

Note from the Principal's Desk



Dear Parents,



Greetings from NSS Hill Spring International School!

Wishing all our families a bright & eventful 2017!

We have opened school with a delegation of 23 students and 3 teachers visiting us on an exchange programme from France. The students are guests at our HSI host families. May this, our first International Exchange Programme, forge ties with HSI & Saint Joseph, Saint Augustine & Saint Thegenoc Schools in France. We have many more surprises in store for you. Till the next issue....

Warm regards,

Nalini Pinto
Principal

Awards & Accolades

Kush Bhagat of Gr 2 Alpha brings us great pride on being titled the World Blitz Champion (U-7) Category. Congratulations Kush! Here are some reports from different publications.



KUSH BHAGAT WINS GOLD IN WORLD SCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIP

Mumbai's Kush Bhagat, a seven-year-old chess prodigy, has won the Gold medal in the boys' under-7 category of the International Blitz Chess competition during the World School Chess championship 2016, which concluded in Sochi, Russia earlier this month.

Kush, a Second Standard student of Hillspring International School, Tardeo, showed great character and the confidence to come out trumps in the competition where around 190 kids from around the globe were in the fray. He was the only Indian in the Under-7 category in the entire tournament. In the main event, he scored 6.0/9 to finish sixth.

Kush, started playing chess at the age of three and has shown a keen interest in the sport. Three years later he started winning a lot of city level championships, his most commendable performance being the time he won the prestigious Under-7 Maharashtra state chess championship at Thane.

Like every young boy, Kush too is very playful and full of energy, but when he is seated in front of the 64-square board, he is completely a transformed lad, who is totally focused on the task ahead. That is one of his biggest assets, which helps him often to calculate his moves and plot the downfall of his opponents.

Kush Bhagat wins Gold in World Schools Championship in Russia

Sochi

Every kid in town at the moment is anxiously expecting to receive a special gift from Santa Claus this 'Christmas'. However, Kush Bhagat, a seven-year-old chess prodigy from Mumbai, has already and in advance earned himself a 'Precious' Christmas present by clinching the Gold medal in the boys' under-7 category of the International Blitz Chess competition during the World School Chess championship 2016, which concluded in Sochi, Russia earlier this month.



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4-6 Dec 2016

Pratyush Seksaria from Gr 5 won 2 bronze medals in Kata and Kumite in the U-11 years category in National Karate Tournament of the All India Karate-Do Federation held in Jaipur.



19 Nov 2016

The All India Gojukai Interschool Karate Championship was held at the New District Sports and Individual Medals in the Kumite Kata Competition were awarded to:

Jay Gandhi-

***3rd place-Individual Kumite competition**

***3rd place-Individual Kata competition**

Shiveka Jain-

***2nd place- Individual Kata competition**

***3rd place-Individual Kumite competition**

Aashi Bagaria-

***1st place-Individual Kumite competition**

***3rd place-Individual Kata competition**

Anika Shah-

***2nd place- Individual Kata competition**

***2nd place- Individual Kumite competition**

Pratyush Seksaria- (under 13)

***2nd place- Individual Kata competition**

***2nd place- Individual Kumite competition**



Anupriya Seksaria from Gr 10 secured the 1st place in Kumite and Kata girls, U-17 years senior black belt category, at the Inter-school Karate tournament held at Dharavi sports complex.

25 Nov 2016

The Football team and the Basketball team participated in the JNS LIGA tournament 2016 held at the Jamnabai Narsee School grounds and got a good experience by playing against different schools. We hope that this enables them to secure a place in the LIGA in the future.

26 Nov 2016

3 students from Gr 11 – Aastha Bhansali, Anantika Bagla and Simran Dhawan participated in the Canon Photo Marathon 2016 (student category) – India's largest live Photography contest held at the Rangsharda Auditorium, Bandra (West), Mumbai, in the search for a young talented photographer . The participants had to shoot and create photographic masterpieces according to the assigned themes - under time pressure, roving around the lively city of Mumbai as their visual playground and were asked to emote fun through a single photograph.



19 Nov 2016

Samaira Mehta and Jiya Dedhia from Snr KgA won the first and third place respectively at the All India Gojukai Karate Competition held at the New District Sports Complex, Dharavi.



17 Dec 2016

Kimaya Mehta from Gr 2 secured 2nd runners-up position in the 10th Annual Inter-School Competition of 'The Pearl Padamsee Trophy' for excellence in Speech & Drama hosted by The Create Foundation. Her topic was 'Give Peace a Chance'.

9 & 10 Dec 2016

At the recently concluded Boeing/ IIT National Aeromodelling Competition, the team 'Awesome Twosome' comprising of Taran Manaktala (Gr 8 A) and Tanay Manaktala (Gr 12) secured the 3rd Place at the Western Zone Regionals. This year's competition had the maximum number of teams ever recorded (188 teams) and team NSS was only one of the two teams from a school at the event and to take the pole position.



Applaud-Worthy Assemblies & Homeroom Happenings



14 Nov 2016

The Pre-primary and Primary celebrated Children's Day with a special performance of songs & dances for the students dedicated by the teachers.



14 Nov 2016

The IGCSE and IBDP faculty hosted a special Childrens' Day Assembly for the students.

The show began with a humorous dialogue between Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Alia Bhatt played by two coordinators that set the tempo and theme of Bollywood for the afternoon. This was followed by a group of teachers who danced to 'Pen-Pineapple-Apple-Pen' and a dedication by the musical band of teachers who sang 'I hope you dance' & 'Rockabilly Rebel'. The 'Bollywood Parody' was received with much laughter as 'Moments from a day at NSS HSI' was showcased through short skits enacted with great enthusiasm by the teachers. A game challenge 'Latte with Ms. Athaide' modelled on 'Koffee with Karan' saw students take up the challenge and do as directed by the host with great confidence. The show ended with a Fashion Show where the IBDP teachers cat-walked to a medley posing as popular Bollywood stars with a surprise show stopper entry by the Principal Ms. Nalini Pinto.



9 Nov 2016

A special assembly was held for the IB students to initiate the latest business mantras and innovation. Businesses today are facing a paradigm shift with increasing online presence of the market place and changing consumer needs and demands. Ms. Nisa Godrej, head Godrej Consumer Products Limited and Ms. Minal Vazirani, founder of Saffronart - a site for online auctions for art, antiquities, jewellery, etc. with a physical presence were invited for the session.

They were quizzed by a panel of students from the IBDP on various aspects of innovation that included innovation as a concept, innovation in India and innovation in their respective companies. The audience which consisted of students and teachers from grades 9-12 also interacted with them. The discussion threw light on world of business and innovation, markets and profits and competition and efficiency.





With an aim to create health awareness & optimize wellness at workplace, the school organised a 'Zumba Fitness' session for the Administrative team by licensed Zumba Instructor ZIN Sakshi Ghatge. The group was energized by the low impact yet intense calorie burn out session.

The spirits were high as the team members later enjoyed the exchange of Xmas gifts through a well-planned 'Secret Santa' activity by trying to guess their Secret Santa that led to much laughter, amusement and joy on receiving their gifts.

A light treat of refreshment was later relished by all and the team thanked the HR Manager for coordinating the fun day.



The PYP Annual Sports Meet exhibited the spirit of sportsmanship and fairness during their races, an attitude of respect and dignity for the National Anthem, the School Song and the March Past, responsibility throughout the duration of the Sports Day with a commitment to being Principled and Disciplined. The parents also participated in the flat races organised for them with enthusiasm with much cheering from the children and teachers.



20 Dec 2016

The Inter-House Football and Basketball matches were held for students from Grades 9 to 12. Excitement, enthusiasm, motivation and House spirit was seen amongst the students and the staff during the matches.



The school organized a team building activity for the members of the Administrative team to foster better work relations in the organisation coordinated by the HR Manager.

The activity aimed to bring together the members by encouraging collaborative team work. Through a series of well-planned activities & games that included brain teasers, riddles and observation techniques, different skills such as aptitude, communication, goal setting, planning, problem solving, information processing were tested.

The team members got a better understanding of each other as they faced challenges and solved them creatively. A mood-elevating & energizing dance concluded the morning, thus ensuring stronger bonds amongst them.



The students of Gr 4 staged the Nativity Play entitled 'Christmas Everyday' bringing to life the true spirit of Christmas with messages of reaching out to the less fortunate, the joy of giving and the true meaning of Christmas.

Workshops & Guest Speaker Talks



5 Dec 16

Ms. Sana, the IGCSE chemistry teacher, conducted experiments to show the students of Gr 5 the difference between a physical and a chemical reaction that included concepts of sublimation and filtration and its application in our daily lives .



9 Dec 2016

Mr. Nilesh Chodhari spoke to the students of Gr 5 about Newton's three laws of motion and their applications in rocket science. Students volunteered happily for the demonstrations conducted to prove these laws

13 Dec 2016

Mr. Tapan Mehta spoke to the students of Gr 5 on Cyber Crime and discussed methods on internet safety. He specified the 'do's and don'ts' of cyber crime. For example:

Do's

Ensure that:

- your Wi-fi password consists of minimum 10 characters
- you set the Router's encryption code to WPA 2

Don'ts

Avoid:

- operating computers in Cyber Cafés
- downloading 'FREE' songs and movies





2nd, 4th, 7th, 8th and 9th Nov 2016

Parents from different religious cultures and backgrounds namely the Bohri, Parsi, Punjabi, Tamil and Bengali community spoke to the students of Gr 3 on their unique beliefs, traditions and cultures that contribute to their identity in a society.



4 Nov 2016

For the Mother Tongue Session Ms. Bansal (m/o Advita) narrated the story "Indradhanush Par Baithi Titli" in Hindi. The Nursery students coloured butterflies using rainbow colours to conclude the activity.



5 Dec 2016

Parents from the Rajasthani and Punjabi community spoke on the appreciation and interactions of each other's traditions & cultures.

Mr. & Ms. Kumar (p/o Ishaan) spoke on their inter-community marriage and the experience of adapting to each other's beliefs and traditions.



16 Nov 2016

Ms. Aziza Gheewala, the biology teacher from the IBDP spoke to the students of Gr 4 on the anatomy of the human ear and how the different parts help in the process of hearing with the help of a 3D model. To enhance learning, she showed them a video on the same topic.



17 Nov 2016

In connection to the UOI on 'Signs and Symbols', Ms. Jumana Lokhandwala (m/o Sarah) spoke to the students of Gr 2 on various signs that are used while scuba diving and explained how these signs are universal.



21 Nov 2016

Ms. Shimoni Shah (m/o Ariana) spoke to the students of Gr 2 on the different signs and symbols used in music and their relevance in creating music.



11 Nov 2016

Students of Gr 6 interacted with Ms. Natasha Sharma (m/o Sidhant) who is the author of the series titled, 'History Mystery'. In the fun-filled session she shared with the students the importance of researching and resourcing history while writing a book. This helped students to make connections to the GP skills required to write their first Individual Research.



21 Oct - 16 Nov 2016

The students of Gr 8 completed 5 sessions of 'The History Project's Beyond the Classroom Course' conducted over a period of 5 weeks to enhance their understanding of history. Through various fun activities conducted by resource person, Ms Pooja Pradeep, the students understood concepts like the multiplicity of historical narratives, the impact of majority and minority perspectives, the difference between equality and equity in society. The concepts were imbibed using the example of the shared history between India and Pakistan and students examined events like the Revolt of 1857 and the Partition of Bengal in 1905 from the Indian as well as the Pakistani perspective. An enriching experience which enabled the students to become more empathetic and open-minded.



5 Nov 2016

Mr. Utpal Sheth (f/o Aryaa) an experienced market analyst and an investor has been providing stock investment guidance through regular sessions with the students and teacher advisors participating in the Knowledge@Wharton High School Competition. KWHS is an online stock trading competition which students from the IBDP and IGCSE participate in teams with teacher advisors, Mr. Prashant, IBDP Coordinator, Ms Padma IB Econ/BM teacher and Ms Khushbu, IG Math teacher have to create independent portfolios and justify their strategies through various tools. Students acquire valuable life lessons and strategies on investments, financial ratios, competitor analysis through these sessions.

28 Nov 2016

Mr. Bussa (f/o Arjun) and Mr. Rathod (f/o Rivaan) guest speakers for a 'Fun with Science' session for Jnr Kg Alpha introduced the topic 'Friction' to the students. The different experiments included rubbing an inflated balloon against the children's hair and its reaction on salt, creating an electromagnet by connecting a nail to a battery cell with the means of a copper wire and proving that when white light passed through a prism, it split into the seven colours of the rainbow. The students were amazed to see how electromagnet attracted safety pins and understood how science works in everyday life.



9 Nov 2016

Mr. Birawat (f/o Param) and Mr. Shah (f/o Aaryamanvikram) conducted a 'Fun with Science' session for the students of Jnr Kg A. The experiment helped them to understand the difference between soluble and insoluble substances. Efferson tablets were added to create the 'Lava Lamp' which students took home as souvenirs.



15 Nov 2016

Mr. Doshi (f/o Arham) & Mr. Gala (f/o Rohaan) introduced the concept of Gravity to the students of Snr Kg Alpha by conducting experiments on the scientific principle of Gravity. Students ate Freeze Dried Ice-cream to understand how astronauts ate freeze dried foods in space.



22 Nov 2016

The third law of Newton - 'Every action has an equal and opposite reaction' was explained by Mr. Gupta (f/o Arryan) and Mr. Jain (f/o Hrehansh) to the students of Snr Kg A through a fun experiment where students observed how the steam (action) helped the boat to move forward (reaction).



17 Nov 2016

Mr. Ashish Bagla, an environmentalist conducted an interactive session with the learners of the Nursery class by using live specimens and picture flash cards to talk about food habits and food chain in the world of nature.



28 Nov 2016

Ms. Kapur (m/o Atashi) brought pet animals to class to create awareness on the responsibility and care to be provided to them. The students of Nursery interacted with mice, guinea pig, duck and Ms. Kapur's dog.



17 Dec 2016

A few students of the IBDP section participated in the 'Swachh Bharat Initiative' for the Haji Ali promenade initiated by Mr. Rushabh Turakhia. They used their creativity to paint images and slogans related to the topic and happily participated in the campaign.

CAS Happenings



19 Dec 2016

The students of Gr 11 decorated the IBDP foyer by creating a Christmas tree and a Wreath. They worked on the 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' concept and used newspaper flowers for the Christmas tree. They used coloured paper flowers with Poinsettias cut outs for the wreath with stars and stockings suspended on strings.



11 Nov 2016

The students of the Business Club visited 'The Wedding Brigade' at Shilpin centre, Wadala initiated by Ms. Sanna Vohra, the Founder and CEO of a startup funded by Blume VC. Students enjoyed a detailed question and answer session with her as she discussed her business model and the path to the current structure. An ex-IB student, she willingly cleared their doubts, inspiring them to start their own business in the future.



10 & 11 Nov 2016

As part of their CAS initiative to raise funds for the NGOs that the school supports, an exhibition cum sale of articles made by the students of the IBDP was displayed for the parents of the Pre-Primary and the PYP section on the SPR days.



25 Nov 2016

UOI - Open Spaces

In connection to their UOI on 'Open Spaces' the students of Gr 1 visited Banganga and Kamala Nehru Park to understand the influence of open spaces on people and the environment.



28 Nov 2016

Students of Gr 2 visited the Traffic Park to learn about signs and symbols used for Traffic regulation and control.



17 Nov 2016

UOI - Communities and Cultures

The Gr 3 students visited the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sangrahalaya museum and enjoyed 'Kathakar' a story telling session as a part of the ongoing Storytelling festival. They made connections by identifying beliefs, traditions, customs and language used in the story to their ongoing unit on communities and cultures.



UOI Communities and Cultures

The Gr 3 students visited the Artisans' Art gallery and were shown the aspects of the Naga culture related to the traditions, beliefs, food habits, clothing etc. This helped them to make connections with other communities in the world.



29 Nov 2016

Dr. Deep, the on-call vet at Pet Zone explained to the students of Nursery the medical treatment that animals require and receive. They visited the pool area, the X-ray department and the grooming room to better understand this.



28 Nov 2016

In connection to their UOI 'Scientific Principles' students of Gr 5 watched 'Sphere of Science' at the Dome Theatre (Science Odyssey). This show was an inquiry into how human beings used their understanding of scientific principles and how scientific and technological advances impact the society. Students performed experiments related to physics and chemistry to enhance their learning.



2-6 Nov 2016

The students of Gr 7 travelled to Delhi and Agra to gain knowledge on the historical background of the Delhi Sultanate and Early Mughals and experience the culture as part of their GP syllabus. The trip was organized by the teachers with the help of INME and India City Walks.



30 Nov 2016

Unit of Inquiry Plants

The students of Snr Kg interacted with the horticulturists, Mr. and Ms. Shah (p/o Jesal - Gr 9) as they observed a greenhouse at Ratanshi Plant Nursery, Byculla. They understood how external conditions affect the growth of plants and learnt about a variety of indoor and outdoor plants through their inquiry.



16 Nov 2016

The Snr Kg students visited "The Garden Show" at The Cathedral and John Connon Infant School for their UOI on 'Plants'. They were entertained by a puppet show which introduced them to organic farming. Through different exhibits they gained knowledge on pollination, process of making cotton and honey, friends and foes of the garden and other uses of plants in our daily lives.

3 Nov 2016

Mr. & Ms. Sundesha (p/o Kimaira) personally took the Nursery students around the ARC stable to explain to them the art of grooming horses. They spoke on the classification of animals according to their food habits and showed them how to feed horses and care for them.

