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THE PRINCIPAL'S PERSPECTIVE

Another academic year behind us and what a turn-around year it has been! We succeeded in surpassing all past records of academic performance and an impressive percentage of our students in class X achieved the 'perfect' score of 10 CGPA. Not only that, even in the 'Board Examinations' of class XII, a large number of students earned Distinctions in their subjects with the topper tipping the scales at 95% aggregate.

Even more than the academic performance, it is a matter of great pride for me to say that my inspired team of administrative, pastoral care, sports and academic staff, under the able supervision of the Vice Principal, have made a resolute effort to ensure the success of each and every student. I am indebted to all members of my team for responding to my clarion call at the beginning of the previous session, that for each one of us at The Sagar School, failure shall 'never' be an option! Nor would we be content to hitch our reputation to the bandwagon of only those who are congenitally bright.

This issue of The Sagarian Times marks the beginning of yet another academic year. Therefore, dear stakeholders, superiors, friends and colleagues, I, on behalf of The Sagar School family, take this opportunity to renew our collective pledge to never give up on any child, however onerous the task; to only look ahead and tread determinedly in pursuit of our goals. Let it be the destiny of others to envy the caravan of our unique successes!

WORLD HEALTH DAY: HEALTH CAMP
VENUE: THE STAFF CLUB
7 April

World Health Day witnessed a rare activity. A free medical check-up camp for people of the surrounding villages was held at the Staff Club from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Dr. Rajesh Goel and Dr. Meenaxi Goel, parents of Master Ganpati Goel of class IX, provided their consultancy services free of cost. The cost of medicines distributed to the patients was borne by The Sagar School.

The information regarding the free medical camp was passed to the neighboring villages through Mr. Tarachand (Security Supervisor) who is a resident of Malliyar Village, and is member of Panchayat Samiti of Village Baghor.

A total of 197 patients visited the free medical camp. Twelve students and staff members of The Sagar School also visited the camp for medical advice.

Nursing assistance was provided by the School Nursing Staff, Mr. Abi Sam and Ms. Beena Abi. In addition to them, five students of the School who have enrolled themselves for the International Award for Young People, as well as two security guards and four Sodexo employees also assisted in making the campaign a huge success.



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CAREER COUNSELLING PROGRAMME

In continuation of the Career Counselling Program to make students aware of study trends & opportunities for career building, students were exposed to two presentations which were based on studies / courses abroad.

PRESENTATION: 1

12 April

VENUE: UNITED STATES – INDIA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION 12, HAILEY, ROAD, NEW DELHI (CP AREA):

ATTENDED BY: STUDENTS OF CLASS XII

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, USA

PRESENTER: Mr. Patrick M. Bredehoft (Regional Director)

Nineteen students of class XII and three escort teachers, attended a presentation on the U PENN, USA which exposed the students to the university: the courses available, the choices that the students can make for undergraduate courses, the duration of courses, the flexibility of the university programs, job opportunities after graduation and options for further studies, scholarships, fee structure and the admission process were prominently dealt with among many others.



The students enjoyed the presentation and were very enthusiastic about the courses. The students had a load of questions to ask which were answered by Mr. Patrick. He also encouraged the students to keep in touch with him. As an outcome of this interaction, many of the students on return to School, were seen browsing the university web-



site extensively. Mr. Rohan, an alumnus of the university also shared his experiences and informed the students of the holistic development that is possible at this unique university. The presentation lasted for about ninety minutes.

PRESENTATION -2

13 April

VENUE: The Sagar School Auditorium

TIME: 12.30 PM

ATTENDED BY:

1. Students of classes-X, XI & XII
2. All teachers of the above stated classes

PRESENTERS: Canadian University Application Centre

Mr. Daniel Zarestky (Director, Toronto Office)

Ms. Anjali Anand Seth (Manager, Gurgaon Office)

Classes X, XI & XII were exposed to a presentation that brought to light the opportunities of higher studies i.e., Under-Graduate / Masters / Post Graduation courses in various universities of Canada. The geographical spread of the universities and colleges was shown on a map and prominent among them were the University Of Winnipeg, Saint Mary's University, University Of Windsor, University Of Victoria, University Of Guelph, St. Thomas University, Sault College and York University.

Students were shown pictures of the wonderful campuses of several universities and they were also informed about the myriad details concerning the duration of courses, the flexibility of the university programs, job opportunities after graduation and options for further studies, scholarships, fee structure and the admission process etc. Many questions were asked by the students of Class XII.

OVERNIGHT CAMPING

Like every year, the much awaited camping experience for all students was executed in class wise batches. The students visited the picturesque hills overlooking the School and also spent a night over there for which they had to pitch their own tents and lay them out as well. Fun and frolic erupted as the campers devised their interesting activities and games. Later in the evening, a bonfire was made and a feast was cooked and served before everyone headed reluctantly towards their tents.



NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON EDUCATION

- ST JOSEPH'S ACADEMY, DEHRADUN

13 April

SHIVANI GUPTA

Thirteen students and four teachers from The Sagar School attended the National Symposium on School Education, organized for the first time in India on April 13-14 at St Joseph's Academy, Dehradun. The theme of the two-day-long symposium was "PREPARING INDIA FOR THE FUTURE". A large



group of intellectuals had gathered to talk about the burning issues in today's educational system. They made it a point to emphasize that the future of India was under

threat on the aspects of national security, food sufficiency, economy and lifestyle but most of all the pre-eminent role of education in building our future and the need for a relevant educational system or even appropriate education was being ignored or sidelined.

This symposium on education created a platform where the vital importance of education in today's world, difference between education and knowledge, education in rural and urban India and the widening gap between the English Medium and Hindi Medium Education System was effectively highlighted.

Attending the symposium evolved many creative and innovative ideas about improving the education system in India and bringing about the changes in our education system so that it can be free and fair for all children, irrespective of their caste, region, religion, gender etc. The most important thing that our children learnt was that GRADES matter but PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT is the most important aspect of education. Being the first attempt, NSE was quite successful in gathering the eminent educationists from across the country and in voicing the concerns regarding the present system and aiming to prepare future generations of Indians.

INTER HOUSE POETRY COMPETITION

ENGLISH & HINDI POETRY RECITATION COMPETITION

14 & 06 May

VENUE: THE SAGAR SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

TIME: 6.30 PM

The evening of 14 April & 06 May witnessed students recite poems close to their hearts. The competition was divided into 4 groups. Students from each house were selected to compete against each other. The themes varied for the juniors and the seniors. While the juniors recited poems on Nature & Friendship, the seniors recited poems related to current social issues facing India. Corruption and the Girl-Child were prominent. It was very heartening to sense the level of sensitivity of the participants and their earnest desire to express themselves through the medium of poetry.

Group I	IV & V	1st - Jason Laishram (Ruby House)
Group II	VI, VII & VII	1st - Shourya Negi (Ruby House)
Group III	IX & X	1st - Thoinu Karam (Sapphire House)
Group III	XI & XII	1st - Aditya Bhasin (Ruby House)

THE WINNERS OF THE ENGLISH POETRY

Group I	IV & V	1st - Aditya Chaturvedi (Emerald) & Vasu Mittal (Emerald)
Group II	VI, VII & VII	1st - Harshit Jain (Ruby House)
Group III	IX & X	1st - Yatin Madaan (Ruby)
Group III	XI & XII	1st - Kirti Dalal (Sapphire)

CELEBRATION OF BAISAKHI: SPECIAL DINNER

14 April

The School marked the festival of Baisakhi with a special dinner for the students. The entire Dining Hall was decorated and there were mouth watering snacks for them. Counters serving yummy tikkis, chaat & gol gapas excited everyone. It was an ideal weekend for the students and the staff. The ambience was further enhanced with Punjabi music to usher in the Punjabi New Year!

ENGLISH & HINDI STORY WRITING COMPETITION**19 April**

Stories that were written from the heart! It was amazing to see the imagination of students run wild on paper and it was a tough task for the judges to select the winners. Each participant seemed to be a winner in this competition. The stories were judged on the basis of story line, characterization, events, turning point, beginning, ending and imagination.

**RESULTS OF ENGLISH STORY WRITING COMPETITION**

GROUP	1ST	2ND
A (IV, V, VI)	Vaneesa Nameirakpam	Helga Khumanthem
B (VII, VIII)	Mandy Khumanthem	Vedant Mathur
C (IX, X)	Christy Nameirakpam	Pragyan Thapa
D (XI, XII)	Rinchen. N. Rinzing & Surbala Takhelambam	Vega Sampa & Avelok Singh

RESULTS OF HINDI STORY WRITING COMPETITION

GROUP	1ST	2ND
A (IV, V, VI)	Khushal Dagar	Kavya Gupta
B (VII, VIII)	Kartike Raj Choudary	Abhimanyu Singh
C (IX, X)	Asif Sayeed Kagzi	Karni Vijay Singh
D (XI, XII)	Rajeev Gupta	Vikas Yadav & Anjali Sakkarwal

A SPECIAL VISIT**18 April**

A very inspiring and special visitor came as a breath of fresh air all the way from Punjab. It was a pleasure to welcome Mr. Jagpreet Singh, the Principal of Punjab Public School, Nabha, along with Ms. Rosemary Sagar (The Chairperson) & Ms. S. Julka (The Director) to the School. A workshop for teachers was conducted by Mr. Jagpreet Singh. A special assembly was held the next day when he addressed the students and shared his experiences with the whole School. Mr. Jagpreet Singh has been recently appointed to the School Managing Committee and has many plans to benefit our School.

**A DAY TO DANCE: FRESHER'S EVE & WORLD DANCE DAY****21 April**

It was dance, dance and dance all the way! Classical, folk, hip-hop, contemporary and Bollywood! A befitting salute to the World Dance Day! An educative presentation was made on the dances of the World before the students



began dancing. This evening also witnessed the new students put in their act together with folk dances and solo dances. The Lavani group song by all the new students stole the show. It was a wonderful fun packed evening which ended with a dance party and a special dinner.



WORLD HAVE YOUR SAY: THE WORLD'S BIGGEST SCHOOL ASSEMBLY

08 May

VENUE: THE SAGAR SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

On Tuesday, 8 May 2012, BBC World Class, in collaboration with the BBC World Service global conversation programme, 'World Have Your Say', holds the World's Biggest School Assembly on the BBC. The aim of the World's Biggest School Assembly was to



get young people from around the world to discuss, to debate and to share their views on what matters to them, all on the same day. Each participating school had been given a time slot of 20 minutes to present their assembly and express their feelings on the theme 'What Matters to them?' Every participating school was required to upload in advance the format of their assembly on BBC website so that the entire world could see and comment on it.

The Sagar School was part of the World's Biggest Assembly on the BBC at 8.10 ISD (0240GM) when the entire world witnessed the students express their view on two questions:

1. What one change do you wish to see in the world?
2. What do you expect from the world as a citizen?

Out of the 104 deeply humane and wonderful responses submitted by the students, eighteen were shortlisted to be expressed before



the world by the children who had authored them. These students had expressions that were convincing, had depth and pertained to global aspirations.

The eighteen students expressed themselves strongly and with great passion in what they felt and believed. Most of the issues that they touched upon were burning ones which have created a feeling of insecurity amongst the youth of today. They were global as well as national issues. The interpretation of

the same in their innocent voices needs to be heard the world over. It was a touching moment for all present in the Assembly Hall.

Brotherhood of man, poverty, status of women, the girl child, peace, harmony, terrorism, inequality, change of mindsets, discrimination of all kinds, unrealistic expectations, pollution at all levels and the changes that need to be brought about in oneself, were in the focus of our young speakers.

The Principal, Lt Col (Retd) Rattanbir Singh appreciated the thoughts expressed by the students and assured them that their views definitely need to be addressed and that a lots of people are already working towards these concerns. He also encouraged the students to explore and unearth the vast potential within themselves so that tomorrow when they receive the mantle of leadership from their predecessors, they may be able to give a good account of themselves.

THE HERITAGE PROJECT (THEATRE)

Mr. Feisal Alkazi & Ms. Preeti Jain, a team of inspiring artists will lead and guide our students on a series of theatre workshops in the coming months.

The project has already taken off and the entire belt of Tijara will be showcased in a unique manner. The artistic sense of the renowned Mr. Feisal Alkazi, the talent of the students and the rich heritage of the surroundings in which the school is located, is expected to produce a one of a kind monument to the heritage of our area.

Something to look forward to by the end of December! The students are very fortunate to be guided by Mr. Feisal Alkazi who will not only train their histrionic skills but will enthuse in them a passion for the good things in life.

EXPRESSIONS

GANGA COMES DOWN TO EARTH:

King Bhagirath once meditated for Lord Brahma for a thousand years for the salvation of the souls of his ancestors. Pleased with his devotion Brahma granted him a wish. He requested the Lord to send the river Ganges down to earth from heaven so that she could flow over his ancestors' ashes and wash their curse away and allow them to go to heaven.

Brahma granted his wish but asked him to pray to Shiva, for he alone could support the weight of her descent. Accordingly he prayed to Shiva and he allowed the Ganges to descend on his head, and after meandering through his thick matted locks, the holy river reached the earth.

SPIC MACAY: A SPELL**01 May**

On this day, an impressive presentation of the Odissi dance form transported the whole School into a world of dreams.



The programme organized under the aegis of the SPIC MACAY, brought the renowned and highly acclaimed Ms. Madhavi Mudgal, Padmashree, to our School. Ms. Mudgal epitomizes in her charming persona, the elegance and sophistication of modern

sensibilities blended with the ancient ethos of eastern India. Prior to the performance, the revered danseuse explained the underlying theme of the dance; the meaning of the various facial expressions, hand and feet movements and thus ensured that the students remained completely transfixed throughout her performance. Ms. Mudgal was ably accompanied by her team of musicians and her own student.

Sports

With the summer heat catching up, the indoor games in the gym took centre stage. The inter-house Table Tennis & the inter-house Badminton competitions were the matches played during these months. In Table Tennis, Sapphire House lead with Emerald House close at heels. In Badminton, Ruby House took the lead with Sapphire following it. The over all position had Sapphire House leading with 14 points, followed by Ruby and Emerald houses with 10 points in 2nd and 3rd position respectively. In the coming term, there are to be many sports events and the house positions are definitely not going to remain unchanged.

The sports quiz was the most interesting contest of all in both the juniors (21 April) and the seniors (01 May). In this competition, Diamond House sparkled and did not give a chance to the others to come any where close to it.

Two cricket matches were also held:

27 April

Match held between The Sagar School & Alwar Academy (Under 16 cricket match). Alwar Academy won the match.

29 April

A friendly cricket match was played between The Sagar School & Sunrise Cricket Academy, Alwar. Sunrise Cricket Academy won the match.

EXCHANGE PROGRAM WITH GERMAN SCHOOLS

HOST SCHOOL : ALBERT SCHWEITZER GYMNASIUM, NECKARSULM, GERMANY.

06 May – 26 May**Escort Teacher : Ms Seema Punia**

As part of the continuous effort at our School to make our students sensitized to the different cultures of the world and to gain from this experience, a contingent of students from our school embarked on a twenty day visit to Germany during May.

Apart from staying with their German buddies, our students were involved with educational activities and visited several places of interest. The main places visited were Town Hall to meet the mayor of Neckarsulm, Heidelberg, Heibronn, Audi museum and plant at Neckarsulm, Porsche Museum and plant at



Stuttgart, Strasbourg (France), and the Schnell chocolate manufactory.

Students from The Sagar School took part enthusiastically

in all activities prepared for them by the host school and the visit was an unqualified success, so much so that the visit was also featured in the local newspapers. The transcript from one of the newspapers is presented below.

OB Scholz empfängt Austauschschüler aus Indien im Rathaus Neckarsulm

Mittwoch, 9. Mai 2012

Schüler aus Rajasthan lernen deutsche Lebensart kennen

Gruppenfoto auf der Rathhaustreppe

Für das Ziel der Völkerverständigung ist kein Weg zu weit: Aus dem fernen Indien waren 21 Schülerinnen und Schüler mit ihrer Lehrerin Punia Seema nach Neckarsulm gereist, um die deutsche Lebensart in den Gastfamilien und beim Schulbesuch kennen zu lernen.

Die Sagar-Schule ist seit 2007 Partnerschule des Albert-Schweitzer-Gymnasiums (ASG) Neckarsulm. Die regelmäßigen Besuche im Rahmen der Schulpartnerschaft finden im Wechsel mit dem Hölderlin-Gymnasium Stuttgart statt.

Oberbürgermeister Joachim Scholz begrüßte die Schüler der Sagar-Schule, eines Privatinternates im indischen Bundesstaat Rajasthan, im Rathaus und wünschte ihnen einen interessanten und erlebnisreichen Aufenthalt in der Großen Kreisstadt.

Die deutschen Partnerschüler vom ASG waren im November vergangenen Jahres Gäste der Sagar-Schule. Den Gegenbesuch in Neckarsulm hatten die Englischlehrerinnen Dorothee Götz und Arzu Karabulut organisiert. Der Besuch diente nicht nur dazu, Verständnis für die Kultur des jeweils anderen Landes zu wecken, sondern auch die Unterschiede im Schulsystem zu ergründen. So widmeten sich die Schüler bei dem jüngsten Austausch dem Projektthema „Schul- und Bildungssystem Deutschland und Indien im Vergleich“.

Der 21-tägige Besuch ließ aber auch Zeit für lehrreiche Ausflüge und Besichtigungen. Das Besuchsprogramm führte die Gäste aus Indien nach Heidelberg und Straßburg. Vor allem für deutsche Automobile konnten sich die 16 - bis 17-jährigen Schüler begeistern. So durfte eine Besichtigung des Audi-Werks Neckarsulm nicht fehlen. Darüber hinaus besichtigten die indischen und deutschen Schüler gemeinsam das Porsche-Werk und Museum in Stuttgart-Zuffenhausen. (snp)

THE TINY TOTS

The young inmates of the day-care cum preparatory facility run by the pooled resources of our staff families, makes their debut in our pages with their own views and stories: below:

BE SINCERE

MANASVINI CHUNDAWAT

Class - III

Ross, a lazy boy never does his work in time. He neither has time nor has interest to work. He always depends upon his parents. The parents are very upset due to Ross's habits. One day his mother fell ill and was unable to help Ross.

Suddenly the school routine also changed.

He had to get ready earlier. Teachers assigned more home work which he had to submit before examination. He tried but could not. His father also got transferred to a new place. Now he had nobody to help him.

On the day of his exam, he had to reach school early but due to his laziness he could not catch the bus and went walking to his school. He got injured on the way and reached the school half an hour late. He could not complete his paper properly. All his friends passed but he failed. All friends enjoyed the result except Ross. Ms Mary, the principal called Ross and enquired about his failure. She inspired him about the punctuality, sincerity and self discipline. Her loving words of inspiration brought a drastic change in Ross. Next year Ross won the first position in academic as well as in other activities. Now he realizes the value of hard work and has promised to be good himself and also to help others to become better.

Moral: "Hard work gives good result".

MY FEELINGS AS A GOLD MEDAL WINNER

MRINAL CHATURVEDI

CLASS: III

Gold Medal is a pride for the winner as well as for the school. I Mrinal Chaturvedi of class III won the Gold Medal twice (semi-final and final round) in Britannia Quiz contest held in the year 2011-12. I am very proud of it. Actually, it's a great pleasure for me. A special thanks to my teachers under whose guidance I was able to get the award. I'm also thankful to my parents who supported me a lot.

As a gold medalist, I promise to work hard in the future and also help my friends and juniors to follow my footsteps.

SUMMER VACATION

12 May

The School closes for summer vacations and will re-open in mid July. We wish all the students a wonderful time during the holidays and look forward to seeing them return in July for a fun and work packed session of challenges and achievements.