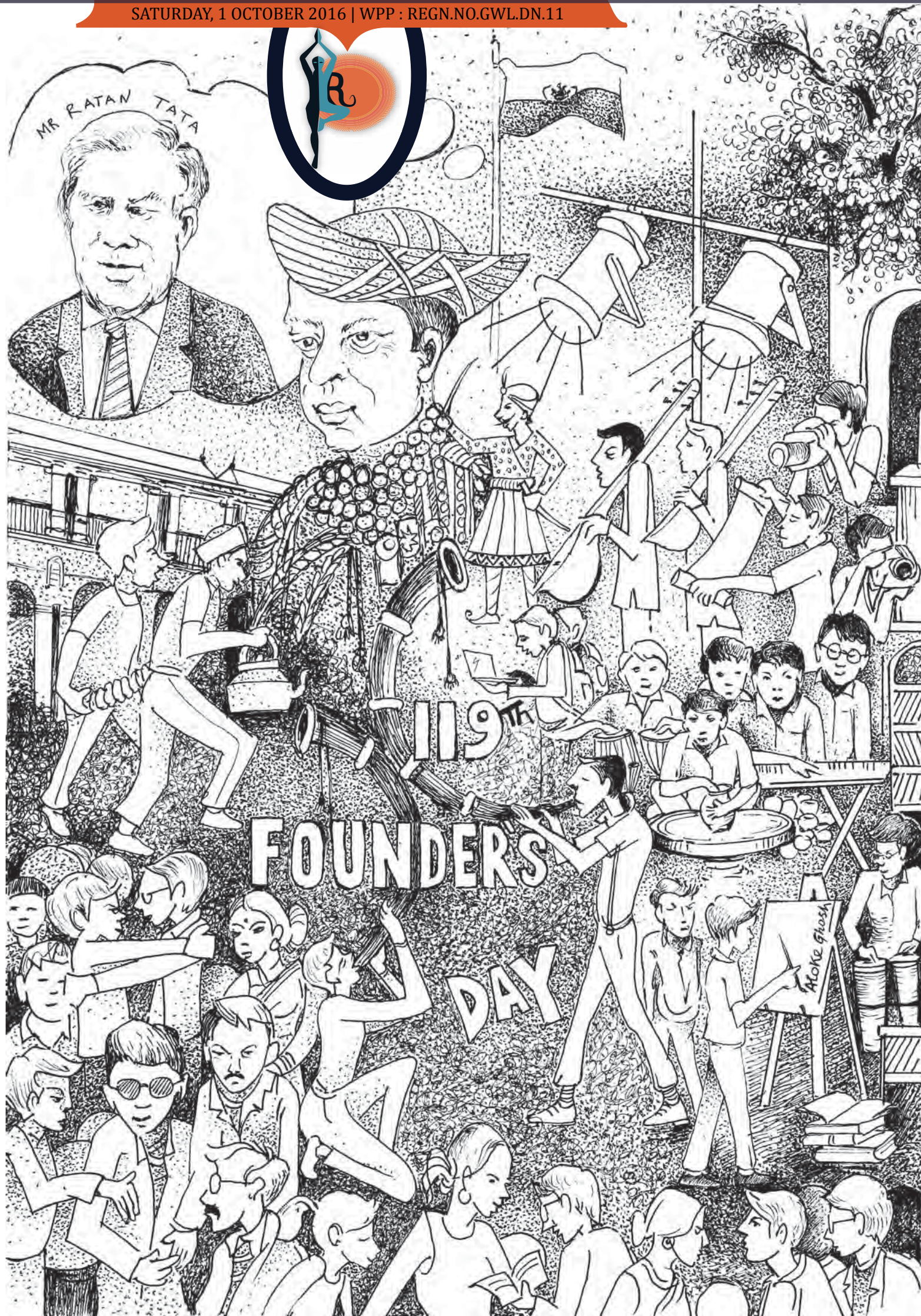


THE SCINDIA SCHOOL, FORT GWALIOR

REVIEW-16



SATURDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2016 | WPP : REGN.NO.GWL.DN.11



Every Scindian, down the years, will agree that October remains the most eventful month of the School calendar. While on one hand, the mushy feel of celebration pervades through the Fort walls; on the other hand, the entire campus starts buzzing with feverish activity to put up a grand show. Mr Aloke Ghosh's illustration is a vivid presentation of what is on the anvil in the next three weeks leading to Founders. Late night preparations and children looking forward to refreshments. Art, Drama, Music, Old Boys' get-together, remembering the Founder, the Scindian flag flying high and last but not the least – celebrating the Larger-than-Life Corporate Czar and Philanthropist – Mr Ratan Tata, the Chief Guest for the Founder's Day 2016.

Enjoy the visual representation of what the Founder's Day is all about... the **Regalia**, **Nostalgia** and of course the **Sweat Beneath the Stardust**.

FORT NEWS

During the last fortnight, mornings and evenings have been pleasant; afternoons however were a bit warm and humid. The said period was academically demanding for the entire community as SA1 examinations were conducted for Classes IX – XII. Students and teachers could be seen exchanging copies, books, question papers and answer sheets. The preparations for the Founder's Day will begin from today and one can feel a buzz in the air already. The entire community is eagerly looking forward to the Larger-Than-Life Chief Guest, Mr Ratan N Tata's arrival. We have captured the flavor of the Founders in our front page illustration.

The VL Pathak Memorial essay writing competition was held for Classes VI and VII. Students wrote an essay on the topic 'Autobiography of a Pen'. The first three positions were secured by :

I Memoy Mishra II Agrim Singh III Pranay Agarwal

You may please read the best two essays in this issue on page 3.

Shubham Agarwal qualified for the finals of the 3rd Nanhi Chaa All India Essay Writing competition out of 3000 entries and 150 schools and was invited to Vasant Valley School, New Delhi. The topic for the essay and discussion was - 'Refugees are our collective Concern' and he was presented with an iPad mini2 for his excellent contribution. He has been invited for a week's programme at the NIIT University in December with all the other finalists.

The Department of English has initiated a programme which will help the students to become sensitive to the sound patterns in the language, thereby making them conscious of the various aspects of spoken English that are generally missed in the classroom. The first session of the programme was held on 11th and the second on the 24th of September 2016. The programme is being spearheaded by Dr Smita Trivedi, faculty in the department of English.



Dr Smita Trivedi conducting the workshop.

In the first session of the workshop, students were taught to count the number of syllables by the 'Chin Method' and the 'Clap method'. They learnt how to put stress on the first syllable in words of two syllables. They heard the model pronunciation of 100 words and reproduced the pronunciation. They also came to know about the organs of speech and the mechanism involved in production of sounds in English. During the second session of the workshop, students were introduced to 'stress on words of two syllables with the stress on the second syllable'. They also learnt how to shift the stress on the same word according to its use in the sentence- verb or noun/ adjective.

Dean of Studies Mr Dhirendra Sharma went on a ten day visit to different universities in Canada from 12th – 21st September 2016. The Universities he visited were U Guelph, Ryerson, Queens, Carlton, Calgary, Lakehead, U Alberta and Algonquin College. The visit was very fruitful as he got first-hand information of the courses offered by these universities, the infrastructure



Mr Dhirendra Sharma at the University of Guelph (Third from right).

and facilities that they provide and the quality of pastoral care extended to the students. He also learnt about the various scholarships that are offered, with some of them being exclusively for Indian students. He was also informed that since these Universities are funded by the government, their tuition fee is considerably lower than that of US and UK universities, which makes them a more viable academic option for Undergrad courses. With a focus on research oriented learning and an infrastructure comparable to the Ivy League universities they hold the promise of being an attractive destination for our students. Mr Sharma has come back with informative brochures and presentations. Students can access these and directly communicate with their Director of Admissions. The School has all the necessary information now and the Career Cell is much better equipped to train our students to apply to these centres of higher learning.

Lt Gen Shokin Chauhan visited the school on the 20th of September 2016. Please go through page 4 of this issue for a detailed coverage of his visit.

OBITUARY

Mr Lalsaheb Surve (Ex-Rn, 1946) passed away in Pune on 8th September 2016. May his soul rest in peace. Condolences may be sent to his brother Mr Chima Surve (Ex-Rn, 1950) or to his son Mr Sambhaji Surve on 7694842392 and 9822818833 respectively.

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Autobiography of a Pen

American singer and songwriter Paul Simon said “You want to be a writer, don't know how or when? Find a quiet place, use a humble pen.” We are all aware how, down the years, a pen has remained the most valuable tool for the writers to put down their thoughts on paper. But what if, one day this very pen chooses to write its own life story. Wouldn't it be interesting? Let us read for ourselves. We have for you the top two winning entries of the VL Pathak Memorial Essay Writing Competition.

Memoy Mishra | VII C

My first conscious memory of myself is that of a little boy Jack holding me in his hands. That lovely boy was my proud owner. He used to pick me up in his hands very lovingly and start writing in his notebooks in the most beautiful handwriting. I always felt that I was his best friend. He had reserved a special section in his stationery pouch for me and all the other pens were very nice to me. Whenever we got rest from our regular writing duties we relaxed there and had fun with each other. Jack, my owner, was very kind and took good care of me. Whenever my ink got over he refilled me and I felt nice, recharged and ready for more tasks. Perhaps since I was a Parker pen of the premium quality I did deserve a special treatment. Life was going on smoothly for me but then suddenly one day it took a turn.

Once after a tiring day at school Jack came home and kept me on his study desk. He then went off to sleep. The next day was Sunday, a day Jack normally spent playing with his friends, so I knew I could enjoy a whole day of rest. This was the only day of leisure for me so I always looked forward to Sundays. But this time I had no idea what fate awaited me.

The next morning much to my surprise he opened an attractively packaged box and took out a shining new pen from it. He kept that new 'Cross' Pen in my slot and left me outside in one corner of the study table. Then he called out to his mother very excitedly and said, " Look Mom! This new pen sent by Uncle is really nice. I can hardly wait to write with it". I felt a bit left out and jealous to see Jack shift his attention to the new pen. But somewhere deep in my heart I was confident that because of our old association Jack would eventually get back to me. After all I had served him so loyally all these years. He couldn't be so heartless to forget all that.

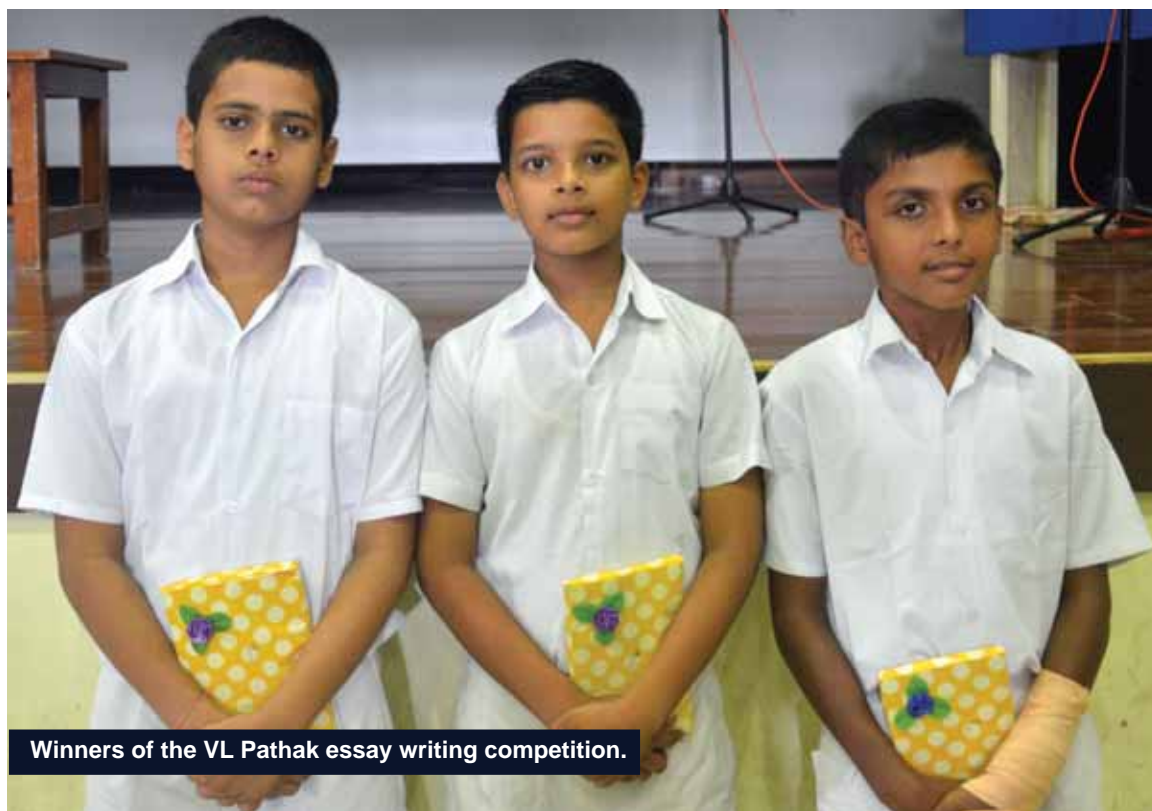
I kept waiting for him to restore me to my place. But hours changed to days and days changed to years. Today I am a forgotten piece of stationery which lies in neglect, covered in dirt in one corner of his table. My ink has dried up and my nib has rusted but Jack does not seem to care for this at all. I feel utterly betrayed by him. However I am gradually coming to terms with my fate. My feelings of anger and disappointment have completely faded. I keep looking at the dustbin which often receives things which are discarded by this family. I know that one day I too will be thrown there. I wonder if I was ever anything more than a piece of metal to be replaced by a new, one once my charm faded? This makes me wonder if it was really worth it to get so attached to Jack. This is a question I will never satisfactorily answer.

The Founder's Day celebrations this year will be held from 20th – 22nd October 2016. 20th October – Parent's Day; 21st October – Founder's Day; 22nd October – Old Boys' Day.

Agrim Singh | VII A

Hello friends! I am a pen and today I am going to tell you about my life. I took birth in a factory. A body, refill and cap were joined bit by bit to make the complete me. Oh I forgot to tell you my brand. I am a blue Octane pen.

From the factory to the market was an eventful journey. Once I had been manufactured I was packed in a fancy cover which was further packed into cardboard cartons. There I found several of my siblings who along with me, were waiting to be transported to different destinations. After a long bumpy ride we were offloaded and I found myself in a stationery store. A large number of pencils, erasers, sharpeners, scissors and paper were there from before and they received me warmly. They told me how people come from far and wide to buy stationery items from the store. I got really excited to hear these stories and waited eagerly for the day when someone would come and buy me.



Winners of the VL Pathak essay writing competition.

My wait finally ended when one boy came and purchased me. He was a wonderful boy and was very fond of me. He kept me very nicely and I was very happy with him. But my happiness was shortlived. One day when my owner was not around someone stole me from the pencil box. This boy, my new owner, was very wild. He treated me very harshly. Sometimes he threw me high up in the air just for fun. Often I got hurt when I hit the ceiling or brushed past the fan. It made me very sad when I saw him clap his hands on seeing me fall with a thud.

All joy has gone out of my life. Many a times when I am alone I remember all my friends of the stationery store and my

first owner. How I wish I could go back to them. But I know these dreams will remain just dreams. And here I live in terror inside the pencil box waiting for this cruel boy to play yet another game of pen fight or 'fling in the air' with me. God Save me!

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An interaction with Lieutenant General Shokin Chauhan

A Gorkha officer, Lieutenant General Shokin Chauhan, YSM, SM, VSM visited the school on 20th September 2016. He was accompanied by his wife, Mrs Daphne Chauhan. A special Astachal was held in his honour where he narrated two personal anecdotes highlighting the importance of righteousness and leadership and how if we absorb the two values in our lives, we can earn genuine respect from society. At Astachal, he handed over a memento to the school which was graciously received by the SSP - Mriganka Ghosh. After Astachal they visited the recently established, 'Interpretation Center' and enjoyed the pictorial representation of the history of the Fort. This was followed by an interaction with the staff and the correspondents of the Review over a cup of tea in the TRC lawn. We present before you the tête-à-tête we had with him.

Q1. What inspired you to join the Army?

I am a third generation soldier. Initially I wanted to join the IIT. However, I realised well in time that Army was a natural progression of my capabilities and therefore I joined the Army.

Q2. Is it difficult to be a leader?

Indeed, it is. A leader practices sacrifice and idealism and has an aim in life, which is larger than self-gratification. I remember the sacrifices that we made to capture the Siachen Glacier in 1984. During the confrontation, we ran out of food and water but what satisfied us was our win for the country.

Q3. Sir, would you like to comment on the recent situation in Kashmir?

It is a matter of deep sorrow and grief that 18 of our soldiers died. We should have been better prepared. Pakistan should also understand that terrorism would result in nothing.

Q4. Sir, what action should we take against Pakistan?

There are majorly three ways. Firstly, we can reply through an armed attack. Secondly, we should diplomatically and politically deal with this issue and



Gen Shokin Chauhan presenting a memento to SSP - Mriganka Ghosh.

thirdly, we must continuously endeavour to isolate them in the world. A multi-pronged approach will have to be executed for sustained advantage. And I would like to add, that world only recognises strength, nothing but strength and that is what we should continuously build.

Q5. What are the factors that you keep in mind while planning an offensive?

Firstly, we assess our capability and resources. Then we estimate the enemy's weapons and abilities. However, often during a confrontation, planning is of limited help because actual dynamics become very different. It is on-the-spot leadership skills with which one leads the troops which makes all the difference. Thank you.

OLD BOYS' NEWS

SOBA Kanpur organized a get-together entitled, 'The Scindian Sojourn' at Khajuraho from 9th – 10th September 2016. Old Boys from the length and breadth of the country gathered in the beautiful city of Khajuraho and stayed in the Jass Radisson Hotel. It was a carnival of sorts in which the Old Boys and their families enjoyed music, dance, games, cycling, shopping and swimming. The event was brilliantly conceived and executed.

Jivitesh Mazumdar (Ex-Md, 2011) was the Trainee Assistant Director of the recently released movie 'Pink', under the banner 'Rising Sun Films' that has given us some famous movies like 'Vicky Donor', 'Madras Café' and 'Piku'. Jivitesh was the recipient of the Westminster Scholarship and completed his BA (Hons.) in Animation from the said University.

On the 25th of September 2016, the Varanasi Chapter of SOBA was launched. We convey our best wishes to all the Old Boys and office bearers of SOBA Varanasi.

A Blood Donation camp was organized by SOBA Indore on the 16th of September 2016. 20 units of blood were collected.



Big B with Jivitesh Mazumdar.

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