

# NEWS LETTER-JUNE

**Welcome Back!** “And suddenly we realize it’s the start of a new academic year and trust the magic of new beginnings.” Cheers to new mindsets, intentions, focus and loads of excitement that is in store this academic session. To quote C.S. Lewis : “ There are far better things ahead than any that we leave behind.” On this positive note we look forward to leaving an indelible mark in all our endeavors through the year.

The 1<sup>st</sup> of June began with the re-opening day address by our Principal, Ms. Jyotsna Nair. She applauded the stupendous achievements of our Grade 12 & grade 10 students. They are an inspiration to the subsequent batches and have raised the bar really high. She briefed the audience about the forthcoming events while emphasizing the need for punctuality, discipline and cleanliness in daily routines - an essence of a student’s life. She reminded us of an age old quote “Success is a journey, not a destination. The doing is more important than the outcome.” She threw light on the ill effects brought about by excessive use of smart phones and addiction to social media. The address concluded with a thought provoking video about saving our natural resources by avoiding wastage of food.

## Results Of AISSCE and AISSE 2017

Our students of Grade 10 and 12 have done us proud by achieving spectacular results with single minded devotion and perseverance.

### Grade 12 (AISSCE 2017)

#### School Toppers

- **First position-** shared by **Sanjan Das** and **Viswajeet Balaji** with **97.2%**
- **Second position-** **Deeksha Shravani** with **97 %**
- **Third position – Prateek Mahajan** with **96.6%**

#### Subject Toppers

- Mathematics – **Sanjan Das** with 99 marks
- Economics – **Priyanshi Rastogi** with 100 marks
- English- **Deeksha Shravani** with 98 marks
- Physics- **Melvin Cherian Mathews** with 99 marks
- Chemistry-**Akshay Subramanian** with 100 marks
- Biology-**Aditi Somashekar Naidu, Meera Manoj Krishna, Surbhi Agarwal** with 98 marks
- Computer Science- **Deeksha Shravani, Parth Vipul Shah, Richa Nahata, Sanjan Das and Viswajeet Balaji** with 99 marks

### Grade 10- AISSE 2016-17

Of the 87 Grade 10 students who wrote their board exams this year, 38 have secured a perfect 10 CGPA and 36 have got a CGPA between 9-9.8. **Overall 74/87 students have scored a CGPA 9 and above.**

## Achievements:

1. **NEET 2017:** On May 7th, NEET, the nationwide entrance exam, for all students pursuing a career in the medical sciences was conducted by CBSE. NEET having a success rate of only 0.06%, is one of the largest and most competitive exams conducted in the nation. Since 2016, NEET serves as the only entrance exam for all medical colleges in our country except for AIIMS and JIPMER. This year a total of 11.3 lakh students gave this exam and we are proud to declare that 3 of our students secured a state rank within the top 100- **Ajay Anand with State Rank 42, Melvin Cherian Mathews with State Rank 45 and Surabhi Agrawal with State Rank 91.** Also, almost all students from NPS- Krm who took the exam have qualified. Our students have made us proud by working hard and we are sure that they will secure seats in esteemed medical colleges.
2. **NATA:** On 16<sup>th</sup> April 2017, the National Aptitude Test in Architecture (NATA) was conducted by the Council of Architecture for all students interested in pursuing a career in architecture. This year, a grand total of 37246 students appeared for the exam of which 24540 of them qualified. **5 of our students have once again done us proud by securing State Ranks within the top 25- Akshita Kabra with state rank 3, Arundhati Prasad with state rank 12, Shreya Shridhar with state rank 15, Asmitha Prabhu with state rank 23 and Garvita Gulhati with state rank 24.** We're sure they will secure seats in renowned architectural universities.
3. **Technovation Challenge:** A technology and entrepreneurship program for girls witnessed over 20000 girls from all over India participating in a 3 month program where they needed to identify a problem in the community and create a mobile app solution to address the issue. **Krithika Sunil, Rida Shafeeq and Jigisha Kamal from Grade 12,** have emerged as finalists in the event. They have been invited to the **Tecnovation World Pitch Summit scheduled at San Francisco Bay Area, California from August 7, 2017.** They will pitch their app "Wishcraft" that enables users to fulfill 'wishes' – the needs of underprivileged children affiliated with NGOs- to a panel of Judges, participate in workshops and network with professionals at the Award Ceremony. **Girl Power Woohoo!**
4. **Racing: Ruhaan Alva of Grade 6C** came 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> positions respectively in the fourth and fifth rounds of the **Easykart Championship conducted in Lonato in Italy** in the month of June. At the end of arduous 5 round selection process aimed at preparing him for the World Championship 2018, Ruhaan has been placed 4th in the Championship. Kudos! Here's wishing our young racing enthusiast the very best for the World Championship. Ruhaan has also bagged a long term contract as a factory driver with Birel Art in the racing arena.

5. **Samay Godika, of 10 'B'**, has been accepted into **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**, Launch Program. MIT Launch is an on-campus 4-week entrepreneurship program for students from Grades 9 to 12. It aims at building entrepreneurial skills and mindset through learning by doing, thereby preparing them for real world success. Samay went through a gruelling selection process, and is one among the 140 participants chosen from world over. He is one of the 13 participants in the 14 year old category. Truly commendable ! We wish him the very best!
6. **Anika Khandekar of 9C**, a trained Karate athlete, bagged the 2nd Position in the State Level Karate Tournament in January 2017 and participated in the National Level Karate Championship in May 2017. She was selected by the Karate Federation of India to represent India at the **World Youth Karate Camp and Cup from 26<sup>th</sup> June to 2<sup>nd</sup> July at Umag, Croatia**. She underwent training by renowned World champions and additionally participated in the tournament.

### **Highlights of June 2017**

1. **World Environment Day** - In line with this year's environment theme, on **5<sup>th</sup> June**, Muhammad Aamir Anees of Grade 12 B and Pooja Rajesh of Grade 11 persuaded the audience to "Connect with Nature" through their powerful speeches and spelt out the initiatives scheduled for the year ahead. With every passing year, the members of the Student Council organize innovative activities and inter house events to create awareness and celebrate love for nature. On 30<sup>th</sup> June, a sand bag making competition for grades 4 and 5 and an "Ecotoons" event was held for grades 9-12.
2. **Elections to School Student Council** - Elections for the office bearers – School Prefect and House Captains- were held in school on **2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June 2017** respectively. These elections provided an opportunity to the students of grade 10, 11 and 12 to witness and exercise their fundamental **Right to Vote**. On the ordained day- 2<sup>nd</sup> June- the nominees for the post of School Prefect, **Rahul Bhattacharya and Md. Aamir Anees** of Grade 12 read out their manifestoes trying to woo the Electoral College in an impassioned quest for votes. Elections were conducted in a free and fair manner through a computerized polling process developed by our very own student **Chinmay Mahesh of 12A**.

On 9th June, the nominees for the post of House Captains appealed to their respective housemates to vote them to office, in keeping with the motto of the respective Houses.. While **Rahul Bhattacharya of 12A** was elected the School Prefect for 2017-18, **A Krishnaaditya (12B) ,TaarushWadhwa (12A), Malvika Srinivasan (12A) and Nikita Nachnani (12A)** were elected House Captains of the four Houses of the school viz Challengers, Explorers, Pioneers and Voyagers respectively. A resounding round of applause and wishes to the elected representatives marked the end of Elections for the academic year 2017-18.

3. **Splash Of Colours** - On 30<sup>th</sup> June, Montessori culminated “Color Week” by celebrating ‘A Splash of Colours’ with the tiny tots dressed up in eye-catching costumes. The little ones enthusiastically participated in a range of activities, including art, songs, and an interactive session. They created a colour wheel and a hand painting with their hand prints that was finally transformed into a colourful rainbow. Students attentively listened to a story about the rainbow and the event ended with a display of pictures of different colourful objects.



4. **International Yoga Day - In Tune with the Mind and Body:** International Yoga Day was celebrated on **21<sup>st</sup> June** in all its fervor through a highly effectual presentation. The origin of yoga was portrayed through a beautiful and sophisticated visual enactment by the students of Grades 5 & 8. The multifaceted nature of yoga was narrated through a video which brought home the fact that attempting to compartmentalize such an ancient, spiritual practice could be detrimental to an individual or any section of society. The presentation culminated with the audience partaking in a brief transcendental meditation exercise in harmony with the soulful shloka chant. Needless to say the students walked away with an irreplaceable part of the rich tapestry from the culture of India. Also, volunteers from the Isha Yoga Foundation conducted a 90 minute yoga session for teachers on 24th June, as a part of the International Yoga Day Celebrations.



5. **Investiture 2017-18: “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, then you are a leader.” – John Quincy Adams. On 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 63 students**, were bestowed with the responsibility of leading their school from the front with their commitment, confidence and competence. It was the Investiture Ceremony which marked the beginning of yet another significant year ahead. The program included mellifluous renditions by students of grades 6 to 9 and a semi classical performance. **Director, NPS Group of Institutions, Dr. Bindu Hari**, passed on the mantle of leadership to the newly elected Student Council. In her address, she encouraged the students to be committed to important issues and to always remember that leadership is embedded with integrity. While **Ms. Geeta Kathait, Faculty Member, Dept. of English**, expressed her stimulating views on what makes each one of us an ‘Every day Leader’ with remarkable clarity, **Rahul Bhattacharya of Grade 12**, in his maiden address as School Prefect, lauded the school for providing numerous opportunities for students to excel across all streams and promised that he would “Reach Out, Reach High and Reach Beyond” to help the school soar greater heights.



## Class Assemblies

1. **Grade 12 A:** On 14<sup>th</sup> June, the first class assembly was held on the topic **Media Bias**. Through their skit, the students of 12 A beautifully depicted the power and influence of the media on a commoner and how we easily fall prey to the claims made by the fourth estate. The assembly included a quiz, thought, news and ended on a melodious note with the powerful rendition of the song “Pompeii” by Bastille.



2. **Grade 10A : “Overcoming Insecurities”** was the theme of this well presented assembly. On 28<sup>th</sup> June, class 10A wove a touch of magic and transposed the audience to the Land of Oz, haunted by an Evil Witch, who represented insecurities. They drove home the message that insecurities stem only from fragments of our imagination, and they can be vanquished by raising our self-esteem. The students skillfully crafted a quiz, poem, speech, and song conforming to the theme and through a spectacular performance left the audience spell-bound.



3. **Grade 12 B:** On 21<sup>st</sup> June, the students of class 12 B in their assembly unveiled the “**Seven Deadly Sins**” through original adaptations of well known fairy tales. The assembly commenced with an entertaining quiz that left the audience reminiscing about their childhood. Various art forms like plays, mimes, spoken word poetry, music, and dance soon followed to skillfully portray the seven deadly sins. The students highlighted the importance of abiding by the right code of conduct and steering away from wrongdoing.

### **Orientations**

**Montessori Orientation:** The **Montessori Fresher Orientation** on 3<sup>rd</sup> June was a briefing to the parents on how to help their wards have a smooth transition from home to an independent Montessori environment. At the end of the session, parents were ushered to the classrooms where they were led through various Montessori materials that children would work with through the course of the year.

The Montessori **Junior Orientation** conducted on 24<sup>th</sup> June was with a difference as it offered a ‘Silent Journey’ to the parents. During the journey, parents were asked to step into the shoes of their wards and work hands on in the Montessori environments. The parents enjoyed the experience and many were quoted saying that it was ‘an eye-opener’ for them as ‘seemingly easy tasks appeared challenging’ even for adults.

**KG 1 & 2 Orientation:** The **Parent Orientation for KG1 & KG2** were held on 6<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> June in the school auditorium. The Orientations included a video of a typical year in Kindergarten and an informative insight into the curriculum and areas of learning. The Principal’s address included valuable tips on good parenting and information about safety rules and regulations. The parents were given time to interact with the teachers after the programme.

**Primary School - Grades 1 & 5:** The orientation for Grade 5 held on 30<sup>th</sup> June dealt with curriculum overview, assessment pattern, scholastic, co-scholastic and co-curricular activities for the year. It included valuable tips on parenting, expectations from students and safety measures followed in school. The session concluded with an open discussion with parents led by Principal, Ms. Jyotsna Nair.

### **Secondary School - Grades 6, 9, 10 & 11**

Parents of the students of 6, 9, 10 & 11 attended orientations held on different days in the month of June. The main focus of these orientations was to inform parents that **CCE has been replaced by the Board Examination in Grade 10**, with a few minor changes and **how grade 11 implies a quantum leap in the depth and volume of curriculum**. Emphasis was laid on the need for students to strike a balance between academic and co-curricular activities in order to develop into independent, confident and well rounded individuals. Role of parenting was dealt with at length and various pointers were shared to build a better connect between students, teachers and parents thereby laying the platform for a smooth road ahead.

## **Trips and Visits**

1. **Trip to NASA:** It was summer vacation well begun for 30 students of grades 8 and 9 who visited the Kennedy Space Centre, NASA at Florida, USA on the 10 day educational trip. They saw Atlantis, the space ship that has visited space 33 times, had a look at the moon buggy, hovered inside the cockpit of the space craft, and experienced not just the simulation of a spacecraft takeoff and but also the slide of the astronauts from the space craft to the ground. In all, it was 10 well spent days with a lot of information knowledge, fun and frolic and a baggage of unforgettable experiences and memories. As for the hard core Physics buffs an exciting trip to KSC may become an annual feature.
2. **TISB** - To help students take a break from the rigmarole of their ever so familiar routines and the cacophony of the city limits, trips are organized to the pristine surroundings of TISB. Camaraderie among peers, exploration of the vast spaces and indulgence in mouth slurping dishes at the school cafeteria is what makes TISB a popular jaunt among students. All students from Grades 1 to 10 (except Grades 6 & 7 who will be going there in the 1<sup>st</sup> week of August), set foot on the ever so familiar spot on various days in June to enjoy their share of amusement. Grade s11 & 12 will be going to TISB in July.
3. **Visit to NIMHANS Brain Museum :** Students of Class 12 who have chosen Biology as their elective subject, went on a trip to the NIMHANS Brain Museum on June 16<sup>th</sup>. They were briefed about the structure and functions of the brain. The experience contextualized the classroom teaching experience and allowed them to connect it with familiar theory of the brain, using real specimens of organs to touch and feel. Brain ailments and injuries were also described and shown to the students. The students had the opportunity to see an electron microscope and were guided with the procedure to prepare specimens for these microscopes.

## **Career Counselling/ Guest Lectures:**

1. A session on choosing the right educational path was conducted for Grade 10 by 'One Step Up' on 5th June. The session touched upon the need to pursue subjects one is passionate about to ease the choice of a career later on. To enable students their competence in a chosen field an aptitude test was held for interested students.
2. On 29th June, the students of Grade 1, witnessed an interactive session with Ms. Jaya Narula, an Architect and Faculty member of the Oxford Engineering College. The session included a power point presentation on different types of houses, as well as a model of a project in progress.

**Community Outreach Program:** “Let’s make the world a better place ” , Students of Grade 10C were the first to reach out as they visited “Samarthanam” on 28<sup>th</sup> June to spread smiles and sunshine amongst the kids.

That in a nutshell has been the month that zoomed past. Here’s to another eventful year filled with loads of enthusiasm. To quote Ralph Waldo Emerson :” Nothing great can ever be achieved without enthusiasm.”

**Adios Amigos from the News desk.....**