

"Until you spread your wings, you'll never know how high you can fly."



Republic Day Celebration

"We are Indians, firstly and lastly." - Dr. Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar



The 74th Republic Day was celebrated with effervescent pride on campus. The national flag was unfurled by our Secretary together with this year's IAYP Gold winners. This was followed by awarding of badges and certificates to all IAYP

champions amidst thunderous applause.

The display of twenty intricate asanas and poses by boys and girls of the Yoga club was extremely inspiring. The warrior, peacock, pigeon, tortoise poses were among those displayed.

The ceremony on the sports field was followed by a dance drama in the auditorium, on the journey of a student who aspired to serve the nation. Patriotic songs and cultural dances charged the atmosphere with a patriotic fervour. The colourful ceremony closed with the Principal's address encouraging students to stand up for their rights and expand their frontiers of knowledge by learning about different cultures.

Workshop for Teachers

"Wherever you find something extraordinary, you'll find the fingerprints of a great teacher." – Arne Duncan



To teach, one must learn. A workshop on 'Basic Human Needs & Learning' was conducted for the teachers by our Principal, Mrs Arati Nagaraj and Psychology teacher, Dr Roma Saklani. The main idea of the workshop was to integrate Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs with Bloom's Taxonomy.

Teachers were encouraged to be mindful of students' basic needs of safety and belonging, before turning to academic tasks. They were given tools to blend Bloom's theory of learning progress of students while preparing lesson plans for the upcoming academic year. Group activities were conducted during which teachers applied learnings gleaned from the workshop.

Storeroom Inauguration

"Youth is the hope of our future." - Anonymous



It was a proud moment for us when two of our alumni; who now work with the Society, Sunil Joshi (Batch 2015-16), and Ashwani Sharma (Batch 2021-22) inaugurated our newly built Storeroom. Sunil Joshi has been working with us for the last seven years and Ashwani Sharma joined us last year.

The old storeroom, at best a makeshift arrangement, was inadequate for maintaining an inventory of electrical, plumbing, carpentry, paint, stationary, cleaning supplies etc. for the entire school. Due to the constraint of space, items were kept in different rooms, which often resulted in misplacing things and wastage of time. The new Store Room now has sufficient space, cupboards and shelves to keep all supplies visible and within easy reach under a single roof.

Pre-Board Examinations

"Never assume you have got enough time, because you haven't." - Anonymous



Pre-Board examinations for students of classes X and XII were conducted between 9th and 13th January. These were essential to help them identify their weak areas,

understand the pattern of Board exam papers, work on their writing speed and review their approach towards the final exams to be held in February and March..

Parents were called for a meeting as results revealed gaps in the learning levels of a significant number of students. Our Principal, Mrs Arati Nagaraj addressed the meeting and spoke about the role of parents in the educational journey of students. Parents of students with unsatisfactory performance were guided and counseled on an individual basis.

Second Assessment for Admissions

"One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world." - Malala Yousafzai



Based on the written admission tests for Class I and VI in which 180 students appeared, 70 were shortlisted and called to campus with their parents for the second assessment. The students were asked to participate in various individual and group activities for assessment on parameters of communication, logic, creativity, teamwork etc.

Simultaneously teachers interacted with parents to better understand their commitment towards the education of their child as well as the culture and conditions at home. Information provided by parents in the first round was rechecked to avoid any discrepancies.

Debate Competition

"Don't raise your voice, improve your argument." - Desmond Tutu



A debate competition was held between the two sections of Class XI. Fifty students were divided into teams of five each to debate on separate topics. Each motion was followed by a question round. It was a pleasure listening to the cogent arguments of speakers who regaled the audience with anecdotes and witty rebuttals.

Dr Roma Saklani presided over as the chairperson and dotted the session with her interesting and jocular interjections. Ms Ranjona Banerji, an independent journalist and Dr Reena Mithal, Executive Chairperson, Navriti Technologies were the esteemed judges for the occasion.

Mock Interview

"First learn the meaning of what you say, and then speak." - Epictetus



To provide hands-on experience to our Class XII students who will shortly be appearing for interviews as a part of their university admission process, mock interviews were conducted on 16th January. To give them a feel of an actual interview, we invited two of our senior patrons - Mr. Arun Dhand and Mrs. Shefali Ray to be a part of the panel with our Principal, Mrs Arati Nagaraj. Students applied for

the position they were aspiring for and faced the panel of interviewers.

In the words of a Class XII student, "The interview taught me about myself, which is the first of many lessons I learnt by being rejected." Another student said, "I learnt the importance of research prior to an interview or assessment." Indeed, it was a wonderful learning experience for both the participants and the audience.

To the South Pole

"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I took the one less travelled by." - Robert Frost



A competition was held between the two sections of Class VII, as an activity related to their English lesson, 'To the South Pole'. Set in 1911, this is the story of a Norwegian explorer, Captain Roald Amundsen, and his quest to be the first one to reach the South Pole.

The students made models to show the South Pole and used innovative ideas to create snowflakes and snowfall. They followed the Cross Curricular Connect method to establish connections amongst their subjects. It was an enriching experience for the students of Class VII as well as the primary classes who visited the displays.

Visit to IMS Unison University

"Some beautiful paths can't be discovered without getting lost." - Anonymous



The students of Class XI and XII received an invitation from IMS University, Dehradun to visit their campus, the underlying aim being to give the students an exposure to educational life beyond the boundaries of a school.

Thirty two students, selected; based on their aspiration to join various courses at IMS, went on the visit. Once there, they got the opportunity to listen to talks by the Deans of various schools of the University. They also participated in hands-on activities organised by the IMS students. The overall experience encouraged them to think in greater detail about their preferred career paths. Our students thanked the hosts for their hospitality before leaving. The tour ended on a happy note with a group photograph and promises to meet again.

Alumnae Speak

"If you can dream—and not make dreams your master..." - Rudyard Kipling



On 31st January, students of classes XI and XII welcomed to campus four of our Batch 2021-22 alumnae, Preeti Rana (B.Tech), Deepa Prasad (BBA), Isha Batola (B.Com) and Mehak Singh (BBA Finance). Presently all of them are studying at Shoolini University, Solan, Himachal Pradesh. These former students spoke about their experiences after stepping out of the protected environs of school. They shared real-life anecdotes with our students and gave them valuable tips for the way ahead. Some of the key takeaways of the day were - importance of good communication skills, the skill of managing funds and the ability to multitask.

DEAR Time

"The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." - Dr Seuss



In an attempt to reinstate the pleasure of reading, 'DEAR (Drop Everything And Read) Time' was introduced for half an hour every Saturday morning. Everyone on campus is now required to read for half an hour - a book, magazine or newspaper, but without using an electronic device.

Come Saturday, the whole campus was found to be reading - some were reading by themselves, while others read aloud to groups, each thoroughly enjoying the experience. Meena Khatri, a former student and now an Executive in the Principal Office, read out a Hindi story to our support staff and gently motivated them to read by themselves.

Our Principal summed up her happiness for the activity by saying, "It truly was gratifying to hear silence and focus on a book during those 30 minutes."

Tree Cutting

"Anything you can't control teaches you to let go." - Anonymous



The '*red toon*' tree, like many other trees on campus, was mindfully incorporated in the building plan when our campus was built two decades ago. It stood fifty feet tall, right in the centre of the campus, like a sentinel ever since. Sadly, it was fatally attacked by pests during lockdown.

The old homie was cut down to avert a possible mishap during rains and high winds. Our support staff helped in felling and trimming it into small logs, which they carried home for personal use.

Class Activities



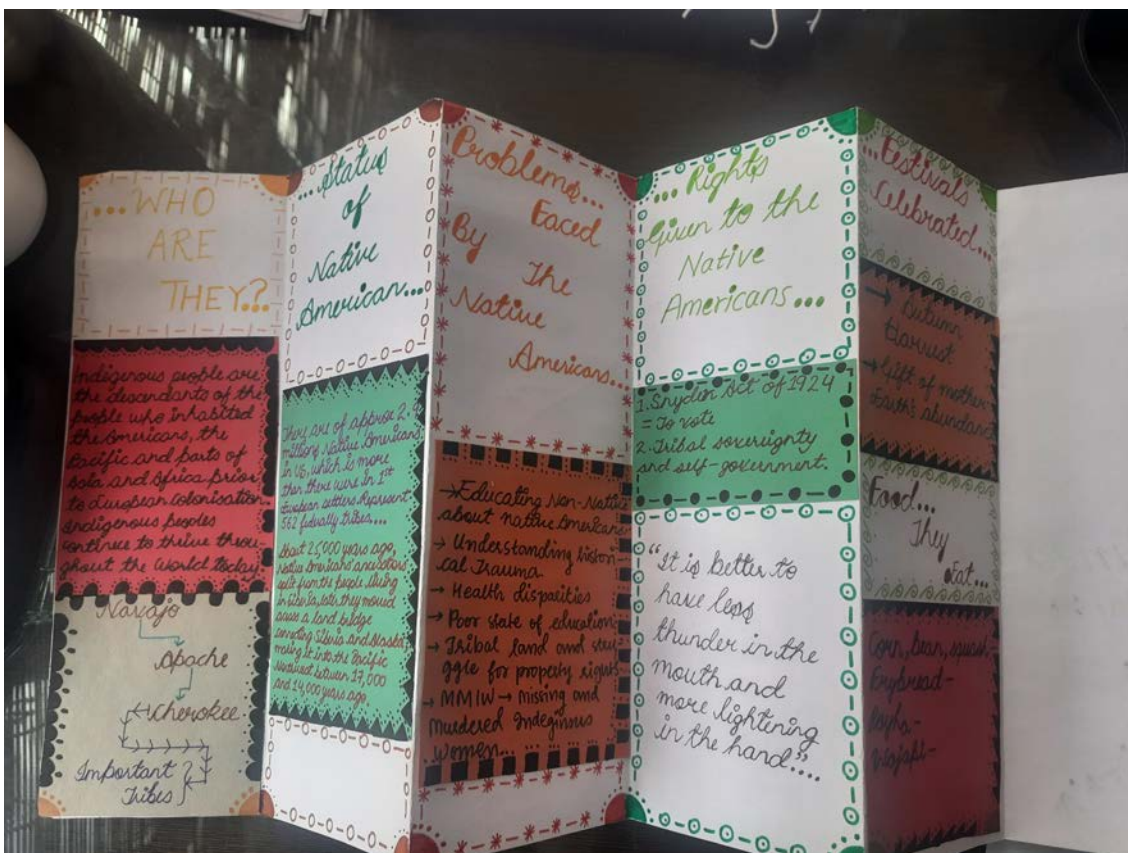
Class I

Students of Class I soaked pulses to observe the germination process. They prepared a delicious '*sprouts chaat*' and had it for breakfast together with visiting guests as well as our Secretary and our Principal.



Class VIII

Students of Class VIII studied a Hindi poem, '*Shanti ke Dastakha*'. They researched to find out countries that were producing chemical weapons. In an intra section competition, they exhibited and explained posters on chemical weapons and the ill effects of war. They also composed and recited poems on war and peace in English.



Class XI

The students of Class XI, while studying the *Displacement of People Worldwide*, visited the Maldevta area of Dehradun. Settlements in this area were washed away in a landslide, due to heavy rainfall in August last year. Speaking to people

there helped them understand how the disaster had forced people to migrate because their houses were washed away and they feared a recurrence.

We are proud of...
Mitali Gupta, PYDS Batch 2019



Residents of Rishikesh, Mitali's family comprises her parents and two younger siblings. Her father runs a tea shop, and because of a problem in his spine cannot work for long hours. It is difficult for him to support household expenses with his meagre income. Mitali, who is now working with Shoolini University, is happy to support her family financially.

She shares her journey so far as follows:

"I had almost given up on my dream of attending a good college, due to financial constraints. However, my outlook changed completely after speaking to our career counselling team in school. They assured me of full support and helped me secure a B.Tech in Biotechnology seat with a 100% scholarship at Shoolini University.

In college, apart from regular studies, I was given the opportunity to participate in the Voice Master's Club, volunteer for National Service Scheme and various other social causes. I was also a part of TEDx Shoolini University as the Logistics Director.

During the 7th semester while working as an intern in the Intellectual Property Rights cell of my university, I realised the scope of this field and decided to explore it as a career option. Focussed efforts in this direction reaped desirable results. Presently I'm working with the Shoolini 'Intellectual Property Rights' cell as a patent analyst. My job is to research and prepare drafts, provide accurate, relevant information to support informed decision making in the patent process.

None of this would have been possible without the help of my school. I am extremely thankful to my alma mater for providing unconditional support and guidance in shaping my career. In future I want to extend my services to spread awareness about

the importance of protecting 'Intellectual Property.

Lastly, I look forward to the day when I will be in a position to relieve my father completely of the burden of providing for the family. He has done so much for us, it's my turn now."

You are the wind in our sails, you have helped us sail so far. We extend sincere gratitude! With your benevolence, we walk ahead with even more dedication and commitment in 2023. Cheers!

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