



## IGCSE CHECKPOINT NEWSLETTER

Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2009

Dear Parents,  
Greetings.

A hearty welcome to all of you in the new academic session 2009-2010! Things were a little slow off the blocks but the ball has been set rolling, with a new dawn under the flagship of our new Head Of School, Ms. Nandini Mitra.

This academic session had a simmering start with a lot of shortcomings, but we appreciate and acknowledge the patience and trust that our partners, the parents, have shown in us and encouraged and egged us on.

Then the dark and menacing clouds of Swine Flu engulfed us all and brought everything to a standstill. As things slowly got back to normal, we had our much awaited Parents' Orientation of this year on August 29, 2009. A Grand Success! All due to the overwhelming support of all our parents for lending us the backing that a school needs.



### **ACADEMIC FRONT**

On the academic front, we began with a lot of juggling of teachers and classes and our entire team pitching in to cover all subjects. This team comprises of:

- Ms. Anju Sabharwal (Checkpoint Coordinator)
- Ms. Monika Sardana: Maths (6) and Science (6,7& 8) and  
Grade 6 Homeroom Teacher
- Ms. Archana Ajmera: Maths (7&8) and Hindi (7) and  
Grade 7 Homeroom Teacher
- Ms. Anupriya Chatterjee Sen: English (7 & 8) and  
Grade 8 Homeroom Teacher
- Ms. Philo Xavier: English (6)
- Ms. Kiran Karne: History and Geography (6,7&8) and ESL (6)
- Ms. Raina Singh: Hindi (7)
- Mr. Syed Fahad Aziz: French (6, 7 & 8)
- Dr. Chandrakant Shinde: Hindi (8)
- Mr. Prashant Sawant: Sporting Activities
- Ms. Penny Aberdien: Drama
- Mr. Bhaskar Godambe: Music
- Mr. Ajit Erava: Art

Well now that all the teachers are there, things have been rolling smoothly and we hope to pick up speed later on.

## NON-ACADEMIC FRONT

Academic and Non-academic activities in school work in tandem in shaping a child personality and are two sides of the same coin. So keeping in step with this the first exposure in this domain was the Investiture Ceremony which signifies the inculcation of leadership qualities in our youngsters. The new council members were sworn in on September 22, 2009 amidst great show of leadership and pride. The new council members are:

Head Boy: Abhinav Jaggi  
Head Girl: Jhanvi Nerulkar  
Deputy Head Boy: Piyush Sawant  
Deputy Head Girl: Sangeeta Warriar  
Junior Head Boy: Purav Patel  
Junior Head Girl: Mahima Gupta  
Sports Captain: Joshua Zachariah  
Deputy Sports Captain: Heer Kanungo  
House Captain(Dragon): Kavya Krishnan  
Deputy House Captain: Tanmay Kumar  
House Captain(Elephant): Samrudhii Palshetkar  
Deputy House Captain: Jilan Shah  
House Captain(Eagle): Yogesh Bhongale  
Deputy House Captain: Shruti Thepade  
House Captain(Sun): Tarun Singh  
Deputy House Captain: In Yong Jung  
Cultural Captain: Rahul Bhagat  
Deputy Cultural Captain: Chaitanya Salunke



We wish the School council the very best of luck and wish that they live to the expectations of their Head of School, teachers and peers alike and keep the colours of the school flying high.

Another aspect of learning involves sharing and showing others that you care. The students of Grades 6, 7 & 8 are participating in an activity which brings out the caring us out in the open for the world to see. It is a part of the "JOY OF GIVING" drive being carried out in numerous schools around the country.

## SPORTING ACTIVITIES

"All work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy." This centuries' old adage is specially true in today's world. Well in the arena of Sports we had a whole gamut of activities.

Beginning the term were the Ronaldo's, the Beckham's, the Diego Maradona's and the Baichang Bhutia's battling it out on the soccer field and boy was it stupendous! Quite unbelievable, as they set the field on fire. The Juniors' inter-house champions being the **Dragon House**. The Seniors' champions being the **Elephant House**.

If this was not enough we had the Renavikar's and the Shah's smashing their way to the titles in the inter-house table tennis. The Junior boys' title was conquered by **Shivarsh Patel** of Grade 8 and the Seniors title rightfully went to **Sushant Patil** of Grade 10. **Well Done boys!** The girls were not far behind, with the title going to **Himanshi Kampani** of grade 9 and the runners up was **Puja Desai** of grade 6. **Kudos Girls!**

Along with this, there was the coveted Chess Title. We had the Gary Kasparovs and the Anatoly Karpovs locked in a battle of the minds. The victorious in the Juniors category being **Malhaar Shah** from Grade 8 and **Shawrya Kumar** of Grade 10 getting the coveted title in the Seniors category. **Great Going Boys!** Again, the girls proved their mettle with the title going to **Ashlesha Kamble** of grade 9 and the runners up being **Puja Desai** of grade 6 once again. **Bravo girls!**

To add the icing to the cake, the Dream teams of SPIS are dunking and slamming their way to the coveted title. **Weave the magic, teams!**

## BOARDING HOUSE ACTIVITIES

If all this was not scintillating enough, the Boarders had a rocking time at the Adventure Camp at the Y.M.C.A. resort at Nilshi. A group of 17 students went for a day's camp to this picturesque setting under the watchful eyes of **Mr. Prashant Sawant** and **Mr. Sanjay Sabharwal** and regaled in the nature's lap kayaking and swimming to their heart's content. Although, the rain spelt the spoilsport and marred their trekking ambitions.



Taking on from this, there was another in-campus overnight camp originally for the PYP, which was later extended even to the boarders. They spent a night out under the stars by camping in tents on the football field. They went on to experience great camaraderie in tent pitching and the night trek. Besides this, they regaled in a thrilling experience of rappelling and flying fox. They were enticed into the arms of nature and relished the great learning experience.



To top this all we had an ethnic flavour as well. The Navratri Night was a sizzling affair with tradition being blended in with a more modern turn of events. It began with the burning up of the Ravanna indicating that all things evil and ill-happening were conquered by righteousness. It was then followed by Durga Puja, the Aarti being done by our tiny tot from Grade 4 **Rekha Rani**. Well it had to end abruptly as the rain Gods let down their fury and drenched the surroundings setting the mood a little dismal. But like a phoenix arising from the dead, the arrangements were shifted indoors to the refractory being converted into a dancing floor. What followed suit, was a sparkling affair of young boys and girls grooving to the beats of Dandia. They even made sure that the HOS and all the teachers joined in the frenzy.

We were further enthralled by two small maestros or 'chhuppa rustams of SPIS' who let down their hair to spell bind the audience. The first to take the stage was a newcomer, of Grade 8, who has joined our school just recently. She played a melodious piece on the synthesizer which drew great applause. As if they meant to set the evening alight, **Stavan Shah** of Grade 7 had the audience foot tapping to the crescendo he weaved on the drums. To add the icing to the cake, **Rahul Bhagat** of Grade 12 mellowed it down by his traditional piece on the Flute or "Bansuri". He really is the 'Pied Piper of SPIS'. Not to mention the reverberating performance by our teachers, **Mr. Kaushik Majumdar**: who had the audience singing along, as well as **Mr. Sharad Ronghe** and **Mr. Bhaskar Godambe** our musicians. Thank you all for a resounding experience!

## REFRACTORY

It just seems that this change is spreading its wings far and wide, encompassing even our refractory. Heartfelt thanks to all of you for your continued support and trust that you have shown in being patient and the unfailing faith that you have in us. In congruence with your kind suggestions given to us, we have decided to implement a change in the menu with effect from September 29, 2009. Non-vegetarian meals will also be a part of the lunchtime platter, but our vegetarian students need not be downcast for we will continue to serve a vegetarian platter as well. This has been done to cater to all our students. So dear parents step up and do the required needful so that your child/ward can share his camaraderie with his playmates to the fullest and inculcate in him a holistic attitude.

On this last note, I would like extend my heartfelt gratitude to you all for encouraging us on with your appreciative words. We always strive for excellence and seek your continued support and feedback.

Warm Regards,  
Anju Sabharwal.  
(Checkpoint Coordinator)