



CIS Speaks

September – October 2018 issue

"Of the students, by the students, for everyone in CIS"

A level Year 2

Teachers' Day 2018

I wanted to help make Teacher's Day this year as memorable as possible because it was the first time I was able to help organise it.

Every year, each class puts up a short performance, but this year, we decided to make it a little more exciting. The creative performances were from the Junior and Middle Sections. The Senior School students put up interactive game stalls instead, taking our friendly banter and entertaining conversations with the teachers outside the classroom.

We were short on time, so we split up duties which helped the event run smoothly. The game stalls were decided and prepared; everything seemed to be going well as of two days before Teachers' Day. Vijayant Mehra of A2 Level and I planned out and assigned duties to the students who would be monitoring the Middle and Junior school.

The Student Council wanted to get the teachers a cake to cut, so I volunteered to bake it. I chose to make a coffee cake because we know that they lose more sleep worrying about our work than we do! We were all looking forward to the day eagerly.

When I walked into school on Teachers' Day, everyone was hugging and wishing each other; the celebration seemed to have already begun. Dr. Nath and Mr. Shome's birthdays only added to the occasion, but this resulted in the first event of the day getting delayed by almost half an hour. Keeping little children in the classrooms proved to be harder than we had expected and all I could see was chaos. The first few performances were extremely disorganised as some of the juniors came up with impromptu performances which we had to

accommodate. It got worse when we started getting complains. The juniors had found more creative ways to disrupt the peace than we could imagine, and despite our best efforts to prevent them, we had to deal with unexpected problems. We had to make up for lost time, effectively finishing two hours worth of performances in an hour or so. Just like it sounds, this turned out to be impossible. We had to change the entire plan.

By 10.00 am, most of the Student Council members began to panic and so we had to ask the participating teachers to leave early to play the match. The moment the last performance finished, we cut the cake and took all the teachers to the Music room for the games. By the end of it, we only had 15 minutes to play the games, but as can be predicted, everyone stayed a little longer.

It was very interesting and refreshing to see the teachers letting loose and playing with us like kids. They were screaming and fighting and arguing over gaming consoles and points just like we do with our friends and siblings. I had never in my wildest dreams imagined such a scene but I was more than glad to have witnessed it. The excitement on their faces when the winners received the desperately craved markers and dusters made all the screaming, shouting and running around worth it!

For the first time, I felt like I could understand a fraction of what they go through and do for us day in and day out. I couldn't be more grateful. I started out wanting to make it a day they would remember forever, but it ended up becoming one that I can never forget. This experience makes me want to do far, far better next year.

Saloni Todi

Class: IBDP Year 1

Ted-Ed @ CIS

Students today must cultivate the ability to navigate an increasingly connected global society. The ability to do so is the purpose and foundation upon which the Ted Ed Club of CIS was built. A year ago, like thousands of other high school students, I routinely watched TED Talks — but I wanted more from it. At the time, I was determined to start a club in school, however since most of the mainstream clubs already existed, I began doing extensive research on ideas for clubs I could start. Luckily, in January 2014, TED introduced the TED-Ed Club program which I came across during my research. I believed starting this club could give me and my fellow classmates an excellent understanding of what a good TED Talk is while simultaneously enhancing our public speaking skills, so I filled in an application form to be a Ted Ed Club leader.

The application consisted of four rounds, where the first 3 rounds were written applications and the last round was a Skype interview with TED. During the interview, I had the chance to meet other potential facilitators, ask questions and share the ideas I had for starting my TED-Ed Club in CIS. After 45 minutes of intense discussions with the TED team and other leaders, I was granted the right to lead a Ted Ed Club in CIS. Every month now, I attend a mandatory conference call with TED to inform them about the progress and future of the Ted Ed Club of CIS.

The main goal for the club is to help every member find an idea that they are truly passionate about, that is worth spreading, and that they will eventually be able to talk about for at least 2-3 minutes on a public, international platform.

Even though due to our exams we have only had 3 formal club meetings, the club members are already letting their minds run wild and their ideas flow freely. By far, the most important benefit gained from this club is that students have started to believe that their voice matters, not just for their teachers to get a grade, or even for their peers for social status, but for the larger community. In the most recent meeting, the members of the Ted Ed Club of CIS got to know each other on a personal basis when each member shared a talent or an interest of theirs which has remained a secret, to the whole club. Members opened up about their passion for painting, doodling, solving puzzles and much more. Not only am I learning a lot about myself as an educator and a leader, but I am also learning a lot about my fellow members and classmates. No homework, no memorization or regurgitating of information. We give them freedom to create and produce and polish their ideas and the work is original and about their passion. It is amazing to witness this process evolve into something more than just an idea.

Rivaan Dhingra

Class: AS Level

CIS Business Meet 2018

The CIS Business Meet was held on Friday, the 31st of August this year. Mehul Bhargava of IBDP Yr-1 and I were the event heads for the treasure hunt. We spent hours working on the clues with many of our classmates for a few days and came in early, on the morning of the event to put the clues in place and organise the logistics.

The hunt started first thing in the morning and we decided to allot it 2 hours, based off the perceived difficulty of the clues. However, I was surprised and amused at the efficacy of my peers that allowed them to solve all the riddles in less than 15 minutes.

Other enjoyable events were the stock market, perhaps the most confusing and entertaining event to observe; business plan, the most awe-inspiring event, with students presenting ideas for new businesses; and life-sized monopoly, the event that allowed us all to nostalgically look back at our childhoods.

All events were carried out smoothly because of the initiative of all the students and the support of the teachers and I was very glad the whole thing fell into place and everyone had a fun and fruitful time. I look forward to participating in the next Business Day and hope it is as successful as this one.

Aaryaa Agarwal

Class: AS Level

School Band 2018

Being in a band, and executing a School Band, has far reaching differences, especially so when you're facing a new set of conjectures combined with the end of a career that is high school.

Having played in a single school band for 6 years with more than fifty performances, one gets accustomed to a sense of fluidity and compatibility. In a band, that is what you grow into. Thus tuning an entirely new set of faces to the pitch of a well accustomed choreography was daunting. Not to mention the looming pressure of your last performance and the biggest festival of the school seen till date.

At Confluence, the bassist played the drums, the guitarist sang, it was quite evidentially chaotic on stage, but, we had fun. From ferociously waving to the people in charge of the sound board, trying to make adjustments in the middle of the song, to leaving my guitar behind half-way and taking control of the microphone to sing 'American Idiot', the experience was unforgettable.

From what I heard, the other schools were similarly memorable. The crowd was cheering all through every performance and each band had a unique set of songs that they performed religiously – it was the experience of a lifetime.

Moithyl Das

A2 Level

Swim Meet 2018

I returned to the Swim Meet on 28th August 2018, exactly a year after Green House was victorious in 2017. This time it was different - I was on the neutral side. It was a different feeling altogether as for eleven years I had cheered my heart out for Green House but now even though I was cheering them on, in my heart, I still had to be impartial.

Even though I was asked to ensure that everything was running smoothly in the boys changing room, I ended up giving inspirational talks to the nervous students walking about in a tensed manner.

The water, the smell of chlorine in the air, friends, parents and teachers cheering on every small thing built a certain amount of excitement for everyone present.

First we had the Junior School children swimming followed by the Senior School. When I saw the small children walking towards the starting line I could see their enthusiasm and a little bit of nervousness radiating from their expressions. On the starting line they all took their positions eagerly waiting for the whistle to blow. And when it did... all the participants dived into the pool and the race began and so did the cheering. The enthusiasm during each and every race was equal. Race after race there were some happy smiles for the people who won, and sadness for a few who did not win but everyone knew the greater good – seeing their house win.

Even after a hectic morning filled with races, no one seemed tired as they were ecstatic to find out the overall champions: It was Green!

Shaurya Saboo
IBDP Year 2

Visit to BITM 2018

The Science club of CIS organized a trip to Birla Industrial and Technological Museum (BITM) on 31st August 2018. We were instructed to reach BITM by 9 am, before the tour started. We had about 20 students and Mrs. Samayeeta Das Acharya, who was our teacher-in-charge.

We started our tour by visiting the Mathematics gallery. We interacted with the tour guide and learnt several interesting concepts and theories of unsolved conjectures and mathematical problems. This, indeed, ignited a flame of curiosity in our minds.

This was followed by a visit to a section, which was dedicated to television history, and our students got a chance to visit the green room and learn how chroma - keying technique works.

We finally headed out to the electricity section, where we had an interactive session with the tour guide. We learnt a plethora of ways to produce electricity and before we all knew our tour came to an end. The visit was a success and students want future visits to Science Museums like this one as we saw the pages from our science books work in the truest sense possible, in application.

Shuvayu Dasgupta

IBDP Year 1