

THE PULSE

"It is the link from the present to the past that gives us the spirit to address the future"



IN THIS ISSUE

- KALEIDOSCOPE
- UDAAN-IDEAS THAT FLY
- PRIME-O-GRAM
- पुराव्रत्त
- PICTURE GALLERY

MONTHLY RECAP

- 21st June - International Yoga Day Celebrations
- 12th - 13th July - Inter House Yoga Championship (VI-VIII)
- 13th July - Inter House Elocution (VI-VIII)
- 14th July - Show and Tell Activity (I-III)
- 14th July - Social Science Day-Panorama (VI-VIII)
- 19th-24th July - Inter House Soccer Tournament (IV-V)
- 21st July - Inter House Spell it Right (IV-V)
- 22nd July - PEP for Parents of class VIII-IX
- 25th July -Open World Cafe (IX-XII)
- 26th July - Inter House Math PI-Rates (VI-VIII)
- 28th-29th July - Inter School MUN (VIII-XII)
- 29th July - PEP for Parents of class III
- 31st July - Art Workshop-Coiling Process (IX-XII)



FROM THE EDITORS DESK...



-By Tarana Kapur

Executive Editor

XII

As July settles in, the sleepy town of Dehradun, nestled cozily in its valley, is overcome by monsoon. While the cliché activity to indulge in on a rainy day is snuggling up with a book, I feel a great sense of nostalgia this month. This year, being my last at school, has left me reflecting on the past and how it has played an exceedingly vital role in who I am today.

In a world consumed by the rapid whirlwind of progress and innovation, it becomes all too easy for us to lose sight of the threads that tether us to our ancestral narratives. The human saga, ever unfolding, is an intricately woven tapestry of triumphs and tribulations, narrated by the generations that have come before us. These links to the past are not mere relics; they are the very strands that weave the fabric of our identity, and we must endeavour to hold them in our hands and hearts as we navigate the winds of change.

The present, however all-encompassing, is inextricably intertwined with the past. Our societies, institutions, and cultures bear the indelible imprints of history's ink. To disregard the wisdom of our predecessors is to naively assume that we can traverse uncharted waters without the guidance of those who have sailed these seas before. As we stand at the crossroads of progress, it is vital that we look to history not as a stagnant pool, but as a river of knowledge that flows ceaselessly, nourishing our collective intellect.

Consider the annals of Indian history, where empires rose and fell, philosophies blossomed, and cultures converged. To ignore this rich tapestry of narratives is to squander a wealth of insights. The Vedas, Upanishads, and the teachings of luminaries like Chanakya provide us with a compass to navigate the complexities of governance and ethics. Our links to the past are not mere spectres; they are guiding lights illuminating our path to a more just and equitable society.

In architecture and artistry, our links to the past are etched in stone and canvas. The elegant grandeur of the Taj Mahal and the intricate temples of Khajuraho remind us of the impeccable craftsmanship of our forebearers. These edifices are not mere historical artifacts; they are the architectural epistles that articulate the aspirations and aesthetics of our ancestors. They beseech us to cherish our cultural heritage and preserve it for posterity.

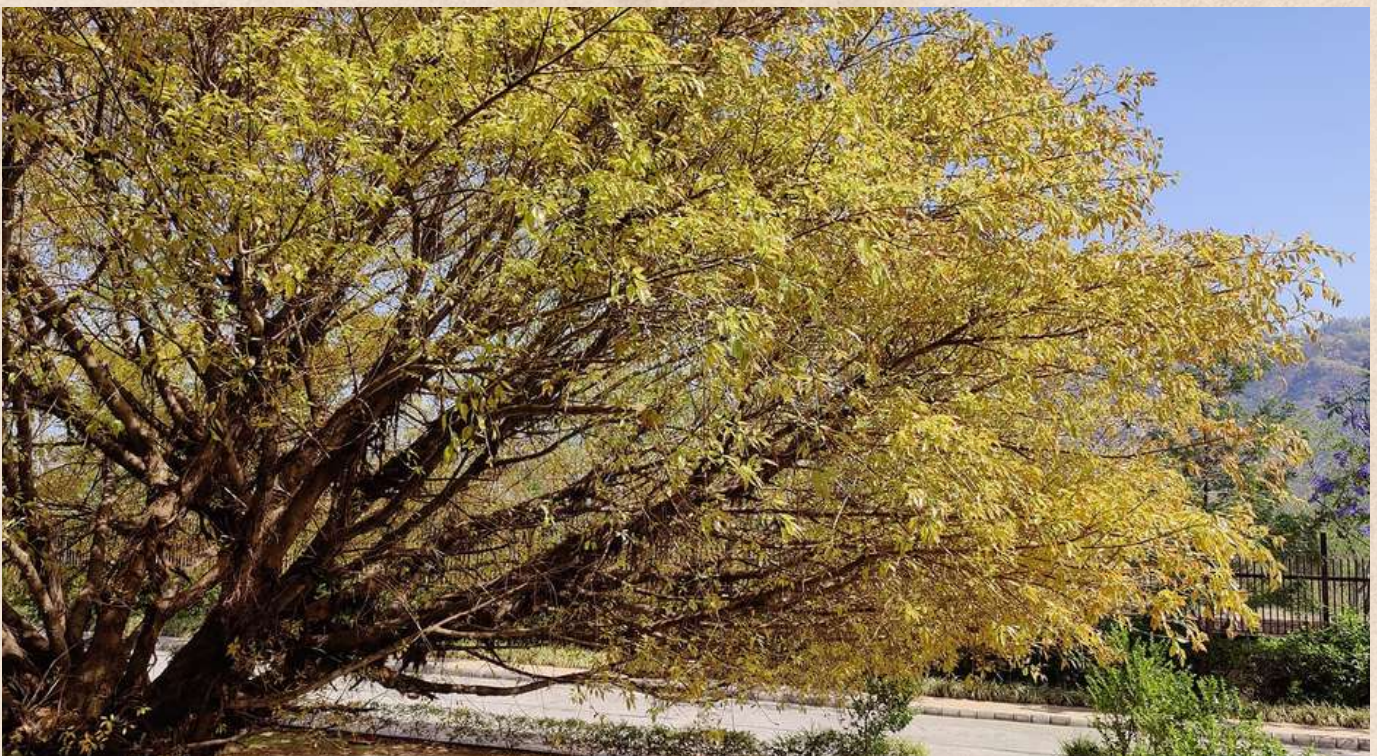
Music, too, is a vessel that carries the echoes of bygone eras. The melodies and rhythms that have transcended time encapsulate the myriad emotions of the human experience. From the evocative strains of classical ragas to the exuberance of folk tunes, our musical heritage is a portal that transports us through time and connects us to the hearts of those who once danced to these tunes under the same moonlit skies.

Nevertheless, we must exercise caution against the trap of nostalgia. The allure of the past can be blinding, leading us to romanticize eras that were not without their own complexities. Our links to the past must serve as beacons of inspiration, guiding our strides forward, rather than as shackles that prevent us from evolving. Striking this balance requires a nuanced understanding of history, one that acknowledges the sins of the past while celebrating its triumphs. As we forge ahead into an uncertain future, let us not sever the threads that tie us to the past. Let us recognize that our history is not a linear narrative, but a mosaic of perspectives and experiences.

Embracing our links to the past does not mean clinging to tradition blindly; it means drawing from the wisdom of yesterday to shape a more enlightened tomorrow.

Our links to the past are not chains that bind us; they are bridges that allow us to traverse the waters of time and space, uniting generations in a common quest for meaning and purpose.

With this, happy reading to all!



KALIEDOSCOPE

Ekya

THE DA VINCI CODE BY DAN BROWN

-By Jigyasa Kukreti

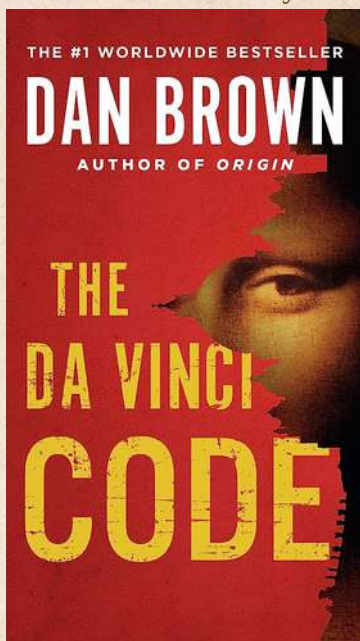
X A

The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown, which is regarded as one of the most controversial books of all time for the ideas it advances, directly challenges the authority of the Vatican by disguising real events as clever fiction and telling an engaging, suspenseful, and thought-provoking story with an unforgettable cast of characters and events.

The Da Vinci Code by Dan Brown continues to enthrall readers two decades after it first stirred up controversy with its intricate plot full of beautiful subtleties and very intriguing hypotheses. The novel comes to life thanks to extensive research on subjects like the Templars, Leonardo Da Vinci, codes and ciphers, as well as the history of the Church. The plot is filled with so many twists that it keeps the readers on the edge of their seats.

Robert Langdon is summoned to the Louvre while in Paris to investigate the murder of the museum's curator. Authorities in France believe Langdon is the real murderer because of a mysterious code found in the curator's blood. Langdon starts to understand the code left in the blood with the help of a cryptographer who is related to the curator and knows him personally, only to be sought out by the police as the main suspect in the murder. There are hints that lead to more intricate codes and ciphers as well as a highly disputed revelation that the Vatican wants to remain hidden. As an ultra-conservative Catholic cult, Opus Dei, sends one of its own to divulge the secrets and destroy Langdon in the process, to keep the Holy Grail hidden.

The reader is forced to discover about the secret society that Da Vinci, Sir Issac Newton and other great personalities belonged to as the novel progresses, and how they utilised their work to convey important Christian doctrines that the early Church attempted to suppress.



As with the previous book in the Robert Langdon trilogy, Dan Brown's masterful ability to conflate the actual world with fiction astounds me no end. No reader who takes the time to study Brown's account and tries to understand the subtleties of what is factual (as well as fictitious) will come away empty-handed. Reading with an open mind can lead down many different points and make the reader wonder why they never connected the dots earlier. A must-read for fans of sizzling fiction with just the right amount of critique of the sacred.

THEORY OF EVOLUTION BEFORE DARWIN

-By Jigyasa Kukreti

X A

Charles Darwin was a British biologist who introduced the idea of natural selection in biological evolution. Darwin referred to evolution as "descent with modification," which refers to the theory that species change through time, give rise to new species, and share a common origin.

Darwin's theory is based on genetic variations that occurred randomly, with the more favourable ones being naturally retained. The theory essentially holds that life originated in the sea. A long but continuous evolution of amphibians that could live on land and in water led to a complicated evolution of mammals. Eventually, ape species that walked on two legs rather than four developed, giving rise to the human race.

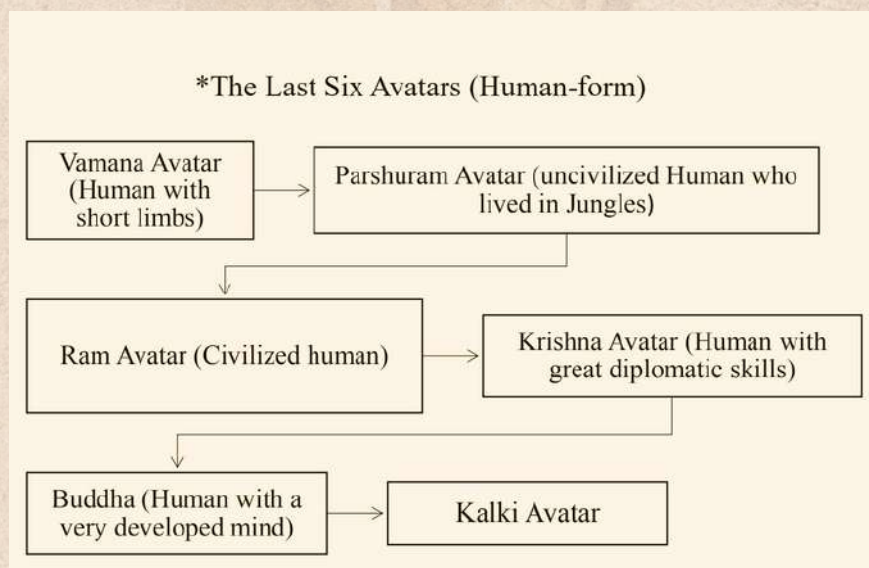
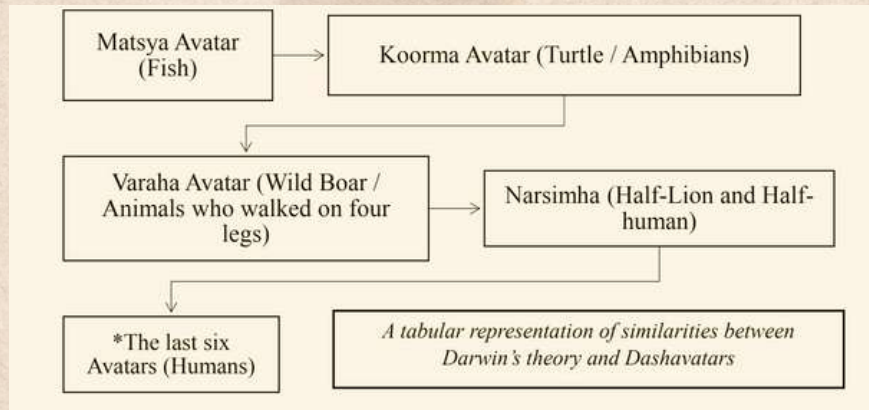
What if I told you that Darwin was neither the founder nor the sole proponent of this theory? In fact, this belief has been around for more than a thousand years in India. The usage of symbolism in India obscures its scientific worth and gives it greater religious value, but its importance in the modern world cannot be denied.

Hinduism revolves around the Holy Trinity, which includes Lord Brahma, Lord Vishnu, and Lord Shiva. They are the creator, preserver, and destroyer respectively, and are considered to be the most powerful of all. In Hindu mythology, Gods have appeared in various forms and have come to Earth to banish evil and establish universal harmony. The ten such main manifestations of Lord Vishnu that came to Earth during each of the four Yugas are known as the Dashavatars.

This so called "mythological concept" serves as the foundation for one of the most important scientific hypotheses, "The Theory of Evolution." I already provided a very condensed version of the theory of evolution, and now I'll highlight the parallels between the two concepts.

According to Darwin's theory, the initial form of life was a fish, or Matsya, which was the first avatar. Following this was the Koorma avatar, an amphibious turtle that, according to Darwin, represented the next stage of life. The Varaha, or boar avatar gradually evolved from amphibians into beings that can live on Earth and have four legs. Following them, a hybrid life form similar to Narsimha's avatar that was half human and half animal, existed on this planet. Following the course of Evolution, the Narsimha avatar was succeeded by the Vaman avatar, who was short in stature and walked on two legs. The following avatar was Parshuram, a physically healthy man who could stand on two legs but had limited intelligence and manners because he lived in the woods.

Ram, who was the epitome of perfection, appeared next. He was a fully formed, law-abiding human being with a hint of innocence. Krishna, a man with virtually infinite knowledge and a penchant for notoriousness, came after this period. Following that, an avatar famed for his profound teachings, Buddha, appeared. He was an intelligent, at peace individual who displayed the highest level of development. The last level of evolution will be demonstrated by the birth of Kalki avatar, who will purge the cosmos of all evil entities.



Kalki Avatar is the one that is yet to appear on Earth and is expected to represent the last stage of Evolution of Humans after which, the earth will reform itself and the cycle will repeat. Dashavatar's theory, like many of our old beliefs, has a logic that has to be explored, but when people are unable to make the connections, they assume it to be a mythological idea. We, as Indians, should be proud that our country was far ahead of the whole world and was advanced in many possible ways. We need to start exploring our own past and start knowing our roots to be ahead of the world and to show the world our knowledge and strength.

INTER SCHOOL SCIENCE COMPETITION

-By Ayushi Chauhan

IX B

On July 28th, 2023, the Heritage School hosted an Inter-School Science Competition in which The OASIS participated along with several other schools. The participating schools were asked to prepare two 3D working models which were to be presented on the day of the competition. There were four participants from each school who presented the projects. Our school showcased models based on concepts from biology and chemistry. The competition encouraged pupils to learn more about science-based concepts and helped them comprehend various branches of the subject.

Ayushi Chauhan and Gauri Juyal from classes IX and X created a model of a drip irrigation system, while Shivi Juyal and Mohd. Abban Bhat from classes XII and IX showcased a prokaryotic cell model.

The judges quizzed the competitors on their themes and what they had discovered while creating the models. All the students were given a chance of presenting their research. St. Joseph's Academy and New Doon Blossom School secured the first position. The Inter-School Science Competition turned out to be a rich learning experience for one and all.



OPEN WORLD CAFÉ

-By Jigyasa Kukreti

XA

“The aim of an argument or a discussion should not be victory but progress.”

~ Joseph Joubert

The OASIS hosted its first-ever Open World Café on the topic "Gender" on July 25th, 2023. Open World Café is a forum that allows us to express our ideas and opinions on certain issues and enables us to create solutions. World Café facilitation is a conversation-centred group engagement strategy. It acquired its name because it resembles a café scene with small groups (4 or 5 individuals) talking around tables.

As previously stated, our school's World Café focused on the theme of "Gender," where we addressed not just male or female genders, but also minorities that lack their rights. It was an efficient technique to convey our ideas on many topics such as "Pride Parade," "Women's Rights," "Stay-at-home Fathers," and so on. We were separated into groups and given a chart to record our opinions.

I was a member of one of the groups and represented it in the final discussion. We had meaningful thoughts sprouting up every second. It not only gave us a chance to gain knowledge about the challenges that others face, but it also prepared us for the realities of the outer world. I anticipate more discussions like these in the future since they raise awareness and prepare us for life after school.



TREE PLANTATION DRIVE

*-By Urvi Periwal
XII*

In an effort to combat climate change, promote environmental sustainability and to mark the Harela Festival, the students of The OASIS held a tree plantation drive on 22nd July near Rajeev Gandhi International Cricket Stadium, New Expressway, Raipur aiming to make a positive impact on the community and the planet.

A diverse range of around 25-30 tree saplings, mainly consisting of Pilkhan, Sheesham, Amaltas, Reetha, Kachnar, Gulmohar etc. were planted by the students of class X, XI and XII as a part of their SUPW activity and in association with the Earth Care society of the school. This was done to ensure a vibrant and thriving ecosystem.

Head Senior School, Mr. Raj Kumar Trehan and teachers also participated in the drive. The help extended by Deputy Ranger, Mr. B. D. Joshi was commendable.

Through this initiative, The OASIS is taking proactive measures to create a greener and healthier future for our community.



NEGOTIUM AGON' 2023

-By Arnav Maitreya

XII

On Saturday 22nd July 2023, students of our school participated in the Annual Inter School Business fest "Negotium Agon" at Wynberg Allen Mussoorie. This business fest was hosted with the purpose of providing budding entrepreneurs with a platform to share their creative and innovative ideas with other young business enthusiasts from all over the country.

This was a highly anticipated event with 42 Schools participating in the event from all across India. It was our pleasure to participate with renowned schools like The Scindia School, Gwalior, La Martiniere, Lucknow, Birla Open Mind, Srinagar, N.H Goel, Raipur and many more such schools.

The event was divided into four categories:

First was the Business Quiz in which Mayuri Rawat and I, Arnav Maitreya participated. I got special recognition in this Category.

The second category was Mascot Logo Designing and Tagline Making. Bhavishya Sharma of The OASIS bagged the 1st prize.

The third category was Vine Video wherein Udaiveer Gera and Aarav Malhotra participated. They both did a fantastic job, which could be made out of the audience feedback on their video.

Udaiveer and Aarav participated in the Auction Round as well and bid the team's products at a reasonable price.

The event rounded up with a Trade Fair for the Business Pitch where our team pitched the business proposal to the investors in which Mayuri Rawat and Aarav Malhotra were able to get an investment of 50,000 Excelcoins.

The event was a huge learning experience for me as well as my fellow teammates and I am truly grateful for this wonderful opportunity granted to us by our school.



THE OASIS INTER SCHOOL MUN

*-By Meeta Garg
Faculty English Department*

The OASIS MUN 2023 was a successful event that provided a platform for impactful and meaningful learning. With our theme of 'Bridging Divides in the Digital Age,' we created a simulation of committees, varying from the peace-keeping United Nations Security Council to the compelling United Nations General Assembly and to the specialized World Health Organization, where delegates meaningfully debated and reached well-crafted and thoughtful resolutions. As we look back at the conference, we believe that we gave our delegates an experience that transforms them into future leaders and change-makers.

We are heavily reliant on social media for most of our news without knowing how accurate it is. With an environment, where the lines between real and fake are getting blurred, we hope to emerge as a conference which sensitises its participants towards different perspectives, looks at issues of global, local and national importance through a kaleidoscope of possibilities, and encourages an environment of deliberation before the debate, understanding before assumption and presumption.

The Secretary-General of the MUN Society, Tarana Kapur declared the conference open on 28th July 2023. We had amongst us the Director and business world luminary, Mr. Raghav Oberai. His presence further enhanced the cerebral quotient of the intellectual assemblage.

In the very first edition of The OASIS MUN on campus, the school hosted several talented and passionate delegates from eight distinguished schools who left no stone unturned to put their opinions across the committees. The Executive Board's work in keeping the delegates engaged in a fruitful debate and stimulating conversation was commendable.

With more than 95 delegates from schools across Dehradun, The OASIS bagged the hotly contested, best school delegation however, being the host school we passed it on to Doon International School, City Campus.

While in IPC Best Delegate went to Aiyana Mondal and Mouli Panwar - The OASIS

High Commendation - Ananmaya Gera and Anant Dhiman - DIS riverside campus

Special Mention - Ishika Bajaj and Prasiddhi Panthi - Tonsbridge School

UNSC

Best Delegate - Antra Roy - DIS City Campus

High Commendation - Chavi Bhutada - Tula's International School

Special Mention - Pratika Patel - The OASIS

UNGA

Best Delegate - Berain Bhohra - DIS City Campus

High Commendation - Yash Jain - DIS City Campus

Special Mention - Arshiya Sandlas Chandna - The OASIS

WHO

Best Delegate - Deepsimar Kaur - The OASIS

High Commendation - Ayushi Tripathi - The OASIS

Special Mention - Ananya Singh - Tula's International School

The delegates of The OASIS performed exceedingly well and bagged several awards in this edition of The OASIS MUN.

It has been a great learning experience for everyone involved in the conference from conceptualizing the idea to the execution. It was rich in content and valuable in creating a better understanding of the issues discussed. The conference, without exaggeration, was a long-awaited event of the year. In order to make the awards transcend into incentives, Director, Mr. Raghav Oberai, Head Senior School, Mr. Raj Kumar Trehan, Head Junior School, Ms. Natascha Nandi Bathla, Head Primary School, Ms. Pallavi Jha were requested to do the honour of giving away the awards to the achievers. The conference ended on 29th July with a closing address by the Secretary-General, Tarana Kapur followed by a sprightly Western Music Performance with the accompaniment of the Tabla thus rendering a brilliant fusion ensemble.

The vote of thanks was given by Chef de Cabinet, Ms. Itee Sharma. This year's edition of The OASIS MUN was declared closed by the Secretary General of the MUN Society, Tarana Kapur.



UDAAN-IDEAS THAT FLY

Salva

INTER HOUSE ELOCUTION

*-By Aahana Kamboj
VII B*

On Thursday, July 13, an English Elocution Competition was held at The OASIS. This event helped children improve their pronunciation skills, boost their confidence, and encouraged them to work on their public speaking skills. The competition was an Inter-House Competition for classes VI to VIII, with two students representing each house. The children spoke beautifully on two burning topics- 'Changing the face of education' and 'Saving the earth'.

The Competition was held at the Theatre Studio, and students of class VII were lucky enough to witness it. The speeches given by the students did contain some strong points supporting their stance, so it was difficult for the judges to mark them. But of course, participation is always more important than the final result.

As you know, learning a big script and speaking it in public is not a piece of cake, so yes, some did fumble. However, seeing so many people come for the auditions and then perform on the stage turned out to be a delightful experience for everyone.



INTER HOUSE YOGA CHAMPIONSHIP

-By Shreya Saklani

VIII B

'Everything can be sadhana. The way you eat, the way you sit, the way you stand, the way you breathe, the way you conduct your body, mind, energies and emotions.'

- Sadhguru

The word “Sadhana” in Sanskrit means “an effort exercised towards the achievement of purpose”.

Referring to the above quote, The OASIS conducted an Inter-House Yoga Competition “Yogasaadhana”

(yoga practice), for boys and girls of classes VI to VIII on 13th July, 2023. The hosts of the event, Shreya Saklani and Yashvi Aggarwal announced the participants' houses with the category in which they were going to compete. The event was judged by Mr. Rajnikant, a yoga practitioner and a Sanskrit teacher in our school.

There were six participants from each house, and in total, twenty-four participants were selected for the competition. The participants displayed great energy, enthusiasm, strength, flexibility and grace in performing the ‘asanas’.

The competition was divided into two sections:

Stage I: Three students from each house participated in four different solo categories given to them.

i. Individual Artistic Posture

ii. Individual Athletic Posture

iii. Voluntary Posture

iv. Group Presentation & Demonstration

Each asana was evaluated based on: knowledge of the asana (name of the asana in Sanskrit), meaning and one benefit (physical & psychological), grace & presentation, endurance and stability and final posture.

Stage II: Each house had a team of three participants for the Group demonstration of Surya Namaskar of 24 steps completing the cycle with the right and left side of the body.

The performances witnessed during the event were praiseworthy. It was encouraging to see enthusiastic participants performing yogic asanas with grace and vitality. The students learning yogic science raised the bar and performed many difficult asanas with utmost ease, grace, and flexibility.

The students were very excited to perform the different ‘asanas’ such as Dhawazasana, Purna Chakrasana, Shirshasana with its advanced variation, Purna Bhujangasana, etc. The competition started with a Sanskrit yoga prayer by Agastya Bagga and Vedant Sharma and ended with the Head of Junior School, Mrs. Natascha Nandi Bathla congratulating and commending the participants for their efforts.

The results of the competition were as follows:

INDIVIDUAL ARTISTIC POSTURE CATEGORY

1st - Agrima Badooni class VIII A (Prasatti House) and Samara Phuntsog VII B (Mahit House).

2nd - Khushi Sajwan VII C (Daivik House)

3rd - Jahanvi Rana VII C (Vinaya House)

INDIVIDUAL ATHLETIC POSTURE CATEGORY

1st - Manvi Rawat VIII C (Mahit House), Atharv Singh Rajput VI C (Prasatti House)
and Uma Chenmo VII B (Daivik House)

2nd - Amartya Gupta VII B (Vinaya House)

VOLUNTARY POSTURE CATEGORY

1st - Aryan Topwal VI B (Daivik House) and Ira Joshi Chauhan VI C (Prasatti House)

2nd - Sanjali Mishra VII B (Mahit House) and Aarna Kaur VII B (Vinaya House)

GROUP PRESENTATION AND DEMONSTRATION (HOUSE TEAM)

1st - Daivik House (Unnati Kukreti, Nabeeha Khan and Abhay Raturi)

Mahit House (Akshit Bishnoi, Kamaira Rawat and Rudrakshi Dobhal)

Vinaya House (Vedant Sharma, Anushka Nautiyal and Aranya Kohli)

2nd - Prasatti House (Aarav Bisht, Radhika Goyal and Priyanshi Khanduri)



UTTARAKHAND-THE ABODE OF GOD

-By Ambika Balyan

VI B

Mountains, waterfalls, streams and jungles
Which place am I talking about, any guesses?
Home for some interesting tribes, like Tharus, Vanrawats and Jaunsaris
And blessed with Hindu pilgrimage of Kedar Badri, where
people flock in search of religious quest and mental peace.
A place that epitomizes natural beauty, and has famous
residents like Jim Corbett and Ruskin Bond
Yes, you are right, I am talking about our “DEVBHUMI”
(abode of God) named Uttarakhand.



MATH PIRATE COMPETITION REPORT

-By Ayan Kumar

VIII B

On July 26, 2023, an exhilarating and intellectually charged Math Pirate Competition was organised at The OASIS for classes VI to VIII. The Competition aimed at enhancing the mathematical prowess and teamwork of students from four different houses namely- Daivik, Vinaya, Prasatti, and Mahit.

The event was meticulously judged by Mr. Gaurav Kumar and Mr. Pradeep Dhasmana, and the proceedings were managed and timed by Mr. Mukesh Pundir. The quiz master of the event was Mr. Amit Tomar. The Head Junior School, Mrs. Natascha Nandi Bathla graced the event and motivated the participants with her distinguished presence.

The Math Pirate Competition was divided into three intense rounds, each designed to challenge the student's mathematical skills and strategic thinking.

Team Round 1: The competition kick-started with the Team Round, where all four houses participated. Students from each house collaborated to solve complex mathematical problems. The winner of this round was Prasatti House and they secured a direct path to the final round.

Team Round 2: In this round, the remaining three houses, Daivik, Vinaya, and Mahit, engaged in another rigorous team challenge. Unfortunately, Mahit House scored the lowest points and therefore faced elimination, leaving the top two scorers, Daivik House and Vinaya House, to advance to the final round.

Buzzer Round: The Buzzer Round added an element of excitement and speed to the competition. Teams were required to think on their feet and buzz in with the correct answers to earn points. This round tested not only their mathematical knowledge but also their quick reflexes and decision-making abilities. This round brought together the top three houses – Prasatti, Vinaya, and Daivik.

While the results were being calculated, the Head Junior School, Mrs Natascha Nandi Bathla inspired the students with her words of wisdom.

After fierce competition, Prasatti emerged as the winner, claiming the coveted first position. Vinaya secured a commendable Second position, while Daivik proudly took the third spot. The competition captivated the enthusiastic audience of class VI students, who witnessed the brilliant mathematical minds in action. The competition's setting in the theatre studio provided an ideal backdrop for the intense battle of intellect and strategies. The success of the Math Pirate Competition was made possible by the guidance of Mr. Amit Tomar and evaluations of the esteemed judges, Mr. Gaurav Kumar, and Mr. Pradeep Dhasmana. Mr. Mukesh Pundir, the timekeeper, ensured the smooth progression of the event.

The competition showcased the students' dedication, teamwork, and mathematical prowess, leaving an indelible mark on the participants and audience alike. The Math Pirate competition of 2023 will be remembered as an exhilarating celebration of mathematics and camaraderie.

PRIME-O-GRAM

Ankuram

INTER HOUSE SPELL IT RIGHT

-By -Aanandita Singh
Euphorbia

On 21st July 2023, The OASIS' English department, organised an Inter-House 'Spell It Right' Competition. It was held at the theatre studio at 2 p.m. The participants were as follows:

Class IV

1. Himansh Anand from Starling House
2. Vivaan Gupta from Cardinal House
3. Anaahat Kaur from Pelican House
4. Arshiya Dhiman from Oriole House

Class V

1. Adama Rao from Starling House
2. Tashi Sharma from Cardinal House
3. Medhansh Modi from Pelican House
4. Aarav Awasthi from Oriole House



The competition had 2 rounds. First was the visual round. A picture was shown on the screen which the participants had to identify and spell the word. Next was the rapid-fire round. The participants had to spell as many words as they could in a minute. They were able to identify and spell with ease.

At the end of the event, the Head Primary School, Mrs. Pallavi Jha, encouraged the participants with her inspiring words. It was motivating for the audience to see their classmates on stage as well as an inspiration to also take part in such events.



SHOW AND TELL CLASS II

*-By -Ruben Lama
Balsam*

The OASIS organised a 'Show and Tell' for the students of Class II. The students showed meaningful objects/pictures/ drawings based on their theme and spoke about it. Show and Tell develops public speaking skills and builds self-confidence. It was conducted on Thursday, 27th July, 2023 in the Theatre Studio and the compere of the event was Aira Dogra from Bluebell. The guest of honour was Head Primary School, Mrs. Pallavi Jha. The participants were Arjun, Avyan, Ibrahim, Aarav and Plaksha from Balsam; Arjun, Maulik, Saanvi, Kiiara and Jaivin from Bluebell and Mishka, Shivanshi, Arindam, Adwita and Ojas from Begonia. The theme was 'My favourite sports personality'. At the end of the show, Head Primary School, Mrs. Pallavi Jha encouraged the students with her positive words. The show was fun and we all enjoyed it a lot.



पुराव्रत्त

Hindi



दीपज्योति नेगी
कक्षा-II-११

१. तीन अक्षर का मेरा नाम, आदि कटे तो बने चार।
अतं कटे तो न मैं जानू, बोलो करो सोच-विचार।।
२. एक फूल यहां खिला, एक खिला कोलकाता,
अजब अजूबा हमने देखा, पत्ते के ऊपर पत्ता।।
३. हरी थी मन भरी थी, लाख मोती जड़ी थी।
राजाजी के बाग में दुशाला ओढ़े खड़ी थी।
४. हरे रंग की उसकी कारा, लाल मकान में काला।
शैतान समारा, गर्मी में आता, सर्दी में गाराब हो जाता।
५. ऐसा कौन सा फल है, जिसमें ना ही कोई बीज होता है
और न ही कोई छिलका।

पुष्पाङ्कुर 'कक्षा-II-११' 'राजाजी'

कारगिल के नायक

कारगिल युद्ध को २४ साल हो चुके हैं। वो युद्ध जिसमें हमने अपने ७३० सैनिकों को खोया था। १८ हजार फिट की ऊँचाई, माइनस १३ डिग्री की कड़कडाती ठंड, भयंकर गोलाबारी और हमारे वीर जवानों का दुश्मन से सामना। हमने कारगिल के बहुत से वीरों के बारे में सुना कैप्टन मनोज पांडे, कैप्टन विक्रम बत्रा, संजय कुमार और भी बहुत से अनसुने नायक जिन्होंने देश की आन-बान-शान के लिए अपने सर पर कफन बांधा। और यह हमारे लिए गर्व की बात है कि इन्हीं नायकों में से एक नायक हमारे बीच, हमारे विद्यालय में कार्यरत है, तो आइए जानते हैं उनके अनुभवों के बारे में जो उन्हें 'ऑपरेशन विजय' से मिले।

सबसे पहले तो आपका धन्यवाद, जो आपने अपना किमती समय हमारे लिए निकाला। आप अपना परिचय बताते हुए अपनी शिक्षा इत्यादि कि विषय में बताएं।

मेरा नाम 'वीरेंद्र नेगी' है। मैं बुरासी गांव, पौड़ी गढ़वाल का रहने वाला हूँ और वर्तमान समय में देहरादून में रहता हूँ। मैं भारतीय सेना से सेवानिवृत्त हूँ तथा वर्तमान में टी ओएसिस विद्यालय में कार्यरत हूँ। मेरी शिक्षा दीक्षा मेरे गांव से ही पूरी हुई।

भारतीय सेना को उत्तराखंड का हर जवान अपना सपना मानता है। आपको कब लगा कि भारतीय सेना ही आपका सपना है और इसे पूरा करने के लिए आपका प्रेरणाश्रोत क्या था?

ये बात वास्तव में सही है कि भारतीय सेना को उत्तराखंड का हर जवान अपना सपना मानता है। मेरा भी यही सपना रहा। सेना में अपनी सेवा देना मेरे खानदान की परंपरा सी बन गयी है। मेरे दादा जी, मेरे पिता जी सेना में थे। (हँसते हुए) और ये घुट्टी मुझे भी बचपन से पिलारी गयी थी कि भारतीय सेना में जाना हमारी परंपरा का ही एक अंग है। मेरे दादा जी ने प्रथम विश्व युद्ध में अपनी सेवाएं दीं मेरे पिता जी ने १९६२ व १९६७ के युद्ध में अपनी सेवाएं दीं। जब मैं छोटा था तब उनसे इन युद्धों की कहानियाँ सुनते-सुनते न जाने कब मेरा झुकाव भारतीय सेना की तरफ चला गया पता ही नहीं चला। तब मेरे लिए यह केवल एक सपना न रहकर मेरे जीवन का अंग बन गया। जब कभी मैं खेलते हुए दौड़ता, पहाड़ों पर चढ़ता तो ये महसूस करता कि मैं फौज में अपनी ट्रेनिंग को अंजाम दे रहा हूँ, तो बस यह अहसास ही मेरा प्रेरणाश्रोत बना।

आप अपनी भर्ती प्रक्रिया व अपनी रेजिमेंट के विषय में कुछ बताएं।

भर्ती प्रक्रिया तो सामान्य ही थी पर हाँ मैंने सन् १९९४ में अपनी कॉलेज की पढ़ाई को बीच में ही छोड़कर भारतीय सेना भर्ती हुआ था। मेरी रेजिमेंट का नाम 'गढ़वाल रायफल्स' था। और मेरी बटालियन का नाम '१७ गढ़वाल' था। हमारी रेजिमेंट के लिए कुछ भी नामूमकिन नहीं है मैंने भी खतरनाक से खतरनाक ऑपरेशन्स को अपनी बटालियन के साथ अंजाम दिया है जैसे 'ऑपरेशन रक्षाक', 'ऑपरेशन राखो', 'ऑपरेशन विजय' जिसे हम सब कारगिल युद्ध के नाम से भी जानते हैं।



कारगिल युद्ध का तो नाम सुनते ही रोंगटे खड़े हो जाते हैं। क्या आप हमें बताएंगे कि जब आपको ऑपरेशन विजय में जाने के बारे में पता चला तब आपने क्या महसूस किया? आपकी प्रतिक्रिया क्या था?

(गंभीर मुद्रा में कुछ सोचते हुए) तो एहसास वास्तव में बताया नहीं जा सकता। महसूस किया जा सकता है। हम उस समय लैसिडाउन में तैनात थे। ये स्थान शांतिपूर्ण है, पर उस समय किसी के भी मन में शांति नहीं थी। हम सुन रहे थे कि कारगिल की पहाड़ियों में कुछ लोग असलह बारूद के साथ घुस आये हैं और हमारी सेनाएं उन्हें खदेड़ने का काम कर रही हैं। पर जैसे ही हमने कैप्टन सौरभ कालिया साहब के बारे में सुना तो हम सबका खून खौल उठा। सब के मन में एक ही बात थी 'युद्धात् कृत निश्चय' (गढ़वाल रेजिमेंट का मोटो)। हमें आज भी याद है जैसे ही हमें ये खबर आयी की हमारी मूवमेंट अब कारगिल में हो गयी है। हम सब के अंदर एक अंगल सा उत्साह आ गया था कि अब दुश्मन को जवाब देने हमें उतारा गया है। पर साथ में एक इच्छा भी थी कि काश हम एक बार अपने परिवार को देख सकते। क्या पता ये मुलाकात हमारी आखरी मुलाकात हो। पर समय इसकी इजाजत नहीं देता था। हमने अपने मन में पत्थर रखा और कारगिल के लिए रवाना हो गये।

हमने कारगिल की लड़ाई के बारे में टीवी, फिल्मों में बहुत कुछ देखा और सुना है। क्या आप हमें कुछ ऐसा बताना चाहेंगे, जिसके बारे में हमें कुछ पता न हो और जो वास्तविकता से जुड़ा हो।

(चेहरे में हल्की मुस्कान के साथ) देखिए, फिल्में तो मसाला डाल कर बनाई जाती हैं। हमारे जवान बहादुरी से लड़े इसमें कोई शक नहीं पर जो हालात थे, वह बड़े डरावने थे। आप एक जगह ओट लेकर बैठे हैं दुश्मन आप पर निशाना लगाए तैयार बैठा है और उस ओट से बाहर आने का कोई समय नहीं था। दो घंटे या दो दिन। पीने को पानी नहीं, शुन्य तापमान शरीर तो क्या आत्मा तक को जमा देने वाला था।

शायद यह प्रश्न आपके लिए कष्टकारक हो पर मैं तब भी पूछना चाहूंगी कि क्या आपने अपने किसी साथी को ऑपरेशन विजय में खोया है?

कैप्टन जिन्दू गांगोई जी के नेतृत्व में २९ जून हमने काला पत्थर की चोटियों पर हमला किया था। जिसमें हमने कैप्टन गांगोई साहब को खो दिया। इसी पोस्ट पर मुझे और मेरे मित्र लाल को दुश्मन की पोस्ट पर छुप-छुप कर फायरिंग कर उन्हें एंजेज रखने का टारक मिला था। हम सब ठीक से कर रहे थे कि तभी दुश्मन की रगड़पर का अचुक निशाना लाल के दांरी छती पर लगा वह वहीं गिर पड़ा। मैं उससे कुछ दूर था। चाह कर भी उसके पास न जा सका क्योंकि अगर मैं जाता तो मेरी पोजिशन भी दुश्मन को दिख जाती और मिशन पर खतरा हो सकता था। मैं बस उसे मरता देखता रहा। (आवाज में दुःख) मैंने उस समय खुद को सबसे कमजोर पाया। मैं अपने दोस्त को पानी तक न पिला सका।

आप आने वाली पीढ़ियों को क्या संदेश देना चाहेंगे?

मैं बस यही कहना चाहूंगा कि देश सेवा केवल सेना में सेवा देने से नहीं होती। अगर आप अपना काम ईमानदारी से करेंगे तो वह भी देश सेवा का ही अंग है। जैसे अभी आपका काम मन लगाकर पढ़ने का है तो अगर आप मन लगाकर पढ़ेंगे तो यह भी देश सेवा ही है।

प्रियांशी खंडूरी

कक्षा-७ स

पहाड़ों का धर्म

उत्तराखण्ड की भूमि को "देवभूमि" केवल इसलिए नहीं कहा जाता क्योंकि यहाँ सिद्धपीठों की संख्या ज्यादा है, बल्कि इसलिए कहा जाता है क्योंकि देव, आध्यात्म, उत्तराखण्ड की आत्मा है। उत्तराखण्ड में हिंदू धर्म प्रमुख है, परंतु यहाँ की स्थानीय पूजा पद्धति हिंदू धर्म से थोड़ी अलग सी प्रतीत होती है। ये कुछ तांत्रिक क्रिया सी दिखाई देती है, जो उत्तराखण्ड के निवासियों के लिए आम बात है। अब चाहे जौनसार हो या गढ़वाल, चौदास हो या जौहार, व्यास की घाटी हो या कुमाऊँ, हर इलाके में हिंदू पूजा विधि के साथ ही यहाँ तांत्रिक अनुष्ठानों का होना भी आम बात है। जिन्हें उत्तराखण्ड में तांत्रिक अनुष्ठानों के तौर पर देखा भी नहीं जाता, बल्कि आम पूजा पाठ के तौर पर ही लिया जाता है, पर ये तांत्रिक अनुष्ठान है क्या? अगर इन्हें जानना है, तो हमें सबसे पहले इतिहास के पन्नों का पलटना होगा। वो इतिहास के पन्ने जो आज भी कई रहस्य अपने अंदर समेटे हैं।

उत्तराखण्ड के हिमालयी क्षेत्रों में स्वयं और आर्यों के सैकड़ों साल रहने के बाद ८ वीं शताब्दि में शंकराचार्य उत्तराखण्ड पहुँचे और लोगों का वैष्णव धर्म से परिचय करवाया था। पर एक बात अब भी यक्ष प्रश्न है कि उससे पहले यहाँ के लोग किस धर्म को मानते थे? मतलब आज से लगभग १२०० साल पहले हम किस भगवान को पूज रहे थे? इसका जवाब है कि उस समय भारत के हिमालयी राज्यों में जो प्रचलित धर्म "बौद्ध" था, जिसे "पौन" भी कहते थे। जिसके आराध्य 'शिव' थे। यह वह समय था, जब उत्तराखण्ड में 'कत्यूर' शासन कमजोर हो रहा था। 'कत्यूर राजा' पहले बौद्ध धर्म के अनुयायी थे, पर बाद में वह हिंदू हो गये। आओ जाने 'पौन' धर्म वास्तव में था क्या?

'पौन' धर्म एक ऐसा धर्म था, जो शेमेनिस्टिक और एनिमिस्टिक के गुणों से बना था। मतलब जो तंत्र को भी मानते थे तथा प्रकृति की भी पूजा करते थे। पौन धर्म के अंतर्गत जब किसी की तबियत खराब हो या कोई अन्य समस्या हो तो उसका उपाचार तंत्र से ही किया जाता था। जिसके लिए मंत्र स्वरूप 'जागर' व वाद्य यंत्र 'डोर और थकुली' का प्रयोग होता है। इस पूजा में देवताओं के साथ मृत परिजनो की आत्मा का आवाहन किया जाता था, जो घर के किसी सदस्य के शरीर में आकर भविष्य में होने वाली परेशानियों के विषय में बात करते थे। वर्तमान में 'जागर' ने उत्तराखण्ड के पारम्परिक गीत व 'डोर व थकुली' ने पारम्परिक वाद्ययंत्र के रूप में अपना नया स्थान बना लिया है। यह कहना ठीक नहीं कि 'पौन' धर्म में देवों का शरीर में आना व बातें करना अंधविश्वास है, क्योंकि अब यह यहाँ आस्था का प्रतीक है। परंतु हाँ अगर ऐसे सांस्कृतिक धरोहर के रूप में देखा जाये तो इसे बचाना हर उत्तराखण्डी का परम दायित्व होना चाहिए।



समृद्धि बहुगुणा
कक्षा-११

PICTURE GALLERY

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