



THE SAGARIAN TIMES

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CAMPUS NEWS ROUND-UP

The month of November commenced with a host of activities on stage and on the play fields. The Inter-House Athletics Meet was a well contested event. The successful Founder's Day programme brought appreciation and accolades from the Chief Guest Mr. Charu Sharma, parents and guests. Soon the students were ready for the second term examinations. Carol singing and Christmas celebrations added enthusiasm among the students.

Students left for the winter break on 20 December. They will be back on 13, January to begin the last and most important term.

We wish all the readers a happy and prosperous New Year.

On 22nd November, the Grand Finale of the Inter-House Athletic Meet took place, in which, Emerald and Sapphire shared the 1st position followed by Diamond in the 3rd position and Ruby in the 4th position.

On 23rd and 24th November, two cricket matches were played - Diamond v/s Sapphire and Emerald v/s Ruby. Diamond and Emerald won their respective matches.

On 25th November, our Founder Dr. Vidya Sagar visited the school, interacted with the students and witnessed the Inter-House cricket tournament, the finals of which took place on the 3rd of December. Diamond House emerged as winners.

From 25th - 27th November Inter House Badminton matches were conducted in which Diamond House emerged as winners yet again.

Mrs. Margaret Wieland from Albert Schweitzer Gymnasium, Neckarsulm arrived in the school to be with the German Exchange Programme students.

On 1st December, Mr. Charu Sharma, the eminent sports commentator arrived in the campus and was escorted around by the students. The students had a question answer session with Mr. Sharma in the evening.

A team of 17 students along with the teacher escorts Mrs. Chitra Singh and Mr. G. Singh went to perform on the occasion of the 180th Anniversary celebration of Remfry & Sagar at Gurgaon.

On 2nd December, we celebrated our 8th Founder's Day with great fanfare, replete with entertaining cultural programme, Art, Science and Work Experience exhibitions put up by the students and teachers.



On 4th December, the school bade farewell to Dr. Kevin Dillow, who was with us since July 2007. He moves to Karachi in the new year to establish a new school there. He addressed the students and encouraged them to be proud of their own culture. His morning assemblies were a treat for every one. He shared his life experiences from around the world. His informal style, sense of humour, relating examples from daily life were liked by one and all. He had the distinction of moving from Sri Lanka to India and now to Pakistan. Rich experience of the subcontinent indeed!

On 8th December, The 10 students of the German Exchange programme bid adieu to the school. They were full of happy memories of the various trips undertaken in and around the school and the time which they spent with their friends here.

On 9th December, a friendly Cricket match was played between class VIII and the Holding House in which the latter emerged winners by 28 runs.

From 14th-16th December, the Rajasthan Veterans Lawn Tennis matches were conducted in the school. The tournament was organized by the Rajasthan State Tennis Association and The Sagar School. 35 players from all over Rajasthan participated. Singles and doubles were played in three age groups - above 45, above 55, & above 65. It was a well contested tournament. The participants were serving and retired government officials, businessmen and RSTA officials. Dr. K. J. Jose, Principal, The Sagar School gave away the trophies to the winners. The participants appreciated the synthetic Tennis courts and the sporting facilities at the school.

On 17th December, the school celebrated Christmas with carols followed by the visit of Santa Claus, the story of Jesus Christ and a grand dinner.

-Monisha Sardana

FOUNDER'S DAY

We celebrated our Founder's day on 2nd December 2007 with Mr. Charu Sharma, a professional sports commentator as our chief guest. The celebrations started with formal functions, viz, reading of reports by the principal, DOS & director; given away prizes for excellence; and addresses by the chief guest and our founder Dr. Vidya Sagar. The formal functions were followed by the cultural Programme. Our cultural programme had a variety of items. The school orchestra with the accompanying of 24 instruments opened the programme. The Koreans, the Thais and the Chinese presented group songs in their respective native languages, while our German guests sang a Hindi song!! We also witnessed a wonderful English play, French skit and a humorous Hindi play. The dances were awesome - be it the Arabian, Bhangra or Rajasthani. After 80 minutes of cultural experience we ended the programme with the school song.

Some high quality exhibitions were put up by various departments like the Arts, Photography, Sciences, Work experiences and so on. After the cultural programme began the fete, in which we enjoyed the different games that had been put up - like Fishing the bottle, Shooting and Lucky Seven. We also ate different varieties of food which were prepared by the RKHS. At one corner was the dance party, with our choice of songs being played, in which the students danced and sang as well. It was really entertaining. Thus the wonderful and enjoyable day came to an end by 5.00 p.m.

-John Malsawmkima, Class XI



An Evening with Mr. Charu Sharma

Having been a student of a residential school in his school life Mr. Charu Sharma was happy to be with students of a new age residential school. He reached in the evening so that he could have a good feel of the school and a quiet evening with the students. The prefects welcomed him on his arrival, and after tea, took him on a guided tour of the school campus. Going around our campus, Mr. Sharma reminisced of his Mayo school days and shared his student days' experiences with the prefects. A sports person to the core of his heart, Mr. Sharma was impressed by the sports facilities available at the school.

After a little rest, cricket fans of the school gathered at the AV room for an interactive session. Never ending questions and comments on Indian and international cricket and cricketers from students kept Mr. Sharma busy and he gave very witty and intelligent answers. The atmosphere was full of energy and enthusiasm, time being the limiting factor. The children were keen to know how he became a successful commentator and if he could provide any tips for them to work on to become successful sports presenters. The long session came to an end by dinner time. It was a memorable evening with a star whom many had seen on TV screens. On the way to the dining hall many were heard that they had set their hearts of becoming future sports commentators.

Address by Dr. Sagar on Founder's Day

Reminiscing his childhood days when he was a 14 year old boy in 1949, Dr. Sagar said that he dreamt of building a school one day. He said he was not born with a silver spoon in his mouth and his life was hard in those days. He had to work really hard in order to make a place for himself in society. He worked very hard, studied abroad in France, England and Germany and became a successful lawyer.

Back home in India one day he drew up a plan to build a residential school which could uphold the values of internationalism and today that dream has come true in the form of a school which he hopes will produce many leaders in times to come. He envisioned a school which would have a character of not being tilted either to the east or to the west but strike a fine balance between the two. He is happy to see that the students coming from countries like Korea, Thailand, China and Germany are contributing to make this happen here.

He felt that the location and infrastructure will add to the beauty of the school and this would be a great centre of learning for the youth.

Address by Mr. Charu Sharma

After giving away the prizes to the students who excelled in various academic areas, the Chief Guest Mr. Charu Sharma started his speech by congratulating Dr. Sagar, the founder of the school, for having provided such extra ordinary infrastructure to the students, staff and all the other concerned people. A sports presenter of great repute Mr. Sharma said that he was deeply impressed by the magnificence of the campus. Though he no longer lives in Rajasthan, the state holds a very important place in his life and he is happy about everything good taking place in the state.



He felt that the children of the school have incredible opportunities and that they should be grateful to their parents for having taken the wise decision to put them in this great school. He appealed to the parents to look beyond the marks of their wards and that success should not be measured materially. Issues of overall development of children should be taken into consideration and marks alone should not be given importance. He said a well executed job determines the success of any task. Even a gardener is successful if he does his job well.

Commenting upon the role of an ideal teacher Mr. Sharma said that a teacher can never be a billionaire but at the same time he should derive his satisfaction by the yardstick of his students' extraordinary performance in their lives in which he played a crucial role as a teacher. He appealed to the teachers to commit themselves with redoubled energy.

In his view teaching is all about giving. Regarding the rewards in this profession, he opined that a teacher gets his reward when his students succeed in their lives. Finally after thanking Dr. Sagar and Dr. Jose for providing him the opportunity to be the Chief Guest, he summed up his speech by making a sincere appeal to all students as well as teachers not to under utilize the great facilities that this school has to offer to them.

Principal's School Report: 2007-08

The new academic session started on 2nd April, 2007 with a variety of activities ranging from Clubs & Societies, weekend camping, German exchange programme, Debates and cricket fixtures. School closed on 12th May for CBSE & 23rd May for IB. After the summer break the school reopened on 15th July, 2007.

New staff

Five new academic staff joined the school during this academic session. Mrs. Shivani Gupta, Mr. Vijay Rao, Mrs. Pooja Bose, Mr. Y. S. Kanyal & Dr. Sebastian Zips. Dr. Kevin Dillow, former Principal of British School, Colombo has been a guest with us, interacting with staff and students, conducting workshops, helping us put systems in place.

Academic Results:

In the board examinations held in March 2007, we secured 100% results with the highest percentage being 88.6. Our students have secured admission in good universities and institutes. Our first batch of IB students sat for the examinations in May 2007 and out of three, two secured certificates and one was awarded diploma.

Exams

This year we have formalized the weekly fixed Unit Tests along with the term exams as part of the continuous evaluation system. There is also a regular reporting of the results to the parents. Parent teacher meeting was held after the first term exams which gave an opportunity for closer interaction.

New House & Pastoral System

We introduced a new House system this year: there is a Head of Boarding and Pastoral Care, three House Parents and 4 Associate House Parents. AHPs look after the inter-house activities & Head of Boarding coordinates the pastoral work. We have introduced a new comprehensive 'Pastoral Report' with input from all stake holders reflected in it and sent to parents three times a year. The system is functioning effectively.

Co-curricular Activities:

In order to develop various skills like confidence and spirit of healthy competition, the school organized elocution, public speaking, debates, quizzes at three levels - Sub-Junior, Junior & Senior - from class IV to XII.

Clubs, Societies & Community Service:

We conduct the Clubs, Societies, Community Service, Work Experience, talent enrichment and the International Award for Young People throughout the week. Our students are closely associated with the neighbouring Malyor village in literacy, health & hygiene and development of the village. With our constant effort electricity has reached the village in July this year.

Camps & Treks:

During April-May on weekends the whole school was taken out camping in the neighbouring hills. The school is self sufficient in camping equipments. It was an enjoyable experience for all the students. After the first term exams the whole school went for trekking to the hills in Himachal and Uttaranchal. Treks to Gaurmukh and Baralochhla were some of the tough ones.

Games & Sports

Our excellent sports infrastructure enables our students to participate in games with healthy spirit. We have completed nearly all inter-house sports events. Starting with swimming, basketball, soccer, badminton, table tennis, cross country and athletics. Our students participated in the CBSE Cluster X inter-school athletics and performed well.

We have conducted an inter school basketball tournament in the month of August for the first time in order to give more exposure in the sports arena, to organize and to interact with students from

similar schools. Six top schools from Delhi and Rajasthan participated in the tournament. This will become an annual feature now on.

Inter-School Activities:

The students are given ample opportunity to participate in inter-school activities. Participating in competitions, exhibitions, visits to different schools and interacting with them enriches the learning process. Debating at BCS Shimla, quizzing at Lawrence, Sanawar, CBSE Science Exhibition at Jodhpur, participating in various Olympiads are some of the highlights in the recent past.

German Exchange Programme:

Last year we initiated an exchange programme with two German schools. Five of our students went to Stuttgart and Neckersulm in April this year and spent one month there with the German families. In continuation of that exchange 10 students from Albert Schweitzer Gymnasium Neckersulm and Holderlin Gymnasium Stuttgart accompanied with their teacher spent 3 weeks in November-December 2007.

Workshop & Seminars:

Students and staff are provided with opportunities to improve their skills through regular workshops and seminars. Personality development seminar by The Family, general and individual counseling by renowned counseling psychologist Dr. V. S. Ravindran at different occasions helped the students in focussing and sharpening their skills. Workshops in Multiple Intelligence by Ms. Margaret Warner, Dimensions of Learning and Class Room Management by Brig. S. K. Tripathi, Guidance and Counselling by Dr. Ravindran, regular inputs from Dr. Kevin Dillow help the staff in their professional and personal growth.

Scholarships

One of the noble programmes of the school is the full & partial scholarship for deserving students. At the moment we have 8 students with full scholarships - 5 girls & 3 boys. Six of them are orphans, 2 are from very poor families. There is no partial scholarship as of now. We are thankful to Dr. Sagar for this noble cause.

Life at campus

In order to make the life of the students at campus enjoyable, we have from time to time organized programmes suitable for the students according to the weather conditions. Sunday morning Cycling, Sandune breakfasts, Rain Dance, Gym night, Movie show, Spicmacay, House Socials are some of the activities that we do here. Occasional outings - educational as well as entertainment based - make life enjoyable here.

Individual care

Teaching and caring are the prime concern in a residential school. According to the needs of the children we provide individual attention inside and outside the class. Having a favourable teacher student ratio we look after the children with utmost care. Our staff is committed to the welfare of the students. We are looking forward to having more children in the next academic year.

I thank our Founder Chairman Dr. Sagar, Chairman of the Managing Committee, Mr. Hemant Sagar, members of the Board of Governors & Managing Committee, and our Administrator, Mrs. Sharmishtha Julka for their concern, support and encouragement in the planning & functioning of the school.

**-Dr. K. J. Jose
Principal**

GERMAN EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

On 20th December 2007, a group of 10 students arrived from Germany on an exchange programme to The Sagar School and went to the Max-Mueller Bhavan to attend a presentation "Indian and German relation". Ms. Schwab, the German teacher escort and Mr. Suraj Gir, the teacher from The Sagar School also accompanied the students on the visit. After the presentation, the students also visited the Red Fort and learnt about other historical places in Delhi.

They attended classes and participated in games and prep. They interacted with the students and made friends with them. During their 3 week stay, they visited Agra and Jaipur. The students were happy to see the Taj Mahal, City Palace, Jaigarh Fort, Nahar Garh Fort etc.

They put up a cultural show before they left. The whole school joined them in a song and dance session. When they were leaving, they wished for a prolonged stay at The Sagar school.



-Tanya Lamba, Class VIII

IAYP WORKSHOP

A zonal level training workshop for award leaders of the International Award for Young People (IAYP) was organized at Gulita Training Centre at Worli, Mumbai by IAYP and Hindustan Lever Ltd. Many renowned schools from the west zone participated in the workshop namely the Nav Rachna IB School, Jamna Bai Narsee School, and Dhirubhai Ambani International School. The chairman Mr. Charles Laurie from Christ Church School, Mumbai presided over the programme.

Our school also participated and was represented by Dr. Om Singh Chundawat. The workshop which took place on 8th - 9th December had a forum of discussion on the four activities of IAYP i.e. SKILL, SERVICE, ADVENTUR JOURNEY and RESIDENTIAL PROJECT.

The participants enjoyed physical recreation and they were trained in first aid and rock climbing. They took a walk around the Heritage Fort area of Mumbai. They had an interesting Ice-breaker by Asy Basra of the Entertainment Theatre Workshop.

-Anshay Sardana, Class IX

CREATIVE WRITING

MY DOG

He walked down that road
Filled with silence an eerie
His dog walked ahead
Bruno! Bruno! he called
His voice echoed in the lonely street
He was hungry, famished!!!

He knocked and knocked
One after the other at every door but
Not one opened.
His dog ran ahead a long way
Foraging but could find nothing

A bullet passed through his hungry stomach.....

-Siddhartha Bothra, Class XII

REMEMBER....

Almighty gave us life
Trust and believe in Him,
Parents brought us in the world
Love and respect them,
Teachers prepare us for life
Listen and obey them,
Friends give us company and joy
Treat them as you wish to be treated by them,
You mean a lot to the world
Be your best, be YOURSELF

-Neelam Sharma

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