



# Stephania



St. Stephen's Newsletter

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### READING REJUVENATES

“

Reading is to the  
mind what exercise  
is to the body.

- JOSEPH ADDISON

## READING: A SOLITARY REFLECTION

Once we find a comfortable spot and a book in our hand, we can travel the world while still in our room. Books can make you laugh or even make you cry or keep you on the edge of your seat with anticipation. You can never be alone if you have something interesting to read.

“Reading”, as Bacon wrote in his essay, ‘Of Studies’, “maketh a full man: conference a ready man; and writing an exact man”. Books are considered human’s best friends. Reading is really a good exercise for the mind. Lives of many have been changed by books. This issue has been themed ‘Reading’. The students have put pen to paper and brought out their thoughts in the form of poems and articles.

This session, Stephanians were back with a lot of zest, eager to return to School and the familiar corridors that echo joyful sounds. Along with academics, participation in the Inter-School events saw the students winning laurels at home as well as outside. The School is abuzz with a lot of activity and excitement. In the midst of all this, Stephanians never lost their focus on academics. Reading, studies and co-curricular activities went hand in hand. In keeping with the School’s motto ‘Onward and Upward’ the life of a Stephanian is all about living and learning, and reading is part of it all.

- THE EDITORS

## SCHOOL'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. Stephen's is committed to Making Quality Education Accessible and building the character of its students by inculcating the values of Self Discipline, Integrity, Mutual Respect, Pursuit of Excellence, Learning for Life and Environmental Management (SIMPLE). The School will build language fluency and improve reading habits of the students and will also continue to introduce one educational innovation each year to make learning more meaningful. The School will continue to be a model employer and invest in teacher training and development.

# CAMPUS STORIES

## Nineteenth Dr. (Mrs.) Deepa Martins Memorial Lecture Value of Reading, Art and Literature



Lighting of Lamp by Dr. Varsha Das and Ms. Aruna Roy

*“Dr. Deepa had boundless energy; she was the ultimate Gandhian because what she thought she worked on and what she felt she translated into the thought.”*

- Ms. Aruna Roy

In memory of our founding light, the School celebrated the birth anniversary of Dr. (Mrs.) Deepa Martins on April 5, 2022. Dr. Martins was the Founder Secretary of the St. Stephen's School Society and its founding light from its conception. The lecture series from the past nineteen years has helped us immortalise her memory and thoughts in the way she would most relate to.

This year, we were honoured to have Dr. Varsha Das, a highly acclaimed Gandhian scholar, prolific writer, art critic, translator and litterateur, as the Keynote Speaker and Ms. Aruna Roy, one of India's most prominent and thought-provoking social activists as the Guest of Honour. It was the first hybrid lecture where not only we witnessed the event face to face but also the people associated with the St. Stephen's Family were also able to join us virtually.

Ma'am Deepa, true to her name kindled the light of love and commitment into the lives of many. The lighting of lamp in front of her portrait signified the light which she



Dr. Varsha Das delivering her keynote address

radiated throughout her life. Ms. Shefali Martins, the Secretary of St. Stephen's School Society gave an insight into the life and times of Dr. Deepa Martins. She was a scholar, activist, a teacher, a mother and a friend and had

the extraordinary character of having so many different layers which she lives in our lives even today. Her bilingual excellence and the sense of universality left the students in awe. The five words that

define her life as a whole are Dedication, Harmony, Universality, Empathy and Dialogue. Dr. Deepa was absorbed in the details of life.

Keeping her values and principles alive, we celebrated the day with the release of the Third Volume of *Deepalaya*. This volume is a compilation of the keynote addresses of our eminent keynote speakers at the Dr. (Mrs.) Deepa Martins Memorial Lectures from 2016 to 2021. Dr. Das and Ms. Roy released the volume.

Ms. Roy in her address to the gathering said, **“Dr. Deepa was a source of energy when she lived, she is a source of energy even after she is gone because**

**Real beauty is purity of heart and that 'beautiful' and 'useful' are not mutually contradictory terms**

she has pulled us all together today to think of her, to rejoice in what she was and to commemorate her memory.”

Dr. Varsha Das delivered the Keynote Address on the topic **“The Value of Reading, Art and Literature: A Gandhian**

**Perspective”**- spaces close to Dr. Deepa Martins life and work, where she contributed substantially in various capacities.

She began the lecture by sharing a wonderful incident of her childhood when she had met Mahatma Gandhi. She was then one-and-a-half years old. Her parents and grandparents were active participants in India’s freedom struggle. When Gandhiji had come to Mumbai in 1944 to meet the people at the Juhu beach, her parents took her to meet him and seek his blessings. He had a big basket of mangoes next to him. He not only put his hand on her head but even gave her a mango. Maybe because of that mango she got the opportunity to work at the National Gandhi Museum, she shared on a lighter note.

According to her, Mahatma Gandhi is timeless. He will always remain relevant and has spoken on almost everything under the sun, he was the man of the masses. She quoted from Gandhiji’s autobiography, **“The limited reading may be said to have enabled me thoroughly to digest what I did read.”** The lecture inspired the students to digest the books we read. The process is similar to how we digest our food to get the energy and it becomes an inseparable part of us. In the same way, if we won’t digest what we read, we cannot retain it and if we cannot retain, we cannot be benefitted from it. Gandhiji was highly inspired by the books which make a person a better human being. He had read 353 books and all of them were classics to which he called a small number. These books played an important role in his journey from Mohandas to Mahatma.

Gandhiji got new ideas from the books he read as he digested that reading, took actions based on them and the whole world benefited from that. *Bhagavad Gita* was the dictionary for him for daily reference. He turned to it for solace and guidance whenever he found himself confronted with doubts and difficulties, trials and troubles.



**The Release of the Third Volume of *Deepalaya***

She answered the oft-asked question that when all of us are busy with our studies and various responsibilities in our daily lives where is the time to read books? It is therefore important to choose the right kind of book that would nurture us because it is not nature but nurture that makes all the difference. It initiates the

process of self improvement, she shared.

Speaking about art from the Gandhian perspective, she said that art was meant to be simple and natural. The artist or writer need not explain it to the viewer or reader. Real beauty is purity of heart and that ‘beautiful’ and ‘useful’ are

**It is not nature but nurture that makes all the difference**

not mutually contradictory terms. According to her, music is another beautiful form of art with an electrical

effect that immediately soothes the listener. She emphasized that the development of mind is one of the essential characteristics of culture. In her words, **“When you know who your readers are, your thoughts start flowing and your pen will run on the paper.”** She concluded the address by encouraging the students to work in the spirit of Gandhiji, his passion and compassion, his determination and conviction and that we should keep his ideas and principles alive.

The Principal in her vote of thanks, extended her gratitude to Dr. Varsha Das for sharing the relevance of Gandhiji’s ideals and their universal applicability in today’s time.

**-Aaradhya Sharma and Chirmi Detha**

# INTERVIEW

## In Conversation With Dr. Varsha Das



It was an honour having Dr. Varsha Das amongst us at the Nineteenth **Dr. (Mrs.) Deepa Martins** Memorial Lecture. A few students interviewed her for the School Newsletter

‘Stephania’. Here we share the conversation with her:

**Ma’am you yourself are such a prolific writer. Who is your favourite author and what do you admire her/him for?**

**Ma’am Varsha Das-** Oh! That’s very difficult to say because I read many languages and books. When you are a student you need to read what’s required for your studies but when you become professionals, you have to read so many manuscripts, solicited and unsolicited translations and there was hardly any time to read beyond that! There were so many books and novels on personal, experiences etc. But nowadays I like to read biographies, like what happened in someone’s life, how that person struggled and kept walking in spite of the atrocities.

For the past 40 years I have been practising *Buddhism*. I was born a Jain, I lived next to a Mosque, I studied in St. Xavier’s College and I was married to a Hindu. That’s the beautiful diversity of our country! For my subject Sanskrit, I had to critically read *Bhagavad Gita*, *Upanishads*, manuscripts. In 1981, I started practising Buddhism and I found it very pragmatic. As my parents were Gandhians, we were never into religion, caste etc. We would sit together and recite ‘*Sarva Dharma Prarthana*’. I also read books that are so relevant in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Because I feel it’s very important to live with the times and talk about topics that are relevant to our lives.

**Apart from literature you are keenly interested in art, too. Recently, CBSE has integrated art into the academic curriculum largely. What advice would you give to the students to integrate art in academics?**

**Ma’am Varsha Das-** When I was in school, I had an art

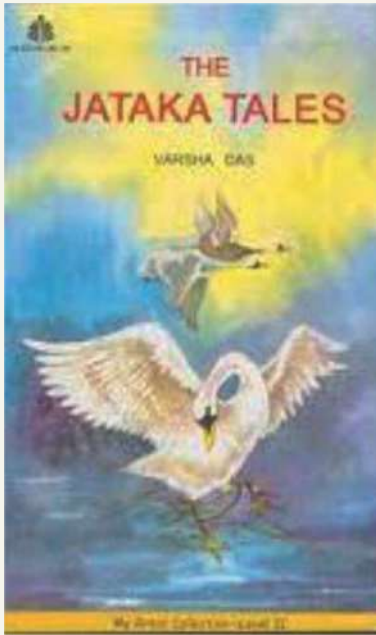


Stephanians interviewing Dr. Varsha Das

teacher with whom we had a daily period. He was a Bengali gentleman. We would all carry drawing books and colours. He would ask us to paint something, sometimes he would give us a theme and we would speed our brushes on it. He was the one who made me comfortable with art. My parents were art critics. We would frequently go for exhibitions, to art galleries, campaigns of art and many more. I was interested in art in many ways. I started writing about art without any study and research in this field. It is just your interpretation of the art.

Art should be seen in such a way that you don’t need an intermediate person to explain to you that this is this and that’s that. I think the most important to integrate art in your life is to see the art. If you can’t go to galleries and exhibitions, you can read books which are on our great masters. There is so much art: paintings, cultural drawings, *Mandala* and *Warli* art. Even photography is a huge part of art. So seeing is very, very important. Without seeing you cannot react to it. And the way you react, you try to depict it. My father used to print a Gujarati newspaper, *Dharmayug*.

One fine day he came up to me and asked me to write for his newspaper. I did not have any art background; just watching, reacting and writing. When my writings became famous, Mr. Manohar Shyam Joshi, editor of 'Hindustan', the weekly newspaper, met me and asked me to write even



in his newspaper. Art polishes you and the way you see things. Each and every piece of art and writing inspires you and motivates you. Art is your intermediate soul speaking. We all possess this gift of God, but we draw limits with passing time.

**As you are a multi-linguist yourself, what according to you is the**

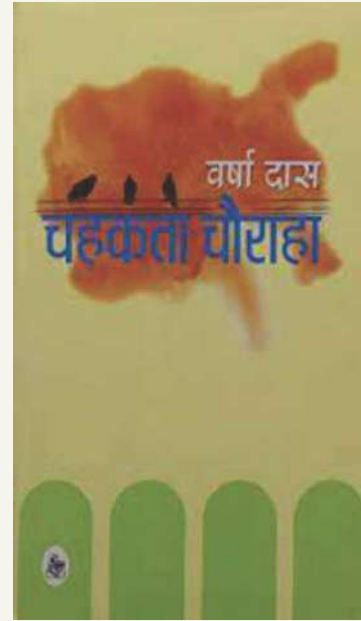
**importance of this facet in today's world?**

**Ma'am Varsha Das-** Being a multi-linguist in today's world has a lot of significance. Through my involvement with the National Book Trust, I got the privilege to travel all over the country and I realized that possessing the knowledge of multiple languages can help you bond with other people without any restraints. I have had many experiences where I could spontaneously connect with strangers, through the language they speak and it always left them with a look of surprise on their faces. As a writer, whenever I read something soulful, I feel the need to translate it because, according to me, sometimes people are deprived of great literary masterpieces worth reading, due to language barriers. My family persuaded me to learn new languages like Bengali. I found that knowing one new language helped me get acquainted with many others because of the underlying similarities. That is how my translating career started and familiarized me with this truth, 'Language unites people'.

**Though museums preserve the past, yet many people don't like to visit them, to read and know about our**

**past civilizations. How would you encourage the present generation to visit the museums?**

**Ma'am Varsha Das-** My experience as the director of the National Gandhi Museum was a completely new discipline for me because throughout my life I was mainly involved in the writing and publishing industry only. But I adopted the



technique of praying along with action and started by dealing with the chronological mistakes in the museum. I felt the urge to attract school and college students to the museum, as it had things which could reach out to them and help mould their perception. For this purpose, I personally wrote letters to the principals of the schools

in that region, inviting them to special thematic exhibitions in the museum. I also ensured that this museum was added into the list of the region's tourist sites. So, I believe that reaching out to others and spreading awareness about our own history is vital for encouraging people to visit museums.

**In what ways can we, as students, preserve our local art and culture?**

**Ma'am Varsha Das-** You can preserve our local art and culture by connecting with it and spreading awareness about it. It needs to be promoted and encouraged through various programmes and events that can be organized, even at the school level. We need to go out there and understand its significance. There should be a humane touch behind our intentions and actions. By doing this we can save our heritage.

**- Aaradhya Sharma, Chirmi Detha,**

**Daksh Bhandari and Sanskriti Gandhi**

# SPIC MACAY

## *Celebrating Indian Classical Music & Dance*

SPIC MACAY (Society for Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth) organized an enlightening classical music event at our School on April 18, 2022, 'World Heritage Day'. Renowned sitar player and classical music enthusiast Shri Dhruv Bedi accompanied by a tabla player Shri Shankar Bedi, performed and kept the audience spell bound with his spiritual music recital.



### **Sitar Recital By Shri Dhruv Bedi**

Shri Dhruv Bedi, with his nimble fingers plucking at the sitar strings, produced beautiful melodies. After a laconic note of gratitude, he enthusiastically introduced the audience to Northern Classical music with some queer facts. In a fun-filled and phenomenal way he accentuated the importance of Classical music and performed a late-morning *raag*, *Raag Thamaj*. With the help of the skillful movement of his fingers, he cast a spell on the audience and produced a soulful and heartfelt symphony. Both, students as well as teachers enjoyed the smooth transitions between high and low rhythmic notes and realized the lively power of music. The event concluded with the performance of a popular devotional song, '*Vaishnav Jan To*'. In the Vote of Thanks, the Principal thanked the honourable guests for the delightful performance and appreciated SPIC MACAY for preserving the Indian culture and for awakening an interest in the minds of children.

SPIC MACAY also organised a *Kathak* dance



### **Kathak performance by Shri Vishal Krishna**

performance at our School on August 22, 2022. The students of grades V and VI witnessed the nuances of this classical dance form performed by renowned *Kathak* exponent Shri Vishal Krishna. Shri Jaiwardhan and Shri Abhishek Mishra played the accompanying *Harmonium* and *Tabla* respectively. The dance performance left a lasting impression on the viewers, who were overjoyed to witness a show of such finesse.



# SPIC MACAY

## The Beauty of Strings, Tune and Tones

**W**e had the pleasure of interacting with the great sitar virtuoso Dhruv Bedi, an exponent of the illustrious *Imdadkhani Gharana* after his mesmerising Sitar-recital in our School.

**Sir, when did you realise that you wanted to be a musician and why did you choose the Sitar as your instrument?**

**Shri Dhruv Bedi-** I was born in a family of musicians and started learning music at the age of four from my father and *Guru* Shri Jagdeep Singh Bedi. There was always a beautiful ambience of music in my house, I grew up in an environment which was always full of melodies and that is how I became a sitarist.

**Have you ever faced stage fear? How did you overcome it?**

**Shri Dhruv Bedi-** When I was six years old, I gave my first recital and I had no idea what I was doing so I never had stage fear. Since then, I have been confident. But I remember when I had curated a whole one hour and fifteen minutes concert on my own for the very first time without any guidance that was when I actually did face stage fear but it was just for 2 to 3 minutes, and it was for the first and the last time. Once I enter my musical zone, the music carries me away and I feel content. Secondly, more than focusing on who are listening, I concentrate more on how to create a storyline out of the concert and engross myself completely in that moment.

**What role does music play in your life?**

**Shri Dhruv Bedi-** Music plays one of the biggest roles in my life. In fact, my life revolves around music. Even right now there is some or the other musical component going in my head, some melody or some rhythmic pattern. Involuntarily, I am always involved in music.

**Sir, please share one of your most memorable experiences while performing at various places.**

**Shri Dhruv Bedi-** Actually there are many to quote share but once when I was performing in New Zealand I was titled as the '*Singing Sitar*' and that is something really memorable for me. Other than that, when I had performed in Russia, Spain and Switzerland with 108 musicians, that was another remarkable and highly appreciated concert. One of the most beautiful experiences was when I had the privilege of performing in front of our Hon'ble Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi. I felt so honoured.

**What are the other activities that you pursue in your leisure time?**

**Shri Dhruv Bedi-** Yoga, I love doing Yoga *asanas* and meditation. I have a deep inclination towards Yoga



**In conversation with Shri Dhruv Bedi**

sciences. Also, I am passionate about swimming. I try to maintain a healthy lifestyle. I would like to give this message to everyone that they should participate in Sports, Yoga or Fine Art, whether it be theatre, music or dance so as to calm their mind and scientifically as well, all these creative activities nurture and activate the right hemisphere of our brain and maintain a balance.

**Today's youth is more inclined towards contemporary music. How would you promote the learning and playing of a Sitar?**

**Shri Dhruv Bedi-** No doubt that in today's time people are moving towards contemporary music but we are unaware of the fact that there is a huge population that is also getting inclined towards our traditional music. But yes, somewhere we do lack the promotion and marketing strategies to spread our music. Our traditional music is something which is really very rich, beautiful and intricate and has equal amount of difficulty as well as melody. SPIC MACAY is really doing a great job in promoting our cultural music, theatre as well as dance by bringing the artists of great calibre of different genres and fields to schools as well as colleges so that the students can also experience the essence of our traditional music and dance. Also, the schools have so many cultural activities through which the youth connect with their culture. Even we find traditional elements, instruments and styles influencing today's Bollywood music specially the Coke Studio is doing a great job in this movement.

**-Aaradhya Sharma and Khushi Seernani**

# Introducing our New Principal



St. Stephen's Sr. Sec. School, Ajmer welcomes Mr. Prayag Singh Rajpurohit as its new Principal.

Mr. Prayag Singh Rajpurohit has done his Post Graduate studies in Botany and also has a Masters degree in Philosophy. He has had 18 years of experience in the field of education which includes 12 years in Administrative positions. He has worked in the capacity of Head Master at Birla Public School, Pilani before being appointed as Principal at St. Stephen's.

He was appointed as Associate NCC Officer- Army Wing. He has been the recipient of the Rashtrapati Award in Rover Scouting and was appreciated by the Divisional Commissioner, Ajmer for Best Services towards society. During his tenure at Pilani, he was the Coordinator for British Council's International School Award.

Mr. Rajpurohit has a keen interest in rock climbing, horse riding and National as well as International Adventure Programmes.

## *Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav*



*Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav* is an initiative of the Government of India to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of Independence and the glorious history of India's people, culture and achievements. This *Mahotsav* is dedicated to the people of India who have not only been instrumental in bringing India so far in its evolutionary journey but also hold within them the power and potential to enable Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of activating India 2.0, fueled by the spirit of *Aatmanirbhar Bharat*. The official journey of *Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav* commenced on March 12, 2021 which started a 75-week countdown to our 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence and will end on August 15, 2023. On August 12, 2022 the children of all the government and private schools of the state together sang six patriotic songs. The songs and the sequence were the same across the

entire state of Rajasthan. The schools of Ajmer gathered at Kayad Vishram Sthali for this event. The students of classes III to VII and XII assembled in school to celebrate *Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav* while classes VIII to XI celebrated the event at Kayad Vishram Sthali with schools of the city.

## Creativity At Work



*"The aim of art is to represent not the outward appearance of things, but their inward significance."* - Aristotle

National Handloom Day is celebrated on August 7 to promote handmade products and to raise awareness about the importance of handloom industries. An Inter-House Handwoven Article-Making Competition was organized for the students of grades VI-VIII on August 6, 2022. The students from the four houses displayed their crafting skills by making articles using jute as the basic material. Some products made by the students were flower vases, masks, baskets, mats, pot holders, swings and other home decor items. Charvi Bhola (VIII-B) and Navya Chourasiya (VI-B) secured the first and the second positions respectively.

In the House wise result, Green House secured the first position and Gold House, the second position.

# Mandala Art Competition



*"Each person's life is like a mandala - a vast, limitless circle. We stand in the centre of our own circle, and everything we see, hear and think forms the mandala of our life."*

*-Pema Chodron*

In order to enjoy the experience of learning how to create mandalas, an Inter-Class Mandala Art Competition was organised for the students of classes IX, X and XII on the theme 'Nature'. The students showcased their creativity by making beautiful mandalas on plastic and melamine plates.

The competition enabled the students to explore the art form in their own style under the guidance of Ms. Anshuma Akshay Robinson and Mr. Bachan Singh Chouhan. The mandalas were adjudged on the basis of interpretation and clarity of theme, symmetry and neatness, creativity and originality, quality of artistic composition and overall impression of the art. Jahanvi Kumawat (XII-Arts), Tina Nimedia (XII-Com-B) and Ruchika Bijawat (X-C) secured the first, second and third positions respectively.

## FIRE SAFETY DEMONSTRATION

'Safety is not a gadget, but a state of mind.' A one hour informative session on Fire Safety Demonstration was conducted in the School on July 12, 2022. The resource person Mr. Gopal Khanna, familiarised the entire School staff about their role during an emergency and their duty to help students evacuate the building during a fire. He also briefed the Staff about the different types of fires and the use of the two fire extinguishers that are placed at strategic points in the School, the use of which can prevent a calamity. After a demonstration on how to use the two fire extinguishers, a few of the staff members were encouraged to try their hand at using the fire extinguishers. This session was fruitful to all and helped us to realise we have to be on our guard all the time and know safety measures as well.



# A New Beginning & Things Will Change

Every child is an exquisite flower in bloom, together they make the class a beautiful garden. April is the month of newness for students. New Session, new books, new friends and weaving new memories. The students of classes L.K.G. to I, embraced their new beginning with bright smiles. To know how they felt about coming back to School, a brief interactive interview was held. Their answers reflected



their innocence and their smiling faces brought too much joy to our hearts.

When asked about how they feel coming to School, Aashvi Joshi (H.K.G.-D) said, “The School is so big and pretty, we feel happy here.” Certainly, our School is our second home. Aaradhya Verma (I-E) was fascinated by the School’s green playground, where she plays bat-ball with her new friends.

Jeevika Milan (I-D) said that the best part of her day is when the teacher takes the class to the ground and she sits on the swings there. They find the face-to-face class more fun as they can see their teacher physically.

Neel Kapoor (I-E) likes his uniform because the trousers are of his favourite colour, blue. According to Jhalak Sharma (I-E) offline mode is better as she can share her lunch box with her friend.

Dhairya Lakhiani (L.K.G.-C) and Jahanvi Sharma (L.K.G.-C) were enthralled by the colourful walls in their classes. Everyone was so excited and absorbed in doing activities like poem recitation, colouring, origami and playing games. A conducive environment nurtures the young mind in such a way that they find learning fun. The



innocence of children is their wisdom. When Dev Mauryan (I-D) was asked which is his favourite English letter he said, “I like the letter ‘A’ the most because I love to eat apples.” This art of boundless imagination and connecting the theoretical aspect of the subject with its practicality is what the Stephanians learn from a very tender age. Truly life at St. Stephen’s is bliss.

Education is a shared commitment between dedicated teachers, motivated students and enthusiastic parents. After the pandemic sending their wards to School for the very first time evoked mixed feelings in the hearts of parents. To know about their experience, concerns and valuable suggestions we interacted with a few parents when they came to take their wards home.

Ms. Nikita Jangid M/o Vibhu Jangid (I-C) opined that the face-to-face classes are undoubtedly more effective. The students learn faster as the teachers interact with them personally and they are able to comprehend the lessons.

Ms. Megha Chauhan M/o Vanshika Chauhan (I-C) also found the offline mode better as opposed to the online classes which had the children confined to their homes, and no physical activity in their routine. When asked about whether they were afraid of sending their wards to school after the pandemic, they replied that they were afraid of sending their children to school as they were not sure whether they will abide by the Covid protocols in the absence of their parents. But the faith on teachers and the supporting staff conquered the fear of Covid. They find the School a safe place for their wards because of fully vaccinated staff, who ensure that the students follow the guidelines, sanitize their hands regularly, maintain social distancing and wear masks throughout the day.

Children are great story tellers, the way they explain their day at School to their parents after returning home is the actual feedback for the School. Ms. Rashi Kewalramani M/o Bhagya Kewalramani (H.K.G.-B) said that every day her son returns with a smile on his face and has so many

things to share from the new poem they learnt, to the new game they played. The parents were satisfied with the School's management skills and approach towards Covid- 19.

**-Aaradhya Sharma and Chirmi Detha**

## All the World's a Stage

As it is widely known, a room without books is like a body without a soul. World Book and Copyright Day is celebrated on April 23 every year in honour of the famous playwright, poet and actor William Shakespeare. It promotes the joy of reading books. On this occasion the School organised an Intra-Class Character Enactment competition for Class VI to VIII. Portraying a character is not just reading dialogues but it's an art to absorb the character and travel the world of fiction. The Stephanians participated with great enthusiasm and wonderfully enacted the characters from various Shakespearean dramas like Merchant of Venice, Macbeth, Romeo and Juliet and The Twelfth Night. The main attractions of the event were the vibrant costumes and acting skills which left the audience in awe. The

competition was judged by Ms. Judeline D'Souza, Ms. Nidhi Goyal and Ms. Shilpa Harsha on the basis of expressions, clarity, confidence and overall presentation. In all there were 36 participants who showcased their talents. The following students bagged the first, second and third positions respectively. From Class VI: Parth Kalyani (VI-A), Manan Jainani (VI-C), Khushbu Goyal (VI-C), from Class VII: Aarya Dubey (VII-A), Jiya Jhajharia (VII-A), Khushboo Tejwani (VII-C) and from Class VIII: Charvi Bhola (VIII-B), Shruti Khandelwal (VIII-D), Himanshika Lekhwani (VIII-C) were the winners. The competition acquainted the students with the world of literature and let them explore Shakespearean comedies, tragedies, revenge and supernaturalism.

**-Rishika Jain**



# Forever Memories: Bidding Adieu

*"We didn't realize we were making memories, we were just having fun."*  
— Winnie the Pooh

The students of Class XII bid adieu to their Alma Mater on April 24, 2022. The School auditorium glittered with vibrant colours and happy faces. The air was filled with a mix of emotions. On one hand the students were overjoyed to have accomplished so much as Stephanians, while on the other, they were sad to leave the secure portals of St. Stephen's.

The day was filled with excitement as they watched a presentation of their memorable years and events in

School. Dance performances and song recitals presented by the outgoing students were a delight to witness. Games conducted for them also saw their competitive spirit to win as well as enjoy the



moment.

The solemn Candle Ceremony had the students pledging to uphold the values of St. Stephen's wherever they would go. The Principal, addressed the students and wished them good luck for their future endeavours. She exhorted them to be great listeners which would always be the foundation of their admired goals.

This day marked an end to the School life and an onset of the journey ahead which the Stephanians will move forward with the motto 'Onward and Upward'. It is said, "Goodbyes are not forever, and Goodbyes are not the end. They simply mean, We'll miss you all... Until we meet again."



Glimpses of Farewell



# Making July 4 Special

It is not the beauty of a building you should look at, it's the construction of the foundation that will stand the test of time. July 4, is a very important day in the annals of St. Stephen's School. This year we celebrated our 38<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day and the initiation ceremony of the office bearers. Our School was established on July 4, 1985 by our Founders Shri Gilroy Martins and Dr. (Mrs.) Deepa Martins. With a humble beginning in two rented houses in Vaishali Nagar, the School has now become a hub of quality education, nurturing upright and committed minds. We paid tribute to our founders by rekindling their reading habit and celebrating our Foundation Day on the theme, '**Reading Culture**'. The programme began with lighting a lamp before the portraits of Shri Gilroy Martins and Dr. (Mrs.) Deepa Martins. The students presented a dance



performance conveying the message of how dance and literature intertwine the threads of everyday human life. A short English skit 'Read to Stay Ahead' was presented to highlight the importance of reading. The melodious performance of the Assamese song 'Yei Maati Ree', which conveys reverence to the Motherland, left us mesmerised. The solemn initiation ceremony marks

the beginning of the journey of faith and responsibility that will be undertaken by the office-bearers. The



officials were led for the pipping ceremony by the Head Boy and Head Girl, followed by Captains and Junior Captains of the four Houses and the Student Editors. The Principal administered the Oath of Office to the Student Officials. The Heads of the Student Officials, Head Boy Dev Kishan Mirchandani (XII-Com B) and Head Girl Aaradhya Sharma (XII-Arts) delivered speeches urging the students to always remember the School's Core Values and strive hard to be the best versions of themselves and uphold the principles of our Founder Sir Gilroy Martins. The Principal, in his address remembered our founders and their values which clearly provide the vision of our School. He exhorted the young leaders to focus on leadership traits that help leaders to achieve great success. The Director, encouraged the students to draw inspiration from the story of the growth of our School and keep learning and growing onward and upward. She also reminded us that we are inheritors of a proud and rich legacy that we must with ceaseless devotion continue to carry forward in our lives.

## OFFICER BEARERS

**Head Boy:** Dev Kishan Mirchandani

**Head Girl:** Aaradhya Sharma

### BLUE HOUSE

#### Captain

Garima Pradutt (XII)

#### Vice Captain

Unnati Bhagchandani (XI)

Tanushree Jain (XI)

#### Junior Captain

Aanchal Khatri (VIII)

Swapnil Goyal (VIII)

### GOLD HOUSE

#### Captain

Chirmi Detha (XII)

#### Vice Captain

Bhavya Jain (XI)

Ayanshi Bosu (XI)

#### Junior Captain

Shruti Khandelwal (VIII)

Shreyansh Singh Khichi (VIII)

### GREEN HOUSE

#### Captain

Hardika Ojha (XII)

#### Vice Captain

Jiya Chandiramani (XI)

Vranda Tyagi (XI)

#### Junior Captain

Nandini Khanna (VIII) Bhavya

Uttamchandani (VIII)

### RED HOUSE

#### Captain

Shefali Raj (XII)

#### Vice Captain

Heyanshe Pant (XI)

Madhvendra Uniyal (XI)

#### Junior Captain

Muskan Chhatwani (VIII)

Vishesh Gupta (VIII)

#### Student Editors

Aaradhya Sharma (XII-Arts)

Rishika Jain (XII- Com A)

Chirmi Detha (XII-Sc)

Khushi Seernani (X-D)

# BATTLE OF GREAT MINDS



English Debate (Seniors)



Hindi Debate (Juniors)

Effective communication sets the stage for positive self-esteem. It not only indicates creativity, critical thinking but also leadership skills. It is both an art and technique to carry forward messages with clarity. The Inter-House English and Hindi Debates for both juniors and seniors were conducted on July 20 and 21, 2022 respectively. In the Junior category, the topic chosen for English and Hindi Debates were **‘Fairy Tales shape a child’s perception of Reality’** and **‘ऑनलाइन शिक्षण से बालक के स्वतः पठन की प्रवृत्ति प्रभावित हुई है’**. Lavanya Yadav (VIII-C) and Deepti Roopchandani (VI-A) secured the First and Second positions respectively in the Junior English debate and Nivedita Kumawat (VIII-B) and Mananya Gaur (VIII-C) secured the First and Second positions respectively in the Hindi Debate. In the Senior category, the topic for the English Debate was **‘Addiction to Social Media has been the biggest factor behind the loss of our reading habit’** and Hindi Debate was **‘केवल शिक्षा और अच्छी स्वास्थ्य सेवा ही राष्ट्र की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित कर सकती है’**. Aaradhya Sharma (XII-Arts) and Shefali Raj (XII-Sc) secured the First and Second

positions in the English Debate, Khushi Seernani (X-D) and Pranjal Verma (X-D) secured the First and Second positions in the Hindi Debate respectively. In the House wise result, in the Junior category, Blue House and Red House stood First in

the English and Hindi debates respectively. In the Senior category, Gold House and Blue House stood First in the English and Hindi debates respectively. The debaters spoke emphatically and succeeded in convincing the audience with their views and perspectives.

Quiz provides a sharper focus in terms of assessing cognitive learning. As an interactive platform, it changes the scope of learning and encourages team work. The Inter-House Quiz for both juniors and seniors was conducted on July 15 and July 22, 2022. In the Junior category, Blue House and Gold House secured the First and Second positions respectively. In the Senior category Blue House secured the First position and Green House, the Second position.

These competitions help to build a healthy team spirit in children.

**-Chirmi Detha**



# Celebrating 75 Years of Independence

*'Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high..., into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country awake.'*

Every year August 15, is enthusiastically celebrated to pay tribute to our martyrs who fought for the freedom of our country and visit the pages of our glorious history. The Stephenians celebrated the *Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav* with a plethora of emotions which began on August 12, 2022.

The Chief Guest, Shri Vinod Dutt Joshi, Assistant State Organizer Commissioner, Bharat State Scouts and Guides, unfurled the tri-coloured flag and inspected the Marching Contingents. The programme commenced with the March Past lead by the Head Boy Dev Kishan Mirchandani, followed by the Captains leading their respective Houses and troupes of NCC, Scout, Guide and the School Band.

The students evoked the feeling of patriotism by participating in the Drummer's Call, Drill, *Badi Salami* by

the Bulbuls, Gymnastics, Speech and patriotic song and dance.

The Chief Guest addressed the students and remembered the great sacrifices of our freedom fighters and appreciated the soldiers who work selflessly to maintain peace and harmony throughout the nation. He encouraged the students to promote the passion of patriotism by valuing our rich cultural heritage.

He appreciated the students for their active participation in the activities and motivated them to march forward learning, creating and achieving great heights each day. At the end of his speech, Shri Vinod Dutt Joshi presented a medley of patriotic songs on the Harmonica.

The Vote of Thanks was delivered by the Head Girl Aaradhya Sharma.

As symbolised in our tri-coloured flag, the day was painted with the hues of courage, purity and growth in the hearts of every Indian.



# Learning For Life



A training session on Assessment & Evaluation was held on June 23, 2022 for the teachers of Classes VI-XII. The resource persons were Ms. Priya Sharma and Dr. Charu Jain.



A training session on Experiential Learning was held on June 24, 2022 for the teachers of Classes VI-XII. The resource person was Vice Principal Ms. Deepa Thadani.



A training session on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills was held on June 25, 2022 for the teachers of Classes VI-XII. The resource person was Vice Principal Ms. Deepa Thadani.



A training session on Assessment & Evaluation was held for the Primary Section Teachers on June 25, 2022. The resource persons were Ms. Parul Mathur, Ms. Mridula Mathur and Ms. Arunima Bhasin.



Mr. Sanjeev Mathur, Ms. Ritu Bhargava, Ms. Baljeet Kaur Viridi and Ms. Mistu Bagchi completed 72 hours of School Innovation Ambassador Training Programme conducted by Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell, AICTE and CBSE.



A training session on Joyful Learning (Math) was held on June 27, 2022 for the teachers of Classes VI-VIII. The resource persons were Ms. Shivani Maheshwari, Ms. Seema Rawat and Ms. Mistu Bagchi.



A training session on Competency Based Learning was held on June 29, 2022 for the Primary and Secondary Section teachers. The resource person was Ms. Harpreet Kaur.



A training session on Role of IT Tools for Effective Assessment was held on July 9 and July 11, 2022 for the teachers of Primary and Secondary Section by the IT department of the School.



Vice Principal Ms. Deepa Thadani attended a Master Trainer's programme on 'School Health and Wellness' from August 16 to August 20, 2022 organised by CBSE in collaboration with UNESCO at NCERT, New Delhi.

# COLLABORATIVE INVOLVEMENT



Live stream session '*Pariksha Pe Charcha*' by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was attended by students of Classes IX, X and XII on April 1, 2022.



COVID Vaccination Drive for Classes VII and VIII on April 4, 2022.



Tree plantation by School Staff on July 7, 2022.



Tree plantation by students in the School Forest Area on July 14, 2022.



Hindi-Pati Lekhan-Bitiya ki Pati Babul ke Naam was held for Class VIII on July 27, 2022.



Tree plantation activity by Bulbuls was held on July 29, 2022.



Career Counselling for Classes X, XI and XII-Com was held on August 6, 2022. The resource person was Mr. Apurva Singhal, an alumnus of our School.



Career Counselling session on Hospitality Industry for students of Class XII-Arts and Com. was held on August 6, 2022 at Ananta Resort, Pushkar. The resource person was Mr. Mohit Mantri.



Self defence training for the girls of the School was held on August 17, 2022. The resource persons were Ms. Dropadi and Ms. Pooja.



Career Counselling for students of Class IX was held on August 20, 2022. The resource person was Mr. Alok Saraswat.



Generation Global Video Conference on the topic 'The Rights of Girls and Women' was held on August 19, 2022. The students interacted with students from Delhi and Indonesia.



A session on Cyber Security was conducted on September 7, 2022 for Classes X and XI to observe 'Cyber Jaagrookta Diwas'. The resource person was Mr. Sean Leo Noronha, an alumnus of our School.

## IN MEMORIAM

On April 22, 2022 the School remembered the light that co-founded St. Stephen's. The memorial service began with lighting of the lamp before the portrait of Dr. (Mrs.) Deepa Martins. The atmosphere was filled with the harmonious sound of the devotional prayer sung by the School choir. The students held placards showcasing the values that Ma'am Deepa lived in her life. True to her name, Ma'am Deepa radiated the light of wisdom wherever she went. She is still an inspiration to all the students at St. Stephen's. A few students spoke about the qualities like dedication, harmony, universality, empathy and dialogue that were close to her heart and she lived them each day. A floral tribute was offered at the end of the service.



# A KALEIDOSCOPE OF CONFLICTING BUT EMPOWERED OPINIONS

*For good ideas and true innovation, you need human interaction, argument and debate*

Every year the School pays tribute to the founders of the School by organizing Inter-School Debates and Quiz. The Eighteenth Dr. (Mrs.) Deepa Martins Memorial Annual Inter-School English and Hindi Debates were held on August 30 and 31, 2022. The debates were impromptu and the clues of the topic were given beforehand.



The topic of the debates was disclosed two hours before the commencement of the event. The topic for the English debate was **'International Organizations have lost their relevance in the current political and economic global order.'** The event was chaired by Dr. Neeta Mathur, Associate Professor, Government College, Nasirabad. Aaradhya Sharma and Shefali Raj brought glory to our School by securing the First and the Third position respectively. Anjali Pedwal of St. Mary's Convent Senior Secondary School, Ajmer secured the Second position. The coveted trophy was won by our School but being the host School, the trophy was handed over to the runners-up team of St. Mary's Convent Senior Secondary School, Ajmer.



The topic for the Hindi debate was **'डिजिटलीकरण के कारण पारंपरिक पुस्तकालय अप्रासंगिक हो गए हैं।'**

Dr. Anant Bhatnagar, Principal, Vijay Singh Pathik Shramjeevi College, Ajmer and Director, The Turning Point Public School, Ajmer was the chairperson for the event. The participants were able to present their arguments in an impressive way. Khushi of Queen Mary's Senior Secondary School, Ajmer and Sahil Mangtani of St. Paul's Senior Secondary School, Ajmer secured the First and the Second position respectively. Laghima Srivastava of St. Mary's Convent Senior Secondary School, Ajmer, also shared the Second position. St. Mary's Convent Senior Secondary School, Ajmer won the running trophy.

Quiz is an art and a test of the intellect. It is a unique and



exciting way to motivate, inspire, encourage and reward children in their quest for knowledge. The most awaited day of the Inter-School events was The

Fifteenth Shri Gilroy Martins Memorial Inter School Quiz that was held on September 1, 2022. Mr. Adhiraj Singh, an eminent educationist, was the chairperson for the event. The students showcased their brilliance by rapidly answering the questions. It was a very informative and knowledge enriching competition for the participants along with the audience. Mayoora School won the trophy.

**These events not only give the younger generation a boost but also raise their confidence.**

Maheshwari Public School and St. Stephen's Sr. Sec. School stood Second and Third respectively. Arpit Choudhary and

Ansh Bhardwaj of our School were the Second Runners-up. These events not only give the younger generation a boost but also raise their confidence.

# Felicititation and Appreciation

*If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a Leader*

For 35 years of selfless, dedicated and exemplary service, of which 21 years were as Principal at St. Stephen's Senior Secondary School, Ajmer, our



Director Ms. Bharti Tolumbia was felicitated by our Honorary Mentor Shri Anupam Martins.

Leadership is about making others better as a result of one's presence and making sure that impact lasts.

Ma'am Bharti Tolumbia has been an inspiration to all. She has patiently mentored and led, shared wisdom, met each one's needs, supported and advised willingly, is a person whom the St. Stephen's family can always rely on. With Ma'am at the helm, St. Stephen's has always journeyed 'Onward and Upward'.

During her years as a Mentor and Head of the Institution, Ma'am Bharti has always set out to make a difference in the lives of all the staff and Stephanians. Shri Anupam Martins spoke in glowing terms of Ma'am Bharti's virtues which have stood in great stead in the growth and achievements of St. Stephen's over the years. Ma'am Bharti in her speech expressed her gratitude to our founder Shri Gilroy Martins, who mentored her and to Shri Anupam Martins for his faith in her to lead the School.

## Teachers' Day Celebration

A teacher is not just a facilitator of knowledge but also a mentor, a guide, a friend and a role model for the students. To appreciate and celebrate the lives of their teachers, the students put up a short presentation of songs and dances in their respective classrooms on September 3, 2022. A PowerPoint Presentation on the life of Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, in whose honour Teachers' Day is celebrated, was watched by all the students.



On September 5, 2022, the teachers were administered the 10 Point Oath by the Honorary Mentor Shri Anupam Martins. A token of appreciation was presented to all the teachers for their dedication towards their profession as mentors to young minds. Some teachers were felicitated for reaching milestones in their years as educators at St. Stephen's. Letters of Appreciation were also presented to teachers for facilitating excellent results at the Secondary/Senior Secondary School Exams 2022. Later, the teachers enjoyed a day out in Pushkar.



# Marking Special Days of the Year

## International Mother Earth Day

To show our support for the environment and its protection, Classes L.K.G. to V took part in activities like Poster Making and Slogan Writing on April 22, 2022 on the theme 'Restore Our Earth'. International Mother Earth Day has been set apart to make human beings mindful



of the importance of Planet Earth.

## World Book and Copy Right Day

Reading has numerous benefits. It opens the door to the world of imagination and transports us to a world of wonder. It also enhances one's knowledge, expands our vocabulary and above all is a stress buster. Keeping this in mind various activities were conducted on April 23, 2022 for Classes L.K.G. to V which included Thumb Printing, Finger Printing, Vegetable Printing, Bookmark and Book Cover Page designing.



## International Day of Families

International Day of Families was celebrated on May 15, 2022 as it speaks on how well urbanization is



managed towards benefitting families and enhancing the well-being of all the generations. Activities like drawing a Family Tree, Collage Making and creating photo

frames were conducted for Classes L.K.G. to V to create awareness about a family and its bond.

## Grandparents' Day

Grandparents are the greatest treasure of a family and keepers of traditions. To honour them the students of the Pre-Primary classes celebrated Grandparents' Day on September 9, 2022 and September 10, 2022. All the grandparents were welcomed with colourful cards. Performances by the students in their classes left the grandparents spellbound. One-minute games and images made with *Aakar Parivaar* kit were some fun activities organized for them. Each class teacher gave a speech appreciating the role of the grandparents in the lives of the students and for all they do for their grandchildren.



# LEARNING BY DOING

## Save Soil



Save soil is a global movement launched by Sadhguru, to address the soil crisis by bringing together people from around the world to stand up

for Soil Health. To create awareness among the students activities were conducted on April 30, 2022 which included Videos on SAVE SOIL and Message to the Honourable Prime Minister which was done by Classes I to V.

## Waste to Best Activity



Articles like *dholak* from paper glasses, pen holders with old CDs, cupboard using sweet boxes, etc. were made using waste material by the children of Classes I to V on August 16, 2022 in order to

emphasize the concept of 'Waste to Best'.

## Tree Plantation Drive



The Bulbul Girls of Classes III to V participated in a Tree plantation activity on July 29, 2022. They were shown different types of plants and trees which gave them knowledge of a variety of Flora and Fauna.

## Toys that Teach



Trash has been given a whole new meaning turning it into toys by Mr. Arvind Gupta, who has uploaded activities on his YouTube channel and on his own website. Students of Classes L.K.G. to V made

different toys from Arvind Gupta Toys and Experiments.

## Drive Safe, Arrive Safe



To create awareness about safe riding and practices on the road, a cycle rally of 45 kms was organised by our School on September 24, 2022. The rally was flagged off from School to Foy Sagar, Kharkhedi village, Pushkar, Budha Pushkar, Hokra and back to Makarwali. The rally included 35 students, NCC cadets and a few staff members.

## Hiking Through Nature Trails



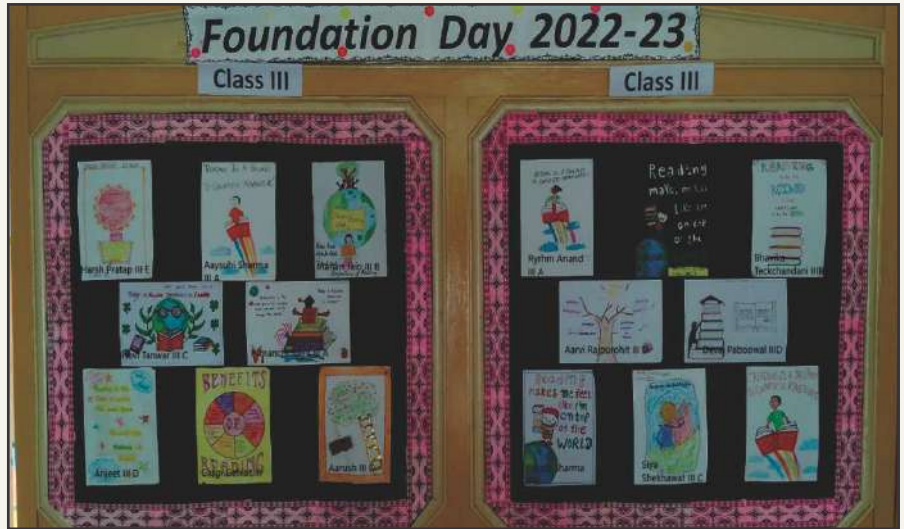
Hiking is one of the best ways to explore the majestic beauty of the hills and mountains.

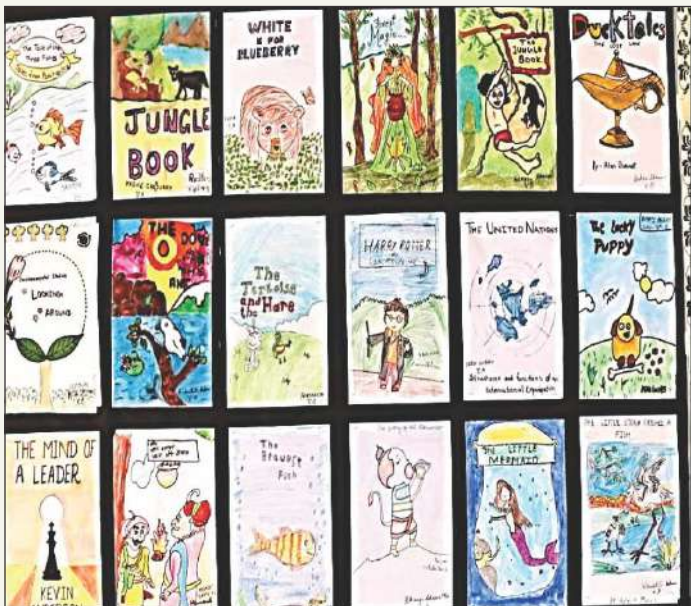
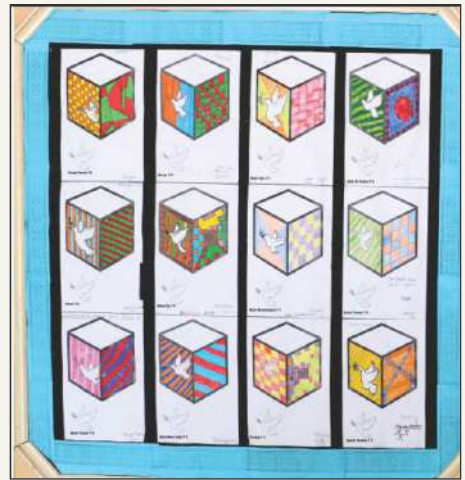
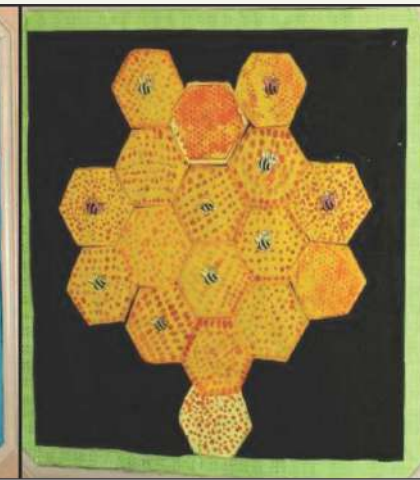
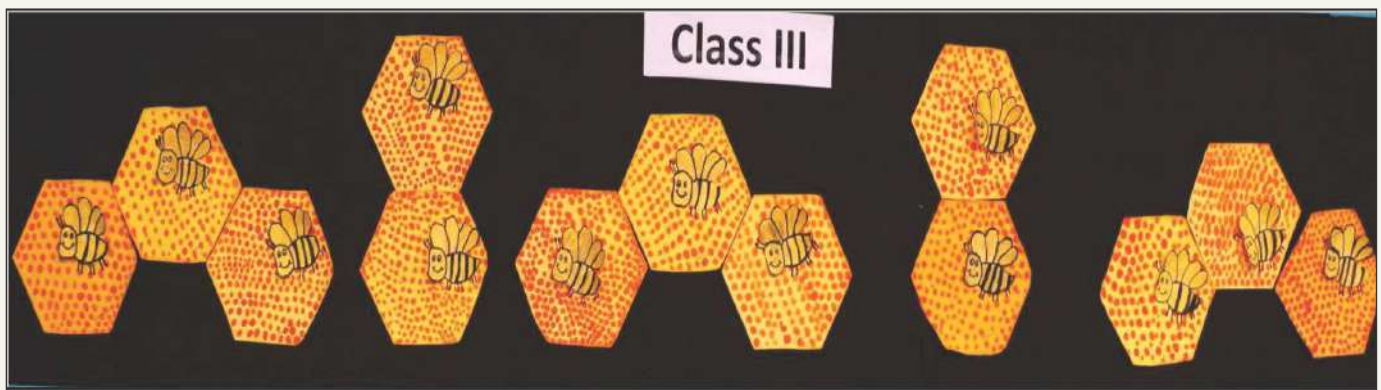
Class V students went on this adventurous trip on August 6, 2022 and enthusiastically explored nature near the School forest area. The students also learned about the flora.

# IMPRESSIONS

*Young minds painting their dreams on Canvas*

*Showcasing Elements of Art through Anchor Charts, Reading, Step by Step Drawing, Textures, Lines & Colours*

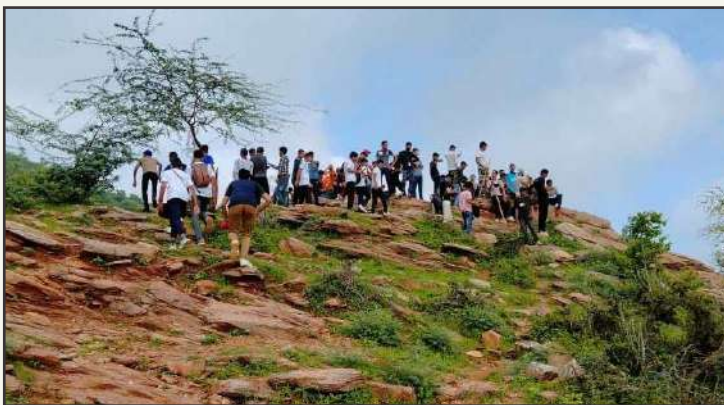




# ADVENTURE CAMP

*Camp. Explore. Dream. Discover*

*Glimpses of Bharat Scout Adventure Camp, Pushkar*



# BAGLESS DAYS

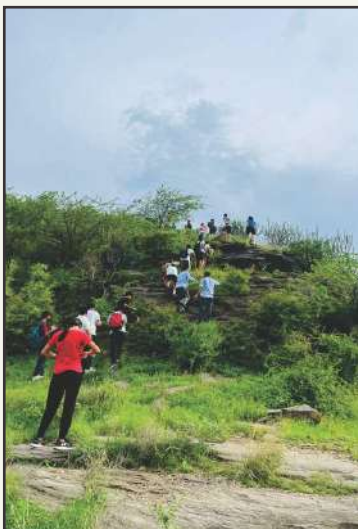
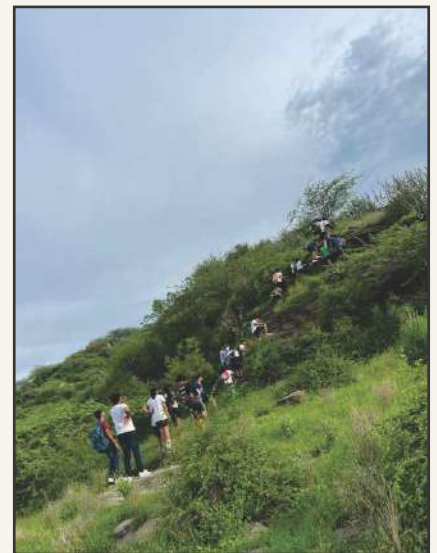
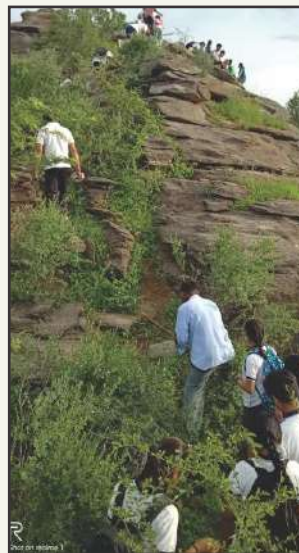
*Holistic Development in a creative and interactive way*



# HIKING

## *Glimpses of the Nature Walk*

*To walk in nature is to witness a thousand miracles*





# CAMPUS STARS

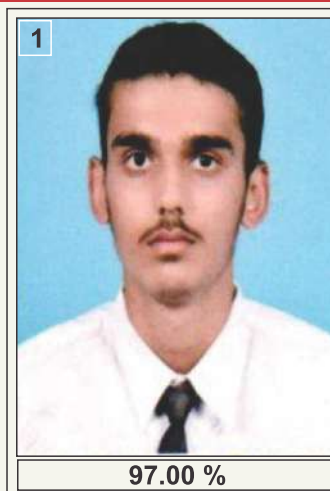
## Academics



22 students of our School secured 90% and above in SSCE (Class XII) 2022

S. No.	Name	Class	Percentage
1.	Dushyant Singh Rathore	XII Arts	97.00
2.	Mokshi Jain	XII Arts	96.80
3.	Aditya Agarwal	XII Com.	96.00
4.	Chhavi Jain	XII Com.	95.60
5.	Kovid Dadhich	XII Sc.	95.60
6.	Trishla Jain	XII Com.	95.40
7.	Karan Pinjani	XII Com.	95.20
8.	Samyak Jain	XII Com.	95.20
9.	Purvai Bhola	XII Arts	94.80
10.	Vividha Vinod	XII Arts	94.80
11.	Vishakha Gurjar	XII Sc.	93.80
12.	Adanya Sharma	XII Sc.	93.20
13.	Darshan Ramrakhyani	XII Sc.	93.20
14.	Nitika Kapoor	XII Com.	93.00
15.	Kashish Bhagwani	XII Arts	92.40
16.	Bhanu Pratap Singh	XII Sc.	91.60
17.	Garima Singh	XII Sc.	91.60
18.	Riya Sagar	XII Arts	91.20
19.	Chanakya Yadav	XII Com.	90.80
20.	Devanshi Agarwal	XII Arts	90.80
21.	Lakshit Bhargava	XII Com.	90.40
22.	Limra Hussain	XII Arts	90.20

### Our SSCE (Class XII) 2022 Faculty Toppers



1. Dushyant Singh Rathore secured First position in Arts & 100/100 in PE

2. Aditya Agarwal secured First position in Commerce & 100/100 in Accountancy

3. Kovid Dadhich secured First position in Science

## Our SSCE (Class XII) 2022 Star Performers



(L to R): Mokshi Jain  
(XII-Arts), Chhavi Jain  
(XII-Commerce)  
and Nitika Kapoor  
(XII-Commerce) secured  
100/100 in IP

**52 students of our School secured 90% and  
above in SSE (Class X) 2022**

S. No.	Name	Percentage
1.	Yash Narayan	99.40
2.	Ruchita Bothra	98.20
3.	Prateek Mirchandani	98.20
4.	Akshay Dahiya	97.60
5.	Rupal Bothra	96.60
6.	Ishant Khandelwal	96.20
7.	Yash Khandelwal	96.20
8.	Ishvit Bhardwaj	96.00
9.	Naitik Verma	96.00
10.	Chanchal Kanwar	95.60
11.	Ishika Sharma	95.00
12.	Niharika Subnani	94.80
13.	Harshit Dubey	94.60
14.	Khushank Chandela	94.40
15.	Naveen Kumar Tak	94.40
16.	Vivek Ahuja	94.40
17.	Abhi Sharma	94.20
18.	Jasmeen Parveen	94.20
19.	Prachi Jain	94.00
20.	Akshat Pareek	93.80
21.	Kanishka Tepan	93.80
22.	Shavej Khan	93.80
23.	Kalpith Mathur	93.80
24.	Abhimanyu Gupta	93.40
25.	Mrinalini Singh	93.40
26.	Suveer Kumawat	93.40

S. No.	Name	Percentage
27.	Harshit Sharma	93.40
28.	Mehul Jain	93.20
29.	Harshit Saini	93.20
30.	Naisha Shrivastava	92.60
31.	Vranda Tyagi	92.60
32.	Jhanvi Choudhary	92.60
33.	Puneet Joshi	92.40
34.	Saara Hussain	92.20
35.	Jiya Chandiramani	92.00
36.	Ishan Kewlani	92.00
37.	Sanjay Manghnani	92.00
38.	Bhumika Methani	92.00
39.	Deependra Singh	91.80
40.	Anushka Upadhyay	91.60
41.	Ayush Sharma	91.60
42.	Kanishka Choudhary	91.60
43.	Pratibha Uriyaat	91.60
44.	Navmika Saxena	91.40
45.	Manas Jain	91.20
46.	Jayesh Sharma	91.20
47.	Aashi Jain	91.00
48.	Tushar Jayaswal	91.00
49.	Krishna Raimalani	90.60
50.	Tanushiya Jain	90.60
51.	Ashish Mulani	90.40
52.	Gajendra Singh	90.20

## Our SSE (Class X) 2022 Top Three Scorers



99.40 %



98.20 %



98.20 %

(L to R): Yash Narayan (100/100 in Science and Social Science), Ruchita Bothra (100/100 in Maths) and Prateek Mirchandani

## Our SSE (Class X) 2022 Star Performers



(L to R): Vivek Ahuja secured 100/100 in Social Science, Ishvit Bhardwaj, Naitik Verma, Akshay Dahiya secured 100/100 in Science



Niyati Moolchandani (IV-C) won the Gold Medal of Excellence in the SOF International General Knowledge Olympiad 2021-22



Khushbu Goyal (V-C) won the Gold Medal of Distinction and also received a gift voucher for securing Zonal Rank 7 in the SOF International English Olympiad 2021-22



Ritika Choudhary (III-B) won the Bronze International Topper Medal and a gift voucher for securing International Rank 3 in the SOF International Mathematics Olympiad 2021-22



Mohit Somai (IX-B) received a certificate of Scholarship of Excellence and a cheque of Rs.5000 from the SOF International Science Olympiad Foundation, 2021-2022



Swapnil Goyal (VII-A) won the Gold Medal of Distinction for securing Zonal Rank 17 in the SOF International Social Science Olympiad 2021-22

# Co-curricular Activities



(L to R): Anway Sharma (X-A), Divyaraj Singh Rathore (X-A), Praman Garg (X-A), Keshav Sharma (X-B) and Tausif Ahmed Khan (X-A) secured the first position in the Senior Sanskrit Group Song in the Sanskrit Saptah organized by Sanskrit Bharti Pranyaas Ajmer at Demonstration School, Ajmer



(L to R): Dhwani Varshney (IV-D) and Onish Dadhich (IV-A) secured the third position in the Chitter Chatter event in the Inter-School Literary Fest SYMPHENIA, 2022 organised by Delhi World Public School, Ajmer



(L to R): Hanuwant Singh Rathore (IX-D), Jiya Chandiramani (XI-Arts), Shefali Raj (XII-Sc), Himanshika Lekhwani (VIII-C), Hiya Morani (IX-C), Daksh Bhandari (X-A), Inset: Ashish Mulani (XI-Com B) and Ruchita Bothra (XI- Com A) secured positions in the Inter-School Fest 'IMPETUS' organized by MSS School, Kishangarh



Sitting (L To R): Aaradhya Sharma (XII-Arts), Heyanshe Pant (XI-Arts), Tanvir Fatima (XII-Arts),  
Standing (L To R): Daksh Vaishnav (VII-A), Saurabh Chatwani (VII-A), Shreyansh Pipara (VII-A), Jagriti Chaudhary (VI-A), Suhana Maheshwari (III-B), Navya Purohit (IV-C) Lakshita Charan (VI-A), Inset: Deepti Roopchandani (VI-A) and Hardik Chauhan (VII-A) secured positions in the Inter-School Fest 'Pushpmoti' organized by HKH Public School, Ajmer. Our school was awarded the running trophy for securing the overall first position



(L To R): Chirmi Detha (XII-Sc), Aaradhya Sharma (XII-Arts), Dev Kishan Mirchandani (XII-Com B), Hardik Jain (XII-Com A), Hardika Ojha (XII-Com A), Rishika Jain (XII-Com A), Kush Bansal (XII-Com A) secured positions in the 'Shiv Smriti Inter School Fest' organized by Sanskriti... The School, Ajmer



(L to R): Tanvi Jhuriya (X-C), Nishi Janu (VII-B), Ritisha Mathur (VIII-A), Tanvi Sharma (XI-Arts), Aditi Sharma (XI-Com B), Unnati Bhagchandani (XI-Com B), Chhavi Charan (X-B) and Charu Charan (XI-Com B) participated in the 'Poorva Sandhya Swadhinata Divas' held at Jawahar Rang Manch, Ajmer

## Sports



Rudraksh Singh Rathore (IX-B) participated as a player (YBS-U 15-Extra entry) in the 83rd Cadet And Sub Junior National Table Tennis Championship-2021 held at Indore



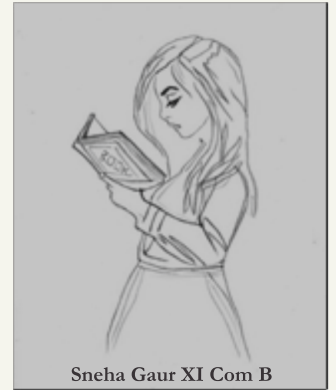
Himakshi Purohit (VII-B) secured the first position (Event-Foil) in the Sub Junior U-14, Rajasthan State Fencing Championship organized by Alwar District Fencing Association at Alwar



Khushi Payal (VIII-A) won the Gold medal in Kumite (12 years category) in the North India Karate Championship -2022, organized by North India Sports Karate Association at MDU University, Rohtak

# WORDSCAPE

**C**hildren learn to love the sound of language before they even notice the existence of printed words on a page. They have heard stories and songs since childhood. The poems and articles of the students evoke the thematic intentions of this issue.



Sneha Gaur XI Com B

## WORDS: CITIZENS ON PAPER

**W**ords are citizens on the land of paper,  
Stretching from one book to another.  
The height of their meaning touching  
skyscrapers,  
And they are the life's greatest helpers.

Battling with the drawings and sketches,  
For the sake of their motherland.  
Marching from one to the other,  
Books of different brands.

Some start from A and some end with Z,  
Unlimited for kids and adults.  
Some to express grief and some for joy,  
Words for bookworms are not less than a cult.

Like good citizens they too follow the rules of paper,  
Below line, above line and some in the middle.  
Some spark rage and some trigger hate,  
Some bring peace and some accompany giggles.

Words and paper are like ship and ocean,  
Inseparable and incomplete without the other.  
If paper is the body, then words are the soul,  
If paper is the space, then words are its stars.

Paper is useless without words,  
Words make paper a book,  
They illuminate our mind.

**Sanskriti Gandhi**  
**X-A**

## WORLD OF BOOKS

**T**oday it's the love for books I talk about.  
When the night falls,  
Or the sun is out,  
The only thing I think of, is to start with  
A book, no matter who goes to scoff.  
Reading is always so much fun,  
A great hobby, if you have ever had one.  
The world of books is new and bright,  
Be it a sunny day or the darkest night.  
I always like to curl up and read,  
And do that with great speed.  
Reading is always so much fun,  
A great hobby, if you ever have one.

**Chitransh Soni**  
**X-D**



— Reading is a thing  
which never ends,  
— The more you read  
The more you gain

Siddharth Poswal VIII – D

## DELICIOUS BOOKS

**R**eading is like a dish, in the form of books,  
Each time a new a new taste.

Try as many as you desire,  
And enjoy the bitter-sweet flavour.

Making our hearts crave for more,  
Books are filled with experiences galore.

Oh! well that's the cherry on the top,  
In the end, it's the recipe for life you've got.

**Tulika Sharma**  
**X-A**

## A BIOSCOPE OF LIFE

**R**eading is not just going through the stories  
you like,

Stories open books of someone's life  
We make the storyline relate to our life,  
While reading, the story is played before our eyes.

Emotions of the characters touch our lives,  
Making the characters of the book come alive.  
So let's encourage reading,  
And travel on a fun filled journey in life.

**Mananya Gaur**  
**VIII-C**



Harshita Gwalani X -A

## READING

*A whole world can't be conquered by violence but can be won by the art of Speech.*

**R**eading is an important activity in our lives. We gain knowledge, have fun, read mysteries and most importantly become good listeners. A person who doesn't have patience to listen, can't learn the value of reading. Reading books is one of the key stepping stones towards becoming a successful individual. It enhances our knowledge beyond textbooks. Reading newspapers is one of the best ways to know about the world around us. However, today's generation no longer has an interest in reading the newspapers. They open news online and read the headlines and leave it at that. We have an abundant treasure in human history that is books to read. Reading develops skills like patience, knowledge, fluency and vocabulary skills. Just remember how our forefathers passed on their tales and stories they read. We have to preserve them for the future generations as well. I would like to quote some wise words:

"Books are the foundation of every person's journey and the steps to success in their career."

**Shaikh Kabiruddin Chishty**  
**X-A**



Khushboo Tejwani VIII - C

## WINGS TO IMAGINATION

If you are thinking to travel afar,  
From the place where now you are,  
Read a book!

If you are thinking of talks with kings,  
Or to fly with Lindbergh's wings,  
Read a book!

If you are thinking of a look at days gone by,  
And to know scientific reasons, 'Why?'  
Read a book!

Read a book,  
And the world before you will unfold,  
And you will come to know about the stories  
untold.

**Jiya Jhajaria**  
**VII A**



## BOOKS ARE FUN

Open a book, and have a look.  
Read the title, go ahead,  
Look through the story,  
And interpret what it says.

Books are interesting,  
Of various genres, and characters galore.  
Create your own dream world,  
And increase your skills.  
Reading gives one lots of fun,  
When you find it's done.

**Shruti Khandelwal**  
**VIII-D**

## काश! मैं एक अक्षर होती

ज्ञान की जब-जब अभिलाषा होती  
मेरी मंशा कुछ पढ़ने की होती  
माँ सरस्वती के आँचल की  
मेरे ऊपर छाँव-सी होती।

ज्ञान और विज्ञान की पोथी  
दीपक और बाती की ज्योति  
मन से मेरे अंधकार मिटाती  
जब-जब मंशा पढ़ने की होती।

काश! मैं एक कवर होती  
अपनी किताब संग जगती-सोती  
काश! मैं एक अक्षर होती  
अपनी किताब संग हंसती-रोती।

काश! मैं एक सूरज होती  
पृथ्वी की गति को पढ़ पाती  
जीवन का रहस्य समझकर  
दीन-दुखियों के दर्द को ढोह पाती।  
काश! मैं एक अक्षर होती ।।

तनिष्ठा सोनी  
कक्षा-दसवीं 'द'



Hardik Jain XI-Com B

## पढ़ना है एक कला

पढ़ना है एक कला  
जीवन की परिभाषा है पढ़ना  
किताबें हैं भंडार इसका  
पढ़ना है एक कला।  
कल्पना है इसका विस्तार  
विकास है लक्ष्य  
जीवन की जिज्ञासा  
बनाती है विश्व विजेता  
पढ़ना है एक कला।  
होता है तनाव मुक्त  
शौक है जिसका पढ़ना  
बुद्धि है बढ़ती और  
बढ़ती है याददाश्त  
पढ़ना है एक कला।  
युग-युगांतर तक हुआ विकास  
पढ़े-पढ़ाएं और पढ़ेंगे  
जीवन को सुंदरतम बनाएंगे  
आओ, भविष्य की नींव डालें  
पढ़ना है एक कला।

आर्यन अग्रवाल  
कक्षा— पांचवी 'द'



Ananya Bissa X-D

## पढ़ना

पढ़ना एक बहुत अच्छी आदत होती है। अच्छी किताबें पढ़ने से हमें अच्छे विचार आते हैं। हमें कई विषयों की जानकारी होती है। पठन आपको अधिक ज्ञानवान बनाता है। पढ़ने से हमें भाषा का भी ज्ञान होता है। अच्छी किताबें पढ़ने से हम जीवन में समस्या का सही समाधान ढूंढ सकते हैं तथा अच्छा परिणाम प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। हमें हमारे खाली समय में पढ़ने की आदत बनानी चाहिए, जिससे हमारा समय भी व्यतीत हो जाए और हमें ज्ञान भी प्राप्त हो। जब हम तनाव महसूस कर रहे हों, तब पढ़ना हमारा अच्छा सहारा बन सकता है। हमें अपने आपको व दूसरों को किताबें पढ़ने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करना चाहिए।

दृष्टि

कक्षा— चौथी 'स'

## किताबें

ये प्यारी-प्यारी किताबें हैं,  
ये प्यारी-प्यारी किताबें हैं।  
तुम क्या समझो इसका मोल,  
ये सब की राजदुलारी हैं,  
ये प्यारी-प्यारी किताबें हैं,  
ये प्यारी-प्यारी किताबें हैं।

रोज इन्हें पढ़ा करो,  
ये दिमाग तेज करती हैं,  
इनसे हमें सफलता मिलती हैं,  
ये प्यारी-प्यारी किताबें हैं,  
ये प्यारी-प्यारी किताबें हैं।

नव्या पुरोहित

कक्षा—चौथी 'स'

# BACKDROP

## Grandparents' Day

*World's Best Educators: Grandparents*



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