

The CIS Herald

An in-house publication of Calcutta International School



Editor's word

Nothing will work unless you do.
– Maya Angelou

Dear Readers,

The month of November was a month of serious work, especially for those in senior classes who took examinations. Despite all the academic pressure, there was a spate of creative, artistic and athletic activities which kept the other classes busy through this month. Moreover, my fellow students are still filled with excitement when they narrate what they saw and experienced during their recent excursions such as the Class 8's trip to the Dooars and Class 7's to Bishnupur.

Just like the previous month, once again, The CIS Herald team has put together various reports of the events in which the students participated. We would like to fill you with the same joy felt by the participants through these reports and pictures.

Thank you for your time and we hope you enjoy reading this edition.

Best regards,

Mihika Varshnei, Class-9 (Editor)
Tanya Sengupta, Class-9 (Co-Editor)



Season of maestros, music & melodies at CIS



Greek pianist, and experienced public speaker Panos Karan came to perform in CIS with a team of top European musicians. They also conducted workshops with young music students from the school, helping them to improve their musical skills, deeply believing in the possibility of using music as a life-changing experience.

Four instruments – piano, violin, flute and cello were covered.

All the musicians are individuals who have been critically acclaimed throughout the world, and have successful musical careers. Their organization is called Keys of Change and they focus on building understanding, trust and dialogue between cultures and work towards creating opportunities for people to participate in a creative economy. They are particularly keen to bring new changes to young people via the arts and education.

A Musical Extravaganza **Classical solos and a Christmas flavour**



On Monday, 8th December, 2014 Consulate-General of Japan in Kolkata and The Japan Foundation organised a musical programme, *Tunes from the Rising Sun* by Aki & Kuniko, an exclusive duo of guitar and koto from Japan at The Calcutta International School. The students said it was an outstanding performance.

Soprano Susan Willams from the US and Jennifer Heemastra from France performed on the piano, presenting classical solos from Mozart and Verdi. They also conducted a masterclass with the School Choir at CIS.



Children's day celebrations

Performances, food and fun!



Saving paper, saving trees, saving lives, saving the earth – a green in-house project by CIS to recycle paper



The teachers got involved in the exercise of paper making!

The day began with a movie by Smile Foundation that was about border ties and Unity in Diversity. Then the teachers put up a lovely programme for us which was lengthy and entertaining. They danced, sang and performed skits. The teachers made all of us feel extremely special. It was really nice of them to show their love for us, and all of us appreciated their efforts. Later, we were given cotton candy, popcorn, pizza and fruit juice. We all enjoyed ourselves thoroughly and I thank all the teachers for making the day so special and enjoyable.

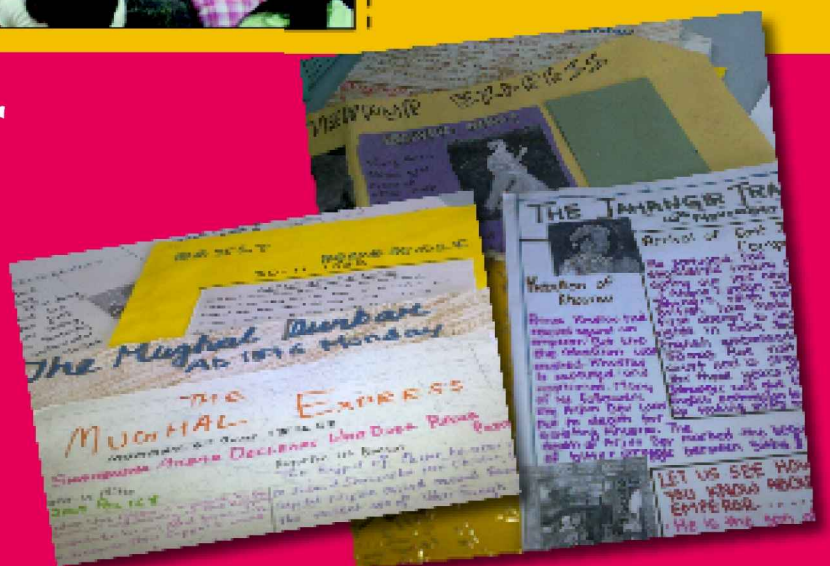
– Vaaridhi Bagrodia, Class 8B



Mini Newspaper Project by Class 6

The students of classes 6A and 6B created mini newspapers of the Mughal Era in the 16th century to understand the social, economic and cultural conditions that prevailed during the Mughal period in India. They worked in teams and thought of a masthead, headlines, main news, advertisements, quiz and wordsearch. The activity brought about new ideas and interaction among them.

– Miss Munmun Nundee



Educational excursions and explorations...

Class 7 school trip

We, the students of class 7, went on a school trip to Bishnupur and Bankura District in November. We stayed in Hotel Laxmi Park, which exceeded all our expected standards. We visited most of the terracotta temples which was an enriching experience, historically. We visited the Mukutmanipur Dam and a village where gods were made with an alloy of metals. We visited a weaving centre and the birthplace of the Patachitra art form. We had an amazing time and miss the trip whenever we think about it. We learnt about people and experienced every single emotion that anybody could think of. We cannot wait till the next time!

– Anoushka Saraf, Class 7A



Class 5 school trip

On 19th November, 2014, students of Class 5 and IBDP (1st year) visited the Indian Institute of Cerebral Palsy (IICP) in Taratala. The institute deals with students who have won over their health related challenges and have developed special abilities. There was an exhibition which displayed handicrafts made by students along with some performances. We were first shown a small video in which a story was presented. We then moved to another room where children with limited mobility were performing music to the best of their abilities. We then kept moving from room to room and met children with their different abilities who were displaying their talents. We then moved to the ground where the boys and girls of our schools participated in a game. This was followed by a programme in the auditorium where a small skit on Kolkata, including music and dance, was performed by these students. We then moved up where food and handicraft stalls were put up. The

Class 8 trip to Dooars – Chalsa



We boarded the flight at 11 am and reached Bagdogra at 12 noon. The drive to Sinclairs was beautiful and we reached Chalsa around 2:30 pm. We were surprised to see how well-maintained and well done the resort was. We quickly ate lunch, were divided into three teams, were assigned captains and proceeded to the Murthi river. Some decided to have a dip in the water, while the others admired the scenic beauty and captured the special moments. We were lucky to see the beautiful sunset and left for the hotel immediately after the sun had set. Soon after that, we were given our rooms and our roommates! After some recreation, we had a competition to test our observation skills. Dinner was late.

By the second day, all the competitiveness had dissolved, and everybody was together once again. The trek to Neora National Park was long and it took us about two hours to reach the top. At the end, it was all worth it. In the evening, we went to Gorumara National Park but, unfortunately, didn't get to see any animals – just one bison. By the end of the day, everybody was tired and asleep in no time.

The next day, we went to the Bhutan border with the army. We also gained some knowledge about the weapons, explosives and other equipment the Indian army requires for the welfare and safety of our people. Later, we went to the Goodricke tea plantation and manufacturing unit where we saw tea leaf plucking and the process of manufacturing tea.

The next morning, we went to a nearby tea garden for a stroll and admired the natural surroundings. Right after lunch, we proceeded towards the airport and boarded our flight.

Altogether, the trip was memorable and we had an enriching experience.

– Vaaridhi Bagrodia, Class 8B



children bought various knick-knacks and ate food there. We then headed towards our school inspired by the students of this institute and how they have won over their

limitations and made their weaknesses their strengths.

– Mr Anubhab Chatterjee

In and around the school Dance Competition

Hip Hop Workshop at the American Centre



and Vidhi Agarwal from class 6, Emea Danion, Saloni Todi and Isabel Liao from class 7 and Tinish Gupta, Sohini and Nayana from class 8. The venue was Vidya Mandir. The teachers who accompanied us were Mr Bardhan, and Arun dada was also there. The students were dressed in half black and half white suits. The winners, as it turned out, were Sushila Birla High School for Girls and Birla High School for Boys. Nevertheless, it was a great effort put in by us.

– **Vartika Jain, Class 6A**

An interesting event this month that CIS participated in was the Dance Competition. Eleven schools took part. The central concept of the competition was Yin and Yang, good and evil. The dance which CIS performed was choreographed by Rubin Sir and Amit Sir. The participants from our school were from the Middle School section. They were Vartika Jain, Disha Whora, Saachi Nahata, Ridhi Maheshwari



It was a rather exciting day at school. I had been selected to go for an inter-school hip hop workshop, organized by the USIEF. In the morning, feeling tremendously excited, I set off along with a teacher for the American Center, where the workshop was taking place.

When I reached the American Center, several participants had already arrived. We were introduced to our trainers before the workshop began.

We learnt 3 basic parts of hip hop in the workshop. During the first half hour, our trainers showed us individual dances which include all these aspects to give us an idea of how hip hop was danced. I felt amazed when I watched them perform for us. They made even the most difficult moves look easy. Within a few minutes, I had got pulled in and so had the others.

After the individual dances, all of us learnt a few easy Top-Rock and footwork moves, as well as some freezes. These were some of the basic building blocks of hip hop. Though the freezes were the toughest, I enjoyed them the most as they were really fun and interesting. However, I lost my balance quite a few times, which made me even more determined to practice hip hop at home.

In the last fifteen minutes of the workshop we had a Graphiti competition. We then got food and a drink before returning to school.

As I was returning, images of the workshop kept re-appearing in my mind. Though it had lasted for only 2 hours, the workshop had left me with many more special memories than just a few hip hop steps.

The CIS Herald Team

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A nation that reads together... stays together

Our nation reading together 2014



On 28th November 2014, the students of Middle and Senior school took part in the Scholastic One Nation Reading Together programme, along with different schools around India, to celebrate the pleasures of reading. In this programme, students carried books of their choice which they read for around 30 minutes. This activity was pleasurable, and an enriching experience that helped celebrate the spirit of reading! The teachers who conducted the programme read the reading pledge by Ameesh Tripathi

– Tejas Kothari, 9B



The participants had an extremely enriching and motivating experience and they expressed their feelings in a feedback session.

"I loved the ONRT session- the silence and the sea of bowed down heads all reading together was simply heavenly"

– Mrs Shukla Chattopadhyay

"Spend a morning reading... and a poor child gets a book. What a wonderful scheme with dual benefits"

– Mrs Tina Servaia

"It was a very different way of beginning my day. Finally, I could begin reading the book I had bought two weeks ago, thanks to the ONRT. We should have these session more often"

– Mrs. N. Choudhary

"I went into the world of books" – Tejas

"A truly epic and inspirational experience. Keep on reading!"

– Arnab Saha

Sports Mania

Youth to play



Reliance Foundation, in association with Junior NBA, India has designed a comprehensive youth basketball programme to provide schools with the tools and resources to inspire students to be active. The programme is aimed at engaging every child in school with their 11 week PE curriculum, teaching children the fundamentals of the game and instilling important life skills through sports. Our school has taken the initiative and has accepted the invitation. The organizer has supplied balls, cones, mats, pumps, whistles, and coaching curriculum booklets.

Mr Samad participated in the coaches' clinic on 17th and 18th October.

Top players from our school went for weekly Elite Training camps organised by NBA certified coaches.

Mr James Corolla, a Junior NBA coach in the USA had come to our school and has had a session with students of class III and IV. His words, "You need to be a good listener," and "hit the back board," still ring in the students' ears. His session was not only interesting and interactive, but also productive. The children gained a lot of knowledge from it.

Marathon racing



It was particularly surprising that over three dozen students woke up early at 6 a.m. on a Sunday morning. But this was for a special event. The Run for Education was 5km long and began near City Centre Mall. There was the alternative of a 10km run, but most CIS students opted for the former. An event such as this had not been presented in our school before and several students eagerly took the opportunity. Upon arriving, we were greeted by the amazing sight of 5000 participants of all age groups. There were several prominent figures present, including Akhtar Ali, the tennis coach at South Club. The run began at 7:15 a.m., and ended whenever the participants finished the course. The run was refreshing in the cool November morning and ever so often, people on the sidelines would shout words of encouragement. Afterwards, a refreshment stand provided juice, bananas and idlis to all participants. As we had been given glucose during the run at several checkpoints, fortunately none of us were dehydrated. All in all, it was a memorable experience, and we have the pictures and jerseys to remember it by.

Chianna

Interschool Football Tournament



Seven students from AS, A2 and IB2 took part in the Interschool Football Tournament organised by Gems Academia International School on 5th and 6th December, 2014. They are Abhinav Chatterjee, Debraj Datta, Dhee Majumdar, Aryaman Banerjee, Priyam Hiren Panchal, Rahul Chanda and Rohan Rajput.

Sports Mania



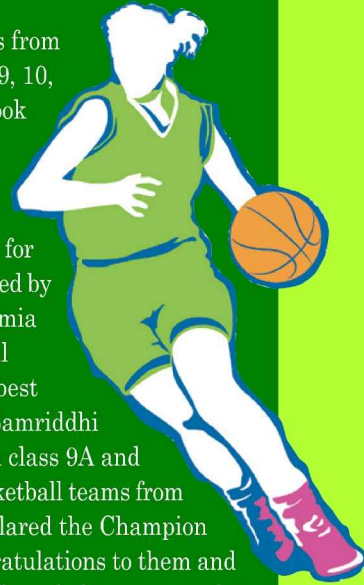
Interschool Basketball Tournament for boys

Nine students from CIS took part in an Interschool Basketball Tournament for Boys organised by Gems Academia International School on the 5th and 6th December, 2014. The Boys Basketball Team of CIS was declared as a Champion Team and the Best Player was Breyton Chung.



Interschool Basketball Tournament for girls

Ten students from classes 7, 8, 9, 10, As and A2 took part in an Interschool Basketball Tournament for Girls organised by Gems Academia International School. The best player was Samriddhi Ghatak from class 9A and the girls basketball teams from CIS was declared the Champion Team. Congratulations to them and to Mr Abdul Samad, the sports teacher.



Interschool Basketball Tournament for under-16 boys

Four students from CIS took part in an Interschool Basketball Tournament for Boys Under-16 organised by Jr NBA & Reliance Foundation at West Bengal Basketball Association. Their names are Jeffery

Liu, Kewon Chiu, Richie Li, Breyton Chung



Interschool Basketball Tournament for under-13 girls



Four students of CIS from classes 7 and 8 took part in an Interschool Basketball Tournament organised by Jr NBA & Reliance Foundation at West Bengal Basketball Association on 8th and 10th December, 2014. A few students have been selected for All India Camp which will be held in Chennai or Pune.



Interschool Flat Race

Four students from CIS took part in an Interschool Flat Race, organised by Vidyanjali International School at Madox Square on 12th December, 2014. Romit Mukherjee of Class 10 came second and Wilson Wei Sheng Li of As came third. Samriddhi Ghatak of Class 9 came second and Isabel Liao of Class 7 came first.