

Founder's Note

Dear Community,

It's been an eventful few months. The hills in the playground added an unimaginable layer of thrill, while our DP authorization made us a full continuum IB school, and our first ICSE group started in Grade 6. More importantly, we have the breathing space for long-term culture building beyond academics; making sports, arts and reading a rhythm of life on campus, and identity as core to growth.

First Sports – Our reprogrammed timetable, staybacks, sports fields and now a stronger team are about transforming the traditional school sports paradigm into a world class skills based programme, inspiring every child to fitness, as we work to establish houses and interschool leagues and seasons. Our goal is getting Neev kids to think of fitness not as a time-table item but a way of life. Second Arts – Last year we built our choir. This year we build our Orchestra and Drama teams. Neevotsav morphs this year; Grades 4-10 move to Neevotsav spotlight spread through the year. Neevotsav-Finale in December will be for Grades 1-3 and the stayback drama teams with the orchestra and choir. The youngest children at Neev thus experience a grand show celebrating skills and performance. Grades 4-10 experience a spotlight on their skills through the year, while the stayback teams learn and perform theatre skills of direction, light & sound, music and of course performance. Third Reading - Good readers write well. The Read for Reading programme started last year, with the aim of making children truly literate across disciplines, gets stronger this year. The guided reading/novel study programmes from PYP now graduates into class wise book projects in MYP. The Neev literature festival aims to expand reading of Indian and global literature for children and catalyse a conversation on how to raise readers as a route to being lifelong learners in the changing world of work. We seek support from the parent community to nurture children to spend their time reading, being active, and being self-expressive.

This brings us back to our core obsession of Identity. Knowledge is not adequate; John Taylor's work with us, starting this year, on raising the philosophical child is a long term goal to make Neev children self-aware, question new information, consider impact of actions, and make personal sense of the world. Grade 7 children that came back from the first academic journey of the year in Aurangabad / Dhule are thinking of these questions. Service (CAS/SAA) programs at Neev aim to focus children on the larger world around them. A philosophical child is the thinking and giving adult. As Picasso said - *The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.*

The decision to defer DP by one year to 2018 despite the authorization, ready team and facilities represents our philosophy of taking the long view. We want another year of undiluted focus on PYP and MYP children to nurture the desired culture of learning and growth on campus. The DP is truly a wonderful culmination of the IB programs – it brings everything together and we dream of making it the best 2 years of the journey for our first cohort as we start admissions next month.

I want to leave you with a question – as we grow, how can we ensure that our community of children remains true to learning, and doesn't fall prey to the complicated world of after-school tuitions/academic coaching? I'm sure many children out there wonder why they go to school if they need 2 hours after school to re-learn. I invite your thoughts and conversations on this and on what else we can do to make Neev the educational institution all of us dream of for your children.

Best Regards,

Kavita Gupta Sabharwal, Managing Trustee & Head of School

The Harvard Model United Nations Conference, 2017

The seventh session of Harvard Model United Nations India (HMUN), was held in Hyderabad from August 12th to the 15th of this year. The prestigious conference was attended by the 8th grade and FB students of Neev Academy. MUN creates a platform for ambitious students to share their take on current world issues and become enriched with broader worldviews.

HMUN surpassed our previous experiences with MUN conferences in its magnanimity and its competitive and aggressive spirit. 1500 delegates from various parts of the country in the same hall was an overwhelming display of diversity. The conference wasn't simply interesting; it was a refreshing change to work amongst brilliant minds from outside the familiar boundaries of the Neev community. Being appointed in separate committees, we were forced to socialise with others, urging us to discard our shells and master the deft art of interaction.

The four days that we spent in the HICC were thoroughly enjoyable. The trivia night, the talent show and the dance night created ample amounts of memories for us to muse over in the future years. The Neev delegates returned to Bangalore with a fresh train of thought, stronger resolve and maroon Harvard sweat-shirts!

Abinav Venkatagiri, 8



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Field Trip to Aurangabad– A Syncretic Experience

Our trip to Aurangabad was like a time travel back to 2500 years ago - a flashback into what transpired with Gautam Buddha coming to Aurangabad and the amalgamation of various religions like Hinduism, Jainism and Islam that followed his advent. There was much evidence of these religions coexisting. The journey into the 10 odd caves that are UNESCO heritage sights provoked deep study of history and its various contextual underpinnings. The board room discussions that followed on those specific evenings were energy packed with thoughts and opinions on the commonalities the different religions share.

We were at our wit's end when issues of an ethical nature came up in the discussion. If religion stood for love, tolerance and compassion, why are there conflicts? The ensuing discussions focussed on vested political interests of people in the society who delude the rest of the population.

Dhule was a clear example of seeing community service not just as fund raising or charity initiatives, but true empowerment. As the Chinese proverb goes, "You give a fish to a man, you feed him for a day; you teach the man to fish, you feed him for his life."

This is exactly what DBMG foundation is doing with the farmers and tribes in Dhule. From making good potable water through water ATMs to watershed management, multiple cropping, check dams, water catchments, farmers producer company for self reliance, self help groups, animal husbandry and poultry projects, micro financing and skill training centres, the range was really wide. The message was loud and clear- that there needs to be equal opportunity given to all. The urbanised ashram run school for the tribal at the foot of the Western Ghats furthered the shine of development. The people of Dhule were visibly content and proud of their achievements. Not to forget, it has also curtailed the migration of a large population into cities which surely is a model to follow.

Conclusively, for me as an educator, Dhule and DBMG foundation exemplified rural empowerment by hand holding farmers who form the identity of our country. A student reflected, "I did not ever imagine that there can be an organisation which helps poor farmers become self reliant by just making smart use of their natural resources." Food for thought - in Maharashtra, along with a success story like Dhule, there is the tale of farmers committing suicide in Vidharbha. What has gone so terribly wrong?

Francis Chirayath, Class Teacher, Grade 7 & HOD Mathematics

ELLORA CAVES, AURANGABAD



Campus Buzz

Neev Staybacks

After long and enduring discussions, Neev Academy has finally come up with stay-back sessions for sports, theatre, choir, orchestra and school newsletter to take a deeper plunge into fostering excellence in co-curricular activities. During visits to IB schools of acclaim, it was observed that excellence in aspects of personal growth beyond academics was achieved through concentrated focus in respective fields and that demanded designated time. Following a parent orientation session, the school took its final call when there was considerable enthusiasm and support received from the parent body. Students are taking keen interest in this new initiative and the turn out is greatly encouraging. 28th of August, Monday, kick started the stay-back sessions and it appears that a positive step has been taken. Bon Voyage!

The Neev Literature Festival- Re-imagining the Library

On the 15th and 16th of September, Neev Academy will pioneer a Literature festival for children that is without precedent. At one level, it is the simplicity of the idea to give children and Literature for children an exclusive and undivided space on a scale rarely encountered that makes the festival unique. But the festival moves beyond the sense of novelty, to integrate the unifying idea of 're-imagining the library' and create several forums for enrichment and dialogue.

The first day of the festival includes workshops, book readings and story telling sessions designed to give children from the age of 5 to 17 a first-hand immersive experience. The second day brings together established writers and educators as well as creators of new and alternative textualities in children's literature, in panel discussions and conversations with the audience.

The festival features an expansive yet selectively curated collection of literature for children exhibited by publishers and curators known for their commitment to one of the principles important to Neev: teaching children to love reading. The festival will allow parents, teachers, publishers, curators, librarians and children to come together to create a movement that will continue over the years, marked by adaptive resilience.

Dr John Taylor's visit to Neev

Dr John Taylor is Director of Learning, Teaching and Innovation at Cranleigh School, Surrey in the UK. He is an expert in the field of independent learning and philosophy in Education. Dr Taylor writes and speaks extensively about independent learning through projects, being a strong proponent of project-based learning. He visited Neev Academy in the first week of August, 2017. During this period, he interacted extensively with administrators and teachers of the Academy and also addressed a large group of parents. He focussed on developing independent learning in children through inquiry modelled on Socratic seminars where teachers baffle and the intrigue students with questions that percolate to the root of knowing. During his interactions with teachers at Neev, Dr Taylor constantly emphasised on the importance of creating a vibrant "community of learners", enculturating a strong learning-centred environment in which students and educators actively and intentionally collaborate to construct knowledge. Dr Taylor is a philosopher-teacher in the truest sense. A profound observation, made during his address to teachers on Socratic teaching "the only true authority is the authority of reason" is something to ponder about in these troubled times.

Wordsmiths

A Midnight Adventure

My friend and I had gone for a trekking expedition. We had slept in the tent in the night and indeed we slept soundly after an exhausting day. Suddenly in the middle of the night I was woken up by a strange sound. I wondered what it was.

Gathering courage, I unzipped my sleeping bag, wore my jacket, grabbed a torch and stepped out of the tent. I tried to listen to the sound again, but I could not hear it. My friend, Daksh, heard me getting back into the tent and asked me where I had been. While recounting the incident to him, we heard the same growling sound again.

We left the tent and followed the sound until we found out what it was. The growl belonged to an angry, terrifying and hungry panther. We retreated quickly and ran back in the direction of the tent. Suddenly, our torch went out. We had seen a panther and we were very scared. But without a torch how could we find the way? We climbed on to a tree and tried to look around. Since it was a full moon night, we could locate our tent in the moonlight and we managed to reach the tent without further mishaps. We were once again cocooned in the safety of our tents and fell asleep again.

In the morning, everybody wondered why our jackets were covered with twigs and leaves. But we kept this adventurous story a secret since we did not have any evidence to prove it.

Dhruv Suresh Ramu, 5A

The Mansion

The rain had been harsh that morning. As Xam slowly pushed open the great brass doors of the old mansion, the rotten wooden frames broke off and fell on his toe. He cried out in pain but soon sobered himself. He set about exploring the house. Cobwebs hung from every corner possible, and almost everything in sight was either rotten or broken down. A ticking watch lay on the ground and appeared like a bomb.

The most suspicious place in the rampaged house was the kitchen. The larder was stocked with unearthly foods, which emitted a divine smell, their shape perfect to the nearest millimetre. Xam even thought he heard the sporadic, clanking sound of machinery at times.

A little later, he discovered a wooden cabin which was not as damaged as the rest of the house. He wondered if inside it lay the answers to all the questions that tormented him. But then he retreated. Something told him, "This far and no farther".

Akhilesh Balaji, 5B

The Northern Lights

It was anticipation that later turned into an event of a lifetime for me. There are many who take organized Northern Lights tours yet never get a glimpse, not even a thin wispy line of the Aurora, but for me, out of nowhere, swirls appeared across the dark skies. More swirls and lines began to surround me as they took shape, first over the mountainous landscape of Finland and then all across the night sky. I couldn't believe how fortunate I was as I saw the swirls increasing in magnitude, dancing around the skyline, as if a laser show was on display. I saw nature's best display of greens and flashes of pink and red. Over the next few minutes, the lights continued their show, inviting in one of the most amazing natural phenomena of the world – The Northern Lights.

The Northern Lights are one of the seven natural wonders of the world. The psychedelic wonder is caused by the sun. The aurora originates at the core of the sun when atoms of hydrogen merge together to form helium. The light then radiates outwards from the core of the sun and eventually the charged gas reaches the surface. When the charged gas is at the surface, the plasma leaves the sun and travels past all the planets. However, when this charged gas reaches the earth, the earth's magnetic field blocks it and it in turn gets attracted to the poles. This plasma from the sun is what we see in the poles as the Aurora Borealis.

As I looked up in wonder, the sky cast a marvellous spell on us that night, making it a night to remember.

Disha, 7A

A Vision of an Independent India

Years ago, for a century or more, the British invaded India with violence and injustice. At that time, the brave leaders who fought for freedom, had a clear vision in their mind about how India should be in the future. Even today, every Indian has a picture in his/ her mind about a happy, healthy and safe India.

Now, everybody respects the fact that people have different cultures, opinions and religions and that we are still the same. We are unique in our own, special ways.

But, when will India be truly independent?

India will be independent when we accept others' perspectives.

India will be independent when no child sleeps hungry.

India will be independent when every child receives education, even in villages.

India will be independent when it is progressive, moving towards modernization and development and yet, strongly rooted in its culture and values.

India will be independent when it is free from violence and crime.

India will be independent when every Indian feels safe.

India will be independent when the poorest of the poor become free from human suffering. Our freedom fighters had immense faith in the youth's capabilities. WE are the youth and we can work towards building a truly independent India.

This is my Bharat and this is my Azadi.

What is your vision of a truly Independent India?

Diya Deepa, 4B

Courage

Courage is that feeling,
that spirit in your bones.

Courage is not only when you are hoping,
it's when you stay strong,
even when they throw stones.

Courage is the ability to open your wings,
even when they say you won't rise.

Courage is when you believe in yourself,
which will leave them in surprise.

Courage is when you accept your wrongs,
and believe that all mistakes aren't failures.
Courage is when you decide to rule the ocean,
rather than become a mere sailor.

Courage is the potential to do it,
even when you are scared.

Courage is when people may say you don't fit,
And even when you know it and you still dared.

Courage is when you choose to be unique,
and go up there and speak.

Courage is when you smile,
while all you can feel is sadness.

Courage is when you don't change your style,
Even if others think nothing of it.

Courage is to stand up,
when they tell you to sit down.

Courage is to swim up,
when you are about to drown.

Courage is there inside you,
and always will be.

You just need to go deep down,
and believe in what you see.

Devanshi Kaura and Seiya Mutreja, 6A

तारा

टिम-टिम करता छोटा तारा,
दिन में सोता छोटा तारा |

जब सूरज मामा जाते हैं,
सारे तारे जग जाते हैं,

टिम-टिम करता छोटा तारा ,
सबका है यह राज दुलारा |

अनाया व अनाहिरा, २बी

My Best Friend

My best friend's name is Millie. She is very funny sometimes because she wants to make people laugh when they are sad.

Her favourite thing is to joke around. She skips and hops and jumps with a smile on her face, but the bad news is she recently moved to Hyderabad. I miss her a lot.

Ayodhika Trivedi, 1A

Trek to Mahakalidurga

On Friday, 7th July 2017, Grade 4 went on a trek to Mahakalidurga. The purpose of our trek was to understand how our body systems are interdependent on each other and the importance of making healthy choices which affect our health and survival.

We left school at 6:00 am and reached the foothill at 8:30 am. Our guide, Ms. Kavita Reddy, and her experienced team gave us a few instructions that we had to follow. In the beginning, the climb was easy, but slowly the terrain got difficult. We used rocks as support for climbing and took help of ropes for better grip. We helped our friends whenever they needed and used various strategies to overcome challenges.

When we reached uphill, we rested and had lunch.

We reflected on our breathing patterns and changes in pulse rate. We started our trek down soon after that. Ms Kavita told us that going down could be tricky, so we should put our heel down before our toes. We also tried walking sideways. Finally we reached downhill at 3:30 p.m.

It was a great learning experience for us and I realized that the only fear one should fear is fear itself.

Jayadhriti Varchus Urs, 4B



Save the Day

As I watch my island drown,
Being flooded by the sea,
I sit there, a wave of panic rushing over me,
'Save me! Save me!' I try to scream,
But I was alone in this terrible dream.
When I saw my dreams and goals being swept away,

I realized it was my turn to save the day.
So I got up and picked up the sinking island,
I lifted it on my shoulder and safely packed up my dreams.

I sailed west and set everything up from scratch.
This was MY 'happily ever after', you see.
I was the hero who rescued me.

Samara Prabhakar, 5B

A Splash of Red

The sound of a gunshot,
The crack of a bullet,
Hit someone who was forgotten,
The sound of a fallen amulet.

Trying to calm the people,
But only agitating them more,
They fall silent as a peepal,
Their clothes torn.

A drop of blood on the ground,
A splash of red,
That nobody ever found,
On top of which people tread.

Ritwik Kabir Shivnani, 6B

I got inspired by the story Bottle House and used art elements like lines and shapes to create grandma and her

Bottle Village.

I enjoyed doing this work because I used my creativity and drawing skill.

Ravnoor Kaur Bijral, 1B



A Trip to Manchinbele Dam

We went to Manchinbele dam on 21st June, Wednesday, 2017 as we are doing a unit on water and dams.

It was a 2 hour drive from school. After we reached there, we had our breakfast. A worker at the dam then came and greeted us and took us to see the dam. However, we faced some difficulties as we did not understand their language. The teachers had to be our translators.

We learnt that dams store water. The dams have 2 taps and distribute water all around. We also learnt that when the water reaches the danger level, the big gate is opened and water is let out. If they do not monitor this closely and water reaches the danger mark, the enormous pressure of the water can break the walls of the dam and this can lead to a disaster.

We now know that the villages around the dam receive water only for 2 hours a day, whereas in cities, we get 24 hours water supply. Hence, it helped us to learn the value of water. Now we shall use it more carefully and not waste water.

Our experience was great as we had never seen a dam before and had no idea about its purpose and function. We also learnt that water is very precious where there is no perennial river or heavy rainfall.

Ranveer Singh Parihar, 3B



Wordsmiths

Friendship

Friends are there to heal the wounds,
To pull you out of saddened tunes,
To brighten up your cloudy skies,
To clear up fictitious lies,
Friends are there with open arms
To comfort you and block the harms,
To keep your secrets hidden away,
To entertain you when you want to play,
Friends are there through smiles and tears,
Friends are there in happiness and fear,
Friends can be fun and can be clever
And the ties that bind friends will last forever.

Anshika Bansal, 5A

Ninja Rush

As the ninja assassins ran behind Jake, thoughts whirled in his head. He had run down the Nature's walk all his life but it would never seem familiar to him. As he continued to run, he suddenly found a house. An abandoned house. As he stepped closer he noticed the faded grey walls, broken windows, and collapsing roofs. He realized that this house was the exact definition of a haunted house. He didn't want to enter at all, but then again it was the house or the ninja assassins. He stepped in, looked around and found that the house was semi-furnished and the sofas were torn. Just as he was taking this all in, he turned around just in time to see one of the ninjas throwing a knife at the sofa. Jake ducked and darted towards the master bedroom, but unfortunately the ninjas cornered him. A bunch of ninjas threw their knives at Jake but fortunately his reflexes were strong and he was able to dodge all the weapons. The ninjas soon ran out of knives and started using their swords. Jake grabbed the first thing he saw which just so happened to be a steel rod. He started knocking the ninjas down one by one. But the last one had a unique amulet around his neck which meant that he was the leader of the clan. The ninja stabbed Jake in his stomach with his sword and the screen lit up. The pixels of the ninja fell down and the speaker spoke, "Test mission failed." Jake looked at his stomach to see that it wasn't hurt at all. A polite female spoke in the microphone. "Jake has failed the final test to become a combat soldier. All pixels in Jake's situation return to 'The Making' for the next finalist, Emily".

Adweit Gharat, 8

The Task of Writing

Writing seems easy. Just grab a pen or a laptop and get started. However, it isn't as much. It takes time, planning and effort to produce well written pieces of literature. Before writing, choosing an audience is vital. Then, an author needs to choose a topic that is suitable for the audience chosen. Now comes the writing part that must begin with planning. This is a step which allows her to get all her ideas down and place them in a logical sequence. The writing emanates from a good plan which is then followed by careful proof-reading and editing. There are times when drafts after drafts are made before the final piece is satisfactory. A writing piece is an author's baby and you see, it diligently follows the three old principles of good work. Hard work, hard work and then again, hard work.

Bandana Bajaj, FB

Be You

Trust me, I know.

It's easier said than done.

We live in a world that seeks perfection. To be perfect we need to fit in a mould. Truth is, we're never going to be perfect. Not for anyone. We're always going to be too fat, too skinny, too tall, too short. We are expected to believe in a self that isn't real. I know you've already seen this in a cliched quote on the net. So have I. Why is it so hard for us to accept it? We say we love ourselves just the way we are. If that is so, why do we look in the mirror and wish we saw someone else? Nobody is the same as anyone else. No two people came from the same mould. Never will. That's why I say, be you. Be unapologetically, fearlessly, crazily you. We're all going to leave this world with some regrets, but do you want yours to be that the person who lived your life wasn't even you?

Aarushi Mutreja, FB

Teachers' Corner

Can Success in Drama Translate into Success Elsewhere?

Based on my personal experience as a facilitator of drama and other forms of performing arts in the last 15 years, I strongly feel that art, in any form, represents not only the outward but the inward significance of things. The Neev community consistently nurtures the ability of arts to nourish creativity, curiosity and communication skills in those who make art and in those who experience art. Hence, I strongly believe that "success in arts translates into success elsewhere in life."

In my ongoing conversations and discussions with Mr. Randy Moss (IBDP drama teacher and examiner with 40 plus years in drama facilitation and also currently the consultant for drama and performing arts at Neev), the above point was further reinforced.

Performing arts or visual arts can be the key to unlocking the pathway to understanding myriad subjects. It can magnify understanding of subject matter and presentation of learning by building skills that are quintessential in interpreting and adjusting to the constantly changing life.

We do not know what the future is going to look like. The jobs that students find lucrative now may change dramatically as time passes. In all my reading, teaching experiences and frequent exchanges with past students, I have discovered that there are certain specific skills that will always be in demand regardless of one's career choices. They are: creativity, collaboration, communication, empathy and cultural understanding and leadership skills. And finally, success and happiness in life comes from passion for the work one is doing.

According to the tenets of the Middle Years Program, the aim of the art program is to create and present art (independently & collaboratively), develop skills specific to the discipline, engage in a process of creative exploration and (self-) discovery, make purposeful connections between investigation and practice, understand the relationship between art and its contexts and reflect on how art deepens their understanding of the world.

Soon parents, teachers and students at Neev will begin discussing subject choices in art at the MYP and subsequently at the IBDP. The decision, therefore, must be a product of right information and careful meditation. Art has deeper implications than merely adding to the aesthetic aspects of life. It has a major role to play in creating human beings who are not afraid of the unknown.

Vineet Singh—HOD— Performing Arts

Parents' Corner



Mr. Sheny with Kriti, Aarushi, Anushree & Mehr

Raghu Sheny, Co-founder & CTO— Think7

What is the exact nature of your work?

I am working with hardware and software companies **Bit by Bit** and **Think 7**. We design hardware that connects to machines in automotive spaces and the software controls the hardware. In short, the nature of

work is IOT, which refers to the Internet of Things. What we do precisely is IIOT- the Industrial Internet of Things.

What inspired you to start this company?

In the late 80s and early 90s, there were barely any job opportunities for disabled people in India. Hence, my only option was to start something new or go abroad. I decided to take the riskier path by starting my own company called Bit by Bit. I started my first company more out of necessity than choice. However, Think 7 was started out of my passion and love for working with machinery. According to me, "If what you work is what you love, it is not work anymore, it is play."

What is the most exciting part of your work and what is the most challenging aspect?

The most interesting part of my work is that I get to play with toys. This is because I use hardware to build robots. The challenge, however, is to get young kids interested as they look at it more as a job and less as a passion.

What, according to you, are the jobs in the future going to look like?

While IT jobs will still be around, its scope will gradually narrow down. There will be greater demand for IOT jobs, big data jobs and machine learning jobs. There will be huge job opportunities in the future but one needs to specialize rather than generalize.

What is your message for the students of Neev?

Have fun. Don't study for the sake of it or because it will land you a plum job. Do projects that are fun. Stay passionate about technology or rather any field of study that interests you.

Vishal Gupta, CEO— Teknospire

What is the exact nature of your work?

We run a technology company which tries to simplify rural people's banking needs. When we go shopping, we swipe cards or pay online, but this is not a possibility in the rural areas which is driven by cash. Our financial technology company, **Teknospire**, helps people in rural areas to do cashless transactions.

How do you organize your time?

That is a tough one. People who choose to become entrepreneurs give more time to their work. As an individual I try to wake up early and follow a morning fitness routine. I play, run, do yoga and also visit the gym sometimes. I start at 9:30 for my workplace and work till 6:00 in the evening.

What inspired you to undertake this venture?

Being an entrepreneur was a passion for me. I identified a problem that needed to be addressed. In India alone, there are roughly 300 to 400 million people who don't have access to bank accounts. That amounts to billions of people worldwide with a similar handicap. My passion is to try and contribute to that cause in my own little way.

What is the most challenging aspect of your job?

We are building a technology, but it is a challenge to get people to understand, appreciate and subscribe to it in its totality.

How do you reach out to your customer base?

In order for rural people to use this technology, they need to be educated. Literacy is a gradual and time consuming process. Hence, instead of educating a massive population, which is an ideological impossibility at the moment, we train people representatives to work on behalf of a group. It is called the Assistant Mode of Transactions.

What is your advice to Neev students?

Be passionate about what you do. Go after real issues that are troubling human beings. Big issues or small issues do not matter. They have got to be real.



Mr. Gupta with Zahrah, Krisha, Disha & Noor

CAS Corner

CAS or SAA (Service as Action), a student led programme, is an opportunity to grow within oneself while affecting the community in a positive manner. Through SAA, a core component of the Middle Years Program, students develop a better understanding of the society, getting in touch with the real world and building their identity as individuals in the fast progressing modern world. It gives them scope for experiential learning within the school community, making them aware of their surroundings and what they can do to influence it. The grade 7 students are contributing by teaching the school help (Ammas) English, a language that they need to know in order to communicate efficiently with students, teachers and the world at large. Grade 6 students are running a language literacy program too. They are teaching languages like Tamil, Spanish, French and Kannada to students as well as teachers. Grade 8 and FB students are working hard on their community projects on issues of social concern. In all, we have a multi-focussed SAA programme that can cater to social development not from one but many focal points.

Experiential Learning



#Trending

SONGS

What do I know by Ed Sheeran (Grade 4 to 6)

This song spreads the message about how life isn't just about 'fitting in your jeans' but being a lovable and honest person in heart and saving the world with music, love and positivity. Although this song never made it to the top charts, its lyrics are overwhelming and heart touching.



Coke Studio Pakistan Season 10 (Grade 7 to 10)

It is a treat for music lovers. New and varied instruments, along with background vocalists are lending special character to old classics that have long belonged in the recesses of every heart that sings. Ace singers like Rahat Fateh Ali Khan and brilliant new-age voices like Ali Sethi and Humaira Channa are taking us into new lanes of musical reinvention.



BOOKS (more book at www.neevbooks.org)

Watcha Gonna Do, Rosie Singh? by Rasil Ahuja (Grade 1-3)

This book is written by our very own Miss Rasil! "Watcha Gonna Do Rosie Singh" is a tremendously amusing book for young ones written from the author's personal experiences as a child in school. The book covers everyday struggles that all children between the age group of 6 to 8 would be able to relate to and possibly even learn how to combat those problems. For example, what to do when your bloomers are exposed for the whole world to see?



This Is How We Do It: One Day in the Lives of Seven Kids from Around the World by Matt Lamothe (Grade 1 to 3)

"This Is How We Do It" is the perfect book to convey to children how no matter which part of the world we are from, we are all human. The book shows the daily routines of seven different children who come from different backgrounds and have a variety of beliefs and traditions that makes their own culture. After reading Matt Lamothe's book, you begin to understand that everyone is "more alike than different." Children can also learn more about the culture of Russia, India and other countries.

Posted by John David Anderson (Grade 4 to 6)

This contemporary story about bullying, broken friendships, and the failures of communication teaches students the importance of choosing words as they can break people but put them back together as well. It helps people understand that they can't control other people but can control the way they handle and react to situations. It also raises the point that it is to listen to others but to not keep suppressing your voice just to make sure that others are heard.



Hello Universe by Erin Entrada Kelly (Grade 4 to 6)

This charming tale spreads a strong message about friendship, teamwork, self acceptance and courage. It teaches us that we as humans should not be afraid to ask for help when needed and encourages young tweens to find their inner hero.

Saints and Misfits (Grade 7 to 10)

In "Saints and Misfits", 15 year old Janna is a Muslim girl who seems to face normal teenage problems in her school. She is trying to sail through crises such as her parent's divorce and mean girls amongst others. Regardless of these difficult situations, Janna wishes to wear a hijab to show her devotion for her religion. This girl's decision causes a cascade of difficulties which makes Janna question her faith in modern America.



Once and For All by Sarah Dessen (Grade 7 to 10)

This book is about a grieving girl who learns to love again. It teaches young individuals about the importance of never losing sight of your dreams even if you feel like them may never come true. It emphasises on the importance of perseverance and seizing every opportunity laid in front of you.

Sports Corner



Remodelling of the Playground

Our new playground is truly one of its kind! We now have four make-shift 'hills' created with soil and carpet grass that look luscious and green against the glistening sunshine. Students can play catch, roll down the hills, and also race to the top. This is one of the best places in the campus and also one of the most visited one. People marvel at the height of the hills, knowing that one day their children will literally scale great heights.

Onkar Kulkarni, 8

PHE in Full Throttle

We have started dedicating a period for PHE everyday in recognition of the need for sports in the all round development of a child. With the introduction of new sports like tennis, the excitement among students has escalated. The stay-backs for sports will only further this drive.

Kunal Singh, HOD, PHE

Editorial Team

(In alphabetical order)

- Aarushi Mutreja - Grade 9
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- Ananya Arun - Grade 6
- Ananya Sahay - Grade 6
- Anushree Arora - Grade 9
- Disha Ajit - Grade 7
- Kaashvi Reddy - Grade 6
- Kriti Sarawgi - Grade 8
- Meher Krisha Borgonha - Grade 7
- Mehr Sohal - Grade 8
- Nidhi Shah -Teacher
- Noor Sabharwal - Grade 7
- Onkar Kulkarni- Grade 8
- Shubha Jain- Teacher
- Suhaani Haque - Grade 6
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