



## India Day Celebrations



Calcutta international School celebrates India Day every year in the true spirit of freedom and democracy and this coincides with Korea Day Celebrations. This year too India Day celebrations took place with a lot of enthusiasm, patriotism, joy and fervor. Students from the Primary School to the Senior School put up small programs to show how India won her freedom 67 years ago and has moved ahead ever since.

In CIS, India Day is a grand occasion celebrated in conjunction with Korea day and so CIS celebrated India and Korea Day together.

It started off with an 'energetic' and informative quiz conducted by our Quiz Master Mr.Ranjan Dutta. The quiz was followed by ethnic dances mastered to perfection. The day ended with a food sale where students from all classes sold food from different cultures, donating all the earned money to charity. Over all India Day was a fruitful experience

All the students were dressed in traditional Indian attire and the program included songs, dances, and skits, and there was a special presentation by the ECA Creative dance students In the Music Room. There was a quiz on India Day and the national anthems of both the countries were sung. There was a food sale which was a huge success and all the items were popular Indian snack and delicacies. The teachers and students all worked hard to ensure the program went on smoothly.



## Editor's Word

Since school has reopened there definitely has been a lot of work, but other than that there have been many other co-curricular taking places.

From our very first Intra School MUN, to the India and Korea Day celebrations, to visits from famous personalities, it's all been a very 'happening time'. All these experiences have left us all with something to remember and cherish for the rest of our lives. From first time "Munning" experiences and debating, to dance competitions and celebrating our pride for our nation. Getting the opportunity to write about all of these great CIS events along with the rest of the team Shrijit, Tejas, Tanya has been a lot of fun. Also, being the editor for the first time has been exciting and challenging.

I hope all of you enjoy reading our team's first issue and be a part of these memories which will last a life time

The Editor

**Mihika Varshnei**

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## Two Authors Visit Calcutta International School

### Picture Gallery



### Interactions and Impressions

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of August, **Rohini Chowdhury** who is a widely published children's author came to CIS. Rohini Chowdhury's books are based on mythology, folklore, mathematics, and history. She conducted an innovative and interactive workshop with classes 2 and 3. Through her workshop she tried to encourage the young students to take interest and be more enthusiastic towards maths. She did this through team activities and question answer session. By the end of the workshop the children seemed to have gained more confidence in Math. Overall, the workshop was an enriching and enjoyable experience for the students. The workshop not only managed to make the students more confident in Math, but also taught them many different and valuable life skills. CIS hopes to have many more visits like this.



Calcutta International School was honoured by the literary presence of the renowned author **Amit Chaudhuri**, the writer of the critically acclaimed '**A Strange and Sublime Address**'.

Professor **Chaudhuri** dealt with issues regarding nationalism, market economy, Indianness, universality, nostalgia for the homeland and writing for the self deep-rooted in the distant past.

The author engaged in an enthralling interactive session with the English teachers of the International school and discussed the nuances of writing and the experience of being a writer in a foreign land and the longing to come back to Calcutta.

On being asked by the literature teacher **Mr. A Datta**, about how he perceives the Western audience reading an Indian author writing about this lost elsewhere, Professor **Chaudhuri** deftly explained the communication which takes place between the reader of a text and the emotions which the writer attempts to convey, irrespective of geographical limitations.

Professor **Chaudhuri** was also deeply touched by the overwhelming participation of the students and their interesting questions regarding Diaspora literature.

Other teachers present were Mrs.P.P.Ganguly and Mrs. Chattopadhyay



## Daan Utsav

### CIS helps raise money to make a difference

Daan Utsav, also known as the 'Joy of Giving Week', is a week in which individuals, schools and organizations from across the country participate in acts that provide donations or services to people in need. This year, our school participated in the Daan Utsav by organizing a series of events between the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of September.



The first event was the Pujor Jama, where the students of IB and A-levels purchased and painted shirts that were given to the children who cannot afford new clothes on Durga Puja. In addition, students of all classes donated new clothes for the event as well. The collection occurred throughout the week. In addition, IB 1 students set up a Wish Tree that held a multitude of wishes from the women of the NGO, Ishwar Sankalpa. Students picked a wish from the tree and granted that wish by the end of the week. The Hygiene Basket was another activity that was taken on by the students of IB 1. With the help of **donations**, the students prepared fifty goodie bags which contained items needed for proper sanitation, including soaps, shampoos, and toothbrushes. These bags were given to the women at Ishwar Sankalpa.



Anoosha Banerjee, IB1

## The Bake-Off

On Friday, September 12, IB student, Adrishia Sarkar, held a baking competition and sale in the Music Room. The bake sale made Rs. 22,600, which was donated to Karma Kutir, an NGO that Adrishia has previously worked with. Simultaneously, a photo sale by IB student, Mautushi Saha was also held in the Music Room and the money collected was given to an animal shelter. After a 'delicious' day filled with baked goods, and dazzling photos, the students moved up to the AVR where a Martial Arts and Dance Show was conducted. The event was organized by IB student, Maharshree Karia, and was a collaboration of the students of CIS and the children of *Tomorrow's Foundation*, an NGO. The performance not only included amazing yoga formations, but also up-beat Bollywood songs and temperate Ranbindra Sangeet music. After the highly appreciated show, a game of chance was played with the Wheel of Fortune. Designed and organized by the students, the children of the foundation were told to spin the Wheel of Fortune, and received the prize they landed on.



The children went home excited after opening and examining their gifts. After such a successful week with the help of Mrs. R.Shetty and Ms. Debdutta Charkrabarty, the students of CIS are looking forward to continuing the Daan Utsav tradition next year as well.



## In and Around the School

SPICMACAY Kolkata Chapter is an inter school fest which facilitates the meeting of minds and hearts of the youth and provides them with opportunities to showcase their talents and their love for traditional arts, music, and dance under their banner, "Milap". **Mrs Rina Mitra**



This year, Milap was organized at St Thomas's Day School on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> of July. Escorted by teachers, Miss Sarah Louisa Iyer and myself, 33 talented students from 6,7,8,9, 10 of CIS participated in 15 events including Art and Craft, Photography, and Film Making. The program started at 8:30 pm with student representatives Chiana Shah and Vaaridhi Bagrodia expertly navigating our enthusiastic students in a melee of innumerable students from 32 participating schools to reach the respective work venues. Our students performed well and some of the participants won prizes making CIS proud.

### St Lawrence Debate

On August 3<sup>rd</sup> two students from the Senior School, Harsha Sen and Anoosha Banerjee attended the St Lawrence Old Boys Association Inter School Debate. The debate took place on Sunday morning. About 24 schools from all around Kolkata participated in this event. The topic for the debate was Spare the rod and spoil the child. After many schools aired their views on corporal punishment in the present day times, only eight qualified for the finals. During the finals the topic for the debate was in this cybernetic world, parents need to "reboot". At the end of the debate the audience became aware the need for parents to change their parenting skills to adapt to the changing times. It was a very interesting debate for us to participate in. Mrs Shukla Chattopadhyay accompanied us for the program.-

**Anoosha Banerjee**



### Bosco Model UN



On the 7<sup>th</sup> of August, Thursday students from classes 9 to 11 went for the Don Bosco Park Circus Inter School MUN. The participants were Devansh Agarwal, Shaurya Veer Kajaria, Vedant Gupta, Abhirup Bhattacharya, Shrijit Dasgupta, Shiv Mennon, Tejas Kothari, Anam Hussein, Ishita Burman, Shayok Sengupta, and Aryaman Gupta and also Sagnik Gain, Prithvijeet Pramanik, Yash Kumbhat and Mihika Varshnei. There were three committees all dealing with crucial topics. The All India Party Meet addressing the view points of the members of parliament regarding Article 360 of the Indian constitution. The international police organization or Interpol discussing utmost relevant events on espionage and the prevention of it. Last but not least the United Nations Security Council, the most important body of the UN met to peacefully find a solution to the Afghan crisis. For most of us it was the first time that we were participating in a inter school Model UN. Other schools which took part were LMG, LMB, Don Bosco Liluah, Don Bosco Park Circus, and BH for Girls and St Xaviers Collegiate School. Committees ranged from the UNSC where they were fewer participants but a high level of debate to the All India Party Meet where getting acknowledged was a challenge due to the mass of people. Nevertheless it was tough make our voices heard amongst all the other participants. However, it was clear to the new comers of what competition meant and it was a great learning experience. CIS made its mark buy winning a special mention in UNSC and Yash Kumbhat and Sagnik Gain and Vedant Gupta were recognised for their skills.

By **Mihika Varshnei,**

and

**Shrijit Dasgupta**



## Educational Excursion [A trek to the sleeping Buddha Mountains (Tumling)]



Grumbling after a long and relatively sleepless night, we were woken in the morning. The train journey hadn't been too long and though a few hours late, we reached Manebhanjang, West Bengal with a little delay. After settling into the hostels, we trooped to dinner across the street. Everything *does* taste a lot better when you're starving. After consuming enough to feed an army, we divided into 'ropes'. Around five groups of eleven people each with one leader. The basic idea was implemented so out of sixty four people, it's easier to find out who got lost this time. It's inevitable on duke trips. After receiving instructions for the next day, we separated and went into our various hostels. The trek to Tumling was nearly eleven kilometers. Long and somewhat tiring, we finished in approximately five hours after setting out. Carrying our rucksacks, and gasping up the mountain, we couldn't see five feet ahead of us with the fog. Thick and encompassing, the scene before us was fit to be in a Bollywood movie. People emerging dramatically out of the fog or walking out gasping for air after climbing uphill. Tired, hungry (though we stopped for lunch) and ready to kill for a warm bed, we arrived in Tumling. Despite the season, only a few of us encountered leaches and other insects and bugs. After eating, we had a session on rope knotting, first aid and some basic signals. It's not always pleasant to be tied to someone else and told to figure it out or remain stuck. At least you remember how to tie and untie your knots this way.

After having some much needed rest over the night and complaining of sore muscles, we all awoke at an ungodly hour.

## Trips and Tricks

### A boat trip with Scottish students



On Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2014 Calcutta International School student with three teachers Mr.Samad, Mr.Sahu and Miss.Banerjee had collaboration with 6 students from the prestigious Fettes School in Edinburg. A boat trip was organized at Princepghat which was sponsored by Kolkata Port Trust officers Wives Association. It was a trip to view the beauty of Kolkata from the Ganges. It was a great event for the students to liaise with each other and share their experience about volunteering opportunities in the schools and old age home run by Calcutta Port Officers Wives Association and Jungle Crows. They also discussed how rugby can be introduced at CIS and how students can help under-privileged student through rugby. The event ended it a positive note.

Too cold, too early, we decided. But after it warmed up a bit, we had an early morning short trek to the view point for seeing the Himalayan range. After breakfast and an effort to maintain some form of hygiene since it was too cold to have baths, we trekked higher up to Tonglu. We encountered a bit of rain, but the main objective of our trek was to connect with the outside world. Cut off from all service since day one, we called to assure our parents we were still alive and hadn't fallen down some ravine. Considering that was rather probable, the parents were relieved. We had a short session on grappling that evening and headed back down to Tumling. The night was a surprise. Each rope performed something and left us in fits of laughter. From enactments to music, most forms of entertainment were covered. The teachers being good sports joined in the fun and danced to Bollywood music. Though it's a unanimous vote that Mr. Samad won the Oscar for enacting Jibby during games classes. That night marked the end of the duke trip. The next morning we trekked back to Manebhanjang and went to Siliguri by bus. We all took a much needed bath and sunk into our pillows to be awakened at four am, returning to the city of exams and work by mid morning.

# Food Art

“There is no sincerer love than the love of food.”

-George Bernard Shaw

Eating is not merely a material pleasure. It gives us a joy which leaves our palates with an impeccable taste. There are a few classic subjects that pop up repeatedly over the course of art history. Food has long been a subject of artistic effort.

Our teachers wanted us to experiment by breaking us into 5 groups. Five colours -brown, white, green, yellow and red were designated to us. To enhance our visual culture we scooped up designs, which were to be presented in 40 minutes. A weekend long of preparation made us all lay out a series of colourful art combinations by pairing everyday food. The different teams represented concepts from themes like an earthquake, Halloween or simply which was visually appealing. With enthralling experience we enabled ourselves to overcome the different opinions and cultivate our leadership qualities. Quoting a friend “ For once I didn’t want to ruin an exquisite display, keeping my temptations aside.” – the contemporary art helped us realize how food can be developed in multiple ways.



“Cinderella fairytale forest” was the green colour group theme.

We each allotted a certain element to each other. My friend Amruta made the 'lake' dip made of peas, olive oil and lemon. Arya made the papri chaat path, Adeetya made the 'trees', 'rocks' and the rest of the 'vegetation' out of lady fingers ,beans, and other boiled, seasoned green vegetables and lastly the 'Cinderella carriage' was made by me out of capsicum stuffed with palak paneer. The end result was just like we wanted.”- By Mrinmoyee Ghosh (IB 1/ 11<sup>th</sup> Grade)

These images give us a profound sense of satisfaction; not only to our bodies but also our minds. They help us cleanse our emotions similar to the sensation of cleansing our palates. The vivid colours of food interwoven with their flavours provide a lasting impact on us. – Amrita Dutta (A2/ 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)



## The Sweet Taste of Success

Four students who had formed a group in class 5, Tanvi Sengupta, Arjun Sen, Aaryan Bangur and Evanna Lee, reached the finals in a Creative Writing Competition organized by CHINH Global Media Literacy Project, “Four Birds And One Million Stories” in which they had to fill in the drawn bubbles with their thoughts to voice their ideas. They are invited to Media Camp.

The Co-ordinator in our school for this competition was Mrs. Shukla Chattopadhyay, and the English teacher in class 5 was Mrs. Z Mazumdar





## Fifth Inter –School Basketball Tournament at CIS.

The 5th Inter- School Basketball Tournament for Middle School Boys was held from the 27<sup>th</sup> to the 31<sup>st</sup> of October in the Calcutta International School for the category Under 13, which is a unique feature, as no event of this kind has been held for pupils who are 13 years and under. The participating schools were the host school, Calcutta International School, Apeejay School, and Julien Day School ( Ganganagar) in Group A and Heritage School , Gems Academia International School, and Julien Day School, (Kalyani) in Group B.

There were two semi-final matches and the two winning schools in these semi final matches played the finals on the 31<sup>st</sup>, Friday. The chief guest was Mrs Prochi Mehta who is the Vice-President of the West Bengal Basketball Association. She was welcomed by the Senior Principal Mrs R Shetty, the Junior Principal Mrs. P Nayar, Mr A Samad, and Miss Prashangsha Gurung, the Sports Teachers, and by the School Head Akash Majumdar, and the youngest player Sartaj Singh of class 5. After a moving and memorable address by the Chief Guest Mrs Prochi N Mehta, and the introduction with the players of both the teams and the officials present ,the final match .

Calcutta International School won the match scoring 17 baskets, and the best player was Breyton Lee. This moment of triumph for the winning team was followed by the Vote Of Thanks. The gifts to the officials and coaches were given by Mrs P Nayar, Junior School Principal and the prizes for the runners- up were given away by the Senior Principal Mrs R Shetty .The prizes for the winners of the tournament were presented by the Chief Guest bringing the exciting 5 day event to a close .The Mistress Of Ceremonies was Ms Piali Ray.



## Leaders, Leadership, Elections and Selections

On 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2014, Mrs Shetty announced the recipients of School Captain, and School Vice-Captains. Akash Majumdar, A2, was selected as School Captain, and Gaurav Mandana, A2, and Anoosha Banerjee, IB1, were chosen as School Vice-Captains. This core team then organised House Elections. Classes VIII to XII were invited to the AV room, and each nominee was given 30 seconds to speak. After the speeches, a secret ballot took place. The results of this ballot for House Office Bearers were as follows:

The School Council was also selected during the week and is as follows:

**Chairperson** – Akash Majumdar

**Vice Chairperson** – Gaurav Mandana, Anoosha Banerjee

**Secretary** – Shivam Yadav, Maharshee Karia

**Treasurer** – Ragini Chakraborty

**Public Relations Officer** – Aditya Khosla

**Deputy Treasurer** – Yagnesh Bagrodia, Mihika Choudhary

**Deputy Public Relations Officer** – Gillian Hugh, Nicole Chen

Congratulations to all who have been selected for posts in the House Election and Student Council! We hope to have a wonderful year in which fun and discipline are kept in perfect harmony.

**Akash Majumdar**



## The Annual Swimming Meet

On the 30th August, the students of CIS participated in the annual swimming meet at the Calcutta Swimming Club. As every year, it was a success with a large number of competitive events in which, student's right from Primary to the senior classes took part enthusiastically. The Mistress of Ceremonies was Ms P Ray. The winners were Red House followed by Green and Yellow. Mr A. Samad, ensured along with all the other teachers present that the event proceeded smoothly and properly



## Math Quiz

A very interesting Math Quiz was held in the AV room for the students of classes 6,7, and 8, conducted by the Maths teachers of these classes. It was organised and spearheaded by Mr.Samitava Mukherjee (HOD) Math.

It was a housewise quiz and the participants were chosen from Red, Green, and Yellow houses respectively. The screening was done by the teachers until the participants were finally selected. The objective was to stimulate the interest and curiosity of the students in the subject.



## The CIS Herald Team

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**TEACHER CO-ORDINATORS:** Dr. (Mrs) R.Shetty, Mrs.S.Baral, Mrs.K.Ghosh, Ms.K.Marwah

**PHOTOGRAPHS:** Afzal Ali.

## An Unforgettable Experience

On the 28th of October classes 3A and 3B, went with Mrs P Nayar, Mrs N Chowdhary, Miss N Nundee, Mrs Gargi Sinha Mitra, and me to see a performance by the children of the School of Cerebral Palsy. It was a dance drama involving song, dance, music and recitation. It was one of the most enriching experiences of our life to see each one of the children performing. The School children of CIS watched in pin-drop silence and many had their tears rolling down their cheeks when they saw children in wheel chairs performing. They realised the Herculean feat of all the performing children, victims of cerebral palsy.

-Mrs Swati Lal

## Elocution Competition

On the 21st of October an Elocution competition was held in the AVR. Students from classes 1 to 10 took part in it in groups. There were different judges for each group from within the School faculty. The participants were given marks on the basis of clarity, diction, expression and posture. It was an interesting competition. The contestants had chosen pieces from well known poetry anthologies, from speeches and plays, which enthralled the other students present in the AVR.

