

EXPRESSIONS

"Even though the future seems far away, it is actually beginning now."

~ Mattie Stepanek

Annual Day Celebrations

Kāsiga School celebrated the 9th Annual Day.

Kāsiga Boys Excel in Lawn Tennis

Rock School Examination

Kāsiga School delegation Visits - Wasatch Academy - USA

Ist All India P.C.Batta Memorial Inter School Tennis Tournament

Activity Based Science Workshop



ECHOES FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL....

A cursory glimpse at the landmarks crossed and the benchmarks set by Kāsiga School in the past few months is testimony enough to the above statement. The months of October and November served as catalysts to make this journey towards a resplendent future thrilling but rewarding. It blurred all geographical boundaries, if any, and renewed the motto of holistic learning other than delving deep into the aesthetics of education. The Annual Day celebrations, the talent showcase, the Rock School Examination, the visit of Kāsiga School delegation to Wasatch Academy, the 1st All India P.C. Batta Memorial Inter School Tennis Tournament and the Science Exhibition all contributed in their own way to strengthen the resolve of the Kāsiga family to overcome the adversities and surge ahead towards the pinnacle of fulfillment.



Kāsiga Annual Programme- Day 1

On the 26th of October 2016, Kāsiga celebrated the first day of their Annual Day Programme. This day saw a remarkable variety of events being showcased by the students under the adroit supervision of the staff members.



The day began with the formal welcome of the Chief Guest, Mr. Matthew Raggett, Head Master of The Doon School, who along with the Chairman, Mr. Ramesh Batta and Head of School, Dr. Neeta Bali lighted the ceremonial lamp. A mellifluous piano recital of “The River Flows in You”, followed by a marvellous percussive rendition of Taal Kachehri, in which instruments such as Tabla, Dholak, Pakhavaj, Congo, Jamabay and Cajon were played by the students, left the audience enthralled. Then, a Nepali Dance showcasing the rich cultural heritage of Nepal was performed and was greeted with thunderous applause.

The Chief Guest then inaugurated the exhibitions put up by the students. The theme for the Social Science exhibition, “The Social Galore- past and present”, was “the significance and practical use of Social Science in the contemporary world”. The students displayed models of Sanchi Stupa, Qutub Minar, India Gate, Charbagh and the course of a river. A video illustrating various aspects



of Social Science was screened for the visitors. Various facets of Psychology were also highlighted by a number of Psychometric Tests that were conducted by the students on the visitors who volunteered. The Science exhibition left the audience spellbound with the magical tricks based on scientific theories performed by the students. The working principles behind devices and contraptions we use in everyday life were exhibited and a model of

the DNA was displayed. The students informed the audience, the different ways in which energy can be conserved. The Art and Craft exhibition featured paintings, wall hangings, 3D models and origami work on the theme “Birds”. The entire campus was decorated in accordance with this theme. All the three exhibitions were highly appreciated by the parents and other visitors.

A Talent Show, Prapancha 2016, was organised by the students and it began with an outstanding rendition of a semi-classical song, Padharo Mhare Des. The audience were left mesmerised by a spirited feat of a Spanish Song, “Don’t Part Ways With Me”, sung in a chorus by the students who



learn Spanish as a language in this school. Next, a Kawali of a Sufi song, “Is Shane Karaam Ka Kya Kehna”, was presented to the accompaniment of Tabla, Harmonium and Cajon. It was a soulful number. The program concluded with an exuberant band performance in which the students presented popular numbers and entertained the audience.

Two street plays were performed by the students on the themes “Tobacco abstinence” and “Saving the ecosystem”. The visitors who had gathered round the amphitheatre to watch the plays were full of superlatives for the incredible efforts put in by the students.

Soon after that an Orientation Program was held for the students of Grade VIII and X, in which the co-ordinators of CBSE and Cambridge elaborately explained the various features and characteristics of the two curriculums, so that the students can decide which one to opt for in their next academic year. A Parent-Teacher meeting was also organised.

The scholars, alumni and toppers along with their parents enjoyed a sumptuous lunch with the Head of School in the verdant lawns of her residence.

The day culminated with a Career counselling session for the students as well as parents, conducted by renowned counsellor Sushma Singh.

It was an eventful day that was not only entertaining but also enlightening.

Annual Day Celebrations- Day 2

Kāsiga School celebrated the second and final day of the Annual Programme on the 27th of October with pomp and splendour.



The day began with a grand fete organised by the staff members. Several delightful stalls were put up: Hoopla, Race ‘n’ Roll, Feed the Joker, Song Request, The Girls’ Stall, to name a few. The students immensely enjoyed taking part in the different games and activities and won wonderful prizes. Food stalls were also arranged and the students as well as their parents evidently had a wonderful time walking around and feasting on the

delicious items. At the same time the career counselling session that began last day, continued to attract the attention of eager parents who wanted to clear doubts and gain information regarding their wards’ academic future. Sushma Singh, a renowned counsellor, was instrumental in providing the parents with the much needed ‘know-how’.

The cultural programme in the evening had a glorious beginning with the welcoming of the chief guest, Shri Deep Kumar Upadhayay, who along with the Chairman, Mr. Ramesh Batta and the Head of School, Dr Neeta Bali lit the ceremonial lamp. Shri Upadhayay, who is the ambassador designate of the Federal Republic of Nepal to the Government of India, was overwhelmed by the warm hospitality showered on him by the institution. Many other eminent guests graced the occasion. The magnificent invocation dance set the tone for the evening and it was followed by a stellar performance by a grade XII student, Akash Gupta, who created an optical illusion on the stage using the movement of wheels and sand. The enchanting performance of the choir captivated the people present. Their rendition of We are the World and Wanderer’s Night Song was immaculate and enticing.



The Head of School read out the Annual Report in which she appreciated the incredible efforts of the students both in the field of sports and academics. She highlighted the fact that the staff members receive pertinent training and they have been requested by some institutions in India and

abroad to provide training to their faculty. She also elaborately demonstrated how the school has



effectively helped its students in choosing the appropriate career options by organising innumerable university fairs and arranging career counselling sessions. Her speech showcased the awards and golden moments of Kasiga through spectacular slides which brought those cherished achievements alive on the LED screen. International programmes like IAYP, visit of students from Wasatch Academy, Utah, USA and Little Angels School, Tokyo proved that Kasiga was truly becoming an

international school.

The students who were awarded academic scholarships were Hamza Shahzeb and Rishabh Rajgharia in the CBSE category while Akshay Gupta, Sparsh Garg and Sadhika R Thapa won in the IGCSE category. Sports scholarships were bagged by Kunal Goyal and Manish Singh. The other prestigious awards which were given away by the Chief Guest and the Head of school were the Academic Cup and the Cock house Trophy both of which were achieved by the Everest House. The Yearbook was also released by the Head of School and the Chief Guest.

In his speech the Chief Guest, Shri Upadhyay, expressed his immense happiness at being part of the programme and stated that he was amazed by the achievements of the students of Kasiga. He opined that Kāsiga was truly a centre for excellence where holistic education is provided and asked the school to consider him a part of the family. He also stressed on the need for universal peace.

The highlight of the evening was the spectacular dramatic production of Ramayana (Purushottam Ram), written and directed by Mrs. Sharmila Bhartari, who has been a student of the famous Odissi dancer Late Protima Bedi. The play delivered the universal message of the triumph of Good over Evil, which is extremely relevant in the contemporary world. It also categorically stated the duties of an ideal man and how transgression of ethical norms leads to grave consequences. The acting, direction, use of props and music enthralled the audience who used superlatives to voice their appreciation of the production. All in all the dance drama was a grand success and Mrs Bhartari and her troupe received a standing ovation.

The vote of thanks was presented and the charming evening concluded with the National Anthem.

Rock School Examination at Kāsiga School



On the 28th November, Kāsiga School hosted the Rock School Examination; Mr. Matthew Willshaw officiated as the examiner and he was accompanied by Mr. Pranshu Shekhar, 16 students of the school and two external candidates appeared for the various grade exams: Drums, Acoustic Guitar and Bass Guitar. All in the entire event was organized very successfully. Mr. Willshaw was of the opinion that even though Kasiga had hosted the examination for the first time, the candidates were well prepared. That, in itself was quite an achievement.

Kāsiga Boys Excel In Lawn Tennis



Kunal Goyal made Kāsiga proud by winning the title in the All India Tennis Association National Talent Series tournament in Doubles U-16 category held at Shanti Tennis Academy, Dehradun.. In the finals, Kunal Goyal along with his partner Aryaman Shukla beat Kartick and Arnav Yadav from Punjab and U.P. in the tightly contested match with the final score of 2-6, 6-2, 10-2. He played exceptionally well throughout the tournament in which more than 80 players from all over India participated.

Rishabh Rajgharia also performed to the best of his ability and reached the Quarterfinals of the Doubles U-16 and pre-quarterfinals of the Singles U-16 event. Divyansh Rautela reached the pre quarterfinals in the U-14 Singles and U-16 Singles and Doubles event.



Kāsiga School delegation visits Wasatch Academy - partner school in USA



A delegation of staff and students from Kāsiga School visited Wasatch Academy, UTAH, USA. The delegation comprising 5 girls and 2 boys were accompanied by the Head of School, Dr. Neeta Bali and Economics teacher, Mr. Aji Kumar.

Wasatch Academy is one of the leading schools in Utah region. Wasatch Academy and Kāsiga School have signed an MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) for 5 years to collaborate in various arenas including academic work, co-scholastic activities and collaborative projects.

Activities included exploring the region of the Salt Lake City, University of Utah and discussion with STUCO (Student Council) to exchange ideas. Students of Kāsiga School also shadowed the peers in the classes of the Wasatch Academy as well as attended the equestrian classes, jazz games, and classes in music conservatories. Another highlight of the visit was a tour of Arches National Park.

According to the Head of School, Dr. Neeta Bali, the visit aimed at giving the students of Kāsiga School an opportunity to broaden their horizons as well as collaborate with their peers in their partner school.



1st All India P.C. Batta Memorial Inter School Tennis Tournament

Kāsiga School hosted the 1st All India P.C. Batta Memorial Inter School Tennis Tournament from 19th to 23rd November, 2016. The much awaited tournament is the culmination of the dream of the Chairman of Kāsiga School Mr. Ramesh Batta which was



served as a tribute to the fond memory of his late father Shri Prakash Chand Batta. Mr. Ramesh Batta rightly pointed out “What we are today is because of our parents, it is they who moulded and transformed us into who and what we are today.” This is the inspiration to conduct the tournament and encourage the sport to provide an enviable platform for young budding Tennis players to showcase their talent. Mr. Ramesh Batta who is a great sports enthusiast and an adroit tennis player has taken this unique initiative in the field of

tennis, which is one of a kind in the whole region.

The ceremony commenced with the lining up of all the participating teams and arrival of the Chief Guest, Mr. Indu Kumar Pande (IAS). Mr. Pande inaugurated the prestigious tournament by sharing a rally on the court with the Chairman of the school Mr. Ramesh Batta. It was a delightful treat for



the audience to watch the two tennis enthusiasts on the court. The various teams from all over the region which participated in the tournament are: The Doon School Dehradun, Welham Boys School Dehradun, Aryan School Dehradun, Selaqui International School Dehradun, Col. Brown School Dehradun, Tula International School Dehradun and Kāsiga School Dehradun.

The tournament witnessed exemplary matches for five thrilling days. Kasiga School and The Doon School dominated the tournament right from the beginning to the final on the last day. Kunal Goyal of Kāsiga School became the Player of the Tournament by reaching the finals in almost every category. He won the under-19 individual Singles title in style by defeating both the top seeds from The Doon School in route to the finals, he was the runners up in the under 16 individual Singles event and also in the Open Team event. Rishabh Rajgharia became the new sensation on the block and mesmerized everyone by winning the under 16 individual Singles event and reaching the

finals of the Open Team event and semi finals of the under-19 individual singles event. Kasiga School had tough luck in the Open Team event and lost the finals to The Doon School.

The Doon School was awarded with the running trophy after the finals. The superb performance of Kāsiga School was applauded by all. The overall performance of Kāsiga School was phenomenal as Kāsiga outperformed all the other participating teams in the tournament with 4 positions in its kitty as compared to The Doon School with just 3 positions to their names.

Mr Ramesh Batta welcomed the Chief Guest Shri Ashok Kumar (IPS) ADG Uttarakhand Police/ Director Vigilance Uttarakhand for the closing of the tournament, who witnessed the final match of the Open Team even with his eyes brimming with excitement.



After the final match, Mr. Ramesh Batta, went down the memory lane, and shared his love for the game and how it was introduced to him by his son, Mr. Siddhartha Batta. Mr. Batta also expressed his ardent desire to promote the game of tennis in Uttarakhand through this tournament. The Chief Guest Shri. Ashok Kumar did the honours of awarding the prizes to the winners and runners up of the various categories in the tournament.

The ceremony concluded with the speech by Shri Ashok Kumar (IPS) who regaled the audience with his inspiring words. He said that one should play with the spirit of doing their best and not with the spirit of expecting their opponent to play badly. He also reiterated the importance of learning from one's success while learning from one's failures.

TOPIC: INDIAN CONSTITUTION

“A moment comes, which comes but rarely in history, when we step out from the old to the new, when an age ends, and when the soul of a nation long suppressed finds utterance” Jawaharlal Nehru

On 26 November back in 1949 ‘We the People’ of India took this step of breaking ourselves from the shackles of colonial past and entered in to a new age with the passing of the final draft of our constitution. Our Constitution is not just a book but a living document of the hopes and aspirations of people which they wanted the new age to usher in.

As an ode to this spirit Kāsiga School on 26 November, 2016 celebrated Constitution Day. To commemorate this day the Preamble and interesting facts about Indian Constitution was discussed. The students were made aware of the significance of this day and the importance of having a Constitution in a nation.

The assembly ended with on a patriotic note with the singing of the National Anthem in a jubilant chorus.

ACTIVITY BASED SCIENCE WORKSHOP FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL



Mr. Jyoti Parruck from 'Bigyaan' conducted an activity-based science workshop for 31 students of grade 7 on the 7th of November, 2016. The workshop comprised of two activities - making a parachute and using a pH indicator made from red cabbage. For these activities, the students were segregated randomly into groups of 5 or 6. The teams then worked together to build a parachute from materials provided. The materials used for this activity were things that are easily and readily accessible, such as bin bags, nylon threads and nuts. The teams were also provided with worksheets to guide them through the process of putting their parachutes together. At the end of the activity, the teams went to the amphitheater to try out their parachutes and have a race. The parachute that came down last was the one that won.



The second activity was meant for the students to be done individually. The students were provided with six test tubes each, filled with red cabbage juice, which is a natural pH indicator. The students were also provided a variety of diluted chemicals, such as lemon juice, potassium hydroxide, soap solution, and vinegar. The students added these chemicals to the red cabbage indicator, and compared the resulting rainbow of colours they got with a chart to find the solution of the chemical they were testing. This helped form a foundation of alkalinity and acidity for the young minds, and also gave them an idea about how pH can be used to quantify this.



The workshop was cleverly designed to use students' own curiosities and allow them to be innovative and self-dependent, while ensuring that they learned in the process.