



Your Purkal Journal February 2023

"Every moment is precious"

Alumni: Torchbearers of PYDS

"Keep your heels, head and standards high" —Coco Chanel



The alumni of PYDS are the torchbearers of our Mission. It was a pleasure to welcome some former students to campus and hear them speak about their journey after graduating from PYDS.

Jyoti Mamgain, winner of the Kurt Hahn Scholarship 2015, went to United World College in Thailand to study class XI & XII. She went on to complete her Bachelors in Human Ecology in 2022 (on full scholarship) from College of Atlantic, USA, where she is presently working as a Summer Coordinator. Jyoti shared her life lessons with the young scholars, and prodded them to explore new avenues, believe in themselves and follow their dreams with conviction.

Prashant Kukreti of batch 2020 has joined the Indian Navy as an Electrical Artificer. He spoke about his journey of hard work and dedication that led him to his present position. He also stressed the importance of focus and consistency in the achievement of career goals.

Sanjana Singh and Anuj Joshi, former students of PYDS - batch 2020, are enrolled at IMS University Dehradun, pursuing BA Psychology and Bachelor of Hotel Management respectively. Anjali Rajput, Kanchan Lekhwar, Prachi Gurung - batch 2022, are pursuing BBA in Digital Marketing at the same University. The entire group visited campus on February 25th and met with their former teachers and students. They provided insights about their University life and the courses they were pursuing to the students of Class XI to enable them to get a sharper picture of the path and challenges that lie ahead.

Polishing Skills

"Success occurs when opportunity meets preparation" - Zig Ziglar



The students of classes XI and XII participated in a series of events to polish their soft skills. Students of Class XI:

Presented the highlights of Union Budget 2023-24, together with their analyses. They also presented a hypothetical budget for PYDS and replied to queries of the audience.

Chose thought provoking topics such as - Beauty of being a Misfit, Inside the mind of a Procrastinator, Power of an Introvert, Expectation v/s Reality, etc. and prepared a six minute speech supported by a PPT. They also paired up and presented their collective themes and responded to the questions that followed.

Those aspiring to work in the financial sector prepared a PPT on - Insurance, Corporate Finance, Investment Banking and Stock Market. Students presented their topic in groups of four - enumerating the scope, colleges and options in 5 minutes. The purpose of the activity was to promote research and teach skills in public presentation.

Students of Class XII outlined the important dates, eligibility, admission process, and the courses offered through the Common University Entrance Test (CUET). This was a great learning experience for everyone present.

School Management Committee Meeting

"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much" – Helen Keller



Every CBSE affiliated school is required to have a School Management Committee (SMC) that meets at least twice in a year. On 11th of February, 2023 our SMC met in person on campus. The meeting was chaired by Mrs Shefali Ray - Teacher Expert, Author & Resource Person for Oxford University Press, and attended by Mrs Sanjala Wazir - Director & Senior Education Advisor, Mrs Arati Nagaraj - Principal, representatives of teachers and parents. The meeting evaluated the current pedagogies, curriculum and activities of the school, for which suggestions were presented and discussed in detail. Some actions were identified and will be implemented in the coming months.

New India Education Summit: NEP 2020

"An investment in knowledge pays the best dividends" – Benjamin Franklin



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EDUCATION
SUMMIT

MAHARASHTRA CHAPTER

17 FEB 2023

MIT - WORLD PEACE
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ARATI NAGARAJ

Principal

Purkal Youth Development
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Teachmint

On the 17th of February, over 100 heads of schools, experts, innovators and thought leaders from Maharashtra's educational community came together at the MIT World Peace School in Pune, with the aim of discussing the path of India's academic future. Organised by SCOONEWS, a reputable online education portal, three strands were discussed - Foundational Learning, Teacher Education and School Education.

Our Principal, Mrs Arati Nagaraj, was one of the three moderators for the day. She facilitated a discussion between 20 educators on the National Curriculum Framework for Foundational Learning (Early Childhood). Her role was to ask broad questions to elicit responses and encourage discussion among the participants, and garner a wide range of opinions. The outcomes of all these discussions will be incorporated in whitepaper to be presented to the Ministry of Education in August 2023.

Science Competition

"We never know the worth of water till the well is dry" - Thomas Fuller



On the 21st of February, our students participated in the Changemaker Campaign and Science Quiz at The Doon Girls School. The theme of the event was 'Sustainability'. Our students had made booklets out of discarded chips packets collected by them during their cleaning drives. After washing and drying, the printed sides were pasted together and content related to 'sounds' was painted on the silver sides. This polybook will be used to teach students of Class I to learn about sounds. It can also be reused after cleaning the surface. Tanishka Thapli of Class VI represented our school and we are proud to share that PYDS bagged the trophy for first position.

Tanvi Thapli of Class IV and Arushi Rouchhela of Class V, participated in the quiz and made it to the quarter final round.

Annual CBSE Examinations

"Work hard in silence, let success be your noise"- Frank Ocean



The annual CBSE examinations, which are a touchstone for the school, began with a queue of solemn students boarding the school bus to reach the exam centre, 'Scholars Home School' Jakhan, under the supervision of a male warden. This is to ensure that they reach in time and have each other's company, for support and assurance.

At the same time, teachers assigned examination invigilation duties by CBSE, go directly to the centre from their homes and come to school afterwards. Also, teachers who are on evaluation duty commute directly to the centre and are there the entire day. Consequent to the foregoing, the number of teachers present on campus these days is lower.

Trip to Regional Science Centre

"The science of today is the technology of tomorrow" - Edward Teller



On the 23rd of February, students of Class XI and five teachers visited the Regional Science Centre (Vigyan Dham), Jhajra, Dehradun. The aim was to learn about Science exhibits, as an exhibition was being planned to celebrate the National Science Day.

The group attended a 3D show on the hazards of global warming, viewed the night sky in an inflatable planetarium and a host of modern technologies.

They also learnt about the ten highest peaks of the Himalayas, fossils, ecosystems etc. through interactive digital media. They dabbled with various working models and outdoor exhibits based on scientific principles and peeked into the Mesozoic Era at the 'The Dino Park', with dinosaur models in natural settings and plaques describing them.

"Today's trip to Vigyan Dham was filled with excitement, amazement and lots of fun learning. We brought back with us, not just knowledge but also many memorable moments." - Julie Hemram

National Science Day celebrations

"Men love to wonder and that is the seed of science"- Ralph Waldo Emerson



28th of February is celebrated as the National Science Day. It marks the discovery of the Raman effect by Indian physicist, Nobel laureate Sir C.V. Raman. The significance of the day was read out by students during the assembly. Some of them dressed up as eminent scientists - Mr Janakiammal, Dr Narendra Singh Kampan, Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, Dr Hargobind Khorana and Dr Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar, and spoke about their outstanding achievements in Science.

Students of classes VII, VIII and XI, put up a Science exhibition wherein they displayed small working models like - Bohr's atomic model, electroplating, photosynthesis, digestive system, production of nylon, volcanic eruption etc. The exhibition was visited by all the teachers and students of the school and elicited multiple curious questions.

Visit by Mount Madonna School, California

"I am a part of all that I have met" - Lord Tennyson



As a part of 'Learning Journey to India', an integral part of their two year 'Values in World Thought' program, a group of eight students and six teachers from Mount Madonna School visited us.

While on campus, they made small clay models in the Visual Art Room and interacted with our students on their subjects, sports, hobbies, aspirations etc. On the sports field they engaged in traditional Indian games like Kho-Kho and Seven Stones. They played Volleyball and Basketball matches with our students. Some students went to the dance room, tied *ghungroos*, learned basic Kathak steps and taught our students contemporary floorwork combinations. Before leaving, the visitors had lunch with students of Class V.

This visit helped the youth learn about each other's culture and discuss ideas. A teacher from Mount Madonna School observed, "whether in the U.S.A. or India, the youth's ideologies, perceptions, and future goals are the same."

Trade Fair and Cultural Program

"Your culture is your brand" — Tony Hsieh



As a part of their project-based-curriculum, a trade fair was organised in the auditorium of our school by the students of Class IV. Students in groups represented the four states - Punjab, Gujarat, Assam, Uttarakhand and Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir. A cultural program comprising traditional dances of each region was presented by the groups.

Stalls displaying the art, culture and cuisine of their regions were set up. Students gave detailed information to visitors (school students and staff) on the region they were representing and the goodies they had for sale - craft items as well as traditional cuisines. They had made beautiful menu cards for the convenience of customers.

Everyone who visited the fair, thoroughly enjoyed the cultural program, eating the food and interacting with the young entrepreneurs.

The Cleaning Drive

"Environmental cleanliness begins with each individual desire to be clean"-
Lailah Gifty Akita



It is important to inculcate the concept of cleanliness and community service among students. Starting 4th February, every Saturday, two classes under the supervision of two teachers clean areas around the school for an hour.

Students wear protective gloves and masks, pick litter with sticks and store it in recycled cement sacks. Five to six trash bags are filled every week. These are stored in our garbage store and given to the garbage pickup van when it visits Purkal on its periodic round.

The intent is to raise social awareness amongst students, and through them within our communities.

We are proud of

Vikas Pal, PYDS Batch 2020



Vikas' family comprises his parents and two brothers. He joined PYDS in Class IV and there has been no looking back for him since then. He narrates his story...

"The situation at home was challenging as my father's contribution to the family was negligible and my mother worked hard as an embroiderer to make ends meet. However, I loved drawing designs for her and aspired to be a fashion designer. PYDS was the cornerstone of my life.

To me, school was a learning hub that taught me multiple qualities - fascinated by the paintings in the Art room I learnt new techniques in painting, playing basketball taught me teamwork and being a house leader in Class XI honed my leadership skills.

After completing school I joined a startup, 'Tantricks of Doon'. We did artwork for exhibitions, graffiti art and photobooth design for Maha Kumbh 2020. I managed the social media of 'Project Prukal' and worked as a graffiti intern at Maa Anandmayee Memorial School Haridwar, where we repainted 12 classrooms with graffiti art.

With the help of PYDS I got admission in Pearl Academy, Delhi, on a 100% scholarship. As a student of graphic design, I am studying typography, visual communication, branding, advertising, and digital design.

In the future, I want to start a design studio which will deal with projects on graffiti art and design, after working for some time with design firms to gain experience. The 'golden moment' for me, will be the day when I start earning enough to give my mother an option to stop working and construct a house for my family to live a decent, comfortable life.

My school has held my hand throughout; I wonder what I would have been without its support. To reciprocate, I will help young students like me, to achieve success and prosperity."

We extend sincere gratitude to all our well wishers for their perennial support. Together we continue to scale new heights. So count the rainbows, till we meet again...

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