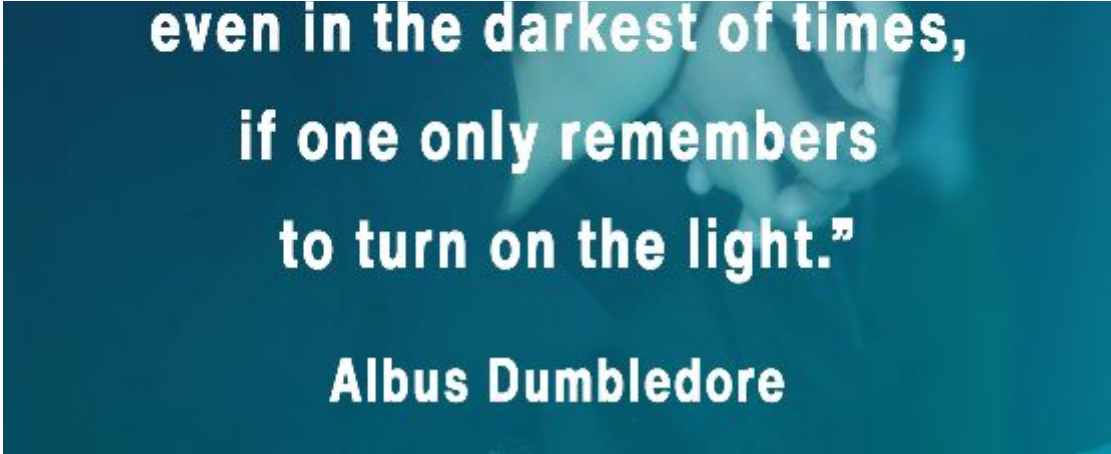


[View this email in your browser](#)





**even in the darkest of times,
if one only remembers
to turn on the light.”**

Albus Dumbledore

In the frame: Nandita Bhandari & Tanishka Das, as Professor McGonagall & Professor Snape respectively, awaiting the cue backstage.

This April, we were treated to something very special! Amidst the continuous and rigorous rehearsals of a spell-binding play, 'Harry Potter' that had been underway since March 28, it was difficult for us to discern when exactly our campus transfigured into Hogwarts. Our journal welcomes you to King's Cross Station, for it's time to board Hogwarts Express and witness The Land of Wizardry!

The play involved a huge cast and crew involving students of all classes. This was entirely a student-driven program where script, auditions, and rehearsals were managed by Mentor Students appointed for this play.



A scene from the play

Month-long hard work manifested into an enchanting theatrical spectacle on April 30. The cast and crew brought Hogwarts to life, who in turn held our entire audience of guests and patrons in rapt attention.

We are committed to creating more such vibrant experiences for our students in the future, so as to inculcate teamwork and enhance their verbal and non-verbal expression of ideas.



Check out a snippet from the play.

Recommencing of Our Clubs

We are delighted to inform you that we have resumed our hobby-specific clubs after a long, COVID-induced hiatus. Our clubs aim to provide deeper extracurricular exposure to our students, simultaneously encouraging them to explore new interests and acquire new skills. All club activities are on Saturdays, when the entire school day is dedicated to these. We have witnessed the enthusiastic participation of our students in all the clubs: Art, Biodiversity, Creative Writing, Dance & Fitness, Debate, General Knowledge, Music, Sports, Tinkering and Yoga.



While students of Classes IV-XII participate in these clubs, students of the Primary Section(Classses I-III) participate in the Clay Modeling Club. We are confident that this effort will help our little champions develop skills in planning, problem-solving and constructing shapes.



Keeping up the Momentum With Navjeevan 4.0

Navjeevan, an accelerated learning program for underprivileged students of children from remoter parts of Uttarakhand, who have had little exposure to formal education, continues to transform lives. The goal of the program is to address the learning gaps and to equip

students with skills that enable them to become self-motivated learners who are then mainstreamed into Middle School classes.



The first day in school uniform

We have just completed admissions for our fourth batch. This time we went beyond the Garhwal region for the selection process of this program. We assessed and surveyed 40 children from beyond Nathuakhan, a village in the Kumaon region of Uttarakhand, 330 km from the School. Of these, 16 students between the ages of 10-12 were selected for admission.

One of the biggest challenges in admitting these students was to convince their families to send their children, especially their daughters, away from home. After learning about our history, impact and methodology, the parents gained confidence and paid a visit to Purkal on April 22. A full day of orientation had been organized to make them and the children familiar and comfortable. It took an

**additional day for the onboarding process before the children
attended their first formal learning session on April 25.**

New Vistas, New Experiences



While most of our students went back to their homes for a weeklong

inter-session break, some of our students who could not visit their homes went for an excursion to the city of Nagpur. Accompanied by teachers, they learned about the rich heritage and culture of Nagpur.

Let's read Parvati's experience in her own words.

"I had an excellent experience in Nagpur. I feel fortunate to be a part of this trip. I was very excited when I came to know about this trip because we used to go for such trips before the pandemic but then everything just stopped and this was the restart of such programs that we used to have. I was fascinated by the artwork and the architecture of the temples and the historical places."

Parvati Shah

Class X

Investing in Our Planet

We celebrated Earth Day on our campus to strengthen awareness about climate change and environmental protection.

It was an honor to have Dr. Bikram Singh, Director-Indian Meteorological Department (Dehradun) & Chairman-Indian Meteorological Society (Dehradun Chapter), deliver an insightful talk on 'Mausam and Climate'.



He was accompanied by his team who conducted a Quiz Competition for our students who fared very well and won several prizes. A planet-restoration-themed painting competition was also held where several paintings were displayed. All the activities observed the official theme for the year 2022 which was 'Invest in Our Planet'.

Media Literacy

As part of our efforts to familiarize our students of Class XII with the multiple career options available to them, Mrs. Seema Shukla (Assistant Professor - Journalism & Mass Communication - IMS Unison University, Dehradun) delivered a talk on Careers in Media Literacy and Mass communication.



She also educated the students on how to distinguish fake news from real news and urged them to be mindful before sharing any news on a social platform. Several students wanted to know more and were glad to have their questions answered by Mrs. Shukla. This was a productive session that helped enhance our student's interest in journalism.

Climbing the Vocabu-ladder

With the aid of generous donors like you, we were able to distribute pocket dictionaries to all the students from Classes VI to XII. With this step, we hope to bridge the gaps in their language comprehension skills. They will be able to understand different meanings of every new word as soon as they read it.



How helpful are these dictionaries turning out to be? Let's find out from one of our students.

“In the library session, we used to share a dictionary among ourselves. While reading novels, I had to wait for my chance in order to look up a difficult word in the dictionary. This affected my flow of reading but now having a personal dictionary makes things easy for me. It is accessible anytime and this has enhanced my vocabulary.”

Diksha Chaudhry, Class 12th

Upgrade of Our Primary Wing



**We have upgraded our Primary Wing so as to be able to implement theme-based learning, backed by cross-curricular projects. The upgrade includes a) Repairing of classroom floors
b) Painting of classrooms c) Adding new furniture -steel almirah, soft board, new tables & chairs for classrooms d) Installing whiteboards
e) Adding smart televisions & smartphones to digital learning assets.**

This has resulted in the creation of a holistic, child-friendly learning space that encourages our students and teachers to be more innovative. How has this affected the engagement levels of our students? Watch the video to find out.



Success Story

We rejoice in the success of our alumnus, Priyanka Bhatt, who got placed with Silicon Labs, Hyderabad as an Assistant Engineer (Software Design) with an annual salary package of Rupees 21 Lacs.

This story has also been covered by THE TIMES OF INDIA.

[Read the full article here.](#)



Priyanka Bhatt

She also has a story to share, let's read it.

“When I was about to pass my Class 12, financial constraints at home made me question my dreams and the possibility of higher studies. At that time, the only thing I was very concerned about was the way of turning an obstacle into an opportunity. But as they say, good things take time and they happen when we least expect it. The same happened and I got a chance to pursue my higher studies at UPES (University of Petroleum and Energy Studies). On-to-Life support

from PYDS helped me receive a 100% scholarship from UPES as well as meet other expenses related to my University Education.

I was selected for UPES in 2018 from the PYDS batch (2017-2018) and I am pursuing B.Tech. in Electronics and Communication Engineering. During my final year (2022), I got placed with Silicon Labs, Hyderabad as an Assistant Engineer (Software Design) and I will be joining the company on June 13, 2022.

My journey at UPES made me believe in hope and hard work. I am a part of several student chapters and I have served as a branch officer in IEEE. I am a part of many CSR activities too.

It's been very inspiring throughout. Internships, industry alliances, team projects, research assignments, group presentations and soft skills have laid a strong foundation for me to work with a big corporate and become a good team player. I am thrilled to start a new chapter of life leading towards a brighter and a happier tomorrow.”

Priyanka Bhatt

B.Tech. in Electronics and Communication Engineering.

UPES

We thank you for taking the time to read our stories. We will be back soon with the next edition with new stories. We will also be glad to receive your suggestions and ideas. Stay Awesome!

Support Us



Copyright © 2022 Purkal Youth Development Society, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).