



CIS SPEAKS

July Edition 2019

By Class 10

CIS Speaks Editorial Team

CISMUN 2019

DIARY OF A FIRST TIME DELEGATE

CISMUN 2019 took place from 12th – 14th July, 2019 at the Calcutta International School. The MUN had 5 committees, namely the UN Security Council, UNGA ECOFIN, Interpol, African Union, and the International Press. The MUN was attended by students from many schools and I, Prakhar Drolia, from CIS was one of them.

I was a delegate in the Security Council. The three days were very exciting and filled with interesting debates and some delicious food. The first day started after normal school hours. The event commenced with a solemn opening ceremony. Once the opening ceremony concluded, all the delegates were escorted to the rooms allotted for the different committees.

The Security Council was a very interesting committee which had an equally interesting Executive Board. As a first time delegate, I was nervous to be seated among some highly experienced and awarded delegates. But the seniors, other delegates and especially the Executive Board helped me out through the three days.

I took the opportunity on the first day itself to deliver my first MUN speech. I was unnerved and it felt as if suddenly the room temperature had dropped by hundreds of degrees when I stood up to give my speech. I was apprehensive about how I had done but later in the day, the EB and my seniors congratulated me on my first ever speech and told me that I was very good at it, which raised my confidence. The day concluded with refreshments from KFC provided by the school.

The second day was all about discussing more and more on topics related to the agenda. The delegates presented their countries' views on the topic. It was very interesting to listen to other delegates as well. The day was equally insightful as it also provided knowledge and other skills.

The third and final day was full of apprehension and anxiety as the committee had to pass a resolution and I got a chance to author a resolution with others. However, the resolution was not approved. This setback though was soon overcome by a superb act of entertainment that all of us enjoyed thoroughly.

-Prakhar Drolia, Class 8



SECURITY COUNCIL



AFRICAN UNION



INTERPOL



ECOFIN

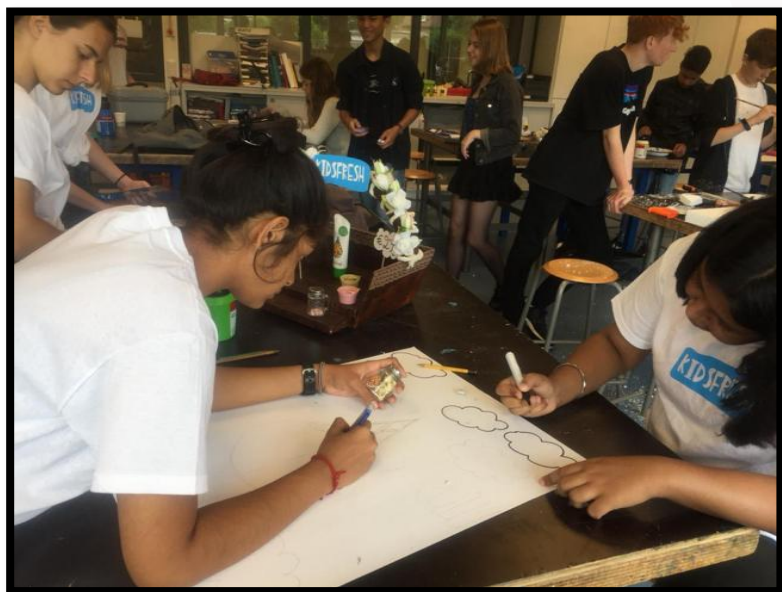


INTERNATIONAL PRESS

EXCHANGE PROGRAMME IN THE NETHERLANDS

A student's recount

On Saturday, the 29th of June, 12 students of grade nine along with Mrs. Tania Ghosh left for the Netherlands on an exchange programme. The students were put into groups of 4 (2 students of CIS and 2 students of Alfrink College Zoetermeer). They were further partnered with someone whose house they would stay in for the duration of the week. The project was called the Toothpaste Challenge. The objective of each group was to create a toothpaste and market it. The group that came up with the best idea would get the golden toothbrush. However, we were not the only ones competing for this award, There were groups which comprised wholly of Dutch students and groups that consisted of 2 British students and 2 Dutch students. We arrived on a Sunday and got the entire day off to spend with our host families. Some of us went around the Netherlands visiting places while others went to local barbeques or simply stayed at home. Monday was when the real work began. We had to arrive at 8 in the morning and be prepared for a team building exercise. We played traditional Dutch games such as “poop the nail” and “walking in clogs”.



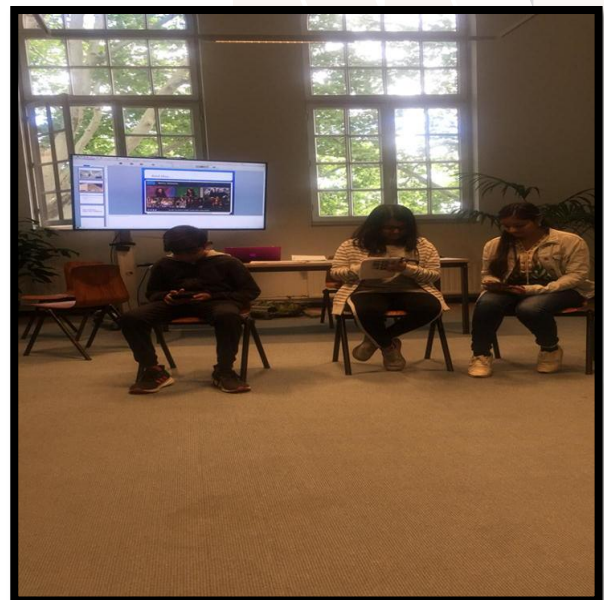
Afterwards, we started the creative part of our project. We had to create a display to present our product. In the second half of the day we sat through a lecture on commercial making and advertising.

The next day we visited a city called Den Bosch to get the opinions of professionals. We also got to print our logos on t-shirts using screen printing. In between, we got an hour for lunch during which we roamed around the city. The next day saw us working on the theory part of our project. We had to come up with an advertorial, marketing plan and chemistry report as well as finish our displays.

On Thursday we finished making our product (the actual toothpaste) and put finishing touches on everything else. Later in the evening, everyone got ready for bowling. We all met up and split into groups of 5 or 6. We played for hours before calling it a day.

Friday was the last day and everyone set up their displays. There were several judges who came and interviewed each of the groups. In the end 3 awards were given. 1 to the best of the international groups 1 to the best of the Dutch groups and 1 to the overall winner. The group called Anti-Society which consisted of Jahnvi, Prithviraj and their partners won the international group award. Finally it was time to say goodbye on Saturday early morning. We headed for the airport to fly back to our homes with sweet memories

- Arushi Sanghi



The Toothpaste Challenge

The 'Toothpaste Challenge' had been proposed as an interdisciplinary exchange program by Mr Marcel De Haas, Head of Bilingual department, Alfrink College.

This integrated various curricular subjects-Finance, Economics, Sciences, Drama and Art. The project gave students a real-life experience of launching a new product in the market.

12 students from the 9th grade worked for months on an online collaboration with the students from Alfrink College.

The Science, Economics and Art teachers from CIS mentored and guided them.

The final leg of the project happened from the 30th of June to the 5th of July, 2019, when the whole group flew to participate in the Exchange program at Alfrink College, the Netherlands.

A British school also joined us in this exchange.

The program took the form of a competition where various student groups worked towards finishing their products.

These students attended workshops in The Netherlands on - Art, graphic design, Science, Advertisements, Economics and English.

The students visited Den Bosch and attended workshops of various Dutch experts on related fields.

On the final day, students had to showcase their product, market strategy, packaging plan and advertisement to a panel of judges- Mr. Marcel de Haas, Ms Chikita Henson, Mr Walter And Ms Tania Ghosh.

Prithviraj Jhunjunwala, Jahnavi Tantia along with their Dutch counterparts won the competition in the international group.

We are looking forward to another exchange project with Alfrink College next year!

Tania Ghosh
Physics Teacher,
CIS

A tete-a-tete with the new STUDENT COUNCIL 2019-20

Saket Mundhra

Evanna Lee and Valerie Chen interviewed Saket Mundhra on his journey of being in the student council from Senior Prefect to Head -Boy. Here are his words that portray the evolution and development of his mind :

First of all, congratulations on becoming School Head! How do you feel about being selected as the Head Boy of CIS?

-I'm honoured! it was a real surprise for me because I thought that my tenure, as Red House captain, would be the end of my journey as a member of the student council. I am entrusted with responsibilities but still feel happy and thankful to have received the honour.

What qualities according to you should an ideal school captain possess?

-Firstly, I feel a good captain should be able to delegate his work well and be able to bring out the best in everybody in the team. I think having confidence in your team is the key.

A leader should work in a way in which responsibilities are shared by the team members. This is what I have always tried to do as Red House captain.

How do you plan to embody these traits? What changes would you like to bring about in CIS?

-I don't have any major plans yet but I would like the students to be more involved with the rules of the school. I would like to help change the mindset of the student body, and have them respect the school even more. I truly feel that the student council should be able to guide them, instead of reinforcing the rules upon them.

Since you have held an important position of Red House earlier, do you feel it would be difficult to set apart your bias, and treat all houses equally?

It may be very difficult for me because for the past three years as a council member, I have been committed to Red House, but now I know I have a crucial responsibility. Although I will always love Red, I will remain completely unbiased while making decisions.

I believe that this experience will help me develop better interpersonal skills. I have confidence that my years in the council have brought me to a place where I can take decisions while remaining impartial to all three houses. I've realized that rushing into decisions impulsively is a bad idea.

Finally, do you have a favourite leader or icon you look up to?

-I really look up to the Indian cricket team's ex-captain, Mahendra Singh Dhoni. I really liked the way he executed his responsibilities as a leader- always very cool, calm and composed. He didn't begin with a very strong team but he showed a lot of trust in them. I really admire that, so whenever I'm in a position of leadership, I try to think of what he would do in that situation.

Anouska saraf

This was followed by a brief yet exhaustive talk with Anouska Saraf, deputy head, who voiced her thoughts with utmost honesty

Congratulations on being selected as the Deputy head!

How do you feel?

-I was stunned when they announced my name. It was such a surprise! My friends had to push me onto the stage because I had frozen! It is such an honour, and I felt so humbled. I am so thankful to the teachers who felt that I could help in leading the school and strengthening relationships between the students and teachers.

How do you plan to work in tandem with the Head Boy?

-Saket and I have been discussing this matter extensively for the past few weeks. We've known each other for a very long time, and we have a lot of similar views on what is right and what is wrong, so we hope we can enforce the rules and lead and represent the school appropriately. The school has given us so much, and we have been here since the beginning, so I think it is time to pay back in the best way we can.

What changes would you like to bring about in your tenure as Deputy Head?

-Personally, I would like to make everybody aware that I am here: available, reachable and approachable. I feel that often times people are intimidated by the ones who hold important titles, but I feel that it is the higher authorities that are able to help and make a difference. I truly want people to be able to trust me, and come to me when in need. It isn't about judgement, because everybody makes mistakes. I hope people can open up, be honest and be able to come up with their problems.

You've been a well-known face in CIS for quite some time now, involving and leading several activities. What do you feel is your personal characteristic that may help you perform your duties more efficiently?

-I seek to work hard and to do what is right. Throughout my years in CIS, I've always tried my best to do exactly what I can. I do not like doing things half heartedly, but giving it all I possibly can.

Is there anybody who truly inspires you? Anyone whom you look up to for the traits they possess?

-I truly love Catherine de' Medici, who was a French queen in the 1500s. She was a tyrant during her initial years, but later when her husband died, she was no longer Queen. While her young children ascended the throne, she continued to influence France's political conditions and that was the period when France flourished. Women didn't hold much power during that time, even Elizabeth-I had not come to power in England yet, but Catherine de' Medici was able to secure and enforce her reign. Therefore, she is a person I definitely look up to a lot.

INVESTITURE CEREMONY

A time to bid good-bye to the old.

A time to welcome the new.

The investiture ceremony took place on Wednesday, 10th of July 2019, a landmark event in the school calendar. It was organised in the AVR and live-streamed to be witnessed by all. The student council was blooming in its entirety – beginning with the grand entrance of the student council of 2018 -19. The three houses appeared in their might. Yellow, Green and Red led by Saket Mundhra – the three captains in turn followed Vijayant Mehra, the former school captain as well as Deputy Head and Additional Deputy Head, Shaurya Saboo and Saloni Todi. The 4 flags representing the school and its motto of unity and pride, were cheered on by the students and faculty.



This was followed by the batons graciously handed over to the new team. Vijayant Mehra handed over the duties to the present school captain Saket Mundhra; Shaurya Saboo to Anouska Saraf; Saloni Todi to Daksh Manpuria. The previous office holders of Green House felicitated the new ones-Anjali Surana (Captain), Arushi Pant (Vice-Captain), Shubhan Agarwal (Senior Prefect) and Ranvirr Singh Takhar (Junior Prefect); Yellow House congratulated Nikita Biswas (Captain), Tanvi Sengupta (Vice-Captain). Ha Sun Bae(Senior Prefect), and Rahini Kothari (Junior Prefect); while Red House welcomed Divyaansh Jain (Captain), Suryaansh Basumallik (Vice Captain), Samaksh Manpuria (Senior Prefect), Dhiman Narayan (Junior Prefect). Our spirits were further heightened by inspirational speeches delivered by Vijayant Mehra, Dr.Munmun Nath, Mrs. Pratima Nayar and a vote of thanks by Mrs. Sharmila Mukerjee. Despite the grandeur, many challenges lie on their path. Nevertheless, their gusto and competence will see them through all odds



QUIZZING THE POTTER LOVERS



On Friday, the 21st of June 2019, my friend and I conducted a quiz on Harry Potter at Mahadevi Birla World Academy for grades 5 to 8. It was an honour to get such an amazing opportunity from MBWA to share our passion for the Harry Potter series with other 'Potter heads'! We had conducted a quiz together at The Little Gym earlier, but it was the first time we were conducting a quiz with an audience of a hundred students and teachers!

The MBWA students had decorated the hall with Potter memorabilia and welcomed us warmly. We had six rounds of questions and eight teams of four members each. After the first three rounds, we eliminated 4 teams while the final four went head-to-head in the subsequent rounds with a nail-biting finish. We were impressed with the knowledge of the participants and the enthusiasm of the audience. The final round was a 'Quiz-the- Quizmasters' round, and the questions the teams posed to us showed how well they knew their Harry Potter facts. I really enjoyed preparing for and conducting this quiz along with my friend and hope to conduct another soon in near future!

-Ruhani Duttagupta
Grade-7A

