



Purkal Bulletin - February 2020



Every Family has a story to tell... Welcome to ours!

We are pleased to welcome Mr. Reginald Missal as the new Principal of PYDS-Learning Academy. With his rich experience and love for the children, we believe that he will provide an impetus to our efforts leading to improved outcomes for the children.

Principal's Desk

It is a real honour and privilege to be a part of this great institution. After about 24 years of experience in the field of education, I needed a place that could really stimulate my desire to contribute in a way that gave me a sense of belonging and purpose. Call it the divine hand, I was led to PYDS.

We will be particularly focusing on the following in the upcoming session: making classroom learning more

interesting and interactive; enhancement of English language; creating more opportunities for our children to discover, express and hone their talents and gifts.

We also plan to create new clubs like chess, book club, photography and MUN. Inter-house will be expanded to include literary and cultural activities. Our team of staff is excited to stretch themselves as a sense of their personal growth and well-being has been instilled into them. We look forward to a fruitful 2020-21 session ahead of us.

A friendly match between two teams is always fun to watch!

The boys' basketball teams of PYDS-LA played a match against Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC). The actual result wasn't the most important aspect, as these were the first "friendlies" played between our two schools. The spectators were happy to witness the exemplary sportsmanship and competitive spirit of both the teams.

It was a pleasure for whole PYDS Family to host **RIMC Team**. We are also thankful to them for their generous gifts of books and other presents.



Good News Readers!

Thanks to a new initiative taken by the Junior NBA in association with Reliance Foundation, our aspiring young basketball players were seen dribbling, bouncing the ball and showcasing their basketball skills in the city.

Ronak Rawat from class 6(B) and **Mohammed Rehan** from class 7(A) were among the top 3 skill challenges. **Ashita Penouli** from

class 8(A) has been selected for the National under 14 team. She would be going shortly to Lucknow to play in the finals.

Our boys' and girls' Basketball team competed in the under 14 Basketball Competition. Our girls' team was the runner up team while the boys' team secured 3rd position.

Plantation Campaign with Waste Warriors.

8 girls from the school joined the Waste Warriors' plantation campaign on 29th February in Harrawala, Dehradun. All of them were really keen! They dug the soil and planted a variety of trees.



Pushkin Chandra Memorial Competition

The Pushkin Chandra Memorial Competition was organised on 17th February. This competition entails Story Narration and Poem Recitation in both English and Hindi by the students of classes 1-5. It was instituted by Mr Anil Chandra in the memory of his son Pushkin and has been held every year since 2012. Mr Chandra was a long-standing friend and patron of the Society and had generously contributed for setting up of a junior library and later, supported adding of a senior section.

Let us all congratulate the winners of the competition!

(Click on the names to watch the respective video)

English Story Narration

First - Aarushi Rauchela (Class 2)

First - Swastika Rawat (Class 3)

Second - Tanvi Thapli (Class 1)

Hindi Story Narration

First - Ridhima Dhiman (Class 3)

Second - Ayushi Rawat (Class 1)

English Poem Recitation

First - Aryan Pundir (Class 3)

Second - Shrishti Uniyal (Class 1)

Hindi Poem Recitation

First - Tanishka Thapli (Class 3)

Second - Sonakshi Kohli (Class 1)

Navjeevan's Visit to Regional Science Center

On 27 February, our Navjeevan group visited Regional Science Center, Dehradun. All the students were thrilled to see Dinosaur Park, a Himalayan Gallery, a 3D Theatre and a Science Exhibition. Some of the major attractions at the exhibit were Birding Cage, Perspective Chair, Eco Tube and Swinging Pendulum. It was a perfect outing destination for the children and helped expand their scope of knowledge.

[Click here to watch the video](#)



New Beginnings...

Riya Kumari, student of our Vocational Program, is currently pursuing 12th from the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS). Her interest in make-up led her to the Skin and make-up Course at Lakmé Academy in Dehradun. The course is for 4 months with 6 hours of classes every day, where she's learning about different make-up styles such as bridal make-up, party make-up. Her course also covers classes about personality development.

We wish her all the very best!



Volunteer Experience

My Time at PYDS: An Experience Full of Joy!

By: Lauren Danielowski

As a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant, I have spent the last 9 months at PYDS assisting with active English teaching and curriculum. When I first saw PYDS, I was a little bit in awe of its environment. Surrounded by lush green hills, wild flowers growing everywhere, and playful monkeys lurking in the tree branches, I found that the school was a vibrant and energetic learning space. This became even more apparent to me as I began to meet the students and teachers of the school - I found every student that I encountered to be bright, energetic and curious about the world. Additionally their teachers were not only brilliant and creative in their fields of study, but also warm, compassionate, joyful, and motivated. In my time here, both the students and the teachers have taught me how to be a better learner, a better teacher, and a better member of my community. I had a ton of fun working with students on different activities related to learning English over these 9 months. With class 8, we conducted a short pen-pal exchange with two schools in the U.S. With the class 7 girls, we conducted a pen-pal exchange with the class 7 students of Him Jyoti School. With class 5 and 6 students, we made paper Jack O' Lanterns to celebrate Halloween and bookmarks to learn about the 5 Ws of reading comprehension. In the Vocational Program, we learned about literary genres and created short story collections. We also got to know each other better through daily English conversation circles. None of these activities would have been possible without the guidance, leadership, and support of the amazing PYDS teachers I got to work with.

In addition to my official role as an English Teaching Assistant, I also had the opportunity to fill the role of Santa Claus during the school's Christmas celebration in December. Being able to make the students and teachers laugh as I did my best impression of Santa is one of my favorite memories from my time here.

It is very difficult to capture the breadth of my experience in a few words. Being at PYDS was truly such a special experience that will always hold a big place in my heart. Here, there is a sense of community and togetherness, unlike anything I have ever experienced. Whether it was having a laugh in the staff room, eating samosa for someone's birthday, or chatting in between classes with giggling students, I will always reflect on my time at PYDS as one that was full of joy. I will miss everyone who has made my time here so rich and full of love and laughter, but I feel confident that we will meet again.



This academic session, sponsor school furniture for our proud learners

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