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THE SCINDIA SCHOOL, FORT GWALIOR

# REVIEW-15



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## EDITORIAL

Prabhav Pachauri | XI C



Greetings readers.

The 'Monsoon Carnival' has finally begun on the Fort. Insects, reptiles and mosquitoes have suddenly sprung up from nowhere following a few heavy downpours in the last fortnight. The Football, The Fans, The Players and The Rivalries too were all out in the open on the beautiful lush green fields of The Scindia School amidst overcast skies and enjoyable drizzles.

The simplicity of the game, the zeal of its fans, the skill of the players and lastly the unpredictability of the results are, perhaps, what make Football, unequivocally the most loved and played game on the planet.

Interestingly, I wasn't a big fan of Football when I joined the school; it was only during my stint on the fort that I fell in love with it. The loud cheering from the boys and the passionate pursuit of the ball by the competing players on the field is what eventually got me into it. Just like the previous years, this Football Tournament too proved to be very energetic and highly entertaining for everyone in the school. Both the 'A' group and the 'B' group teams had to be on full alert at all times, as the naughty rains played hide-and-seek, causing 'Messi - ness' in the planned schedule. So the Housemasters and the team captains had to be in constant touch with the games department to complete the tournament. Thankfully *Eid* holiday on Saturday and then Sunday came together and we went on to play many matches on those two days. The players too were in good touch (thanks to the recent U-17 and the U-14 IPSC participation). The Finals of both 'A' and 'B' groups were played by the Jayappa House. They played against Mahadji in the 'B' group and against Jayaji in the 'A' group. Both the Finals were superbly athletic and skilful but the much awaited 'A' group Final was a treat to watch. With Jayaji scoring the first goal and then Jayappa scoring an equalizer, the game was evenly balanced till the very end. However Jayappa clinched the victory by scoring a goal in the dying moments of the game.

The Inter-House English Debate

too was rich in entertainment and content. It was good to see some new faces take part in the event. The final round was a heated one and both the sides did their best to prove their point. The teams debated on 'Socialism versus Capitalism'. Since the topic was an easy one, the entire audience was able to relate to what the debaters said during their turn on the mike. Jayaji House emerged as the winner with Shivaji House right behind them securing the second place. This debate has set the tone for the Genesis Global school debate and the Shri Ram debate which are on the anvil.

The long and tiring practises for the Independence Day March-Past are about to start soon and we will be seeing boys marching like the disciplined phalanx of an army, shouting *ek do ek*.



Now let's talk about Academics. The first set of Formative Assessments has already begun for the boys of class 11th and 12th and students can be seen studying for long periods of time, especially a day or two before their exam!

Now moving on to something that is particularly close to my heart - Indian Politics and Governance. One year or so of Modi sarkar has been in the news for last couple of months. While I appreciate the tea seller's meteoric rise in the world's largest democracy, I also feel that it is time for delivery of 'Acche din' lest we will soon slip into an economic scenario of Stagflation, meaning stagnant economy with inflation. The recent fall in the Chinese stock markets coupled with the Greek crisis should be like a warning bell for what could be in the offing in the near future. Good governance, in every sense of the word, can help us ride through this bumpy ride.

On the literary side, I would like to remind all of you that Munshi Premchand, arguably the greatest Indian writer famous for his modern Hindustani literature was born on the 31st July 1880. The Review Editorial Board would like to pay the highest tribute to the legendary writer. Mumbai will witness the *Prem Utsav 2015*, an annual theatre festival by The Ideal Drama and Entertainment Academy which is organizing a 10-day drama festival to honour Munshi Premchand. For the time being, that is all from my side.

Enjoy the issue...





## GERMAN EXCHANGE PROGRAMME - A REPORT

Mayank Jha | X B

Under the banner of 'Deutsches Indisches Klassenzimmer', we the 16 Students accompanied by Mr Gopal Chaturvedi, his wife and Ms Sangeeta Jain reached the Tegel Berlin Airport on the 26th of May. As soon as we came out of the security we found that our host families had been waiting to welcome us and we were soon off to our respective and hospitable host families' homes.

The very next morning, we went to our exchange school, Fontane Gymnasium, Rangsdorf and were asked to explore the school and its vicinity and answer a series of questions. An exercise we found interesting and useful. During the course of our stay, we learned 'Canoeing' and in the process saw some of the indigenous plants specially Ferns; it was a fantastic experience indeed. While the classes were interesting, they were 90 minutes each, a bit too long for us.

Later, we visited Berlin where we saw a Bunker that was constructed to protect exactly 3576 inmates in case of a nuclear war. We also went to a museum based on the theme of 'History of Berlin'. Berlin's Botanical Garden was the most amazing spectacle and it boasts of the largest collection of plant species in Europe, the count going up to 18,000! Here we collected leaves of some Plants (as directed) and ate the salad made out of it.

Before visiting Biogas Plant, we were exposed to the cow breeding centre, from where the Cow dung and straw was sold to Biogas Plant. The entire Plant was controlled by a single computer which a person could also operate via a smartphone sitting at home. We visited the Park Sanssouci Palace, which was breath-taking. After a good night's sleep we woke up the next morning with our bags packed for our weekend trip to Geneva.

We reached Geneva on 5th June 2015, and checked in a hotel. Afterwards, with the sun shining brightly over our heads, we left for CERN which is built on the Swiss-French Border. The scientists gave us a few presentations on the basics of the CERN's Researches and its purpose. We were then assigned our tour guide who took us around the CERN museum where we saw every single part present in the LHC and were explained about it in the simplest way possible. It



Scindians and Faculty members in Germany

was amazing to see how two countries could share 27 km of their land for such an international project. We also saw the colossal UN office and wondered what happens inside.

Our next visit was to Hamburg. We visited the Hamburg Dungeon Museum and then went off for boating to the Hamburg port which is also called the Gateway to Germany. To see the orchard (apple) we went to Lübec. We then spent the evening in a Youth Hostel.

The next day we went to 'Loki Schmidt House'. There we saw a museum of 'Plants' from different parts of the world and studied the soil profile of Rangsdorf forest near school.

On the 11th we were back to Rangsdorf and we made presentations on the places we visited. The next day after our projects were evaluated, we went to an Italian restaurant for lunch and to a Greek one for dinner.

On the 14th of June we had our farewell party in one of the exchange student's house which we all enjoyed thoroughly. We returned to Delhi and reached home on the 16th. We thank the Robert Bosch Foundation and Goethe Institute to have given us this opportunity.

## WOODBIDGE BLUES ...

Aditya Banka | XI A

I left for London on 7th June, on a 10-hour flight. The weather could not have been nicer when we reached there. After a two hour drive to Woodbridge from London we reached Woodbridge town where I received a very warm welcome. It was a small and a very peaceful place. The academic year had already begun and I opted for Psychology, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Ethics, and History as my subjects. In Religious Studies we studied biblical texts and shared cultural thoughts and beliefs. In Psychology we had to make a movie on 'A Robbery', make questionnaires and observe the different reactions of children. Learning was immense fun. As far as sports activities were concerned, I had the time of my life playing a game called Rounders which was similar to Baseball. Rounders wasn't exactly a very serious game, but was instead simply an unofficial game just for total fun. I enjoyed playing Ultimate Frisbee and Football too.

Anglo Saxon Day was celebrated as part of social science studies and a group of people came from outside to educate us on everything about Anglo Saxon culture and life. We also visited and interacted with grade students in Abbey school who were doing a study about India and thus had many questions about India, which we gladly answered.

A few days later, they had Hobby orientation programme. The Army, Navy and Air-Force personnel came and conducted various activities and gave an idea of what the students will get to do if they opt for one of these courses.

I also got an opportunity to see Cambridge City but unfortunately not the colleges from inside as it was a time when the exams were going on. We also participated in punting (a type of boating) and had a lot of fun. Another thing that I really enjoyed was Crab hunting (or crabbing!). However, don't worry as no animals were harmed. I know I said hunting but it was more like a race where we competed on who can catch more crabs than the others. Crabs were

later released on the beach where they raced towards the water.

At the end of our exchange we went to London where we were welcomed by Ex-Scindians. Abhilash Anand (Jayappa 2008) took us to an Indian restaurant for dinner where after about two weeks we enjoyed delicious Indian cuisines. We also visited the London Eye, Madame Tussauds, Westminster Abby, Buckingham Palace and the London Bridge. Other places that we also visited were London Towers and the famous crown jewels of the Queen of England. Cycling on the roads of London at night was the best and the most refreshing. We saw the London Skyline at night from Regent's Park. On the last day we went to Oxford Street and Piccadilly Circus which are famous for shopping.

During my time in Woodbridge, I was asked some really strange and funny questions about our country, like what is it with the cows on streets in India? And is India very loud and noisy? But after answering all these questions and after my entire experience, I returned to India with a mind full of memories and knowledge, and most importantly unafraid and confident. I heartily thank the school for giving me this opportunity.

In the end I would like to Thank our former Principal Mr Samik Ghosh, Exchange co-ordinator Mr Gopal Chaturvedi for giving me this opportunity. I also would like to thank my escort teacher Dr Geeta Shukla for helping me out in every way possible.



Dr Geeta Shukla with Aditya Banka and SKV students at Woodbridge UK.



## SOMEONE IS WATCHING YOU!

Harsimar Singh | XI C

After summer vacations when we came back to the school, supposedly to our second home- we found ourselves constantly being watched by the hanging eye of a camera. A House is a place where we relax, we laugh, and we cry when we miss our parents. We really open ourselves with our co-residents without any inhibitions or consciousness. We lighten our hearts by loving or fighting with each other. After the whole day's time bound, 'externally disciplined', uniformed, physically and mentally regulated activities, don't we have the right to breathe free? Be our real self at least for some time? The psychologists say that every person needs to empty his/her heart, mind completely freely otherwise the knots get formed which lead to many abnormalities. The Great Yogacharyas say that we should laugh our hearts loudly and wildly daily to be emotionally healthy. Somehow due to the consciousness of the lens watching us constantly we are inhibited even to do that. Isn't it a drastic change in Scindian history that the cameras have been installed in our school in every House and in the school building as well!

There is a huge debate among the students and the staff on the question -'Is it Right'. What is the reaction of the students? What is the motive of the school authorities behind this act? There are different views, answers and opinions to this question. Let us go through some of them. Some say that if there are cameras all around our school, it is for the benefit of all stake holders. The parents feel assured of their child's safety. They are happy with the thought that the school is taking good care of their children. The Members of the Board feel

confident that now the students will not be able to indulge in any delinquent behaviour like bullying or violence. The School authorities feel that they have been able to take some pro-active measures in the direction of anticipating and solving the problems in advance. Some teachers may feel that there has been a drastic change (basically for good) in the prep time as students are concentrating and studying harder as cameras are always watching them.

But do the students feel happy and satisfied too? They are entangled with a number of questions. Can the ragging be done (if at all it is being done) only in the Houses? Can't it take place on the games fields? If yes, then can you imagine cameras flying over the Madhav field (that would really be a cool sight)? Isn't it? Won't the child feel embarrassed for being constantly watched and being under radar? The Scindia School for more than a century has stood for inculcating self-discipline in the students. Are we moving away from that core strength of our school? I understand there have been a few unfortunate instances of violence that has brought us under national scanner. But are we reacting too much too soon? Shouldn't we exploit our greatest strength, that of nurturing every child in school? Will that not address the problem of violence and bullying? I recently met a few Old Boys who were on campus and they too were quite upset. They couldn't help saying -'Is this the same Scindia that we left years ago?

Scindia has always been known for its ethos and timeless traditions which has produced a galaxy of Old Boys who have gone on to contribute immensely to society. Personally I feel we should exploit those educational values and ideas to address the problem of violence. Readers may have their own views too.

*\* The views expressed are personal.*

# FORT NEWS

Finally the Fort looks regal. Lord *Indra* seems to have showered his blessings on the Fort. Trees appear well-watered, and the Fort's unique ecology suddenly seems to have come alive. Although when it isn't raining, it continues to be quite sultry.

The Scindia School U-17 Football team played a match against Jeevaji University Football team on 7th July, 2015. The Scindia School won by 3 goals to 1.

On Saturday, 11th and Sunday, 12th July a workshop entitled, 'Introduction to Participatory Pedagogical Techniques' was held in school for the faculty. Ms Asheema Singh (President, UP Science Centre) and Ms Trapti Rai (President, Open Doors Education Society) were on campus as resource persons for this workshop. The workshop revolved around the contemporary problems and responsibilities of teachers and how to overcome them. Also in the main



Teachers at the workshop.

focus was how to be a 'Together Teacher' in a classroom setting. The engaging workshop was enjoyed and appreciated by the faculty.

The Inter-House 'A' Group English Debate was held from Thursday, 9th to Sunday, 12th July. The Debate was held in the Parliamentary format for all rounds for the first time. Sidhant Awasthy and Akash Jaini were adjudged as the best speakers in the final round. The results are as follows:-

I	Jayaji	II	Shivaji
III	Mahadji	IV	Jeevaji
V	Daulat	VI	Madhav
VII	Jayappa	VIII	Ranoji



Sidhant Awasthy in his elements in the Final round.

On Thursday, 16th July, 8 students of The Scindia School namely Aakarsh Mittal, Manas Pant, Pratul Gupta, Sugandha Shukla, Utsav Mehra, Yash Duggar, Yash Nagpal and Aditya Bajaj received the coveted Gold Award in IAYP (International Award for Young People). Five of them managed to attend the glittering ceremony held in New Delhi. One of our faculty members, Mrs Raksha Siriah too received the Meritorious Certificate of Recognition for her contribution to the IAYP activities in school.

A representative of the New York University, Abu Dhabi was on the Fort on Friday, 23rd July. The representative, Ms Meenakshi Sharma had a detailed interaction with senior boys regarding admissions, scholarships, SOP's, deadlines and courses in the New York University. She also talked about NYU campus in Abu Dhabi and Shanghai apart from its main campus in New York.



The Inter- House 'A' Group and 'B' Group Football Tournament was held from the Saturday, 18th to Wednesday, 22nd July. The matches were entertaining and boys displayed amazing athleticism and skill on the field.

**'A' Group :**

I	Jayappa	II	Jayaji	III	Madhav
IV	Daulat	V	Ranoji	VI	Jeevaji
VII	Mahadji	VIII	Shivaji		

**'B' Group :**

I	Jayappa	II	Mahadji	III	Shivaji
IV	Jeevaji	V	Daulat	VI	Ranoji
VII	Jayaji	VIII	Madhav		



**Jubilant Jayappa House Boys after winning the Football tournament.**

**Overall Results :**

I	Jayappa	II	Jayaji, Daulat and Mahadji
V	Jeevaji	VI	Shivaji, Ranoji and Madhav

On Saturday, 25th July, the 'A' Group Inter-House Hindi Elocution was held in the Assembly Hall. The quality of speeches and the selection of pieces were particularly impressive this time. The results are as under:-

**Individual positions :**

**Prose :**

I	Sukanya Shukla	II	Aadya Mishra
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**Poetry :**

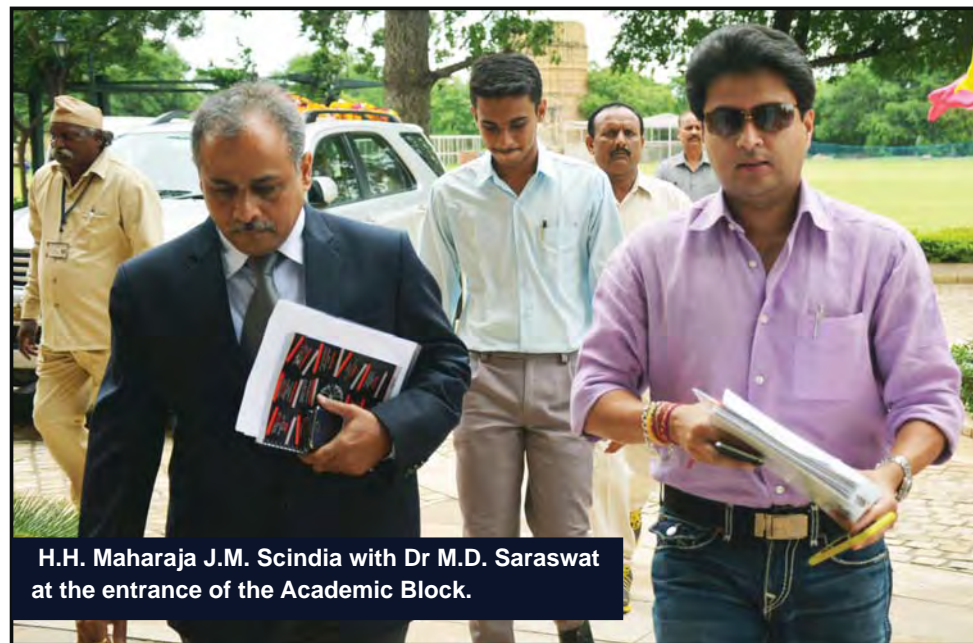
I	Mayank Jha	II	Aniket Agarwal and Drishan Dutt
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**House positions :**

I	Madhav	II	Jayappa	III	Ranoji
IV	Jeevaji	V	Mahadji	VI	Jayaji
VII	Daulat	VIII	Shivaji		

On Sunday, 26th July, The President Board of Governors, H.H. Maharaja J.M. Scindia along with other Board Members was on the Fort for a couple of Board meetings which were held in the school's computer lab. The other Board Members present on the Fort were: The Vice-President Board of Governors Dr R.S. Pawar, Mr Mahesh Gandhi, Mr Harpal Singh, Mr Jyoti Sagar, Dr Vikram Mathur, Ms Gayatri Singh and Mr Gopal Bhargava. Prior to their scheduled meetings, they visited the various locations on the campus along with the

Principal, Dr M.D. Saraswat and Bursar, Col S. Kaushal. They reviewed the renovation and reconstruction work which is underway as part of the school's infrastructure enhancement plans. Following the meetings, they shared some light moments over lunch with the School Prefects and teachers. H.H. Maharaja J.M. Scindia was particularly impressed by the SSP, Arindam Bhardwaj's persona and demeanour and gave Arindam his highest compliments.



**H.H. Maharaja J.M. Scindia with Dr M.D. Saraswat at the entrance of the Academic Block.**

Ex-President Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam passed away on Monday, 27th July. A special Assembly on the 28th morning was held to pay homage to the late President. Principal, Dr M.D. Saraswat gave a talk on the life and contributions made by Dr Kalam. This was followed by a touching presentation by the Review Editorial Board.

## OLD BOYS' NEWS

Mr Anuragam Vatsa (Ex-RN, 1988) has written a book entitled 'Listen to Heart: The other side of life'. The book is now available in the market. The book is basically a vision through Gita in which the preaching is given to Arjuna by Krishna himself on the methodology to deal with our lives. The author hopes that the book will contribute positively in the lives of its readers, making it beautiful, simple and full of love. The book also deals with the science of spirituality. The teachings are very easy to implement in our lives provided we all believe in simplicity.

Vaibhav Singh (Ex- DL, 2012) has been offered an admission in the prestigious London School of Economics to pursue a Postgraduate course. He will be doing an M.Sc. in Accounting, Organizations and Institutions.

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