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Neev Times

The Newsletter of Neev Academy



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Sports at Neev



A Dive Into the Swimming Gala

Sports this academic year has represented many milestones for us here at Neev Academy. One of them included the Swimming Gala for grades 4-6 held on 21 February 2019 where the students performed incredibly well with immense enthusiasm. Practices had been conducted during afterschool staybacks and it was remarkable to see so many students, who have newly started taking part in this sport, to excel and reach new heights with it. Although the challenge was tough, each participating student strengthened their skills with personal goals in mind, and the swimming competition drove them to reach for them. With the many sports competitions that have taken place, we can see that the participating students have become more disciplined, greater team players, have learned to take criticism, and most importantly, have learnt to win and lose with grace- each time improving their game. We are now looking forward to the inter school football competition which will mark the end of inter school sports competitions for this academic year and will give a chance for each one of our athletes to set new goals, break personal records, and improve upon their skill set for the upcoming year.



Kriti Sarawgi (G9) - Senior Sports Captain



CAMPUS BUZZ

Eureka: The annual science exhibition rolls around once again - an opportunity for students to showcase their interests. Each year the students manage to come up with unique projects that explore a variety of topics catering to their interest and choices. The theme for this year's exhibition is - 'Imagine. Innovate. Inspire.' The students have just begun to dive into the research process that will finally take shape of a product. It provides a great opportunity for fostering learner agency and is also instrumental for imbibing many of the IB learner profile attributes in the students. Collaboration, research and critical thinking being the catalysts of this exhibition, it brings out that eureka moment for the students when they get to taste success of this journey. Open to the whole Neev community, this fosters encouragement and inquiry for the junior students, as also a moment of satisfaction and pride for the parents. The culmination of this journey will be showcased on 9th May, 2019.

Battle of the bands: Just recently the system of house points was introduced. The multiple house competitions have brought in the concept of friendly competition and banter between the houses. The next competition is coming up soon. It is the Battle of the Bands! Each house has prepared a few songs using vocals and instruments, and some houses have even brought in raps and beatboxing! The competition will take place on the 4th of April, 2019.

Learning Journeys

Trip to Bylakuppe

The students of Grade 5 recently went on a field trip to Bylakuppe, which is a small town with a settlement of Tibetan refugees. The purpose of the trip was to learn about migration and its influence. It was a five-hour drive from our school and the students were very excited to witness the life of refugees closely. Our first stop in Bylakuppe was a Tibetan school where we all went to different classes of the school and interviewed the Tibetan children. We asked questions to gather their views about not being able to visit their own country when it was at war.

Following the conversation with the students, the founder of the school spoke to us about his motivations to start school. We learned that the core objective of the school was to educate the refugee children even when they are in a foreign land. He also told us that the Tibetan population has gradually declined after the Chinese invasion of Tibet. We felt very proud when he told us that India is the only country which has accepted Tibetan refugees and treated them as their own.

Later, we went to a monastery (a Buddhist temple), which was very beautifully built. There is a statue in the centre of one of the walls of Gautam Buddha- the founder of Buddhism. This statue is flanked by beautifully crafted dragons on either side.



These dragons symbolize power and courage which are the core tenets of Buddhism. We were told that the temple was built once the Tibetan community had settled down in the area.

Finally, we headed back to Bangalore at around 5 pm after a long, but exciting day of learning which we will all remember for a very long time.

Navya Khandelwal (G5-A)

Through the Pages of History

It was something every student waits for, an outstation trip, away from parents and the daily schedule! And our time was here. Students of Grade 5 went to Delhi and Agra on a field trip for six whole days.

To inquire deeper into the causes and impacts of migration was the objective of our trip. Experiential learning enhances our understanding and makes our understanding deeper. This was proved through the 6 days when we saw the various aspects of migration and the mark it has left behind for future generations. We also learnt about the eight different cities of Delhi, each one created by a different ruler. The rulers brought with them new rules, traditions, architecture and culture. All those changes were unique and ever-changing.

The exposure we had made us understand deeper about the place and the rulers and we could very well connect it to our learning. For example, the Qutub Minar, which was made by Qutubuddin Aibak, the Red Fort and Shah Jahan's Taj Mahal to name a few. The reign of different dynasties rose and fell. Names of emperors like Shah Jahan have been still living through the pages of history because of leaving an impact on our world with their practices. Through all this, we learnt how Delhi has gone through cultural legacy over the years, impacting Delhi's lifestyle and culture in more than one way and keeping the city unique from the rest. We also got to know that the most successful rulers promoted peace and cared for their people.

G5 Students



Trip to the Spinning Wheel

On March 4th, we had a field trip. Teachers said that we were going to the spinning wheel. It was time to go and Miss gave us bands so that if we got lost, people could take us back home. Miss gave us biscuits in the bus, so that we didn't get hungry. When we reached, we had some exploring time before we learnt. Miss rang a bell and we all sat down. Miss Rakhi told us how different materials break differently and also showed us different objects made of different materials. She helped us all to make a pencil stand using different materials and showed us how to recycle. We went to the bus and came back to school. We wrote our conclusion about the trip. My team wrote about how different materials are affected differently.

Shrishti Nayak (G1-B)



PYP Exhibition at Silver Oaks

PYP exhibition is the celebration of the students' learning journey over the years. It is a collaborative process where we explore local and global issues which directly affect us, while taking enduring actions. On 14th March 2019, we, the 5th graders furthered our understanding about the process and structure of the PYP exhibition. We visited Silver Oaks International, the school that was astounded by the PYP exhibition showcased by our earlier 5th graders last year.

At Silver Oaks, we saw many different groups and their ideas and perspectives around the theme, 'Who We Are'. We understood how much knowledge the students had acquired and the learner profiles they showcased. We came back with a new found understanding of the way we would present during the PYP exhibition.

Kabir Basu (G5-A)

Students' Voice

Water Cycle Changes

When there is winter
You will have less rain
When there is lots of rain
There are floods
When there is no water
We will die
Climatic change impacts the water cycle
As the temperature gets hotter
More evaporation comes
And precipitation happens.

Dev Prakash Narang (G1 North Campus)

My Hobby

I love to do sports because it motivates me. The sports I do are basketball, yoga, and swimming. But I quit yoga because there were fewer people. My basketball classes are on Mondays and Fridays. My swimming classes are on Saturdays and Sundays. My most favorite sport is swimming because I am not afraid of the water. I want to go deep into the sea as my mom does.

Anika Giridhar (G1 North Campus)

Why am I curious about Science?

It all started when I was four years old, and I wanted to learn about atoms. I heard it when my Mama was speaking about it to Daddy. Then I started liking science and doing experiments. I loved the elephant's toothpaste, where you add yeast to H₂O₂ with soap to transform it into O₂, H₂O, and foam. It also throws foam everywhere like a mini bomb. There are many experiments that I enjoy doing because of the new things I learn. I love these experiments because of the different reactions each one has. My Mama helps me do these experiments when she buys stuff online, and I decide with her the ones I can do. It helps me be an inquirer, courageous, and be brave to explore new things. I want to be a scientist who goes into space and lands on the moon's far side where no one has gone yet.

Vir Tomar Bhansali (G1 North Campus)

Hindi - my second language

Hindi was a new language for me that I did not understand. I felt sad when I saw my friends speak Hindi, and that is why I didn't like coming to school. But after a few days, I asked Bhumi and Prisha to teach me Hindi. Bhumi wanted to learn Kannada and I was good at Kannada, so I told her I could teach her as long as she teaches me Hindi, and this is how my friends taught me to like the language. Now, I am slightly better at Hindi. I always want to play Hindi adventure games. My friends say I learned Hindi very fast, so I feel happy. I feel like I want to learn a bit more so that when I visit other places, I can speak Hindi and make new friends.

Viha Sanath Karkally (G1 North Campus)

Maybe we should be colourblind

A good demonstration of employing effective persuasive strategies by **Seiya Muthreja, of 7A**, for the Summative task for Unit - persuasion, in the voice of a Social Activist, working for a racism free society.

As a social activist, I am well aware of the current situation of the world. Of the black boys who have to cover their heads while walking home, so they aren't made fun of. Of the white men, who make twice as much as black men, while working not even half as hard. Hating people because of their color is wrong, and it doesn't matter who does the hating. It's just wrong. Over 800 secondary schools in Australia have found that racism impacts the mental health of those who experience it. Research shows that experiencing repeated instances of discrimination can cause higher BP, and a faster heart rate. Racism has been for as long as anyone can remember, and if we were more open-minded, it would have gone away long ago too. It would have been one of those stories we were told in class, like people thinking the Earth is flat. If we didn't discriminate, we might have found a way to not pollute the Earth and still have an easy life. We are missing out on new cultures, languages, and intelligent minds, with their intelligent opinions. Discrimination is unfair treatment towards someone. Why? Because of their color? Their Race? Their Origin? A wise man once said, "White people now tan to get darker, and black people wear their hair like white people... We are all confused... Deep down we admire each other, but why can't we accept it?"

Maybe we should be colourblind. Imagine you were a small black child, you had to walk home, with your hood draping over your head, and your head hung low. And every night, you went home, slammed the door close and cried. And you didn't tell your parents because they have enough on their plate. Working twice as hard as white, but still making only half the money. Imagine not wanting to go on any longer, live any more, because no one will accept you, for whosoever you are. Lincoln once said, "Achievement has no color." And, although the income gap between black and white woman no longer exists, Black men constantly earn less than white men, regardless of whether they are poor or rich, smart or dumb. Because of color 38% of all those whose votes are taken away in America are black. If 64% of all Americans say that racism is still a problem, and 92% of African-Americans say that they still experience discrimination. So why can't we accept our mistakes and move on? Come on, Don't be racist. Be like Mario. He's an Italian plumber; created by Japanese people, who speaks English, and looks Mexican. Some people out there believe that being racist, making comments on color is just a joke. Well these "jokes" are making a high percentage of the literate population sitting in their one room apartment trying to earn a living for their family, when they could be contributing to the economy. They say they didn't mean to offend anyone, well, that's like Trump saying global warming doesn't exist.

So next time you are going to laugh at someone because of their colour, punch them, because of their origin, and tease them because of their language, think about them. Think about what we are missing out on. And more importantly, remember, that no matter what, we are all humans. We are all beings with beating hearts that feel pain. I hope you doubt yourself when you are about to be racist next time because, the future is in your hands. The next generation of adults. You have a choice to make. No. More like a chance to take.

Students' Voice

My Future

My head is hurting. My heart is pounding. Slivers of white light are creeping through the smooth glass covering. It feels as if I am seeing light for the first time. The glass opens and at once I am hit with a thousand intoxicating smells; asphyxiating me in the sealed chamber. I get up and gaze at the world for a second time, except this time, I don't know who I am, where I am, or why I am here. I get out of the chamber and put my hand on my throbbing head. Suddenly memories rush into my head. It is as if I'm being hit by a train. In a flash, I realize something. I am supposed to be a little boy aged ten. However, the looking glass tells another story because I see a man staring back at me. Puzzled and confused, I intently examine myself and find out that I am in my thirties- tall, gangly, with short hair and keen eyes. Next, I inspect the room. It is clean; too clean, and lacking furniture. The door is unlocked. I go through it and see a man and a woman smiling at me.

"How are you feeling, Sir?" the man asks.

"I'm fine, thank you," I manage a reply.

I am about to ask him his name when he says, "I am your personal doctor and friend. She is your nurse."

"I'm sorry, was I sick?" I ask.

The doctor replies, "Oh yes! You were in a coma for 28 years! I will take you to your office now. You probably don't know that you work as a software engineer and designer."

It seems that while I was unconscious, my life was being sorted out for me.

I take all this in with a contemptuous look on my face and walk out of the building. Instead of being greeted by traffic as I expect, I see hoverboards and flying cars. The world has really evolved without me, I think. On our way to the aerial parking, I feel as though my legs are too long and spindly, my stubble is pricking me like the bristles of a toothbrush, and my horn-rimmed spectacles are cutting into my skin. Aaaaaarrrrrrrrgh! Why is being a grown-up so hard!

We take a flying car to the office. The doctor shows me at my desk. I turn to ask him his name, but by then, he has already disappeared. I sit down at my desk and see a type of holo-screen. It is exactly like a computer, so it does not take me too long to figure it out. The blueprint for a teleporter has meanwhile appeared on my screen, along with coding instructions and my contacts. Apparently, I am supposed to code a teleporter! "Now how am I going to do this", I ask myself. Thereupon, I remember a plan for a teleporter that I had read about and elaborated upon when I was 9. So I start working...

Three years later, the teleporter is complete and we have created a prototype. Also, I now know how to drive a flying car. Manifestly, information was planted in my head while I was in a coma. I am slowly adapting to this new world. I keep telling myself - I cannot go back to the past, so let me live my future.

The end...or is it?

Kabir Basu (G5-A)

Cubing

I have always thought of doing a recreational activity which develops our mind for overall improvement. When I was in the second grade that was Chess for me. I would not stop playing when I went back home. Even though my friends would keep urging me to play football. Then, the day I left chess, another friend of mine showed me a puzzle that had 6 faces and 6 colors. It frustrated him to a point he threw it in the sand. I laughed. But, when I tried solving it, I got confused and frustrated myself. I decided to prove my friend wrong who said I would throw the puzzle known as the Rubik's Cube out of frustration. So I went home that day and left it. Later in the summer holidays, I decided to pick it up. As my sister learned how to solve it and taught me how to solve it, I couldn't leave it. I loved the cube! Soon, it became about solving it faster than others. It became a sport in itself. I would practice learning new methods. After I got relatively decent at solving it I started collecting. Now I have about 20 cubes. Not all are the same. Some are crazy and confusing to the eye. Cubing gives me satisfaction when I complete it. Cubing is a great way to make friends. Whenever I go for open cubing competitions, it connects all the competitors and makes us forget about the competition. Some people call it a talent, others call it a party trick. Though, to me cubing is a way to connect with others.

Sunav Bajaj (G7-A)

Yakshagana

Yakshagana performers visited students of Grade 3. They talked about Yakshagana and how it could be used to represent social issues. They began with one of them talking to us about the form. He told us about where Yakshagana was performed, different types of Yakshagana, makeup, props entrances and not to forget costumes. Something that interested me the most was how Yakshagana changed over time. After watching the videos in which he told us how it was used to represent social issues we knew it was time to watch a live performance. The second expert was going to dance and had even dressed up for it. The dance was vigorous and looked like it needed a lot of practice. The expert visit was a great learning experience and it helped us understand how dance can be used as a medium of expression.

Riya (G3-C)

I am a train, rain is falling on my train
My train has a lane which takes my train

I am on a train, my train has a lane
My lane is very long and so it goes along

Pranshi (G1-B)

Sunflower

She smiles like a sunflower
Opens only for him
She brightens around him
But dawn comes and he goes for war
Alone she wilts
Always ready to face him again

Anonymous



Students' Voice

Tribute

There is a wisdom of the head, and a wisdom of the heart.



Charles Dickens (1812-1870)

The name is Charles Dickens,
The man behind all the classics.
A master of human nature,
He wrote timeless literature.

He was the king of many genres
And the author of several novels.
His characters were outstanding,
So profound and amazing.

Oliver Twist, who asked for more,
Pip, who's ambitions were set to soar,
David Copperfield who wanted happiness,
Nicholas Nickleby who wanted success.

His language is ever so descriptive
And his scenes are so picturesque.
He may have died back in the day,
But his stories still remain in a way.

His characters had "Great Expectations"
But he had greater ones.
His talent flowed freely in his pieces
So thought-provoking, with large traces
Of wisdom.

He wasn't just a great writer,
He was a journalist and a talented actor.
He left behind a grand legacy,
Now every child reads at least one copy
Of his books.

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times
When he came into the world,
Charles Dickens brought new tunes to an old
rhyme
And he was way ahead of his time.
But the unfortunate part is, he died too soon
For heroes should live to see endless full moons.

All great heroes must be honoured,
They were what the world greatly loved.
But even though they had unfortunate deaths,
People still celebrate their births.

And so, give way for the festivities
Give way for all the delights,
For on the 7th of February,
Mr. Charles Dickens had his first cry
As he entered into this world as a blessing,
And left it laughing with admiration at his
wonderful writing.

Navya Sahay (G9)

Giving shape to Imagination

"The true sign of intelligence is not knowledge but imagination." ~ Albert Einstein.

Makerspace is one of the many clubs in school that focuses on innovations that might help in making our future better and easier. It helps mould young minds to think out of the box and express their imagination and creativity through little innovations like the "doodle bot".

My personal experience was simply splendid. It brought out the ingenious, inventive side of me. It helped me think of the many ways in which I could transform the lives of billions of people around the world by making the world a better place. It specifically focuses on brainstorming in context to inventions for the benefit of the human society.

Therefore, I would like to invite you all to join us at Makerspace and share this awe-inspiring experience of innovating for the betterment of the world with us!

Mohamed Omar (G4-A)

That day was a damp squib...

I glanced at my wrist watch, which read 11:05 AM. Twenty-five minutes more, I thought. There, we sat in the cafeteria, enjoying a warm, hearty lunch of rice and curry after a long and tedious session of I&S reading. I mean, how could a three-hour session of discussing handouts and dossiers NOT sap out anybody's energy? Still, I knew that it was important for us and for the trip. But it was over, and we were up and ready for the journey. 11:25 AM, my watch read this time. And sure enough, we were asked to assemble in the Cafeteria. Five minutes more, and we would be off to the Airport for Delhi! Or at least I thought so. Because when our Principal came to address us and started talking was when I knew that this wasn't the usual discipline talk. She spoke for a brief five minutes, after which she announced to us that we wouldn't be able to go for the trip because the IAF had bombed the Pakistani terror camps that morning. Apparently, Delhi and Rajasthan weren't the safest and most productive places to be at that moment. Shock, surprise and confusion struck us all like a stab in the heart. But we had to get over it. Because while we would be cribbing about not going for a field trip, other people, who are more involved in the situation, like our soldiers, were probably having a harder time than us at that moment because of the crisis.

Devansh Majithia (G8-A)



Ruhaan Nishant (G2-A)

Girl

She's like poetry
detailed yet complex
full of emotions
yet unexplainable.
Understood but rejected.
She's complicated
just as life is.

Guhar Goyal (G9)

Demons

From under I will come
or so you think.
Robbing all of light,
Everything known, out of sight.
Or so you think.

I will be the bringer of pain,
And emergence from the shadows.
Bringing about Darkness.
Pouring on like Rain.
From under I will come,
Twisting Truth and Lies.
Soon you will not see between
Dark and Light.
Or so you think.

Forget it all.
Truth, Lies, Friendship, Love.
Because we all really know
True demons, come from above.

Sanjeet Panigrahi (G8-A)

Surgical strike 2.0

On the 14th of Feb, the whole nation mourned the death of 42 Jawans who died in a suicide bombing that took place in Kashmir. This suicide bombing took place on a Jammu - Srinagar Highway Close to Pulwama. The JeM based Suicide bomber, Adil Dar carried out the bombing. Driving an SUV loaded with over 350 kgs of explosives, he was on the wrong side of the road. He ran the SUV into a bus that carried the CRPF Jawans. The attack led to the Indian Prime Minister giving full authority to the defense forces to take whatever action they want on the Terror forces.

On the morning of the 26th of Feb, we were all proud once again as the IAF proudly washed our bad memories of the attack and bathed them in good ones. Indian Air Force fighter jets crossed the International Line of Control for the first time since 1971 and struck the training camp of the Jaish-e-Mohammed terrorists in Balakot and other camps located in Chakothi and Muzaffarabad around. The main camp was located 80 kilometres from the LoC, this Jaish Camp was deep into the forest and on the top of a hill, yet it was away from civilian settlements. Intelligence agencies claimed that other suicide bombings were being planned. It said that they were training over 500 terrorists to carry forward acts of terrorism. For this kind of an attack, the Air Forces chose an airborne attack as it would give them high advantages and reduce the number of casualties. 12 Mirage 2000 aircrafts were used. The planes were loaded with Israel manufactured Rafael Spice Ammunition. The mission was supported by other jets. After releasing the bombs, the jets returned into Indian airspace unharmed.

Indian Defense Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that the fight is against terrorism and not Pakistan. We could look at this as weeds in the grass. Say that the terrorists are the weeds, they are plants after all yet they could slowly kill the grass and fill the area with their own species. The same way - the terrorists would go on killing more and more civilians and armed personals. The debate comes in when we bring in the fact of if we shall pluck the weed or let it be, the weed is bad and can take over everything else, yet they are also plants and it will be inhuman to kill them.

Following the attack, on the same day, a Pakistani drone was seen next to the border in Gujarat. The drone was shot down and precautions were being taken. In order for precautions to be taken, airports in J&K, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh were closed. The LoC was put on the highest degree of alertness and armed with the best of the best.

Indian border ground forces noticed Pakistani planes and immediately alerted the IAF. The IAF reacted instantly by sending aircraft to fight the battle. More than 10 Pakistani planes flew in formation. 3 of them entered Indian airspace via Kalal at 10:20 AM.

India shot down a Pakistani F-16, the plane fell into Pakistan occupied Kashmir. A MIG 21 Bison from India that was piloted by Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthaman was shot down and landed in POK. Soon after, the pilot was claimed to be missing. Pakistan responded to this by claiming that pilot Abhinandan was in their custody.

Wing Commander Abhinandan was smart and did everything to demolish the important documents. Videos that were released of him being ill-treated were against the Geneva Law. The Geneva law convention states the human law of War. Abhinandan stayed calm and showed acts of exemplary courage, valour, smart thinking and grace. Abhinandan is an inspiration to many.

Pakistan returned Abhinandan to India at the Wagha border after delaying the return twice. The border was kept open for this special case. Abhinandan was taken directly for medical checkups after which it was stated that Abhinandan had a fractured rib and a back contusion. The whole nation was relieved and proud to have him back.

Pakistan had also violated the ceasefire agreement by shelling with mortars and firing small arms. Pakistan violated the ceasefire agreement across various sectors near the border. Many civilians and soldiers from India and Pakistan were killed and wounded in this whole incident.

Sachi Vats, Sara Vats, Aditya Braganza and Ranai Rai (G6-B)

Woke up as an adult

Bad dream. I opened my eyes. I went to sleep. Almost. It was a normal day. I guess. Realization floods in like water. Where was I? Startled, I jumped out of bed. It was not my room. Strangely, my photos were inside the frames and the furniture was exactly my taste. I also noticed a woman that looked dangerously like me in all the pictures. The room smelled good. Like lavender. Suddenly, the alarms went off. The room lights up. A voice says, 'Good morning, Ady! Happy birthday! The time was 8:00 AM and the temperature was 50 degrees Fahrenheit in Los Angeles. The date is 3 November 2033. Enjoy being 26.'

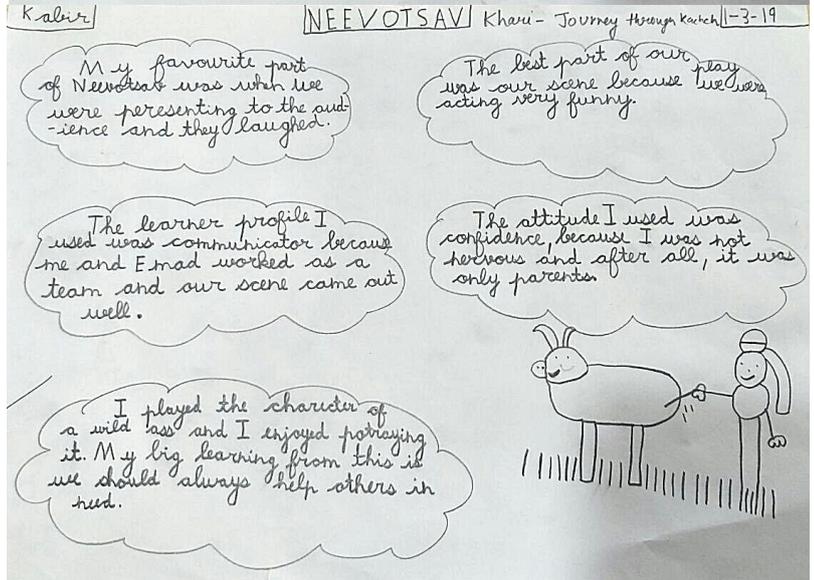
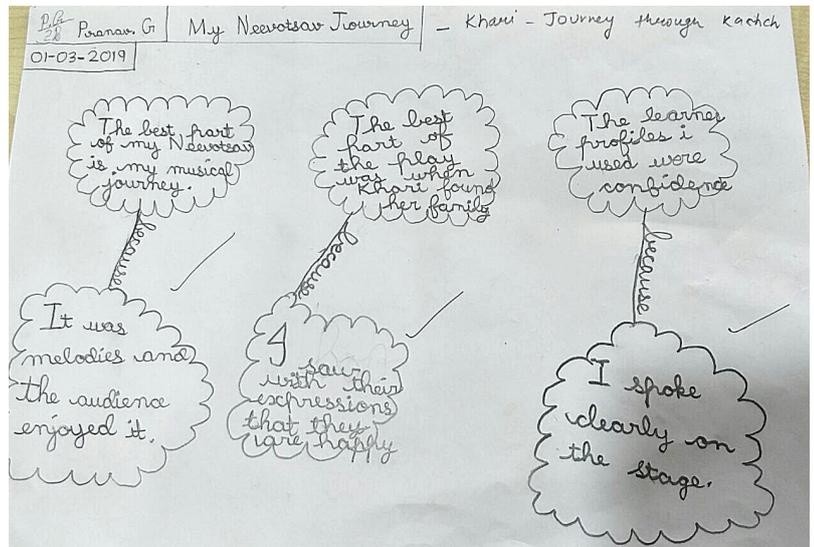
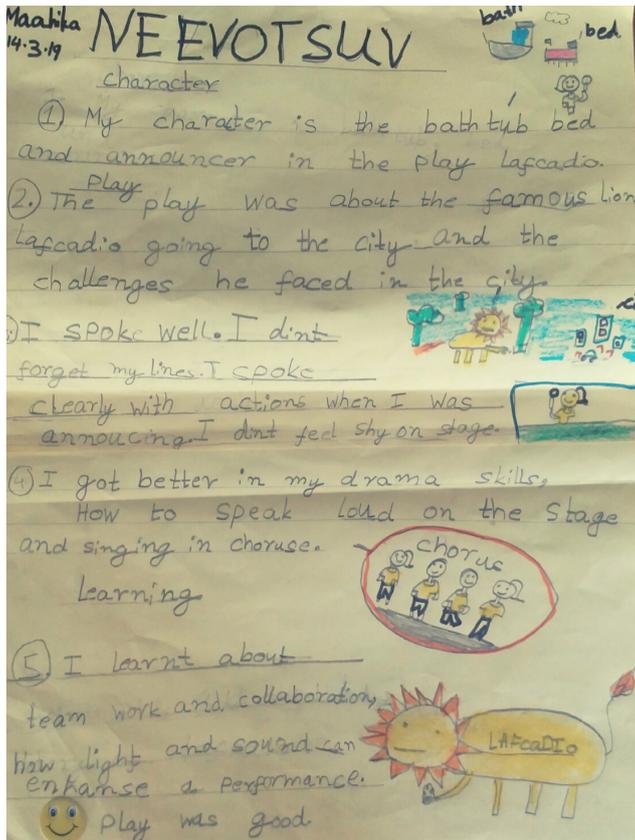
Suddenly everything fell into place. My whole life flashed before me. Not because I was dying, but because I had 15 years of catching up to do. I didn't have a panic attack or anything, as many people would tend to do once they find out that they have skipped 15 years of their life. Not me. I was as cool as a cucumber. Sort of.

The flashback contained all my cherished and rather-forget-moments such as my first step, meeting my best friend, going to school for the first time, falling, getting bruised, getting a dog, getting a laptop, going to middle school - details that I would prefer not mentioning, going to high school, shifting to Los Angeles, saying goodbye to my best friend, seeing my new house, getting a scholarship to Harvard and to fast forward a few years, becoming a Hollywood actor.

Wait, what? I decided to sleep for a while, to digest all of this. Sadly, sleep doesn't agree with you sometimes. So I decided to explore my so-called house. I stepped out of my room and took a look. Whoa! I had to admit, my house was pretty cool. I saw all the rooms and tried to recollect most of the past 15 years. Some of them helped. For example, in one of the rooms, I found a dog. Apparently, my dog. A King Charles Spaniel. I knew this as I had always wanted that particular breed. Today, I look back to that day and realized how naive I was. After seeing my dog, I went outside and began discovering Los Angeles in 2033. That was a mistake. Turns out that I was pretty well-known. That was a headache. The next day's newspaper headlines were 'Ady in her pajamas'. As I was saying, that was a headache. I tried hiding from the world and catching up on the news, my movies, trends and basically, what I had missed in the past 15 years. People thought that I had lost my mind. But again, people always think.

Adrita Ganguly (G5-B)

Neevotsav G1-G3 (2018-19)



I love Neevotsav! It is my favourite event of the year. This year we performed a 'Street Play'! I was so excited! We were allowed to write our own lines. On the first day of rehearsal, our play looked so boring!

On the second day of the rehearsal, Vineet Sir came in and changed a few things in the scene to make it fun. We loved it! From that day, we always looked forward to rehearsals. During the final run-through, we performed for the teachers and they rated it 5 on 5! On the day of the show, Ms. Nikita gave us stars. We encouraged ourselves to do our best and practised our lines all over. 3...2...1... it was showtime! All of us did our part spectacularly and no one forgot a single line.

At the end of the show I learnt how to work in a team and how everyone's ideas put together can send such a powerful message.

Keerat Singh (G3-B)



Teachers' Voice

SAIBSA PYP Job Alike: Experiencing the magic of collaboration

"Collaboration allows teachers to capture each other's fund of collective intelligence" - Mike Schmoker

On March 9th, Neev Academy hosted its second SAIBSA PYP Job Alike event, which captured the essence of the enhanced PYP - to build agency.

Based on the curiosity around "Agency", we decided to organize the sessions around the theme - 'Agentic Learner - Building Skills in the Enhanced PYP'.



Participants collaborate during the SAIBSA sessions

Experienced IB workshop leaders from the South Asian network conducted thirteen different sessions. Over three hundred participants from twenty-five different schools benefited from these sessions and took away key learning. Some of the key areas that were explored through deep discussions were - Working on Inquiry and incorporating the same into the plan, Transdisciplinarity in the PYP, Student Agency, SOLO Taxonomy, Collaboration - learn with the tribe, Language - Portraits and Policies, etc., to name a few.

It was a day filled with new learning and sharing concerns. It had multiple takeaways and geared us up to implement new ideas into our curriculum. Monita Sen (IB PYP Manager- Authorization) started the day with the keynote address. Michael Hughes (Seisen International School, Tokyo) and Tania Mansfield (International school of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam) conducted the plenary sessions and gave insights into many aspects of "Agency" in the enhanced PYP.

Lastly, the community voiced their opinion in saying, "When you need to innovate, you need collaboration" - Marissa Mayer.

Soumya Anil
(PYP Coordinator)

Walls of wonder

Grade 1 children integrated their current unit of inquiry "How the world works" with the central idea 'Materials consist of matter that can be manipulated and changed for a purpose'. The related concepts for this unit were - Properties, Manipulation and Transformation, which was clearly evident when they observed the before and after pictures to understand and differentiate the meaning of the words.

Children also discussed the differences in the old and modern style of construction and got engaged in a few hands-on activities like join the dots on the design of the North campus new building. It made them aware and observe the finer details of the architecture of the building which they otherwise would not have noticed perhaps.

This experience gave children an understanding of where they are in place and time. Many children have never even observed their school building as they walk in every day.

Later, the interactions they had with the members of the INTACH society made them aware of their past history of the building and their city. Children were curious to know the story of Bangalore and also about their school building. The activities helped them get a deeper understanding of the architecture of the building and differences in the old and new styles of buildings. There was collaboration and curiosity as children went about understanding, and making connections with the past, present and future of their school building and their city. Experiences like these will help children construct new meanings, develop appreciation for their own culture and heritage and respect for the world around them.

Following reflections would consolidate how children got involved with the journey of this unit.

Ishaan - "I never knew the old building looked like that. I learnt the story of Bangalore. I liked the games we played."

Bhumi - "I learnt that the library was rebuilt by a person who owned this building. I did not know it was a house before."

Prisha - "I thought it was a house and I got so much knowledge about this building. When we got a puzzle to do, it was same like the design on the building."

Team North Campus



Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)

History Tour of Bangalore

Walking along the tree-lined streets of older Bangalore, I was lost in time as I took in the beauty of the forts, the community spaces, and shops. The dungeons we visited still had the power to retell stories from the past. This city was designed by King Kempe Gowda in 1537 from just a barren piece of a plateau. The elevated plateau was advantageous for a king to set up a trading city since the enemies could not reach the higher ground easily. Trees were planted and artificial lakes were created to make the city habitable. The lakes were interconnected so that they would not overflow in the rainy seasons.

There was harmony among religions in the city. We noticed that Tipu Sultan's palace and a temple co-existed in the same place, and Islamic architecture merged with Hindu architecture in his palace. In the afternoon, we headed to a restaurant in an old shopping lane to experience the traditional cuisine of Bangalore. The food was unfamiliar to most of us, but it was a taste of something new while learning about the past.

This tour taught me to appreciate the ingenuity that goes into creating a city. Some knowledge from the past, like the interconnected lakes, should be preserved and used today. It could help solve the water crisis that the city faces. I realized how people of different communities who usually had conflicts in the past, united towards a certain cause— freedom from colonialism. Overall, I was enlightened about the city's past, which I had no idea of, in spite of living here since childhood.

Aparna Iyer (G11)



For our recycling initiative in CAS, we wanted to spread awareness on waste segregation. As a group, we felt responsible for bringing about a change when we saw people throwing things even without looking at where it landed. Invariably it lands in the wrong bin.

We wanted to spread awareness about the negative impact it has on the environment. Through waste segregation, we can aid recycling, one of the most environmentally secure things we can do. By simply throwing our paper cups or plastic bottles in the right bin, we can stop the usage of plastic and therefore save the environment. We also thought that through this, we would be aiding the noble cause against global pollution at a very local level.

We invited ENSYDE to talk about their Electronic- Waste collection and sensitization programme "Be Responsible". The main objective of this program is to advocate the cause of recycling Electronic waste by periodic collections at schools and apartment communities. We wish to organize a "Be-Responsible" collection drive at Neev Academy at the earliest possible to foster awareness and active citizenship for the environmental cause of Electronic waste.

We have also created a radio jingle to aid the awareness campaign. We composed the beats, wrote the lyrics, performed and recorded it. We plan to play it at our school PA system very soon.

Skanda and Devansh (G8-A) - Recycling Initiative

Fundraising for Habitat for Humanity

A shelter is a place that offers you protection from danger, both environmental and human. It is considered as one of the basic human needs for survival, falling under the same category as food and water. Only with these essentials can one think of higher wants like safety, education, and equality.

It is unfortunate that in a rapidly developing country like India, millions still do not have access to shelter and sanitation facilities, the fundamental requirements. As the privileged one percent of the country, we believe that it is our duty to help in any way we can. In partnership with Habitat for Humanity, an international NGO that aims to ensure a world where everyone has a decent place to live, we organized a fundraiser in school. The funds raised were used to build homes and sanitation facilities across Karnataka.

However, fundraising is just the beginning. We plan to engage with the community that is facing these problems, and learn what more we can do. We would also like to thank everyone who contributed and helped families fulfil the necessities for a decent life.

Rohini Chakraborty and Arya Varma (G11)



Inclusiveness is all about being open-minded and respecting others' opinions. An assembly was organized to build consciousness around this in the Neev community. This assembly was an eye opener for most of us, particularly when we were conducting an activity. We noticed that people were laughing or cringing at what others were saying, without even realizing that it amounted to bullying. They would even try to convince people not to share their opinions. When we explicitly pointed this out, the audience came to this realization and finally, the goal of the assembly was met.

We feel that the students have walked out of the assembly hall more aware of their actions and willing to put in an effort to be open-minded to differences, resulting in a happier, safer community.

Leya, Vaishnavi and Vishali (G8) - Inclusiveness Initiative



5 Things I wish I knew-If I was a Neev Student

I didn't go to school at Neev. But I spent 12 years in school and 5 years in college. And my work for a company that has hired somebody every 5 minutes for the last 5 years but only hired 5% of the kids who came to us for a job forces me to recognize that two most important decisions a child can make are; choose your parents and pin code wisely. Neev students have those two choices covered but have many social, academic and career choices ahead and must realize the huge wisdom in Dumbledore's advice to Harry Potter in Chamber of Secrets "It is our choices more than our abilities that reveal what we really are". As you think about your choices, I hope you will think about these five things I wish I knew when I was in school:



LEARNING IS LIFELONG READING: As my wife says, in a world where Google knows everything, knowing is useless. The IB learner profile that targets being creative, confident, curious, risk takers, and team players is a 21st century education. Reading has been my tool for lifelong learning; I have read a book a week for 20 years. And diversely. The biography of the Duke of Marlborough by Winston Churchill is my favourite primer about mergers, acquisitions and alliances. I remind myself why India is poor by re-reading 'India after Gandhi' by Ramachandra Guha. And 'Haroun and the Sea of Stories' by Salman Rushdie seems like a fairy tale because the land of Gup and Chup go to war because Princess Batcheat is kidnapped but it is a wonderful mediation on tolerance, communication and transparency.

YOU CANT DO ANYTHING IMPACTFUL ALONE: Sometimes in school we give you the impression that getting ahead needs you working alone. In fact we have another word for teamwork in academics; we call it cheating! This is amplified by the toxic myth that successful CEOs, Chief Ministers, Popes, Principals or Generals are one man armies. Life is a team sport and nothing meaningful is accomplished alone. The easiest way for you to think about this at Neev is move away from a best friend to many best friends. Because the older you get, you will realize that keeping friends is harder than making them. In fact some people believe that you can't make new friends as adults. Your friends will be very important as you journey through the agony and ecstasy of life (I started my two companies with friends from school and college). So be caring, generous, forgiving and fair with your friends.

THINK BIG AND TAKE MORE RISK: The days are long but the years are short. I recently went for my college reunion and I submit the saddest phrase of middle age is "I wish I had" because you can always change the things you did but you can never change the things you didn't do. We are all scared of big goals but courage is not the absence of fear, it the persistence in the face of fear. For the first five years in school I was an average student uninterested in music, art, or games. But in the last two years, I lost 10 kgs, edited the school magazine, and aced my Grade 12 exam. So run towards your fears

BE DIFFERENT: When you are young, being cool means doing what everybody else is doing. When you get to my age, you realize being cool is doing what nobody else is doing. The warmth at the centre of the herd is comforting but hardly a highway to impact. In school there is always a pressure to fit in, of conformity, of fear, of public opinion or even hostility to those who are different. But Rajputs don't have to ride horses, Chartered Accountant's kids don't have to do Commerce, and Doctor's kids don't have to do Biology. Of course opening balances matters; My parents were civil servants and I carry the gifts and wounds of a civil service upbringing. But as Gandhiji's favourite song written by Tagore says, "Jodi Tor Dak Shune Keu Na Ashe, Tobe Ekla Cholo Re" (if you call and nobody comes, walk alone).

TREASURE GREAT TEACHERS: Do think about the difference between a popular teacher and a good teacher. At your age, the teachers who push you the hardest will be those you will dislike. But at my age, these will be the ones that you remember most fondly. There is an element of eat your vegetables in education and good teachers expect more because they know you can be more than you are. Samar Bhaduri pushed me hard in English and without him I would not be writing a column for the Indian Express. Ramesh Shah taught me the value of hard work - after flunking Math in grade 7 I aced grade 12 - without that I wouldn't be on the Board of RBI. So seek out great teachers.

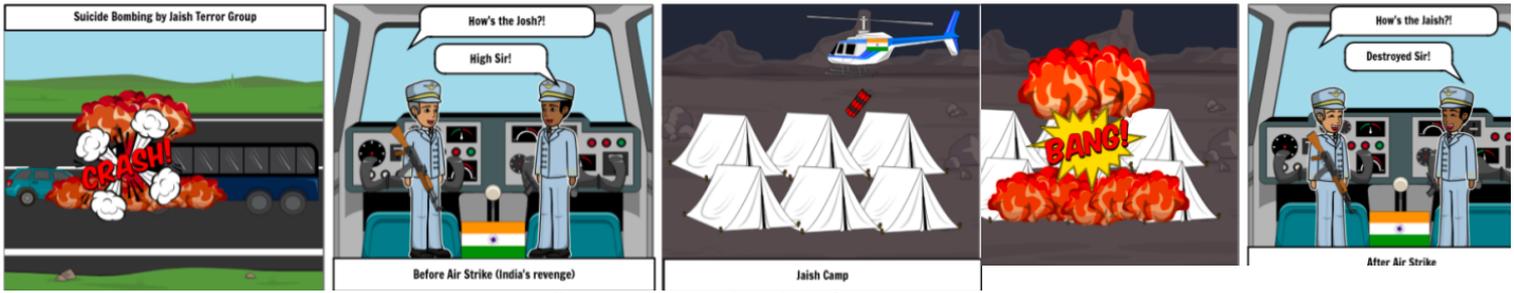
An education can be a shield or sword. A shield is a weapon of defense; it will keep you safe but won't build the Mughal Empire or Infosys. A sword is a weapon of boldness and creation. An education at Neev is a sword. You have a chance to find a cure for cancer, clean up politics, write a book, win an Olympic gold medal or build a huge company. Don't take this for granted. Malala Yousufzai fought many years in Pakistan for the right to go to a school. For that, the Taliban put a bullet in her 14 year old head and spine. You don't have to worry about that so use your luck and choose carefully.

P.S. Life is lived forward and understood backward so don't worry if much of this didn't make sense yet ☺

Manish Sabharwal
Parent of Noor Sabharwal, Grade 8 A & Dhruv Sabharwal, Grade 11

JUNKYARD

Comic Strip Competition - Best Entries



Aditya, Sara, Ranai and Sachi (G6-B)



• Amazing Facts about India •

- Besides having the largest postal system in the world, India also boasts of a floating post office on Dal Lake, Kashmir.
- Science Day in Switzerland (26th May) is dedicated to Ex-Indian President, APJ Abdul Kalam.
- In September 2009, India's ISRO Chandrayaan- 1, using its Moon Mineralogy Mapper, detected water on the moon for the first time.
- Bandra Worli Sealink in Mumabi has steel wires equal to the earth's circumference.
- Rabindranath Tagore is the only Indian poet credited not only for writing the Indian national anthem, Jana Gana Mana, but the Bangladeshi national anthem, Amar Sonar Bangla, as well.
- The Human Calculator, Shakuntala Devi is a math prodigy from India. She could calculate $7,686,369,774,870 \times 2,465,099,745,779$ and provided the correct answer in mere 28 seconds.

• SUDUKO •

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