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## Big News!

### Annual Cultural Event 'Orbitheatrum' (19th /20th /21st Dec)

A mega event spread over three days, where the students of classes 1-3, displayed their talents in the areas of performing arts, was held between 19-21st December at the school grounds. The young artists of class 1 showcased the 'Utsav' of seasons and how the changing seasons touch the lives of every Indian in the form of various festivals like Onam, Durga Puja, Lohri, Holi. They enthralled the spectators with their graceful depiction of these seasonal festivals through song and dance.

The performers of class 2 gave us a glimpse of the life and times of the frontrunners of the freedom struggle of India – Rani Laxmibai, Bhagat Singh and the great poet Subramanya Bharathi. Theirs was a truly inspiring show. Finally, the students of class 3 put up a powerful drama on life of 'Veer Shivaji'. The little actors and dancers mesmerized the audience with their performance. The overwhelming support and presence of the parents made this annual cultural event a day to remember for all.

## From the Principal's Desk

Isidore Rabi, winner of Nobel prize for Physics, when asked why he became a scientist, replied, his mother made him so, who never checked what he learnt at school but always asked if he asked a good question. Asking questions made him a scientist.

Its doubt and questioning that gets us education. If we don't know what we don't know, we believe we know and that is why we never know. I say there is no important talent than asking. If we all accept the accepted, there is little hope of advance. Instead of looking at, we must develop the courage and skill to look into. Unless we clear doubts, faith will have nowhere to be anchored to.

Asking questions is half the wisdom. The important talent is to apply that information to arrive at correct answers.

In the words of Rudyard Kipling,

"I keep six honest serving men,  
They taught me all I know,  
Their names are What and Why and When,  
And How and Where and Who,  
I send them over land and sea,  
I send them east and west,  
But after they have worked for me ,  
I give them all a rest."

We must remember all questions have to be answered. There may not always be ready answers, questions may lead to more questions, but the quest to seek must be the way of life. Critical intelligence is to be nurtured for true learning.

We believe there is always a better way, so let's doubt, question and explore.

Be inquisitive,  
Mala Jetly





## Flavours from our orchard



Diwali Break (7th – 20th Nov)

School reopened after the grand Diwali celebration on 21st November. The term started with several fun activities like planning and working for the Creative Display for the Pre-primary children and preparing for Orbitheatrum for Classes 1, 2 and 3. Moreover, the students were excited to meet their peers after this break and share with each other about how they spent their vacations.



DEAR Hour (26th Nov)

**'Libraries should be the beating heart of the school....  
.....not mausoleums for dusty books.'**

**Stephanie Harvey**

The **DEAR** day or **Drop Everything And Read Day** was a special reading celebration enthused by the Orbis School to make reading together a priority.

The Orbis School is aware that if students do not read regularly, it has a negative impact on their attainment.

The idea was to create a whole school reading culture as also to serve them reading reminders at home. The school would highly appreciate the support of parents towards our endeavour by constructing family reading time after the dinner hour or also have special sessions where guest readers are invited at birthday parties/ other special occasions at home.



Yugant Kadam, Sr. Kg. Strawberry



Ayush Jain, Jr. Kg. Mango



## Field Trip to Hypermarket (29th Nov)

A field trip to the Hypermarket was organized for Jr. Kindergarten children. The trip was undertaken to educate children about the foods they eat and also to connect them to the community they live in. Teachers spoke to students about different jobs people perform and about where the food they eat, comes from.

Teachers also highlighted the nutrition benefits of various foods and which are the items they should refrain consumption of, to stay healthy.



## Field Trip to Post Office (30th Nov)

A trip to the Local Post Office (Mundhwa) was arranged for the Sr. Kindergarten children. Beforehand, each student wrote a postcard to their parents wishing them a Merry Christmas. They were also educated on how to address the postcard/ envelope etc.

Once they were at the Post Office, the staff greeted the children and, the students in turn were fascinated at how mail is sorted and dispersed. It was a good experience and they looked forward to families receiving those postcards handwritten and mailed by them.

## Creative Display (5th, 6th, 7th December)

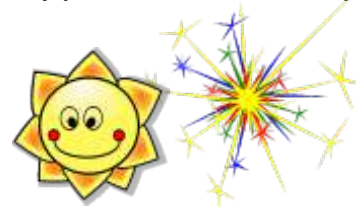
The Nursery and Kindergarten students showcased their creative work through the Annual Exhibition.

Several themes were chosen and they all reflected a common element in principle. The students underwent many enriching journeys through the year, during their involvement in the creative process of making and thinking. The range of artworks was impressive and a delight to be experienced.



## Christmas Celebration (21st December)

The little ones came dressed up in their best to celebrate together the festival of joy and love. The school stage came alive with their happy dancing on the tunes of Christmas carols, all exchanged greetings with each other, made Christmas cards and enjoyed the teacher talk on why and how Christmas is celebrated.







**I Grow More, I Know More**



## Field Trip (27th/29th Nov/ 3rd Dec)

Field Trips provide an opportunity for exploration and experiential learning which cannot be replicated in the classroom environment. Taking students out of the confines of the classroom breaks the monotony of simply going to school every day and presents an opportunity for fun and relaxation for the students. With these aims, the students of classes 1-6 went for trips and explored various learning avenues in the city.

Classes 4-6 went to a geyser manufacturing unit in Kharadi where they got a firsthand experience of large scale manufacturing industry.

The students of classes 2-3 got a great opportunity to witness the beauty and wonders of Mother Nature when they went to Kumar Bio-plant in Hadapsar. They saw various types of plants, herbs and flowers including medicinal plants and how these plants were grown and maintained in a controlled environment.

The young learners of class 1 went to a post office in Mundhwa. Children were very excited to see the postman in his uniform, who was busy sorting the letters. All children had beautifully decorated postcards in their hands with a message for their parents. They happily returned to school after dropping their post cards in the post box.



## Consumer Awareness and Protection Day (4th December)

Consumer awareness is about making the consumer aware of his/her rights. High prices, counterfeit articles, underweight and under – measurements, rough behavior, undue conditions, artificial scarcity are some of the ways by which consumers are exploited by manufacturers and traders. Food safety has become an important element of consumer awareness these days. In case of food products, its quality depends not only on its nutritional value, but also on its safety for human consumption. Consumption of contaminated or adulterated food is a major cause of human illness and suffering. Hence, an interactive workshop was conducted for the children of classes 4 – 6 to make them aware of these facts. They were told about various aspects of consumer awareness, consumer rights, consumer exploitation and food adulteration through discussions and PowerPoint presentations. Following the workshop, the students expressed their views on this and their understanding of the issues through write-ups and posters.

## NIE Workshop – NASA (29th November)

A NIE workshop was organized for the children of classes 4-6 on 29th November by Ms. Ria Mehta on Outer Space and NASA. She gave valuable information to the students about outer space including stars, constellations and galaxies. She also showed images of various artificial satellites and their importance in human life. The workshop ended with an interactive Q&A session where the students enthusiastically answered questions on NASA and space.



## NIE Workshop – Pottery (21st December)

A potter visited the school as part of the NIE workshop, and showed the children how using the open palm, thumb and fingers they can turn a lump of wet clay into pots, vases, lamps and incense stick holders!

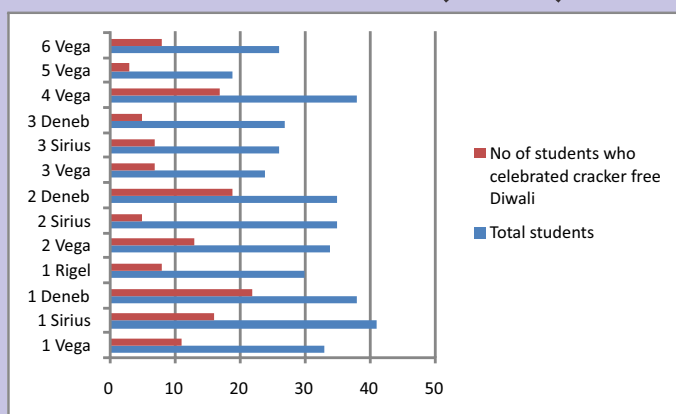


## Impressions and Expressions



### Cracker Free Diwali Feedback

As we at Orbis believe strongly in the philosophy of 'Conserve and Flourish', our children and teachers had carried out a 'Pollution Free Diwali' campaign in the days leading to the festival. After Diwali, our student editors carried out a survey in the school and collected data on how successful their campaign was. Here are some facts that show that the children are taking small but firm steps towards a healthier tomorrow:



## Field Trip (27th November)

Field trips are fantastic windows of opportunities that break the monotony of the daily classroom routines and make learning a celebration. The children of the Orbis School went for field trips during the last week of November and here is what some of them have to say about it:

Field trips are the activities that are designed to give knowledge beyond classrooms. So, for the same purpose we went to Solray electrical factory on 27th November. There we came to know about the process of making geysers and saw the machines and equipments involved. Overall it was a day which gave us an opportunity to learn more about electrical machines. It was a classroom beyond school and enriched our knowledge in many ways.

### Pranoy Mishra, Class 5 Vega

I was very excited on 27th November as we were going for a field trip from school. We went to a factory that manufactures geysers, where we saw various kinds of machine. There was a huge machine that was used to cut metal sheets. Other than the manufacturing process we also saw how the finished products were packed into boxes and sent to their destinations. It was truly an exciting trip for us.

### Sonal Sashikanth, Class 6 Vega

## My favourite teacher

My favourite teacher is my English Ma'am, she makes everything very easy to follow. She helps us do better. I want to be an English teacher in future! Here is my poem for her.

I look forward to your class when I come to school,  
You are an awesome teacher; I think you're very cool.  
You are smart and friendly and helpful to all of us,  
And if I get to grade you, from me you get A+!

### Paarth Agrawal, Class 3 Vega







## Personality of the month

From this month, we introduce a personality and produce some facts about them. We believe we all will find it inspiring and encouraging enough to push our limits further, and have fun too!

**Bachendri Pal** is an Indian mountaineer, the first Indian woman to climb Mount Everest, the highest mountain peak in the world. She was born in Nakuri village in Garhwal, Uttaranchal in 1954. A free-willing, fearless and adventure loving girl, Bachendri, by dint of her hard work and sheer determination, created history by reaching the peak of the Everest on 23rd May, 1984. Bachendri Pal had bagged several awards and recognitions during her mountaineering career. In 1985, she was conferred the Padamshree by the Indian Government. In 1986, she received the Arjuna award and in 1990, her name entered the Guinness Book of World Records and she was given the Fie Foundation's National Award.

Apart from training corporates and scaling new heights, Bachendri Pal has made significant contribution in training women in mountaineering and river rafting.



## Special Assembly

### Muharram (23rd November)

A special assembly on the eve of Muharram was conducted by the children of class 6 on 23rd November. Our principal, Mrs. Jetly in her assembly address mentioned the message of compassion and empathy given through occasions like this. She also emphasized the importance of right conduct in our lives.

### Christmas (19th - 21st December)

The school welcomed Christmas by singing carols and decorating their classrooms with joysticks, stockings, Christmas bells and trees. Children danced and ate together to live up to the true spirit of the festival which is joy, love and peace!



## Virtue Alone Ennobles

### The joy of giving

There is no greater joy than the joy of giving. Over the last month, the children of The Orbis School collected toys, clothes, stationery and many more things. The collected materials were sorted, grouped and then donated to an institution for the underprivileged children in Mundhwa area. The students, along with their teachers, interacted with the children with a happy smile that was reflected on the faces of those who received the gifts. A true life lesson in compassion indeed!!



The Bhagvad Gita tells us – *"Giving simply because it is right to give, without thought of return, at a proper time, in proper circumstances, and to a worthy person, is enlightened giving"*.

Charity, offerings and giving are common principles of all religions – it's the foundation of humanity. In today's materialistic and competitive world, where 'simple living – high thinking' is a thing of the past, the highest value that we can probably give to our children is compassion. Their little acts of empathy and kindness would add happiness to every life they would touch. We, at The Orbis School, are constantly striving to inculcate such values among our children. One such endeavor was our 'Joy of Giving' drive. We extend our deep gratitude to all parents who supported this attempt of ours.



## Teachers Corner

### The Question game

The art of asking questions is all important. This skill has to be developed and encouraged. Here's a game to help construct relevant questions. Take any object and frame as many questions as you can, for example here are some questions on water:

- What is water made of?
- Where does it come from?
- Why does it flow?
- Why does it solidify in the freezer?
- Why is it necessary for life/living?
- What forms does it take? Etc...



Build up the questionnaire further and then pose it to yourself, family, friends, teachers; look for information in the library, on the net, till all your questions are answered.

Play the question game as often as you can and see yourself know more and grow more.

### Smile

Life in today's world has become hectic, tough, competitive and full of worries. It has given birth to too many mood related disorders, specially anxiety and depression. One simple remedy is a "smile". Someone has rightly said "laughter is the best medicine!", and there are clinical evidences too to support this fact. So let's spread and bring smiles on everyone's face, as smile costs nothing but goes a mile in changing the world of those who receive it.

The rule is simple, more smiles you spread..... more smiles you get. So if you see a person without one, give him yours

Sita Venkateshwar,  
Class teacher, 2 Vega

### Principal's and Teacher's Symposium by Macmillan (1st December)

This symposium was organized by the educational publishing giants MacMillan India that focused on how subjects like Mathematics and English can be taught to the children in a more effective manner. The day began on a stimulating and motivating note with many eminent educationists sharing their views and wisdom with the participants. Later, the subject matter experts gave some hands on tips and tricks to the participating teachers on making the subject more interesting and lucid for the students. It was indeed a very useful session for the teachers.

### Computer Masti Workshop (8th December)

The school ICT teachers attended a workshop 'Computer Masti', a product of IIT Mumbai and InOpen Technologies at Wadia College, Pune. The idea behind was to emphasise on both the skills and the associated concepts in a way which is fun filled. The programme focused on strengthening thinking skills of students to help them approach complex programmes confidently.

### Keep Moving Movement- Life School Teacher's Meet (15th Dec)

A Teacher's Program was organized by Life School, on 15th December at the Ganesh Kala Krida Manch. The idea was to create a platform to share experience, insight and solutions with each other and to chart a brilliant future for our children.

Mr. Naren Goidani, the speaker gave our teachers some extraordinary life lessons and we will be sharing them with our students and enriching their lives in turn.



## I can do it!

Asking questions is fun, but so is answering them. Quickly answer the following questions based on your reading of the personality of the month.

- Q 1) What is Bachendri Pal best known for?
- Q 2) How many lady members were a part of her expedition?
- Q 3) Who was the Sherpa who scaled the summit with Bachendri Pal?
- Q 4) What qualities do you think made her achieve her goal?
- Q 5) Name the awards conferred on her?
- Q6) What are the other records set by her and what are her present day engagements? (Please find)

If you had the first 5 answers right, you have A+ reading skills! Well done!

If you missed some, you can read once more.





## Upcoming Events



Date	Activity	Class
Jan 7	School reopens after winter break	All
Jan 11	Kite making and decoration	All
Jan 15	Heats begin for sports day	P
	PTM	Nur 1 <sup>st</sup> Shift
Jan 16	Inter house mass PT Competition	P
	PTM	Jr. Kg 1 <sup>st</sup> Shift
Jan 17	PTM	Sr. Kg 1 <sup>st</sup> Shift
Jan 19	PTM	PP 2 <sup>nd</sup> Shift
Jan 24	Republic Day Special Assembly	PP/1-2
Jan 26	Republic Day Celebrations	3-6
Jan 28	Orbisports – Annual sports day	P
Jan 30	Cricket Finals	3-6



Rupesh More Class 1 Rigel



Siddhi Jaiswal Class 3 Sirius

## From the Editorial Team

The year has slowly come to an end. Everyday has been a celebration of learning. Amongst many of our accomplishments and celebrations Orbitheatrums has been the most recent one and we wish to thank our children for giving us the joy of watching them perform on stage.



Our blessings to the students who were a part of the big day and at the same time, we compliment our outstanding staff for their dedication and hard work. To watch our kids practicing in school was priceless.

A new school year is upon us and what an exciting mission this is going to be. We are humbled by the talent and potential our students have displayed at various forums this year and we look forward to training them and empowering them with the passion to excel.

And together with you, we look forward to new friendships, new challenges, new opportunities and new dreams being realized.

Wishing you all a prosperous and blessed new year!

Warm Regards

**Student reporters:** Paarth Agarwal class 3 Vega, Siddharth Iyer class 3 Vega, Ishika Gupta class 3 Sirius

**Staff editors:** Nisha Karthigeyan, Anita Bhattacharjee, Shahi Farooqui.

## Thought for the month

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds you plant

- Robert Louis Stevenson

