



CIS Speaks

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-Compiled by the students of AS Level

Interact Club Investiture Ceremony

The Interact Club of Calcutta International School hosted its Investiture Ceremony for their Sixth Executive Board on the 24th of October, 2019. The ceremony hosted a few notable dignitaries from the Rotary Club of



Calcutta Victoria (RCCV). The dais for this year's investiture consisted of: the President of the RCCV, Mr. B.K. Agarwal; the Secretary of the RCCV, Mrs. Vibha Mehta, the Principal of Senior School, Dr. Munmun Nath and the teachers in-charge of the club, Ms. Kashmiri Marwah and Ms. Rituparna Mukherjee. The dais was enlightened by the Executive Board about the projects the Interact Club had conducted in the past, which included their annual 'blanket distribution drive'. Following this, Arham Choraria, the new President of the CIS Interact Club was presented with the Charter, the gavel, as well as the collar by the President of the RCCV. The new President briefed the house about their future plans. The Sixth Executive Board of the Interact Club of Calcutta International School, comprises of:

Arham Choraria- President

Abhimanyu Sharma- Secretary

Medhansh Kejriwal- Vice- President

Manav Bansal- Treasurer

Vandana Kothari- Director of Club Service

Divyansh Jain- Director of Professional Development

Vansh Poddar- Director of International Service

Sanaya Kothari- Director of Community Service

Nayanika Prasad- Editor

The emcee of the event, Vandana Kothari, made sure that the event was an entertaining one. The Board then received their badges, and the dais addressed the audience. The Vice President, Medhansh Kejriwal, proceeded with the Vote of Thanks and the cake cutting ceremony to usher in the year on a good note. Overall, it was a pleasant and successful event. The dais was impressed with the work done by the club, and encouraged us with a few much-needed pep talks.

We wish the Executive Board and the members of the Interact Club, the very best of luck, and hope that they accomplish everything they set out to, in the following year!

- Arham Choraria –A Level



Experiences of a CIS Student as a 'Voices' Coordinator

Kiron Deb of AS Level is a coordinator for Voices-a student-run supplement of The Statesman, a leading newspaper in Kolkata.

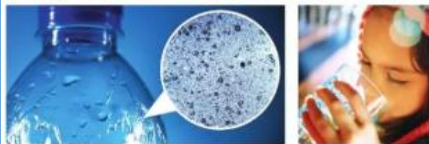
As the coordinator of Voices, I have the privilege of being able to channel my innermost thoughts and experiences through the columns of the supplement. What sets Voices apart is that it's entirely run by students- albeit overseen by two in-house editors. A monthly meeting is held where all the coordinators get together and discuss ideas and articles for the following month's publication. Coordinators in due course of time send in their designated articles. Every once in a while, the Managing Editor e-mails all the coordinators, requesting articles on certain special occasions such as Halloween, Friendship Day and the like. However, we're welcome to send articles on any additional topic of our choice, be it movie reviews, book reviews or travelogues.

Kiron Deb-AS Level.



Causing lethal effects

Plastics have become a part of the food we eat and the air we breathe. Even environmental processes, such as rainfall, are also affected by them



KIRON DEB
 When you take a bite and ingest plastic, about 10,000 tiny particles, on average, pass through the digestive tract of the food we eat and the air we breathe. Even environmental processes, such as rainfall, are also affected by them. Yet another detrimental and often unknown harm has hit our earth, plastics present in the air were recently discovered by scientists in several cities, from remote areas. Some of the most common are acrylonitrile butadiene styrene (ABS), which is used to make plastic pipes and fittings, and polyethylene glycol (PEG), which is used in many consumer products. These plastics are found in the air and no signs of combustion - air 'smoke' from our daily lives is witness to the natural beauty of the planet.

However, researchers found microplastics in a majority of their rainwater samples. While this finding may be surprising to an environmentalist, it is not so surprising for the common rainmaker as it is a sign of the heavy burden of plastics on the planet. According to a researcher at the Centre for Environment and Health, King's College London, people are exposed to microplastics through food and air, but the health effects are unknown.

Now, this might make us wonder: "What's all the fuss about when we aren't even sure what they are?" Although we do not know exactly how these plastics can harm us, we can be sure they will be great.

While there's little research on consumption of the human body, studies have been conducted on mice, rats, and fish. These studies have shown that microplastics can cause inflammation and oxidative stress in addition to what we already know about from research on humans. In addition, it has been found that microplastics in the human body are linked to obesity and even cancer. Research on microplastics in the human body is lacking, but we are exposed to hundreds of billions of them every day. It's a huge number, and the research on microplastics is in its early stages. Some research suggests that microplastics can have a negative impact on human health in many ways.

There may be some who wonder about the link between microplastics in the body and health, we need to realize the usage of more biodegradable plastics. There are few kids who are using more and more plastic bottles every day.

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The fascinating history

The progenitors of Halloween would perhaps never have expected that the grim and somber ritual to ward off ghosts would turn into a cheery party for children and adults alike. Admittedly, though smiling faces carved on pumpkins may not at first glance seem jolly, the general public embraces Halloween for the mirth it generates.

It is generally accepted that Halloween stems from the festival Samhain of the Celts, an ethnic group of Europe. The Celts believed in all sorts of occult and spiritual phenomena, and their intention behind conducting Samhain might come across as slightly ridiculous: they did it to protect themselves, since the worlds of the living and the dead supposedly became blurred and ghosts of the dead returned to Earth.

It doesn't just stop there. While celebrating, the Celts donned costumes and attempted to tell each other's fortunes. It is rather fascinating that a festival that would today be considered absolutely crazy by most led to the creation of an event that has almost become a global tradition.

Halloween is celebrated somewhat differently in different parts of the world, but "trick-or-treating" is by and large the most popular activity. After all, which kid doesn't enjoy candy?

Kiron Deb, Coordinator, Class 11,
 Calcutta International School

CIS Wins Laurels In LSAMUN

From the 18th to the 20th of October, LakshmiPat Singhania Academy hosted its Fifth Model United Nations Conference. CIS sent a delegation of 16 students to LSA, to participate in all 5 committees. Of these 5 committees, CIS won the 'Best Delegate' award in 3 committees, 'Outstanding Delegate' in 1 committee, 'Special Mention' in 2 committees, and finally a 'Verbal Mention' in 1 committee. Consequently, CIS won the 'Best Delegation' award by a huge margin, for the third time in a row at LSA- a remarkable feat indeed!

Congratulations to all members of the delegation!

- Krishna Mishra-10A



Our IAYP Trip to Bhubaneswar

The IAYP Trip to Bhubaneswar was an unforgettable experience which awed me in its ability to teach and to spark a sense of joy in the midst of the monotony of our lives. Though we started at a slow pace (the 10 hour bus ride was a strenuous hurdle



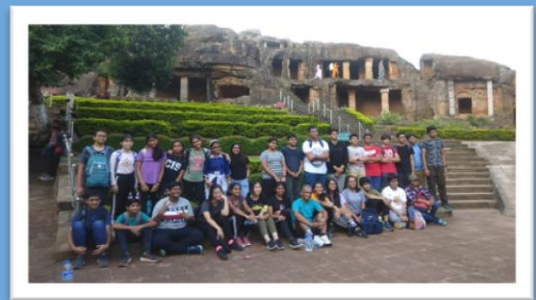
to overcome), we ended in a spirit of enthusiastic mirth. During our stay, we explored the various gems the city had to offer - from the serene abode of the Konark Temple to the artistic realm of Patachitra, we were constantly fuelled by a hunger to imbibe the cauldron of history and art around us.

Our trip began with the exploration of the Konark Sun Temple, which was a 15 minute walk from our place of stay. A

vast chariot is dedicated to the worship of the Sun god, Surya. Its magnificent architecture comprises of laborious carvings and monumental sculptures encompassing the essence of the mind, body and soul. Its overwhelming beauty is further accentuated by the light and sound show, which narrates its complex meaning and connection to the cosmos and divine.

Our enlightening visit to the rural village of Raghurajpur exposed art as an integral feature of the raw human fibre. Patachitra

unravels the knots of myths and legends through incredible handiwork and unparalleled skill. We participated in a workshop in which we created our own pieces - inspired by traditional paintings - using organic resources procured by our host family. We were amazed by the professional calibre of the villagers, especially the natural talent that sustained the vivacity of bygone



eras. Another significant aspect of our trip involved our momentary stop at Pipli, a town of flourishing artisans known for their colourful craftwork. We visited innumerable road-side shops which, in their stifling rooms, withheld the potency of a lifetime. A number of us bought souvenirs, ranging from exquisite lanterns and saris to ancient artefacts that remained priceless in their grandeur. It was refreshing to be surrounded by the effervescent aura of a market-place, especially one that is a jewel of the country. The trip had definitely surpassed our expectations since it gave us a profound glimpse into the depths of artistry that is so often hidden by the banal world of urbanity. It fulfilled our needs, both in terms of learning and amusement, leaving an indelible mark in our memories.

Kavya Agarwal 10B

Importance of English in Our Lives- A Debate



On the 16th of October, 2019, around 130 people gathered in a room to witness 6 of their school - mates debate. The Class 8 Debate Competition was held on this day organised by the CIS English Department. Three students from each of the sections of class 8 were ready to debate on the motion – ‘ In today’s world, proficiency in English is the stepping stone to success.’ , It was all about debating the importance of one of the most widely spoken languages in the world. Students of 8A were speaking for the motion while students of 8B were speaking against the motion. The preparations had been on for more than a month when the preliminary rounds were conducted. The students were digging out points

and making their speeches, each one trying to compose a speech better than the others. Students belonging to the same section got together in planning and organizing their points and speeches.

It was more than a month’s practice which was to be showcased by speaking in front of an audience and an esteemed panel of judges. On the day of the event, the

speakers got up to speak, hiding their nervousness from the audience and trying to put forth their arguments in the best possible manner. The speech wasn’t the toughest part, it was the wait before the speech and the results that seemed endless.

The top 3 speakers were recognised. Some went home with disappointment and some with unexpected success. But one thing that everyone took home was some great learning and the experience of debating.

A big thank you to all teachers and students for their encouragement and cooperation.



Prakhar Drolia – 8B