



May, 2014

# Expressions

## Newsletter of Kāsiga School

Volume:1

Dear Reader,

*The perfect hallmark of a school in the making is to provide a child an experience of an all-embracing pursuits; from academics to cultural, national to global and emotional to intellectual where he enjoys the formative years of his life in a truly engaging manner.*

*We are happy to reintroduce the Summer edition of Expressions, the School Newsletter. As we are committed to endorse the myriad milestones that together chart the success story of our beloved institution, we reassure you of an articulate, confident and responsible journalism too. Expressions aspires to uphold the legacy of moral reflections and educational ethos of Kāsiga to set a new benchmark of excellence.*

*We welcome your response and cooperation.*

*The present issue covers a cascade of events that reflect the beginning of an excellent progress.*

*-Department of Publications*

**B**efore preparing this newsletter, we tried to forecast our lives after ten years from now.

A weary afternoon in the porch of some multinational company where you are lonely amidst many, a long wait in an airport lounge or simply a constant beeping from the ever-officious i-Phone 50! The moments of professional hazards will barely be a source of solace. When your routine mind is frantically looking for some inspiration, your iPad bleeped; moving your dreary eyes towards the inbox, you suddenly discover the 'latest issue of *Expressions*' winks at you. A gleam of excitement suddenly paralyses you and, needless to say, you immerse in nostalgia. As you skim through the Latest News columns, you experience a *déjà vu*: the cluster of wild petunia that was once a feast for your eyes, the lush green field where you used to weave your dreams of scoring the highest run in Cricket Tournaments, the masculine pillars of the MSB you used to hide behind during morning assemblies, the classroom locker you once scribbled your names beside hers, the familiar

faces of those catering staff who stood on the other side of the buffet counters in CDH, the teachers' frowning and shouting for not doing your prep, the leafy undergrowth beyond the barricades of main gate, the twinkling lights of Mussoorie hills and even that one brick in your hostel wall you chiselled the first letter of your name, come alive.

A journey through the lanes and alleys of memory is a definite comeback in our future when we look for those lost moments of glory and defeats, we had left forever. It is a feeling of curiosity that reminds us of our cherished landscape of childhood. A School Newsletter is a testimony to those subtle footprints. It is not a mere recording of our past but a fusion of those myriad moments that makes us what we are today.

The renewed first edition of *Expressions* holds some incredible thoughts that must make you retire to the seasons you have left for eternity. Hold your breath to experience these indelible footprints of the School in the making. Celebrate the birth of a legacy. Enjoy reading.

*-Editorial Board*

## Vignettes

This is inevitable. A visit to Kāsiga through the meandering boulevards of Dehradun is nothing but an occasion; a celebration of nature with its bounty and benediction. The Herculean hillocks romancing the molten meadows, the far-flung mountains as obedient watchdogs carefully guarding their virgin modesty while the brooks flow with a wild placidity, unperturbed and unpremeditated. The whole place looks like an ancient shrine where the myths were born and died, unnoticed and un-revered. Dehra is, truly, an epitome of terra incognita, veiled under an infinite allure; far from the realm of human imagination. At Kāsiga, this aesthetic appeal culminates to a surreal delight.



### *Don't be a prisoner of your own life*

*From the desk of the Chief-Student-Editor*

Sometimes, things come to you, but you ignore them. It maybe, you didn't want them in the first place or they were the only things you wanted since the beginning but by the time they came to you, you had already lost hope and must have moved on in life.

Today, we talk about the mental map and dreams of every person; whether it is a child, a teenager or an adult. Everyone creates an imaginary world in his mind which he feels is going to come true one day and he will turn out to be the hero in future. A child thinks that one day he will play like Sachin Tendulkar or will get fame like him or be a scientist like Einstein. A teenager thinks that if he is the 'coolest person' among his peers, and if he gets popular that way, the world is also going to recognize him/her the same way later. An adult thinks of becoming rich day by day, aspires why can't he be rich like Mukhesh Ambani or why can't he be the next Bill Gates or earn a name for himself in the IT sector? The problem is not with the people or what they want to become. The problem lies actually in their process of thinking.

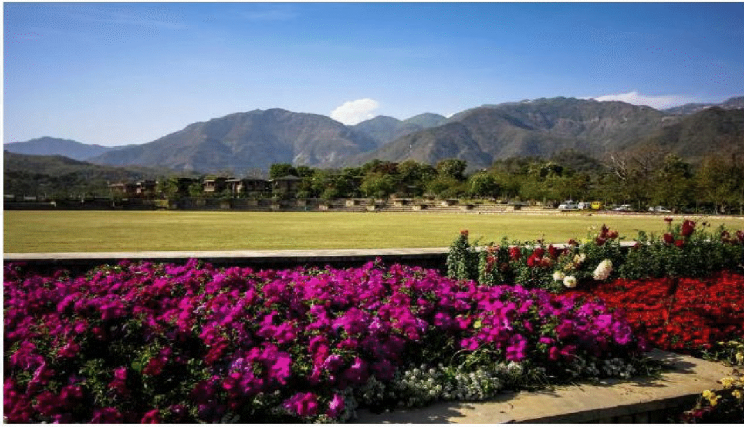
Yes, surprised to hear that? But reality actually lies in the root of thinking. Where thinking starts, the actual problem starts as well; whether it is a child, a teenager or an adult. Why are they only thinking of becoming someone who is popular or who is famous in society? Why do they only want to become some 'other' person in life? Why can't they think that everyone is unique and everyone has a particular spark in them? If they can encourage their own talent, who can stop them from being successful? The problem is that every individual is forced to become someone or the other. People who

force them can be sometimes their parents or an icon that they slightly look up to in their imaginary world. Not every person imagines in this way. Instead, those who encourage them to imagine in this manner create basic problem for today's generation.

Today's world or generation has locked themselves in a prison from which they are not likely to come out. When opportunities come to them, they neither like to use them nor do they want to encourage themselves to avail these opportunities. They just want to hide themselves in that prison and want to live a lifestyle that can't be appreciated anyway on this road of life. Everyone needs to understand that there is a need of self-discovery for getting the best in life and realising that getting fame is not the only thing in life. Getting popular is good but only for those who can handle them and take it in a positive way. Being confident and simple should be considered as a priority in life and not getting carried away with popularity and things that affect the future.

The conclusion to this is that; come out of the thoughts, imaginations and other things that stop you from discovering your own identity. Getting to know who you are yourself is the best achievement in life, set examples for those who have lost them in the boulevard of past glories. Nobody but you can escape from this circle. The way of doing this is by involving yourself in activities which keep you busy, being socially active and connected with the world in a positive way. Don't live in a prison of your own making. Come out of the prison and discover the real tough life with every possible and positive aspect.

## Vignettes

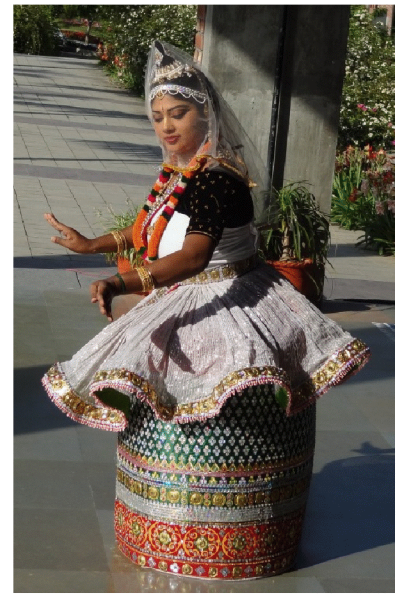


Learning at Kāsiga is a spontaneous event that forges a way of living to the impressionable young minds with a desire to scale new heights. Education is built in the paradigm of liberal, inspirational and forward-looking principles where health and happiness, duty and diversity, self and service and knowledge and know-how create a magical mélange of future and fulfillment.

# School News

## SPIC MACAY

### Manipuri Dance Recital



The Dehradun Chapter of SPIC MACAY, in collaboration with Kāsiga School, had organised a Dance Recital on the 26th of April, 2014 at the Central Courtyard. Ms. Bimbavati Devi, a distinguished Manipuri dancer along with her troupe had presented various traditional and folk dance forms. The programme started with a brief description of different dance styles culminating in scintillating solo and duet performances. Assisted by singer N Romila Devi and percussionist S Tomba Singh, a variety of dance presentations, Basanta Raas, Pung Cholon, Nani Churi, Mandira Nartan were performed by Ms. Arpita Saha, another ace dancer and Ms. Bimbavati Devi. They had truly mesmerized the students and Staff with their scintillating gyrations. A special mention must be made to S Tomba Singh who performed a remarkable spinning motion in dance while playing his instrument. A lecture-demonstration on the basic steps of Manipuri dance was presented by Ms Devi who also held a brief interactive session with the Staff and students at the end enlightening us with the significance of diverse folk and traditional culture that inspired Manipuri Dance.

The artistes were felicitated by Mr. Ashish Arora, the Head of Activities at Kāsiga School with a vote of thanks. The event ended leaving an indelible mark of true inspiration on the dance enthusiasts at our School and opened a glorious window for further promotion and learning.

## US NASA SPACE CAMP

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of April, 2014, a presentation session was organized on the NASA Space Camp in the Central Courtyard for all the students of Grades VII to XII in the evening. Inizio Edutech in collaboration with Kennedy Space Center, NASA and United States Space and Rocket Centre Huntsville, Alabama had organised this presentation which introduced their programme, Inizio Space School that facilitates and organises such international camps for Indian students.

The session had sparked an excitement among the students who were thrilled to witness the real-time space activities that they can participate into and awe-inspiring space shuttle mission simulations, they can interact through.



The evening's engagement had opened a fresh global dimension to the overall education of the students. It had ignited a new dream and instilled a professional zeal for an emerging field of study.

## ADULT LITERACY DRIVE

Kāsigna School organised an Adult Literacy Drive on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April, 2014. The objective of this campaign was to empower the utility workers of Kāsigna family with basic literacy skills, such as; teaching them how to converse and write, filling railway reservation forms etc.

The programme helped us to interact with these support staff and exchange viewpoints of each other in a constructive manner. The participants were quite candid in relating their occupational honesty to maintain this beautiful campus even more neat and graceful. The drive was only the beginning and the same will be carried over at a regular basis, with more energy and better efficiency. Further initiatives, like habit of newspaper reading, essay writing and more are in the pipeline that to be introduced in our next sessions.

In the end it was a positive and value-added experience which has enriched all the participants. We look forward to our next engagements.



## Design & Technology and Global Perspectives: Project Report 2014

Come May-June and everyone is holding their breath for the CIE Examination Sessions. This year is no different with expectations surging high like never before, especially from the IGCSE Design & Technology and the Global Perspectives students.

with the increased-standards set previously, this year's 7 Design Projects aim at solutions to real-world problems.

Aryan Chaurasia's 'Automatic Light Intensity Controller' is designed with mechanism that can preserve energy when not in use and can use an LDR (Light Dependent Resistor) to detect the ambient light conditions.

Dhruv Bansal's 'Temperature Controlled Fan' is looking at solving the problem of detecting the ambient temperature and controlling the speed of a fan (for the summers) and geez, it is getting hot here in Dehradun. So, his project should be a welcome-gizmo to beat the heat.

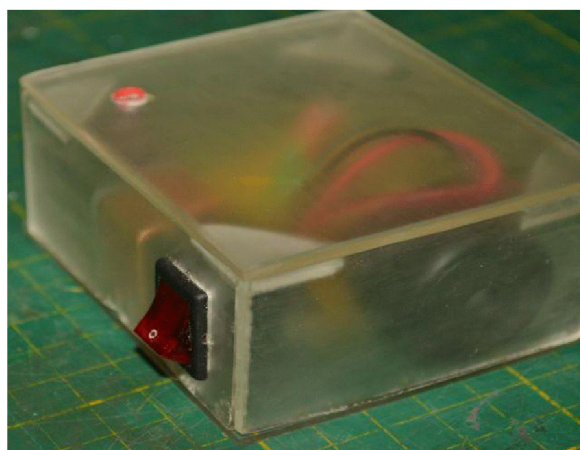
Jaspreet Singh has devised a bell, very pertinent to the Boarding House facility here that rings at specified times with controls that can also be channelled manually, considerably reducing the work-load of the Matrons, Wardens, Dorm-Parents and, of course, the Prefects!

Wangda Tenzin comes up with a very practical solution that will be useful in the monsoon. It is called a 'Rain Alarm' and will sound an alarm where the sensor will be triggered by rain.

Stanzin Stobdan's project is one that would be useful to all. It is aptly named 'The Charger' as it blurts an alarm the moment a device is not charging whether due to a power cut or a faulty charger.

Ngawang Lobsang's project appeals to all shoe lovers; especially football studs. This 'Shoe Shaper' uses vapour from hot water to soften the shoe and the shaper helps maintain its shape so that it doesn't lose its charm.

Finally, Rahul Shrestha's project acts as a warning to all loud music listeners. It sets off an alarm and automatically reduces the volume of the audio to a frequency that is safe for human ears without damaging it!



As for the two Global Perspectives Group Projects of this year, we have students of Group 1 headed by Rahul Shrestha on Water, Food and Agriculture specifically looking at 'Reducing Water Wastage.'

As a natural outcome, an Assembly was held on the World Water Day 2014 to spread awareness through making posters etc. They also did a commendable job of getting a varied Cross-Cultural Collaboration report from people in the United States of America, Australia, Argentina and France to understand the stand of people in different areas of the world.

Group 2 is looking at 'Belief Systems' in general and addressing the factors of various superstitions fostered by various religions and cultures. The Group, headed by Sauhardh Shrestha saw a Facebook page made with an objective of spreading awareness among us with approximately 400 likes and climbing. They also spoke at the School Assembly about the same and approached the Bursar with an idea to introduce international cuisine into the menu so that students can understand and look at food from different perspectives.

As the exams for all CIE students draw closer with each passing minute, we wish them the very best for their examinations and hope they will set even higher standards than their predecessors.

Once again,

All the Best.

-Stephen Irom Gatphoh

AS Level



# Junior School News

## Reading Programme - Junior School

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April 2014, Junior School Oxford Reading Programme commenced. The students were introduced to the Reading Programme with the aim to develop and enhance their skill of reading. This well-known and exciting Beginner's Reading Programme is very important, especially at these early stages. It encourages a child's interest in reading by getting into the habit of reading regularly. School's endeavour will not only be directed towards monitoring the knowledge growth, but also towards making the entire process of reading enjoyable and self-satisfying for the child.

## CREYA Learning

Between 21st and 26th April, 2014, in synergy with Creya Learning, a Chennai based pioneer in new-age education, a teaching-learning programme commenced at Kāsiga for Classes V and VI. The pilot programme took off with an objective to help students observe and practise the following:

Thinking skills - Analytical Thinking, Problem Solving and Creative Thinking

Collaboration, Communication and Workplace Skills

To observe how students are able to relate to the Creya Curriculum content including the aspects like language, curriculum structure and learning practices

During the course of the programme students did two projects, Door Knob and Cart & Cart Launcher. The Engineering constructible training was a huge success and the teachers and the taught loved the experiential way of learning.

Our endeavour to leverage the kids with activity-based empirical learning had its first session underway through this initiative. We hope such refreshing and inspirational programme will instill a habit of 360° learning among the next-generation students at Kāsiga.

-Mrs. Ruma Malhotra, Head of Curriculum Development

## Easter Celebrations at Junior School



On the 20th of April 2014, Junior School celebrated Easter in Junior School Boarding House. The place was decorated with Easter eggs and paper bunnies made by our students.

The students were told about why is Easter celebrated and the significance it holds. The kids relished delicious cream cake, chocolate cookies and juice. On the whole, it was fun time celebrating with kids.



### Routes to Roots- 'Post Card Activity'

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of April, 2014, 'Routes to Roots' Programme had the second phase of Post Card Making Activity at School. Students from Classes 5-9 made picture postcards. Some of them pasted their personal pictures and wrote about them. Others, stuck pictures of Indian Historical Monuments and briefly explained about the same. The students enjoyed this activity because the post card made by them will be sent to Pakistan as a part of the Cultural-Exchange Programme.

### Hindi Kahani Lekhan Pratiyogita

On 30 April, 2014, Kasiga School Conducted HINDI KAHANI LEKHAN PRATIYOGITA. Students from the Junior school had participated in the competition. Students were given topics to write their stories, such as, *Pauranik* story, *Etihasik* story, *Paree Katha* and *Shikshaprad* story.

Individual Prize winners were:

First - Ridhi Dewan

Second- Ridhima Gautam

Third - Vansh Garg

House Positions:

First- Pacific House

Second- Nile House

Third-Amazon House

### Interactive session with the Dentist

On 26<sup>th</sup> April 2014, Junior School had organised an interactive session with the Dentist, Dr. Giggle Rastogi. She advised our students that dental diseases are generally avertable with timely oral care. The students from Classes 4 and 5 were made to understand that the mouth is no less an important organ for our health. Ways of brushing teeth, importance of fluoride toothpaste and eating at right time were some of the major concerns the Dentist spoke about. The session was synergistic and ended with flurry of questions from students which were promptly answered by the Dentist. *Articles & Photographs submitted by: Head, Junior School*

### Art Competition



On the 27th of April, 2014, a whopping number of 73 pupils from Classes three to eight had participated in an Art Competition. For one and a half hours, Examination Hall was abuzz with kids drawing and painting on various themes ranging from 'my favourite cartoon character' to 'street market.' The Competition saw these children using various medium and colouring techniques which was indeed a fascinating experience. Some of the artworks were displayed in the Central Courtyard the next day for the School to see and appreciate. The result of the competition was as follows:

Classes 3 to 5

1st : Riddhi Dewan

2nd : Uddyan Mandal and Dev Jain

3rd : Panna Tyagi and Pranjal Gupta.

Classes 6 to 8

1st : Garima Chaudhary

2nd : Shikha Singh

3rd : Ojasvi Rawat and Vikhyat Shivhare

*Mr. Satyajit Ghosh*



# SPORTS@KASIGA

## AMAZON HOUSE INDUCTED INTO KASIGA'S HALL OF FAME

**K**āsiga's strive for building a top-flight Cricket Team has been intensely successful in the recent years. A set of impressive and talented cricketers have set a high standard of cricket with their sustained effort and consistent performance.

It was 24th April 2014 and everyone was looking forward to the Final Inter-House Cricket Match between Amazon and Pacific, the mighty contenders at Kāsiga School. Anubhav Vashishtha (Amazon House) skipper won the toss and elected to bat first. Ajitendra Singh bowled the first over, and as it is quite known that our Pacific House quintessential workhorse doesn't get much swing but there is enough movement to keep everyone guessing. After five overs the score was 50 for the loss of one wicket. Amazon House kept the scorecard ticking and the pressure was building up on Ajitendra to take wickets.

Final was going on interestingly poised when Anubhav had to surrender to the wicket keeper after posting a formidable contribution for his Team. It was Sarthak Kesari's valuable stand that helped Amazon House set a target of 129 runs in 15 overs for their opponent, Pacific.

Pressure mounted on the opening duo of Pacific as they resolve to scale the mighty target. But fate had a different story to tell. Pacific's opener Siddharth misjudged a ball and instead of hitting, was trapped by the wicket-keeper on stumps. All eyes were set on Raghav (the other opening batsman) him but after adding good 35 runs, he also met the same destiny as his opening partner. Then Paras Negi was asked to bowl the last over where 20 runs were needed to win that match. Paras has made a trade-off that allows him more accuracy with sacrificing swing. Everyone was actually waiting to see Paras bowling the last over. Ajitendra came on the ropes to support his team.



First ball went for a double and rest by taking singles. 14 runs were needed from that last ball, and everyone knew that the coveted Trophy was in the hands of Anubhav. Pacific House lost the Final by ten runs. Ajitendra was declared the Best Bowler of the Tournament and Anubhav Best Batsmen.

*Rohan Bhatia, XII*



## KASIGA'S TECHNICAL TRIANGLE BRINGS VICTORY



On 27th April, 2014, Kāsiga School played an invitational Cricket Match against RIMC, Dehradun. Kāsiga won the toss and decided to bat first. It seemed that Kāsiga's opening batsmen were all determined to put the pressure on the opposite team. RIMC bowlers were finding it tough to rein kasiga's batsmen as they set out for a power play.

Siddharth Shakya scored 37 runs and finally, Kāsiga registered a target of 171 runs in 20 overs.

RIMC struggled miserably and in a momentum shift, they were all down for 42 runs.

It was Ajitendra who claimed 3 wickets and made it easy for the team to win and Kāsiga won by 128 runs.

Credits should be Given to Mr. Wasi Hasan (Kāsiga's Cricket Coach ) whose efforts and hard-work made Kāsiga end up conceding victory over RIMC.

## KĀSIGA TOUCHES THE 8-4 VICTORY MARK

Like Cricket, Tennis has also earned a crowning glory among the sports enthusiasts at Kāsiga. On the 26th April, 2014, the budding talents of Kāsiga Tennis Squad, in an invitational match against Welham Boys' School, had put up an outstanding performance on the tennis lawns.

Atishay, Kunal and Rishab each won two matches followed by Narayan who won one match. Rishab & Narayan won their Doubles too. Raghav Bansal of Class 12th lost his match due to a sudden injury on his leg while hitting the ball back. Madhav and Akshay had also lost their match due to sheer carelessness. But the brilliant technique of the players helped them to secure a victory with 8-4 against Welham Boys'. Credit goes to Mr. Tushar Sharma ( Kāsiga's Tennis coach ) for his undying enthusiasm in training the youngsters and taking this to new heights of excellence.

## HARD LUCK FOR KĀSIGA GIRLS

**I**t was on the 21st April'2014 when the second Girls Challenge Cup took a start. The Tournament started off as Kāsiga played their first match against The Summer Valley School, Dehradun.

Our team played with sheer grit and passion. Kāsiga won the match 3-0. Credit goes to the hard-working Coach Mr. Rawat and the girls' teamwork. All three goals were scored by our Captain Aditi Aryal and an excellent goal keeping by Tejaswani had witnessed some fantastic saves. Kāsiga qualified for the Quarter Finals of the Tournament.

Regrettably, the winning streak did not continue for long as Kasiga lost their 2nd match against Hope Town Girls' School and 3rd match against Unison World School.

Although victory was not achieved,



Kāsiga girls had earned accolades for their sportsmanship and strategic game-planning.

Tejaswani was declared the Best Goal-keeper of the Tournament.

*Guneet Mangat, XI*

# ✚ a lot MORE

## Junior Master Chef Competition for the Middle School



It was yummy. The sweet aroma of sumptuous sandwiches had filled the Central Dining Hall in the morning of Sunday, 4th of May, 2014. A set of young pupils, from Classes VI to VIII, took part in the Junior Master Chef Competition to experiment their culinary skills. They had gone through the trials of preparing dishes made of bread, eggs, cheese, mayonnaise, tomatoes, cucumber etc. After an entertaining session, all 42 preparations were judged by Mrs. Jyoti Nagraanee, Mr. David and Ms. Karin.

The 1st position was claimed by Abhin Malik, followed by Ananya Istmal and Archit Sacdeva who bagged 2nd and 3rd positions respectively.

### Anti-Plastic Drive



On the 4<sup>th</sup> of May, 2014, a number of pupils from Classes VII to XII visited our neighbouring Purkul village and Guniyal Gaon to set about a cleanliness drive. With the help of their Teachers, the kids made the locals aware of the hazards of littering the environment by indiscriminate use of plastics materials. The students were able to demonstrate their mission effectively by collecting five bags full of rubbish from the places around and disposing them in the garbage bins.

~Mr. Aldred Gomes (Teacher-in Charge)

### Sufi Dance Programme



To mark the World Dance Day, the children of Kāsiga School presented Sufiana Recital- 'ek shaam sufi ke naam.' The mystical evening started with the introduction of Sufi movement- A religious group of the 11th Century, mostly found in the regions dominated by the Islam.

The students of Classes 9 and 12 commenced the programme with a recital of Mirza Ghalib's *shayari* from 'Ghalib Nama'. It was then followed by a beautiful Sufi dance by Junior students while Hazrat Nuaz's verses were read.

The programme ended with an enchanting dance performance by Middle school. The entire event was directed and choreographed by Smt. Sharmila Bhartari, an ace Odissi dancer and disciple of guru Protima Bedi.

## Training in fire-fighting by the personnel of the State Fire Services



On the 26th of April, a fire-fighting training was organised by the Administration Department at Kāsiga in synergy with the State Fire Service. The main objective was to educate us with some basic safety measures while dealing with any fire-disaster. The training was indeed an important life-skill and we were much entertained to see us putting out fire (as a part of that mock drill), learning the fire control procedures and many other hands-on exercises with the help of government personnel.

## *Art School Outing to Mindrolling Monastery*



On the 4th of May, 2014, a few of us were escorted by Mr. Bapun Dutta and Mrs. T. Chatterji to the Mindrolling Monastery at Clement Town, Dehradun. We visited the Great Stupa built for World Peace (inaugurated on the 28th of October, 2002)

The monastery is a popular spiritual school which is a major study centre for Buddhist monks. The form of Buddhism followed in Mindrolling Monastery is Vajrayana Buddhism.

Our bus departed from School at 10 am and we arrived there at an hour's time. We had to take off our shoes first to enter the Stupa. We took a careful look at the beautiful murals inside as well as the large statue of Lord Buddha.

We climbed up to the next level and saw many statues showing different gestures, lined up against a backdrop of amazingly-detailed paintings related to the lives of the Great Teacher and his disciples. It being a Sunday, we were able to climb up to the top floor where

we also saw intricately carved statues and the terrace from where we got a spectacular view of the surroundings. We took a round of the Stupa and then descended the steps to the ground floor.

We then went near the large prayer wheel and spun it around. We took lots of photographs of the gardens, the large standing statue of Lord Buddha in the distance and of the various structures around. We then did some window shopping in the small market nearby. We went next to see the Monastery, but as the assembly hall was closed we just looked in amazement at the large display of murals. There were fascinating wood carvings on the main doors too.

We finally boarded the bus and were given snacks to eat. We would like to thank the teachers-in-charge for taking us to the monastery and making our Sunday fruitful. We look forward to being taken to more places of historic and artistic interest in future.

*Pristina*

## SEWA Programme

Junior School students were introduced to the SEWA programme, an initiative by CBSE, on the 1st of May, 2014. SEWA stands for Social Empowerment through Work and Action. The concept is based on the idea of “learning to live together.”

As a part of this programme, we will focus on developing social consciousness of the learners through simple but meaningful work at the individual level and actions at a group level.

In a globalized world, it is important that each learner needs to realize that no person is an island and must live as a confident, competent and contributive citizen of a vibrant society.

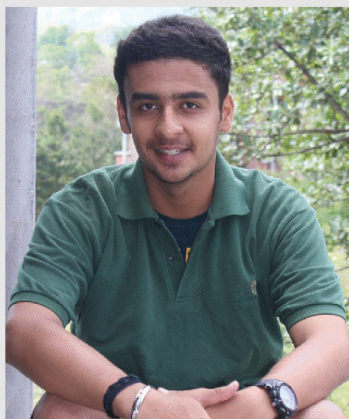


Ms. Kamini Sharma

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Arsh



Rohan



Stephen



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Yash



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