



**The Global Education & Leadership
Foundation – tGELF**

“Mighty oaks start as acorns and every great story starts with... Once upon a time”



Reel to Real

tGELF, 'Reel to Real' Motion Picture Competition is held annually at the National level. 150 schools from across the country participated in the 2023 edition, of which 12 reached the finals.

The PYDS team represented by Amaan Ullah, Sameer Pundir and Vansh Pandey of class XII, made it to the finals. Their 5-minute film, "*Behind the Scene*" was an entry for the theme, '*The Sociology of Social Media*'. The film exposed the social media farce in a comical manner.

The final round was held virtually during which each team's movie was screened followed by a brief presentation and Q&A round. The PYDS entry emerged as the winner and was appreciated for its photography, clarity and witty portrayal.

It is indeed commendable that the entire film was shot on campus using in-house facilities on a *zero budget*. Kudos to the team's hard work and talent, we are so proud of them.



Youth Leader

The annual Youth Leader Competition conducted by tGELF requires participating teams to select a social cause. In keeping with its vision for sustainable change, the themes for Youth Leader 2023 were - 'End Poverty', 'Protect the Planet' and 'Ensure Prosperity for All'.

Out of 130 participating schools across India, only 13 reached the finals. Aashi Pundir and Aafiya Naaz, our class IX students, with their project '*Palaayan*' (migration) from villages of Uttarakhand, made it to the finals. The final round was held in Gurgaon, where team PYDS presented its project in four minutes. They were given the 'Encouragement Award' and were placed among the top five teams.

Class I Admissions

"To plant a garden is to dream of tomorrow" - Audrey Hepburn



Registrations for class I admissions began on 28th November. Parents filled forms giving their family's information and details of their socio-economic status.

The entrance test was held on 10th December on the school campus in which 120 children appeared. While the little aspirants sat for a formal 2 hour test, our staff interacted with parents to confirm the information provided in respect of their family background, income sources, places of residence and so on.

Parents and children departed with a happy impression of PYDS's facilities and with eager anticipation of the results, which will be declared in February.

Pre Board Exams and Parent Teacher Meetings

"Build a trellis to guide your upward growth"



The pre-board examinations for classes X and XII were held between December 5 and 15. A replica of the board exams, these were conducted to give a reality check to students. On attempting the papers, our students realised their shortcomings in preparation, time management and framing answers. Solutions to these were discussed later by teachers in class.

Dedicated Parent Teacher Meetings were held separately for classes X and XII with strong guidance to parents that they attend. Parents of students who scored average or below average marks were given more pointed feedback. Teachers emphasised that these students had to rework their strategies to achieve improved results. Parents were asked to support their children and ensure a conducive

environment at home. It was heartening to see that the meetings recorded 100% attendance by parents, and the interactions are expected to go a long way in improving Board results in a few months time.

Primary Wing Parent Teacher Meeting

“Children are like flowers in the garden of love”



A Parent Teacher Meeting was conducted for the primary classes to discuss the upcoming final exams, with focus on preparing class V students for their promotion to class VI. Assessments, reports, the importance of regular attendance and behavioural concerns of errant students were discussed with parents. They were urged to keep a close check on their wards' stationery, uniforms, hygiene etc. during vacations.

Parents were happy to see the newly installed computers in every classroom, as it demonstrated the School's commitment to providing their children with quality education and exposure.

Class IX Agra-Jaipur Trip

“All the flowers of all the tomorrows are in the seeds of today”



The morning of December 20 was time for 48 excited class IX students to climb into the bus for an educational trip to the touristic cities Agra and Jaipur.

The group reached Agra by late evening and stayed with the 60 Para Army Unit, who hosted their accommodation and meals. Students visited several historic monuments - Taj Mahal, Agra Fort, Fatehpur Sikri complex and participated in a heritage walk of Agra city.

On 23 December, the student tourists proceeded to Jaipur, making a pit stop at the

Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary. Their visits to the historic Amer Fort, City Palace, Hawa Mahal, Jantar Mantar and Albert Hall Museum were both enjoyable and enlightening, giving them an opportunity to differentiate between the Mughal and Rajput styles of architecture. The trip concluded on 26 December with the students returning to Dehradun by evening.

The journey from Uttarakhand, a hilly state; to Uttar Pradesh, the Gangetic plain, on to Rajasthan, a desert state, broadened the perspective of our children to appreciate differences in culture, language, attire, cuisine, landscape, vegetation and so on. Bonds were deepened among friends, and children adopted a more responsible attitude, looking after their belongings, helping each other, cautious of not littering etc. Travelling out of Dehradun by itself was a memorable experience for them, as most of them had stepped out of the city for the first time.

Christmas Celebration

"Flowers are the music of the ground from earth's lips spoken without sound" - Edwin Curran



Christmas was celebrated on December 23 before the school closed for winter vacation. It was an all School affair held on the Sports Field. The lively program was a winsome presentation wrapped around mellifluous carols, cutesy dances, cheerful messages and a chucklesome skit.

The impeccable anchoring by our Navjeevan 5 students was applaudable. The event concluded with students and teachers bidding each other cheerful goodbyes ahead of the vacation.

Tinker Talk at PYDS

“To become anything at all the seed must trust”



The Tinkering Lab is an integral part of PYDS. To emphasise its impact on the career path of students, Team Tinkering invited 3 PYDS alumni of batch 2021, to speak to our students of class VIII. The intent was to help them understand the

importance of Tinkering skills in career building and daily life. The speakers were:

Abhishek Singh, presently pursuing BSc Mathematics from Graphic Era University, spoke about the role of *Tinkering* to develop critical thinking and apply problem solving skills in daily life. He shared an anecdote on how he repaired a neighbour's TV, using the soldering technique, thus saving the trouble and expense of taking the device to a mechanic.

Ifrah Naaz, pursuing Bachelors in Design from UPES Dehradun, narrated her seamless transition to college, giving full credit to her familiarity with tools and their functions that she had learnt at the Tinkering Lab in school.

Vaibhav Aswal, pursuing BTech Mechanical from Shoolini University, said that the Tinkering Lab gave wings to his curiosity and passion. He credited his participation in prestigious competitions, including a notable win at IIT Roorkee and national-level coding competitions, to the lessons learned in the school Tinkering Lab.

The session was an eye opener for students on the manner in which Tinkering skills and techniques could help them tackle situations and give them an edge over others. The event also helped connect former and current students, encouraging the latter to pursue their Tinkering activities with more enthusiasm.

U-17 and U-19 State Level Tournaments

"Gardens are not composed of single seeds. Everyone has a role in this garden"



Five of our students were selected for the State Level Dehradun Basketball teams. Competition results were as follows:

Category	No. of Students	Medal
U-17 Girls	1	Gold
U-19 Girls	2	Gold
U-17 Boys	1	Silver
U-19 Boys	1	Gold

We are immensely proud of them and look forward to increased participation in numbers and events by our students.

We are proud of...

Durgesh Upadhyay, batch 2019



Durgesh is a resident of Chauda Bigha, Rishikesh. Son of a junior teacher at Rishikesh Inter College, his family was economically stable till he lost his father in an accident. His mother took up the job of a class IV worker to support Durgesh and his brother. He joined PYDS in class XI and scored 93% in class XII board exams.

He narrates his story as ...

“My journey from a student at PYDS to working with the Adani Group was a ride, dotted with love and support from the incredible people I met on the way. My dream was a career in engineering. I worked hard, preparing for entrance exams by strengthening basic concepts and solving papers. I was on top of the world when Shoolini University accepted me for B.Tech Mechanical Engineering at 100% scholarship for tuition and hostel fee.”

Exposure at Shoolini, broadened my perspective and enhanced my confidence. I participated in an interdepartmental design competition where I stood 3rd. I also participated in a campus drive to spread awareness about the 5S methodology to keep surroundings clean. During my course I took up a 2 year paid internship as a designer in the Intellectual Property Rights cell of Shoolini University. It taught me about patents, copyrights and design. I also interned for a month with the Tool Manufacturing Company where I learned about real manufacturing concepts. I attended seminars and workshops on soft skills and personal development which were helpful in the interviews I appeared for, later. During the 8th Semester, Adani Group came to our campus and selected me for the position of a Graduate Engineer Trainee.

I am happy with my progress so far; once I get full time employment I will reduce the financial burden on my mother and brother by contributing half my salary.

In future, I look forward to working as an engineer where I get an opportunity to solve real business problems and enhance efficiency. I am profoundly indebted to my teachers and mentors at PYDS and Shoolini University, for moulding my career. Swamy Sir was an epitome of dedication, hard work and love. He worked tirelessly to uplift the financially disadvantaged people. In the long run, I too wish to help people who are financially backward like I once was.”

As we don the cloak of joyous expectations in 2024, keep your eyes open, heart bare, and trust your dreams to sprout bigger and brighter than ever before. Sending love and sunshine till next time.

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