



The Shepherd's Voice

Monthly Newsletter



GOOD SHEPHERD INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

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

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GSIS holds Graduation Ceremony: Congratulations, You Did It!

"How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a weary world."

- Shakespeare



The Chief Guest, Ms Ruchira Ghosh, along with the Senior Vice Principal (Academics) and the Coordinator - Higher Secondary School

It is ages ago that Shakespeare coined these worthwhile words but the words came true in Good Shepherd International School. The candle, which was lighted forty years ago, is now set ablaze with the Shepherdians taking that shine far and wide.



Graduation Ceremony: The Chief Guest, Ms Ruchira Ghosh, during the Ceremonial March



The Chief Guest along with the Principal, Dr P C Thomas



The Ceremonial March of the Graduates



Invocation by Ms Sonia Koplickat



The choir singing the School Prayer Song



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

The Chief Guest, **Ms Ruchira Ghosh**, the Regional Director of South Asia of the Cambridge International Examinations blessed the occasion with her honoured presence. She was ushered in with a flurry of the bugle call flanked by our Senior Vice Principal (Academics) **Mrs Sheila Alexander** and the Higher Secondary Coordinator, **Mrs Vimala Rani Jacob**.

The 2017 Grade 12 batch with a happy glow on their faces and a twinkle in their eyes marched into the shining portals of the auditorium in their scholastic gown and cap on Saturday, 18 February 2017. The ceremonial march was followed by invoking God Almighty's presence in the midst of us. The school choir kindled the spirit of our school by rendering the



A view of the audience



Students taking the Graduation Oath



Graduating students during the Graduation Ceremony



The Chief Guest presenting the Graduation Certificates



Address by the Chief Guest

School Song and the School Prayer Song. Our Alma Mater moulds and makes the tiny clod of clay of children into full-fledged birds to soar in the high skies. But what do the children give in return? They leave their indelible marks on every nook and cranny of the school. Thus rightly the song 'You get what you give' was sung; because it is the love they give their Alma Mater and she loves them back.

Ms Parnika Mandeep Bajaj, Grade XI, gave a heart-warming farewell speech of how the graduates helped them in every step and were the true role models. In a befitting reply, **Master Harshvardhan Garg**, Grade XII, acknowledged the school's contribution in making them who they are. The graduates took an oath to follow the ideals of the school, imbibed in them. God, whose eyes are always on us, had been our help of ages past and will forever continue to be so; that is what they sang, to hold the hand of God, as they move into a bigger arena.



Expression of Gratitude by the Coordinator-Higher Secondary School



Lighting of the Graduation Lamp

The Graduation Certificates and Special Awards were given by the Chief Guest to the outgoing batch of scholars. Ms Ruchira Ghosh encouraged the young scholars to make their mark in the world beyond. **Mrs Vimala Rani Jacob**, the Coordinator of the Higher Secondary Section expressed the vote of thanks. The graduates sang 'Funky Town' and showcased their skill through making a video presentation on the human-animal conflict.

The students took a spark each from the lighted lamp of GSIS and vowed to strike a spark in the world abroad. With the lighted candles the scholars walked out, shining as the light itself. May the light of the Good Shepherd forever be aglow through the Shepherdians wherever they go!

Student Leaders sworn in at the Investiture Ceremony



Students assembled on the ground

On a bright and resplendent morning of 18th February, the shining faces of the new leaders made the day brighter. The Shepherdians in their respective uniforms, full of zeal and fervour, waited for the Chief Guest, **Ms Ruchira Ghosh** to step in. At the bugle call, the marchers led by the new leaders marched in contingents and brought in a splash of colours to the fore-ground of the GSIS stadium as well as to our hearts. The four Houses Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter along with the Brass Band, the Sea Cadet Corps stood with their heads held high.

The horse-mounted pilots took the revered Chief Guest for the Guard of Honour of the regiments. The marchers with steps of confidence marched to the tunes of saxophones and drum beats amidst their houses' applause. Then the most momentous moment came, which every young leader waited for, to be invested with honour and responsibility. They approached the dais in a slow march as the anxious gathering was all agog. The school rang out in full throated ease the School song, the school prayer song and the school prayer.

The eminent Chief Guest and the Prefects' Council ascended the dais and the much coveted badges were pinned onto the proud hearts of the much deserved Prefects. Our Vice President and Vice Principal, **Mrs Julie Pradeesh** welcomed the august gathering and most of all, the Chief Guest, Ms Ghosh was wonder-struck by the grandeur of the occasion and the splendour of the picturesque backdrop. She encouraged the new leaders by sharing her own experiences, being a remarkable leader herself. At such a tender age, she has achieved a marvellous feat in the field of education. Her words charged the atmosphere and ignited the young minds of the Shepherdians. She quoted Sir Winston Churchill, "Success



Arrival of the Chief Guest



The Chief Guest, Ms Ruchira Ghosh, on the saluting dais



Inspection of the Guard of Honour



March past of the Sea Cadet Corps



The Chief Guest along with the Vice President and the Senior Vice President



The new School Captain and the House Captains carrying their flags

is not final, Failure is not fatal; it is the courage to continue that counts.” Our leaders vowed to achieve the impossible and not counting the failures but rather banking on the courage they have.

With the Director of Activities’ expression of gratitude, the Investiture Ceremony came to a close and the day prepared for the ensuing programme – the Graduation Ceremony.



The new office-bearers take oath



Award of badges and certificates



Welcome Address by Mrs Julie Pradeesh, Vice President & Vice Principal of GSIS



Address by the Chief Guest



Expression of Gratitude by Mr Ajith P Jacob, Director of Activities



Parents and Guardians

GSIS Celebrates India's 68th Republic Day



Mr Kalyan Ram, Coordinator of High School, hoisting the national flag

Good Shepherd International School celebrated the 68th Republic Day on 26th January 2017 with great enthusiasm, solemnity and grandeur in the school premises. The audience witnessed the wonderful sight of the high and fluttering Indian tricolor flag hoisted by the Guest of Honour, **Mr V Kalyan Ram**, Coordinator - High School. The whole school community pledged themselves to upholding the honour and integrity, diversity and uniqueness that is 'India.'

The celebration started with a patriotic speech by Pranav Sarawagi [IB - 1B]. He threw light on how the past had paved the way for the present progress in our country. Rhea Rayidi [FM - 4A] followed suit in her discourse highlighting how the Seven Social Sins, if avoided, can protect our culture and diversity and bring progress. The singing of patriotic songs by the Indian Music Choir, acknowledging the martyrs for their sacrifices, was another acme of this day.

The Guest of Honour, Mr V Kalyan Ram, addressed the gathering on the values of leadership. He reminded us that 'the currency of leadership is transparency.' He added that 'education is the mother of leadership.' He strongly underlined how it is obligatory to change the mindset steeped in narrowness, to lead the nation towards prosperity and living in a fair state, free of all the social evils.

The celebration concluded with the Expression of Gratitude by Mr Ajith P Jacob, Director of Activities.



The Indian music choir singing patriotic songs

The ceremony was followed by a cultural programme. Teachers and students presented patriotic songs and group dances with a patriotic theme. Students also participated in various games such as kite flying and 'uriyadi' or hitting the pot. A teacher moved the pot up and down by tugging a rope while the students attempted to break the pot blindfolded. They also participated in tug of war testing their strength. All-in-all, they enjoyed this experience.



Students attending the special assembly



Master Pranav Sarawagi, IB-1B, addressing the students



Ms Rhea Rayidi, FM-4A, delivering her speech



Mr Kalyan Ram delivering the Republic Day address



Students celebrating the occasion



Orientation Programme for Academic and Co-curricular Staff



The Principal, Dr P C Thomas, addressing the staff



The Senior Vice Principal (Academics), Mrs Sheila Alexander

"Great discoveries and improvements invariably involve the cooperation of many minds. I may be given credit for having blazed the trail but when I look at the subsequent developments, I feel the credit is due to others rather than to myself."

- Alexander Graham Bell

The return of the natives after a rejuvenating winter break of Yuletide chorals, farewell to a year of events and memories and welcoming the New Year with hopes, smiles and resolutions, was further welcomed with the Orientation Programme to reorient ourselves to our duties and responsibilities.

If the chill of the Ooty winter welcomed us on the day of resuming duties on 17th January 2017, it was the warmth of the welcoming smiles which greeted us on the morning of 18th January with the first Orientation of the year. Moving ahead with time, the programme envisaged updates of the accreditation process for which we need to make all preparations. The updates and targets were presented in the Welcome Address by Senior Vice Principal, **Mrs Sheila Alexander** who congratulated the teaching community for their efforts and hard work and reiterated the need for dedication, setting of goals, self-introspection. She presented a quick run through of the accreditation, Review and Evaluation Process which are on the anvil. The address ended with a beautiful lilting melody by Louis Armstrong, 'What a wonderful world.' This was followed by an interesting activity session by the Higher Secondary Coordinator, **Mrs Vimala Rani Jacob**, on the IB 5 YEARS' REVIEW – Standards and Practices. It was a refresher exercise for all the teachers to get oriented to the 5 year review of IBDP which is to take place in February 2017.

After this rejuvenating session, following tea break, all staff assembled to resume the programme. This post tea break session comprised the presentation of ATTL (Approaches to Teaching and Learning) Skills, its incorporation to sample unit plans starting with English presented by **Manisha Mann and Ms Rumpa Sarkar** highlighting the recent Bangalore incident in classroom activities. Ms Sarkar demonstrated through a powerpoint presentation how ideas can be generated to initiate a debate and follow up with an argumentative essay. Ms Manisha simulated an IB English Language and Literature class where they will analyse a blog based on the Bangalore incident. Both the teachers incorporated Approaches to Teaching Skills such as inquiry, conceptual understanding, connecting to local and global contexts, effective teamwork and collaboration and differentiated to meet the needs of the learner and assessed by formative and summative assessments. The effective learning skills incorporated in this exercise was thinking, communication and social skills. English class was followed by Science class taken by **Mr Palash Chakraborty** and **Mr Ashish Rajwadi** on General Sciences, Maths class by **Mr Muthumanickam** and **Ms Amita Singh** and Humanities by **Ms Siby Gladis** and **Mrs Omana**.

After the reinforcement of teaching and Learning skills, **Mr Uday Kumar** took a pre-lunch session on dining etiquettes. Post-lunch session introduced Inclusive learning, 'Power of Inclusion', by **Mrs Anila Kalyan**, Director of Counselling. This session was followed by Section Coordinators' meeting with their respective sections.

Students Celebrate Christmas with Traditional Fervour and Gaiety



Christmas Nativity Play in progress



The choir singing christmas carols

Students of GSIS celebrated Christmas, marking the birth of Jesus Christ, with religious fervour and gaiety. It was an early Christmas celebrated on Saturday, 3 December 2016, but there was no less enthusiasm. The school organised a cultural programme. The programme featured several events that included the choir singing christmas carols and a nativity play. The students and staff came together to celebrate the festival and created an evening of music and drama. The teachers presented *The Nativity Play*, which was intermittent with carols from the Big Band, the Chamber Choir, Strings and the Brass that lent the music to the fervour of the celebration.

It was a Christmas with a twist! The Nativity play was not just the traditional story of Mary, Joseph and the newborn babe, but it included the adventures of Matthew and Santa, who went around distributing gifts to the audience, flying high on '*Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*', from one of the world's favourite old musicals with its music, a mixture of madness, intrigue and exuberance, being played as background music. We also had Mrs. Claus visit us this year. The three Kings followed a star that moved across the hall. The Palada Campus auditorium was a melting pot of talent, that evening. The medleys by the students accompanied by the stage performance sent across a strong Christmas message of 'Love for Humanity.' The auditorium was colourfully decorated and the school wore a festive atmosphere.

CAS Workshop



Ms Jacquiline Dimple Pascual and Ms Yi Shen, the workshop leaders, interacting with staff members



Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) is one of the essential elements that every student must complete as part of the **International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme**. CAS involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies throughout the Diploma Programme. Students reflect on their CAS experiences as part of the DP and provide evidence of achieving the learning outcomes for CAS.

An **IB In-School CAS Workshop** was held at GSIS from 14 January to 16 January 2017. The IB Global Centre for the Asia-Pacific region in Singapore organized the event for a selected number of teachers. **Ms Yi Shen**, CAS coordinator in Shanghai Weiyu High School, China and **Ms Jacquiline Dimple Pascual**, a workshop leader for Language B, Spanish B and CAS from Philippines, were the resource persons.

The workshop was conducted in four sessions for two days. The teachers were able to explore the IB Mission Statement, Values and Philosophy as represented through CAS, and reviewed the evolution of CAS since its inception. They gained an understanding of the basics of CAS and created a rationale of CAS being a core component in Diploma Programme. The workshop further focussed on CAS learning outcomes and the role of CAS in developing ATL (Approaches to Learning) skills. The workshop threw light on the benefits of experiential learning opportunities. It was two days of enrichment and a great learning experience for the teachers who attended the workshop.

Trinity College London(TCL) Music Examinations - November 2016

TCL Theory of Music Examinations - November 2016

GSFS registered 43 students in Grade 1 for the TCL Theory of Music 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 Srikhush Allu** received the **Pass** certificate. **Congratulations!**

TCL Practical Music Examinations - November 2016

Trinity College London (TCL) is an international examinations board that offers graded examinations for a wide range of musical instruments and singing, from the Initial Grade to Grade 8. The candidate is allowed the practical examination in the instrument of his/her choice. The **Piano, Violin, Cello, Viola, Keyboard, Classical & Plectrum Guitars, Recorder, Drum kit, Snare drum, Trumpet, Trombone, Jazz Saxophone, Euphonium, Xylophone** or the **Baritone** are some of the instruments available for students' choice. Candidates perform three (or sometimes four) pieces, and technical work featuring scales and arpeggios, exercises or orchestral extracts. They also choose two supporting tests from a selection including sight reading, aural, musical knowledge and improvising.

Our students appeared in the music examinations from the Initial Grade to Grade 8. **42** students took the Rock & Pop Practical Music Examinations in November 2016. **12** students achieved **Distinction**, **11** secured **Merit** and **10** were awarded **Pass** certificates. **119** students took other Practical Music Examinations in November 2016. **75** students achieved **Distinction**, **38** secured **Merit** and **5** were awarded **Pass** certificates. **Master Srikhush Allu** secured **Merit in Grade 8. Well done!**

Inter House Classical & Folk Dance Competition 2016

The **Inter House Dance Competition** for girls of High School and Higher Secondary School were held in the Palada Campus auditorium of GSIS on Monday, 28 November 2016. The dance competition was conducted in three categories - Classical Group for Grade 9, Classical Group for Grade 11 and Folk Dance for Grades 9 & 11 combined. The results in the various categories are mentioned below:

Grade 9 : Classical Group Dance

Names of students	House	Position
Gayatri Dinesan	Autumn	I
Jahanvi Agrawal		
Aastha Dinesh Dulhani		
Manjiri Heda	Winter	II
Lalitha Nimmagadda		
M K Sowparaniha		
Jennifer Jaison	Summer	III
Alice Deswal		
Abinaashree Kanagaachalam		



Autumn House team



Winter House team



Summer House team

Grade 11 : Classical Group Dance

Names of students	House	Position
Amisha Agrawal	Autumn	I
Nidhi Murali		
Jasleen Kaur Gandhi	Winter	II
Shiksha Singhanian		
Ghanta Hari Chandana	Summer	III
Chanamolu Krithi Ridhi		



Autumn House team



Winter House team



Summer House team

Grades 9 & 11 combined: Folk Dance

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



Winter House team



Winter House team



Autumn House team



Spring House team



Summer House team

Well done!

GOOD SHEPHERD FINISHING SCHOOL

Orientation Programme of the 3 months' batch of students



Mrs Neetha Nataraj, Dean of GSFS, conducting the orientation programme

The 3 months' batch of students for the year 2016-2017 reported to the Good Shepherd Finishing School at Good Shepherd Gardens. The course period of the second session of the 3 months' programme is from 17 January to 17 April 2017. The programme commenced on 17 January.

The reporting of the students was followed by their **Orientation Programme** and induction to the course. The Orientation Programme was conducted by **Mrs Neetha Nataraj**, Dean of GSFS.



The 3 months' batch of students

A Culinary Delight: Confectionery Competition held at GSFS



First position: Team 2 comprising Ms Malini, Ms Tamanna Aggarwal, Ms Chipra Singh and Ms Kirti Agarwal along with the judges at the competition



Home-made Chocolates and sweets prepared by GSFS students

Even demonetisation has no effect on the confectionery industry as people enjoy a little treat and they share them with others even during difficult economic times. The importance of this indulgence remains high at all times. The delicious truth is that confectionery industry has a fast-growing market.

GSFS offer courses to train students in making confectionery items such as home-made chocolates and sweets. Students will have in-depth experience on every aspect of making a variety of chocolates and sweets. The Confectionery Competition of the 9 months' batch of students was held on Thursday, 02 February 2017. In 9 teams, the students presented different types of confectionery products which not only looked appetising but also a fascinating gustatory experience.

The following teams won the first three positions:

First position : Team 2 comprising Ms Malini, Ms Tamanna Aggarwal, Ms Chipra Singh and Ms Kirti Agarwal.

Second position : Team 5 comprising Ms Purva Phulphagar, Ms Namrata Agarwal, Ms Surbhi Jain and Ms Sanjogita Golecha.

Third position : Team 3 comprising Priyanga, Rajeshwari Kejriwal, Anu Priyanka, Puja Bansal and Kanishka Vaidya.

Congratulations to the winners!