



Preparing Students to Step Out

"Luck is where opportunity meets preparation"

Mock Interviews

To equip them with skills they will require after school graduation, mock interviews were organised for all students of class XII. Students were assessed for their body language, mannerisms, grooming, language fluency, quick wit and so on. 20 students were shortlisted in the first round to be interviewed by external interviewers.

Three eminent personalities were requested to interview these shortlisted students. After the interviews, our guests addressed the entire batch, providing both feedback and advice. They urged students to approach every situation with confidence and emphasised the importance of staying abreast with current national and international affairs. The session concluded with our Secretary Mr Anoop Seth, reminding students to believe in themselves.

Scholar caps were donned on two students - Anuj Dangwal and Vanshita Kothari for their outstanding performances to applause from the audience.



Group Discussion

"Knowledge is of no use unless you put it to practise"- Anton Chekhov

A Group Discussion was organised for class XII students on 20th September. The objective was to promote effective communication and teamwork and also to prepare them for competitive evaluations.

Groups of 5 students were given 15 minutes each to discuss the topic given to them and three minutes to present their case. The groups were evaluated for the discipline of taking turns, listening attentively, respecting each others' opinions as well as for the quality of their presentations.



Create Collaborate Communicate

"No problem can withstand the assault of sustained thinking" - Voltaire

Brisk extempore competitions were conducted for classes X and XII on:-

Pecha-Kucha (a Japanese communication skill): Students were given simple words on which they had to speak

Quick Blaze: A rapid fire competition wherein they had to pick a word from the quote given and carry on relay conversation

Persona: A combination of personification and role play where the participants had to characterise themselves as non living things and initiate a dialogue

The prepared competitions were: **FNF** (for and not for), **Advert Spot** (commercial making) and **Snapshot** (picture story).

The event wrapped up with **Moot Court**, a simulation of a court scene with a hearing being conducted for two cases. Overall the event met its objective of testing and honing the soft skills of children.



Celebrating a Legacy of Compassion and Inspiration

"Altruism is the best source of happiness. There is no doubt about that"
- Dalai Lama

A prayer meet was held on 26th September to commemorate the 87th birth anniversary of our revered founder, Mr GK Swamy. Mrs Chinni Swamy was invited to grace the occasion. She lit the lamp before Swamy Sir's portrait and offered flowers in tribute. Staff members followed cue and paid their respects. Students sang hymns to mark the solemn occasion. Our alumni, presently working with us, had breakfast with Chinni ma'am.

In keeping with our motto '*Life is for Giving*', a blood donation camp was organised on campus in which our staff, parents of students and PYDS alumni together contributed 38 units of blood.

Swamy Sir was fondly remembered by those who had the good fortune of being around him. His principles and teachings are the beacon for all of us. With his blessings we will continue our endeavour to carry forward his legacy of making a positive difference in the lives of the needy.



Letter Writing Exercise

“Letters are something from you. It’s a different kind of intention than writing an email” - Keanu Reeves

As a part of their English language chapter on letter writing, an activity was organised for class V students. They were divided in groups and asked to inspect the school campus and identify repair or renovation issues.

Each group had to write a letter to the Society Secretary detailing the problem and requesting necessary action. Mr Seth met the students and discussed the letters. He shared a personal anecdote about how when he was sent to a residential school, he and his classmates struggled with writing letters. ‘In the beginning’, he said, ‘the teacher would write a letter on the board for us to copy’. Gradually letter writing became a practice for him, as in those days, they were the best means of long distance communication.

Mr Seth promised to write back and address the problems mentioned by students. All the issues have since been resolved and the students thanked by way of a letter from him.



Donation by Students

"Every charitable act makes a difference"

Students of class VI A displayed a remarkable act of thoughtfulness that has left a lasting impression on all of us.

To celebrate Teacher's Day, the students of class VI A had planned to collect 10 rupees each to buy a cake for teachers. However, they were encouraged to think of something more valuable by their mentor. The students brainstormed and on 5th of September, they handed over the collected money to the School donation fund.

The heartwarming act was applauded by everyone. It is so gratifying to see these young children walk the path of altruism that truly reflects the legacy of Swamy Sir.



Music Event by SPIC MACAY at Unison World School

"Great artists are people who find the way to be themselves in their art"
- Margot Forteyn

SPIC MACAY Uttarakhand State Convention '23 was hosted by Unison World School, Dehradun. The event was a convergence of school, college students and artists from all over India.

Ten students from classes VIII, IX and XI with an inclination for music were selected to attend the three day event where more than a dozen workshops and performances on Indian dance and music took place. Our students joined workshops of their interest - Tabla, Indian classical music, and Kathak dance. It was an opportunity for them to learn from maestros like Pandit Mithilesh Kumar Jha, the Tabla virtuoso and Professor Ojesh Pratap Singh, one of the finest classical vocalists of the country in contemporary times. Renowned Kathak dancer Ms Moumala Nayak, led a workshop on the classical dance form. Our students also gave a performance on the final day of the Festival.

Attending the SPIC MACAY Uttarakhand State Convention '23 was a gratifying experience for our students that gave them exposure to the rich cultural tapestry of our Nation.



Clay Modelling Competition

"You can't use up creativity. The more you use, the more you have"
- Maya Angelou

Our first inter class clay modelling competition was held on 26th September in the Visual Art Room. A group of five students from each section of classes IX to XII were asked to mould a Ganesha idol within 90 minutes. They were allowed to use leaves, flowers, cardboard, beads etc. for decoration.

The trophies for winners were artistically designed Ganesha idols. They were cast in the Visual Art Room by our senior Art teacher. The tags attached to them were made in the tinkering lab using the 3D printer. All idols made during the competition were a treat for the eyes. We look forward to more such competitions.



Half Yearly Result Analysis Workshop

"Assessment is today's means of modifying tomorrow's instruction"

- Carol Ann

After the completion of semi annual exams, a workshop was organised to analyse students' academic performance. Led by Vice Principal, Ms Diana Luiji, the workshop was attended by the Academic Coordinators and Department Coordinators. Ms Luiji emphasised on analysing the results thoroughly while keeping 'Bloom's Taxonomy' in mind. She introduced a change in the result analysis process that was detailed with strategies to be followed in future. A practical demonstration of data entry and strategies for the upcoming Parent Teacher Meeting were also discussed in detail.



House Matches Inauguration

"Winning and losing isn't everything; sometimes, the journey is just as important as the outcome" - Alex Morgan

As soon as the Inter House matches were inaugurated on 23rd September, the campus brimmed with excitement. With a thrilling line-up of Volleyball, Badminton and Table Tennis matches, the event promised fierce competition from the word go. As the matches progressed, the campus echoed with cheers and applause. All students of classes VI to XII were given time off from their classes to be able to enjoy the games and cheer for their teams.



U-12 Inter School Basketball Competition

The 14th Tekchand Memorial Invitational Basketball Tournament for girls was organised by The Doon Girls' School, Dehradun between 28th to 1st October . A total of 10 school teams participated in the tournament. This was the first time our U-12 girls team participated in an interschool sports event. They played three matches, out of which they were victorious in one.

This participation has motivated them to attend more tournaments in future with better preparation.



Tansen Play at The Doon School

"Theatre is a spiritual and social X-ray of its time"

Upon an invitation from The Doon School for the biodrama 'Tansen', twenty three of our students and four teachers attended this performance. It was an interactive presentation of Tansen's journey from his birth to spiritual and musical training under Swami Haridas and the tutelage of the Sufi master Muhammad Ghaus. The play progressed to the selection of Tansen as a court musician by the Raja of Rewa and finally being summoned at old age by Emperor Akbar.

The audience sat spellbound for over two hours, feasting their senses to a riveting trialogue studded with live singing, narration, enactment and dance perfectly synchronised with dazzling light effects. It was a truly memorable evening, the memories of which will be cherished for a long time to come.



Teacher's Day Program

"Teaching is the profession that creates all other professions"

At the start of the day's functions, some students dressed up as teachers and accompanied them to the sports field amidst applause by the whole school. Teachers were invited to the Auditorium later in the day by the class XII students, who presented a medley of heartwarming songs. Games such as musical chairs and dumb charades were organised for the teachers, while students served snacks to them.

After lunch, there was a performance of regional dances, poems were recited in gratitude for teachers. This was followed by an energetic dance performance by senior boys and girls. The event culminated with an open dance floor for all students and staff to let their hair down and enjoy some light moments together.

Junior students presented variety shows in their own classes and showered their affection on teachers through beautiful handmade cards.



Janmashtami Celebration

"Festivals rejuvenate the spirit and bring joy"

A special assembly was held for classes I to V on the occasion of *Janmashtami*, the festival that celebrates the birth of Lord Krishna. Classes I to III presented a lively, energetic group dance while two students dressed up as *Radha* and *Krishna*. Students of classes IV and V presented their own collective dance with graceful, synchronised moves that wowed the audience. A beautiful speech was delivered by Tanvi of class V, giving an insight into the principles and teachings of Lord Krishna.



We are proud of... Shivam Saklani batch 2020

Shivam first heard about PYDS when it conducted an entrance test at his former school. Though he sat for the test reluctantly, by the time he cleared the third round, he was very eager to join the school. He joined our school in class IX and completed class XII in 2020. He narrates his journey as follows...

"At the beginning, I found academics a bit tough but adjusted quickly as the teachers were very helpful and I too was eager to learn. My hard work was rewarded by an aggregate of 82% in class X board exam. I chose commerce in class XI and developed special interest in subjects like Business Studies and Accountancy, passing class XII with 93% marks.

As I loved sports, I was always on the sports field in my free time. I learnt to play basketball and participated in every sport possible, representing school in various tournaments. I also practised public speaking and vividly remember the 1st declamation competition held in school, in which I was the only boy amongst all participants. There was no looking back after that and I proudly spoke for my school in many declamation competitions.

After class XII the school helped me secure a scholarship seat at Shoolini University for B.Com (Hons). I was on cloud nine when I was granted a 100% scholarship for tuition fees and hostel accommodation. The 1st year of college was conducted online due to the lockdown but offline classes began 2nd year onwards. At Shoolini too I had a great time playing sports and participating in college festivals. I was part of the college cricket team and visited Jodhpur to participate in a tournament held at

IIT. I was also a member of the core team of Shoolini Voice Master, a club similar to the International Toastmaster Club. I completed graduation with an overall score of 8.3 CGPA.

I am happy to share that I received a full-time job offer from Genpact through campus placement. Presently I am working as a Business Analyst in the Anti Money Laundering domain in Noida. I believe this opportunity will help me progress in the finance sector as I am very keen to build a career in the corporate world.

Finally, I am grateful for everything PYDS has done to help me advance my education and grow as a person. It is my responsibility to give back in whatever capacity I can. To me, it's like a chain of someone doing good for you and you giving to those who need it. I want to live by the school motto of 'Life is for Giving' and carry forward the legacy of good deeds started by Swamy Sir".

As the trees and bushes dazzle the landscape with bright colours to usher a stream of festivals, let's rejoice and celebrate the exuberance of nature. Take care till we meet again!

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