

REVIEW-19

THE SCINDIA SCHOOL, FORT GWALIOR



TUESDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2019 | WPP : REGN.NO.GWL.DN.11



The weather on the Fort has been as pretty as a picture during the fortnight gone by. It has rained heavily from the night of 23rd to the middle of the day on 25th September. The land is covered with mossy knolls with little squirrels running about. It seems and feels like a heaven of tranquility, as one treads the paths. After the spell of the examinations, the work of the upcoming Founder's Day has taken the lead with everyone willing to put their best effort, forward.

The result of the Middle Group Inter House Hindi Elocution is as follows:

HOUSE POSITIONS (Final Round):

I- Mahadji II- Madhav III- Shivaji IV- Jayappa

INDIVIDUAL POSITIONS:

First Round

I- Satyam Raj (Pool A), Raghav Pratap Singh (Pool B)

Final Round

I- Satyam Raj II- Aarush Prabhu

Pranav Wadhwa, Vishnudeep Tyagi, Memoy Mishra, Vansh Raj Chahar, Satwik Goyal, Pratik Garg and Hriday Soni participated in the IPSC IT Fest held at Hyderabad Public School from 20th August to 25th August 2019. Hriday Soni and Toshani Agarwal stood second in the 'Multimedia Event'. Hriday Soni and Memoy Mishra stood third in 'User Interface Design'. Congratulations!

Genesis MUN was organized by Genesis Global School, Noida from 23rd August to 25th August 2019. Aryan Yadav received the 'Special Mention' from the Lok Sabha Committee and Aarush Prabhu received the 'Honourable Mention' from the Belt and Road Committee. Congratulations!

Gaurang Paliwal, Siddharth Gupta, Ojal Agarwal, Shaurya Agarwal, Kartik Agarwal, Yash Gupta, Garv Kaushik, Mayank Choudhary and Arya Adhikari participated in the Jodhamal Youth Conclave 2019, held at Jodhamal School, Jammu from 29th August to 2nd September 2019. Siddharth Gupta received an 'Honorable Mention' and Kartik Agarwal received a 'Verbal Mention' in the event.

The result of the Inter House Choreography Competition held on 31st August 2019 is as follows:

Best Performer: Kartikeya Kulshrestha

Most Promising Dancer: Hardik Singh

Best Choreographer: Gaurang Paliwal

Team Positions:

Winners- Mahadji (Theme- War and Peace)

First Runner Up- Madhav (Theme- Gothic)

Second Runner Up- Ranoji (Theme- Illusion)

Special Mention- Jeevaji (Theme- Nature)

19 students participated in the 'The Silver Jubilee Commemorative Young Thinkers'

Conclave, 2019', held at Mayo College Girls' School, Ajmer, from 27th August to 29th August 2019. The students bagged awards in various events. Hriday Soni and Memoy Mishra stood second in Web Designing. The Web Designing team received the Overall trophy as well. Aditi Joshi, Suyash Bansal, Shivansh Bansal and Aryan Girdhar stood second in 'Script Enactment'. Aryan Girdhar was awarded 'Best Performer Trophy' for the same. Many Congratulations!

The school participated in the English Fest held at Little Angels' High School, Gwalior. Parikshita Singh bagged the third prize in the 'Monologue' competition. Congratulations!

Our school participated in the Inter School English Debate held at AMI Shishu Mandir. Aryan Nagpal was awarded 'Best Speaker' in the same. The school bagged the overall trophy of the event. Congratulations!

Inter House Hindi Skit Competition was held on 6th September 2019 in the Assembly Hall. Eight plays were put up on stage. Stories were supplied to the students and they fabricated the same in the form of a One Act Play. The following



A still from the Hindi Skit Competition

plays were put up- *Balgobin Bhagat* by Jeevaji House, *Akbari Lota* by Mahadji House, *Prayashchit* by Jayaji House, *Panchlight* by Shivaji House, *Netaji Ka Chashma* by Jayappa House, *Kamchor* by Madhav House, *Bholaram Ka Jeev* by Daulat House and *Namak Ka Daroga* by Ranoji House.

Online Quiz on 'Safety' was held on 1st September 2019.

Dining Etiquette plays a major role in our personal as well as our professional lives. People judge us constantly and deduce many things on the basis of what they see. Many first impressions are formed and many decisions are made on the dinner table. In order to equip our students with the correct manners, etiquette, protocol and to make a favourable impression, a 'Meal Time Manners and Dining Etiquette Workshop' was organized in the school for students of classes VII-IX. Six sessions of two hours each were conducted on 7th, 8th and 9th September 2019. The resource person for the workshop was Ms Manikjeet Kaur Sadana, a



Dining Etiquette Workshop

Dehradun based soft- skill specialist. She introduced the students to Continental as well as American dining etiquette. Many important dining tips such as placing of the napkin, correct way of using silverware, passing the condiments, rightly setting the table etc. were shared with the students. The workshop was received enthusiastically by the students and was a great success.

Central Board Secondary Education in association with Microsoft Corporation (India) Private Limited, conducted Capacity Building Programme for teachers, which aimed to introduce latest technologies for improving access to and use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools that will help them to integrate technology into teaching, use of digital technologies safely, enhance the



Capacity Building Programme

learning experiences and improve 21st century skills of all students. Our school was chosen as the only centre in Madhya Pradesh. The training took place from 11th September to 21st September 2019. The training sessions were organised under the leadership of the Dean of ICT, Mr Raj Kapoor.

Mr Sarabjit Walia conducted sessions with students of Classes IX and XI from 8th September to 9th September 2019. The sessions began with assessing each individual's preferred Learning Styles (LS) and progressed to discover alignment between LS and the individual's preferred Methods of Instruction (MoI) and Assessment (MoA).

OLD BOYS' NEWS

SOBA Cricket Premier League was held from 30th August to 1st September 2019 in Chandigarh. SOBA Gwalior became the Winner of the tournament. The final match was played at Tau Devi Lal Stadium, Panchkula.

A Prayer to My Country

Yanglem Arjun Singh | X A

Often times we hear about 'communal disharmony'. As a teenager I have a different tangent of the problem, to look at. So I present my views to you thus:

Inter-religious harmony is crucial in maintaining political and national stability. Living in a peaceful and harmonious environment is important when the society consists of diverse races and religious adherents. The existence of minor tension in the society to some extent, has jeopardised inter-religious relations. The failure to preserve religious harmony could expose the society to conflict and chaos.

India is a country of more than one billion people, the majority of whom are Hindus. But we also have a large population of minorities, with about 150 million Muslims, making this the second largest Muslim population in the world, after Indonesia. There are also many millions of Christians, Sikhs, Jains and Buddhists. In recent decades, the conflict between religious communities (referred to as 'communalism' in India) has grown substantially and thousands of people have been killed in these religious conflicts. The future of India is bleak if religious conflicts tear the democratic fabric away and create conditions of a civil war.

While a large number of religious figures have become active and self-critical the same cannot be said of many other religious leaders. Most of those from the community who courageously fought the communal onslaught of the past decade were secular activists. It is time to now draw in more such religious leaders so that we stand for pluralism and respect for all traditions.

So, what needs to be urgently done is to create conditions for a pro-active pluralistic interpretation from the different religions. An ongoing network of religious leaders and theologians from all over the country needs to come together to renew the different religions from the perspective of pluralism, social justice and environmental action. There are thousands of developmental organizations in the country doing a lot of good work on structural and charitable issues. While most of them are ideologically in support of communal harmony and an 'inclusive secularism', the approach to secularism which combines secular values and religious conviction (unlike exclusive secularism); they are still not programmatically combating fundamentalism and promoting pluralism.

The media has by and large played a positive role in fighting fundamentalism. But there is a tendency to put the issue on the backburner when there is no overt fundamentalist conflict disrupting society. Much of the focus on newspapers these days is on entertainment, fashion, commercial films, consumer culture, and sports. Even politics gets less coverage than any of these other issues.

A creative campaign among publishers and editors of national and local newspapers and television channels can keep the enthusiasm upbeat by publishing stories in which people from one religion have helped people from the other religions. There can be more coverage of inter-religious events. Stories can be done on the problems of implementing anti-fundamentalist legislation that is now being proposed, or issues concerning the formulation of an inter-religious syllabus for schools and colleges.

One of the most important methods of conflict resolution is through effective communication channels between different religious communities so that rumours can be squashed and problems solved before they become too big. Communication with police, the media, religious and community leaders is also vital. We should maintain and strengthen our ongoing dialogue with them.

The time has come to play a pro-active role in schools and colleges and introduce such an education which can promote communal harmony as part of the curriculum. We must intend to work towards creating an alternative curriculum material, which presents a more balanced view of religious history, as well as promote respect for all religious traditions.

These are the objectives set forward from my point of view for a greater harmony among different religions. May we all be in harmony with each other! Amen!

An Epistle to the Editor

The Editor
Scindia School Review

This is to inform you of the sad demise last month of Dr. Terry D. Plemons in Austin, Texas, USA.

Terry, the first American to teach at school, taught us Physics during 1964-65. An excellent teacher, he was a volunteer with the American Peace Corps. After returning to the US he completed his PhD in Physics, specialising in artificial hearts.

Besides Physics, he also tried to teach us baseball and American football.

He is survived by his wife, three children and four grand-children.

The 'Class of 67' sent his family a brief write up on Terry's days at school (attached).

Nandlal Rane
Ex-Vivekanand 1967

Terry

Class of 1967

The classroom was abuzz with excitement as we awaited the new Physics teacher, who was rumoured to be an American. We had occasionally been taught English by teachers from England, but never an American. The noise in the classroom subsided as we became aware of a tall foreigner standing at the entrance door. With a few long strides he reached the black-board and scribbled in capitals "TERRY D. PLEMONS" before he turned to face the class.

'Hi! I'm Terry D. Plemons', he said in a high pitched nasal American accent. 'You can call me Terry. I'll be teaching you guys, Physics'.

The class stood up, staring at this boyish looking, lanky American Physics teacher, clad in jeans, checked shirt, worn over a round-necked white tee-shirt, who had already broken several school rules.

He had used the banned words 'hi' and 'guy' which were deeply frowned upon by the English Teachers and School Principal. His dress code was taboo. He wanted to be addressed by his first name instead of 'sir'. And he was now propping himself on the edge of the teacher's table, instead of occupying the chair behind it.

He told us he was with the American Peace Corps and briefly explained about this voluntary organization. He then asked us to introduce ourselves by our first names, with spelling, which he noted down in his note book making valiant attempts at proper pronunciation. Where a name was repeated he wrote the initials of the surname. So Deepak Chandvadkar became Deepak C and Deepak Shahasrabudhhe became Deepak S.

Most of us had never met an American and it was some time before we could fully 'figure out' what he was saying. But once we began understanding him, we started speaking amongst ourselves in exaggerated, Terry accent.

Terry's teaching methods were different. He expected the boys to have read the theory from the prescribed book. He would ask objective questions, testing out how well the basics had been understood, rather than asking us to parrot Newton's laws. He loved giving problems to solve and would regularly conduct

class tests. These often involved 'out of the box' thinking like when he gave us boiling and freezing points of water on the Plemons temperature scale and then asked us to convert Fahrenheit degrees to the Plemons scale.

When the marks of his first test were announced, we were shocked as many of us had received 100% marks. In those days, for a correct answer, the practice was to never give more than 7 or 8 marks out of 10. With his liberal marking, Terry became an instant hit!

Terry was keen on sports but knew nothing of cricket, football and hockey. However, he had come armed from the US with a baseball kit (bat, ball and gloves) and an American football. One day, at the end of class, he asked us whether we would like to learn these games. We agreed enthusiastically. Television being non-existent in India at the time, we knew nothing about those sports.

Baseball rules were nearly identical to a game called 'Rounders' which we used to play with a cricket bat and tennis ball. The leather baseball was much larger and heavier than a tennis ball, and the cylindrical shaped baseball bat much heavier than a cricket bat. When we hit the ball it wouldn't go very far and seldom went in the desired direction. But at least we picked up the game.

American football however turned out to be a totally different ball game, with no similarity to the football we played ('soccer' in the US). We collected on a Sunday morning on the main football field. Terry, with the help of some garden helpers, had already marked several parallel lines in white lime powder across the field. The leather ball that he held in his hands was a strange oval shaped oblong object.

Terry formed two teams and tried explaining the rules. Though it was called football, very rarely was one allowed to kick the ball. Instead, one had to run carrying the ball and throwing it to one's team mates, with the objective of crossing the goal line. There were code words for action, plans etc. The rules were just too complex and Terry got fed up blowing his whistle. He screamed himself hoarse and finally gave up, refusing to play American football with us again.

Terry often joined the boys for dinner in the dining hall. He had developed a sweet tooth for an Indian sweet called *Gulab Jamun* which was served as a dessert for Thursday dinner, a meal which Terry never missed. Terry was a very decent and earnest person who took extra pains making sure we understood Physics properly. All his students were very fond of him. We were all deeply saddened when Ravi informed us that Terry is no more. Our heartfelt condolences to his family. May his soul rest in peace.



Fortscape - Prince Kumar | XII A

भारत के बढ़ते कदम : प्रगति की ओर

आदित्य पाराशर | 12 ए

प्रगति सृष्टि का नियम है। इस दुनिया के बनने के साथ ही प्रगति की प्रक्रिया प्रारंभ हो गई थी। लम्बे समय तक अपनी पहचान, सभ्यता व संस्कृति को बचाए रखने के लिए किसी भी देश का प्रगतिशील होना आवश्यक है। एक नदी जब तक पहाड़ से निकलती है वह सतत प्रगतिशील होगी ही क्योंकि यह उसका स्वभाव है। निरंतर आगे बढ़ते रहना उसकी प्रवृत्ति है। परंतु यदि वह अपने मार्ग में आने वाली बाधाओं को पार नहीं करेगी, उनसे लोहा नहीं लेगी तो वह ठिठक जाएगी, उसका विकास रुक जाएगा और वह सूखना प्रारंभ कर देगी। इसी प्रकार यदि कोई देश इस विश्व के सबसे ताकतवर देशों में अपना नाम देखना चाहता है तो उसे भी प्रगतिशील बनना पड़ेगा। इसी लक्ष्य को ध्यान में रखते हुए हमारा देश भी प्रगति की ओर निरंतर कदम बढ़ा रहा है। जैसा कि कवि अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी ने कहा था कि "कोटि चरण बढ़ रहे ध्येय की ओर निरंतर"।

जब हमें आज़ादी मिली तो हमारा देश कंगाली के कगार पर खड़ा था। परंतु हमें अपने ऊपर विश्वास रहा है और हम सदा गर्व से कहते रहेंगे कि "सारे जहाँ से अच्छा हिंदोस्ताँ हमारा"। विगत वर्षों से हमारे देश में कई प्रगतिशील बदलाव आए हैं जिससे दुनिया में हमारी साख बढ़ी है। दुनिया के अनेक देश हमसे विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में साझेदारी के लिए तत्पर हैं। हमारे देश के अंतरिक्ष कार्यक्रम ने विश्वभर में ख्याति पाई है।

भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान केंद्र (इसरो) ने बीते दो दशकों में पूरे विश्व को हमारे देश की योग्यता से परिचित करवाया है। एक बार में सबसे अधिक सेटेललाइट अंतरिक्ष में भेजने का कीर्तिमान भी इसरो के नाम है। मंगल ग्रह पर भेजा गया मंगलयान विश्व का सफलतम मिशन माना गया। पहले ही प्रयास में व सबसे कम खर्च में भेजे जाने के कारण भी मंगलयान को विशिष्ट माना गया। चंद्रयान की निर्यात प्रतियोगिता भी इसके सुनहरे भविष्य की ओर इशारा कर रही है।

विश्व में सबसे अधिक युवाओं वाले देश में व्यापार की स्थिति भी इसके प्रगति के पथ पर तेजी से आगे बढ़ने का इशारा कर रही है। विश्व के विभिन्न देशों से रक्षा सौदे कई गुना बढ़ गए हैं। अब हम महाशक्तियों को भी ऋण देने की स्थिति में आ गए हैं। बढ़ते व्यापार का यह फायदा हुआ है कि हमारे देश में लोगों के जीवन स्तर में सुधार हुआ है। बड़े-बड़े मॉल में खरीदारों की भीड़ से यह स्वयं साबित हो जाता है कि जनता की क्रय शक्ति बढ़ी है।

यातायात व संचार व्यवस्था किसी भी देश के विकास की रीढ़ की हड्डी होती है और इस क्षेत्र में हमारे देश ने बहुत प्रगति की है, यातायात के साधनों में बहुत सुधार हुआ है। सड़कों के द्वारा पूरे देश को जोड़ा गया है। यहाँ तक कि पहाड़ों में भी चार लेन की सड़कें बनाई जा रही हैं। गाँव गाँव में सड़कों का जाल बिछा दिया गया है। महानगरों में मेट्रो ट्रेन, मोनो रेल के साथ ही अब दो नगरों के बीच बुलेट ट्रेन व अनेक प्रकार के ट्रेनों की सुविधा भी उपलब्ध करवायी जा रही है। रेलवे स्टेशनों का आधुनिकीकरण किया जा रहा है, ट्रेनों की गति को भी बढ़ाया जा रहा है जिससे समय की बचत भी होगी और यात्रियों को भी बेहतर सुविधाएँ मिलेंगी।

स्वच्छ भारत अभियान से देश का प्रत्येक नागरिक जुड़ने लगा है। इससे बीमारियाँ कम होंगी, देश में पर्यटन उद्योग को बढ़ावा मिलेगा और विदेशी मुद्रा भारत पहुँचेगी, हमारी अर्थव्यवस्था में सुधार होगा अर्थात् ये सारी बातें एक दूसरे से जुड़ी हुई हैं और इनका पालन करना चाहिए। जिससे हमारा देश प्रगति कर रहा है। रोगों के सस्ते उपचार के लिए हमारे देश में आने वाले पर्यटकों की संख्या में भी लगातार वृद्धि हो रही है। विश्व के विभिन्न देशों से ऐसे पर्यटक लम्बे समय तक भारत में रहकर अपना इलाज करवा रहे हैं व हमारे देश की अर्थव्यवस्था को आगे बढ़ाने में अपना योगदान दे रहे हैं।

देश में भ्रष्टाचार को दूर करने के जो अनेक उपाय हो रहे हैं या करदाताओं की जो संख्या बढ़ रही है वह भी हमारे प्रगति की ओर बढ़ते कदम के भागीदार हैं। हमारे देश को प्रगति के मार्ग

पर निरंतर आगे बढ़ाने के लिए सरकार एवं जनता को साथ मिलकर काम करने की जरूरत है। सरकार को जनहित में निर्णय लेने चाहिए एवं जनता को सरकार द्वारा देशहित में दिए गए निर्णय का पालन करना चाहिए। यदि हम साथ जुटकर भ्रष्टाचार जैसी समस्याओं को पूर्ण रूप से खत्म कर सकेंगे। तब हमारे देश को विश्व-शक्ति बनने से रोकने में विश्व की कोई भी ताकत सक्षम नहीं हो सकेगी। हमारे देश की प्रगति की ओर बढ़ते कदमों को हमें उसकी आँखें बनकर दिशा दिखाने की आवश्यकता है। देश के कदम उसके नागरिकों के अनुसार चलेंगे। यदि हम सही दिशा में जाएँगे तो वह समय दूर नहीं जब हम अपने देश को विश्व का भाग्य-विधाता पुकार सकेंगे।

मिट्टी से ही आए हैं

संदीप अग्रवाल | शिवाजी, 1980

मिट्टी से ही आए हैं,
और मिट्टी में ही जाना।
मिट्टी से ही पूरा रिश्ता,
मिट्टी से क्या घबराना।

मिट्टी तन को गंदा करती,
मिट्टी से ही धोते।
दो गज की ही लगती सबको,
अंत समय जब सोते।

इस मिट्टी में खेले बच्चे,
बड़े हुए तो झगड़े।
सारे जंजालों की ही जड़ ये,
खून खराबा, रेले।

मिट्टी है पहचान सभी की,
मिट्टी सब का गौरव।
कोई कहे कि गंध है इसमें,
मुझे तो लगता सौरभ।

समझ सको तो सोना है ये,
ना समझो तो काँसा।
छीना झपटी करते इसकी,
दे-दे करके झाँसा।

मिट्टी में संगीत छिपा है,
मिट्टी की हैं ताने।
मिट्टी पर ही बैठ के गाते,
मिट्टी के ही गाने।

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OCTOBER 1, 2019 | **WPP** : Regn.No.Gwl.Dn.11
Feedback : smitat@scindia.edu
Price : Re. 1

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