

# THE PULSE

*"Life starts all over again when it gets crisp and fall"*  
- F. Scott Fitzgerald (The Great Gatsby)



## Monthly recap

- 3rd- 4th October : Workshop for Classes VI upwards
- 7th October : Creative Writing Competition (VI-XII)
- 8th October : Slice and Dice Competition (VI-XII)
- 12th-14th October : Science Fest (IX-XII)
- 21st October : Autumn Rustle



## In this Issue

- FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK
- KALEIDOSCOPE
- UDAAN-IDEAS THAT FLY
- PRIME-O-GRAM
- BLOOMS OF THE MONTH





# FROM THE EDITORS DESK....

By **Tarana Kapur, Executive Editor (XI-A)**

October is a crucial month for all of us at The OASIS and always passes us by in a flash. The Integrators began the month by tirelessly preparing for the annual Autumn Rustle. Alongside this, middle and senior school kept themselves engrossed in their academics in light of the upcoming set of exams. To top off our fast-paced schedules, October brought us a plethora of festivals, the uproar of which we wouldn't dream of missing out on. This issue of The PULSE brings you articles on the roller-coaster of a month the Integrators here at The OASIS have had and the learning that resulted from it.

The variety of festivals we get to commemorate in a calendar year is my favourite aspect of Indian culture. We often took them for granted when we were younger but with time slipping through our fingers as swiftly as it has been, my peers and I have begun to realise the value of the quality time we spend with our loved ones. No matter how old, rich, or famous we become, these are our core memories - ones that become part of our very being.

Festivals consist of much more than their superficial extravagance. While dressing up in our traditional clothes and eating different kinds of *mithai* does constitute a large part of Indian tradition, the true essence of these occasions is celebrating the sense of community we harbour within ourselves. They not only mark great events in Indian mythology and history but also strengthen the sense of belonging we find in the people around us. Festivals bring us together in a country full of all kinds of diversity because, at the end of the day, they propel the faith we have in our beliefs.

The Integrators celebrated community this month not only through these festivals but also the Autumn Rustle. The chatter about putting on a marvellous show on the big day fills the air and lingers unwaveringly as we see the month through.

Students went through auditions followed by vigorous practices to master pieces that would perfectly exemplify their talent and skill. From dances and choirs to plays, everyone in Ankuram, Satva, and Ekya was given their moment in the spotlight. With the faculty, students, and parents all in one place, connected through our love for the various forms of art and music, the night proved to be truly unforgettable.

All in all, my efforts to summarise this month in my editorial will inevitably be in vain. Instead, keeping in mind all I have said, I would like to leave you with a quote by someone who, I'm sure, has remained ageless in the eyes of everyone reading this newsletter today;

*"We didn't realise we were making memories. We just knew we were having fun."*

- Winnie the Pooh

Happy reading to all!





# LEO THE LEOPARD

By Tarana Kapur (XI- A)





# KALEIDOSCOPE *Ekrya*

## I Beheld the Lights

By Yashasvi Kandwal (X-B)

"Hurry! It's almost sunset,"  
Shouting that I hurried up the hill,  
Gazing wearily, he stood still,  
Catching air as the sun went down,  
The horizon blazing in shades of orange-brown.

Elation bursting through my veins,  
We'd reached far with such great pains,  
Skipping stones and turning them over;  
"Amy! Can you see the lights?"- poor he!  
Though Kingstown wasn't far from the sea.

"The sight is the rarest!"-exclaimed grandma,  
Who'd set on the trail once with grandpa,  
Through flourishing forests and prodigious  
plains,  
In search of the festive, forgotten city,  
Since the night sky is indeed a sight so pretty.

The euphoric air ran through my hair,  
The sunset scarring away all my despair,  
I saw a light of hope- it was a glint!;  
Not far off but not too near,  
The sight of which filled me with cheer.

Panting, he ran up close to me,  
His face had brightened with glee;  
Took a few steps forward and none back,  
For my dream was to come true,  
From the cliff's edge I witnessed the view.



Embellished with lights, the valley stood apart,  
From all the wonders I could remember by heart,  
Their laughter was heard quite distantly;  
Merry folks rejoiced with each other,  
And darkness ascended as we walked further.

But it was too late, for the festivity began,  
Even before we reached; it wasn't in the plan,  
The valley submerged in its eternal joys,  
Him and I stood on the cliff, left out from the fest,  
Such delays are what I truly detest.

The fest began and folks awaited with their  
lanterns,  
Marked with beautiful traditional patterns,  
The sky was waiting to get adorned;  
I stood there alone, 'tis poor luck,  
While below us, hundred matches were struck.

The lanterns ascended the sky,  
Their influence glinting through my eye,  
Soon the huge aura was gifted with one;  
And I beheld the lights as they flew away,  
Swaying and sparking their way to the bay.





## Spic Macay

*“In art as in religion, sometimes the best direction is inwards”*

By Vidushi Bhatt (X-B)

The Society for the Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Among Youth (SPIC MACAY) is a non-political, nationwide, voluntary movement that promotes awareness for conserving the precious rich culture of India through Indian classical music, classical and folk dance, yoga meditation, arts and culture in organized events.

The OASIS witnessed a Chhau Dance performance by SPIC MACAY on the 29th of September, 2022. All the students and teachers watched the astounding show, and parents who



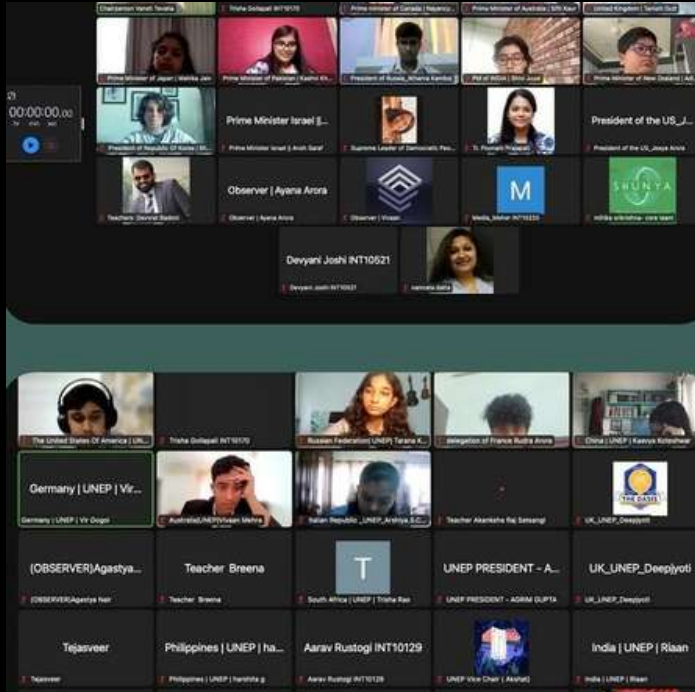
had been cordially invited also enjoyed the performance. Chhau dance is one of the most renowned tribal martial dances of India. It is a significant dance tradition of Eastern India, common in the tribal belt of Jharkhand, where it is known as Seraikella Chhau; in Orissa it is known as Mayurbhanj Chhau; and Purulia Chhau in West Bengal. Chhau marks a vital role in celebrating the Sun Festival (Chaitra Parva) by being natively connected to its ritual. Chhau dance is performed by male dancers trained under professional masters. The performance started off with loud beats of instruments like Dholak, Ghanta, Dhamsa, Nagada, Mohuri, Shehnai, and Kartal. The dancers wore heavy head masks while performing, and the vibrant masks seemed essential for creating an impact on the audience. The theme of the dance was based on an epic event in the life of Shivalik of Navratri. The dancers wore different costumes that were relevant to the theme. The crowd was thrilled throughout the performance. It was fascinating to see the man disguised as Peacock display the peacock feathers, followed by the Lion act. The fundamental vocabulary of Chhau dance consists of mock combat techniques, stylized gaits of birds and animals, movements modelled on the daily chores. Overall, it was a spectacular performance filled with emotions and brilliant techniques. We were enlightened about a new culture and a genre of dance and music that we will cherish forever.





# Inter-School Model United Nations

By Deepjyoti Negi (X- B)



*"Model United Nation trains today's students to be tomorrow's leaders. Students who participate in Model United Nations would one day change the world."*

Model United Nations, also known as Model UN or MUN, is an educational stimulation through which students can learn about diplomacy, international relations, and the United Nations. At an MUN conference, students work as a representative of a country, organisation or person, and must solve a problem with other delegates from around the world.

Our school participated in an Inter-School MUN hosted by The Heritage International Xperiential School, Gurugram. It was an online MUN summit from 28th to 30th September 2022. The overall agenda of this MUN was Climate Change with special reference to the Small Island Developing States. It was divided into 3 committees, mainly - United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), The Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee (Politburo of CCP) and The Ad Hoc Committee of the Secretary General.

I, as a participant, enjoyed working with my team thoroughly and learned how to tackle such world affairs in the future.

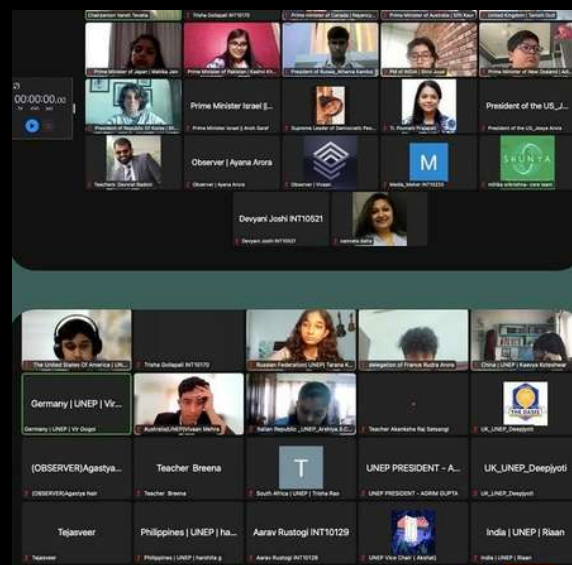
The results of the competition were as follows :-

**UNEP :-**

1. Best Delegate - Tarana Kapur (XI-A)
2. Special Mention 1 - Arshiya S. Chandna (IX-A)

**Ad-Hoc Committee :-**

1. Best Delegate - Atharva Kamboj (XI-A)
2. Special Mention - Jeeya Arora (XII-A)





# Le Mot Juste

By *Sahima Singh (X- B)*

Students from The OASIS represented the school in 'Le Mot Juste', a literary festival organised by Wynberg- Allen School, Mussoorie on 3rd October, 2022. There were several events including Hindi debate, English debate, Spelling Bee, and Poetry Recitation wherein the participants from our school excelled.

Samara Phuntsog was the IInd runner up in Division I, open to students of classes V and VI of the English Poetry Recitation Competition.

Vanshika Rawat was adjudged the Best Speaker in the G. D. Lehmann Inter-School English Debate for Classes IX and X.

Tarana Kapur was the Runner up and Mayuri Rawat was the IInd Runner Up in Category 2 for classes XI and XII of The T. W. Philips Inter-School English Debate.

In the Rev Biggs Inter-School Spelling Bee Competition, Kamaira Rawat was given an award for a promising performance in Division 1 for classes V and VI. Abeer Prakash stood first in Division 2 which was open to students of classes VII and VIII. Sahima Singh stood first in Division 3 which was open to students of classes IX and X.

Despite practicing only for a few days, the students performed exceptionally well. This was the result of relentless hard work and dedication exhibited by both the students and teachers in such a short period of time. The Students' performance at the Inter-School level is truly something to take pride in.







# Mother Isabel Memorial Inter-School Debate Competition

By *Urvi Periwal (XI-A)*

The Mother Isabel Memorial Inter-School Debate Competition is an annual debate competition organised by the Convent Of Jesus & Mary. This year, it was held on Saturday, October 15, 2022 and bonafide students from classes IX to XII from different schools participated, including three students from The OASIS - Tarana Kapur, Mayuri Rawat, and Urvi Periwal of Class XI. The reporting time was 7:45 a.m. and all the delegates from the different schools - The Asian School, Doon International School, Welham Boys, and many more, reached the venue on time.

From there on, all participants were taken to the library to register their names. Each team was allotted a colour from a palette to ensure anonymity, which was also ensured by no school uniforms being allowed. A draw of chits decided the order of teams from first to last. The debate was extempore and the topic was revealed to the participants on the day of the debate. They were given an hour of preparation time in the library following which the debate was declared open. The topic was - **“This House Believes That Making A Living Is Not The Same As Making A Life”**. The participants could ask for books and research materials to refer to in their preparation, but no electronic gadgets were permitted during this time. The actual debate itself was held in the Oxford format. Each participating team comprised three members - one speaker presenting his/her stand ‘FOR’ and one ‘AGAINST’ the motion. The third speaker was the interlocutor who asked one question each from the side proposition and opposition of another team contesting for the debate. Participants were permitted to carry one flashcard (Size: 6” X 4”) to the podium on which they had written points, and no other material was permitted for reference. Each speaker was allotted four minutes to present his/her stand on the given topic. Warning bells were rung at the completion of 3 minutes and then 4 minutes.

Following this, the speaker was asked one short and precise question by the interlocutor of the opposing stand and the speaker was required to rebut him/her within two minutes. Non-adherence to the time-limit and continuous reading from a prepared speech by the speaker was penalised. In case no question was asked within the first 15 seconds, the speaker would be awarded full marks for the rebuttal. The Panel of Judges awarded marks to each speaker as per the following criteria: Content; Style of Speaking and Pronunciation; Logic; Demeanour/Poise; and Rebuttal. The Mother Isabel Rolling Trophy was awarded to Doon International School, who performed wonderfully.

From The OASIS, the team of three did a wonderful job, debating eloquently and effectively, garnering a round of applause from the audience. The experience was truly enlightening, giving the three participants an opportunity to engage with new ideas and people and grow in a healthy, competitive environment. It was an exciting and contemplative discussion which sought to engage young minds and provide them a platform, where they could deliberate, explore new ideas, develop confidence and engage in constructive criticism, and it was able to do just that.





# The OASIS Science Fest

By Shivi Juyal (XI-A)

The OASIS Science Fest, a three day event held from the 12th-14th of October 2022, rekindled the enthusiasm of the young science enthusiasts across the campus.

The school's 1st Science Exhibition 'Sci-Flare' had a vast student-led display, covering interesting conceptual ideas of Biology, Physics as well as Chemistry. From constellations and missiles to models showing electricity and pollution, the students had it all! The Biology display focused on human anatomy, covering various systems of the human body. Models on biodiversity, including National Parks, Endangered Species and the state flora-fauna were also presented.

The Chemistry display, centered around 'Mystery behind Chemistry', was displayed as a magic show. Around nine to ten experiments were performed in front of parents, teachers as well as the students. Some experiments performed were: Traffic Light, Golden Rain, Iodine Clock Reaction, Fountain Experiments, Bleeding Heart, and a lot more. The final 'Elephant Toothpaste' experiment captivated the audience, especially the students. A medicinal plant and a hydroponic system was also set up on display.

A new, interesting initiative by the Senior Science students was the introduction of 'Essence': a handmade soaps and sanitizer collection, which was put on sale. The soaps were of various mediums, shapes and fragrances. Some of them included: Neem, Rose, and even a Tomato soap!

Post lunch, the much awaited 'Science Quiz' event was held at the Theatre Studio. The participants were divided into four groups: Aryabhata, Charak, Ramanujan and Praphulla.

All the teams were challenged with several rounds containing fascinating, yet difficult questions. The Rapid Fire was the most spontaneous round, where each team had to select one student to answer a total of 10 questions in 1 minute. Shivi Juyal (XI) from team Ramanujan answered the most questions in this round.

The fest was concluded with an educational visit. The students from classes XI to XII, accompanied by the Science Department, visited the Subir Raha Museum, also called ONGC Tel Bhavan. The museum was initially ONGC's first headquarter, inaugurated by the Former President, Shri APJ Abdul Kalam. The museum had an elaborate display right to the formation of fossil and the formation of coal, petroleum and natural gas to the pipeline transportation of the extracted material. The museum also had samples from various oil fields, including Gujarat, Mumbai and Assam. Other components of the museum included safety precautions and tools used by the workers and the Corporate Social Responsibility of the organisation. It was truly a memorable and knowledgeable field trip for all the students, especially for classes XI and XII. This wouldn't have been possible without the much appreciated endeavours of the Science Department.





# Autumn Rustle, Year 2022

## Satva & Ekya

By Yashasvi Kandwal (X-B)

October is that time of year when the faint yet beguiling sky sparks exhilaration within our souls, the maple leaves fulfil their year round duties and hand them over to their spring progenies, and the autumn rays reach the deepest and darkest corners of our abodes to remind us of the festivities which are adorned on the dusty calendar.



Each year we, The OASIS family, come together to celebrate this festive season, which we so fondly call the 'Autumn Rustle'.

This special evening is marked with astounding performances by the prospering flowers-Us, the integrators. The school campus which usually thrives in the natural beauty of its wonderful environment is embellished with lanterns and golden lights to welcome the festivities. Students flaunt their excellent creativity in their respective artistries and paint the school walls with flawless execution. Graceful dancers, expert musicians, artsy-craftsy artists and the cerebral Einsteins elicit in the spectators - awe and delight. It is that unique time where Integrators truly enjoy the hustle and contribute to the merriment while also forming special memories.

Without further ado, let's hop onto this year's Autumn Rustle, with the theme- "History". Held on the 21st of October, 2022, this Autumn Rustle reunited The OASIS family and their unique spirit after it had been lost somewhere when our neighbours sent an appalling present to the entire universe - the Coronavirus Pandemic. To regain the cheerfulness, Ankuram (Junior School) , Satva (Middle School) and Ekya (Senior School) altogether hosted the occasion. With two months of practice, the students were all set to face the audience under the dazzling spotlight.







## The Exhibitions- 'Kalanvaran'

Exhibitions by the Social Science Department- 'Sindhu Vritaant', and the Art & Pottery Department- 'Sansmaran' inaugurated at 2 p.m. where there was a huge influx of parents who beheld the wonders which the students had set up at the Southern Block of the building. The Social Science Department, which included the teachers and the students, had represented a model of the Harappan Civilisation. Within the space of a classroom, the team had perfectly depicted the culture through clay models and charts. It surely was enlightening to the spectators!



The Art Department had adorned the walls with countless paintings of the many talented artists. There were captivating canvases, historical masks and colourful rangolis. The centre of attraction was the Egyptian Presentation set up by the Ekya students from Classes X and XII. They had craftily reused an old bathtub to make an Egyptian Mummy's tomb, by using their wild imagination and painting their thoughts onto it. The Pottery Room was decorated with the year round creations of the integrators- all unique and creative.



At the Crucible, we had live painting by Vanya Gupta and Aditi Panwar of Class XI, who painted the portrait of the great musical legend, Marilyn Monroe, and a psychology art corner titled- "Colour your Feelings" by Aarzu Farooqui (Class XI) where the viewers had to choose a word to describe their feelings on the presented thoughts (such as their first day of school) and write it on a specific coloured miniature canvas.





## Nukkad Natak- 'Udghosh'

Students of Satva and Ekya performed a Nukkad Natak at the Crescent Amphithoria, which did spark an aura of cheer, with a quite insightful theme - 'Save Trees and Save Water', which adumbrated today's national issues. Wearing white *kurtas* and red *dupattas*, our integrators introduced this historic concept of Nukkad Natak within the gates of our campus and executed it brilliantly.



## Satva and Ekya Presentations

Post the commendable presentations of Ankuram, the invitees were welcomed to witness the performances by the Satva and Ekya students at the Multipurpose Hall, First Floor. The parents were greeted by the amazing artwork of Class XI students, who had worked on it during the practice months. It was the best out of waste creativity invented out of a worn out bicycle, like the Egyptian Setup of classes X & XII.

The events were in the following order:

- Welcome Address
- Lighting of the lamp by the Chairman & the Head of School with **Mangalacharan**- Shloka Vachan by the students.
- School Report by the master of ceremonies which recognised the year round efforts of the integrators.
- Address by the School Captain- Riddhima Sharma (Class XII)
- Address by the School Director and Head of School
- Announcement of Awards and Recognitions by the School Director. The House Trophy was awarded to Vinaya House.







## The Cantata Vibes- Western Music Choir

The musical integrators revived the memories of the 70s rock classics by performing great musical works of the evermore renowned bands. The songs performed were- Hold my Hand by Michael Jackson & Akon, Hotel California by The Eagles, and Feeling Good by Michael Buble. They concluded with the unforgettable masterpiece by Queen- We Will Rock You. These songs had been beautifully sung by the choir and the intervals in between were filled by solo instrumental interludes. The audience was a part of the performance as they too sang the lyrics and applauded along.



## 'Sant Kabir -A Legend of Bhakti Era'

The saint-poet Kabir is one of the most interesting personalities in the history of Indian mysticism. He professed the religion of love and brotherhood without the distinction of caste, creed, class or religion. He believed in oneness of God and advocated the notion of Koi bole Ram, Ram, koi Khudai...

The integrators of Satva and Ekya enthralled the audience with the life and times of revered Saint Kabir Das through a fascinating English play- 'Sant Kabir the Legend of Bhakti Era'.



## Nartan- Indian Classical Dance

The classical Kathak and Bharatanatyam dances rhythmically reverberated through the hall. Our dancers performed exceptionally well under the vibrant spotlights. The audience seemed to heave and sway as the dancers moved majestically in front of them. The sound of the *ghungroos* along with the music was the perfect symphony to conclude the event.

The occasion was concluded with a vote of thanks to the Management Committee, and the parents who made the event truly outstanding and added a pinch of tinker dust to the festive aura. The National Anthem culminated the event.





# Unlocking the ‘ProPlanetPeople’ Perspective

By Shivi Juyal (XI-A)



Why do the teenagers often seem more alarmed about the future of the planet as compared to adults? Well, the answer often comes with the notion 'we care about our future and our children'. Some of us are said to be involved in 'scaremongering' and 'demagoguery' in the name of climate justice and social impact. Although teenagers now-a-days are climate conscious and passionate, they certainly seem misguided and mob-minded.

Two girls entered London's National Gallery and threw tomato soup on Vincent Van Gogh's famous 'Sunflowers' painting. This vandalistic act was recorded and has been flowing all over social media since then. Right after the vandalism, the girls glued one hand on the wall beneath the famous picture while their t-shirts boldly read, or rather shouted, "Just Stop Oil". One of them yelled, "What is worth more? Art or Life? Is it worth more than food...worth more than justice? Are you more concerned about the protection of a painting? Or, the protection of our planet and people?" "The cost of living crisis is part of the cost of the oil crisis. Fuel is unaffordable to millions of cold-hungry families. They can't even afford to heat a tin of soup," she added.



"A tin of soup you just ended up wasting in the name of 'cold-hungry families' ", I would say. And what about the catchy hair dye on one of their heads? Obtained from petroleum, isn't it? How would destroying the painting of a man, who was deeply passionate about nature and appreciated its extraordinary beauty through his paintings, help us fight the approaching 'Oil Crisis'? This is when your intentions are right, but your ways are wrong.





It is considerably easy to damage national and international property, create panic, or be irrational and exchange the acts under the name of 'Climate Justice'. One of the leaders previously stated that the real problem with the Climate Change activist sensation Greta Thunberg is not that she is a mere 16 year old. Rather, it is the major fact that she is a clueless fanatic who is being considered brave and enlightened for promoting a cause that almost everyone agrees without any study or reflection.

My point is not to prove Greta wrong, rather I would appreciate her for instigating climate consciousness and bringing global attention. It is just that a global movement which started with a consciously curated ambition to 'change the course for climate change' has now become another reason for disobedience, disapproval and most importantly, vandalism.



I strongly believe that our course of action needs to be supported with 'facts'. Facts that can keep the common man inclusive. How? By telling them how their actions affect the earth. All time repeated facts, but believe me, they do make a considerable change!

Much of our household electricity and heat are powered by coal, oil, and gas. To reduce energy, a better alternative is to either use LED (Light Emitting Diode) light bulbs or placing solar energy systems at your home. People often dry clothes using dryers, how about sun drying when it can sun-sterilise them? The United Nations Environment Program, or UNEP calls out the underlying problem of fast fashion clothing. They are actually cheap clothes which quickly end up piling in the landfills. It is important that we buy fewer clothes and use them longer. Acts like buying groceries and non-seasonal greens, that too from far off areas can add up to more fossil fuel emission. How about supporting local business or buying sustainably produced food? I have a veggie-garden at my place. One can always use window sills, balconies or even set up community gardens to grow food. Some of these actions surely require government support and community awareness.

As we follow the plan of a zero-waste lifestyle, we begin understanding the value of everything around us. We start realising the importance of-water, energy, soil, food, trees etc.-something that most poor families are still struggling for. We begin respecting the value of billions and trillions of plants, animals, monerans, protists and fungal lives thriving with us. We begin understanding the value of the Mother, that's when we begin unlocking the 'ProPlanetPeople' Perspective.



# BOOK REVIEWS

"October is crisp days and cool nights, a time to curl up around the dancing flames and sink into a good book." -John Nior

## *Sita- The Warrior of Mithila*

*'Om Namah Shivay'*

*"The universe bows to Lord Shiva. I bow to Lord Shiva."*

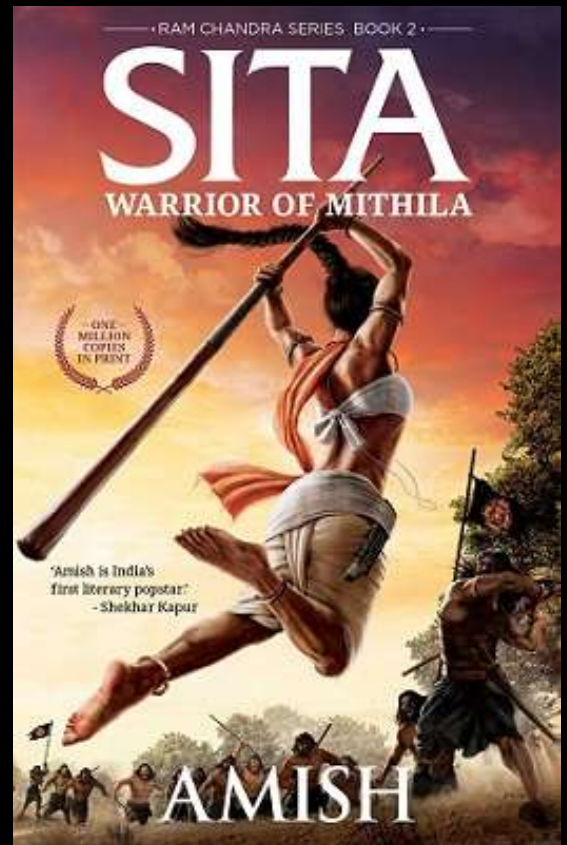
This book had a revolutionary impact on me, someone tuned in mythology. Not only did we see Sita in a completely new form, but the author also dispels the myths about the real Ramayana that had been instilled in us by our patriarchal culture, since ages.

I would advise the readers not to compare the book to the revered holy Hindu scriptures before giving it a read. This book is a creative work, combining a made-up story and actual characters from mythologies.

I experienced chills while reading the first chapter, which kept me glued to the book. Amish's writing is certainly powerful. I was strongly held throughout the book by his excellent writing.

Sunaina, Sita's mother, once visited her daughter at her gurukul. I was moved by their discourse. I could feel their connection and their abundant affection for one another. In the latter hours of her mother's life, she preached to Sita about the importance of 'life lessons'.

Sita's tale is one of bravery and empowerment. You will be left amazed as you go through Sita's life events in the book, right from birth to her emergence as the Mithila's warrior. If you enjoy reading fiction mythology, this is surely a must read. Every chapter offers something fresh, yet sparkling thoughts. I really wish to read his upcoming books soon.



*"Don't be afraid of the dark, my child. Light has a source. It can be snuffed out. But darkness has no source. It just exists. This darkness is a path to that, which has no source: God."*

~ Sunaina (Sita: Warrior of Mithila)

Publisher- Westland Press

Cover- Paperback

Pages- 333

-Jigyasa Kukreti

Class IX-A





# Ram- Scion of Ikshvaku

*'Om Namah Shivay'*

*"The universe bows to Lord Shiva. I bow to Lord Shiva."*

Initially, I hesitated to begin this book, as I've heard, read, and even watched many different renditions of the Ramayana. On our school librarian, Ms. Anusuya Gausain's advice, I read it and surely, it did not let me down. Unexpectedly, it proved to be a new read. Amish stayed up to his reputation for providing realistic rendition of mythology that removed all elements of fiction.

I finished the book with an impression that Amish attempted to draw parallels between the current Indian society and its flaws with that of the time. The concept of 'Feminine' and 'Masculine' societies was intriguing to read. In the next books, I wish to see his approach, and his ways of addressing issues mentioned in this book.

The 'Rama in Ramayana' was an interesting contrast to the persona of Rama in this book. In contrast to the typical plot, I appreciate how the author developed Rama's character, showing how he went from being seen as a bad luck charm to someone who gained respect and affection of his father and the people through his deeds.

I particularly appreciate how Sita was shown as a formidable female figure with skills that aren't usually included in other Ramayana versions. Overall, I find the book to be light and quick to read.

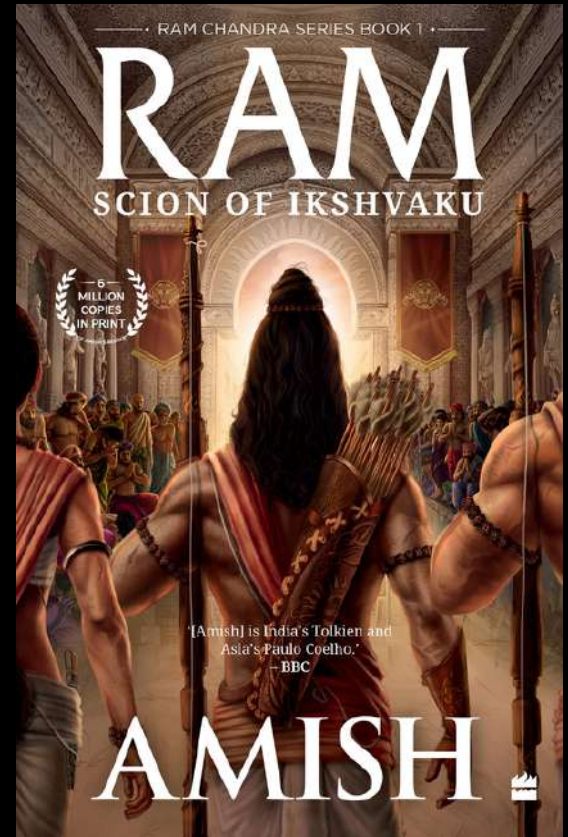
*"If He is my God, if He picks my side over someone else's, He is not the One God. The only true One God is the one who picks no sides, who belongs to everything, who doesn't demand loyalty or fear; in fact, who doesn't demand anything at all. Because the Ekam just exists; and His existence allows for the existence of all else."*

~ Ram - Scion of Ikshvaku

Publisher- HarperCollins Publishers India

Cover- Softbound

Pages- 500



-Jigyasa Kukreti  
Class IX-A



# *Somebody Like You*

*-Nikita Singh & Durjoy Dutta*

'Someone Like You' is a fiction, romance novel penned by Nikita Singh and Durjoy Dutta, a duo that is particularly popular for writing books of this genre. The story revolves around the life of an 18 year old girl, Niharika, who leaves her hometown, Jaipur, for the first time to attend her first year of college. The book portrays the challenging situations faced by a young adult in a world, where one must always expect the unexpected.

Unlike what one must presume, the story isn't completely romance-centralised. There is no denying that the main conflict for Niharika is concerning her love life. However, the writers have very sensibly shown how relationships are not a piece of cake, and have thus added the problems and consequences that arrive along with meeting new people.

Friendship is also a major concept that is glorified throughout the story and how one's company can influence others in drastic ways. Overall, the main

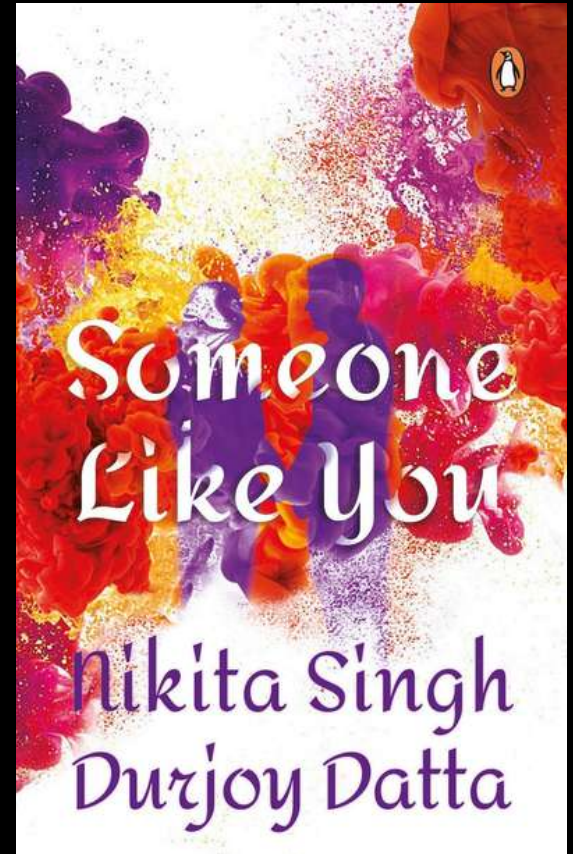
message delivered by the story is how one must be careful with new people and be strong headed. Changing your morals can never be favourable and will certainly lead to your, as well as your loved ones', downfall.

'Someone Like You' is a thought provoking story, particularly aiming at the age group of 14 years and above as this is the time when one starts to develop the ability to have their own opinion and become independent slowly. One must keep in mind while reading the book that though the events are entirely fictional, they do have a lesson to deliver which, if understood well, can actually be an important factor and play a role in the future decisions that one shall make.

Publisher- Penguin Metro Reads, 2012

Cover- Softbound

Pages- 260



-Enaya Tariq

Class X-B





# Inter-House Creative Writing Competition

By Deepsimar Kaur (VIII-A)

**“You can always edit a bad page. You can’t edit a blank page.”**–Jodi Picoult.

Expressions in Ink, an Inter-House Creative Writing Competition was held on the 7th of October for Satva (Classes VI-VIII) and Ekya (Classes IX-XII). The competition took place in the Examination Hall-2 where the participants unleashed their flair of writing and ingenious thinking. The competition consisted of three categories: Level 1 (Classes VI- VIII), Level 2 (Classes IX- X) and Level 3 (Classes XI- XII). Each participant from each level evinced their zeal and vehemence towards writing, on paper, remarkably. It was an opportunity for all the participants to draft their imaginative thoughts and compose phenomenal essays, poems and stories. The competitors enjoyed the serene atmosphere, perfect for penning down one’s emotions. We, the participants, also challenged our fascinating imaginative brains for the topics given on the spot. The topics given were as follows:

Level 1 (Classes VI-VIII): 'Dancing to Music', with a word limit of 300- 350 words

Level 2 (Classes IX- X): 'Life is what you make of it', with a word limit of 350-400 words

Level 3 (Classes XI- XII): 'A Journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step', with a word limit of 450-500 words

The initial half hour was given to each and every one for preparation where one was expected to jot down notes on a rough sheet. After the planning session, an hour was given to pen down the essay, story or poem on the final sheet. This one and a half hour was well spent with tranquillity and peace. After the competition was over, all the participants left with curiosity, eager to know the winners and the whole floor was filled with mutters and whispers. The event was an incredible window for the participants to show their potential in creative writing. The aura of the hall was filled with inspiration, tranquillity, curiosity and of course fantasies! Overall, the competition was a success and managed to inspire the writers of The OASIS in the best way possible.

The results were as follows:

Level 1:

1st position- Deepsimar Kaur from Prasatti House

2nd position- Mouli Panwar from Vinaya House

3rd position- Harshada Singh from Mahit House

Level 2:

1st position- Yashasvi Kandwal from Vinaya House

2nd position- Gauri Juyal from Daivik House

3rd position- Deepjyoti Negi from Mahit House

Level 3:

1st position- Riddhima Sharma from Mahit House

2nd position- Anshulika Gupta from Vinaya House

3rd position- Shivi Juyal from Daivik House





# Inter- House Creative Writing Competition

*Submissions by the winners*

## My Autumn Abode

By **Yashasvi Kandwal (X-B)**

I remember it all well and clear,  
 Amongst those dandelions, I'd stood with cheer;  
 In hushed silence the surroundings sprang,  
 I saw a hare as it swiftly ran,  
 Into the dense grass, past the riverine;  
 The rays shone through me, it was around nine,  
 When Beth called upon the cattle,  
 The field's silence broke with a rattle;  
 But I laid there still, wandering through my mind,  
 "Why get up from this beauty?" - No reason I could find;  
 The maple leaves had covered our tiny hutch,  
 I could clearly see it calling me for lunch;  
 But I stayed with the dandelions, like I should,  
 If I were there now, that's everything I would;  
 Amy ran up to me with a pretty garland,  
 With myriad of blossoms in her tiny read hand,  
 Placing it above my head, she ran away,  
 To Laurie who had returned from the bay;  
 But I didn't care; for this season is my soul,  
 'Tis the field of dandelions where I'd hop and roll;  
 I'd make it my forever sweet abode,  
 With orange-red leaves adorning the road;  
 All my life I'd stay up there,  
 And fill my heart with jolly when Autumn's near,  
 Knocking on tree branches and brightening the town;  
 In nature's present I'd love to drown,  
 Again like I did my entire life,  
 Making most of it when leaves play the fife;  
 Mum called me through thin air,

The flowers gave me a sad stare;  
 The grass stopped heaving side to side,  
 I had to rush back home, so I'd lied,  
 That I'd again relish its pleasant surprise,  
 Which it saves with the cunning disguise;  
 I wanted to stay in my temporary place,  
 But had to move away with the gloomy face;  
 I'd enjoyed most of my life staying in that field,  
 In between the scenery, there's so much to yield;  
 'Cause life is what you make of it, you know,  
 So I love to reminisce that season when I'm low.





# The Struggling Passion of Alex Walter

*By Deepsimar Kaur (VIII)*

This is the story of Alex Walter. A 20-year old man who just wanted to dance. A man who could see success in dance. But on the other hand were his parents who used to be filled with oppressiveness when it came to Alex's choice of career. An affable, passionate boy, who saw himself grooving to music and enjoying his movement of legs, in his dreams tried to convince his harsh, old-minded parents. But did they agree?

Alex Walter has been a talented dancer since he was four. He was coached and inspired by his amiable aunt, who certainly did not have good relations with the family at all. Alex had a great reverence for his aunt who always believed and had faith in him. On the other hand, were Alex's cruel and narrow-minded parents who believed in the theory: "MEN DON'T DANCE!" Alex was least bothered by their thoughts. Alex found music everywhere. From the mellifluous melody of the birds to the noisy yet airy fan in his room. And to music, he found the best possible dance steps. His dance was full of passion, hard-work, patience, and expectations. Every good adjective one could think of, was applicable to his dance.

One night, after returning from a party, Alex was sober yet intoxicated, which resulted in a dreadful accident. The next morning, Alex found himself in a hospital room, with a plastered leg, his parents and his aunt sitting on one side and a nurse was checking his blood pressure. Suddenly, he started crying loudly as if someone had stabbed him 20 times in his stomach. He started yelling at everybody and blamed everyone for his condition. Well, this yell was natural and it came from his heart. Although Alex recovered two months later, he still couldn't dance which upset him. He never gave up. Months later, when he started to dance, although his lacerated parts had not recovered, he signed up for New York Dance Academy. He did not let this news reach his parents so he ran away and studied dancing for three years. Considering his struggle and passion, he got recognised by famous singers and his talent surfaced in official music videos. Alex grew in fame and prosperity and was renowned for his 'The Walter Dance'.

After some time, Alex visited his parents in Germany. He was shocked to see his parents experiencing old age with dull grey hair and wrinkled faces. At first his parents did not recognise him but when he greeted them and recounted his rise to stardom then his parents were filled with pride. They were overwhelmed with joy. Along with that, they also felt remorseful for not supporting their passionate son's dream. Alex then opened a dance academy for all poor children in Germany naming it after his inspiring aunt.

Alex has inspired the youth of the whole world and changed people's perceptions towards dance. Parents who believed that a child's dream is a parent's dream have changed their perspectives due to the struggles and motivation of Alex. This was the story of a passionate dancer who achieved his goals. This is the story of Alex Walter.

Dreams do come true.





# Healing

By *Riddhima Sharma (XII- A)*

“A Journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step,”  
The professor said while I focused on my book instead.  
To say the least, I was triggered by his words.  
How can he assume that I have the energy to work?

Being miserable and alone has been my life,  
Since I was no more than nine.  
People call me a pessimist,  
But little do they know that I have the life's gist.  
Life is a scam! Life is a lie!  
Nothing but misery showers from the sky.

Throughout my life, love I was denied.  
No one was bothered when I cried.  
Every day I was dying bit by bit.  
No one even considered that I was a kid!

I looked up to find my professor staring,  
Straight at me with a gaze that was...caring?  
I looked down again to hide,  
The tears that threatened to flood my eyes.

He approached me with a warm smile,  
While I pretended to look at my file.  
“Are you okay?” he gently asked,  
And I started nodding my head really fast.  
Suddenly wanting him to go away,  
And take back his so called ‘happy ray’.

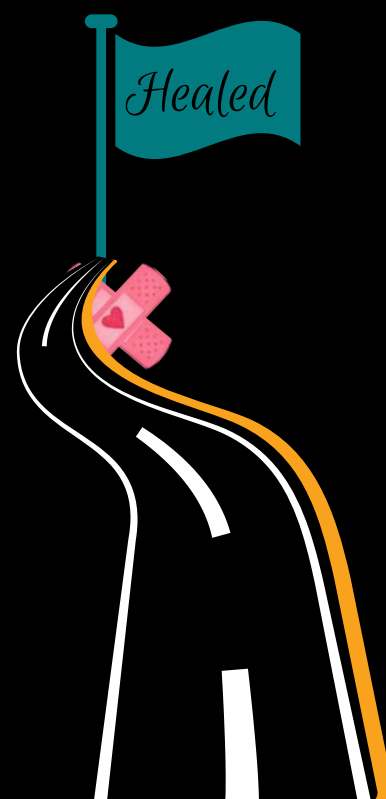
He sat next to me and looked at my face,  
While a sharp eyebrow he raised.  
The clock ticked by as I poured my heart,  
Telling him about all my scars.  
I told him about how my friend died,  
And how I wished it was me instead.

He heard my cries, he heard my sobs,  
While my face was drenched with teardrops.  
I told him how I was bullied,  
Back in ninth grade for being too thin.

Since that day we talked every day,  
While he made sure to always stay.  
He told me that I had a long way to go,  
But I will heal that's for sure.

It is now twenty-twenty nine,  
And I absolutely love my life.  
Yes I still sometimes cry,  
But then I thank the heaven anigh,  
For giving me the opportunity to be alive,  
and making love in this world always strive.

My journey of healing was indeed of a thousand miles,  
But during it I chose to be kind.  
Talking to someone was my first steps,  
As I refused to keep it all inside instead.  
I urge you to use me as an example and take this step as-  
‘A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step’ my professor once said.





# UDAAN- IDEAS THAT FLY *Satva*

## The Doon Girls' Wildlife Exhibition on World Tiger Day

By *Aveer Prakash (VIII-C)*

On 29th July 2022, The OASIS was invited to witness a wildlife exhibition hosted by The Doon Girls School. This exhibition was possible only due to the collaboration of the school and the Wildlife Exhibition of India. 18 students from Class VIII C along with Mr. Pranav Vashist were asked to attend the prestigious function. Along with The OASIS other schools like Vantage Hall Girls' Residential School , Bajaj Institute of Learning ( Right to education for the Deaf) were present.

On arrival the students were greeted by the caring staff of the school. After a few administrative formalities, the students were shown around the tiger picture exhibition. The exhibition was very informative and made the students well-versed with a few fundamental facts about tigers.

Post the exhibition the students were seated to watch a brief conversation between the students, two environmentalists and the Chief conservator of forests Mr. Vinod Sharma who also later inaugurated the exhibition. The discussion helped the students broaden their horizon about environmental conservation and gave them a more vivid perspective of the topic. After the conversation, the students and the guests of honour had a short question answer session. This allowed the students to clarify a few doubts they had in their mind. The talking session was followed by refreshments provided by the school. Post snacks, departure was scheduled and after a few formalities, the students took their leave.

A vast topic like the environment was covered in a nutshell quite professionally. We the students from Class VIII-C extend our heartfelt gratitude to the administration of The Doon Girls' School for giving us an amazing opportunity to attend such a prestigious event.







# Festivals

By Manvi Rawat (VII-C)

Having a break from our work,  
to enjoy the glorified classical days,  
making bright memories,  
is what we call a festival.



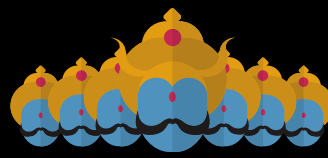
Wearing the heartening attire,  
lightning the soulful diyas,  
making the house shine as bright as the sun,  
is what we call a festival.

Gathering with our loved ones,  
dancing and singing merrily,  
eating delicious deserts,  
is what we call a festival.



Visiting the orphanage,  
sharing our love with them,  
making them a part of our family,  
is what we call a festival.





# PRIME-O-GRAM

Ankuram

## Autumn Rustle, Year 2022- Ankuram

By Piu Rautela Das (VI-A)

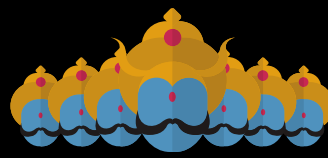
An aura of festivity, joy and happiness surrounds The OASIS as they celebrate their 5th Founders Day, also known as Autumn Rustle on 21st October, 2022.

The Master of Ceremony, Aadvika and Ian Y. Phuntsog welcomed all the dignitaries, esteemed parents to witness the events lined up for the evening. Swasti Garg and Aanandita Singh presented the Ankuram School Report stating and appreciating the participation of students in Inter and Intra school events in the year gone by. The Head Primary School, Mrs Pallavi Jha addressed the audience, proudly announcing the achievements of Ankuram. The theme of this year's Autumn Rustle was 'History' The cultural programme began with Saraswati Vandana followed by Malhar, the Indian music choir. Little ones from Aster and Acacia presented an action song, History is fun. The action song, 'Caravels of Columbus' was presented by children of Class II. The students from Classes III, IV and V enacted Nriya Natika- 'Sinhasan Battisi', which was followed by the performance of students from Classes III, IV and V on the song 'Vritaant'. The song threw light on the history of India. These were the main attractions of the Autumn Rustle.

Every journey has its end and every path does stop somewhere. The programme ended with a round of applause from the audience showing their appreciation for the evening's programme.







# Buzz and Banter

By Piu Rautela Das (VI-A)

What is this buzz?  
 Too much hustle, bustle,  
 Are these noises in my mind,  
 Or the Autumn Rustle?  
 Or is it the sound of conch,  
 from the numerous pandals,  
 Or the music of dandiya,  
 To which we all dance?  
 Maybe it's the crackers sparkling,  
 Maybe it's the diyas lighting?  
 Or maybe few friends laughing,  
 'Cause all the festivals are shining.  
 Each festival has its meaning,  
 That we should try to know.  
 It will make our hearts happy,  
 And our culture will glow.







# BLOOMS OF THE MONTH

By Shivi Juyal (XI-A)

*The 'October' Flowers*



**Botanical name:** *Nyctanthes arbor-tristis* Linn.

**Common Name:** Parijatha (Telugu/Kannada), Harshringhar (Bengali, Hindi and Sanskrit), Jayaparvati (Gujarati), Night Jasmine, Tree of sadness,

**Flowering seasons:** October to December

**Native:** South Asia (India, Sri Lanka, Bhutan etc.) and South East Asia.

You must have already recognized this pretty flower, if you have seen the movie 'October'.

The generic name 'Nyctanthes' has been derived from two Greek words 'Nykhta' (night), and 'Anthos' (flower). This ornamental flower is well recognized for its beauty and fragrance across several ethnicities.

## Ethnobotany:

Night Jasmine is the state flower of West Bengal and Kanchanaburi district in Thailand. Famously called the 'Tree of Sorrow', the flowers emit strong and distinct fragrance during the night and fall by the daybreak, making the tree look dull and flowerless. In states like West Bengal and Tripura (Borok culture) these flowers are especially used as the garland for the dead, as the flowers of Night Jasmine symbolise the cycle of birth and death.

The flowers also find mention in the ancient Vedic literature as they are considered 'ornaments of the God'. Several interesting mythological stories can be found on them, ranging from its connection to battles, forlorn love to justice. One of them suggests the Harshringhar tree originating from Samudra Manthan with five other trees. Lord Indra was urged to possess the tree due to its connections with *Kalpavriksha*. This led to a battle between him and Lord Krishna. Further on, Satyabhama (Indra's wife) demanded the plant be placed in her palace backyard. Surprisingly, everytime the flowers used to fall early in the morning and even after having the tree placed in her backyard, they used to fall in the adjacent backyard, which belonged to Rukmini (Krishna's chief wife).

The story also finds its connection as to why it is Goddess Lakshmi's favourite flower.

## Pharmacognosy:

As per the *Indian Journal of Traditional Knowledge* (Vol 11(3), July 22, 2012), the extracts obtained from the parts of Harshringhar tree have been used in traditional medicine since time immemorial. It possesses countless benefits, right from the top of the bud to the tip of its roots. In short, the leaf of the tree is used to treat spleen enlargement, serves as laxative, anecdotes for reptile venoms and a lot more. The tree bark is said to be useful in relieving rheumatic joint pain, treating malaria and work as an expectorant (medicines that promotes the secretion of sputum to clean the air passage) to treat cough. Flowers majorly find their use in essential oils and fragrance industries. Seeds and roots are helpful in treating fungal skin infections, dry cough, and snakebite anecdotes.

The above mentioned benefits are just a few of them, however several trusted websites, research study and journal articles express a plethora of information about the Pharmacognosy of this miraculous tree.



# OCTOBER IN PIXELS

## *The OASIS Investiture Ceremony*



School Captain- Riddhima Sharma  
 School Vice-captain- Anshulika Gupta  
 Head Girl- Tarana Kapur  
 Head Boy- Arnav Maitreya  
 Sports Captain- Jeeya Arora  
 Cultural Captain- Aarini Mehta  
 Music Captain - Sarthak Aggarwal  
 Dance Captain- Akansha Mamgain

Daivik House:  
 Captain- Shivi Juyal  
 Vice- captain- Rudraksh Agarwal

Vinaya House:  
 Captain- Arnav Tomar  
 Vice- captain- Vanya Gupta

Mahit House:  
 Captain- Mayuri Rawat  
 Vice- captain - Aditi Panwar

Prasatti House:  
 Captain- Atharva Kamboj  
 Vice- captain- Urvi Periwat

Athletics Captain- Aashima Jain  
 Badminton Captain- Atharva Kamboj  
 Swimming Captain- Manvi Gokhale  
 Basketball Captain- Arnav Maitreya  
 Soccer Captain- Arnav Tomar

Activity Prefects:  
 Book Club- Atharva Kamboj  
 Music- Zainab Fatima Ali, Udaiveer Gera  
 Publications- Tarana Kapur  
 Model United Nations- Anshulika Gupta  
 Visual Arts- Vanya Gupta  
 Science Buddies- Sparsh Kanodia  
 Psychedelic - Aarzu Farooqui

Event Management:  
 Head Event Management-Netra Chawla  
 Hargun Singh Manchanda  
 Nidhi Bhatt  
 Harshpreet Singh  
 Harshit Singh  
 Anukriti Massey  
 Vanshika Singh

## *Military History Seminar*



## *Inter-House Slice & Dice Competition*



## CREDITS

*The OASIS Editorial Team*

### Executive Editor:

Tarana Kapur (Class XI)

### Managing Editors:

Anshulika Gupta (Class XI)

### Design Editors:

Riddhima Sharma (Class XII)

Vanshika Rawat (Class X)

Yashasvi Kandwal (Class X)

Arnav Maitreya (Class XI)

### Commissioning Editors:

Enaya Tariq (Class X)

Shivi Juyal (Class XI)

Jeeya Arora (Class XII)

### Photographers:

Ashmit Singh (Class VIII)

Aditya Khanduri (Class VIII)

Tanuj Khattar (Class VIII)

### Teachers In-Charge:

Mr. Pranava Vashist

Ms. Madhuri Sharma

Ms. Kriti Bhanot

Ms. Akanksha Vasudev

Ms. Sheetal Sharma

Ms. Meeta D Garg