



## **ECHOES FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL**

Warm greetings! 'Where there is no vision, there is no hope', said George Washington Carver. These words beautifully sum up the idea of true education and that is what we believe in, at Kasiga. As we near the end of an academic year it is rewarding to note that we have been able to provide a host of learning opportunities and experiences to our children.

School was abuzz with activities to provide true experiential learning through an exchange programme with Japanese students from Little Angels School, Tokyo, Japan. School saw a series of engaging activities as we applied for the International School Award by the British Council wherein children participated in a wide spectrum of learning experiences. It is rightly said that the journey itself is more rewarding than the destination as our students participated in a host of activities promoting international mindedness.

On one hand, we had the young men and women ready to take on the world on Graduation Day while on the other; another set of dynamic students took over the charge of office bearers on the day of the Investiture Ceremony. It has been a year of promising future and fulfilling dreams and we press on to scale greater heights!

- Dr. Neeta Bali

## CAREER COUNSELLING WORKSHOPS AT KASIGA SCHOOL

Kasiga School, in association with Career Smart, organized a Career Counselling session for the students of class X, XI and XII on 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February 2016. The session was conducted by Ms. Sushma Singh and aimed at enabling students to intelligently explore career opportunities and decide on future study.

Day one started with a Workshop for Grade X students. The Workshop explored a range of contemporary careers and possibilities for the future. Students were



exposed to the broad concept of work in the context of earnings, lifestyle and work values.

Key points of the Workshop covered the ability to recognize interests, aptitudes and abilities and their relevance in making career decisions.

The session also threw light on the various skills required for pursuing a particular career and how a combination of such skills is essential for success in a field. Mrs. Sushma Singh then introduced the students to the various career paths available under the categories of Humanities, Science, Commerce and new careers based on competitive exams. The session was highly interactive and was very helpful, particularly to those who were still irresolute in deciding their streams and careers.

The Workshop was followed by individual assessment of Grades XI and XII students. For the purpose a set of scientific assessment tools, specifically designed to link an individual's personality, interests and aptitudes with the best career options were used. This was followed by individual counselling to students to provide them with a detailed assessment of the most appropriate career options, based on an analysis of their individual talents. Students got to know about various Indian and foreign Universities, their admission criteria and the scope.



The second day was spent on individual counselling with curious students jostling for more time with the expert. It was time to do some backward planning and the tenth graders felt that this session was an eye-opener. Students had the opportunity to learn about various options open to them based on their

aptitude and interest. The students of Grade XI were divided into small groups and had group counselling sessions. The discussions dwelled on planning for the board classes as well as for applications to Universities in India and abroad. A comparative view of Higher education in India and abroad was also done. Dr. Neeta Bali, Head of School, felt that the interactive sessions, encapsulating a detailed survey of contemporary careers were designed to give young learners an insight into the world of work were very well received and enabled the students to start the thinking process for making career choices.

#### **GRADUATION DAY 2016 CELEBRATED AT KASIGA SCHOOL**

On 13<sup>th</sup> February 2016, the staff and students of Kasiga School bid adieu to the outgoing batch of class 12 CBSE and A level CIE students. In a solemn ceremony witnessed by Chairman, Mr. Ramesh Batta and Mrs. Batta along with Mr. and Mrs. Siddharth Batta, the Head of School, Dr. Neeta Bali the students of class 12 were felicitated. The symbolic and poignant 'Passing of the Light or Lamp of Knowledge' by the Head of School to students prepares each one of the graduating class to face the challenges of the future.



The speeches made by the Head Boy, Naman Bhasin and the Head Girl, Guneet Kaur Mangat recalled the transition from their arrival at Kasiga to the young men and women they and their peers had blossomed into.

The prayer song 'Hallelujah' and 'This Little Guiding Light of Mine' reminded each one of how precious young lives are and it is

our responsibility to ensure that it is never allowed to be snuffed out.

Inspirational speeches by the Chairman, Mr. Ramesh Batta and the Head of School, Dr Bali, had even the most hardened heart melt and a surreptitious tear or two wiped away as a wave of nostalgia swept over the students.

After a mouthwatering high Tea, it was time for the less formal part of the ceremony- The Farewell Party organised by class XI for their seniors. The fun and games were greatly appreciated and everyone had a rollicking time dancing to the tune of DJ Harry! Ballroom dancing by the class XI students, an energetic Bhangra performance and a performance by the School band entertained the outgoing students. The highlight of the evening was the ramp walk in which Daksh Narang was chosen as 'Prince Charming'. The 'Computer Maestro' was Naman Bhasin, 'Nimble Feet' was Kartik Yadav and 'Dennis the Menace' was none other than Shikhar Singh. The coveted Ms. Kasiga award went to Guneet Kaur Mangat and Mr. Kasiga was bagged by Sarthak Keshri.

### **ART FAIR TRIP EXPERIENCE**

Kasiga School believes in experiential learning hence field trips and excursions are a norm at Kasiga. In accordance with this ideology, students of Kasiga went for a three day Art Exhibition trip to Delhi from January 29 – February 2, 2016. The students along with staff members visited the International Art Fair and Art Gallery at Delhi and viewed the different art forms and sculptures created by prominent artists like MF Hussain, Picasso and Tagore to name a few .



The students felt that it was a wonderful learning experience that introduced them to not only different new mediums but also ways in which the artwork is preserved. Very often Indian art is the

last one would relate to when one mentions installations, a contemporary expression which was on display and admired by all.

A trip well remembered and cherished for broadening the horizons!



### **FIRST AID AND MEDICAL DRILL AT KASIGA**

Mr.Rohan Oberoi and Mr. Vimal Vasudev of Momentum India, an Indo–Australian organization that primarily works in the areas of health, safety, security and environment conducted a workshop on medical emergency and first aid in Kasiga on 14th February 2016. It touched upon several medical exigencies and situations that occur and very often due to ignorance as well as



negligence lead to crisis which can be managed easily if one has basic first aid training. The workshop not only gave an insight into a wide range of incidents that lead to medical emergencies, it also cleared a number of doubts and myths that are associated with cases of epilepsy, snake bite , heart attack , allergies and burns to name a few. It was an enlightening session that saw equal participation of the students as well as the faculty present. The main aim was to train young people to deal with a critical situation without losing presence of mind and ensure that the patient receives the right first aid that could be the deciding factor between life and death.

The session also highlighted the importance of cardio pulmonary resuscitation commonly known as CPR. It was demonstrated on a dummy doll and then students took turns to practice their newly acquired CPR skills on the dummy doll to check how well they had actually learnt the technique. It was an interactive and informative training session that gave several life saving tips to all present for surely ignorance in these medical emergencies is anything but bliss, a point well made and noted by everyone.

### **SELECTION OF STUDENTS IN GUINNESS BOOK OF WORLD RECORD IN KATHAK**

Kasiga students have once again proved their mettle in the field of culture. Three of our students from Class IX- Ojaswi Rawat, Mahi Manjusha and Kavya Sharma have been selected for the Guinness Book of World Record event in Kathak which will be the largest ensemble group of kathak performers sharing the same stage. It all started in December when School was informed that WCF, a well known organization in promoting Indian Culture was holding auditions open for Teachers /Choreographers in Delhi from December 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>. Our head of Activities, Ms. Manjusha went for the audition and was selected in the Choreographer category. Three students under her guidance were registered for student audition. The students had to undergo a vigorous training as it was a challenge for them as well as for the trainer, Ms. Manjusha, because the learners are non diploma holders in the field of Kathak but their dedication and passion for dance drove them to achieve the difficult target. Finally a video of their kathak performance was sent to WCF and we received the official confirmation of their selection. The students will be performing along with Ms. Manjusha and with many more international performers. Besides our Kathak performers, our Tabla teacher Mr. Arvind Patel has also been selected for the same.

Highlight of the event.

1. The group will be performing in Delhi on the biggest stage ever made in the history of performing arts on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2016.
2. They will get a chance to perform and learn under the Choreographic direction of Pt. Birju Maharaj.
3. The performance will be witnessed by 3.5 million people across the globe.
4. The program will be broadcast to more than 152 countries.



## International Exchange Programme Between

### KĀSIGA SCHOOL, DEHRADUN, INDIA and LITTLE ANGELS INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL, TOKYO, JAPAN



A nine member delegation of Little Angels International School, Tokyo, Japan led by its President Ms Jeevarani Angelina and Teacher Ms Deepa Verma with seven students of Junior School arrived at Kasiga School, on the behest of the Head of School Dr. Neeta Bali, to

be a part of the International Exchange Programme from February 8-11, 2016. On their arrival the delegation was given a warm welcome by the staff and students of Kasiga School. On Day 1 of the IEP, the Japanese delegation was given a traditional welcome during school assembly. The Japanese students were gleaming with joy and ecstasy and seemed to be enjoying every bit of the moment. Min Ji Yoo, a Korean student of class V at Kasiga School, began the morning assembly with the chant of the Gayatri Mantra. Head of School Dr. Neeta Bali welcomed the Japanese delegates and wished them a comfortable and a memorable stay.

The formal school began with activity based teaching classroom sessions in Mathematics, English, Social Studies and Hindi wherein, the Japanese students learnt more about India, its ethos, culture and customs. They also had an exclusive music



session. The students made beautiful paintings depicting Indian and Japanese stories and



fables. In the evening the Japanese students learnt to play “Kho Kho”, a traditional Indian sport.

On Day 2, the delegate students of the Little Angels Schools presented a slide presentation wherein they gave detailed information about the Japanese culture and



customs. They then attended classroom sessions based on activity based learning in Mathematics and Science through the Jodo Gyan kit, a Mathematical teaching aid for kids. The students also attended the Creya classes wherein they made robots using the Creya kit. The Japanese students also enjoyed craft workshops.

On Day 3, a nature walk, tabla and flute recital, non-flame cooking, visit to Paltan Bazar was lined up for the Japanese delegation at Kasiga. The students of Kasiga showcased their musical talent to the Japanese delegation with flute and tabla recital. The Japanese students were highly impressed with rich musical heritage of India. In the cookery session they were taught how to do non flame cooking and candle and diya making.

Altogether, it was an enriching experience for the Junior students of Kasiga School and the “Little Angels” from Tokyo.

## The President Cup, 2016 Cricket Tournament held at Kasiga School

The prestigious Uttarakhand State level President Cup, 2016 cricket tournament was held at the picturesque Kasiga School Oval. The final match held on 2nd February was played between Rao Academy and Khalsa Club. The winning team, Rao Academy, was felicitated in the presence of Mr. Dinesh Dhaney, Tourist Minister. Also present on the occasion were Mr. Ranjeet Rawat, adviser to the Chief Minister, Mr. Rajkumar, MLA from Rajpur and Mr. Kunil Gupta, editor in chief TV 100. Kasiga School chairman, Mr. Ramesh Batta, a keen cricketer, was an

enthusiastic observer.

Kasiga School was also privileged with the visit of well known International English cricketers Alan Mullaley and Robin Smith, aka the Judge, visit School and interact with the senior students and Head of School, Neeta Bali. Ardent cricketers and senior



students from Kasiga School had a great listening and learning experience while interviewing these former cricketers. The tips and words of encouragement given by these eminent players to the students were greatly appreciated and will be remembered for long.

## KASIGA SCHOOL HOSTS TENNIS TOURNAMENT

Tennis is a sport with both physical and mental benefits. It helps in making a person versatile and adaptable to different conditions. Kāsiga School hosted the All India Seniors and veterans

Tennis festival on 30th and 31st January 2016. The much awaited tournament was inaugurated with the opening match played by the Chairman of



Kāsiga School Mr. Ramesh Batta, who is a great sports enthusiast. The tournament took a flying start with the energy filled matches played by some of the International and National seniors players ranked in the International Tennis Federation Seniors circuit .The tournament was played on the basis of league Team format. The participants were representing the most prestigious clubs from all over India. The festival came to an end with the most thrilling finals, which was won by the Delhi Club, who defeated the strong opponents from the Moradabad Club by 4 matches to 2. This festival was a source of great motivation for the Kāsiga Students. The prizes were given away at the valedictory function by Dr. Neeta Bali, Head of Kāsiga School. She kindled the spark in the audience with her inspiring speech at the closing of the Festival which left an indelible impression in everyone’s heart

## INVESTITURE CEREMONY 2016-17 AT KASIGA SCHOOL

Kasiga School organised the Investiture ceremony for the newly appointed student council on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February. The chief guest, Mr. Sandeep Dutt, a renowned philanthropist and social



entrepreneur along with our Chairman Mr. Ramesh Batta, Mr. and Mrs. Siddharth Batta, Head of School, Dr. Neeta Bali, Deputy Head, Mrs. Nalini Pathak, the staff members and the students witnessed the solemn event.

In any school, an investiture ceremony is one of the most important events. The faith, trust and hope invested in

each member of the newly appointed school council make it a memorable day for all office bearers. The School choir's rendition of 'Stand Before My Eyes' and 'Wind Beneath My Wings' enhanced the solemnity of the occasion.

Saiyyam Agarwal was chosen as the Head Boy and Aditi Aryal was nominated as the Head Girl. Various other offices of responsibility were allotted to the new members of the student council. The Head of School administered the oath and all the members of the council were officially sworn in.

The Head Boy and Head girl spoke of their dreams and ambitions and promised to live up to the expectations of the School community. It was a proud moment for them.

The close link between leadership and caring was emphasized by the Chief Guest. In his speech he stressed the significance of empathy and stated that a true "leader is not seen but felt; he lives in the hearts of his followers". He added that one should never stop caring for oneself and a leader must possess a positive mindset. A leader should always be



grounded and not get carried away. One should lead with a smile on his face, he reminded the members of the student council.

The Head of School expressed her views on leadership and reiterated the message of the Chief Guest while categorically stating that there is no set pattern for leadership. According to Dr. Bali, it is a learning experience and a leader needs to create an impact and positive change in all situations. She highlighted the importance of compassion, caring and an upbeat attitude.

The Chairman, Mr. Ramesh Batta, while speaking of leadership pledged to lead the Kasiga family. He also urged the student leaders to be honest and true to themselves.

The program concluded with the national anthem.

Kasiga dearly hopes that the newly elected student council will be judicious in its decisions, temperate in its conduct and steadfast in its principles. We wish them all the very best.