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From the Principal's Desk

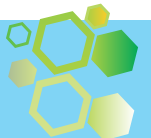
These made to look simple complications in the world of electronic gadgets, take me more than a while, to understand and accept, unlike the new generation kids who seem to be genetically wired for technical skill and are champions at learning and unlearning. It's not just technology that they take to, like a fish takes to water, watch them on the stage and be surprised with their ease, adaptability and confidence. They don't even know there once existed a thing called stage fright (Orbitheatreum did leave all of us speechless). Take some time out to see them on the field doing serious training. The character and physical prowess these youngsters display is an eye opener for those of us adults who feel this generation has no discipline. What I very recently witnessed at the IMA passing out parade at Dehra Dun was nothing short of a matchless spectacle of mental and physical capacity, determination and dedication. Their creative side also knows no bounds and no dictionary definitions keep them away from their unique styles of expressions that adults are so apprehensive to dwell and tread on. Talk of values and they in no uncertain terms cast their vote in favour of simplicity, dignity of work and forthrightness. Whenever I get stuck, I look for a young lad because that's from where I know help will come for sure.

In short here is a generation that is ambitious, upright, informed, practical and determined and all I have for them is respect. They belong to the house of tomorrow. It is true, they do not want to be controlled, dismissed or labelled just on the basis of what they find difficult to do, but anytime a real, sincere, meaningful dialogue is welcomed by them. All they ask of you and me is to hold their hand, help give them a goal, be the guide and have faith. Each kid has a hero within; just let them know of it and see the magic begin.

Mala Jetly

Big News!

orbitheatreum 2013-14



Orbitheatreum 2013, the 4th Annual Cultural Event of the Orbis School was a pulsating and full of life event that spread across seven days, from 4th to 7th December for Pre Primary and from 18th to 21st December for the Primary and Middle School, where the students enthralled the audience with an assortment of delightful acts comprising of dance and drama. Each act carried a message for everyone and the youthful performers presented their part with poise and élan.

The Pre Primary classes presented themes from their curriculum, namely cycles of life, shapes and fitness first which helped boost their confidence, enhance sense of dramatics and coordination. Literally it was a celebration of learning!

Class 1 students focused on values that our religions teach us and how every religion spreads the same message of compassion, righteousness and humanity. The students of class 2 took the rapt spectators back in time and retold immortal stories based on relationship and the bonds shared between friends, country and countrymen, king and courtiers, man and animal. 'Marvellous

Maharashtra' was the effervescent theme for classes 3 and 4 where the children showcased glimpses of various cultural aspects of vibrant Maharashtra – be it the Koli dance, the Palki Festival, celebration of Ganapati Utsav or a hundred years of Indian Cinema. Students of classes 5 – 7 presented a drama based on the famed tale of 'Singhasan Battisi – The Throne of Virtues' which highlighted the virtues one must aim to possess to be a good human being.

This grand event was the result of several weeks of diligent efforts by the staff and students of the school who were aptly guided and supported by the management and the Principal. Once again the overwhelming support received from the parents was a key factor in making the event such a momentous one.

Mrs. Susan Doulton, Principal, Canterbury Preschool, Mrs. Aditi Deo, Artist, Mrs. Sudha Menon, Author and Senior Journalist, Mr. Shailesh Dubhashi, President, NGO FIDA, Dr. Seemab Shaikh, ENT Surgeon, Mrs. Mumtaz Peerbhoy, Eminent Educationist and Social Worker and Col. Rajesh Ohol were the guests of honour for the respective days of the event.

★ orbitheatrum

2013-14



Flavours from our orchard



We Write Together (11th Nov.)

"We Write Together" – the initiative can be explained as the revival of the art which is overshadowed in the era of technology. Handwriting is one of the most important traits of mental and small muscle development. A clear, readable writing work reflects the clarity of the mind as well as understanding of the content written. On November 11, 2013, all the Orbions participated in this activity.



Picnic Time (12th and 13th Nov.)

The word picnic spreads cheer all around, it is synonymous to a break from the routine work and our little ones understand this without fail! They spent the day out on the play field enjoying the activities and games planned for them. They also tasted the joy of sharing as they sat around and shared food with their classmates. A day well spent!



Children's Day (14th Nov.)

Children's Day beckons the celebration of childhood. The day holds special significance for all at the Orbis. To them stories bring immense joy. Keeping their love for stories in mind, a story telling session was conducted for them. A documentary on Chacha Nehru's life and work enlightened the little minds.



Each One, Teach One (Weekly Theme)

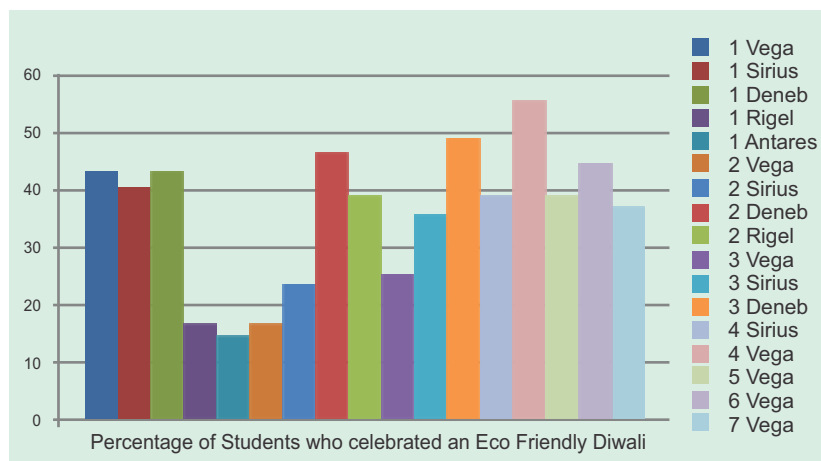
It's truly believed that knowledge gets richer when it is shared. The weekly theme of 'Each One Teach One' enabled the little ones fulfil their dream when they were asked to play the role of teachers and present a few selected topics to their class-mates. A pleasant change in behaviour was marked in all participants. The opportunity of being a teacher was also extended to the parents. We appreciate Mr. Gurusubhash's enthusiasm to come to school and narrate a story of Chhota Bheem along with his ward which sure left the little kids elated.

Christmas Calling (20th Dec.):

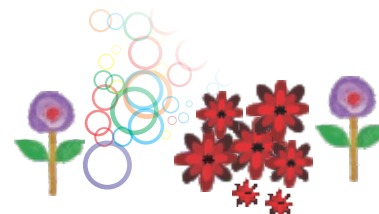
The month December brings chime, cake, carol and Christmas fervour. The chilly mornings, freezing nights, cold breeze all beckon dear Santa to our home. Children, too feel the festivity. Drawing Christmas trees, making stars, decorating the eternal white beard of Santa, jiving at a party and singing of Christmas carols made it a perfect celebration of the auspicious day.



 **I Grow More, I Know More**
We Celebrated an Eco Friendly Diwali!!



An intense campaign to make the Diwali celebrations safer and eco-friendly was done prior to the autumn break and we definitely got some very positive results. Many children actually said 'NO' to bursting crackers. We proudly share with you the results of the efforts of our young eco-warriors



Survey conducted by
Esha Agarwal and Disha Sharma, Class 7 Vega

Intra Class English Handwriting Competition (11th Nov.):

Over the recent years, owing to written communication through electronic media, the focus on handwriting and written presentation has alarmingly lessened. In an effort to help students realise the importance of good handwriting an intra-class handwriting competition was organised. All the students participated in it and three best written presentations from each class were awarded certificates.

National Education Day (11th Nov.):

A morning address was conducted by the class teacher of class 3 Sirius, Ms. Manju Pant, where she spoke about the significance of this day. She also spoke about the life and work of our first Education Minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, whose birthday is celebrated as the National Education Day.

NiE Workshop (12th Nov.):

A workshop on public speaking was conducted for the students by Mr. Nico Francis, a renowned voice-over artist in the Indian television industry who has lent his voice to many well-known shows. He spoke about public speaking and shared some tips about how to connect to an audience. During the workshop he mentioned that it is very important to know 'what' you are speaking about, to 'whom' you are addressing and 'how' you can hold the attention of the audience.

- Darshan Rao, Class 7 Vega



Field Trips; A Tryst With Pune's Heritage Landmarks: (18th Nov.):

We bring you what our students have to say about the field trips:

"Just as we stepped out of our school buses, we were awestruck by the greenery around the palace and its architecture. We started walking towards the palace led by our teachers and approached a small flight of steps from where our journey into a chapter of Gandhiji's life began. The rooms we walked through had statues of Gandhiji and his wife Kasturba Gandhi along with many paintings depicting his life. In one of the rooms we saw some of Gandhiji's belongings like his sandals, glasses and the famed charkha. We came to know that the British had held Sarojini Naidu as a prisoner in one of the rooms. We then walked to the 'samadhi' of Kasturba Gandhi and paid our solemn respects. We came back after playing some exciting games in the lush green lawns of the palace. It was a truly wonderful and fascinating experience. I think everyone must visit this place in Pune."

- Mihir Dangwal, Class 7 Vega

"We went for a picnic to Empress Garden and played lots of games. It made us happy. There were slides, swings and merry-go-rounds. We saw many big trees, shared food with our friends. We enjoyed the picnic. Thank you, all the teachers, for a beautiful picnic in Empress Garden!"

- Anwesha Kadam and Avni Batra, Class 1 Sirius

"We went for a field trip to Shaniwarwada. It is a fort where we saw a statue of Shivaji Maharaj. There were some fountains, canons and guns of olden days. Our teachers took us around the place and then we played some games. It was very exciting."

- Anahita Gambhir, Class 3 Deneb

"It was a bright sunny morning when we went for our field trip to the Aga Khan Palace. We went there to celebrate learning and also to know about our history and our freedom fighters. We saw many statues of Mahatma Gandhi and the clothes and other things he used when he stayed there. Gandhiji used to use a material called 'khadi' to make clothes which we saw there. Gandhiji was a prisoner in the Palace because he was struggling for our freedom from the British. We came back with a great experience and more knowledge about Gandhiji."

- Aira Pirmohammed and Diya Jha, Class 4 Vega.



Participation in Global Spell Bee Championship (15th Dec.):

Knowing a language is as much as owning wealth, differing only in aspect that it can't be taken away from one. To begin with its spelling and grammar are the most important domains to be emphasized. Aiming at this 'The Global Spelling Bee Championship' was organised for the students of classes 1 – 7. It gave us an opportunity to see several Orbits contesting in the final round like Arya Mehta (Class 1 Rigel), Abhilash Kar and Arnav Singh Rawat (Class 2 Deneb) and Mihir Dangwal (Class 7 Vega). In category B the Champion's Trophy found its way to the Orbis School with Abhilash Kar.

Participation in Speed Star Inter School Athletic event (15th Dec.):

An Inter School Athletic event was organised by Kooh Sports at the Baburao Sanas Athletic Ground. The event had a turnout of more than a thousand students from various city schools. 20 students from classes 4 – 7 of the Orbis School also participated in the event and Advait Porandwar of class 7 Vega qualified for the semi-finals in the under 14, 100 m category. Siddharth Shirwale of 4 Sirius also qualified for the semi-finals in the 60 m, Under 10 category.

Participation in Inter School Chess Championship (14th and 15th Dec.):

Our students participated in the inter school chess championship held at BillaBong School, Kalyani Nagar. Ritika Dhole, Manan Agarwal and Aniket Arora did us proud by exhibiting great skills to help collect game points.

Inter House Math Quiz (23rd Dec.):

An inter house Math Quiz was conducted for classes 1 to 7 aimed at enhancing the mathematical aptitude of the students. The quiz saw enthusiastic participation from the students who came up with quick calculations and demonstrated analytical and logical thinking.

International Science Olympiad (28th Nov.):

The students, who had opted to appear in the International Science Olympiad, wrote their tests during school hours at The Orbis School.

NiE Workshop at NiE Office (28th Nov.):

Krishna Desikan, a student of class 7 Vega, was selected to represent the school at the NiE Young Journalist seminar conducted by Times NiE. "It was a rewarding experience indeed!", said our student representative.

Overnight Camp (24th Dec.):

Our hands on experiences make us wiser and help us learn better. The students of classes 5 – 7 had an overnight camp at school which was aimed at enabling students to gain knowledge of practical life skills and rediscover team work, camaraderie and confidence. The students played group games followed by a talent show beside a bon fire. After having a delicious and piping hot dinner, the students did their dishes and made their own beds guided by the teachers. Next morning, the day started with yoga and jogging followed by breakfast of sandwiches which the students prepared themselves. By the end of the camp, the students and teachers unanimously agreed that it was a thoroughly enjoyable learning experience for all.



Special Assemblies

Children's Day (14th Nov.):

The occasion of Children's Day on 14th November was made special with the assembly conducted by 2nd Deneb. The heartfelt song recital of "Hum ko mann ki shakti dena", a message on experiencing the Joy of Giving and a talk on their beloved Chacha Nehru gave a special meaning to the day. The celebrations also included a magic show, followed by an entertaining and enlightening stage performance by the house teachers of Explorers, Guardians, Innovators and Vanguarders on values like kindness, cleanliness, punctuality and respect for school rules respectively.



Christmas (24th Dec.):

The students of Class 4 Vega presented a special assembly on the eve of Christmas to usher in the festive spirit and the winter holidays. The students sang Christmas carols to spread happiness and joy. Class teacher of 4 Vega, Ms. Ashu Madan, in her teacher-talk spoke about the festival and the message of love and sharing that it brings to us.

Impressions and Expressions

Trees

Look at the trees.....
Long like a pole
Sometimes in the dark it looks like they are staring at us.....
Their branches look like ghosts at night.....
Spreading everywhere
Right and left, up and down
Their roots are like legs
And leaves are like hair
The flowers and fruits look like
Smiling at us in the daylight....
All this makes them look like humans, right?

- Ishaa Jain, Class 2 Sirius

Joy of giving

God has given us a place to live in, clothes to wear, toys to play with, such sweet parents and much more. But I always wonder what about the poor people who have none of this. Why don't we give and share with them something, anything we can, so they feel the same as us? At least once in a year we can donate our old clothes, toys, some of our used books etc. and I am sure that this will help them brighten their present and future. This is what makes such an act 'joy of giving'. We also celebrated joy of giving in our school campus on 26th of October. Always remember that helping someone to make life a little better is the best thing one can do.

- Disha Sharma, Class 7 Vega

Personality of the month

Henri Dunant, founder of Red Cross

Jean Henri Dunant was born in Geneva on 8 May 1828. His character and education impelled him to help the distressed and the unfortunate and to be concerned about social work. On 24 June 1859, Dunant arrived at Solferino where he witnessed one of the fiercest battles of the nineteenth century. Dunant was filled with horror and pity as he viewed the appalling spectacle of human suffering. With the help of the villagers at Castiglione, he worked tirelessly, giving comfort and what medical care he could to the injured men. Back at Geneva, Dunant was haunted by visions of the terrible human suffering he had witnessed. In 1862, Dunant wrote and published a book entitled "A Memory of Solferino", in which he put forward his ideas to foster the creation, in every country, of a society for the relief of the military wounded, capable of helping the army medical services to carry out their tasks. Gustave Moynier, a prominent lawyer in Geneva and president of the city's Society of Public Welfare, showed immediate interest in Dunant's ideas. Moynier lost no time in setting up the Permanent International Committee of the Relief of the Wounded, which was later known as the International Committee of the Red Cross. Delegates from sixteen countries met at Geneva from 26 to 29 October 1863 and agreed to approve the resolutions of the Geneva Committee. It was decided that relief workers and their medical equipment were to be protected by a distinctive emblem, a red cross on a white background. The founders of the Red Cross set themselves the task of fostering the creation of National Societies. By 1874, there were twenty-two national societies in European countries and soon the Red Cross movement spread to other continents.



Teachers' Corner

Staff Club Celebration (21st Dec.):

'Mary's boy child Jesus Christ was born on Christmas Day.....' sung by the pre-primary teachers was the happy carol that greeted all the staff members and set in the mood for celebrations for the staff club party. The teachers played various group games and danced to merry music. They were joined by the Directors and their families and the Principal and together it was a truly happy portrait.

PTA Meeting (16th Nov.):

The focus of the 6th PTA meeting was Orbitheatrum- the annual display of talents by all the classes. The other points on the agenda were the monthly scholastic and co-scholastic plans and review.

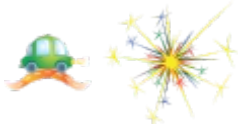
PTM:

A parent-teacher meeting is a great tool to discuss the current standing of a child and find new methods to better the performance of each child. Keeping this in mind, this time the PTM for each class was spread across two days so that each parent gets sufficient time to interact with the teacher.

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.

- Name the book written by Dunant.
- Who helped Dunant to shape his ideas into reality?
- What was the purpose of the Red Cross emblem?
- What was the main aim of the Red Cross Society?



I did it

Abhilash Kar bagged the Champion's Trophy in Category B of the Global Spell Bee Inter School Competition.

Results of Inter House Mathematics Quiz:

House	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3-4	Class 5-7	Overall
Explorers	1st	3rd	2nd	2nd	2nd
Guardians	1st	2nd	1st	3rd	1st
Innovators	3rd	1st	2nd	3rd	3rd
Vanguards	3rd	4th	2nd	1st	4th



Upcoming Events

7 th Jan.	: School reopens/ IBA based on monthly theme
8 th Jan.	: Football Finals (5 – 7)
9 th Jan.	: Cricket Finals (5 – 7)
10 th Jan.	: Cricket Finals (1 – 4)
11 th Jan.	: Orbisports heats begin
13 th Jan.	: Kite making/ Basketball Finals (5 – 7)
15 th Jan.	: Karate Finals (5 – 7)
16 th Jan.	: Skating Finals (5 – 7)/ IEO
17 th Jan.	: NiE Workshop
18 th Jan.	: Orbisports
22 nd Jan.	: CCA Display
24 th Jan.	: Orbisports Kids/ NiE Workshop
26 th Jan.	: Republic Day (4 – 7)
27 th Jan.	: DEAR Hour
29 th Jan.	: PTM, class 1; Half time performance - PFC Match, Balewadi
30 th Jan.	: PTM, class 2
31 st Jan.	: PTM, class 3 – 4



Gouthama Chandran 4 Sirius



Bhargavi Panpaliya 4 Vega

From the Editorial Team

Being on stage or being in the spotlight can mean different things to different people; for some it may be enchanting the audience with superlative oratory skills, for some it may be an opportunity to showcase their dancing talent, for some it may be a platform for showing their acting abilities and for some it may simply be about overcoming that little stage anxiety. A stage to perform has something to offer for everyone involved with it. Our Orbions got an opportunity to be in the spotlight and create magic during **Orbitheatrum**. They were duly encouraged guided by their teachers and supported and applauded by their parents.

Our little stars have made us proud once again and how!

We also take this opportunity to wish all our readers a very happy and prosperous year ahead. May this celebration of learning reach new heights in the coming year.

Happy reading!

Anita Bhattacharjee (Chief Editor)
Nupur Gupta, Amrita Kar (Co-editors)
Student Editors: **The Editorial Club Members**



Thought for the month

"All I ever wanted was to reach out and touch another human being not just with my hands but with my heart."
— Tahereh Mafi

