

CIS HERALD

FEBRUARY 2016

AN IN-HOUSE CIS Publication

EDITORS NOTE

The month of February has been eventful and exciting. A month full of activities and trips from Sundarbans to Amsterdam and Manali to Shillong! Everybody was enlightened by the special programmes hosted in the school such as the Road Safety Week and the interactive session on Feluda.

Not only did everybody have a “good time” but they also put in their best effort in academics with the help of the Maths quiz and the Spell bee.

It was a very interesting and enjoyable month!

~Varenya Ganesh and Vartika Jain



ROAD SAFETY WEEK

A few days ago there was a traffic awareness week that took place in Kolkata. The traffic policemen in Kolkata were going to different places around the city. Among the many places that were visited, they also visited different schools to raise awareness of the different traffic signs, rules and safety precautions.



They came to our school on 9th February. Classes 6-8 were called down to participate in this event. When we came down, excitement was buzzing around. We all were alarmed but excited at the same time to see so many policemen in our school.



There was a 92.7 red fm radio jockey present as well. He conducted the whole programme. He tested our knowledge on the traffic rules in Kolkata through a quiz session. This made all of us know about the different traffic rules, signs, and safety procedures.

Overall this was a very enlightening experience for all of us. We had a lot of fun and we got to learn a lot of things.

**CLASS 7 TRIP TO
SUNDARBANS**



The class 7 students left for Sundarbans from school on Friday, 19th February at 8:15 am. They took an air conditioned bus till the outskirts of Sundarbans from where they boarded a steamer to the resort. They stayed at The Sundarbans Tiger Camp in Dayapur island . Thirty six children of Class 7 as well as three teachers and a support staff went on this trip. They reached the resort

by 2:00 pm. On being allotted their rooms, they were given some time to settle down before a sumptuous lunch!

After lunch, they left the resort to visit the Sajnekhali wild life reserve... They did not spot any tigers but they did see spotted deer, estuarine crocodile, water monitor lizard, and river terrapin. They also saw the plants: Kankra, Sundari, and Goran. Once they got back to the hotel they had tea and snacks and then watched a tribal dance. The children too danced with the tribals! To top the enjoyment of that fun-filled day, they had a delicious dinner and then relaxed with their friends...



The next morning (Saturday, 20th February), everyone had to wake up at 5:00 am to leave for the day's excursion by 7:15 am. Breakfast was served on the steamer... It was a 3 hour journey to Dobanki. They saw the red fiddler crabs and more plants: Pomegranate, Keora, and Mahua. While on the cruise back they crossed Panchmuki, the point where 5 rivers meet. The rivers are- Matla, Vidya, Herodhanga, Gumdi, and Gaji.

When they reached the resort, they ate lunch and were given some time to relax before the next outing at 3:45. They all walked down to a nearby village in Dayapur. The children were in pairs of two and each pair had a set of questions. They interviewed the villagers in Hindi or Bengali. Then they walked on to see the village market. On the way back the children took water and soil samples! After getting back to the hotel the children had some time to relax and catch up with one another. At 6:00 pm the children and teachers assembled around the bonfire area for tea and snacks, and then enjoyed a short film on wild life in India. The teachers and students then made the most of their last evening together by dancing, singing, and taking selfies!



The next morning everyone woke up at 5:00 am to visit Sudhanyakhali watchtower. They saw a wild boar with its young, sand piper, heron, and egret. Also they saw plants like Baen, Passur, Genwa, Grajan, Dhundhul, and Golpata. They were back by 11:00 am to the resort.

They got a couple of hours to visit the gift shop, pack up their luggage, and relax with their friends...

After lunch they left the resort and took a steamer and then a bus back to Kolkata. They reached school by 5:30 pm. It was a fun, exciting, and educational journey for the teachers and children alike.



IAYP TRIP



The IAYP Trip is a trip open to all the students of class 9 and above. It is an educational trip aimed to teach students how to become more independent. The ninth graders have had two IAYP trips till date. One was to Panchalingeshwar while the other was to Solang Valley, Manali. Around forty students went for the IAYP Trip to Manali. The

IAYP Trip to Panchalingeshwar, according to the ninth graders, was an effective preparation for the IAYP Trip to Manali. However, in Panchalingeshwar, the students had to do everything on their own. They even had to wash their own plates. The trip to Manali taught the students skills like skiing, trekking on snowy mountains and building igloos. The activities were compulsory. Most of the ninth graders did not know skiing and learning from the beginning was difficult. Building igloos seemed very basic, but was actually very

difficult. The students of grade nine took three days to complete an igloo. Also, trekking up the snowy mountains was a great challenge, as the ice was melting during that time and it was very slippery. All the ninth graders realised that if they had not attended the Panchalingeshwar trip, it would have been difficult for them to cope with the Manali trip.

The ninth graders were accompanied by the tenth, eleventh and twelfth graders. The IAYP trips, along with teaching the students important mean of individuality, also provided the students with opportunity for shopping. The students were accompanied by three experienced teachers who helped the students by providing them with extra tips and tricks.



There are three sections for awards, the bronze zone, the silver zone and the gold award. Attending the trip to Panchalingeshwar and to Solang Valley and completing two months of service nominates the students for the bronze award. Completion is all that is important for these awards, there is no competition.

The students of grade ten, eleven, and twelve accompanied the ninth graders and they too learned how to ski, build igloos and trekking.

FELUDA @ 50

Boria Majumdar, the editor of Feluda 1 (English version) visited our school to talk about the book. He has done his PHD in the social history of cricket. He has taught at the University of Chicago, Toronto and many others. He writes columns in the Times of India.

Feluda, Mr.Majumdar informed us, was his private passion. This character was created in 1966. According to him, the main difference between Feluda and Sherlock Holmes is that Feluda is the boy next door. Feluda is an 'ambition and inspiration' and could easily represent India in the global line of detectives.

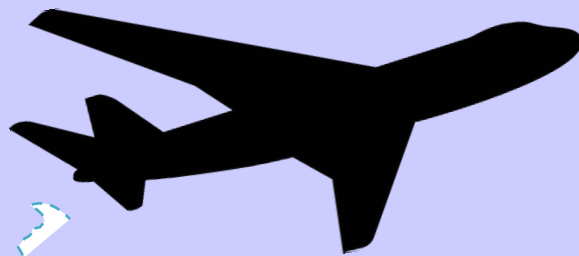
The book Mr. Majumdar has edited has interviews with the three of the most important people in the Feluda series. They have answered some fundamental questions. In this non-fiction book he asks us some important questions. He thinks that "Where you really find your creativity is not through examination but through reworking and going slow and loving it".

Mr. Majumdar's favourite 'Feluda' actor is Soumitra Chatterjee. He also told us that Feluda is incomplete without Lalmohan Ganguly, Topshe and the group. He knows for a fact that his friends living in the US and UK do celebrate Feluda but he is not sure if it is celebrated globally.



The name Felu-da instantly creates a link between the "normal" people and himself. What everybody present in that room grasped from our "little chat" is that Feluda is a legendery and evergreen character, a part of our daily life, someone who we can always look up to for inspiration.

We must work to keep him alive in everybody's hearts.



SHILLONG

The students of Class 8 went with three teachers to Shillong and Cherapunjee. The trip was between the 24th and the 27th of February. They took an hour long flight to Guwahati and then drove for three hours to Shillong. On the way they saw two beautiful lakes. When

they reached their hotel, Orchid Annex, they were allotted their rooms and were given the rest of the day off to relax. Later in the evening, they were divided into groups of three: the leaders being Anoushka; Somhrit and Sakshi. The leaders gave a presentation on how they had spent the day.



The next day, the C.I.S team visited two waterfalls and the Mawsami Caves. It is only 6km away from Cherapunjee and is hidden beneath trees. A student said "It was a beautiful and exciting experience." The cave is home to a lot of flora and fauna, and creatures like bats and insects. It is 150m long. They went back to their hotel and enjoyed immensely there with their friends.

The next morning, they visited a museum of local history and yet another waterfall.



Finally, on their last day they visited the cleanest village in the world and then went for a round of shopping to the local marketplace. They also saw a bridge made of living roots- a root ridge! They landed in Kolkata at 10 pm and the memorable excursion ended.

Amsterdam Trip



Art Installation

A group of seven art students from the A Level and IB groups of CIS travelled to the Netherlands. They spent the first five days in Zoetermeer where they went to a school called Alfrink College from 8.00 am to 5.00 pm daily. In the evening they spent time with their host families. Their hosts were students' families from the Alfrink College. The teachers stayed with teachers of the school.

Their goals were to work on an installation on the theme of transparency and to gain a better understanding of master artists and their works, by visiting the gorgeous museums that mushroom across the Netherlands.

The first assignment that the art students received was the construction of two transparent figures with Cello-tape. The theme of the MUN, 'transparency' was expressed, not only by the diaphanous nature of their medium but also by the open body language that the figures expressed. The students were then invited to join the opening ceremony of the MUN during which they heard selected delegates give speeches. Guest speakers from the Congo and from Syria inspired the audience with their thought-provoking messages.





The following day, the guest speaker from Syria, an artist who is currently based in Germany, held a workshop.

It was attended by both the art students from CIS, as well as a few students from Alfrink (the school with which CIS collaborated). The artist, Sebastian, told the students the story of a Syrian boy who had to flee his own country due to the increasing violence around him. The students were split into groups and were asked to put their thoughts on the story into a piece of art. They ended up with a number of intriguing and contextually interesting pieces of art.



The third day evolved around Mr. Ghosh's Art workshop in which the art students assisted. The workshop focused on the tactile and visual interest that transparent layers could yield to bookmaking.

In between all these workshops the students were also taken on multiple trips to museums, galleries and on tours of the cities around them. They were shown around Rotterdam, The Hague, and Amsterdam. The museums they visited included the Rijks Museum, the Mauritshuis museum, the Van Gogh museum and the Escher Museum, which was a favourite. The students were also taken to the Anne Frank Museum, which was an experience they will never forget.





The journey began when few students were selected to represent Calcutta International School in the Model United Nations Alfrink in Netherlands. The base agenda was 'Transparency' on which all the committees debated to create a resolution.

They were 10 students. They left the country on February 1st and flew to Netherlands. They reached at 3:00 pm according to the local time followed in Netherlands. From 1st to the 5th they stayed with host families. After landing in Amsterdam, they went to Alfrink college. That night the hosts had a small get together so that they could know each other better. On the 2nd, they had an excursion. An excursion to Rotterdam. Rotterdam was the city bombed during World War II which lead Netherlands to surrender to Germany. When the city was rebuilt, it was built into the most modern city in Netherlands. They were accompanied by the students who were from Britain and China. They also went up on the Euromast.



3rd February was the day the MUN began. There were 400 delegates from across the globe, including UK, Paris, China and Turkey, Germany, France. There were 10 delegates who represented India. But first they all went for an excursion to The Hague in committees. There were 10 committees. Manjima Sengupta was in the Global Mayors Forum. So their committee went to the city hall. They got to learn about the Dutch government and how marriages takes place. They also got to go around the city and shop. The opening ceremony was around 3.00 pm. Sylvester Bwira (the guest speaker) spoke to them about the conditions in Congo and all problems he faced. To end the opening ceremony, Arman Şahin (President) declared the MUN open.

On the 4th, they began the sessions with their committees. On the first committee hour, their committee debated on terrorism. They all, after long debating hour, could pass a

protocol on it. After lunch they got back to debate. This time they were focusing on the issue of diversity. The committee session got over at 5 p.m. That night MUNA had arranged a dance party for all the participants in a club in Zoetermeer. It went on till midnight. They had a lot of fun.

On the 5th, the debate began in the committee with a discussion on diversity. They also debated on urbanisation on the side basis and wrote off a great protocol. The MUN got over at 4:30 p.m. and they all headed for the closing ceremony. But before that all committees had their recognition ceremonies where the winners of each committee were declared. Manjima won the outstanding delegate in her committee, along with a second prize in position paper.



In the closing ceremony, all chairs spoke on their committees. After which Xiang Li, the secretary general gave an inspiring speech. With a heavy heart, Arman Šahin declared the event closed.

Manjima said- "We the students of Calcutta International school did have a lot of fun and got to learn a lot of new things". But for them the trip was not over yet. On 6th February, they moved out of the host families and shifted to Hague. In Hague they stayed in a youth hostel. On that day they visited two museums and learnt about Dutch culture. On the 7th they visited Amsterdam. They took a train from Hague to Amsterdam. They visited the Anne Frank House, The Rijksmuseum and The Van Gogh Museum. They learnt a lot about Art and History.

On the 8th they visited Delft- a small Dutch town. The ancient Dutch culture is kept intact there. They learnt a bit more about Dutch architecture. From there they went to Amsterdam to shop. When they returned, Mr. de Haas joined them for dinner and they all had a wonderful time. All good trips come to an end. So did this one. On the 9th, they departed from Netherlands and landed in Doha. They had a long transmit there. But on 11th they landed in Kolkata.

"This trip gave the students memories to cherish. They learnt about new cultures, met new people and last but not the least had fun". - Manjima.

SPELL



A nationwide spelling contest was organised by "WIZ NATIONAL SPELL BEE", in association with Calcutta International School. Each participant was issued a spelling booklet and based on the model test paper that was given in the booklet, the first selection round was conducted on 07.10.15 from 8.30 to 9.00 am in the school.



After qualifying round, the selected students participated in the next level on 29.02.16, from 8.30 to 9.00 am in the school. This was a written inter school city round, and will be followed by the district and state round, and then finally the national round.

MATHS QUIZ for Grades 9 & 10



PARTICIPANTS

RED HOUSE

Shriyadita Nath
Mayank Sarkar
Souhardya Pal

GREEN HOUSE

Shrijit Dasgupta
Nalanda Ray
Ritwik Boral

YELLOW HOUSE

Avishek Ghosh
Soham Roy Choudhary
Mustavi Kabir



Congratulations to Yellow House ! The winner !

MATHS QUIZ for Grades 11 & 12



PARTICIPANTS

RED HOUSE

Rangana Das
Priyadarshini Basu

GREEN HOUSE

Sagnik Gayen
Kaustav Mishra

YELLOW HOUSE

Tanvi Jindal
Priyadarshini Chatterjee



Congratulations to Yellow House ! The winner !

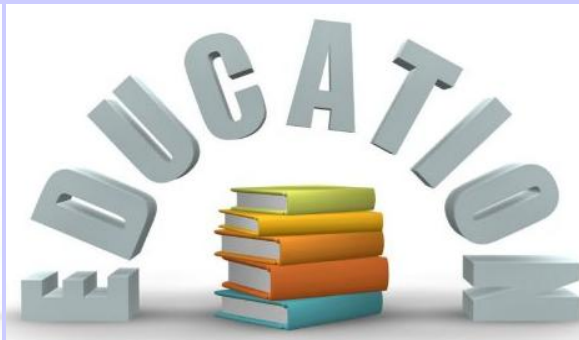


TRIP TO THE KOLKATA POLICE HEADQUARTERS

Two students from 25 schools around Kolkata were chosen to write an essay on traffic safety rules. Then, the best essay writer from each school was chosen by the police to visit the headquarters. From our school Anagh Josh Banarjee, was chosen. The visit lasted from 10am to 1pm on 9th February.



They had an interactive session with the constables where they put forward their suggestions on the traffic rules, and were introduced to the police commissioners. They were shown some videos on traffic accidents that were recorded on the **CCTV** footage. Then they were taken to the traffic control room- they got to control the traffic!



From 23rd February onwards students of Grade nine have been attending workshops conducted by Manasi Kothari and Juhi Shah. They have the class every Monday in the zero lessons.

The ninth graders are being taught values such as sincerity and honesty which they don't get to learn



in their day to day school life. Mrs. Kothari and Mrs. Shah use videos and power point presentations to make the classes more interesting. This idea has proved to be beneficial to the kids.



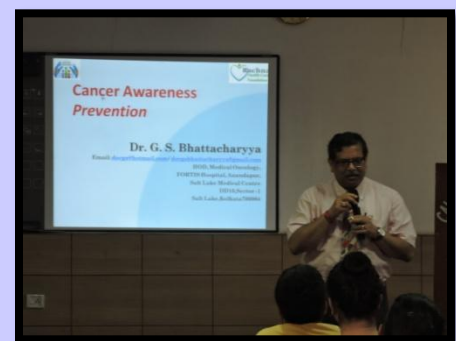
cancer



awareness

On 16th February Dr. Gourishankar Bhattacharya came to our school to raise awareness on the ill effects of smoking and tobacco. He told us about the different types of cancer and their various symptoms...

He showed us a power point presentation and real life pictures of people with later stages of cancer. He held an interactive session with teachers and students.



3D PRINTING



On 12th February Dr Kamlesh Kothari visited our school. He completed his masters and advanced maxilla facial trauma training from Shri Ramachandra Medical College in the year 2000 from Chennai. He is the Project Director in Kolkata for SMILE TRAIN, which is the world's largest cleft charity. He's been awarded as the Implantologist of the year in 2013. He is the clinical director of Aesthetica.

He has a special interest in 3D printing technology and has recently set up India's first 3D printed customized miniature bespoke models and products store in Bangalore. He is a speaker at various National and International conferences on 3D printing technology and how it's going to shape our future. He demonstrated the working of a 3D printer, explained the principle and also showed many samples printed out of it.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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