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## From the Principal's Desk



It was late in the evening. Heavy showers had made it darker and colder than usual. I was waiting at the traffic signal when I saw these two boys failing miserably in trying to cover themselves with a tattered plastic sheet. I looked around, there were umbrellas, raincoats and no one seemed to have been caught unawares since it had been raining incessantly all day. I looked back at the boys who were still struggling to beat the rain. Their bare feet, worn out clothes were telling the tale of their very meager means. I was sad. I wished to do something for them, but what could I, at that time and that place, I thought. Convinced that I want to but cannot, I moved on as the lights turned green. What happened after that changed my definition of 'the ability to help'. The car in front of me stopped near the boys, an umbrella was extended from inside of it towards them. A ten second conversation was all it took before the car moved on and the boys opened the umbrella with a smile.

I understood, whenever there is a human in need, there is an opportunity for kindness. Even the smallest drop counts. A little thought, a little care, a little deed, can make a big difference.

I learnt my lesson that day. Have you?

Be the change.

Mala Jetly



## Big News!

### Investiture Ceremony (8<sup>th</sup> July)

*"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." — John F. Kennedy*

Now is the time to groom and guide the leaders of tomorrow by giving them an opportunity to lead and responsibilities to shoulder. The office bearers for the Students Council of The Orbis School for the year 2013-14 were sworn-in in a solemn investiture ceremony. The day began with singing of the School Anthem followed by honouring the outgoing Students' Council Members by awarding them with certificates by the Principal to commemorate their efforts in the last academic year and to serve as a reminder that responsibility and power go hand-in-hand. Subsequently, the new members took their positions – the badges of the School Captain and Vice Captain were pinned by the Principal and the badges of the House Captains, Vice Captains and Sports Captains were pinned by the respective house mistresses. The office bearers received their sashes from their proud parents who were also invited to be part of the ceremony. The school flag and the house flags were handed over to the new members by their predecessors following which the council members took the oath administered by the Principal. The new office bearers, in their respective speeches, mentioned how they are going to fulfill their responsibilities in the coming year and thanked the teachers for bestowing them with the privilege. The formal vote of thanks was read by the School Vice Captain.

*See 'I Did It' section for the names and designations of the office bearers.*

## Flavours from our orchard

### Show and Tell (11<sup>th</sup> July)

Expressing thoughts is one of the most important cognitive developments in childhood. This helps children to verbalise their mental processes, enhance speech and boost confidence. A "Show and Tell" event was conducted for Kindergarten children, where they got an opportunity to speak about their favourite fruits. We got some valuable tips from our tiny tots that all fruits keep us healthy like citrus fruits protect us from cough and cold, an apple a day keep doctors at bay. The little stars later happily posed in front of the camera with the cut outs of their favourite fruits.



### PTM (6<sup>th</sup> July – Nur., 13<sup>th</sup> July – Jr. Kg, 20<sup>th</sup> July – Sr. Kg)

A Parent Teacher Meeting (PTM) is the time to exchange notes between the two to optimise the benefits of parent-teacher collaboration. To achieve this aim PTMs were held for the Pre-Primary wing on 3 consecutive Saturdays, which noted a good number of attendees. It helped parents to understand their child's scholastic and co-scholastic performance and teachers to explain each child's learning graph and the learning procedures.

### Plantation Day (22<sup>nd</sup> July)

Plantation Day at The Orbis was celebrated with due enthusiasm and fervour. Children were told about the importance of a greener earth and how it helps to clean our environment. They started right from sowing the seeds and were really happy to see the sprouts next day. Children displayed their aesthetic skills in making the impression of the trees with vegetable printing, paper tearing and pasting and thumb printing. Little stars drew happy trees which reflect that they were instilled with the idea of make everyday a plantation day. Nursery children were given small cut outs of trees as a part of Green Day celebration.



### Tiger Day (29<sup>th</sup> July)

It was a real celebration of learning, when the little learners of The Orbis School celebrated 'Tiger Day'. The word 'Tiger' evokes mixed feelings of fear and fondness. This animal is eminent in the kids' kingdom as India's National Animal and a common character of the stories written for them. The celebration of Tiger Day was aimed to inculcate the idea of protecting this endangered species from extinction. The foray gave them opportunity to be aware about the present scenario so that they respect, conserve and be a part of the 'Save Tiger' programme. Activities like face painting, making placards, colouring were enjoyed by all. They watched a documentary film and a tale toon on the royal animal.





## I Grow More, I Know More



### Election for the school captain and the school vice captain (1<sup>st</sup> July)

School elections provide a practical know-how for the students to gain a basic understanding of the election process and importance of democracy and offers an exciting and informative experience for the teachers and students alike. The students (classes 3-7) and the teachers of The Orbis School voted to elect the School Captain and the School Vice Captain for the academic session 2013-14. This day was preceded by weeks of groundwork in terms of creating an election committee of teachers, campaigning by the student candidates, preparing the ballot papers and the ballot boxes. Once the voting process was completed, the votes were duly counted and the results were announced on 4<sup>th</sup> July. Mihir Dangwal of class 7 Vega was elected as the School Captain and Darshan Rao of class 7 Vega was elected as the School Vice Captain.

*See 'I did it' for the student council nominated and elected for 2013-2014*



### Release of Book of Poems by Kavana (5<sup>th</sup> July)



One of the brightest stars on The Orbis School firmament, Kavana Anklekar, a student of class 5 Vega, had a book of her poems released on the 5<sup>th</sup> of July, 2013 in the premises of The Orbis School. Kavana and her sister, Karunya together created this wonderfully innocent, yet extremely insightful book of poems. Karunya is just five and is a student of Sr. Kg at The Orbis School, and the book is peppered with her drawings. The book contains poems written by Kavana over the last few years. The width of her range is fascinating, as is her insight into different things, which she probably is unaware of now, but like other child prodigies, just pulls them out of her hat when she chooses to. The book was formally released by our honourable Director Mr. Haseeb Faquih in presence of the Principal, Mrs. Mala Jetly, Director Mr. Amit Batra, Kavana and Karunya's parents and the students and teachers of the school. Her brilliant efforts were lauded and appreciated by both the Director and the Principal alike. We wish her many more such milestones in her life.

### Visitors (13<sup>th</sup> July)

The world is becoming a global village. Sharing and exchanging ideas and philosophies have become the call of the hour.

The Orbis School hosted some educationists from The Salisbury High School and East Garner IB Magnet Middle School from North Carolina, USA who had come down to understand the way we work. The Principal, Mrs. Mala Jetly, had an extensive discussion with our guests Ms. Karen Kelly and Ms. Sakinah Shakoor Riley from U.S and Ms. Nazura Sattar, Chairperson of the Anjuman-I-Islam's Girls' Orphanage managing committee and Ms. Seema Shadbar, Principal of Anjuman Islam's Pir Mohammed Girls' School, Pune in which they shared their visions and thoughts and how the two schools may work together in future.



## Best out of Waste Activity (15<sup>th</sup> July)

The three Rs or reduce, reuse, recycle is the best possible way we can conserve, sustain and flourish. The young Orbions took a firm step towards this by reusing waste material to create beautiful art and craftwork. Every student had a unique idea that made even the teachers wonder how ingenious little minds can be! Though every effort was lauded, the three best works from each section were chosen for a certificate of appreciation.

## Class Photograph (15<sup>th</sup> July)

A photograph speaks a hundred words and brings back special memories. The annual class photographs were taken for all the classes so that each student can fondly remember the special moments they spent with their friends and teachers in class.

## NiE Workshop (17<sup>th</sup> July)

An NiE workshop was conducted for the students of classes 6 and 7 by Mr. Shabbir which focussed on the topic 'Ecology and Environment'. He spoke in detail about the causes and effects of water pollution. He drew the attention of the students' towards the fact that how the causes differ in developed and developing countries but have the same devastating effects on all. It was a very informative and useful session for the students.



## Plantation Day (22<sup>nd</sup> July)

The students of classes 1 – 7 celebrated the month's theme of being responsible and to work towards conserving the environment by planting medicinal plants around the school campus. The Nature Club students took charge of the activity and helped the students to plant a variety of home remedial plants like tulsi, aloe-vera, coriander, mint, ajwain etc. The students were seen exchanging notes about the importance of such plants. This was another feather in the Orbis School's cap in terms of experiential learning.



## Virtue Alone Ennobles

Responsibility, the theme of the month stands for taking care of your duties, being answerable for your actions and being trustworthy.

It is also the core value for living honourably, being accountable for your behaviour and being dependable. Examples of responsibility are not too complex or big. They can be simple ones like doing your chores at home without being reminded, take care of your personal belongings, eat healthy food without making a fuss, and doing the right thing.

Responsibility is also a great educator. Being responsible means you may not be popular because you have to make decisions that could be tough, but also right ones. **You** have to define your goals, explore the choices and come up with great ideas.

Remember, *ideas do not work unless we do.*

**Sameer Khanwalker**



## Impressions and Expressions



Throughout the month of July, the school had been abuzz with talks, activities and programmes that reflected the theme of the month which was **'Conserve, Sustain, Flourish'** and **'Responsibility'**. These themes go a long way in shaping a students' mind and influence his/her thought process. This is demonstrated by the kind of creative and literary work done by them this time:

### I Am Responsible

I am responsible for the things I do  
From playing games and doing  
homework too!

It's for me to see that  
I am disciplined and honest  
It's I who decide for me  
Everything that is best

Think twice and then decide what to do  
For being responsible, this is the clue!

*Kashish Tahiliani, Class 7 Vega*

### My Planet

My planet is full of life  
There are fathers, children and wives  
Full of greenery and water  
And noise and laughter  
Our water is so pure  
That we are so sure  
Our land is so hard  
Not as soft as a card  
I love my planet  
So full of life!

*Sanyogita Sarin, Class 5 Vega*

### Tiger's Day!

'Bengal Tigers', we thrived long ago in this continent;  
Kings and courtiers, alas, hunted us to be pertinent.

'Prized catch!', 'Dead or alive!', they yelled  
A photo-op or two, down we were, they gelled!

From the earlier kings to the current day poachers-  
foe,  
Our bones, skins and claws are bravado or  
monetary-show.

Shoot us not, o Man, dead with a gun.....  
Shoot us alive, o Friend, with a camera for fun!

*Krishna Desikan, Class 7 Vega*

## Special Assemblies

### World Population Day (11<sup>th</sup> July)

The world citizens of tomorrow celebrated the World Population Day with a special assembly on the same topic. We reminded ourselves the secret of survival – conserve, sustain and flourish. This thought was implemented in the assembly by Class 1 Deneb through a poem recital related to conservation of trees. The class teacher, Ms. Firdos Khan, emphasised on conservation of trees in order to sustain our resources which are burdened due to over-population.

## Personality of the month

**Aamir Khan** is an actor, director and producer of superlative excellence who has established himself as one of the leading actors of Hindi cinema and a trail blazer of social causes. Starting his career as a child actor in Yaadon Ki Baaraat (1973), Khan began his professional career as a lead actor with Qayamat Se Qayamat Tak (1988). Despite being an extremely successful film personality, he is also involved with various activities aimed towards betterment of quality of life of the masses. In April 2006, Aamir participated in the demonstrations put up by the Narmada Bachao Andolan committee with their leader Medha Patkar after the Gujarat government's decision to raise the height of the Narmada dam. He was there to support adivasis (tribes), who might be displaced from their homes. On 30 November 2011, he was appointed as national brand ambassador of UNICEF to promote child nutrition. He is part of the government organised IEC campaign to raise awareness about malnutrition. The Government of India honoured him with the Padma Shri in 2003 and the Padma Bhushan in 2010 for his contributions in the field of performing arts. In April 2013, he was among TIME magazine's 100 Most Influential People in the World list. Aamir Khan has initiated a drive for collecting funds for the victims of the recent Uttarakhand floods. The actor-filmmaker, who has supported such causes before, started off with his own donation of Rs. 25 lakh.



## Teachers' Corner

### Magical Numbers – Maths Made Easy – 1

Welcome to the amazing world of numbers. Learning with numbers can be really fun if we know the little intricacies that numbers can create. There are many tricks that can be learnt to make the mathematical calculations uncomplicated and exciting. Let's start with the ancient system of Vedic Mathematics. This system was rediscovered from the Vedas by Shri Bharati Krishna Tirathji who presented the Vedic mathematical calculations in a simple manner which could be understood by everyone. Here is the first trick of this series:

#### Multiplication by 11 without using multiplication table:

E.g.  $23813 \times 11 = 261943$

To get this just follow these simple steps:

Step 1 – Write 1<sup>st</sup> digit as it is = 2

Step 2 – Add 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> digit =  $2 + 3 = 5$

Step 3 – Add 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> digit =  $3 + 8 = 11$

(carry forward 1 - the digit in ten's place, and add it to the sum of the previous step)

Step 4 – Add 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> digit =  $8 + 1 = 9$

Step 5 – Add 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> digit =  $1 + 3 = 4$

Step 6 – Write the last digit as it is = 3

Now solve the following sums with this logic:

$201416 \times 11$ ,  $341126 \times 11$ ,  $112341 \times 11$

Watch this space for more such exciting tricks in the coming issues

**Bhagyashree Jadhav, CT class 1 Antares**

### Using computers as cognitive tools

A cognitive tool helps you *think*. I do not believe that students learn from computers or teachers — which has been a traditional assumption of most people. Rather, students learn from thinking in meaningful ways. Thinking is engaged by activities, which can be fostered by computers or teachers.

So, the computer itself isn't the issue - the issue, as always, is what you do with it. For example, when the Web is simply used as a source of material that can be downloaded and pasted without thought, then no, it is not of value. But when the learner searches the Web, evaluates the information, finds the gold among the dross, uses that to construct a knowledge base, to develop meaning, then yes, it is a valuable resource.

Computers can support meaningful learning by

- reducing time spent on mechanical tasks such as rewriting, producing graphs, etc
- helping find information
- helping organize information
- making it easier to share information and ideas with others

The true value of a computer isn't seen until the user can use it not only as a **presentation tool** (for making work attractive), and as a **productivity tool** (for producing work more quickly, effectively, thoroughly), but also as a **cognitive tool**.

### PTA (20<sup>th</sup> July)

The 2nd Executive Committee Meeting of the Parent Teacher's Association of The Orbis School, for the academic session of 2013 – 14 was held in the school. All the scholastic and co-scholastic activities and the remedial programmes that come under the ambit of PTA, were reviewed. The calendar events for the month of August were also noted and approved by all the members.

### The Glory of Monsoons

Monsoons are a very exciting time of the year. Few countries in the world are dependent on the monsoons for water. India is one of such. Two monsoons, the North-West and the South-East monsoons bring rain, and as a result, a lot of water.

Monsoons help in understanding the importance of water. Children see the magic the monsoons create with the greenery all around, fresh smells in nature, fresh fruits, and vegetables, fresh flowers blossoming everywhere and of course the colourful illusions in form of rainbows.

Since monsoons come at the end of summer, they bring a welcome relief from the heat. There is joy all round as the first showers of monsoons sweep across the nation. Bright umbrellas, shiny raincoats and colourful caps dominate the landscape as people brave the heavy rains, flooded roads and traffic jams. Shops and malls offer special monsoon sales and hotels and restaurants offer special monsoon dishes.

Yet, let us not forget that monsoons also bring a tough time in the lives of the less fortunate, as water leaks through their roofs and there is slush all around, work in many industries comes to a standstill and earning their daily bread becomes harder.

Despite the hardships, people wait every year for monsoons and the magic created by them.

**Neeta Bhatia (CT, Sr. Kg Strawberry)**

### Being Responsible – The Orbis Way

*School and home Rules to be followed*

*Treat everybody Equally*

*Be Sensitive to all*

*Always be Polite*

*Be Obedient*

*Always be Neat and Tidy*

*Follow Safety measures*

*Always be Innovative*

*Be Brave to tell the truth*

*Always use your Intelligence*

*Spread Love around*

*Celebrate Independence*

*Be Truthful*

*Always Yearn for excellence*



**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.

- In which movie did Aamir Khan do his first ever screen appearance?
- Which awards were conferred to him by Govt. of India?
- He is the national brand ambassador of which UNICEF campaign?
- How did he start off the fund collection drive for Uttarakhand victims?



**I did it**

The office bearers for the Student Council of The Orbis School for the year 2013-14 are:



**School Captain:** Mihir Dangwal, Class 7 Vega

**School Vice Captain:** Darshan Rao, Class 7 Vega

House in charge

	EXPLORERS	GUARDIANS	INNOVATORS	VANGUARDS
Captain	Ayushi Parikh, 7 Vega	Krishna Desikan, 7 Vega	Kashish Tahiliani, 7 Vega	Nihal Hebbar, 7 Vega
Vice Captain	Sonal Sashikant, 7 Vega	Aryan Ramawat, 7 Vega	Nandini Jadhav, 7 Vega	Chirag Karachiwala, 6 Vega
Sports Captain	Ruchi Hooda, 6 Vega	Swarali Kale, 6 Vega	Manas Raj, 7 Vega	Kamaal Khan, 7 Vega

## Do you know?

All species have their own unique abilities. Read on .....

1. Australian termites can build mounds twenty feet high and at least 100 feet wide.
2. Birds don't urinate.
3. Ants never sleep. Also they don't have lungs. Worker ants may live seven years and the queen may live as long as 15 years.
4. Horses and cows sleep while standing up.
5. If you lift a kangaroo's tail off the ground it can't hop – they use their tails for balance.
6. The horn of a rhinoceros is made from compacted hair rather than bone or another substance.
7. The bat is the only mammal that can fly. The leg bones of a bat are so thin that no bat can walk.
8. Bats always turn left when leaving a cave.
9. A tarantula spider can survive for more than two years without food.
10. Even when a snake has its eyes closed, it can still see through its eyelids.



## Upcoming Events

Date	Activity
3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug.	: PTM (5 – 7)
5 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: Movie
8 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: World Citizen Day Special Assembly
12 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: IBA Monthly Theme (1 – 7), Poster Making (3 – 4 ), Grandparents' Day (PG & Nur.)
14 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: Inter house patriotic group song competition, Independence Day Special Assembly
15 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: Independence Day Celebration (4 – 7)
16 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: NiE Workshop
17 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: PTM (1)
19 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: Raksha Bandhan Special Assembly (P), Rakhi Making (PP)
21 <sup>st</sup> – 23 <sup>rd</sup> Aug.	: Visit to hypermarket (PP)
24 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: PTM (cl 1)
26 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: Group Dance (classes 1 – 2), Janmashtami Special Assembly
29 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: NiE Workshop
30 <sup>th</sup> Aug.	: Basketball Finals



Sumedh Bajagur -2 Vega



Mugdha Shrya - 1 Antares

## From the Editorial Team

Seeing the children grow up by embracing knowledge and values at the same time is a dream of every educator and parent. Imparting mere education without virtues is like setting sail on a ship without radar. We have been constantly striving to ensure that our children get every opportunity to be a virtuous learner. Monthly themes that we follow at the school are proving to be an excellent, stress-free value education tool for the students. This year we have been following two parallel themes every month – a value based theme and an awareness based theme and the response so far has been very encouraging.

Dear readers, we would sincerely appreciate any feedback or write-up that you may have for Orbuzz.

Happy reading!

Warm regards  
**Anita Bhattacharjee** (Chief Editor)  
**Sameer Khanwalker, Ishita Banerjee, Amrita Kar** (Co-editors)  
Student Editors: **Krishna Desikan, Mihir Dangwal, Ayushi Parikh, Kashish Tahlilani, Hardit Nirula**

## Thought for the month

We are made wise not by the recollection of our past, but by the responsibility for our future.  
**George Bernard Shaw**

