and more marvellous young adults, I feel honoured and proud to say, 'My dear graduates, yes graduates, we have made it.'

I know it wasn't easy. We fought, we challenged, we competed, we lost, we won, we cried, we laughed, we hated, we loved but in all circumstances, "we grew and, we were all in this together."

But our journey would not have been possible without our respected Principal Dr P C Thomas and his gracious wife Mrs Elsamma Thomas. They made this moment and this day possible for all of us. They are the catalysts to our happiness today and our success tomorrow. So many different people touch our lives here every day and contribute in forming our journey and character that it is impossible to be able to thank each one enough and yet this speech would be incomplete without doing so.

Our Principals, our Administrators, Our Coordinators, Our Counsellors, Our Doctors, Our Teachers, our Coaches, Our Dorm Parents, Our dorm and dining hall helpers, Our seniors, juniors, Our parents.....

Just the way Noah constructed the ark patiently piece by piece strong enough to withstand any storm, all of you shaped us meticulously piece by piece correcting all our flaws.

But most definitely, my dear graduates, you were the highlight of our journey with each one of you being the prime character.

Every tiny moment we shared is the longest on my mind.
 From the Fernhill playgrounds to the higher secondary school corridors
 Be it our joy in our camping or
 Fatigue from mountaineering
 From the laughs of Kollikarai
 To the commands of the parades
 From the practices of elocution, debate, recitation

After lights out
To burning the night table lamp before exams
From making the audience laugh and cry in dramatics
To astonishing them in our athletics

From making beds to
Making friends
We were all in this together.

Graduates, look to your right, look to your left, look all around you. These are the faces you lived with for years now. They were the light in your darkness, the rain in your summer days. They were the WOKs that completed your TOK essays. We never left each other's side and this is what built us. We accepted each other's imperfections and buried all misconceptions. We all are pieces of Lego and this is our *Lego* house.

But soon, this intricate *Lego* house has to be unbuilt. Unbuilt to form new structures, new lives.

I always thought that when I would be graduating I would jump around in joy but today with this happiness, I feel, I feel short of words to express my feelings. It's like reaching the end of your ice cream cone. You want more but you know it is going to be over and the ice cream truck has already left.

Tomorrow, we all will live in different cities, countries and who knows maybe even different planets, our own different worlds. Some of us solving mysteries while the other half making history.

I won't see you and you won't see me. Our dorm parents and chechis will no longer clean our mess. Our teachers will no longer run after us for assignments. No longer will there be a guarantee of food or sleep or someone to laugh with uncontrollably or even a shoulder to cry on. After all, we cannot deny that our school life is coming to an end.

I'm afraid of what's coming
And it's approaching so fast.
We don't have time to decide,
And we don't have time to look back,
We are leaving soon,
And hope it's not too late.
To look around and say goodbye
Before we leave this state
Of being so dependent
Of wanting to be free.
Change is in the air
And it's scattered on the ground.
It whistles through the wind and tugs our happy smiles down.
All the people we knew
Will no longer be the ones we know.
We will have to start again
When it's time for us to go.

But don't get scared as we part, because let's say every goodbye is a new start. If you ever feel lonely and sad and the world is driving you mad, remember me, be it in New York, Newcastle or New Delhi, I will be there for you extending my hand.

We might be leaving. But, we will always be looking out for one another, marching on together drumming our own beat. We won't let them break us down to dust. For I know that there is a place for us.

Because in the end, it's our memories and love that exist. It lives in everything we hold dear and it's the promise of love that one day after a long happy successful life we will find each other again.

Maybe a bit balder and hopefully somehow a bit taller, but we will find each other, together.

Until then, to the batch of 2018,

For you, A thousand times over.

- Ms Mahima Samir Kale, IB-2A

Outstanding Old Shepherdians

Mr Naveen Kumar Gogineni



Mr Naveen Kumar Gogineni along with his wife



Mr Naveen Kumar Gogineni along with his wife, son and daughter

Mr Naveen Kumar Gogineni secured the 3rd rank in Good Shepherd Public School in his grade 10 ICSE Examination in 1992. During his years in the school, he was well-behaved, soft-spoken, well-focused on his studies and hardworking. His native city is Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh.

He joined **Vidya Mandir School** in Madras for his pre-university course. He received the **Padmini Seshadri medal** for excellence in Mathematics in the All India Senior School Certificate Examination (AISSCE) conducted by the CBSE in 1994 for students of grade 12. In 1994, he appeared for the All India Roorkee Entrance Examination (REE) and was ranked among the top 0.2% of the selected students. In 1995, he appeared in the All India IIT Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) and was ranked among the top 1% of the selected candidates. He received **Bachelor of Technology Degree (B Tech)** in Electronics and Communications from IIT Madras in 1999. In 2001, he was awarded **Master of Science** in Electronics and Communications by The University of Maryland, College Park, Prince George's County, Maryland, USA. He worked at **Hughes Network Systems** from 2000 to 2012 in various capacities. **Hughes Network Systems**, a provider of broadband satellite network products for businesses and consumers, has its headquarters in Germantown, Maryland, USA. From 2012, he has been a Member of Technical Staff at Viasat Inc, Germantown, Maryland, USA, where he provides service on the world's highest capacity Broadband Satellite (Viasat-2).

He is married and has two kids – a daughter aged 13 years and a son, 9 years old. His hobbies include: fixing cars, woodworking, hiking and photography.

We are proud of the success and achievements of our Old Shepherdian. **Congratulations!**

Mr Satish C Penmetsa



Mr Satish C Penmetsa

Mr Satish C Penmetsa is an **Old Shepherdian** and he belongs to the 1992 ICSE batch of students of Good Shepherd Public School. His family hails from Hyderabad in Telangana State. He is very intelligent, soft-spoken and hardworking.

He holds a **Master of Business Administration (MBA)** from The Wharton School of Business, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA. He also has an **M.S. (Masters in Science)** degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Texas in Austin, Texas, USA.

He has worked at multiple startups and NetApp. He has also worked at IBM Almaden Research Center in San Jose, California and has two patents to his credit. He is **Co-Founder & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of **rapidBizApps Pvt Ltd**, a trusted innovation and mobile app development services partner to some of the world's smartest companies. The company builds apps for iPhones, iPads, Android Phones and Android Tablets. He has delivered lectures as a guest speaker at multiple top-tier business schools. He lives in San Francisco, California, in USA.

He is married to **Hima Bindu Mudunuru** and the couple has two children – a son, Aaditya Penmetsa, who is 11 years old and a daughter, Neha Penmetsa, who is 5 years old. His favourite hobbies are hiking, photography and running. He has run multiple half and full-marathons.

Success does not come easy. Success comes to those who deserve it and work for it. It is the result of a combination of hard work, discipline, dedication and a lot of patience. **Congratulations** on your achievement! Enjoy every bit of your success and continue to climb the ladder of success.

"Productivity is never an accident. It is always the result of a commitment to excellence, intelligent planning, and focused effort."

- Paul J Meyer

"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference."

- Robert Frost

"Great things never came from comfort zones."

- Neil Strauss

"If you want something you never had, you have to do something you've never done."

- Thomas Jefferson

"If you are not willing to risk the unusual, you will have to settle for the ordinary."

- Jim Rohn

"There is nothing noble in being superior to your fellow man; true nobility is being superior to your former self."

- Ernest Hemingway

2017 BOARD EXAMINATION TOPPERS

INDIAN CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
INTERNATIONAL GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF SECONDARY EDUCATION
INDIAN SCHOOL CERTIFICATE
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME



Yash Sharma
ICSE Science Group



Arnav Goenka
ICSE Commerce Group



Srihush Allu
IGCSE Science Group



Prabhraj Singh Bhatia
IGCSE Commerce Group



Shivam Garg
ISC Science Group



Mohak Gupta
ISC Commerce Group



Bhavika Mukesh Agarwal
IB Diploma Programme

The Outgoing Batch of 2018
Grade XII

**ASHHUTOSH AGERWAL****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Basketball

Ambition : A good human being

Achievements : 6th place in Inter-House cross country race, Distinction in TCL Grade - 1

Address : Shankar Nagar, TV Tower Road, Escocita Colony Grand, Flat No: 107, Raipur – 792 001,
Chhattisgarh

E-mail : ashutoshagrawal@gmail.com

**ANKUR SINGH****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Listening to Music, Travelling

Ambition : Successful Politician

Achievements : Innumerable

Address : M-9 Old Adityapur Housing, Colony Saraikela Kharsawa – 831 013, Jharkhand

E-mail : ankursingh909109@gmail.com

**DISHA PRAJAPATI****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Singing

Ambition : Animation Cinematography

Achievements : Recitation

Address : A-1/164 Applewoods, Orchid Green Fields, Near Shantipura Cross Road, Ahmedabad
– 382 210

E-mail : dishaprajapati2707@gmail.com

**NISARG M C****2004 – 2018**

Hobby : Watching TV, Movies, Art, Reading

Ambition : Neurologist, IAS Officer

Achievements : IAYP – Bronze & Silver, TCL Theory Grade 5; Violin – Initial, Grade 1, 2; Xylophone -
Grade 1, 3, 6, Inter School Hockey

Address : Door # 3448 6th Main, Wesley Road, Thilaknagar, Mysore – 570 021, Karnataka

E-mail : nisarg.gowda2000@gmail.com

**KARTHIK RAJU E****2007 – 2018**

Hobby : Cricket, Photography

Ambition : Event Manager

Achievements : TCL Grade 3, U-19 Cricket

Address : Shree Toys Factory, 2194 Upstair, I Floor, 3rd Cross Kuvempunagar, Channapatna –
571 501, Karnataka

E-mail : rajukarthik27@yahoo.com

**SANMIT R PRAKASH****2007 – 2018**

Hobby : Driving, Cycling, Listening to Music, Photography
Ambition : Build my own cars and make my bank balance look like a phone number
Achievements : Hockey – Best Defender; TCL Grade 1, 2, 3; U-13, 16, 19 - Hockey
Address : 24/1151 Bellary Road, Aarpee Iron Ore Mines, Hospet – 583 201, Karnataka
E-mail : sanmitrp@gmail.com

**ATUL THARD****2007 – 2018**

Hobby : Watching TV
Ambition : Business Tycoon
Achievements : TCL Grade 6, Best Golfer
Address : 1, Sarat Bose Road, Amardeep Building, 7th Floor, Flat 7B, Minto Park,
Kolkata – 700 020
E-mail : atulthard@gmail.com

**NIDHI MURALI****2009 – 2018**

Hobby : Watching TV
Ambition : Criminal Psychologist
Achievements : Best Athlete
Address : GSIS, M. Palada Post, Ootacamund – 643 004
E-mail : muralinidhi2@gmail.com

**SHASHWAT GUTGUTIA****2012 – 2018**

Hobby : Lawn Tennis, Music
Ambition : Entrepreneur, Billionaire, Philanthropist
Achievements : Most Valuable Player in Tennis
Address : No.6, Salzburg Square, 107, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai – 600 031
E-mail : shaswat.gutgutia@gmail.com

**AMISHA AGRAWAL****2013 – 2018**

Hobby : Dancing, Photography
Ambition : IAS Officer
Achievements : 1st in Dance Competition, 2nd Best Dancer
Address : 107, Krishna Vihar Colony, Jindal Road, Raigarh, Chhattisgarh – 496 001
E-mail : amisha.agrawal123@gmail.com

**DHRUMIT RAKESHBHAI RAJDEV****2007 – 2018**

Hobby : Listening to Music, Playing gully cricket
Ambition : Leading Business Tycoon
Achievements : Winner of U-16 Cricket Cup, TCL Grade 4 Theory, Winter House Prefect, Cross Country – 1st
Address : Hotel Metro, Karampara 8, Prohalad Plot Main Road, Opp.Vora Sound, Rajkot
E-mail : dhrumitrajdev5055@gmail.com

**NEEL SANJAY SOPARIWALA****2008 – 2018**

Hobby : Playing basketball
Ambition : To be rich enough to give all the happiness my family deserves
Achievements : Summer House Captain (2010-2011), TCL Grade 4 Theory, Grade 3 Practical, Best Shooter in U-19 Basketball
Address : Shiv Crackers, 2/3710, Navsari Bazar Main Road, Surat – 395 002
E-mail : neelsopariwala@gmail.com

**SAHAAJ SINGH CHAWLA****2013 – 2018**

Hobby : Watching Movies, Learning hacking
Ambition : To start my own software company
Achievements : Winter House Prefect (8th and 12th), GSMUN 2017 – IT Head
Address : 3/51 Surjit Niwas, Behind Shyam Plaza, Ravi Nagar, Raipur – 492 001
E-mail : sahaajsingh@gmail.com

**AMAN DUBEY****2013 – 2018**

Hobby : Listening to Music, Playing gully cricket
Ambition : Businessman
Achievements : TCL Grade 3
Address : Vinoba Nagar, Near Pathak Shop, Bilaspur – 495 001
E-mail : sssad4@gmail.com

**NAVEENA S****2008 – 2018**

Hobby : Photography, Listening to Music
Ambition : Entrepreneur, to have my name on the front page of the Forbes
Achievements : Winter House Captain, Recitation, TCL Grade 5, Best Defender - Basketball
Address : C-25 Cheran Nagar, Kangayam Road, Vijayapuram Post, Tirupur – 643 606
E-mail : sunaveena2000@gmail.com



ANAND M S
2009 – 2018

Hobby : Travelling, Listening to Music
Ambition : Businessman
Achievements : Best mid-fielder in Hockey, Inter-School Hockey Captain
Address : Mathenparambil, Veroor P.O, Kottayam, Changanasserry – 686104, Kerala
E-mail : anandms294@gmail.com



SAKSHI KAMALIA
2013 – 2018

Hobby : Painting, Listening to Music
Ambition : Product Designer
Achievements : Spring House Captain, 3rd best actress, TCL singing initials
Address : 4th Floor, Shyam Kunj Apartment, Basant Vihar Colony, Boring Road, Patna – 800 001, Bihar
E-mail : sakshikamalia@gmail.com



JASLEEN KAUR GANDHI
2012 – 2018

Hobby : Dance
Ambition : Actor / Designer (Fashion) / NGO for street dogs
Achievements : Best Dancer, Recitation 8th, 9th – 1st, Dance 8th, 9th – 1st place
Address : Plot No. 64/65 Shanti Niketan Colony, Mahendera Hills, East Marredpally, Secunderabad, Hyderabad – 500 026
E-mail : jasleen.gandhi49@gmail.com



ARACHEMVEETIL NAWRAH
2016 – 2018

Hobby : Cooking, Photography & Videography
Ambition : Chef / Chain Restaurant owner / Meme Queen
Achievements : TCL Vocals
Address : Rajah Manzil, Chavakkad P.O., Thrissur, Kerala – 680 506
E-mail : nawrah2000@gmail.com



SHIKSHA SINGHANIA
2016 – 2018

Hobby : Dancer, Swimmer
Ambition : Swimmer
Achievements : Winter House Prefect
Address : 852, Road No -44, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Telengana – 500 033
E-mail : shiksha194@gmail.com

**JOHN ALEXANDER****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Reading, Playing Games, Watching Movies
Ambition : Become the richest and most innovative person
Achievements : 3rd Rank in class
Address : TC3/1570-1, Lane-1, Mar Ivanious Nagar, Kesavadasapuram, Pattom PO,
Trivandrum – 695 004, Kerala
E-mail : johnalexander748@gmail.com

**UJJWAL BARLOTA****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Billiards, Badminton
Ambition : To open a charitable trust solely for Shepherdians, Philanthropist
Achievements : Autumn House Prefect
Address : Abhay Agencies, Edward Road, Sadar Bazaar, Raipur – 492 001, Chattisgarh
E-mail : barlota123@gmail.com

**ANUSHKA SARAWGI****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Talking
Ambition : To be rich enough to buy a country of my own
Achievements : Champion in Athletics, topper of the class always
Address : Atibir Industries Co.Ltd., 20 B, Abdul Hamid Street, 7th Floor, Block 7B,
Kolkata – 700 069
E-mail : anushkasarawgi1605@gmail.com

**SATYAM BHIMSARIA****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Music, Photography, Drawing
Ambition : Let's keep it a surprise and see it for yourself in the future
Achievements : Being myself
Address : C/o. M/s. Shree Plywood, 86, C.R. Avenue, Kolkata – 700 012
E-mail : satyambhimsaria007@gmail.com

**YASH ASHISH SHARMA****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Badminton
Ambition : IPS Officer
Achievements : Best Shooter (Inter-House Pistol Shooting)
Address : F-12/140, Abhilasha Apartment, Behind Vyaswadi Nava Wadaj, Ahmedabad – 380 013
E-mail : sharma19100yash@gmail.com

**HIMANSHI NAREDI****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Gaining knowledge

Ambition : Photographer

Achievements : 1st in Javelin Throw, 1st Rank in Class, TCL Grade 1

Address : H No 8-2-626/5/E Road No 1, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad – 500 034

E-mail : hnaredi@gmail.com

**SUDEEPT GUPTA****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Listening to Music, Playing gully cricket

Ambition : Leading Business Tycoon

Achievements : Silver in Javelin and Shot put, Runner-Up in U-17 Football

Address : A-53, Amrapali Society, Behind Colors Mall, Raipur – 492 001

E-mail : sudeept.knk@gmail.com

**A S GANESHAN****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Watching Movies, Listening to Songs, Reading Newspaper

Ambition : Real Estate Tycoon

Achievements : 3 Silver medals in Swimming Competition

Address : 4/109, Indira Nagar, Veerapandi (PO), Tirupur – 641 605

E-mail : asganeshan25@gmail.com

**MAYANK AGARWAL****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Video Gaming, Music

Ambition : Leading Business Tycoon

Achievements : Silver – 150 mts breast stroke in swimming, TCL Theory Grade 1 (Merit)

Address : 8-2-697/1/403/C, Road No.12, Near CRPF, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad – 500 034

E-mail : agarwalmayank45@gmail.com

**KOUTHAVARAPU UDAY SAI****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Music, Playing Cricket, Novels

Ambition : Textile Designer

Achievements : IAYP (Silver), TCL Theory Grade 1

Address : H.O. Vivekananda Nagar Colony, Kothapeta, Chirala – 523 157, Prakasam Dist., AP

E-mail : udaychikku17@gmail.com



TEJSHWARAJ SINGH BHATIA

2014 – 2018

Hobby : Singing, Painting, Travelling
Ambition : Musician, Composer, Designer
Achievements : IAYP, Athletics, Best Badminton Player, Grade 8 (Vocals) Merit
Address : Sona House, 35/75 Punjabi Colony, Katora Talab, Near SBI Zonal Office,
Raipur – 492 001
E-mail : tejshwaraj.bhatia@gmail.com



KASIDIT KHAJORNSAKCHAI

2012 – 2018

Hobby : Reading, Music, Cooking, Photography
Ambition : Musician, Businessman
Achievements : Champion of Inter-House Athletics, TCL Practical – Grade 6 with Merit
Address : 31, Sai Pra Road, T Pra-Prathom Jedi, M. Muang – 73000, Thailand
E-mail : kasiditatdragon@gmail.com



MUSKAN INAYATALI PIRANI

2013 – 2018

Hobby : Reading, Writing, Music
Ambition : To be a player in the Game of Minds
Achievements : Survived the Monsters who kept haunting
Address : P.O. Box 1923, Mbeya - Tanzania (East Africa)
E-mail : muskan212712@gmail.com



UDHAYAN RAJOO

2012 – 2018

Hobby : Football, Watching TV, Cooking
Ambition : Chef, Footballer (Own a Restaurant in my favourite country)
Achievements : Best Player in Football, Inter-House football, Championship in Swimming
Address : A-19-3, Menara City One Condominium, Jalan Munshi Abdullah, Kuala Lumpur,
Malaysia – 50100
E-mail : chef.jr99@gmail.com



RACHITA RAMRAKHYANI

2016 – 2018

Hobby : Shopping, Travelling, Photography
Ambition : To sail in the uncharted waters
Achievements : IAYP – Silver, Folk Dance competition – 1st Place
Address : Flat No 703, Al Waha Building, Bur Dubai, UAE
E-mail : rachitaramrakhyani@gmail.com



YOGEETA PRAKASH VASNANI

2016 – 2018

Hobby : Cooking, Art, Dance, Singing
Ambition : To make my parents proud and become the best Chef in the world and work as an Accountant in a Bank
Achievements : 3rd Place – Rifle Shooting, 2nd Place – Shot Put, to become independent, to stay in this cold weather
Address : Al Noor Building 3, Mankhool Road, P.O.Box 242331, Bur Dubai # 410, 4th Floor, Dubai, UAE
E-mail : yogeeta_vasnani@hotmail.com



JOSHUA STEPHEN ABRAHAM

2016 – 2018

Hobby : Drawing
Ambition : Learn juggling
Achievements : IAYP (Gold), TCL Theory 1 – Distinction
Address : P.O. Box.18169, Villa # 13, Al Youda Lane, Al Hilal, Doha, Qatar
E-mail : 24joshua3@gmail.com



LITHIA ANIL

2012 – 2018

Hobby : Finding weird stuff on the Internet, Watching Horror Movies
Ambition : I want to define "Ambition"
Achievements : IAYP(Bronze & Silver) Best Actress, Autumn House Prefect, Distinction in Rock & Pop Vocals, 3rd Place in Short Story Writing
Address : Babu Nettos House, Pallivadakathil, Sakthikulangara, Kollam, Kerala – 691 002
E-mail : lithiaanil777@gmail.com



VEDSI NIRAJ ARYA

2014 – 2018

Hobby : Exploring
Ambition : To never let the spark die
Achievements : To have become the person that I am today
Address : B-903, The Imperial Heights, 150 FT Ring Road, Rajkot – 360 005
E-mail : vedsi.arya@gmail.com



PARNIKA MANDEEP BAJAJ

2012 – 2018

Hobby : Reading Books, Knowing new facts, listening to Music
Ambition : Be like a Firefly – spread light
Achievements : Vice Head Girl, Best Pistol Shooter
Address : Shri Hari Niwas, 4th Floor Fortuna, Beside Ginger Hotel, Piplod, Surat, Gujarat – 395 007
E-mail : parnika2000@gmail.com



AYUSH BALAR
2016 – 2018

Hobby : Playing Badminton, Dancing, Singing, Fond of eating
Ambition : To visit 100 countries in my life, Open a travel agency
Achievements : Member of school's badminton team, TCL Grade 1
Address : 125, Main Sector, Shastri Nagar, Bhilwara – 311 001, Rajasthan
E-mail : ayushbalar11@yahoo.com



NEIL RAHUL BANTHIA
2013 – 2018

Hobby : Obsessed with movies, music, football
Ambition : The next Elon Musk, with a purple Lamborghini and white Tuxedo
Achievements : Being human (me)
Address : Laxmi Ratan Bungalow, Near V K High School, Panvel, Navi Mumbai – 410 206
E-mail : neil.bantia@gmail.com



AMAN BATHWAL
2011 – 2018

Hobby : Watching movies, Sports
Ambition : CEO of next Pearson Specter Litt
Achievements : Inter School Squash, TCL Grade 4, GSMUN – IT
Address : 68, SRM Apartment, 106, I.P. Extension, New Delhi – 110 092
E-mail : amanbathwal5887@gmail.com



BAYANA SAI SHREYA
2016 – 2018

Hobby : Spreading smiles
Ambition : Want to start an Ad Agency
Achievements : Inter-house Tennis, District Tennis Championship
Address : 40-3 / 1-47 A, Kamineni Venkateswara Rao Street, Krishna Nagar,
Vijayawada – 520 010, Andhra Pradesh
E-mail : shreyabayana@gmail.com



DHRUVIK BHARAT HAPANI
2016 – 2018

Hobby : Sports, Dancing, Exploring the world
Ambition : To work hard enough to have an award named after me
Achievements : Inter-school Football Captain
Address : Bilipatra Apartment B - 1101, 150 FT Ring Road, Near Dholakiya School, B/h. Balaji
Hall, Rajkot – 360 004, Gujarat
E-mail : dbhapani6868@gmail.com

**MANNAT SINGH BHATIA****2014 – 2018**

Hobby : Playing badminton
Ambition : Top 100 in Forbes magazine
Achievements : Survived IB
Address : Sona House, 35/75 Punjabi Colony, Katora Talab, Near SBI Zonal Office,
Raipur – 492 001
E-mail : mannatsb@gmail.com

**TOUSHIF BISWAS****2013 – 2018**

Hobby : Make people smile
Ambition : To create history
Achievements : Survived IB being optimistic, not being ordinary
Address : Village Post Sangrampur, P S Basirhat Dist, 24 PGS (N), Basirhat – 743 411
E-mail : tushifbiswas@myself.com

**NITYA CHERUKURI****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Watching movies and listening to Music
Ambition : Industrialist
Achievements : TCL, Choir, 2nd in Javelin Throw
Address : 60-28-3A, Gayathrinagar, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh – 520 008
E-mail : nityacherukuri2000@gmail.com

**ISHAAN VINOD DULHANI****2011 – 2018**

Hobby : Observing the ordinary
Ambition : Reach my "Happy ever after"
Achievements : School Captain, Secretary General (GSMUN), U-19 Cricket team Captain
Address : 232/ E6, Behind Venkatesh Apartment, Tarabai Park, Kolhapur, Maharashtra – 416 003
E-mail : dulhaniishaan@gmail.com

**AARTI GOBIND MOHINANI****2014 – 2018**

Hobby : Obsessing over books and cheese
Ambition : To always shine a light through darkness
Achievements : Still managing to be me
Address : Regency Heights 5A, 3/2-11, Cleveland Road, Frazer Town, Bangalore – 560 005
E-mail : aartimohinani@gmail.com



VEDANT SANDEEP GOENKA

2011 – 2018

Hobby : Playing Sports, Watching movies
Ambition : To be the face of the corporate world
Achievements : Spring House Captain, U-19 Best Bowler, GSMUN – Admin Head
Address : Flat No. 502 & 602, 63, Shivaji Nagar, Nagpur, Maharashtra – 440 010
E-mail : vedantgoenka@gmail.com



SAMRAAT SUJOY GUPTA

2012 – 2018

Hobby : Chasing "Happiness"
Ambition : To be on the cover of Forbes magazine, Solo – Travel the world
Achievements : School Vice Captain, President of GSMUN SC, Best Defender (football), 9 A*s in IGCSE
Address : Samraat Group, Samraat House, Tagore Nagar, Opp.Dr.Ambedkar Nagar, Nasik Pune
Highway, Nashik – 422 006
E-mail : samraatgupta9@gmail.com



GHANTA HARI CHANDANA

2014 – 2018

Hobby : Watching movies
Ambition : Engineer
Achievements : Scholarship for 10th IGCSE Board Result, IAYP (Bronze, Silver), got advanced to National Level Rifle Shooting competition, Summer House Prefect.
Address : D.No. 4-5-60/2/A Mainlane, Saibaba Road, Guntur – 522 007, Andhra Pradesh
E-mail : ghantaharichandana@gmail.com



LALDINGLIANA HMAR

2013 – 2018

Hobby : Shooting
Ambition : To hunt the yeti in the Himalayas and a helicopter pilot
Achievements : I can shoot a 10.9
Address : A-26, BCA Building, Lower Zarkawt, Aizawl, Mizoram – 796 001
E-mail : madinga_hmar@hotmail.com



ARHAM HUNDIA

2013 – 2018

Hobby : Tennis and Singing
Ambition : To develop a programme that helps all kinds of people
Achievements : IAYP (Bronze, Silver), Best Tennis player from the day I joined the school, TCL Rock Band Vocal – Grade 5
Address : 10/B, Vldyanagar Society Vibhag 1, Opp. Usmanpura Garden, Behind Suraj Building, Usmanpura, Ahmedabad – 380 013
E-mail : arham.hundia@gmail.com



PALAK JAIN
2016 – 2018

Hobby : Dancing, Reading, exploring varieties of music
Ambition : To be so successful that I wouldn't need an introduction
Achievements : IAYP (Gold), but most importantly, being able to zone out the negativity, President of GSMUN HRC, Interact Club Secretary
Address : 11/2 Pandit Madan Mohan, Malviya Sarani, Kolkata – 700 020
E-mail : palak.jain9959@gmail.com



AMUKTHA K R
2016 – 2018

Hobby : Cracking lame jokes
Ambition : To have no wishes left when I die
Achievements : Bringing out the best in me
Address : Sri Murari Rice Industry, Adoni Road, Araliganur Cross, Siruguppa, Ballari – 583 121, Karnataka
E-mail : darlingdad345@gmail.com



MOHAMMED NAFIH KALATHIL
2011 – 2018

Hobby : Watching suits, football, listening to music
Ambition : I want to leave a footprint for people to follow
Achievements : IAYP (Bronze and Silver), TCL Rock and Pop, Best mid-fielder, Best striker, Environment Captain
Address : P.O 120562, Dubai, UAE 120562
E-mail : nafih1999@gmail.com



MAHIMA SAMIR KALE
2014 – 2018

Hobby : Sketching, Painting in general, Travelling, Unraveling and Legoleptic
Ambition : Industrial Designer and paint kindness on the canvas of this world
Achievements : IAYP (Gold), Head Girl, Badminton best player
Address : 17, Samir Mohite Colony, Kadamwadi Road, Kolhapur, Maharashtra – 416 003
E-mail : mahimakale00@gmail.com



KARTIK ANAND KAPOOR
2014 – 2018

Hobby : Travelling
Ambition : Entrepreneur
Achievements : Squash U-19 Captain, Squash U-19 Inter-School – Most Promising Player
Address : 31-A, Sheenagar Society, Productivity Road, BH SBI Bank, Baroda – 390 020
E-mail : kartik2699@gmail.com

**JEFFREY KOLENCHERY****2014 – 2018**

Hobby : Watching TV, Reading, Playing Video Games, Cooking
Ambition : The next Tony Stark
Achievements : President - ECOSOC, TCL Rock and Pop Grade 5, Summer House Captain
Address : Hellmann Worldwide Logistics, Post Box No 27974, Dubai, United Arab Emirates
E-mail : jeffrey.kolenchery@gmail.com

**K S PRAVEEN KUMAR****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Watching TV, Listening to Music, Playing Video Games
Ambition : To become a Surgeon
Achievements : IAYP (Silver), Most Valuable Player – Badminton, Prefect in 11th Standard, made my best friends for life
Address : D.No 54-20/2-11, Balaji Towers, Subba Rao Colony 1st Cross Road, Near Bharathi Nagar, Vijayawada – 520 008
E-mail : praveenkoneru666@gmail.com

**CHANAMOLU KRITHI RIDHI****2011 – 2018**

Hobby : Reading, Listening to Music, Legoleptic, to try different things in every field
Ambition : I have many in my mind but first I want to save a life
Achievements : IAYP (Bronze, Silver), Summer House Captain, 2nd Best Actress, made people around me laugh
Address : Velagaleru, G Konduru Mandal, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh – 521 229
E-mail : c.krithiridhi5822@gmail.com

**HITAYU KUKATLA****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Observing everything around me and making random corrections
Ambition : Genius, Billionaire, Philanthropist, Full time actor
Achievements : Best Actor, President / Interact and GSMUN GA, used poor logic with confidence to win debates, recitation and destroy resolutions
Address : 81-B, Sarat Bose Road, Merlin Tulip Flat 3-B, Kolkata – 700026
E-mail : hitayukukatla@gmail.com

**NEERAJ GOPAL KUKREJA****2014 – 2018**

Hobby : Listening to Music, Watching movies
Ambition : Entrepreneur
Achievements : IAYP (Silver), Soccer – Best Goalkeeper, TCL Xylophone Grade 2 – Distinction
Address : 3 Serenade Apartment, Near VLCC Parlour, Jihaan Circle, Opp. Gangapur Road, Nashik – 422 101
E-mail : kukrejaneeraj2511@gmail.com

**LITASHA KUNWAR****2009 – 2018**

Hobby : Wandering though the undiscovered
Ambition : Turn my imagination into reality and dreams into achievements
Achievements : IAYP (Silver), TCL Grade 5 – Distinction, Summer House Captain 2010-2011, Badminton – Promising player
Address : New Building Type 4, House No. 12, Medical College Campus, Kanpur, UP – 208 002
E-mail : litasha.kunwar@gmail.com

**RAHUL THOMAS KURIAN****2013 – 2018**

Hobby : Playing Music and Football, Reading
Ambition : To work hard
Achievements : IAYP (Bronze, Silver), TCL Grade 6
Address : P.O. Box 53363, Dubai – UAE
E-mail : rahul.kurian2000@gmail.com

**YANGTZE GAUTAMI LAMA****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Dancing, Sketching, Painting, Singing
Ambition : Cartoonist
Achievements : TCL, 3rd Place in Inter-House Swimming competition, 4th place in drawing competition
Address : Good Shepherd International School, Ootacamund – 643 004
E-mail : yangtzelama@gmail.com

**NILIMA THERESA MATHEW****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Dancing, Playing any kind of sport, Socializing
Ambition : Psychologist
Achievements : Most Valuable Player – Table Tennis, won a lot of medals in athletics, 3rd in Cross Country race
Address : A, 004, Aahika Apartments, Ranka Colony Road, Bilekahalli, Banerghata Road, Bangalore – 560 076
E-mail : nilimatheresamathew@gmail.com

**DIVYAKSHI NATH****2014 – 2018**

Hobby : Being Human
Ambition : Philanthropist
Achievements : Medals in Athletics and Cross Country, excellence in Academics
Address : Villa No.43, 9 Pearls Compound, Al Bustaan Street, Al Waab, Opp American School of Doha, Doha, Qatar
E-mail : divyakshi.nath26@gmail.com

**AYUSH RAMINEDI****2011 – 2018**

Hobby : Playing the Guitar, Playing Badminton
Ambition : Aerospace Engineer
Achievements : TCL Theory – Grade 5, Guitar – Grade 4
Address : LIG -232, 1st Floor, KPHB Colony, Kukatpally, Hyderabad – 500 076
E-mail : ayuvijji@gmail.com

**ABHINANDAN REDDY N****2012 – 2018**

Hobby : Playing Trumpet, sightseeing
Ambition : Mechanical Engineer
Achievements : Trumpet Grade 5, Hockey – School Captain, Pole Vault – Silver medal
Address : No.1076, 11th Cross, 9th Main, WOC, Mahalakshmpuram, Rajaninagar, Bangalore – 560 086
E-mail : nandhanabhi593@gmail.com

**VEDANT SAGAR****2013 – 2018**

Hobby : To overthink
Ambition : 1st Bihari in Forbes top 100
Achievements : Co-curricular Captain, ECOFIN President, U-16 Squash Inter-School – Most promising player
Address : R-2/1, Housing Colony, Adityapur, Jamshedpur, Jharkhand – 831 013
E-mail : vedantsagar@hotmail.com

**NARAYAN SAI SANWARIYA REDDY****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Working on Technology, Music
Ambition : Computer Engineer
Achievements : IAYP (Silver), GSMUN IT, Band Major
Address : Flat No: 2200, Buena Park, Lodha Bellezza, KPHB Phase - IV, Kukatpally, Hyderabad – 500 072
E-mail : saisanwariya12@icloud.com

**MANHAN AMIT SARAF****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Listening to Music, Watching Movies, Playing Football, Sky Diving, Scuba Diving
Ambition : MBA, Banking
Achievements : IAYP (Bronze), Student Coordinator – FDDI (NGO), Choir, TCL Grade 1
Address : 2403, B-Wing, DB Woods, Krishna Vatika Marg, Gokuldham, Goregaon (E), Mumbai – 400 063
E-mail : sarafmanhan@gmail.com

**PRANAV SARAWAGI****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Eat, Play Cricket, Listen to Music
Ambition : To prove my friends wrong, to complete my bucket list
Achievements : Summer House Prefect, Best All-rounder – Inter-House Cricket, TCL Grade 1
Address : 10-1-31 Signature Towers, Waltair Uplands, Visakhapatnam – 530 003
E-mail : pranavsarawagi0807@gmail.com

**VIKNESH SELVADASON****2014 – 2018**

Hobby : Football, Reading, Listening to Music, following Arsenal and Riverdale
Ambition : To be able to make a difference
Achievements : Best Delegate GSMUN SC (2017), TCL Grade 3, Record Holder in 4 x 400 m, U-19 Football
Address : BLK 126, Pasir RIS Street 11, #04-365, Singapore 510126
E-mail : viknesh7606@gmail.com

**MAHER SHAJI****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Pinterest, Football, Music, Keeping track of Infinity Wards
Ambition : Make my Momma proud
Achievements : Almost made my Momma proud
Address : South Fort General Trading LLC, Al Helo Building No.11 Al Maktoum Road, Post Box. 237585, Dubai
E-mail : mahershaji@gmail.com

**RAUNAK SHERGILL****2012 – 2018**

Hobby : Football
Ambition : Being Ambitious
Achievements : High Jump Record Holder, U-19 Football
Address : Shergill House Village –Bhattian, GT Road Khanna, Opp.Atwal Palace, District Ludhiana – 141 401, Punjab
E-mail : raunakshergill2000@gmail.com

**THOMAS SIBY****2013 – 2018**

Hobby : Football
Ambition : Chemical Engineer
Achievements : IAYP (Silver), House Captain, Topper of Maths class
Address : Jumbo Electronics Co. Ltd (LLC), P O Box 3426, Dubai, UAE
E-mail : thomas.siby6104@gmail.com

**ADITYA SIVANANDAN****2011 – 2018**

Hobby : Playing Video Games, Watching Movies
Ambition : Entrepreneur
Achievements : IAYP (Bronze, Silver), Badminton – Most Promising Player, TCL Grade - 3
Address : Busch Gardens, Post Karuvissery, Calicut – 673 010, Kerala
E-mail : adityasivanand.123@gmail.com

**SAGAR RAJESH SADHNANI****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Paragliding
Ambition : To be the best
Achievements : Badminton – District Player
Address : 402, Kesar Kripa, Plot No 361, 14th Road, Khar West, Mumbai – 400 052
E-mail : sagarsadhnani1234@gmail.com

**S SHOBIKA****2014 – 2018**

Hobby : Reading, Playing the Keyboard, Photography
Ambition : Business Psychologist and Entrepreneur, Photographer
Achievements : Work in a home for the Blind and the Deaf
Address : 34, Sannathi Street, Shobika Impex, Vennaimalai, Karur – 639 002
E-mail : shobhika2962000@gmail.com

**ROHIT SUR****2012 – 2018**

Hobby : Watching Movies, Playing Basketball
Ambition : Businessman
Achievements : Best Player in the Inter-School Basketball District Competition
Address : Post Bag 45 Lilongwe, Malawi, Central Africa
E-mail : rohitsur2@gmail.com

**TEJISH KANDUKURI****2016 – 2018**

Hobby : Reading Books, Watching Movies, Solving Puzzles (Rubik's cube)
Ambition : Business Tycoon, to lead an adventurous life
Achievements : Band Major, 4th in Shot Put at CBSE Clusters
Address : 8-4-111, N.T.R Nagar, Pantuligarimeda, Old Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam – 530 026
E-mail : startejish@gmail.com



MAANAV TREHON

2013 – 2018

Hobby : Playing Music and Cricket, Portraying someone else's life on stage (drama)
Ambition : Find meaning in oblivion
Achievements : District level Cricket, Athletics
Address : G 20, Ranghvi Estate, A.P.Dabolim, Vasco, Goa
E-mail : manavt526@gmail.com

"The aim of education is the knowledge, not of facts, but of values."

- William S Burroughs

"Your mind will answer most questions if you learn to relax and wait for the answer."

- William S Burroughs

"Life is the most exciting opportunity we have. But we have one shot. You graduate from college once, and that's it. You're going out of that nest. And you have to find that courage that's deep, deep, deep in there. Every step of the way."

- Andrew Shue

"No graduation speaker will ever tell you that the future is anything but uncertain. It never is. But graduations need not only be obsessed with looking ahead; a graduation can be a day on which we turn back and trace our steps to see how we ended up where we are."

- Taylor Mali

"What my father gave me more than anything else is great tutoring and a great brain, frankly. You know, my father's brother was a top person at MIT, went to MIT, graduated from MIT, was a teacher at MIT, a professor at MIT, a great engineer. I mean, you know, I have very good genes."

- Donald Trump

"My biological mother later found out that my mother had never graduated from college and that my father had never graduated from high school. She refused to sign the final adoption papers. She only relented a few months later when my parents promised that I would someday go to college."

- Steve Jobs

"You are educated. Your certification is in your degree. You may think of it as the ticket to the good life. Let me ask you to think of an alternative. Think of it as your ticket to change the world."

- Tom Brokaw

GOOD SHEPHERD FINISHING SCHOOL



The Faculty - GSFS



3 months' batch of Girls



9 months' batch of Girls



Groundsmen, Gardeners & Cleaners - GSFS

GOOD SHEPHERD FINISHING SCHOOL

Soup and Salad-making Competition 2018



The young chefs along with the judges of the competition: The girls made delicious soups and salads to impress the judges



Delicious soups, salads and loaves of bread

On the 11th of March 2018, the 3 months' batch of girls at GSFS participated in a **Soups & Salads Competition** that was held at the Good Shepherd Finishing School in the Good Shepherd Gardens. There were six teams who presented soups as diverse as *French Onion Soup*, *Hot & Sour Soup*, *Samosa Soup* and *Tomato with Macaroni Soup*. They also made salads like *Fresh Garden Salad with Vinaigrette Dressing*, *Thai Salad*, *Fattoush Salad* and *Pasta Salad* accompanied by breads like *Baguette*, *Garlic Bruschetta*, *Parsley* and *Cheese Bread*.

The competition was ably judged by Chef Rajshekhar, Mrs Renu Suresh and Mrs Gwendoline Hurst. The six teams were tough competitors amongst themselves and the judges really had a difficult time in choosing a clear winner and after much discussion the *Tomato Soup with Macaroni*, *Pasta Salad & Bruschetta* presented by **Ms Monica**, **Ms Pooja** and **Ms Payasvani** turned out to be the **winners**. The Tomato soup was simple yet delicious, the pasta was *al dente* and the *Bruschetta* had a delectably crumbly topping. The judges were full of praise for our young chefs.

Bridal Make-Up Competition



Bridal make-up competition winners in the different categories



Girls adorned in trendy bridal dresses

When God made Eve, he made her beautiful. Every Eve, thereafter was, and is and will be beautiful! Every eye may not behold the beauty of every Eve but when the beauty is accentuated by the adornment the result is breathtaking.

The **bridal make-up competition** for the 9 months' batch was held in GSFS on the 8th of April 2018. It was named as '**Alluring Amarya**' which means a bride in the Hausa language. It was a day that will remain etched in the minds of the audience.



Elegant bridal make-ups

The beauties, walking the ramp, were full of poise, confidence, glamour and beauty. The bridal trousseau included all the Indian brides from different states of India. A few of them even chose to be brides from across the globe. The Bridal Make-up competition spread the message that 'Beauty lies deep within and comes to the fore only when you dress to kill'.

The competitors were grouped into 4 teams which were Normal Make-Up, Glossy Make-UP, Matte Make-UP and Mineral Make-UP. The winners of the various categories were:

Miss Ethnic : The Most Effective Indian Bride - **Ms Ammu Anns Pius**

Miss Graceful : Attitude - **Ms Mahima Agarwal**

Miss Global : Most precise, accurate, absolute International Bride - **Ms Twinkle Ordia**

Miss Elegant : Posture and Make-Up - **Ms Jagruti Patel**

The Showstopper of the show '**Alluring Amarya**' was the Pakistani bride - **Ms Tanveer Kaur**.

"During a fashion show, I want the clothes to speak. The effort I put into my work must be respected."

- Giorgio Armani

"Give a girl the right shoes, and she can conquer the world."

- Marilyn Monroe

"The terrorists thought they would change my aims and stop my ambitions, but nothing changed in my life except this: weakness, fear and hopelessness died. Strength, power and courage were born."

- Malala Yousafzai

SNAPSHOTS OF THE CLASSES (2017 - 2018)

PRIMARY SCHOOL



I - A



II - A



III - A



IV - A



IV - B



IV - C



V-A



V-B



V-C



V-D



VI - A



VI - B



VI - C



VI - D

MIDDLE SCHOOL



VII - A



VII - B



FM I - A



FM I - B



FM I-C



FM I-D



VIII - A



VIII - B



FM II - A



FM II - B



FM II - C



FM II - D



FM II-E

HIGH SCHOOL



ICSE IX-A



ICSE IX – B



IGCSE FM III – A



IGCSE FM III – B



IGCSE FM III – C



IGCSE FM III – D



IGCSE FM III – E



ICSE X-A



ICSE X-B



IGCSE FM IV – A



IGCSE FM IV – B



IGCSE FM IV – C



IGCSE FM IV – D



IGCSE FM IV - E

HIGHER SECONDARY SCHOOL



ISC XI - A



ISC XI - B



IB XI - A



IB XI - B



IB XI - C



IB XI - D



ISC XII - A



ISC XII - B



IB XII - A



IB XII - B



IB XII - C

What feels like the End is often the Beginning: Back 2 Roots 2018



The Old Shepherdians, the batch of 1993, along with the Principal, Senior Vice President, Vice President and old teachers



The Old Shepherdians on their arrival at the Palada Campus



The Old Shepherdians attending the assembly at the Fernhill Campus

20th April to 22nd April, 2018 were great days for the Old Shepherdians, especially for the batch of 1993 who were coming back for their graduation, having completed twenty-five years of leaving school. The alumni returned to their fold, both in the Fernhill and Palada campuses, examining every nook and corner that held fond memories for them. They had their meals on campus, savouring the food with nostalgia adding to the taste.

On 21st April, all the Old Shepherdians were in their formals, ready to be a part of the Graduation Ceremony of the batch of 1993. The fanfare was played to accompany the Processional March of the twenty-five graduating students. The Assembly began with the rendition of the school prayer by **Ms Puja Chugani** of Summer House and the singing of the School Song and the School Prayer Song. This was followed by the special song, 'Wavin' Flag' sung by the school choir. The lighting of the ceremonial lamp marked the formal beginning of the graduation ceremony.

The News was read by **Ms Preethi Mathew** of Autumn House. This was followed by the Welcome Address by **Mrs Anila Ann Mathew**, Advisor, **Alumni Association** of GSIS. Then **Dr P C Thomas**, Principal, **Mrs Elsamma Thomas**, Senior Vice President, **Mr K A Kushalappa**, Chairman-Emeritus and **Mr Murugendra Chigateri**, President of the Alumni Association of GSIS proceeded forward to be seated on the stage. Following this was the Graduation Ceremony, that is, the Presentation of the Graduation Scrolls. A member of staff, **Mr I V Janardhan**, who had taught Malayalam the 1993 batch, was given Special Recognition Awards.

The formal ceremony reached a new high when Mr Murugendra Chigateri, the President of the Alumni Association of GSIS, addressed the gathering, and conveyed the great news that the OSA had been formally registered. This was followed by Reflections by Representatives of 1993 batch, **Mr Jack Micle** of Winter House & the Head Boy of



The Old Shepherdians, the batch of 1993, in their gowns and caps



The Processional March of the graduating students



The Principal, Dr P C Thomas, lighting the lamp



Ms Puja Chugani, Former Summer House Captain, saying the prayer during the assembly

the batch, **Mr Ankur Dilip Shah** of Autumn House, **Mr Bharath Natrajan** of Winter House. The focus of the speeches was what the students had gained from the school: values including discipline, the family feeling and friends. Kushalappa, the Chairman-Emeritus, spoke about what motivates him to do something for the school, primarily the love and care given by the Senior Vice President of the school, Mrs Elsamma Thomas. On behalf of the whole school community he wished her for her birthday. The Founder-Principal, Dr P C Thomas, welcomed the Old Shepherdians and appreciated the batch for attending the programme in large numbers. The Expression of Gratitude by Mrs Elsamma Thomas, Senior Vice President concluded the formal ceremony. Revealing the mother in her, she fondly remembered and expressed her love for the Shepherdians who had been under her tutelage. The entire programme had been interspersed by music, the symphonic band, the strings band and the rock band.

A pleasant surprise for the 1993 batch came in the form of a presentation shown by the Senior Vice Principal (Academics), **Mrs Sheila Alexander**. The full-grown adults saw their past spread out in front of them in the form of photographs of all the activities that they had participated in. The OSA photograph was taken during the tea break. Following this was a quiz competition. The old students experienced, after a long time, the joy of being part of their own houses and gaining points for them.

Following lunch was the Annual General Meeting of the OSA. The old students then donned their house colours and played their favourite games with the students who are pursuing their studies in GSIS currently. At 7.30 pm, the students enjoyed a sumptuous dinner at Taj Savoy along with the Principal, Madam, the members of the Academic Council and their teachers.

The final day was filled with symbolic gestures. The Batch of 1993 planted saplings in the Fernhill Campus and explored once again their haunts. When they left the pristine precincts of the campus they had made up their minds to keep in touch with one another and with their alma mater. All who had come had realized that though "There's always a party ending every day but also a new one being made. They are just chapters in our lives, ending and beginning" the party that had ended in their alma mater would never be forgotten.



The Graduation Ceremony of the batch of 1993 in progress



Address by Mr Jack Micle, Former Head Boy



The Old Shepherdians enjoying the live music presented by Mr Ivan Enos, the former music teacher of GSIS



An Old Shepherdian planting a seedling in the Fernhill Campus



Old Shepherdians participating in a relay race



The Principal and the Senior Vice President along with the Old Shepherdians and their families

"Nobody is bothered about an institution more than its alumni."

- N R Narayana Murthy



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GOOD SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

(ACCREDITED TO THE COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS)

Good Shepherd Knowledge Village,

M. Palada P.O., Ootacamund - 643 004, Tamilnadu, India

Phone : +91 423 2550371 / 2550901 | Fax : +91 423 2550386

E-mail : info@gsis.ac.in | Web : www.gsis.ac.in

Good Shepherd International School, established in 1977 is a world-renowned fully residential co-educational school with academic curricula of ICSE / ISC / IGCSE / Cambridge Primary / Cambridge Lower Secondary / IBDP. Situated in the beautiful, lush and pristine hills of the Nilgiris District in the State of Tamil Nadu, the school is accredited to the Council of International Schools (CIS) and is the **first school in India** (Since May 2017) to be awarded the **Council of International Schools-International Certification**. We are also a member of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC). We nurture students to become global citizens.

Academic Courses:

- The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) for Grades XI & XII.
- We offer the following courses by the Cambridge Assessment International Education
 - Cambridge Upper Secondary : Cambridge IGCSE Grades IX & X
 - Cambridge Lower Secondary : Grades VII & VIII
 - Cambridge Primary : Grades II to VI
- Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations [CISCE]
 - ICSE Grades (II to X) and ISC Grades (XI & XII).



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 @ www.gsfs.ac.in, Mail us @ 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 : 18 April 2019 to 30 May 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