

THE BARAJCLE

1988-89

MAGAZINE OF
BARNES SCHOOL
DEOLALI

THE STAFF — 1987 - 1988



Sitting : (Left to Right) Mr. B. Mitchell, Mr. A. D'Souza, Miss M. Verghese, Mr. D. Correa, Mr. M. Thorpe (*Vice-Principal*), Mr. A. R. Baker (*Principal*), Mrs. A. Baker, Mr. S. Gadre, Mrs. U. Misra, Mr. S. Isaac, Mrs. R. Gadre.
Standing Miss C. Dixon, Miss I. Fernandes, Mrs. L. S. Borle, Miss V. Morris, Mrs. J. Mitchell, Miss G. Kurian, Mrs. E. Swain, Mrs. E. Correa, Mrs. V. Thorpe.
2nd row : Miss G. Pinto, Mrs. U. Bhalerao, Mrs. S. D'Souza, Mrs. L. Waring, Mrs. H. Gupta, Miss S. Rao, Mrs. G. Gama, Miss A. Abraham.
3rd row : Mrs. A. Pereira, Mrs. L. Isaac, Miss M. Al-Fadhli, Miss J. Henderson, Miss P. Braggs, Mrs. P. Banerjee, Mrs. J. Clark, Miss B. Kane, Mrs. O. Obidiki, Mrs. R. Spriggs.
4th row : Mr. G. Hardy, Mrs. S. Emmanuel, Mrs. J. Swing, Mrs. I. Mainguy, Mrs. H. Driver, Mrs. V. Bhattacharjee, Mr. R. Robinson, Mr. L. Mainguy, Mr. D. O'Connor Mrs. E. O'Connor.
5th row : Mr. Mathias, Mr. R. Waring, Mrs. Spriggs, Mr. V. Nair, Mr. D. Amle, Mr. K. Emmanuel, Mr. B. B. Gade.
6th row : Mr. P. Dinger, Mr. Z. D. Khan, Mr. B. Fernandez, Mr. K. Frederick, Mr. D. Robins, Mr. S. Borle, Mr. J. Moses, Mr. L. Indulkar, Mr. B. Y. Kokne.

BARNES SCHOOL STAFF 1988-89

MR. A. R. BAKER	M.A., T.T.C., B.Ed.	Principal
MR. M. J. THORPE	B.A., B.T.	Vice Principal
MR. S. B. GADRE	B.Sc. (Hon.), B.Ed.	Housemaster (Royal House)
MR. D. T. CORREA	M.A., T.T.C.	Housemaster (Spence House)
MR. S. ISAAC	B.Com., N.I.S. (Dip.)	Housemaster (Candy House)
MR. A. D'SOUZA	B.Sc., B.T.	Housemaster (Greaves House)
MRS. U. MISRA	M.A., B.Ed.	Housemistress (Haig Brown)
MISS M. VERGHESE	B.A., Music Gr. 8	Housemistress (Lloyd Block)
MR. B. MITCHELL	T.T.C.	Housemaster (Lloyd Block)
MRS. A. BAKER	M.A., B.Ed.	
MRS. H. DRIVER	M.A., B.Ed.	
MR. D. M. AMLE	M.A., B.Ed.	
MR. R. ROBINSON	M.A., B.Sc., B.Ed.	
MR. K. EMMANUAL	B.Sc., B.Ed.	
MISS A. ABRAHAM	B.A., B.Ed.	
MRS. V. BHATTACHARJI	B.A., B.Ed.	
MR. Z. A. KHAN	D.M.E., B.A., B.Ed., B.C.J.	
MR. D. O'CONNOR	B.A., B.Ed.	
MISS S. RAO	B.A., Cft. (Dip.) (Craft Instructor)	
MRS. P. BANERJEE	M.Sc.	
MR. E. MYALL	T.T.C.	
MR. L. MAINGUY	P.T.I. (Trd.)	
MRS. I. MAINGUY	Needlework in charge	

JUNIOR SCHOOL STAFF

MRS. R. GADRE	Montessori (Trd.) (Incharge of the Junior School)
MRS. L. WARING	M.Sc., B.Ed.
MRS. A. ZOPE	B.Sc. (Hon.), M.Ed. (Hon.)
MISS M. AL-FADHLI	B.Com., B.Ed.
MRS. H. GUPTA	B.A., B.Ed.
MR. V. NAIR	B.Sc., B.Ed.
MRS. U. BHALERAO	B.A., B.T.
MISS G. KURIAN	B.A., T.T.C.
MR. R. MASCARENHAS	B.A., M.T.C.
MRS. L. S. BORLE	T.T.C.
MISS P. BRAGGS	T.T.C. Gr. 4 (Music)
MRS. E. CORREA	Montessori (Trd.)
MISS C. DIXON	T.T.C.
MISS V. MORRIS	T.T.C.
MRS. S. D'SOUZA	J.S., T.T.
MRS. S. EMMANUEL	Diploma in Home Science
MR. B. FERNANDES	T.T.C.
MR. G. HARDY	T.T.C.
MR. S. SPRIGGS	T.T.C.
MISS. J. HENDERSON	T.T.C.
MR. P. DINGER	T.T.C.
MISS G. PINTO	T.T.C.
MRS. V. THORPE	T.T.C.
MRS. L. ISAAC	Montessori (Trd.)
MRS. E. SWAIN	Montessori (Trd.)

OFFICE STAFF

MR. J. FERNANDES	Accountant
MR. B. Y. KOKNE	Secretary
MR. L. V. INDULKAR	Cashier
MRS. J. SWING	Despatch Clerk
MRS. C. D'CRUZ	Gen. Duty Clerk
MR. B. B. GADE	Billing Clerk
MR. J. MOSES	Billing Clerk
MR. G. SAMUEL	Junior Clerk

DOMESTIC STAFF

MR. F. ALPHONSO	Stores
MR. R. WARING	Maintenance
MR. D. ROBINS	Caretaker
MR. K. FREDERICK	Caretaker
MRS. P. ALPHONSO	Matron (Lloyd Block)
MRS. O. BRIGGS	Matron (Lloyd Block)
MRS. J. GAYE	Matron (Lloyd Block)
MRS. J. BARNHAM	Matron (Haig Brown)
MRS. J. T. JOHN	Matron (Haig Brown)
MRS. A. PEREIRA	Matron (Greaves House)
MRS. G. GAMA	Matron (Spence House)
MRS. E. O'CONNOR	Matron (Royal House)
MRS. R. SPRIGGS	Matron (Candy House)
MRS. R. D'SOUZA	Incharge of Linen Room
MR. S. BORLE	Mess Superintendent
MR. A. MATHIAS	Mess Supervisor
MRS. O. OBIDIKI	Food Matron

SECURITY STAFF

MR. R. LEWIS	Security Supervisor
MR. D. GAYE	
MR. D. ROBINS	

HOSPITAL STAFF

MRS. J. CLARK	Reg. Nurse R.M.
MRS. P. FERNANDES	Reg. Nurse R.M.
DR. R. K. PATIL	M.B.B.S.
DR. (MRS.) A. A. SWADI	M.B.B.S., D.G.O.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT — 1987-88

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to our Annual Prize and Speech Day. I am particularly grateful to Air Comdre & Mrs. Adlakha for agreeing to be with us this evening. Air Comdre Adlakha has replaced Air Comdre Kashinath as Commanding Officer of 25 ED. Air Comdre Kashinath was very close to the school in more ways than one and after meeting Air Comdre Adlakha I know that he will come even closer to us.

The year opened with 520 boarders and 579 day scholars. However, there is a constant change in the numbers of day scholars due to the regular transfers of Army officers to and from Devlali. We try and accommodate as many as we can, however, some times it not possible to help. We have a large number of students seeking admission from within the country as well as from many foreign countries, the latter category settle down after they have overcome the difficulties of the English language.

This year 46 candidates were sent up for the I.C.S.E. examination and we had a pass percentage of 80.43. This is very satisfactory even more heartening was the fact that there were failures only in Mathematics and Science. These two subjects are a bug bear throughout the country and we are now taking measures to overcome this short coming. Six students from Barnes school appeared for the music examinations of Trinity College, London. I am proud to say that all of them were successful. Computer as a subject has been started. There was a great demand for this and our first batch will be appearing in March '89.

From June 1987 the school took over the catering. For the last decade or so this was being done by a contractor who felt that he could not continue due to a number of reasons, this was a blessing in disguise for from the time that we have been managing the kitchen the quality and quantity of the food for the students and staff has improved, this is true even if I am saying it at this juncture I would like to thank Mr. Borle under whom the transition was very smooth and who is at my office daily to report on the regular hike in prices. However he has been able to manage within the budget.

The school has a packed programme of extra curricular activities and these start with the opening of school. It takes a lot of planning to keep 500 plus children busy everyday for the whole year. However we are able to manage successfully. On the Sports field our results were mixed in the inter school fixture i.e. football and hockey for boys and basketball for girls. Our teams lost to St. Peters School, Mazagaon. The girls showed great improvement and lost by just two baskets. The improvement was possible due to the hard work put in by Miss C. Dixon & Mr. A. D'Souza. I must also thank the C.O. of 13 Field for helping out by sending Subedar Sital Singh to coach the girls.

A Cricket team from St. Xaviers School, Bombay visited the school to play a friendly Cricket match, however it rained for most of the day and the match was postponed for the next day. We surprisingly won the match rather easily.

The school football team did fairly well i.e. they won both the local tournaments organised by Siddharth Sports Club and the Rotary Club. On both occasions the school XI played and beat Boys Town School.

Due to the shortage of water it was feared that we may not be able to hold the swimming but we managed. Almost All the school records in the Senior Division were broken by Rahul Gupta. He is a swimmer of great promise and can do well if he takes it up seriously.

The Chief Guest for our Athletics and Sports day, Mr. Charan Singh Azad was rather impressed with the performance of both the girls and the boys, especially Christopher Joseph, who was the Senior Champion.

Mr. Myall, Principal, St. Peters School, Mazagaon, Bombay was the Chief Guest at our Gymnastics and P.T. display. Mrs. Myall gave away prizes. They were duly impressed by the performance of the students. Mr. Myall felt that the Karate was of a very high standard. Well done Mr. Isaac and Mr. Mainguy.

The students have been taking part in a number of competitions with varied success. I am grateful to the office bearers for organising these competitions.

Our Annual School Play was a resounding success. This year 'Tons of Money' was staged with the hope of raising tons of money. However the later was not very successful. Mr. M. Twigg member of the board of directors was the chief guest and he enjoyed the play very much. The Actors in the play went for a picnic along with class IX-A, the class that brought in the maximum number of advertisements for the brochure.

The junior school variety entertainment programme was as usual attended by hundreds of parents all eager to see their children on stage. Once again our huge hall was packed to capacity.

A group of boys attended the annual camp at Nasrapur where they met and mixed with other children. The Bulbals under Miss Pinto went out for a day to Lake Beale and I understand they had a fine time out there.

The health of the school has not caused any major anxiety, we have had the usual broken bones and open wounds that have been looked after by the medical staff.

Appointments on the staff

There were a few appointments on the teaching staff of the school they were:

Mrs. L. Borle to teach Hindi & Marathi	Mrs. L. Waring
Miss A. Abrahams	Mr. B. Fernandes
Miss P. Bannerjee	Mr. K. Khan joined the teaching staff.

In the Office Mr. B. Gade and Mr. J. Moses joined as Billing clerks.

PRIZE DAY

Mr. R. Waring was appointed as the maintenance manager and Mr. J. Fernandez took over the job of accountant.

Mrs. O. Briggs & Mrs. J. Gaye were appointed as Matrons in Lloyd Block and Mrs. O. Obidiki was appointed as Mess Matron.

Mr. A. Mathais was appointed as a Mess Supervisor on a temporary basis.

Mr. D. Gaye was appointed on the security staff.

At the end of the academic year 87-88 we had a few resignations. All left to join their husbands. I was sad that they had to leave. Our best wishes are with them. They are:

Mrs. S. Mohiuddin House Mistress, Haigbrown, she was married in December but joined her husband only in May after the I.C.S.E. exams were over and also after the school closed. At the same time Mrs. T. Zope, Mrs. A. Bhola & Mrs. H. Dhodi resigned to join their husbands who were posted out. Mr. K. DaCasta had to leave suddenly in September.

In the office there were resignations from Miss B. Mithaiwala and Miss A. Roberts both billing clerks. Mr. G. V. Patil also left. Matrons — Mrs. M. Mayers resigned in January '88.

During the course of the year there were three members of staff to superannuate, Mrs. S. Ryder, the linen room matron, retired on 14th Jan. '88 — she has since migrated to Canada.

Mr. D. J. Soman retired on 31st March '88 after serving in the school with great loyalty for 43 years, I will miss him in the office and I am sure a number of you parents too well miss him. He was always ready to help everyone. I wish them both happily retired lives.

Mr. Philip Bhalerao was to retire on 31st Jan. '88 but the almighty had other plans for him and on the 24th December 1987 he quietly passed away in hospital, leaving behind a shocked wife, two sons and the entire staff of Barnes. May his soul rest in peace, Mr. P. Bhalerao was a very willing worker and he was always ready to assist in any way. He joined the staff in June 1965 and those who knew him also knew that he hated losing and that is what I told him when he was going to hospital. However this once he didn't win.

The stork had been rather active over Barnes. In the year there were no less than five new additions to families of the Barnes School staff.

The water problem persists, in vain I had a drilling team bore down to a depth of 350 feet costing about 16,000 rupees. Thus perforce I have to look to the Air Force Station for water. They have not let us down, since 1973 the Pipeline from the Air Force Station has been the life line of Barnes School and I am sure we can rely on them in the future too.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Commanding officer of the Artillery Centre for all the help that has been forthcoming. I would also like to thank Mr. Thorpe, the Vice Principal, Mr. Gadre & Mrs. Gadre & all the other members of my staff who have been a great help throughout the year.



*Air Comdre Adlakha, addressing the Students,
Staff and Guests*



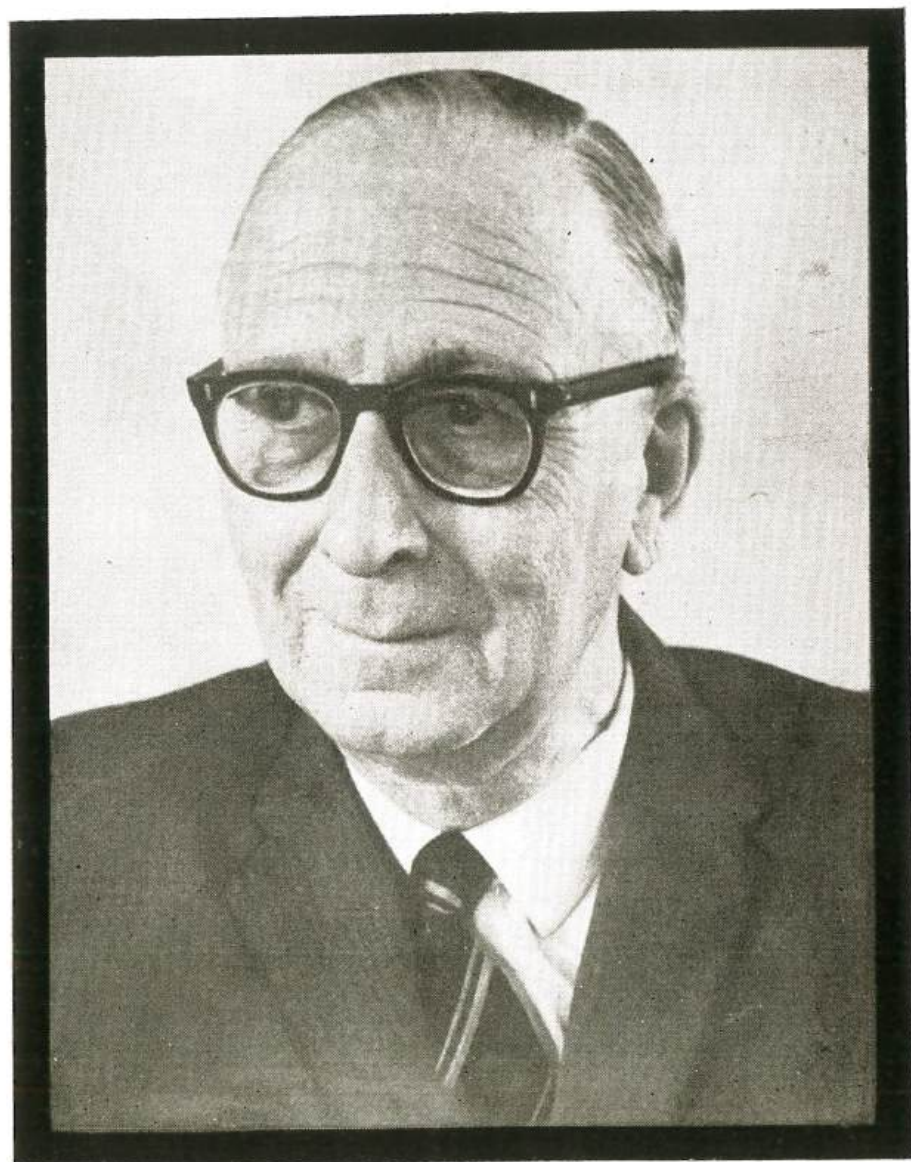
The Principal's Report



Introduction of the Staff to the Chief Guest

IN MEMORIAM
Mr. W. R. COLES

Born 13th August 1903 — Died 15th October 1988



“Remembrance is the only paradise out of which we cannot be driven away”.

A TRIBUTE

WILLIAM RICHARD COLES

In 1926, a 23 year old Englishman arrived at Devlali station. He was surrounded by “red shirts” who wanted to carry his luggage. At the mercy of these eager workers he was soon sitting in a bullock cart with his meagre belongings. The question of payment was an additional problem. He was handling as rupees, annas and paise for the first time. Whatever money he had, he gave to the porters and then in solitary splendour, he started the long, and slow journey to Barnes School. He reached there and borrowed five rupees from the Headmaster — Mr. Evans to pay the cartman! Such were the early tribulations of Mr. W. R. Coles. He did not dream that this association would last for nearly half a century. Thus began his long innings which was marked by thoroughness combined with a great mind for detail and economy.

For eight years, i.e. till 1934, Mr. Coles served as an assistant Master, and Housemaster of Candy Block. This spell prepared him for the tasks ahead. When Mr Evans decided to retire, Mr. Coles was an automatic choice to succeed him. As the headmaster, he was determined that the school would serve the children for whom it was founded and never lost sight of the aims of the Bombay Education Society — the education of poor Anglo-Indian children.

The major problem in his early years was the lack of funds. The children and staff led a spartan existence and the young were brought up the hard way. Any ex-student of those years will testify to the tough upbringing he or she had under Mr. Coles.

Mr. Coles’ first challenge was the outbreak of World War II — when everything was in short supply. Teachers joined the armed forces, many children left for England and with the introduction of rationing, feeding the pupils became a tremendous problem. In addition, the perennial shortage of water made life one long struggle. It speaks volumes for Mr. Coles’ administrative skill that he kept the school running despite these shortages — teachers, children, food and water — and even paper!

With the end of the war came independence and the struggle to keep the school open. The Board of Directors was determined to sell the school to the government for twenty-two lakh rupees and bank the sum with no thought for the hundreds of poor children studying in the school. The members of the Board were deeply divided and directors against closure filed a law suit against those who wanted to sell the school. The suit was filed by the Honorary Secretary against the President — Bishop Lash. The High Court decided that the school would continue. In this historic battle, Mr. Coles played a vital role.

This headache was hardly over when Mr. Coles was asked to take charge of St. Mary’s Training College, Pune. He was seconded to the college for a couple of years and returned to Barnes to face another challenge to survival.

In 1954, the government issued a circular, restricting the entry of non Anglo-Indians to our Schools. Mr. Morarji Desai had not forgotten or forgiven the school for winning the 1948 case! As Barnes was the only Anglo-Indian school with a written constitution, it was selected to fight the threat. In the van of the battle was Mr. Coles. In a landmark judgement the high court decided that the parents had the right to educate their children in the language of their choice. Barnes School survived as did three hundred other Anglo-Indian Schools in the country.

For the next fifteen years Mr. Coles continued facing the routine problems of these schools, which had to gradually change courses of study to prepare children to fit in with the needs of a new India. French, Latin and British History were replaced by Indian Languages and Indian History.

Early in 1968, when Mr. Coles returned from the U.K. he was met by Mr. Whaley, the Chairman, who brought up the matter of Mr. Coles' retirement. Mr. Coles was informed that the Board had decided to appoint a new Headmaster with effect from January 1st 1969. And so it came to pass that on the 27th December 1968 Mr. Coles left the portals of Barnes School — where he had given a life-time of service — 42½ years.

However, he did not go far. He was appointed as the Director of Auto Skills in Nasik. It was only in May 1975 that he left India for good. He did not sever his ties with the B.E.S. which he served as a Director till his exit from India — after serving the country for nearly fifty years.

In England he mostly did gardening while Mrs. Coles wrote letters. In his last few months he asked for colour photographs of different school buildings, which were promptly sent to him and which he received.

He was to attend the Ex-students (Besian) reunion in the U.K. — for the last time, which was on October 8th, but instead was admitted to a hospital. But he sent those coloured photographs which were displayed on the notice board. On October 15th, the "Old Warrior's heart was stilled, and as the news spread, thousands of his Ex-students the world over re-lived their school days and remembered him for his unmatched contribution to their education and training.

Mr. Coles did not abandon the school when many ex-patriots from the U.K. decided to quit in 1947. On behalf of Barnes School we are grateful to Mr. Coles for all that he did for the school. While Mr. Evans laid a solid foundation, it was Mr. Coles who consolidated and made possible the development and expansion for his successor. We, from Barnes School extend our deepest sympathies to Mrs. Coles and her children — and to our old friend — William Richard Coles — We salute him.

May his soul rest in peace.

Mr. S. B. Gadre

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S MAIL

December 13, 1988

Mr. A. Baker,
Headmaster,
Barnes School,
Deolali 422 503.
Dist : Nasik.

Dear Alan,

Herewith is the brief eulogy that I promised regarding my late Headmaster Mr. W. R. Coles. You will notice that it is of a personal nature, as I'm sure many ex-students had similar relationships with Mr. Coles, and will probably enjoy reading the article.

My best wishes to Mrs. Baker, and may I take advantage of this letter to wish both of you and your son a Merry Christmas and a Bright and Peaceful NEW YEAR.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,
GORDON COLE

—————:O:—————

FROM ONE WHO REMEMBERS

My first meeting with Mr. W. R. Coles, ironically, was in Christ Church School at the age of ten, studying in standard IV under Mr. T. E. Thompson, another seasoned campaigner in the field of education. I was asked if I'd like to be a student in a boarding School. I was so nervous at the time and cannot remember what I replied, but as it turned out I joined Barnes in February of the following year. I met W. R. Coles again, and heard him tell my father, also an ex-student of Barnes, "Don't worry Rollie, we'll make a man of Gordon".

It is these words I'm sure that have made men & women of all those students who came under his wing. "Bull" as he was mischievously called by the alumni of my time, constantly amazed me by his fantastic memory for names and faces, and it was rare for any student or servant of Barnes, not to be recognised and called by his first name.

We, the students, came into contact with Mr. Coles every morning at assembly time, and one can never forget the inimitable manner in which he would inform all of us, students, teachers and staff, about the day's programme, the reciting of a prayer, and the singing of a hymn. The senior students and prefects were naturally more in touch with him, and I'm sure, many if not all old students can remember the impartial way he treated every-

body, his ability to give an individual a fair deal, created hope in many hearts, and even those students who left the school for various other reasons, did so, in the knowledge that there was a future to look forward to. As a disciplinarian he was firm and direct, and if he said, "No" then nothing could make him change his mind. There were instances when stern action was very necessary to maintain the discipline of the school and Mr. Coles dealt with the situation firmly and justly.

As a teacher Mr. Coles was in a class of his own, and it was a dull student who managed to fail in the subject taught by W.R. Coles. As a senior in my final year I can never forget the lecture he gave the Cambridge students three months before our final examinations. He told us that we were on the threshold of our lives, and that all of us would be leaving Barnes as young men and women. He told us that the world out side was big and wide & very competitive, and that we should never shirk or back down from a responsibility, that we should endeavour at all times to improve ourselves as worthy human beings; and finally that we should never forget our Alma Mater, the School Motto and the school song. He told us how important it was to "play the game" of life, that schooling was the foundation on which to construct our future. Most of all he advised us to be honest, especially with oneself, to have the courage of one's convictions, and to treat ones fellowman equally and impartially.

I'm sure that there were many students during his tenure as Headmaster who must have shed a tear or two on leaving school, and wishing him goodbye. My greatest moments with W.R.C. however, were as an ex-student, for then I was accorded royal treatment, and the annual ex-students visit to Barnes was something I never missed. W.R.C. was even better with his ex-students, who with maturity and experience enjoyed his company all the more, and many of us came into contact with his wonderful sense of humour. One can never forget 1968 when the ex-students presented him with a silver salver, appropriately inscribed and the photograph all the ex-students took together with W.R.C. at the Diwali dance.

There are so many memories one could write about W.R.C. and Barnes, it was as if one couldn't do without the other, that nostalgia would make ones heart heavy enough to bring a tear to one's eye, but we all know, those of us who knew him, how much Barnes meant to him and his ability as Headmaster to "Fight the good fight".

In ending I would like to commiserate with Mrs. Coles and all the members of the family. not because Mr. Coles has passed away, but because they, the family, could not have had the care and attention, the guidance, and especially the devotion and love he so generously gave to BARNES.

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S MAIL

July 7th, 1988

Dear Mr. Baker,

Early this morning, before I was properly awake, I tumbled out of bed to answer a ring at our front door. There was the Postman, with an Airmail packet containing the two Barneses, 1986/87 and 87/88 despatched by you on July 1st, many, many thanks for them. I have as yet only had time for a quick browse through but that has been enough to show how interesting a fuller reading will be I particularly noted the school plays — Jane and Tons of money. The school staff performed both — Jane in about 1928 (I played Shackleton) and Tons of money in the early 50's.

You had in your letter of March 15th promised to send the magazine and that was why I was delaying my reply. You also kindly said you would have some colour photographs of the Building taken. Now that I have been away from the school for 20 years all the children and almost all the staff are new. Do, please, give my kind regards to Shashi & Ruth Gadre, the Emanuels and Mrs. Bhalerao particularly — I valued Philip as a colleague. Also to "Young" Mr. Soman who has I believe now retired — young because his father was for so long in charge of the school accounts. But it is the old familiar places that linger longest.

I was glad to hear that the £100 from the BESIANs reached you safely. I let her know immediately but only last month she told me the money order had not been cashed according to information from Barday's Bank. What is the position — I hope the order is not time barred. The next Reunion is planned for October 8th in London and I fear there may not be any further gifts if this is not settled. There is no need to hesitate over what you use the money for. That is left to your discretion. Only do let Mrs. O'Connor, or me if you prefer, know as soon as possible. The magazines give a picture of a very full and valued life in the school. That must keep you very busy and Mrs. Baker too. I trust you both keep in good health — have you any children of your own — grown up perhaps my hope and I keep reasonably well for our ages. We have a daughter and two grandsons and an unmarried son.

With kind regards.

Yours sincerely,

W. R. Coles

BOXING — 1988-89

The noise was deafening. Over a hundred and fifty Boxers were punching the Bags, Skipping, Shadow Boxing and Sparring.

This sport is almost forgotten in most of the schools in India. But it is alive during the last term in Barnes School every year.

The training started with cross country running, and Hill climbing for stamina and leg power.

Later training for foot work and strength were given. All types of isotonic and isometric exercises including skipping were added to the training programme to make the boxers more agile and powerful.

Training for reaction and Reflex actions was given for psychological alertness. The sparring practice started two weeks after the off seasonal Training.

Dr. Patil and Sister Fernandes conducted the Medical Check-up before the Boxing Tournament.

Forty Boxers from each house were permitted to enter 18 weight groups starting from 25 kilograms.

Thirty best Boxers were selected to fight on the Final Day, i.e. 27th March '88 after ten days of preliminary Bouts.

On the final day personnel from the Army were invited to perform as judges. Mr. Solomon Isaac was the Referee. Mr. L. Mainguy and Mr. Isaac trained the Boxers. Mr. A. Baker welcomed the gathering.

RESULTS

BOUT	WEIGHT	WINNER	HOUSE	LOSER	HOUSE	
1.	Jr. Fly	25-26 kg.	A. Mundada	G.	U. Abuji	G.
2.	Jr. Bantam	27-29 kg.	A. Inamdar	R.	A. Iyar	R.
3.	Jr. Feather	30-31 kg.	D. Pereira	G.	A. Sonawala	G.
4.	Jr. Light	32-34 kg.	R. Kamble	R.	P. Yadav	S.
5.	Jr. Welter	35-37 kg.	K. Shetty	G.	J. Tandel	C.
6.	Jr. Middle	38-40 kg.	U. Shiknis	G.	M. Gupta	G.
7.	Jr. L/Heavy	41-46 kg.	H. Rajput	R.	B. Qureshi	G.
8.	Jr. Heavy	44-47 kg.	I. Kuwari	G.	G. Shiknis	G.
9.	Sr. Fly	48-51 kg.	S. Patil	R.	S. Rebello	R.
10.	Sr. Bantam	52-54 kg.	G. Belonde	R.	J. Kenny	G.
11.	Sr. Feather	55-57 kg.	R. Sukale	S.	T. Hassan	G.
12.	Sr. Light	58-59 kg.	K. Palel	C.	C. Burgess	S.
13.	Sr. Welter	60-61 kg.	S. Ovicegan	G.	A. Thomson	C.
14.	Sr. Middle	62-63 kg.	C. Joseph	C.	O. Maie	G.
15.	Sr. Heavy	68 kg.	M. Debaba	S.	G. Lewis	S.
16.	Millings		Spence		Candy	

Most Scientific Boxer (J) R. Kamble (S) R. Sukale
 Best Loser (J) J. Tandel (S) T. Hassan

HOUSE POINTS

FIRST	...	GREAVES	—	117
SECOND	...	SPENCE	—	107
THIRD	...	ROYAL	—	88
FOURTH	...	CANDY	—	66

Incharge: Mr. S. Isaac.

BOXING



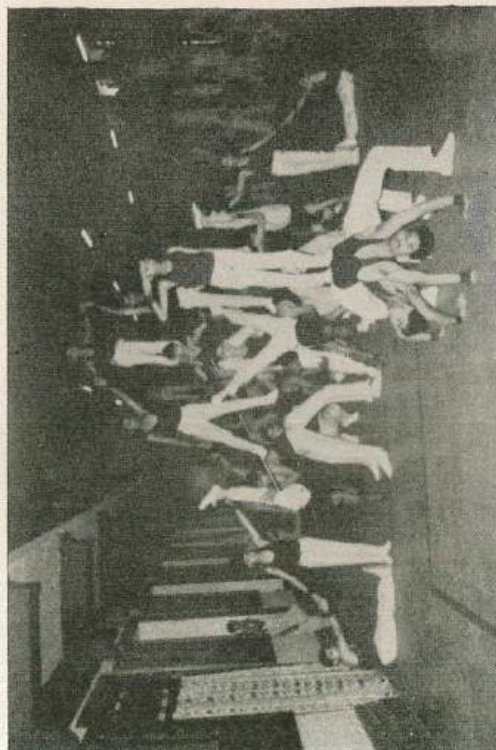
The Winners and Runners-up



All Eyes on the Ring!

HOUSE PYRAMIDS

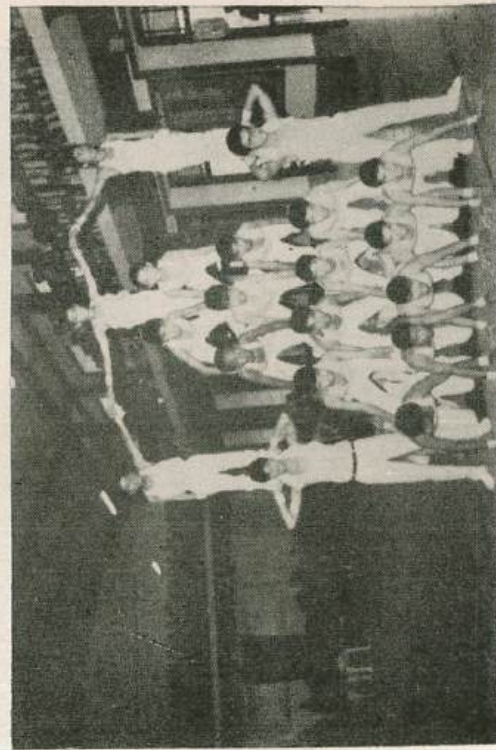
Candy House



Greaves House



Spence House



Royal House



P.T. AND KARATE IN BARNES — BOYS 1988-89

Our training in Calisthics, Gymnastics, Pyramids and Marching started in full swing during the last week of June.

Over 300 students participated and took keen interest in this year's Gymnastics and Karate Training programme.

One week before 12th August Gymnastic competitions were conducted and the results recorded by several staff as Judges.

The training intensified during the last week to get the boys and girls ready for an advance performance in Karate, Fire-dive, Motor-cycle dive, Bamboo Drill, Cross Marching, Judo, Ju-Jitsu etc.

Candy House secured a maximum of 169 points and came first. Greaves, Royal and Spence came second, third and fourth respectively.

The performance included Horizontal Bars, Parallel Bars, Broad Box, Long Box, Mat Work, House Marching, P. T. and Karate competitions.

D. Isaac and C. Joseph were judged the best Junior and Senior Gymnast of 1988-89.

The thrilling display put up the boys and girls on 12th August was appreciated by Journalists, Parents and the Chief Guests Brig. and Mrs. Warty. Mr. Baker, the principal welcomed the gathering and Mrs. Warty gave away the Prizes.

RESULTS

EVENTS	JUNIORS		SENIORS		
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	
Horizontal Bar	P. Dueman	G. D. Isaac	R. R. Gupta	G. C. Joseph	C.
				K. Patel	C.
Parallel Bar	D. Isaac	R. P. Dueman	G. S. Patel	R. C. Joseph	C.
Broad Box	D. Isaac	R. J. Tandel	C. C. Joseph	C. S. Patel	R.
Long Box	P. Dueman	G. V. Malsamthanga	R. C. Joseph	C. K. Patel	C.
Matwork	D. Isaac	R. P. Dueman	G. —	—	
Best Gymnast	D. Isaac	R. —	C. Joseph	C. —	
Marching & P.T.	P. Dueman	G. —	G. Patil	R. —	
Karate Boys	D. Isaac	R. A. McLeod	C. C. Joseph	C. K. Patel	C.
Karate Girls	S. Biswas	— Joan of Arc.	I. Campbell	—	
			Joan of Arc.		

Incharge: Mr. S. Isaac

P.T. AND GYMNASTICS REPORT — 1988-89 (GIRLS)

This year the Annual P.T. and Gymnastics Finals were held on the 12th of August '88. This event was eagerly anticipated by the students. The judges were Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Gadre and Mr. Correa. The judges for the preliminaries were Mrs. Thorpe, Miss Pinto and Mr. Gadre. The exercises commenced with mat work comprising of head spring, hand spring, lying down cum forward spring, backward roll and neck spring.

The next exercise was on the broad box and comprised of head spring, hollow back, neck roll and somersault. On the long box, neck roll over, head over, long arm and head balance cum spring over exercises were performed.

The next item was the hoop drill. This item was very colourful and held the attention of the audience. The girls displayed a wonderful exhibition. The timing was precise and the music contributed to an excellent display. Then came the marching and Swedish Drill with a set of twelve new exercises which were done to the timing of various tunes played by the music teacher Miss Verghese. It was a display of grace, colour and precision. The drill was followed by the pyramids. Each house constructed a pyramid. These pyramids received much applause and were proof of the hard work and discipline to which the girls subjected themselves and thus achieved the high standard with my patience, guidance and encouragement.

The Chief Guest was Brig. A. M. Warty accompanied by his wife Mrs. Warty. Brig. Warty said it was an excellent performance and was thoroughly impressed by the high standard of Physical Education in Barnes. He also praised the instructors for the careful training they had given the children. Mrs. Warty consented to give away the prizes.

RESULTS

ITEMS	JUNIORS				SENIORS			
	1st		2nd		1st		2nd	
Mat Work	P. Gough B. Dueman	HK HK	—		R. Emmanuel EC	D. Gough L. Rodrigues	HK FN	
Hoop Drill	M. Macdonald	EC	T. Mohamed	JA	E. Fernandes	FN		
Horse Work	P. Gough	HK	P. Vachhani	HK	D. Gough	HK	L. Thorpe	JA
Swedish Drill	P. Isaac	EC	S. Sikander	FN	L. Fernandes	JA	R. Alphonso	FN
Best Gymnast	P. Gough	HK			D. Gough	HK	C. Pereira	JA
Karate	S. Bishwas	JA			C. Campbell	JA		

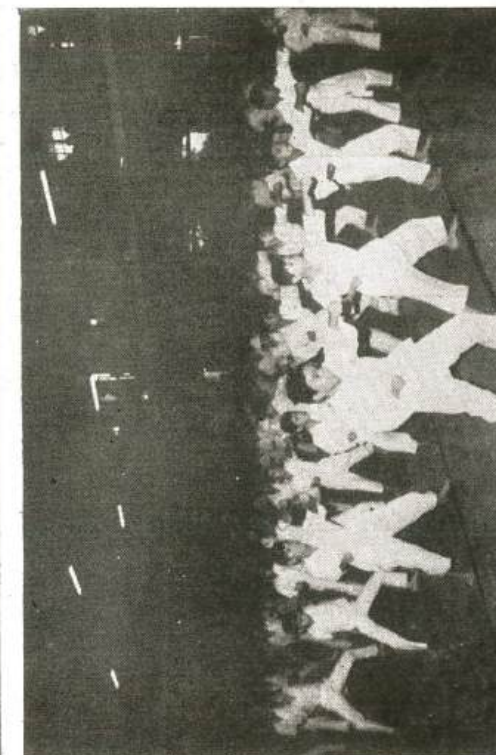
HOUSE POINTS AND POSITIONS

FIRST	...	Helen Keller	—	824.10
SECOND	...	Florence Nightingale	—	764.14
THIRD	...	Edith Cavell	—	467.20
FOURTH	...	Joan of Arc	—	245.32

Incharge: Mr. L. Mainguy



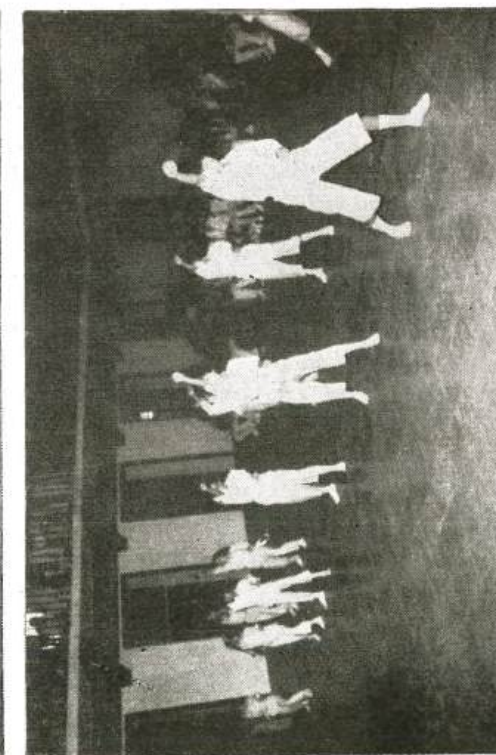
Girls' Pyramid



Basics for Junior Karate



School Pyramid

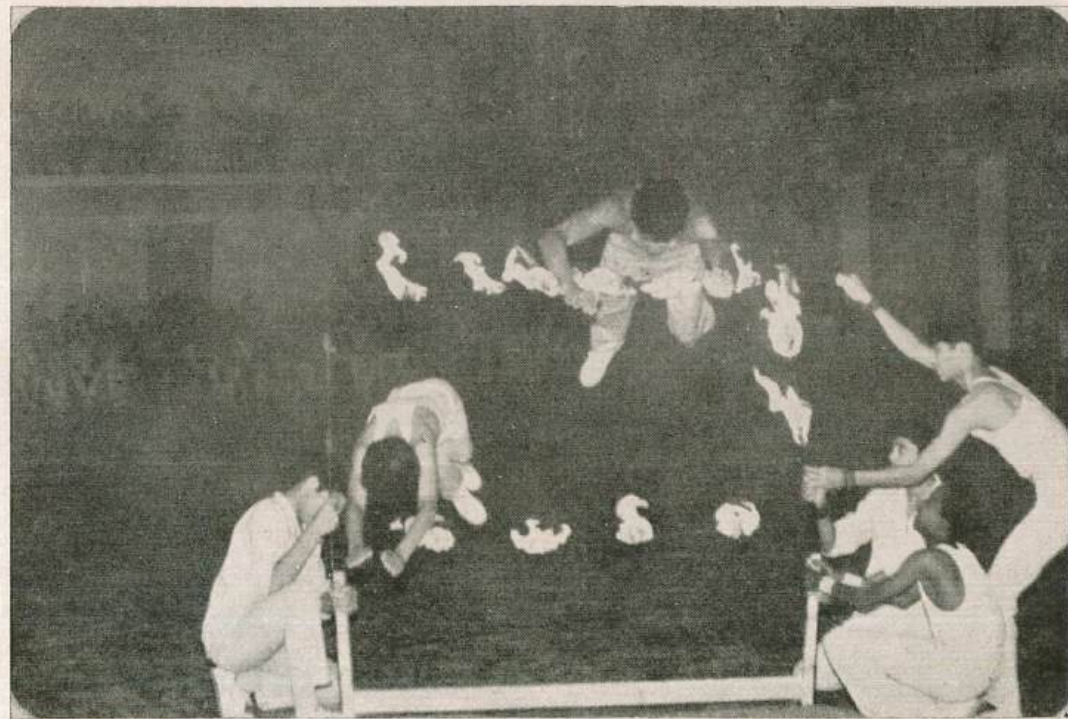


Katha in progress

GYMNASTICS



R. Sukhale somersaulting over a running motor cycle

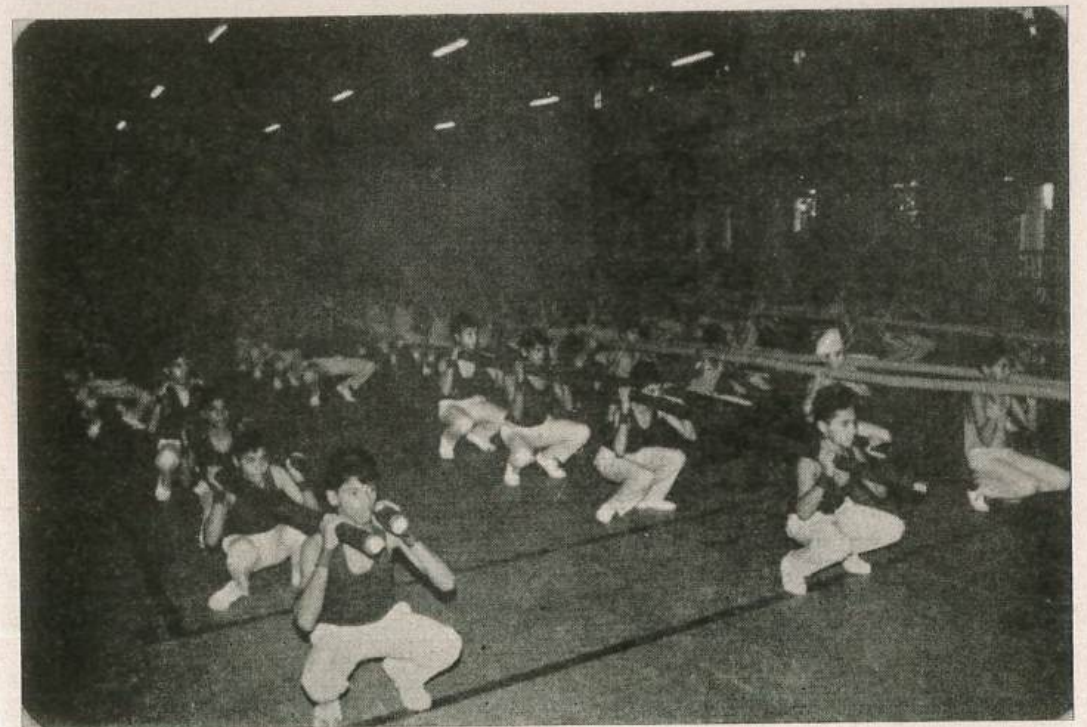


Thrilling double dive through the Fire Square

KARATE AND P. T.



D. Isaac and T. Hasan smashing tiles with elbow strike



The pole drill

THE NATIVITY PLAY STAGED ON 15th DECEMBER, 1888



Teachers Incharge : Mrs. L. Waring, Miss P. Braggs, Miss M. Verghese, Mr. S. Spriggs and Mr. G. Hardy

CROSS COUNTRY 1988-89

The Cross Country practices commenced on the fourteenth of June. The boys had an opportunity to work off the extra fat they had put on during the holidays. At the beginning, they found the going a bit tough and there were quite a few complaints about aches and pains. However, they began to shape up in a remarkably short time and took on the appearance of Marathon runners.

The Prefects placed the boys in their various groups according to their ages. They were as follows :- Midgets (under ten years), Novices (ten to twelve years), Juniors (Twelve to fourteen years), Inters (fourteen to sixteen years) and Seniors (Over sixteen years).

The course for the seniors covers about seven kilometres and the check points are at Donkey Hill, Culvert Number thirteen and Gate Lodge. Each house submitted fifty runners. This year the odds were in favour of Greaves House which has the biggest boys.

The Cross Country finals started at 1 p.m. on Friday 22nd July. It threatened to rain, but fortunately the weather held. There were five groups for the boys and two for the girls. They were lined up, checked and started off at regular intervals with the 'side-liners' cheering lustily. There was great excitement when the runners appeared in the valley below the school, with the boys speculating as to who was leading.

The highest points were awarded to the boy who stood first, the second highest to the next boy and so on. The highest points for each group were equal to the number of participants in that particular group.

There were a few casualties brought in either on the scooters of some of the staff members or in the school bus. When the final tally was made it was found that Royal House beat Greaves by a narrow margin. The midgets and Novices of Royal House had brought the score up.

The event was concluded at 3.30 p.m. and the prizes were distributed by Mr. T. Halpin.

THE POSITIONS WERE AS FOLLOWS:

DIVISION	WINNER	HOUSE
Midgets	1. P. Rajput	Royal
	2. R. Patil	Royal
Novices	1. R. Kamble	Royal
	2. S. Iyer	Royal
Juniors	1. D. Pereira	Greaves
	2. G. Seager	Greaves
Inters	1. M. Shaikh	Greaves
	2. T. Mody	Candy
Seniors	1. R. Sukhale	Spence
	2. S. Pereira	Greaves
GIRLS		
Juniors	1. L. Thorpe	Joan of Arc
	2. P. Gough	Helen Keller
Seniors	1. J. Misra	Helen Keller
	2. R. Emmanuel	Edith Cavell

HOUSE POINTS		
FIRST	...	ROYAL HOUSE
SECOND	...	GREAVES HOUSE
THIRD	...	CANDY HOUSE
FOURTH	...	SPENCE HOUSE
		— 1242
		— 1148
		— 1036
		— 963

Incharge : Mr. D. Correa.

ATHLETICS

INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS (BOYS) — 1988-89

SENIOR DIVISION (Over 16 Yrs.)

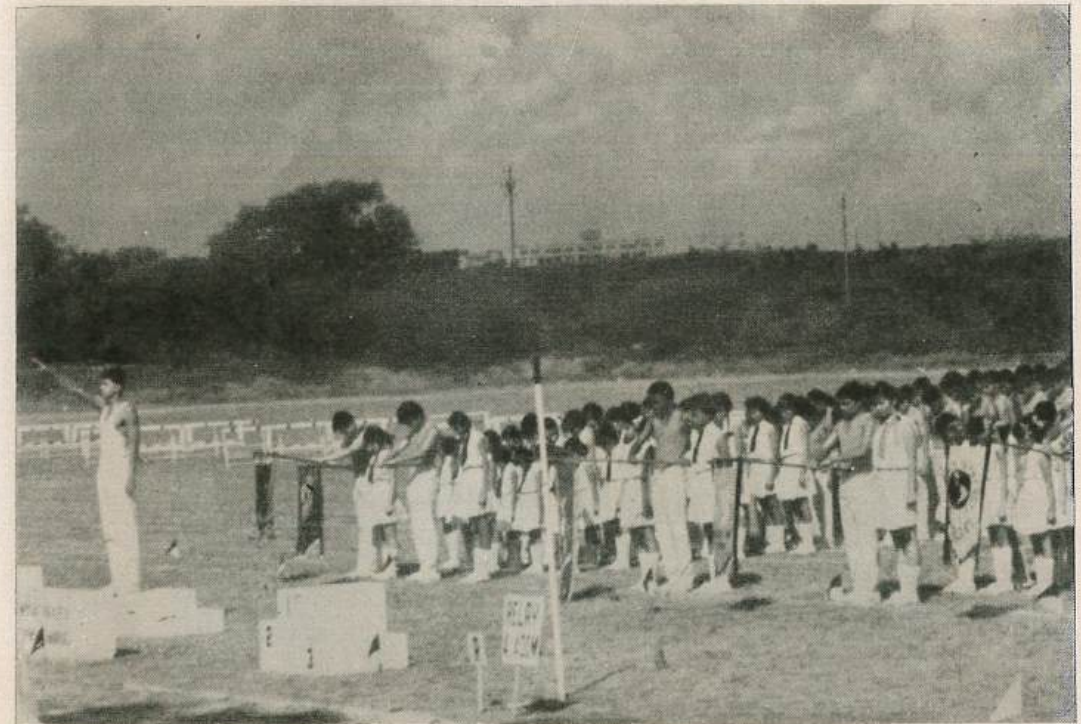
Events	First	Second	Third	Time/ Ht./Dist.
100 m.	C. Joseph	C. R. Sukale	S. G. Ochani	R. 11.9 s.
200 m.	C. Joseph	C. R. Sukale	S. G. Ochani	R. 24.5 s.
400 m.	C. Joseph	C. R. Sukale	S. G. Ochani	R. 57.9 s.
800 m.	R. Sukale	S. C. Joseph	C. G. Ochani	R. 2 min. 21.0 s.
1500 m.	R. Sukale	S. J. Keny	G. G. Ochani	R. 4 min. 57.3 s.
110 m. Hurdles	C. Joseph	C. R. Patil	G. R. Gupta	S. 16.2 s.
Long Jump	C. Joseph	C. A. Thomson	C. R. Sukale	S. 5.52 m.
High Jump	C. Joseph	C. R. Sukale	S. A. Thomson	C. 1.46 m
Triple Jump	C. Joseph	C. A. Thomson	C. R. Sukale	S. 11.61 m.
Discus (2 kg.)	G. Lewis	S. C. Joseph	C. J. Keny	G. 22.31 m.
Javelin (800 g.)	C. Joseph	C. G. Lewis	S. S. Patel	R. 9.05 m.
Shot Put (16 lb.)	C. Joseph	C. G. Lewis	S. G. Ochani	R. 38.65 m.
4x100 m. Relay	CANDY	SPENCE	ROYAL	49.8 s.
4x400 m. Relay	CANDY	SPENCE	ROYAL	4 m. 2.0 s.
Medley Relay 9x4x8x2	SPENCE	CANDY	ROYAL	4 m. 11.0 s.

Rex Ludorum : C. Joseph C.

INTER DIVISION (14 to 16 Yrs.)

Event	First	Second	Third	Time/ Ht./Dist.
100 m.	K. Patel	C. Col. Burgess	S. Cly. Burgess	S. 12.3 s.
200 m.	K. Patel	C. Col. Burgess	S. Cly. Burgess	S. 26.0 s.
400 m.	Col. Burgess	S. K. Patel	C. Cly. Burgess	S. 58.5 s.
800 m.	Col. Burgess	S. Cly. Burgess	S. M. Shaikh	G. 2 m. 19.0 s.
1500 m.	Col. Burgess	S. M. Shaikh	G. S. Thakur	R. 4 m. 50.8 s.
110 m. Hurdles	K. Patel	C. G. Patel	R. R. Rajput	C. 18.8 s.
Long Jump	Col. Burgess	S. K. Patel	C. Cly. Burgess	S. 5.23 m.
High Jump	Col. Burgess	S. R. Rajput	C. S. Imtiaz	S. 1.57 m.
Triple Jump	Col. Burgess	S. G. Patil	R. Cly. Burgess	S. 10.94 m.
Discus (1½ kg.)	Md. A. Juneja	G. Cly. Burgess	S. P. Gupta	G. 28.23 m.
Javelin	A. Jadiya	R. H. Bhati	G. P. Gupta	G. 38.50 m.
Shot Put (14lb.)	Md. A. Juneja	G. S. Ovicegan	G. Col. Burgess	S. 9.08 m.
4x100 m. Relay	SPENCE	ROYAL	GREAVES	—

Rex Ludorum : Colin Burgess S.



The Inter-house athletic meet opens with the oath taking ceremony



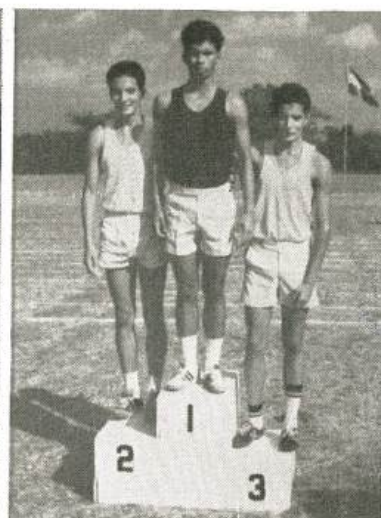
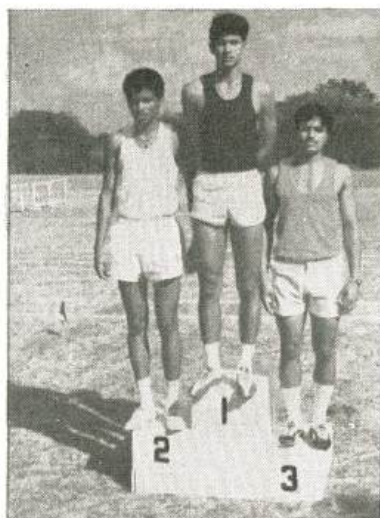
The sack race

OUR ATHLETIC CHAMPIONS

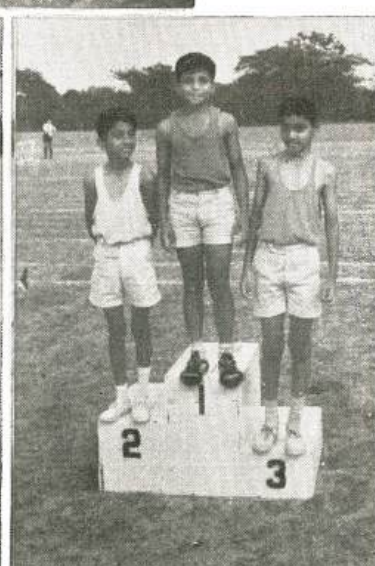
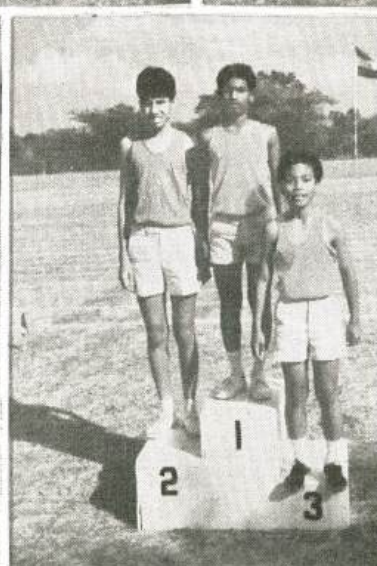
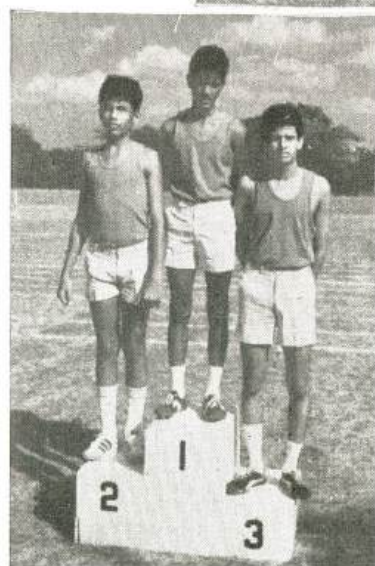
Senior Division — C. Joseph
(centre)

Inter Division — Colin Burgess
(left)

Also in the
photograph
R. Sukale (L)
G. Ochani (R)



Also in the
photograph
K. Patel (C)
Clive Burgess (R)



Junior Division — M. Gupta (C) Novice Division — championship
shared — by R. Kamble (C) and S. Ranjan (L)
Midget Division — N. Puthran (C)

ALSO IN THE PHOTOGRAPH

D. Ovichegan (L) — A. Ranjan (R)

L. Malsawmthanga

S. Kaskar (L) — R. Patil (R)

JUNIOR DIVISION (12 to 14 Yrs.)

Event	First	Second	Third	Time/ Ht./Dist.
100 m.	M. Gupta G.	D. Ovichegan G.	A. Ranjan G.	13.3 s.
200 m.	D. Ovichegan G.	M. Gupta G.	A. Ranjan G.	28.9 s.
400 m.	M. Gupta G.	D. Ovichegan G.	V. Malsawmthanga R.	1 m. 5.0 s.
Hurdles 110 m.	M. Gupta G.	V. Malsawmthanga R.	D. Ovichegan G.	20.3 s.
Long Jump	M. Gupta G.	V. Malsawmthanga R.	N. Swain C.	4.39 s.
High Jump	D. Ovichegan G.	M. Gupta G.	V. Malsawmthanga R.	1.26 m.
Discus (1 kg.)	D. Ovichegan G.	V. Malsawmthanga R.	M. Gupta G.	25.50 m.
Shot Put (10 lb.)	D. Ovichegan G.	M. Gupta G.	A. Deshmukh R.	7.68 m.
4x100 m. Relay	GREAVES	ROYAL	CANDY	55.6 s.

Rex Ludorum: M. Gupta G.

NOVICE DIVISION (10 to 12 Yrs.)

Event	First	Second	Third	Time/ Ht./Dist.
100 m.	R. Kamble R.	S. Ranjan R.	L. Malsawmthanga R.	14.1 s.
200 m.	R. Kamble R.	S. Ranjan R.	L. Malsawmthanga R.	29.3 s.
Long Jump	S. Ranjan G.	R. Kamble G.	M. S. Sekhon G.	4.02 m.
High Jump	S. Ranjan G.	R. Kamble G.	S. Singh S.	1.20 m.

Rex Ludorum: R. Kamble R. and S. Ranjan G.

MIDGET DIVISION (Under 10 Yrs.)

Event	First	Second	Third	Time/ Ht./Dist.
50 m.	N. Puthran G.	S. Kaskar G.	R. Patil S.	8.2 s.
100 m.	N. Puthran G.	R. Patil G.	S. Kaskar S.	15.7 s.
Long Jump	N. Puthran G.	S. Kaskar G.	R. Patil S.	3.41 m.
High Jump	R. Patil G.	N. Puthran R.	S. Kaskar G.	0.94 m.

Rex Ludorum: N. Puthran G.

Event	First	Second	Third	Time/ Ht./Dist.
Mixed Relay	Spence & Florence Nightingale	Candy & Joan of Arc	Greaves & Helen Keller	FOURTH
March Past	Spence & F.N.	Candy & J.A.	Royal & E.C.	Greaves & H.K.
4x400 Open Relay	Arty Centre	Ex-Students	Barnes School	3 m. 47.0 s.

FLOATING CUPS AND TROPHIES

1. Sqn. Ldr. Liddle Cup for Marching	—	Spence & Florence Nightingale
2. Cup for Junior Relay	—	Greaves
3. Cup for Intermediate Relay	—	Spence
4. Bakshi Cup for Two Senior Relays	—	Candy
5. W. Robb Cup for Medley Relay	—	Spence
6. Open Relay Cup	—	Arty Centre
7. Trophy for Mixed Relay	—	Spence & Florence Nightingale
8. Barrow Hard Lines Cup (Runner-up House)	—	Greaves
9. Henry Down Cup for Champion House	—	Spence

HOUSE POSITIONS AND POINTS

FIRST	...	SPENCE	...	158½ Points
SECOND	...	GREAVES	...	144 Points
THIRD	...	CANDY	...	136 Points
FOURTH	...	ROYAL	...	91½ Points

Incharge: Mr. S. Gadre

INTER-HOUSE ATHLETICS (GIRLS) — 1988-89

Senior Division (Over 14 Yrs.)

Event	First	Second	Third	Time/ Ht./Dist
100 m.	R. Emmanuel EC.	R. Alphonso FN.	I. Campbell JA.	15.6 s.
200 m.	R. Emmanuel EC.	R. Alphonso FN.	L. Thorpe JA.	34.4 s.
400 m.	L. Thorpe JA.	R. Emmanuel EC.	J. Misra HK.	1 m. 21.2 s.
110 m. Hurdles	R. Emmanuel EC.	R. Yaseen H. EC.	R. Alphonso FN.	23.4 s.
Long Jump	L. Thorpe JA.	R. Emmanuel EC.	R. Alphonso FN.	3.44 m.
High Jump	D. Gupta EC.	C. Pereira JA.	R. Emmanuel EC. & R. Alphonso FN.	1.12 m.
Triple Jump	R. Emmanuel EC.	L. Thorpe JA.	J. Misra HK.	8.45 m.
Shot Put	R. Emmanuel EC.	C. Pereira JA.	I. Campbell JA.	5.80 m.
Javelin	D. Gupta EC.	R. Emmanuel EC.	I. Campbell JA.	21 m.
Discus	R. Emmanuel EC.	D. Gupta EC.	I. Campbell JA.	20.04 m.
4x100 m. Relay	Helen Keller	Edith Cavell	Florence Nightingale	1 m. 4 s.
4x100 m. Relay	FN. & Spence	JA. & Candy	HK. & Greaves	56.9 s.

Rex Ludorum: R. Emmanuel EC.

INTER DIVISION (12 to 14 Yrs.)

Event	First	Second	Third	Time/ Ht./Dist
100 m.	D. Gough HK.	L. Rodrigues FN.	N. Omar FN.	15.1 s.
200 m.	D. Gough HK.	P. Vacchani HK.	N. Omar FN.	32.2 s.
110 m. Hurdles	N. Omar FN.	K. Labana HK.	D. Gough HK.	24.6 s.
Long Jump	D. Gough HK.	A. Gupta HK.	K. Labana HK.	3.44 m.
High Jump	P. Vacchani HK.	N. Omar FN.	A. Gupta HK.	1.03 m.
Discus	D. Gough HK.	P. Vacchani HK.	N. Ahuja JA.	15.18 m.
Javelin	D. Gough HK.	P. Kaur EC.	A. Gupta HK.	14.81 m.
Shot Put	D. Gough HK.	P. Kaur EC.	P. Vacchani HK.	7.52 m.
New Record				

Rex Ludorum: D. Gough HK.

JUNIOR DIVISION (10 to 12 Yrs.)

Event	First	Second	Third	Time/ Ht./Dist
50 m.	S. Bishwas JA.	S. Masurkar FN.	P. Gough HK.	8.5 s.
100 m.	S. Bishwas JA.	P. Gough HK.	S. Masurkar FN.	16 s.
50 m. Skipping	P. Gough HK.	S. Bishwas JA.	Tar Sheikh JA.	9.2 s.
100 m. Skipping	P. Gough HK.	S. Bishwas JA.	P. Isaac EC.	17.5 s.
Long Jump	M. Changlani FN.	P. Gough HK.	—	—
High Jump	P. Gough HK.	A. Singh EC.	—	2.98 m.
4x100 m. Relay	Florence Nightingale	P. Isaac EC.	S. Bishwas JA.	1.04 m.
		Edith Cavell	Joan of Arc.	1. m. 9 s.

Rex Ludorum: P. Gough HK

OUR ATHLETIC CHAMPIONS

Senior Division — R. Emmanuel (C)

Inter Division — D. Gough (C)

NOVICE DIVISION (Under 10 Yrs.)

Events	First	Second	Third	Time/ Ht./Dist.
50 m.	W. Jackson	EC. P. Khatri	JA. R. Al-Fadhli	EC. 9.2 s.
100 m.	S. Shaikh	HK. C. Panekar	EC. R. Fernandes	FN. 18.3 s.
50 m. Skipping	P. Rai	JA. W. Jackson	EC. S. Shaikh	HK. 10.3 s.
Long Jump	P. Khatri	JA. M. Silveira	HK. C. Panekar	EC. 2.32 m.
High Jump	R. Al-Fadhli	EC. W. Jackson	EC. —	0.85 m.
		K. Changlani	FN.	

Rex Ludorum: W. Jackson EC

FLOATING TROPHIES

- | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. Son. Ldr. Liddle Cup for Marching | — | Florence Nightingale & Spence |
| 2. Brig. Wilshaw Cup for Sr. Relay | — | Helen Keller |
| 3. Cup for Mixed Relay | — | Florence Nightingale & Spence |
| 4. Barrow Hardline Cup for Runner up House | — | Helen Keller |
| 5. Lady Wilson Cup for the Champion House | — | Edith Cavell |
| 6. Cup for the Jr. Relay | — | Florence Nightingale |

MARCH PAST

FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH	JA.	HK	EC.	FN.
FN. & S.	JA. & C.	EC. & R.	HK & G.	15	5	10	20

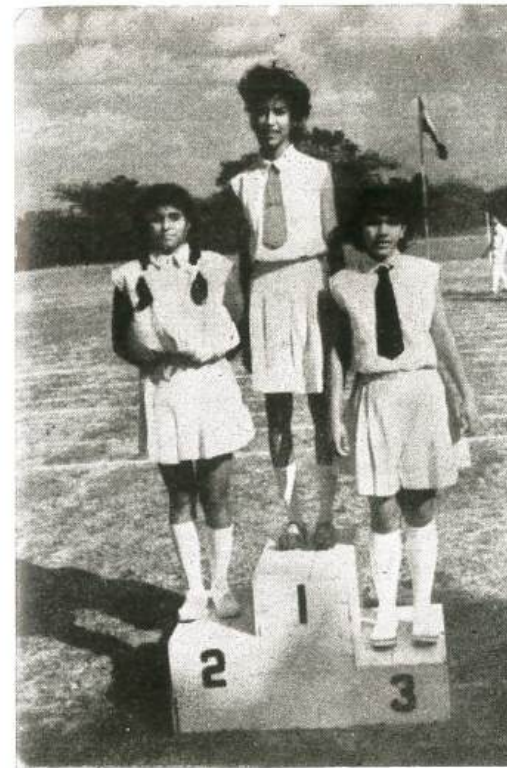
DIVISION TOTALS	JA.	HK.	EC.	FN.
SENIOR	31	15	62½	21½
INTER	1	52	6	13
JUNIOR	21	21	13	19
NOVICE	13	9	20	3
MARCH PAST	15	5	10	20
GRAND TOTAL	81	102	111½	76½

HOUSE POSITIONS AND POINTS

POSITION	HOUSE	POINTS
FIRST ...	Edith Cavell	111½
SECOND ...	Helen Keller	102
THIRD ...	Joan of Arc	81
FOURTH ...	Florence Nightingale	76½

Incharge: Mrs. V. Thorpe

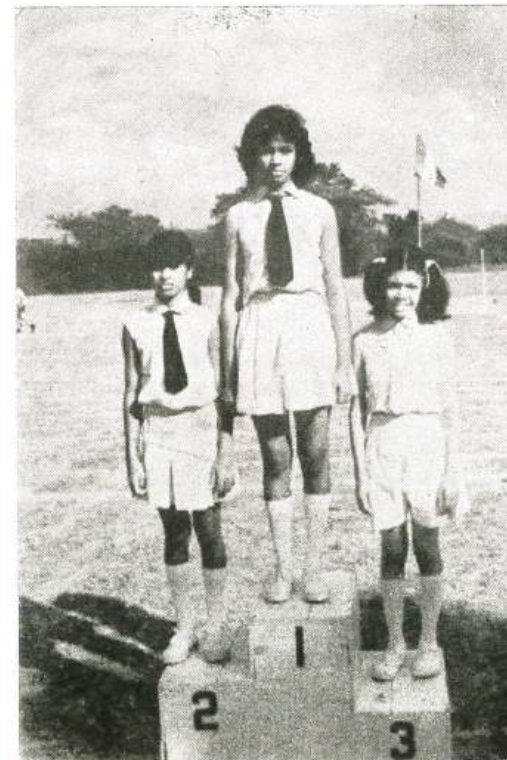
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R. Alphonso (L) — I. Campbell (R)



L. Rodrigues (L) — N. Omar (R)



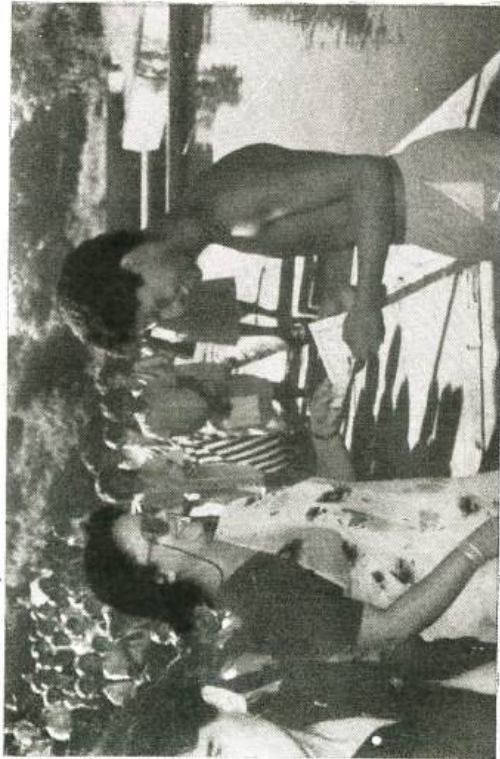
Junior Division — P. Gough (L)
S. Biswas (C) — S. Masurkar (R)



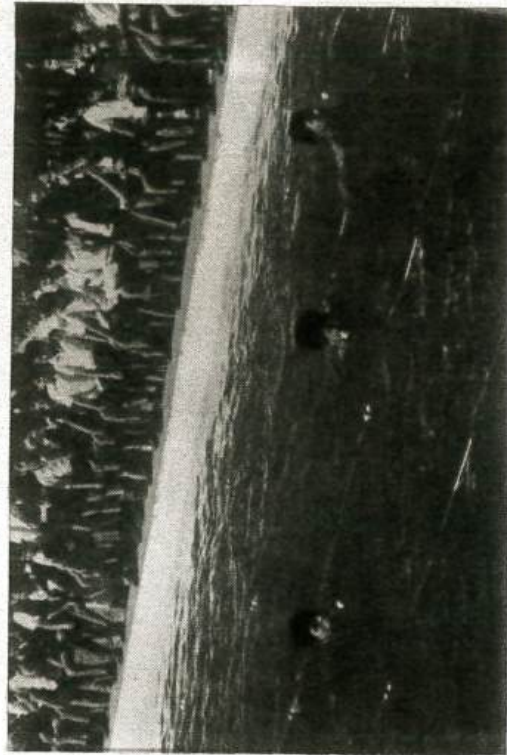
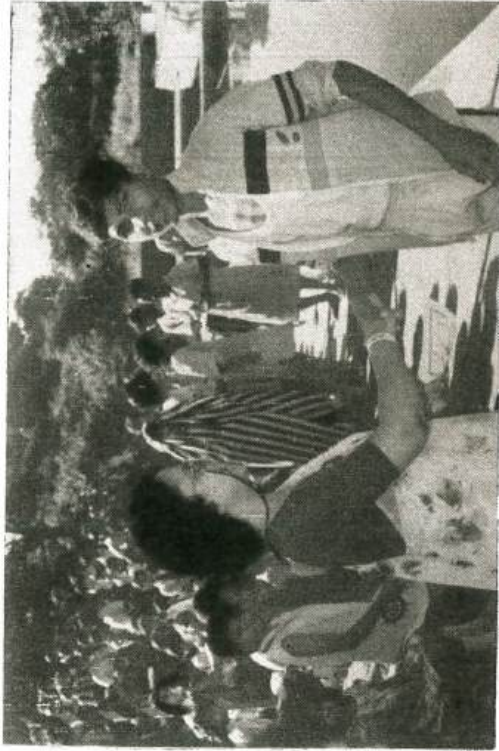
Novice Division — W. Jackson (C)
P. Khatri (L) — C. Panekar (R)

SWIMMING

R. Gupta (Senior Div. Champion) — Receiving his Certificate from Mrs. A. Baker



S. Imtiaz — Inter Division Champion



SWIMMING — 1988-89

The swimming season began late this year because of the heavy rains in Devlali. The pool was perpetually full, but with the muddy water from the dam.

The heats had to be hurried as the cricket house matches were being played too. Two houses at a time had their heats.

This year, the swimming in the seniors, Inters and Juniors divisions was a one sided affair. In the senior division R. Gupta of Spence house bettered his previous records in all the events and even broke the 50m. breast-stroke record this year. He was awarded the 'best swimmer' this year.

In the Inter division, S. Imtiaz walked away with the Rex Ludorum. There was, however, some competition in the Juniors, but it was not good enough for B. Dhillon of Greaves house. He broke all the free style records. He came first in the 25 m. breast-stroke with a record timing; but VanlalHuma's timing in the heats was better than his and so, the record stands in VanlalHuma's name. Here I would like to mention that B. Dhillon the joint winner of the Rex Ludorum last year was given his medal this year.

This year we were glad to see the number of boys taking part in the Novice division increasing. There were many good swimmers and a few of them are S. Peshpande of Greaves, R. Gupta of Spence, who won the Rex Ludorum, A. Pathan of Greaves and J. Patel of Candy.

The swimming final was held on the 9th of December at 1.00 p.m. It went off smoothly. Spence House emerged the class victors. There was a competition for the second place between Candy and Greaves. Greaves came second and Candy third.

This year the Novelty Relay was held again, successfully. Classes 7, 8, 9 and 10 took part. This time they had to do different things from last year. The first competitor just put on a night suit and swam across. The second had to get into the same suit, eat a bun and then put a spoon in his mouth, balance a lime on it and then walk across. The third swimmer did the same, but this time he had to walk backwards. The last had to just put the suit on and hold the lime in his mouth and swim across. Now, the walking seems easy. The only problem was that there was a very slippery layer of moss at the bottom of the pool. The spectators were, therefore treated to some fine ballet by the swimmers.

This event again had the crowd roaring with laughter and it was difficult to control them. Class VII won the cake. The Staff Vs. Boys Vs. Prefects relay was won, once again, by the staff who had the same team as last year, namely Mr. B. Fernandez, Mr. S. Spriggs, Mr. E. Myall and myself. The boys came second and the prefects third (last). Mrs. Baker kindly consented to give away the prizes.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all members of staff who helped in making this year's swimming a success.

Incharge : Mr. G. Hardy

BOYS' INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING 1988-89
SENIOR DIVISION (Over 16 Yrs.)

Events	First	Second	Third	Time
50 mts. F.S.	R. Gupta S.	K. Patel C.	G. Lewis S.	32.7 s. N.A.
75 mts. F.S.	R. Gupta S.	G. Lewis S.	K. Patel C.	53.1 s. N.R.
100 mts. F.S.	R. Gupta S.	G. Lewis S.	K. Patel C.	1 m. 14.1 s. N.R.
400 mts. F.S. (open)	R. Gupta S.	B. Dhillon (Jr.) G.	G. Lewis S.	7 m. 5.0 s. N.R.
50 mts. B.S.	R. Gupta S.	G. Lewis S.	K. Patel C.	42.5 s. N.R.
50 mts. Breast-Stroke	R. Gupta S.	G. Lewis S.	R. Sukale S.	44.8 s. N.R.
25 mts. Butterfly-Stroke Senior	R. Gupta S.	G. Lewis S.	K. Patel C.	17.5 s. N.R.
Relay 50-25-25-50	SPENCE	CANDY	ROYAL	1 m. 50.0 s.
Medley Relay 25 mts. each Br.But.Bk.Free	SPENCE	CANDY	GREAVES	1 m. 23.0 s.
Mixed Relay Boy-Girl-Girl-Boy	CANDY & J.A.	SPENCE & F.N.	GREAVES & H.K.	2 m. 10.7 s.
Individual Medley But.Bk.Br.Free	R. Gupta S.	G. Lewis S.	B. Dhillon (Jr.) G.	1 m. 29.6 s. N.R.

Rex Ludorum : R. Gupta S.

INTER DIVISION (14 to 16 Yrs.)

Events	First	Second	Third	Time
50 mts. Free style	S. Imtiaz S.	M. Singh C.	A. Pathan G.	40.8 s.
75 mts. Free style	S. Imtiaz S.	B. Kavianifar C.	P. Thakker G.	1 m. 16.7 s.
100 mts. Free style	S. Imtiaz S.	M. Singh C.	B. Kavianifar G.	1 m. 46.8 s.
50 mts. Back-stroke	S. Imtiaz S.	M. Singh C.	A. Pathan G.	57.6 s.
50 mts. Br. stroke	S. Imtiaz S.	V. Dattani C.	R. Nomani G.	1 m. 1.1 sec.
25 mts. Butt. stroke	S. Imtiaz S.	M. Singh C.	A. Keshava R.	23.9 s.

Rex Ludorum : S. Imtiaz S.

BOYS' INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING 1988-89
JUNIOR DIVISION — (12 to 14 Yrs.)

Events	First	Second	Third	Time
25 mts. Free style	B. Dhillon G.	V. Malsawmthanga R.	A. Md. Omar S.	16.5 N.R.
50 mts. Free style	B. Dhillon G.	V. Malsawmthanga R.	A. Md. Omar S.	36.7 s. N.R.
75 mts. Free style	B. Dhillon G.	V. Malsawmthanga R.	N. Swain C.	1 m. 1.1 s. N.R.
200 mts. Free style (open.)	B. Dhillon G.	V. Malsawmthanga R.	N. Swain C.	3 m. 26.7 s. N.R.
25 mts. Back-stroke	B. Dhillon G.	V. Malsawmthanga R.	H. Ichpanani R.	22.7 s.
25 mts. BREAST-STROKE	B. Dhillon G.	V. Malsawmthanga R.	S. Gupta S.	20.0 s. N.R. (By: V. Malsawmthanga)
JUNIOR RELAY 50x25x25x50	GREAVES	ROYAL	SPENCE	2 m. 36.7 s.

Rex Ludorum : B. Dhillon G.

NOVICE DIVISION — (Under 12 Yrs.)

Events	First	Second	Third	Time
25 mts. Free style	S. Deshpande G.	R. Gupta S.	A. Pathan G.	28.4 s.
50 mts. Free style	A. Pathan G.	J. Patel C.	R Gupta S.	1 m. 24.3 s.
75 mts. Free style	R. Gupta S.	J. Patel C.	D. S. Johar G.	2 m. 22.0 s.
25 mts. Back-stroke	S. Deshpande G.	R. Gupta S.		34.0 s.

Rex Ludorum : R. Gupta S.

	HOUSE POINTS	CANDY	GREAVES	ROYAL	SPENCE
Sr. Division	—	147	31	17	08
Int. Division	—	54	19	04	01
Jr. Division	—	79	05	40	26
Nov. Division	—	36	06	17	00
Total	—	316	61	78	35
Positions	—	—	3rd	2nd	4th

- Best swimmer of the year — R. Gupta. S.
- School of Artillery Challenge Cup for combined Relays — Spence.
- F. W. English Championship Cup — Spence.

Points: (1) For Races....5 — 3 — 1.
 (2) For Relays....10 — 7 — 5 — 3.

Prizes: REX —Gold Medal and Cert.
 FIRST —Silver Medal and Cert.
 SECOND —Bronze Medal and Cert.
 THIRD —A Cert.
 BEST SWIMMER —A Cert.

RECORDS

Senior Division

50 m. Free style	—	1987	—	R. Gupta	S.	—	33.5 s.
75 m. Free style	—	1987	—	R. Gupta	S.	—	54.5 s.
100 m. Free style	—	1987	—	R. Gupta	S.	—	1 m. 22.6 s.
400 m. Free style (open)	—	1987	—	R. Gupta	S.	—	7 m. 13.5 s.
50 m. Back stroke	—	1987	—	R. Gupta	S.	—	43.5 s.
50 m. Breast stroke	—	1973	—	R. Parvaresh	R.	—	44.9 s.
25 m. Butterfly stroke	—	1987	—	R. Gupta	S.	—	18.0 s.
Senior Relay-50x25x25x50	—	1987	—	Spence	—	—	1 m. 45.0 s.
Medley Relay-25 mts. each	—	1987	—	Spence	—	—	1 m. 19.8 s.
Mixed Relay-50-25-25-50	—	1982	—	Greaves & H.K.	—	—	2 m. 9.4 s.
Individual Medley	—	1987	—	R. Gupta	S.	—	1 m. 32.9 s.

Inter Division

50 m. Free style	—	1987	—	K. Patel	C.	—	35.6 s.
75 m. Free style	—	1972	—	S. Parveresh	R.	—	1 m. 2.3 s.
100 m. Free style	—	1972	—	S. Parveresh	R.	—	1 m. 28.0 s.
50 m. Back stroke	—	1966	—	R. Irani	S.	—	47.0 s.
50 m. Breast stroke	—	1973	—	P. Ramchandani	C.	—	47.7 s.
25 m. Butterfly stroke	—	1972	—	S. Parveresh	R.	—	18.9 s.

Junior Division

25 m. Free style	—	1976	—	B. Kolpe	S.	—	16.6 s.
50 m. Free style	—	1982	—	S. Chandra	S.	—	41.0 s.
75 m. Free style	—	1969	—	S. Parveresh	R.	—	1 m. 9.2 s.
200 m. Free style (open)	—	1968	—	R. Parveresh	R.	—	3 m. 52.0 s.
25 m. Back stroke	—	1962	—	K. Shortlands	R.	—	21.5 s.
25 m. Breast stroke	—	1987	—	V. Malsawmthanga	R.	—	22.9 s.
Junior Relay	—	1962	—	Candy	—	—	2 m. 13.9 s.

Novice Division

25 m. Free style	—	1974	—	B. Kolpe	S.	—	20.3 s.
50 m. Free style	—	1974	—	B. Kolpe	S.	—	46.4 s.
75 m. Free style	—	1968	—	S. Parveresh	R.	—	1 m. 17.6 s.
25 m. Back stroke	—	1969	—	J. Dhillon	G.	—	27.0 s.

BOYS INTER-HOUSE DIVING FINALS

The diving practices started on 6th January 89 and the students had to work really hard. Basketball and Volleyball matches were going on simultaneously, so the divers had little time for the practices. Due to a crack in the floor of the diving pool the water level was decreasing and the inter and senior division boys could not practice from the three metre board. However, inspite of all these difficulties they did exceptionally well on the final day.

Diving is an art and concentration is the foremost quality essential in a diver. Then comes the flight, body balance and the smooth entry of the diver into the water: these essentials also very important for a diver to know. Some boys were really very raw when they first came for practice and a lot of effort had to be put into training them.

The diving finals were held on Friday the 17th of February 1989 also proved quite a success. Except for a few, all the divers displayed a remarkable show of the diving skill.

The results of the Diving Finals are:

Junior Division

1st	P. Dueman	(Greaves)
2nd	V. Malsawanthanga	(Royal)

Inter Division

1st	A. Pathan	(Greaves)
2nd	T. Mody	(Candy)

Senior Division

1st	C. Joseph	(Candy)
2nd	K. Patel	(Candy)
	R. Gupta	(Spence)

P. Dueman was awarded the Best Junior diver while C. Joseph was given the Best Senior diver.

House Positions

1st	Greaves	1186
2nd	Royal	1149
3rd	Candy	1127
4th	Spence	900

Incharge: Mr. L. Mainguy

SWIMMING REPORT (GIRLS) 1988-89

The commencement of the second term brought in its wake an excitement and anticipation of the Swimming Season at Barnes. The children could hardly wait for the pool to be cleaned and white-washed, so that they could begin swimming. In spite of the inclement weather the efficiency of Mr. Waring and his staff made it possible for the children to begin swimming practice as soon as possible.

The practice amongst the girls started with enthusiasm and the pool was soon full of swimmers and beginners enjoying the water. There were crowds at the pool who came not to swim but only as spectators. The practice began in earnest and there were times when we were called upon to rescue some daring child or the other on the verge of drowning.

The heats began and excitement mounted among the participants and the non-participants. Once again we had to rescue some adventurous ones who almost went down.

The date of the swimming gala was eventually set for December 9th '88.

The day dawned with enthusiasm. Competition among the houses was keen and Joan of Arc emerged the victor, due to the superb efforts of Lorelei Thorpe of the senior division and Nita Ahuja of the Inter division. Both bagged the coveted Rex Ludorum in their respective groups. Joan of Arc also won the Whaley Cup for the champion house, after a thrilling performance in the Senior Relay. In the junior division, Bonita Dhillon of Helen Keller performed exceedingly well, giving her opponents a lead of at least half a length. The well-earned Rex Ludorum for the junior division was awarded to her.

Besides these, the other participants who made the events exciting were L. Fernandez of Joan of Arc, E. Fernandez of Florence Nightingale and Harmeet Gujral of Helen Keller in the Senior Division; Nadia Omar Ali and Lorrain Rodrigues of Florence Nightingale; Sonali Bishwas of Helen Keller of the Inter Division; Caroline Correa of Joan of Arc and Shagufta Sikander of Florence Nightingale of the Junior Division.

A Silver Medal and a certificate were awarded to those who took the first position; a bronze medal and a certificate were awarded to those who held the second position and a certificate was given to the third position holder.

Miss V. Morris and Mrs. V. Bhattacharjee were the judges and Mr. M. Thorpe was the chief judge. Mr. A. Baker presided over the swimming meet and Mrs. A. Baker graciously consented to give away the prizes. 9th December proved to be an exciting day for staff, students and spectators alike.

Incharge: Mrs. H. Driver

GIRLS INTER-HOUSE SWIMMING 1988-89 SENIOR DIVISION (Over 14 Yrs.)

Event	First	Second	Third	Time
25 mts. Free style	F. L. Thorpe JA.	L. Fernandez JA.	H. Gujral HK.	23.5 s.
50 mts. Free style	F. L. Thorpe JA.	L. Fernandez JA.	H. Gujral HK.	52 s.
50 mts. Back stroke	F. L. Thorpe JA.	L. Fernandez JA.	E. Fernandez FN.	1.06 s.
25 mts. Breast stroke	F. L. Fernandez JA.	E. Fernandez FN.	L. Thorpe JA.	28.8 s.
200 mts. Open Free style	F. L. Thorpe JA.	B. Dhillon HK.	N. Ahuja JA.	4 m. 59.5 s.
Senior Relay 4x25	F. JOAN OF ARC	HELEN KELLER	FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE	1 m. 51.1 s.
Mixed Relay 50x25x25x50	F. JOAN OF ARC	FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE	HELEN KELLER	2 m. 10.7 s.

Rex Ludorum: Lorelei Thorpe

INTER DIVISION (12 to 14 Yrs.)

Events	First	Second	Third	Time
25 mts. Free style	F. N. Ahuja JA.	N. Omar FN.	L. Rodrigues FN.	22.8 s.
50 mts. Free style	F. N. Ahuja JA.	N. Omar FN.	L. Rodrigues FN.	57.14 s.
25 mts. Back stroke	F. N. Ahuja JA.	N. Omar FN.	S. Biswas HK.	33.5 s.
25 mts. Breast stroke	F. N. Ahuja JA.	N. Omar FN.	—	33.7 s.

Rex Ludorum: Nita Ahuja

JUNIOR DIVISION (10 to 12 Yrs.)

Events	First	Second	Third	Time
25 mts. Free style	F. B. Dhillon HK.	C. Correa JA.	S. Sikander FN.	22.7 s.
25 mts. Back stroke	F. B. Dhillon HK.	C. Correa JA.	—	33.0 s.
25 mts. Breast stroke	F. B. Dhillon HK.	C. Correa JA.	S. Sikander FN.	37.28 s.
Junior Relay 4x12.5 m.	F. (NOT HELD — NO COMPETITORS)			

Rex Ludorum: B. Dhillon

NOVICE DIVISION (Under 10 Yrs.)

Event	First	Second	Third	Time
25 mts. Free style	F.	(NO COMPETITORS)	—	—

POSITION OF HOUSES

HOUSE	TOTAL POINTS	POSITION
Joan of Arc	85	1st
Helen Keller	33	2nd
Florence Nightingale	32	3rd
Edith Cavell	0	—

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RECORDS

Senior Division

25 mt. Free style	—	1980	—	F. Ghalaneh	—	19.7 s.
50 mt. Free style	—	1980	—	F. Ghalaneh	—	46.2 s.
50 mt. Back stroke	—	1984	—	Z. Ghalaneh	—	1 m. 0.4 s.
25 mt. Breast stroke	—	1980	—	F. Ghalaneh	—	24.3 s.
200 mt. Open Free style	—	1980	—	F. Ghalaneh	—	4 m. 34.4 s.
Senior Relay 4x25	—	1962	—	F.N.	—	1 m. 40.7 s.
Mixed Relay 50x25x25x50	—	1982	—	Greaves & HK.	—	2 m. 9.4 s.

Inter Division

25 mt. Free style	—	1980	—	R. Vaseghi	—	21.6 s.
50 mt. Free style	—	1980	—	R. Vaseghi	—	51.4 s.
25 mt. Back stroke	—	1982	—	M. Dedhar	—	27.8 s.
25 mt. Breast stroke	—	1977	—	B. Khan	—	29.7 s.

Junior Division

25 mt. Free style	—	1965	—	G. King	—	25.2 s.
25 mt. Back stroke	—	1983	—	M. Newton	—	31.0 s.
25 mt. Breast stroke	—	1980	—	H. Kheterpal	—	32.0 s.
Junior Relay 4x12.5 mt	—	1969	—	F.N.	—	56.0 s.

Novice Division

25 mt. Free style	—	1987	—	B. Dhillon	—	32.0 s.
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CRICKET 1988-89

There has been a great improvement in cricket this year. The season began with a friendly team from Bombay, St. Xavier's School, requesting a friendly week-end game of cricket. For the first time in Barnes School the boys played continuous cricket for three days. It was unusual because our boys love to hit and hope for the best rather than play the Gentleman's inning. This, however, was shown from the opposite team. There were students who were smaller, weaker than ours but showed our boys what Test cricket is actually about. There was no decision made and one would say a very friendly atmosphere prevailed between the schools.

Very few interesting staff matches were played for the simple reason the boys kept defeating us. The Ex-students arrived with a 'Bang' hoping that they would avenge the many staff defeats at the hands of the students. However, it was in vain, especially with our school staff and boys combined team, the match was yet another victory. Here a special mention must be made of our Principal and Mr. Gadre who set up a wonderful partnership of about 50 runs.

The house matches this year were a batting struggle right to the end. The students were watching too much of Television and no doubt were proving a point to the Indian and New Zealand teams.

Although the matches were a bit hurried up by the umpires to complete the overs, the full team still got a chance to take part in the tournament. The best player for the year 1988-89 is C. Joseph who put up a superb performance in the History of Barnes School. In a match played between Royal and Candy this young lad took FIVE WICKETS in ONE OVER! This has never been achieved by any student previously. His batting performance was way above average. An excellent performance by the School Captain and the Captain of the School Cricket Team! The school cricket team is as follows: C. Joseph (Capt.) O. Maie, R. Sukale, A. Raj, M. Singh, A. Thomson, J. Keny, P. Gaikwad, A. Jadiya, R. Patel, S. Rajput, R. Gupta, P. Gupta, F. Memon.

The House scores based on the league system are as follows:

		CANDY				GREAVES				ROYAL				SPENCE				
		Number of Matches Played																
		A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	
C	VS G	—	2	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
R	VS S	—	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	0
G	VS R	—	X	X	X	X	2	1	0	0	0	1	2	2	X	X	X	X
C	VS S	—	2	2	0	2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	0	0	2	0	
C	VS R	—	2	0	0	0	X	X	X	X	0	2	2	2	X	X	X	X
G	VS S	—	X	X	X	X	2	2	0	2	X	X	X	X	0	0	2	0
TOTAL		—	12				13				15				8			
POSITION		—	3rd				2nd				1st				4th			

Incharge: Mr. S. Spriggs

HOCKEY REPORT 1988-89

The season was an extremely short one owing to many factors. As a result the boys had hardly settled down to some serious practice when the house-matches commenced.

Sadly this year's tournament was not as exciting as the previous one. Royal House has strides ahead of the other three colours. All the same there was a keen struggle among Greaves, Spence and Candy for the next three positions. Eventually Royal stood first with a total of 18 points followed by a distant Greaves who secured 11 points, Candy and Spence came third and fourth with 10 and 9 points respectively. The best player of this year was C. Joseph of Candy.

The Inter-school fixture with St. Peter's was duly played at the Bombay venue. Surprisingly enough we were convincingly beaten by four goals. Even though the score indicates a sorry picture the Barnes Boys put up a good show, the only fault being that they were not able to convert the chances that came their way whereas St. Peter's did.

As always our boys thoroughly enjoyed their outing and, needless to add, the hosts played their role to the hilt, giving the lads of Barnes a memorable experience.

The following boys were the members of the Barnes School XI: C. Joseph (Capt.), R. Sukale, R. A. Maredia, M. Juneja, S. Pereira, G. Lewis, A. Desai, A. Jadiya, A. Malik, O. Maie, J. Keny, P. Gaikwad, A. Thompson, G. Bhelonde, D. Pereira.

Incharge: Mr E. Myall

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SOFT BALL 1988-89

The Soft Ball Inter House Tournament was held from 6th July '88 to the 9th July '88. Joan of Arc played the first match against Helen Keller. After tea the two teams came running to the Soft Ball court, as they were quite excited. No sooner did they arrange themselves, there was a sudden down pour of rain. They took shelter under the Banyan tree and recited the nursery Rhyme "Rain, rain go away". After fifteen minutes we were back on the field. The girls looked quite nervous as the Soft Ball pitch was damp. Owing to the inclement weather, Helen Keller made two runs and won the match. The weather cock changed his position and there was bright sunshine. Edith Cavell happily played another match with Florence Nightingale and won the match.

On 7th July '88 the first match Edith Cavells played against Helen Keller both teams were equally strong. The Helen Kellers beautifully co-ordinated with their Captain and won the match. The second match Joan of Arc played against Florence Nightingale. Though Joan of Arc was the weaker team, they managed to win the game. Each player was quite alert and put in every effort to win the game.

On the 8th July '88 Helen Keller played against Florence Nightingale and won the match. On 9th the last match was played between Edith Cavell and Joan of Arc. Both

houses were trying hard for the second position as they had won one match each. Edith Cavell made four runs and won the match.

Helen Keller came first with six points, Edith Cavell came second with four points and Joan of Arc came third with two points. Unfortunately Florence Nightingale made no score. Rachna Emmanuel was adjudged the best Soft Ball player for the year 1988-89.

Incharge: Mrs. E. Swain

Mrs. U. Bhalerao

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THE ANNUAL SCHOOL PLAY — 1988

The Annual school play was staged on Friday, 25th November, at Evans Hall. It was with a slight apprehension and a good deal of deliberation that I finally decided to put up "Charley's Aunt." This play has been a source of laughter the world over for the past many years. It has been enacted on stages of different countries; translated in different tongues. In India itself several schools and colleges have staged this age-old farce. Hence I knew that amongst the audience there might be some who might have witnessed this play earlier and there would bound to be comparison — a situation which puts one on one's guard immediately. The title role was a difficult one and needed a certain degree of maturity on the part of the player. Luckily, in Gautam Shiknis I felt I had the right person who could portray "Charley's Aunt."

The play had a cast of ten, but the enthusiasts who wanted to participate were far too many. So, much against my will and to the disappointment of many, I had to restrict the number of the selected, after auditioning, to ten, with a promise of opportunity for a display of histrionic talents in the next year's play to the others. Feelers were sent for the prompters' part, too. Prompters, here I would like to add, may be the last but not the least participants of any performance as prompting is a very tedious and taxing job: it demands great alertness and concentration on the part of the person doing it. Their presence behind the wings gives confidence to the players. In the end I selected Kawthar Salim and Keith Patel for the part, who did a good job of it too.

The duration of practice lasted for about a month (excluding the holidays). There were other co-curricular activities going on simultaneously. Therefore it was not possible to get the children before six o'clock in the evenings when other activities would conclude. Though all the players were ready to make sacrifices as far as giving up of holidays was concerned, yet there were a few who had family commitments of some kind which could not be ignored. At other times it was the usual seasonal fever, cold and cough which took its toll of the players. As a result, most of the time it was not possible to have the whole cast for rehearsals. Nevertheless we doggedly trudged along and in the end all gave of their best and put up a splendid performance on the final day and had the audience roaring with laughter from the start to the finish.

Gautam Shiknis in the title role of "Charley's Aunt" deservedly won the "Best Performer's" award. The hilarious action of the play revolves round the activities of Lord Fancourt Babberly (Gautam Shiknis) who agrees (much against his will) to impersonate Charley Wykenam's (Sudeep Bhagat) aunt, Donna Lucia D'Alvadorez, a recently widowed millionairess from Brazil, to help him and Jack Chesnay (Gajendra Patil) meet their girls Amy Spettigue (Jyotika Misra) and Kitty Verdun (Loreili Thorpe) respectively.

As the action develops there is a big rigmarole with the impoverished Col. Sir Francis Chesney (Jack's father — Christopher Joseph) and the greedy Stephen Spettigue (Nitin Ahuja) vying for the rich aunt's favours, with the actual Donna Lucia (Rachna Emmanuel) arriving on the scene, with Fancourt Babberly discovering that Ella Delahay (Neeta Ahuja), a companion of Donna Lucia, was his old sweetheart of whom he had lost track of. Amit Ranjan in the role of Brassett, the butler, also added to comic effects of the play.

The school play owed its success not only to the cast but also to those who worked behind the curtains. I express my grateful thanks for the invaluable help extended by Mrs. Brenda Dhillon and Mrs. H. Driver for the make-up of the cast; Mrs. S. Emmanuel, Mrs. R. Gadre for looking after the wardrobe and properties, Mr. R. Waring and his men for getting the stage ready and for changing the sets; Mr. Borle and the mess staff for providing refreshments to the cast throughout the rehearsal period; Mrs. R. DeSouza and her team of tailors, Miss M. Verghese for preparing the choir to sing in-between the Acts and Mr. D. Correa for posters publicising the play.

A Brochure is annually brought out on this occasion and all staff and children work hard towards collecting donations and advertisements. The foremost among these was Mr. S. Isaac who had been given the task of compiling the Brochure. In this regard Mr. Isaac's efforts need a special commendation.

Incharge: Mrs. A. Baker

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ON TENNIS

I started playing lawn tennis at the age of eleven. Though I was interested in playing the game when I was very young, I could not play on the courts, as young children were not allowed to play. But still I used to do 'wall practice' at home, and the first time I went to play, I played quite well, for a beginner.

I became very regular in going to the T.H.I. (Temple Hill Institute) courts, and started improving my game. I played the first tournament in 1987, organised by the T.H.I. Devlali, and won the finals. This gave me a lot of encouragement and I kept at it, and won it again in 1988. This year I played mixed doubles at the Artillery Centre and my partner and I were the winners. I then entered the Nasik district Ladies Open Singles tennis tournament, that was held from the 2nd of January to the 8th of January, 1989. It was a unique experience playing against opponents much older and more experienced than I. I played the finals against a college student who had just returned from Pune, after playing in the

THE ANNUAL SCHOOL PLAY "CHARLEY'S AUNT"



Jack (left) and Charley confess to each other of being in love with Kitty and Amy (resp.), and plan a luncheon to which the girls would be invited and chaperoned by Dona Lucia — Charley's Aunt



The two friends try to persuade Fancourt Babberly (centre) to make up the thirdsome with Charley's Aunt at the luncheon so that they could have the girls to themselves



Fancourt Babberly impersonates (much against his will) Charley's Aunt as the latter telegraphed to say that she couldn't come



The greedy Stephen Spettigue (the girls' guardian (left) and Sir Francis Chesney (right) are played one against the other by Babberly as Charley's Aunt



Col. Sir Francis Chesney (left), Jack's impoverished father unexpectedly arrives and also attends the luncheon in the hope of courting the Rich & Dona Lucia



The real Dona Lucia (centre) arrives on the scene and discovers that Sir Francis Chesney was her old flame



Babberly (extreme right) finds himself in a tight spot, surrounded by the ladies including the real Dona Lucia (extreme left)



The fake Dona Lucia accepts Spettigue's proposal on condition he'll give his permission to Kitty and Amy to marry Jack and Charley



Babberly in a desperate situation as he discovers that Ela Delahay, the real Dona Lucia's companion, is his long-lost love



The deception played by the boys (though unintentionally) on Spettigue is disclosed with the revelation of the identity of Charley's Aunt (right centre)

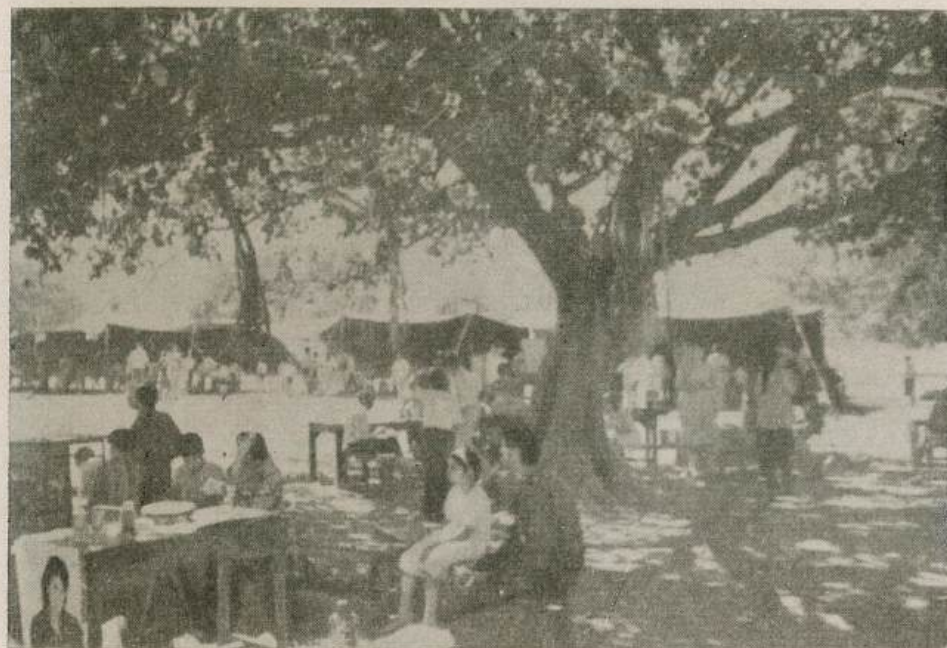


The real Dona Lucia (right) now takes control of the situation and all ends well with everyone except old Spettigüe



The cast

THE ANNUAL SCHOOL FETE — 10th FEBRUARY



Children try their luck at various stalls



Mr. B. Mitchel and Mrs. Sriggs tossing up hot delicious noodles



Rita Singh receiving the Nasik district ladies open singles championship trophy



Daniel Isaac, winner of open full contact karate contest at Nasik, doing a flying kick during practice

Inter University meet. I beat her and won the coveted Championship on the 8th of January 1989.

Tennis can be played as a leisure time activity, for fun and to become a champion. I play tennis for all these three things.

Ritika Singh
Class: VIII-C

—————:O:—————

DANIEL WINS OPEN KARATE TROPHY

An open full contact Karate Tournament was organised at the Shramik Hall of the Security Press for three days at Nasik Road. Over 48 Karate fighters from 30 kilogram to 75 kg. weight groups participated. Fighters from Indian Air Force, Eklera Power Plant, H.A.L., R.P. Vidyalaya, Panchvati College, Nasik, Devlali, Sinnar and other schools and colleges participated.

Daniel Issac from Barnes School fought 3 fights to win the fly weight group. In the first fight Daniel knocked out Nahatkar of Ojhar Town with a sweep kick to the face. The second fight he won on points from Shafiq Syed of Panchvati College. The final bout he won on points when he fought with Somarandra Soren of the Air Force Camp.

All the local English and Marathi papers appreciated our school boy Daniel's victory.

Our school boys and girls are trained by Mr. S. Isaac, our P.T.I. in self Defence Art.

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BASKET BALL — 1988-89

As we returned to school for our last and final term the school games re-opened with Basket Ball. It was nice to see the new nets, shining boards, new markings, new balls and, of course, the girls in their house colours which brightened up the court.

The girls had a very poor knowledge of the game but with constant practices from 3.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. they were brought up to the mark. The girls participated in all the practices very keenly and displayed a great interest to learn the techniques of the game. It took a lot of time and hard work to bring the girls upto the required standard.

We started the ball rolling with the Inter-House Basket ball matches. The results are as follows :

House	Points	Positions
Edith Cavell	6	1st
Helen Keller	2	3rd
Florence Nightingale	4	2nd
Joan of Arc	0	4th

The Inter school basket ball match with St. Peter's School which followed the inter-house tournament was looked forward to with added interest as this was the first time that our girls were going out of station to play. Over the years the girls have been playing basket ball but this year they made a vast improvement in their game. This was proved when they played against St. Peter's School, Mazagaon, on the 19th March 1988. Before the game started there was a lot of tension as to what was going to be the result. The match started with a bang with both teams basketing equally right till the last five minutes of the play, when St. Peter's won the match by two baskets. In spite of our team losing the match their spirits were not lowered as it was a very closely contested match and the girls were fully satisfied with the efforts they had put in on the field.

The following are the names of the members of the School Basket ball team :

1. R. Emmanuel — Captain of the team
2. J. Khan — Vice Captain
3. E. Fernandez
4. L. Fernandez
5. C. Pereira
6. D. Khan
7. D. Gupta
8. I. Campbell
9. K. Salim
10. R. Alphonso

I here take the opportunity to thank Col. Dhodi of 13 Field Regiment for sending us the coach Naik Subedar Sital Singh, who helped us to train the girls. I would also like to thank Mr. A. D'Souza for all his assistance and help during the training period and for helping us to take the girls to Bombay for the Basket ball match. Last but not the least I would like to thank Mrs. E. Correa for all the assistance and help she gave during all the practices.

Incharge: Miss C. Dixon

BASKETBALL REPORT (BOYS) — 1988-89

The basketball season began immediately after the Christmas Holidays. As usual the first few games were chaotic as the boys had forgotten two important factors that make basketball so popular i.e. the technical aspects with its many fouls and the stamina required to complete a game. However, the school settled down to the game fairly quickly.

The first match was played by the boys against the staff. The staff were trailing 13-9 at the interval but finally managed to beat the students by a solitary basket at 24-26. The last match played was also against the staff and this time too the staff were victorious with a bigger margin, the score being 44-50.

The Inter-house basketball tournament began on 18th January with Candy playing against Greaves House. Greaves House won both the A and B team matches and in fact carried on to win the tournament without losing a single match and drawing only one match. Spence House took the second position having lost one match and drawn one with Greaves. Candy House came third and Royal House did not win a single match.

Omar Maie was adjudged the Best Player.

A TEAM	POINTS	OBTAINED	TOTAL	B TEAM	POINTS	OBTAINED	TOTAL				
Candy	x	0	2	0	2	Candy	x	0	2	0	2
Greaves	2	x	2	1	5	Greaves	2	x	2	2	6
Royal	0	0	x	0	0	Royal	0	0	x	0	0
Spence	2	1	2	x	5	Spence	2	0	x	2	4

FINAL POSITION :	A Team	B Team	Total	Rank	
CANDY	...	2	2	4	3rd
GREAVES	...	5	6	11	1st
ROYAL	...	0	0	0	4th
SPENCE	...	5	4	9	2nd

Incharge: Mr. A. D'Souza

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GIRLS' BADMINTON REPORT — 1988-89

The third academic term began in January. Students were full of zeal and enthusiasm to start their favourite Badminton tournaments. After three weeks of regular practices, the Inter-house tournaments commenced in February 1988. Single and double matches were played.

The competition between the houses was very tough, since every competitor put in her best efforts and each girl played with surprising perseverance. It was difficult to judge which house would be the winner. One missed opportunity of hitting the shuttle cock could turn the tables. So was the case in deciding the match between the Reds and the Blues. Even the single matches were no less interesting. We had to wait with crossed fingers, but Jabeen's playing skill was unquestionable and she bagged the 'Best Player's' position.

Each house had two teams — Senior (A) and Junior (B).

Their names are given below :

JOAN OF ARC

'A' Team

C. Pereira
I. Campbell

'B' Team

A. Malik
L. Thorpe

Reserves

S. Biswas
L. Coelho

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

'A' Team

L. Fernandes
E. Fernandes

'B' Team

D. Davidson
H. Omarali

Reserves

R. Alphonso

EDITH CAVELL

'A' Team

J. Khan
R. Emmanuel

'B' Team

D. Gupta
H. Khan

Reserves

P. Kaur
D. Khan

HELEN KELLER

'A' Team

J. Misra
J. Muley

'B' Team

A. Khandelwal
S. Salim

Reserves

S. Kumar

BEST PLAYER: J. KHAN — Edith Cavell

A TEAM	HOUSES	Florence Nightingale	Helen Keller	Joan of Arc	Edith Cavell	TOTAL
	FN.	—	0	—	2	2
	HK.	2	—	2	—	4
	JA.	0	0	—	0	0
	EC.	2	2	2	—	6
B TEAM						
	FN.	—	0	0	2	2
	HK.	2	—	0	—	2
	JA.	2	0	0	2	4
	EC.	2	0	2	—	4

HOUSE POSITIONS AND POINTS

FIRST	...	EDITH CAVELL	...	10
SECOND	...	HELEN KELLER	...	6
THIRD	...	JOAN OF ARC	...	4
FOURTH	...	FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE	...	4

In charge : Mrs. U. Misra, Miss G. Pinto

TABLE TENNIS (GIRLS) 1988-89

As we returned to school in the new year the games activities of the school re-opened with Table Tennis for the girls.

The girls who were new to the game had to be told the rules. We had our daily practices from 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. The girls participated in all the practices very keenly and displayed a great interest to learn the techniques of the game. It took a lot of time to bring the girls upto a required standard and this was only possible with the girls' co-operation and interest.

The house matches were very interesting as there was a lot of competition amongst the houses as each house had good players and was confident of winning against other houses.

The results of the matches are as follows :

HOUSE	POINTS	POSITIONS
Joan of Arc	3½	FIRST
Edith Cavell	3½	FIRST
Helen Keller	2	THIRD
Florence Nightingale	1	FOURTH

The best player award for the year 1988-89 for Table Tennis was given to Rachana Emmanuel.

Last but not the least I take this opportunity to thank Mrs. V. Robins for all her assistance and help given to train the girls.

Incharge : Miss. C. Dixon
Mrs. V. Robins

INTER-HOUSE TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT 1988-89

The Inter-house table-tennis season began with considerable enthusiasm. The four house teams made capital out of the free time available during the week end for maximum practice; and were all set finally for an exciting contest which began on the eighth of February 1989. The matches were keenly contested and Candy House emerged as the champion house with thirty four points to their credit.

O Maie of Greaves House was adjudged the best table-tennis player of the season.

Results:	1. Candy House	34 points
	2. Greaves House	26 points
	3. Spence House	10 points
	4. Royal House	2 points

Incharge: Mr. K. Emmanuel

GIRLS THROW BALL — 1988-89

Barnes School offers its students an all-round ability in games, which plays an important part in our general education and contributes to a wider range of knowledge.

We entered the New Year 1989 with the Throw Ball practice matches. There were a number of new faces in the respective teams. Rules of the game were explained to the new comers and the old ones brushed up their memory.

The Inter House Throw Ball tournaments were held from 23rd January to 1st February. After the practice matches there was a definite improvement in the game. All the four houses played well. They enjoyed the tournament matches which were so keenly contested.

Edith Cavell seemed a promising team. They co-operated beautifully with one another. R. Emmanuel and D. Gupta with their powerful services and good returns helped their team to win all the three matches they played. Edith Cavell got the 1st place with 6 points. Joan of Arc, Helen Keller and Florence Nightingale tied for the second place with 2 points each.

The outstanding players from each team were L. Fernandes and L. Thorpe of Joan of Arc, K. Salim and D. Gough of Helen Keller, R. Emmanuel and D. Gupta of Edith Cavell, E. Fernandes and R. Ahuja of Florence Nightingale.

L. Fernandes of Joan of Arc was adjudged "The Best Throw Ball Player of 1988-89". She played the game calmly with great skill and encouraged her team with a smile.

Incharge: Mrs. E. Swain

VOLLEYBALL — 1988-89

Volleyball matches began in our school with the onset of the third term. Jumping and touching the top of the net, trying for a cut without a ball was a common sight every evening. This showed the enthusiasm the boys had for the game.

The practice matches began on the 13th January '89. After about a round of practice matches, tournaments started from 18-1-89 and ended on 25-1-89.

The students had several friendly matches with the staff. Though the staff tried hard, they lost many games.

We had A, B and C teams this year. The list of the players are given below:

Candy A	:	C. Joseph, S. Rajput, A. Thomson, V. Dattani, K. Patel, S. Razvi.
Candy B	:	T. Mody, A. Raj, B. Behromi, M. Shinde, P. Poojari, M. Singh.
Candy C	:	D. Barbosa, J. Arkate, K. Singh, H. Rangwala, S. Shinde, J. Tandel.
Greaves A	:	O. Maie, P. Gaikwad, J. Keny, S. Ovichegan, M. Juneja, R. Patil.
Greaves B	:	I. Kuwari, M. Shaikh, G. Shiknis, H. Bhati, S. Pathan, T. Hassan.
Greaves C	:	D. Ovichegan, P. Thakker, D. Pereira, M. Gupta, V. Vinayak, M. F. Khan, T. Hsieh.
Royal A	:	G. Ochani, S. Patel, A. Jadiya, S. Thakur, R. Ochani, S. Sharma,
Royal B	:	G. Patil, F. Memon, U. Kothawade, H. Kaswa, A. Keshava, R. Barnham.
Royal C	:	S. Moosa, H. Rajput, V. Malsawmthanga, Z. Mitha, Z. Quraishy, K. Lulla.
Spence A	:	R. Sukale, M. Demisse, C. Burgess, C. Burgess, G. Lewis, S. Imtiaz.
Spence B	:	S. Bhagat, M. Hanif, E. Alphonso, L. Baig, S. Noor, J. Lianmawia.
Spence C	:	P. Yadav, M. Jadhav, U. Ansari, M. Halde, V. Keshatwar, K. Kudrati.

C. Joseph was adjudged the Best Volleyball player of this year.

MATCHES	RESULTS											
	CANDY			GREAVES			ROYAL			SPENCE		
	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
R vs. S	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	2	2	2	x
C vs. G	x	2	x	2	x	2	x	x	x	x	x	x
C vs. S	2	2	2	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
S vs. G	x	x	x	2	2	2	x	x	x	x	x	x
C vs. R	2	2	x	x	x	x	x	x	2	x	x	x
R vs. G	x	x	x	2	2	2	x	x	x	x	x	x
Total	4	6	2	6	4	6	0	0	4	2	2	0
Grand Total	12			16			4			4		
Positions	2nd			1st			Tie between R and S for the 3rd position.					

Incharge: Mr. R. Robinson

THE INTER HOUSE DEBATE REPORT — 1988-89

THE GLENN HOWELL CUP

The Inter House debates were keenly contested from the start to the close of the competition. Great enthusiasm was displayed by all the teams, and even the audience was eager to make a point and express an opinion.

The teams were — house wise :

Greens :	N. Swain	Blues :	G. Shiknis/U. Shiknis
Candy &	H. Basrai/N. Ahuja	Greaves &	A. Rajan
Joan of Arc.	P. Bhatia	Helen Keller	J. Misra/R. Handa
	L. Fernandes		K. Salim
Reds :	A. Rai	Yellows :	S. Bhagat/R. Gupta
Royal &	G. Punjabi	Spence &	S. Jadhav
Edith Cavell	F. Al-Fadli	Florence	E. Fernandes
	R. Emmanuel	Nightingale	H. Chhatwal
			I. Davidson R. Asher

Six debates were conducted on the whole. These were as follows :

1st Debate — Greens Vs. Blues on 'Should the government punish its offenders strictly?' The Blues won the debate with 270 points. J. Misra with an individual score of 68, was judged the best speaker.

2nd Debate — This was between the Yellows and the Reds. The topic, 'The Indian government has failed to achieve its aims,' provoked a great deal of interest. The Reds, speaking for the motion, won with 268 points. R. Emmanuel with 72 points was the best speaker.

3rd Debate — 'Does God exist?' generated both interest and enthusiasm from debaters and audience alike. Even the staff was caught up in the excitement. The Reds and Blues put forward their views lucidly and emphatically. The Blues, speaking against the topic, won, with 259 points. The best speaker was a tie between G. Shiknis and R. Emmanuel, both with 73 points.

4th Debate — 'The British Raj was good for India' was the topic for the debate between the Greens and the Yellows. The Greens won with 280 points. E. Fernandes was judged the best speaker.

5th Debate — The Blues and the Yellows hotly debated 'The place of women is in the kitchen' Speaking for the proposition, the Blues won. Their score was 288 points. G. Shiknis was the best speaker.

6th Debate — The Reds and Green debated whether 'India should go Nuclear?' The Greens speaking against the topic, won, scoring 275 points. R. Emmanuel and P. Bhatia tied for the best speaker.

The overall results of the Inter House debates were as follows :

First	—	Blues	—	Greaves and Helen Keller with 815 points.
Second	—	Yellows	—	Spence and Florence Nightingale with 806 points.
Third	—	Greens	—	Candy and Joan of Arc. with 784 points.

The Glenn Howell Cup, for the Best Speaker of the Competition was shared by R. Emmanuel and E. Fernandes. Both secured 212 points.

Organiser	—	Mr. D. O'Connor
Assisted by	—	Mrs. H. Driver
Recorder	—	Mr. A. D'Souza

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ELOCUTION & SINGING HOUSE COMPETITION

Barnes School, Saturday 1st October, 1988 (5.30 p.m.)

ELOCUTION — JUNIOR GIRLS — Under 14 Years

House	Competitor	Poem	Poet	House Position
Green	P. Bhatia	Hem and Haw	Bliss Carmen	2nd
Blue	D. Swing	Lochinvar	Sir Walter Scott	1st
Red	M. Waraich	The Plaint of a Camel	Charles Edward Carrol	4th
Yellow	S. Masurkar	The Clothesline	Charlotte Druitcole	3rd

ELOCUTION — JUNIOR BOYS — Under 14 Years

Green	C. Driver	You are old Father William	Lewis Carrol	4th
Blue	P. Dueman	The Sea	Lewis Carrol	1st
Red	R. Thorpe	The Priest and the Mulberry Tree	Thomas Love Peacock	2nd
Yellow	R. Rodrigues	Wizards	Alfred Noyes	3rd

ELOCUTION — SENIOR GIRLS — Above 14 Years

Green	L. Thorpe	The Old Violin	Anonymous	1st
Blue	J. Misra	An Extract from "My Father do not rest"	S. Naidu	2nd
Red	H. Jain	The Boy who laughed at Santa Claus	Ogden Nash	3rd
Yellow	H. Chhatwal	The Leper	N. P. Willis	4th

ELOCUTION — SENIOR BOYS — Above 14 Years

Green	K. Patel	The charge of the light Brigade	Lord Tennyson	3rd
Blue	G. Shiknis	Little Red Riding Hood	Guy Carryl	1st
Red	A. Rai	The Yarn of the Nancy Bell	Sir William Gilbert	4th
Yellow	S. Bhagat	Mosquito	D. H. Lawrence	2nd

INTERVAL — 15 MINUTES — EXHIBITION OF SENIOR SCHOOL WORK

SINGING — JUNIOR GIRLS — Under 14 Years

House	Competitors	Song	Position
Green	C. Correa	The Ashgrove	4th
Blue	P. Gough	Banks of the Ohio	3rd
Red	P. Isaac	Jesus I believe what you say	2nd
Yellow	N. Md. Omar	Mary Anne	1st

SINGING — JUNIOR BOYS — Under 14 Years

Green	N. Swain	Bye Bye Love	1st
Blue	S. Deshpande	Dirty old Town	3rd
Red	K. Debnath	Why?	2nd
Yellow	S. Jaju	Foggy Foggy Dew	3rd

SINGING — SENIOR GIRLS — Above 14 Years

Green	L. Fernandes	All egh enny	3rd
Blue	P. Vachhani	Beautiful Brown Eyes	4th
Red	R. Emmanuel	Crystal Chandeliers	1st
Yellow	E. Fernandes	Lie to Linda	2nd

SINGING — SENIOR BOYS — Above 14 Years

Green	M. Barboza	I wouldn't change you if I could	2nd
Blue	U. Shiknis	Let Freedom Range	4th
Red	K. Shinde	Puff the Magic Dragon	3rd
Yellow	D. Brown	I've got Mexico	1st

HOUSE CHORUSES — JUNIORS AND SENIORS

Green	— Joan of Arc & Candy	— On the Wings of a snow white Dove	2nd
Blue	— Helen Keller & Greaves	— Forever and ever	1st
Red	— Edith Cavell & Royal	— Over the Rainbow	4th
Yellow	— Florence Nightingale & Spence	— If those lips could only speak	3rd

Mr. A. R. Baker (Principal acknowledges with sincere thanks the co-operation of :

The Judges (i) Col. J. Bhattacharji
(ii) Wg. Cdr. E. Jordan
(iii) Mrs. J. Vander Hyde
(iv) Mrs. V. Bhattacharji (Memory Judge)

The Staff : Mrs. A. Baker (Sr. Girls)
Mr. A. D'Souza (Sr. Boys)
Mrs. H. Driver (Jr. Boys & Girls)
Miss M. Verghese
Mr. D. Correa
Mr. V. Nair
Miss P. Braggs
Mr. S. Spriggs
Miss G. Pinto (Recorder)
Miss Abraham (Certs)

All staff who have helped in any way with the singing and Elocution programme.

Results of the House Competition :

Girls		Boys	
1st	— Joan of Arc — 297 points	1st	— Greaves — 282.5 points
2nd	— Edith Cavell — 292 points	2nd	— Spence — 274.5 points
3rd	— Helen Keller & Florence Nightingale 287 points each	3rd	— Candy — 273.0 points
		4th	— Royal — 262.0 points

COMBINED RESULTS

1st	— GREENS	— 570.0 points
2nd	— BLUES	— 569.5 points
3rd	— YELLOWS	— 561.5 points
4th	— REDS	— 554.0 points

JUNIOR SCHOOL PARENT'S DAY — 1989

On the 20th of March we had the Junior School Parent's Day at 3 p.m.

A lot of parents had come for the function and the school hall was packed to its capacity with parents of both, the day-scholar and the boarder children attending.

As always, the teachers of the Junior school had been preparing for this, well in advance. The classrooms from Nursery to class VI were looking very colourful and there was a lot of hard work put in by the teachers, displaying the charts and craft. The parents went round to look at the classrooms at 3 p.m. In the Nursery class, the teacher had taken a lot of trouble in putting the children's work in files and the parents of these tiny tots looked very pleased and happy; so did the other parents to see the art, craft, needle work and books of their children displayed in the class rooms. Many of the class V and VI children had helped their teachers in making charts and models. A boy in class V-A had made a small fan, which worked on two batteries. The birthday and progress charts also were colourful and attractive.

The class plays began at 4 p.m. with a welcome speech given by Komal Bhatia, a student of class VI B. The curtain went up to show the little babies of Nursery and Prep A and B classes. They sang and acted a welcome song. Then came the children of class I A, B, C, with the item called "Oh, do you know us?" This play had characters like He man, Superman and was a very entertaining play. Class II A, B, C, entertained the parents with 'Smurff's Party'. After this play the class III A, B, C, children recited a poem. The theme of this poem was on friendship and love. They also had a dance of lights in which little girls in colourful costumes with little "chirags" in their hands danced and Aditi Pandit, a small girl of class III A, played the harmonium for this. The children of IV A, B, C, had organised 'Mr. Froggie's Wedding'. Here, the stage was done up well and the children acted their parts with a lot of expression. After this play, class VI A, B, C, children sang a song. The children of Class V A B, C, entertained the audience with a play called, 'The maid and the golden slipper.' There was a lot of hard work put in this play by the teachers. The cast was well selected and the children sang their solo parts well. The evening ended with a colourful dance done by the girls and boys of class VI A, B, C, They did a 'Bhangra' dance and it kept the parents well entertained.

After each play was over, the actors were happy to get a packet of eats, given by the Principal. The evening was a great success, and towards this all the teachers had worked very hard.

Mrs. R. Gadre

HODGE SHIELD 88-89

GAMES/ ACTIVITIES	C	G	R	S
HOCKEY	2	3	4	1
BOXING	1	4	2	3
FOOTBALL	1	4	3	2
CROSS COUNTRY	2	3	4	1
DEBATE	2	4	1	3
P.T. & GYM.	4	3	2	1
ELOCUTION & SINGING	2	4	1	3
ATHLETICS	2	3	1	4
CRICKET	2	3	4	1
SWIMMING	2	3	1	4
DIVING	2	4	3	1
TABLE TENNIS	4	3	1	2
VOLLEYBALL	3	4	1½	1½
BASKETBALL	2	4	1	3
STUDY CUP	2	8	6	4
TOTAL	33	57	35½	34½
POSITIONS	4th	1st	2nd	3rd

Lumley Panel — O. Maic, C. Joseph, A. Raj,
P. Gupta, G. Shiknis

Lumley Medal Awarded to — O. Maic
Best Day-scholar Prefect — A. Thomson
Best Boarder Prefect — Omar Mai
Sportsman of 1988-89 — C. Joseph

By: Mrs. R. Gadre

KEILY SHIELD 88-89

GAMES/ ACTIVITIES	JA	HK	EC	FN
HOCKEY	2	1	4	3
BADMINTON	1½	3	4	1½
TABLE TENNIS	3½	2	3½	1
SOFTBALL	2	4	3	1
DEBATE	2	1	3	4
P.T. & GYM.	1	4	2	3
ELOCUTION & SINGING	4	1½	3	1½
ATHLETICS	2	3	4	1
SWIMMING	4	3	1	2
THROW-BALL	2	2	4	2
BASKETBALL	4	1	3	2
STUDY CUP	2	6	8	4
TOTAL	30	31½	42½	26
POSITIONS	3rd	2nd	1st	4th

**SPECK COMBINED TROPHY TO
GREAVES & HELEN KELLER
(BLUES)**

Lumley Panel — L. Thorpe, E. Fernandez,
J. Misra, R. Emmanuel, K. Salim

Lumley Medal Awarded to — R. Emmanuel
Best Day-scholar Prefect — R. Emmanuel
Best Boarder Prefect — Kowther Salim
Sportswoman of 1988-89 — R. Emmanuel

By: Mr. M. Thorpe

**THE SIXTY THIRD
ANNUAL PRIZE-GIVING**

July 1st, 1988 at 4-30 p.m.

Chairman : Air Commodore Jugal Adlakha
Air Officer Commanding, 25 E. D. Devlali.

CLASS PRIZES 1987-88

Class	First	Second	Third	Hand Work	Progress
Prep. A	C. Waring	M. Effendi	M. D'Souza	C. Waring	P. Takle
Prep. B	B. Fernandez	G. Nihalani	B. Laxmi	B. Fernandez	R. Sharma
Prep. C	C. More	A. Sangamneheri	K. Wankhede	C. More	R. Khan
1 A	B. Gupta	D. Misra	M. O'Connor	K. Wankhede	S. Medewar
			A. Lalla	S. Petkar	A. Lakhpatwalla
1 B	R. Kokate	M. Moghe	S. Banik	M. Moghe	C. Briggs
1 C	T. Nijjar	U. Ashthani	T. Dhavale	U. Ashthani	S. Sonawane
2 A	A. Pandit	A. Dhaliwal	H. Yaslim	A. Dhaliwal	V. Ningoo
			N. Kelson	S. Grewal	V. Parashar
2 B	S. Grewal	S. Mahajan	K. Chhablani	A. Barodawalla	
2 C	D. Mathew	A. Barodawalla	S. Yadav		
	First	Second	Third	Languages	Social Studies
3 A	R. Verma	A. Sachdev	M. Jain	R. Varma	L. Nihalani
3 B	A. D'Souza	R. Chhatwal	P. Bhardwaj	R. Chhatwal	S. Bannerjee
					Sp. Prize - S. Bannerjee
3 C	R. Bhola†	K. Bhutani	J. Dialani	R. Bhola*	J. Dialani
4 A	H. Shah†	D. Kabra	D. Karamsot	D. Karamsot	H. Shah*
4 B	R. Reddy†	B. P. Singh	D. Sikka	R. Reddy*	D. Sikka
4 C	B. Sarkaria	I. Koradia	J. Ardekani*	B. Sarkaria	B. P. Singh
5 A	A. Varma	R. Gupta	Md. H. Katka	A. Varma	I. Koradia
5 B	K. Bhatia	S. Masurkar	S. Ajmerwalla	K. Bhatia	R. Gupta
5 C	S. Varma	M. Dhodi†	P. Isaac	P. Isaac	S. Ajmerwala
					F. Shamsi
	First	Second	Maths & Science	Languages	Social Studies
6 A	N. Bakshi	K. Nigher	K. Nigher	N. Bakshi	S. Gupta
6	A. Bhola*	M. Varma	M. Varma	A. Bhola*	Sp. Prize - N. Metha
6 C	P. Khandelwal	S. Ghosh	P. Khandelwal	S. Ghosh	S. Bhujbal
7 A	U. Gupta	N. Kachwalla	U. Gupta	P. Kaur	M. Kaushal
					N. Kachwalla
7 B	N. Swain	D. Swing	K. Upadhyay	N. Swain	Sp. Prize - H. S. Gujral
7 C	U. Shiknis	P. Bhatia	R. Singh	U. Shiknis	A. Borchate
8 A	N. Badjate†	R. Nomani	A. Shinge	N. Badjate*	P. Bhatia
8 B	R. Handa	G. Seager	R. Handa	V. Vinayak	R. Nomani
8 C	S. Khandelwal*	P. Sarkaria*	S. Khandelwal*	P. Sarkaria*	G. Seager
9 A	H. Basrai	V. Rumde	H. Basrai	V. Rumde	R. Sivaraman
9 B	G. Shiknis	J. Misra	G. Shiknis	J. Misra	P. Gupta
9 C	N. Ahuja	D. Mendiratta	N. Ahuja	D. Mendiratta	A. Rai
10 A	D. Gupta*	M. Sharma*	M. Sharma*	D. Gupta*	O. Maie
10 B	S. Jain*	S. Deshpande*	S. Jain†	S. Deshpande†	H. Waje*
					R. Dialani†

* † Not attending the Function.

CLASS PRIZES — 1987-88



D. Sikka — IV-B



B. Sarkaria — IV-C



S. Ajmerwalla — V-B



R. Handa — VIII-B



P. Sarkaria — VIII-C



G. Shiknis — IX-B

SPECIAL PRIZES — 1987-88



S. Nagrani — Leader, Cobra Pat



Blandon cup-basketball-Spence



Blandon, Shield-study, Greaves



Singing and Elocution-blues



The Glen-Howell cup for debating — H. Keller and Greaves

SPECIAL PRIZES

Prize	Junior	Middle	Senior
Cherian Art	R. Deshmukh	H. Shaikh	Ko. Khichadia*
Ferguson English	A. Bhola*	V. Vinayak	S. Jain*
Divinity	A. Bhola*	G. Seager & V. Vinayak	—
Moral Instruction	S. Gosh	R. Handa	—
General Knowledge	P. Athlye	B. Dhillon	—
Elocution (Girls)	A. Bhola*	—	J. Misra
Elocution (Boys)	B. Dhillon	—	G. Shiknis
Singing (Girls)	P. Dueman	—	R. Emmanuel
Singing (Boys)	L. Thorpe	—	Z. Bilimoria*
School Play	G. Seager	—	S. Deshpande*
Music	R. Reddy	B. Dueman & M. Silveira	U. Shiknis
Needle Work	—	P. Deolaliwala	P. Johar*
Boy's Craft	—	—	R. Nagarkar*
Economics	—	—	S. O. Ali*
Biology	—	—	D. Gupta*
Glenn Howell Debating	—	—	S. Deshpande*
Rotary Shield (Maths)	—	—	M. Sharma*
Shivde Marathi	—	M. M. Sonawala	S. Jain*
Kennelly Medal (Best in Std. X)	—	—	—

GENERAL PRIZES

Prize	Girls	Boys
School Captain	C. Silva	S. Omar Ali*
Best Boarder Prefect	S. Nizarali*	R. Nagarkar*
Best Day Scholar Prefect	S. Jain*	—
Thomson Shield (First in I.C.S.E. 86-87)	L. Misra	S. Omar Ali*
Sir Roger Lumley Medal	R. Emmanuel	—

SPORTS PRIZES FOR GIRLS

Hockey	S. Campbell	Basketball	R. Emmanuel
Table Tennis	R. Emmanuel	Throwball	R. Emmanuel
Soft Ball	D. Gough	Bulbuls	Kingfisher
			(Group Leader M. Haideria)
Badminton	Ka Khichadia	Sportswoman (87-88)	R. Emmanuel

INTER HOUSE TROPHIES FOR GIRLS

Badminton	H. Keller	Softball	J.A. & F.N.
Basketball	E. Cavell	Blanden Cup-Throwball	E. Cavell
Lilly Cup-Hockey	E. Cavell	Marshall Cup-P.T.	H. Keller
Wilson Cup Athletics	H. Keller	Tayebally Study Cup	H. Keller
Whaley Cup-Swimming	E. Cavell	Kroll Conduct Cup	—
Hoffman Cup-Table Tennis	F.N.	Keily Shield	H.K.

SPORTS PRIZES FOR BOYS

Forward Cup-Hockey	C. Joseph	Forward Cup-Football	Endris Mohd. & C. Joseph
Rowlandson Cup-Cricket	C. Joseph		O. Maie
Junior Gymnast	R. Barnham	Hoffman Cup-Table Tennis	R. Verma
Cub Six	Cobra Pat	Senior Gymnast	Cheeta Pat
Volleyball	S. Omar Ali	Scout Patrol	—
Basketball	A. R. Maie	Eason Cup (Sportsman 87-88)	C. Joseph

INTER HOUSE TROPHIES FOR BOYS

Moore Cup-Hockey	Royal	Supt. Down Cup-Boxing	Greaves
Hoffman Cup-Table Tennis	Candy	Aston Cup Football	Greaves
Spokes Cup-Cross Country	Greaves	Riley Cup-Cricket	Greaves
English Cup-Swimming	Spence	Henry Down Cup-Athletics	Candy
Cup for P.T.		Blanden Shield-Study	Greaves
Cup for Volleyball	Greaves	Kroll Cup-Conduct	—
Blanden Cup-Basketball	Spence	Hodge Shield	Greaves

INTER HOUSE TROPHIES FOR BOYS & GIRLS

Trophy	Colour	Houses
Elocution & Singing	Blues	H.K. & Greaves
Debating	Blues	H.K. & Greaves
Speck Trophy	Blues	H.K. & Greaves

AWARDS FOR DISTINCTION IN GAMES (87-88)

Hockey	—	Christopher Joseph
Boxing	—	R. Maie*
Swimming	—	R. Gupta, G. Lewis & S. Deshpande
Football	—	Endris Mohammed* & Christopher Joseph
Cricket	—	Christopher Joseph
Gymnastics	—	R. Verma*
Basketball	—	A. R. Maie* & S. Omar Ali*

I.C.S.E. (86-87)

L. Misra, P. Chand, P. Sughand, C. Huang, S. Hemnani, R. Roy, M. Nabiji, J. Shekhawat, S. V. Patel, G. Dogra, V. Bhagde, L. Nijjar, R. Oberai, B. P. Singh, I. Campbell, R. Punjabi, A. K. Maye, A. Patil, G. Sardesai, S. Unny, B. Gupta, A. Kazi, Y. Pawar, N. Al-Fadhli, H. Nabiji, R. Sughand, S. Makhija, S. Alphonso, R. Emmanuel, M. Bundhel, S. Wanjari, R. Nehra, N. Ashar, S. Chaubal, R. Hemnani, A. Z. Momin, S. Gupta, P. Clark, A. David, R. Arora, C. Daulatani, A. Chavan, Ru. Roy, S. Dongre, N. Jagtiani, I. Momin, M. Bhardwaj, R. Nikam, R. Dowling, R. Hathiramani, G. Nihalani, P. Goud, S. Rajput, L. Alphonso, R. Chandak, R. Kanojia, A. Burgess, R. Salunkhe, C. Alexander, N. Wadhwa, S. Deshmukh, S. Mokal.



Class Nursery — Mrs. J. Dinger



Class Prep A — Mrs. R. Gadre



Class Prep B — Mrs. L. Isaac



Class I-B — Mrs. E. Correa



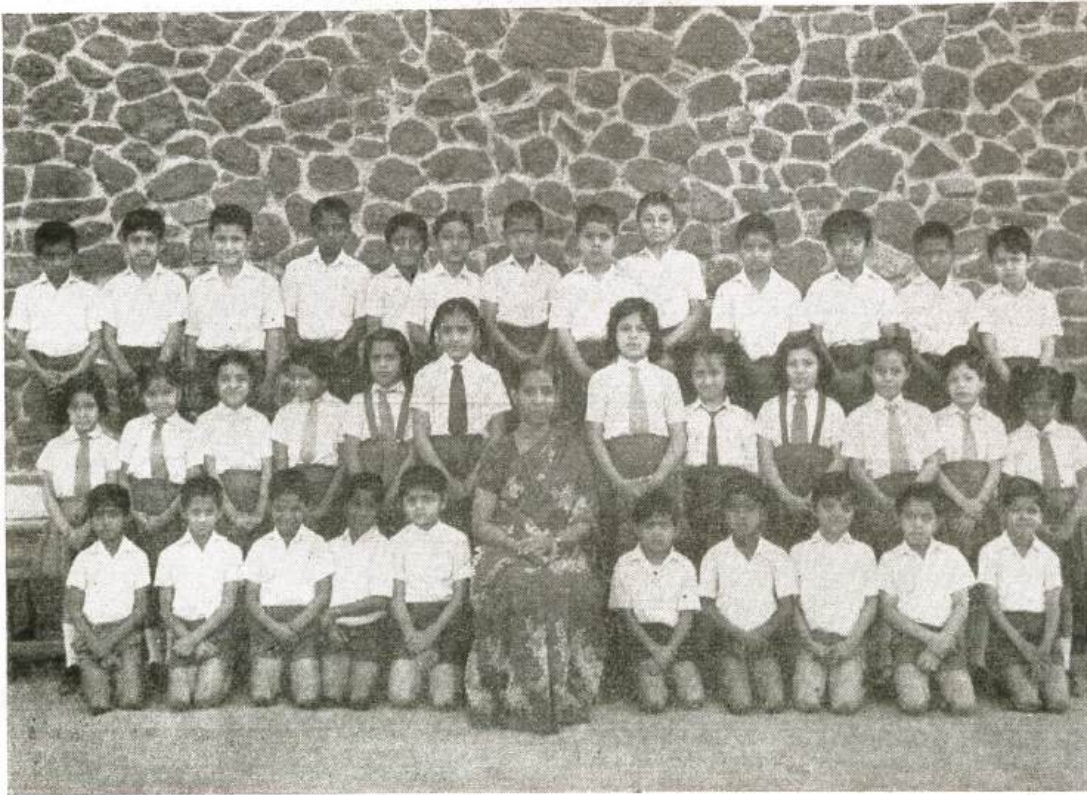
Class I-C — Mrs. E. Swain



Class I-C — Miss G. Kurian



Class II-A — Miss C. Dixon



Class II-B — Mrs. E. Emmanuel

A VISIT TO THE ZOO

One day I went to the zoo with my parents and friends. My father bought the tickets before we entered the zoo. First we saw the ducks and the swans. Then we saw rabbits in a cage. They were eating carrots. Later we saw the monkeys, we gave them some nuts to eat. We also saw a Lion. He was roaring very loudly. Then we saw beautiful peacocks, one of the peacocks was dancing. We heard a big black bear growling. We also went for an elephant ride. After some time we got tired but we enjoyed our visit to the zoo.

By : Vikram Kriplani
Std. III-A

—————:O:—————

THE STORY OF HUMPTY-DUMPTY

Once there lived an egg called Humpty-Dumpty. He liked to sit on high brick walls. He used to call out to his neighbours. He used to call out to Miss Anju and say, "I see that you are wearing a new saree, but that colour is dull. You should have chosen a brighter colour". He would also go into the gardens and say, "Mr. Aliasgar, these roses look very small, I don't think you water them". They heard that he used to go and complain to the king.

One day Humpty-Dumpty had a great fall from his wall. The king sent all his horses, and all his men and servants but they all could not put Humpty together again.

The neighbours sang :
Humpty-Dumpty sat on a wall
Humpty-Dumpty had a great fall

All the king's horses and all the king's men couldn't put Humpty together again Ha! Ha! Ha!

By : Aditi Pandit
Std. III-A

—————:O:—————

MY HOUSE

I live in Banachal and my house has many rooms. There is one kitchen and four bed-rooms with four bathrooms. My house has one prayer-room. We say our prayers here. My house has one big sitting room, and one dining hall. My house looks very nice, and my mummy keeps it very clean and neat. My house has a beautiful garden with lots of lovely flowers. We keep some flowers in vases in our house.

By : Kiran Chhablani
Std. III-B

My BIRTHDAY PARTY

When it was my Birthday,
All my friends came.
I wore a nice frock.
The colour of my frock was green and yellow.
I got so many gifts.
We decorated our home with balloons.
My cake was very beautiful.
I got money and presents.
I like Birthdays.
My uncle and aunty came.
And all my friends came too.
All my friends ate the sweets.
and the cake and enjoyed themselves.
And I, too, had a nice Birthday party
and enjoyed myself.

By : Hema Krishnani
Std. III-B

—————:O:—————

MY PET DOG

I have a pet dog, his name is Tiger. He is very pretty and fluffy. I look after my dog very well. I give him soup and bones. He is a good dog. He guards my house. He knows how to shake hands. He plays with me. I love my dog very much.

By : Prasad K. Jhadavrao
Std. III-B

—————:O:—————

MY MUMMY

I Love my mummy,
My mummy looks very nice.
My mummy takes care of my brothers,
sister, and me.
My mummy cooks nice food for us.
When my daddy comes from work
she makes coffee for him.
My mummy prays to God.
She brings me books and Pencils
She gets up early in the morning
and does lots of work.
She tells us nice stories.
I love my mummy very much,
And I pray to God to bless my mummy.

By : Manoj Khatri
Std. III-B

A MEMORABLE TRIP

During my holidays I visited Bombay in the month of May. Bombay is one of the finest cities of India. It is the capital of Maharashtra, where people from all religions reside. There are many places of interest for visitors in Bombay; e.g. Beaches, Gardens and parks, Aarey milk factory, Gateway of India, the zoo and the aquarium.

I have visited the beaches here. There are mainly three Beaches, namely, Chowpatty, Juhu and Versova. There are a number of Bhelpuri shops, horses for riding and merry-go-rounds. People of all ages come to see these beaches for enjoyment during holidays.

I have also visited some of the gardens and parks in Bombay. The Hanging gardens are very beautiful. There is also the Kamla Nehru park and the National park at Borivali.

The Aarey milk factory is the biggest milk factory which provides milk to most parts of Bombay.

Best of all I enjoyed my visit to the Zoo and the aquarium. These draw the attention of visitors all through the year. I like to see all the different animals and fish over here.

My visit to Bombay was a most memorable and enjoyable one.

By : Shreeya Junnarkar
Std. III-B

—————:O:—————

A TALE OF ORANGES

One day my father told me to buy three oranges from the market. I ate one orange and then again I ate a second orange. I gave the third orange to my father. My father said "How did you eat two oranges?" I took the third orange, and said, "Like this", and ate it.

By : Maulik P. Patel
Std. III-C

THE SPARROW

Once there was a sparrow and she had a nest. She had four chicks in it. One day the sparrow had gone away in search of food for her chicks. After she had gone the farmer and his son came to the farm. The farmer said let us cut out this grain it is growing very tall. The chicks heard what the farmer said. When the sparrow returned the chicks told her everything. The sparrow got scared. The next day the farmer and his son came to the farm again and said 'Today we will ask our neighbours if they agree'. Their neighbours agreed. The next day their neighbours came with them and they cut the grain. By that time the sparrow's chicks were able to fly and they had flown away before the farmer came.

By : Kanika Kush

Std. III-C

—————:O:—————

MY DOG

I have a dog. His name is Mothi.
He is a very fluffy dog. We give him milk everyday.
He guards our house at night. He likes to eat bones.
He barks when thieves come to our house.
We have made a small Kennel for him. We tie him with a chain.
When I go to school, he starts crying but when I come back from school
and my sister frees him he wags his tail. I love my dog very much.

By : Mandeep Sandhu

Std. III-C

—————:O:—————



Class II-C — Mrs. V. Robins



Class III-A — Mrs. A. Zope



Class III-B — Mrs. L. Waring



Class III-C — Mrs. S. D'Souza

OUR WONDERFUL CLASS

These are some of the samples of our class —
 Zahir is always thinking high,
 Arif is always seen, flicking a fly.
 Rajesh is always dreaming,
 Naveed is forever screaming.
 Shailesh somehow manages to finish fast,
 Puneet is the one who is always last.
 Ravi, while talking is always caught,
 Rajat, for the class is always bringing pots,
 Jai is very good in craft,
 Abhubakar, in the corner is always having a laugh.
 Boys are the ones whom Priya always beats,
 And accidents are things which Geeta meets.
 Lavina is very delicate,
 Anuprita only keeps talking of cricket.
 Bharti always has a cheerful smile,
 You will see Shahista "In-Style".
 Miss M. Al-Fadhli is our worthy teacher,
 Our Maths, Geography and English preacher.
 Out of the lot these are just some,
 If you want to see all, to IV-A you must come!

By : Sameer Mital
 Jonathan Ralte
 Std. IV-A

—:O:—
THE OLYMPIC GAMES

The first Olympic games were held at Olympia, in ancient Greece. They began as a religious festival to honour the Greek God "Zeus". The first modern Olympics took place in Athens in Greece in 1896. When the first modern Olympic games were held, only twelve countries took part. There were three hundred athletes. By 1960 there were 7,500 Athletes from ninety four (94) countries. A rule was made that olympics should be held in a different host country every four years.

There are about twenty different kinds of sports and about 200 events in all. Track and field sports have always been the most popular, but today many other sports such as boxing, fencing, rowing, football and hockey are included.

Winter sports such as skiing, skating and ice — hockey are part of the winter Olympic.

The 1988 Olympic games were staged in Seoul, Korea.

By : Naveed Khan
 Std. IV-A

OUR TRIP TO AURANGABAD

During our holidays we planned to go to Aurangabad. We had heard a lot about the Ajanta and Ellora caves. Aurangabad is named after Aurangzeb, the last Mughal Emperor. Its original name was Khidki or window. The cave temples of Ellora are mainly of three religions Buddhism, Brahmanism and Jainism. They are very beautiful. The Ajanta caves are also very beautiful. There are beautiful pictures on the walls and roofs and beautiful statues of Buddhas. There are pictures of large dimensions.

In Aurangabad itself there are lots of places to see, one is Bibi ka Makbara. It was build by the great Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb in the memory of his wife. It is an imitation of Taj Mahal. Then there is the Panchakki. It is a mill worked by water power for grinding corn. There are lots of other places to see. I really enjoyed the trip.

By : Rinku Chatwal

Std. IV-B

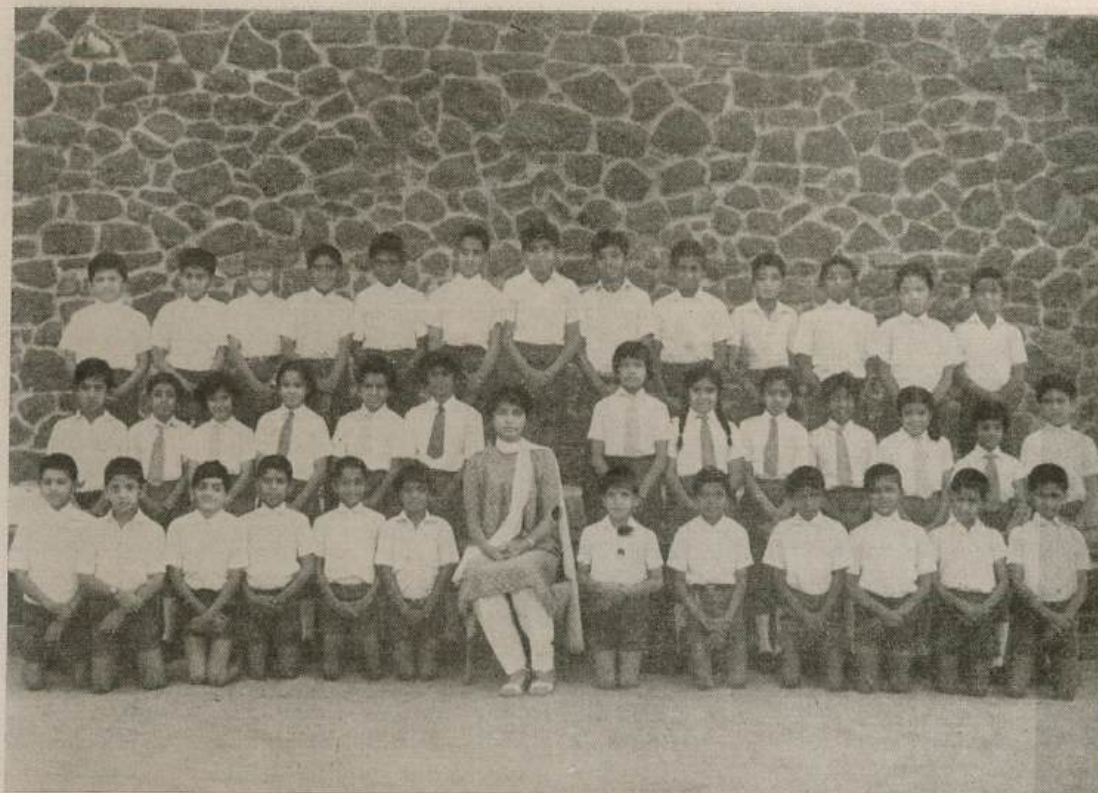
—————:O:—————

A TRIP TO THE BEACH

It was my birthday and we had gone to the beach. There was white and clear sand all around and palm trees in the distance. At the beach we saw some very interesting things. There were lots of people, tourists, foreign as well as Indian, beach-restaurants and shacks with drinks and eats. First we went into the water and came out for lunch. There were shells with funny looking living things in them when you touched the shells they would go in the water again and we saw a star-fish and a jelly fish. We collected a number of shells of different sizes and shapes, we also built sand castles. We had a lovely time splashing in the water, which had a very salty taste. We ended the day with ice-creams. We enjoyed ourselves.

By : Andrea D'Souza

Std. IV-B



Class IV-A — Miss M. Al-Fadli



Class IV-B — Mrs. U. Bhalerao



Class IV-C — Mr. P. Dinger



Class V-A — Miss G. Pinto

A HOLIDAY IN KASHMIR

We were thrilled when daddy and mummy decided to take us all to Kashmir for Diwali. We flew to Delhi and from there to Shrinagar. Shrinagar is the capital of Kashmir.

It was very cold in Srinagar. The Kashmiris are friendly people. They keep themselves warm by carrying a small basket with live coals called a "Kangri". They also wear a blanket like garment called the "Pheran". We saw many apple orchards. We saw the famous chinar trees which had turned red and gold for autumn. We saw rows of crocuses from which saffron is obtained.

Kashmir is famous for its flowers and gardens. We visited Pahalgam and Gulmarg. A famous poet has very correctly said for Kashmir that, "If there is a Paradise on earth; it is this; it is this; it is this". We enjoyed the Kashmir dish Roganjosh — a delicious mutton curry, the juicy apples and walnuts very much. We were sad when our holiday came to an end.

By : Vinayak Parameshwaran
Std. IV-C

MY VISIT TO OOTY

Ootacamund is a beautiful place. After five years I visited it again. I was born there, so the trip to Ooty was very exciting. My Mother, Aunt, cousin and I left on the first bus early morning from Mysore.

We passed through the Tamil Nadu and Mysore forests. We saw elephants, deer, monkeys and peacocks. My brother met us at Ooty. We stayed at a friend's house.

We visited the Botanical Garden; trees from all over the world grow there. There is a variety of flowers which makes the garden colourful. There is a green house for rare plants and orchids. Above the gardens is a Foda Colony — the doors of the huts there are so low that the people who live in them have to crawl through. We visited Dodabelta which is the highest peak in the Nilgiris, from Dodabelta parts of the plains and the hills of the Nilgiris could be seen. Sleeping Beauty is a range of hills which can be seen from the road going to Coonoor.

I had a ride on a horse which I enjoyed. I saw the trains of Ooty which are called toy trains. We visited Syms Park in Coonoor, coniferous trees grow there. We bought plums and pears which are grown in Syms Park. We passed the race-course but no races were on at that time. There are a lot of shops and hotels. Every house, office and hotel has lovely gardens. Ooty is called a place of colour.

By : Caroline Correa
Std. V-A

"LAUGH A WHILE"

One old woman went to the railway station and asked the enquiry clerk. "What time is the Bombay express coming?" "At nine o'clock, ma'am," replied the clerk. "What time is the Nagpur express coming?" "At 9-10," replied the clerk. The old woman again asked "What time is the Howrah mail?" "At 9-45," came the reply. The old woman thanked the clerk and was about to leave when the clerk asked, "But, ma'am, where do you want to go?" "Oh, I just wanted to cross the track", she replied.

An American tourist was walking on the crowded market place. He came to a fruit shop and indicating to a bunch of bananas asked the owner "What is this yellow fruit?" "These are bananas" said the shop owner. "My God these are so small! In our country bananas are two feet long." He asked the surprised vendor pointing to a basket "What are these?" They are lemons", replied the shop keeper. The American said "Such tiny lemons? In America they are as big as a football". He asked the owner pointing to a water melon "And, what is this?" The irritated vendor replied "This is the Indian variety of grapes".

One friend said to another — "Mohan, the flies from your house are really troublesome. Time and again I drive them away yet they come and sit on me."

Mohan replied — "I too am fed up and worried with their bad habits. Any dirty thing they see, they sit on it".

Contributed by : Jay Tomkins
Std. V-B

BIRD VERSUS MAN

News headlines say that there has been a drug haul made by the police, which, of course, was meant to be taken by the young people.

A thought came to my mind — aren't parents also responsible for the safety and protection of their children?

I remember an incident, which I witnessed when I went to my village during the last summer holidays. I was going for an evening walk to my fields, as I was nearing an old Banyan tree I saw a big snake climbing the tree. On the tree there was a nest in which baby sparrows were lying. They started making a noise as soon as the snake came near. The mother sparrow rushed to their help. She could make the strong enemy leave that place by fighting ferociously with him.

I thought, if the small helpless bird could challenge a mighty enemy for the sake of its young ones, can't human beings protect their children from drugs?

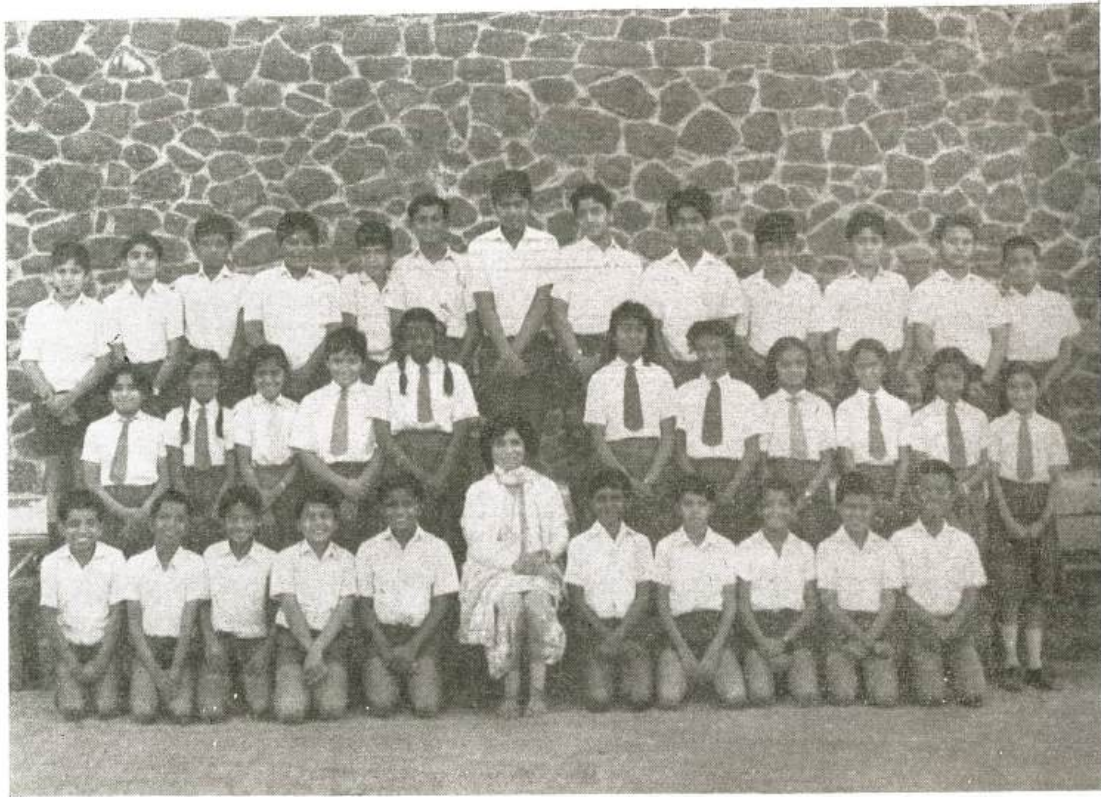
By : Bikramjit Sarkaria
Std. V-C



Class V-B — Mr. S. Spriggs



Class V-C — Mr. V. Nair



Class VI-A — Mrs. V. Thorpe



Class VI-B — Mr. G. Hardy

FACTS : STRANGE BUT TRUE!!!

- 1) Abraham Lincoln was born in 1808.
John Kennedy was born in 1908.
- 2) Abraham Lincoln was elected president in 1860.
John Kennedy was elected president in 1960.
- 3) Both Lincoln and Kennedy were shot at the back of their heads in front of their wives on a Friday.
- 4) Booth who shot Lincoln was born in 1839.
Oswald who shot Kennedy was born in 1939.
- 5) Both Booth and Oswald were of the same town and both died before they were brought to the court.
- 6) Booth killed Lincoln in the theatre and ran to the car.
Oswald killed Kennedy in the car and ran to the theatre.
- 7) The name of the P.A. of Kennedy was Lincoln and the name of the P.A. of Lincoln was Kennedy.
- 8) The name of the next president after both Kennedy and Lincoln was Johnson.

— :O: —

IT'S TRUE

- 1) A brown Brazilian butterfly smells like chocolate.
- 2) A blue whale can live without eating (if it has to) for nearly six months.
- 3) In North Australia a kind of Kangaroo lives on trees.
- 4) Though African baboons live on the ground they prefer sleeping on trees.
- 5) If a little whiskey is dropped on a scorpion's back it may sting itself to death.
- 6) Australia is the only continent with no glaciers.
- 7) Butterflies taste food with their feet. 8) The leaves of a tree grown in Madagascar grow nearly 20 feet long.
- 9) Polar bears normally have twin cubs.

Contributed by : Ashish Tandon
Std. V-C

THE MOST DANGEROUS DAY OF MY LIFE

On the 10th of February 1984 my parents and I had to go to Bombay for the marriage of my brother. We boarded a plane from Calcutta at six o'clock in the evening. The plane started and took off from the airport. We were enjoying tremendously, the good food and soft drinks served on the aircraft when suddenly the pilot told the passengers to tie their seat belts. As for me I was listening to the splendid music from my walkman. Suddenly a big noise was heard. All the passengers were afraid and there was great confusion when the pilot announced that we were not going to be able to land safely because the plane was going to crash as the engine had caught fire. All the passengers were crying and were very afraid. My parents were also crying. The plane was about to crash. Suddenly, I knelt down and prayed to Lord Jesus Christ and after sometime the plane stopped shaking and we landed safely at Bombay airport. All the people were saying that the Lord Jesus saved us from death. I thanked Jesus for saving our lives on the most dangerous day of my life.

By : Kaustav Debnath
Std. VI-A

A MEMORABLE SUMMER HOLIDAY

For our summer holidays my brother and I were fortunate to visit West Bengal and Sikkim — two beautiful states of India.

Our parents are presently in New Mal, a small town, of West Bengal, at the foothills of Darjeeling. So, our initial stop was to visit them and then go on to Darjeeling, which is two hours by road, through dense greenery of tea gardens and monsoon forests. The journey was done in an army jonga which is somewhat like a jeep. It was a steady climb all the way, upto the Mall, in Darjeeling. From there, we were able to see the lovely peak of Kanchanjunga — an awe-inspiring sight indeed!

The next morning we spent visiting the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute — made famous by Tensing Norkey, the first to scale Mt. Everest. We were shown sophisticated equipment and photographs of the triumphs in Mountaineering. Later, in the afternoon, we visited the Darjeeling Zoo which has some rare species of animals and birds. Of these, the Panda interested us the most. We also had a trip in the toy train between Darjeeling and Kurseong.

The next morning found us again, all snug in knitted woollens, driving up from Darjeeling to Gangtok, the capital of Sikkim. The journey was over narrow serpentine hill roads, with hair pin bends and steep ravines descending away from us down the hill sides — hair-raising indeed. At Gangtok we were surprised to see the brightly painted roof tops, pretty Sikkimese costumes and smiling happy people. We did not feel we were in India, for it seemed a foreign land to us!

We later visited Kalimpong, and saw the numerous nurseries with their exotic orchids and rare cacti. Here, we were mostly amongst service people and saw less of the town and its inhabitants.

Our last stop was Nathula — a pass connecting India with China. We were close against the Chinese-Indo Border, and we saw many Chinese soldiers. They smiled back at us, though we were not able to meet them.

That brought our holiday to an end, and we journeyed back from Siliguri to Deolali by train. This was an anticlimax! But, the memories of a happy, adventurous holiday still linger in our minds.

By : Bonita Dhillon
Std. VI-A

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GANESH'S HARD WORK'S RESULT

Ganesh, a poor and a helpless orphan, was a cobbler on the busy railway station of Pune. He worked hard and in the evening, while returning to his hut, he would hardly have six rupees, out of which three would be spent on something to eat and the other three he would save for a glass of milk the next morning.

One day a group of children and a few teachers got down at the station. The teachers rushed the children out and followed them with baskets full of games, caps, things to eat and drink. Ganesh felt very eager to go to school looking at the gay children. After a great hustle and bustle, the teachers lined the children and took them away. After the crowd had dispersed, Ganesh caught sight of a mouth organ on the platform. He hastened there and hurriedly picked up the mouth organ and rushed to the hut. He first thought was that it would bring him good money if he sold it somewhere, but then he decided he had better keep it for himself and play on it in his free-time.

And so, after his tiresome work, he hurried home and began playing tunes of certain songs which he had heard at the station. He perfected many tunes and then an idea struck him. He thought it would be better by far to entertain the passengers on the train.

The next day he set out with the mouth-organ. He got inside a train at the station where he worked as a cobbler. He played some tunes there and the people finding his tunes very entertaining and melodious gave him some money. At every station, where the train halted, Ganesh would change his train. In every train the people were impressed by the tunes he played. On every train he would get five rupees, and he travelled in at least five trains. Ganesh spent six rupees

that day and he could afford to spend four more rupees to buy some bread and milk while going for work again the next morning. Like this everyday, he saved the money that would be left after his little expenditure. Now he could buy himself better clothes than before. He looked quite decent now. The money he earned gave him great joy.

He was very happy and contented with what he earned through his own work and effort.

After six months his money was sufficient for paying the fees of a small school. And yes, he did become a good student who was very interested in his work.

Of course, it was only his hard work and interest that helped him to rise above his circumstances.

By : Snehal Masurkar
Std. VI-B

— :O: —

MY EXPERIENCE

I love skating very much and my performance was good. Now I cannot do so. This is how it happened. Once I went to the railway station to see my elder sister off. I kept the luggage in the compartment and sat, with my sister, talking about roads and railways. The crowd of people was increasing in the compartment and I was unaware of the departure time of the train. After hearing the whistle, I started walking towards the door. By the time I reached the door, the train had started moving and was picking up speed. Without judging the speed of the moving train I jumped on to it and lost my balance; I fell down and became unconscious. When I recovered I discovered that I had lost a leg. After this incident you must understand that it is dangerous to jump on or jump off a running train. It may result in the loss of life. As a result of this carelessness, till today I have not been able to skate.

By : Pavan Daryani
Std. VI-B

— :O: —

A MOTHER'S FAULT

Hari was a student of class ten. He was very intelligent. He was one of the top students of the class. One day he stole a book. His mother asked him to keep the book for himself. She also encouraged him to steal more things. In this way he became a clever thief. When he grew up, he stole from his neighbours.

By and by, he became a famous robber. He looted many banks and business houses. He murdered many people. One day Hari was caught redhanded. He was tried in the court of law. The judge sentenced him to death.

Hari was to be hanged. His mother went to see him for the last time. Hari was asked his last desire. He said, "I want to see my mother". Hari's mother went near him. He whispered something in her ear and bit off her ear.

The judge asked him for the reason of his strange action. Hari explained, "Sir, had she not encouraged me to steal my friends book, I would not have become a robber".

He also told the judge that his mother was responsible for his ruin. The mother wept bitterly and realised her mistake. But it was too late.

By : Bharti Kukreja
Std. VI-B

— :O: —

AN INTERESTING TRIP TO THE PLANET MOON

It was on a sunny holiday morning, I was in a playful mood, so I went up the hill seeking adventure. I wandered and played with the beautiful birds and butterflies. Finally I was so tired that I lay down on the evergreen grass and fell asleep. I don't know how long I slept, but when I got up I found myself in a huge space-ship. I was astonished to find myself in this space-ship. I was curious to know how I landed in this space-ship, so in order to satisfy my curiosity, I peeped at the front seat.

Guess what I saw? I saw very queer people wearing glass helmets and very awkward clothes. They had webbed feet and claws instead of hands. I had often read in fairy tale books about people from outer space but surely fairy tales are not true. In some books I had read that there is a possibility of life on the planet Mars. While I was thinking all this the space-ship came to a halt. I was waiting for the next dangerous moment, but soon gathered all my courage and got down from the space-ship among the queer people. I tried asking them, what this place was known as and who they were, but unfortunately they were unable to understand my language, so later I started talking with actions and came to know that I was on the planet Mars. All this adventure had made me famished so I expressed my want for food. They gave me some metals which I couldn't eat, so I had to remain hungry. The Martians showed me many things. While seeing all this, I suddenly remembered my home. I immediately went to those people and gestured at them to take me back. They didn't want to part with me, neither did I want to do so. When I was leaving one of the Martians brought a glass helmet for me and expressed that that may be accepted as a remembrance. I also gave them my broach. I bade them farewell and sat in the space-ship. As I reached my house, I thanked them and ran home.

By : Amit Sakhuja
Std. VI-C

AN EMBARRASSING EXPERIENCE

It happened like this. Everyone from my house had gone out for a movie and I was left alone, as I had declined the invitation on account of already having seen the movie. I decided that I would watch television for sometime and then go to sleep.

A programme on 'How to Catch Thieves' was being telecast, and being of a very dramatic nature, I decided to watch it. As I switched off the television, I wondered if any thieves would attempt to steal from our house. The very thought made me shiver with excitement, and I went to bed.

My eyes had barely closed when I felt that someone was trying to open the main door. The noise could be heard for sometime. Then it stopped, then started once again, I was sure that the 'someone' was a robber, and therefore racked my brain to think of a suitable scheme to outwit him. By this time the 'someone' had let himself in, by some means and entered the first room which was my father's. I know that the only valuables lying on the dressing table were my father's watch, a tape-recorder, and a few pieces of jewellery which belonged to my mother.

Finally, I decided to be brave, go down, lock the bedroom through which the robber had entered and then telephone the police. What an easy thing it seemed! I went down stealthily in the darkness, and reached the door, and ran to the neighbour's house to phone the police. The telephone was not working so my neighbour drove me to the nearest police station to tell my complaint.

So I told my complaint to the police that I had locked the thief in the room. At this, the policemen had no other choice than to come to my house.

As the Jeep pulled up at my place, I took him to the locked room.

He knocked loudly on the door and receiving no answer shouted to the person to come out, after unlocking it and oh! Can you guess who came out? None other than my father!

I was so shocked and ashamed, the neighbours and the policemen too started laughing.

And from that day whenever I cross the police station the policemen shouts and says "Hey! Have you caught any robbers lately"?

That was certainly the most embarrassing moment of my life and I fervently hope that such a moment never repeats itself in the future.

By : Oref Irani
Std. VI-C

MY HOUSE ON FIRE

My father, mother and I returned home after enjoying a lovely evening. It was quite late at night. It was Sunday, so, everything was quiet. Everyone was sleeping and the dogs were howling. All this was quite creepy and scary.

I was in bed by about eleven o'clock and at this time everything is quite dark. My parents went to sleep a little later than me.

Sometime later, I felt a hot and burning sensation. When I got up to see what it was, I could only see a glow, a bright glow because my eyes had still not opened completely. As my sleep wore off I could see something burning. It was a fire! Flames were shooting from underneath my bedroom door. I could not escape, but I managed to peep outside and I saw that my whole house was ablaze! My parents had already got up and were trying desperately to put out fire with buckets of water, but the fire was steadily spreading. I also tried to help, but to no avail. The fire would not stop. I told my parents that I was going to call the fire brigade. They told me not to go near the telephone because it was at one end of a long corridor. I decided I had to do it, and so I dashed out of my room and rushed for the telephone. I then made an urgent call to the fire brigade and they told me that they would be there in ten minutes. After some time, I could hear the siren of the fire engine. Soon, a ladder was mechanically extended to our floor, as we lived on the the fourth floor. A fireman broke down a window from outside and told us to descend by the ladder. All three of us had a tough time climbing down the ladder, but each of us managed it safely. I had got slightly burnt. The fireman then climbed the ladder and sprayed water on the fire and it slowly died down.

For some days we had to live in a guest house while our house was being re-done. It took two to three months to furnish the house again.

By : Neville Mehta
Std. VII-A

— :O: —

DID ROBIN HOOD EVER EXIST

Robin Hood lived in Sherwood forest; near Nottingham in the centre of England. In those twelfth century days a vast region of copper tracks, woodland glades and great oaks used to stretch for many miles from the city northwards. This region was called Sherwood forest.

Until the time of the Normans the forest was used for hunting by the people of that region, or shire and thereby acquired its earlier name of Sherwood. The common people's right to hunt ceased when the Normans took over the forest for their own use. Strict laws were passed and special courts were set up to preserve them.

Whether Robin Hood and his merry band of followers which included Little John, Friar Tuck, Will Scarlet and Maiden Marian, ever existed is difficult to establish. Certainly by the end of the 12th century with the control of royal Sherwood in the hands of feudal barons, the common people deeply resented the harsh and oppressive rule under which they lived. The time was ripe for stories about a man who robbed the rich to feed the poor.

The character of Robin Hood represented the ideals of the common people of the last Middle ages. Ballads about his exploits have been preserved and many date from the 14th to the 15th centuries. In 1795 Joseph Rifson first published a collection of these in book form.

Over the years stories of the carefree folk hero and his band of happy followers, living an idyllic life in the woodland glades of Sherwood during the days of the Plantagenet kings have become the subject of many books.

Contributed by : Yakub Shalla
Std. VII-A

— :O: —

THE MISTAKE

One fine evening I was going to my grandmother's house on my bicycle, when, suddenly I heard a small girl crying out for help in a house nearby. I quickly cycled to my grandmother's house and phoned for the police to come immediately. After informing them I waited impatiently for them to come. When finally the police came we rushed immediately to the house where I had heard the girl crying. We knocked at the door and a servant came to answer the door. When we asked her whether anyone had come and kidnapped a girl in the house, the servant only laughed and said, "Oh, so that's why you have come. It was only the small children rehearsing for the play". I was very sorry when I heard this and told the police to please forgive me.

By : Nita Ahuja
Std. VII-B

— :O: —



Class VI-C — Mr. B. Fernandes



Class VII-A — Mr. B. Mitchel



Class VII-B — Mr. Z. A. Khan



Class VII-C — Mrs. V. Bhattacharji

THE MOST UNFORGETTABLE DAY IN MY LIFE

I remember this incident as if it happened only yesterday. Once, some years ago my friends and I decided to go for a picnic to a river a few kilometres away from our colony. We had also made the preparations though our elders had told us to choose some other place. Finally the day arrived and we set out happily.

We reached the river, and settled down on its bank and had our lunch. After that we went into the water to play catching cook. The water was quite deep and none of us knew swimming. My friend Shilpa was trying to catch me and I unknowingly went more and more in the deep part. By now the water was very high. I slipped in the water and started being carried away. All my friends started screaming for help, even I was shouting "Help! Help!"

A Fisherman, who was sitting on the bank saw me drowning. He quickly jumped into the water and saved me. By this time I was unconscious and when I opened my eyes I found myself lying in bed. If the Fisherman was not there I would have been dead. From that time onwards I get very scared of water, and I never go near rivers, lakes or even a small pond.

By : Sonali P. Bhujbal
Std. VII-B

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ADVENTURE CAMP

Every year the Army authorities in the North, called the Northern Command, organise adventure camps for children. These camps are held to build in children a spirit of adventure and love for outdoor life. These camps are organised in beautiful hill stations like Pahalgam and Gulmarg.

My elder brother and I attended one such camp, held at a place called Bhadarwa in Jammu & Kashmir. This place is about 70 km. from Udhampur. The response from children for this camp was tremendous. We were in total a hundred and fifty children, who set out to seek adventure in this ten day long camp.

We travelled from Udhampur to Bhadarwa by buses. It was great fun. We had with us three officers and their wives for supervision along with an army doctor. We sang all the way to Bhadarwa.

On our arrival we were given tea with biscuits and pastries which were delicious as by now we were all hungry, and excited too! A tent was shared by four boys. We were allotted houses. They were Raman, Ashoka, Tagore and Gandhi. I was put in Ashoka House.

The next few days were full of activity and excitement. We had a marathon race in which all the houses participated. Ashoka House came first. We also went trekking every day. A fancy dress competition was held in which I won the first prize. I dressed up as a pirate, with a patch on my eye! I called myself Captain Cook. I was thrilled, as I knew I would get a cup. We were given horses for riding and fortunately, as I had been on a horse before, I could ride one rather well. Both my brother and myself won prizes for horse riding. On last evening a large camp-fire was lit and we sang and danced till late in the night.

The last day was a sad one for all of us, as we had made many new friends and had spent a wonderful time together. There was a rush for autographs and addresses for we wished to stay in touch. We parted feeling sad, but with hope in our hearts that we would meet again.

I shall never forget this camp, as I learnt a lot from it. It developed in me a certain independence and confidence and the ability to make friends easily. I wish more camps would be held for us children.

By : Sartaj Gill
Std. VII-C

— :O: —

HOME SWEET HOME

There is a very popular English song. It was written by the poet John Howard Payne. It is entitled "Home, Sweet Home". Two of its lines run thus :

'Mid pleasures and places though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home'.

How true this is! A man may go on a world tour. He may visit the richest countries and live in the most luxurious hotel and enjoy the world's greatest pleasures, but he will soon be fed up with all that. His heart will still be for his home. He will yearn to return to his home, sweet home.

There really is no place like home. The very word 'Home' carries a world of meaning, namely of shelter, rest, comfort, warmth, protection, love and joy. A man's home may be a very poor and humble place. It may have none of the conveniences of modern pleasure places. It may have all the inconveniences of a miserable hovel. Yet man will experience in it the kind of peace and happiness not to be had anywhere else in the whole world.

This is because it is "HIS". He grew up in it. His father and mother took loving and selfless care of him here. In this place he played with his brothers and sisters; he pursued his studies, he went through the thick and thin of his life; he became a part of the dwelling. Thus his home means to him the love and care of his family and the living history of his life. He has a bond with it that cannot be severed; for this sacred tie is spiritual, not physical. He has no such bond with any other place in the world. Therefore, there is no place like home, sweet home.

By : Geeta Makhija
Std. VII-C



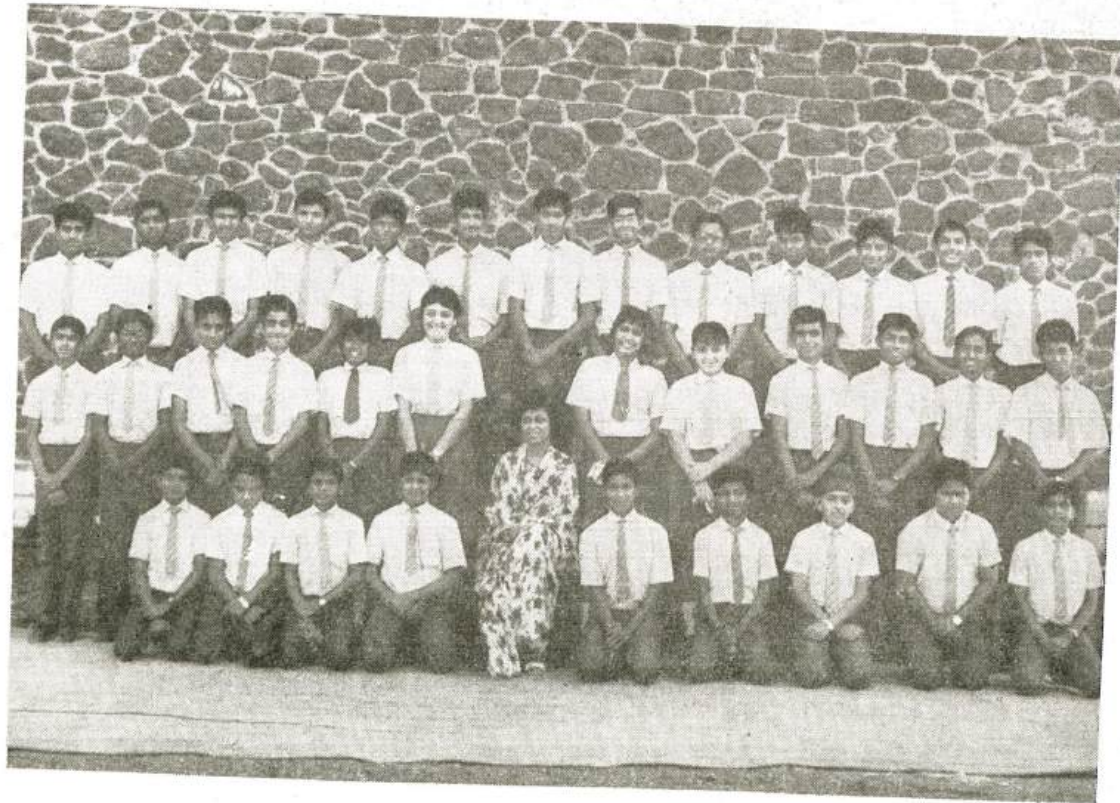
Class VIII-A — Mr. E. Myall



Class VIII-B — Mr. R. Robinson



Class VIII-C — Mr. D. O'Connor



Class IX-A — Mrs. H. Driver

LOYAL ARE THE ANIMALS

Once upon a time there was a man called Mr. Brown, who had no wife, no children and even no parents. He used to feel very lonely and to end his loneliness, he bought a dog which was white with large golden spots on his back and two lovely blue eyes. He named this dog Sunny because, his large golden spots shone like the sun. A year later Mr. Brown opened a factory which manufactured mosaic tiles. This factory helped him to make a lot of money. He hid all this money in a cupboard. One day his servant Dick, saw him keeping fifty thousand rupees in his cupboard and attempted to steal it but the dog attacked him and started barking loudly. When Mr. Brown, who was returning home, heard his dog barking loudly he ran to his house. He was amazed and shocked to see his servant, Dick, removing all the money from the cupboard. He saw that his dog was chained too. He quickly called the police who arrested not only the servant but three of his friends too. They had all been badly bitten by Sunny. The police gave Sunny an "Award for bravery". Sunny and Mr. Brown lived happily together for many years after.

By : Vinayak Pagedar
Std. VII-C

THE BOYS OF MY CLASS

Oh, the wonderful boys of our class,
Understanding them is a difficult task.
What about Shivaji with his sleepy face,
And Sugnesh with his untied lace.
Daniel has bundles of Story books,
And Nicholas is always making us laugh
with his funny looks.
Clayton with his girlish styles,
And Anupam with his funny hair styles,
Zaki is a sweet chap,
And Naresh is used to taking a rap.
Now it's better I stopped
Before I get popped!

By : Harmeet Gujral
Std. VIII-A

PUZZLING RIDDLES

1. Once a man was travelling from Bombay to Devlali by train. As the train stopped at Igatpuri, men were selling eatables and soft drinks. One of the men was shouting, "half circle, full circle, half circle, A, half circle full circle, right angle, A
What was he selling?
2. Round as a marble, deeper than a cup, twenty four elephants cannot lift it up.
3. What is common between a lazy worker and a gun?
4. Which is the longest word in the dictionary?
5. What has a pen but cannot write?
6. Which two things always run and never walk or jog.

ANSWERS: (1) COCACOLA (2) A Well (3) They both are tired (4) Elastic, because it stretches (5) Sheep (6) A train and water.

By : Daniel Isaac
Std. VIII-A

MYSELF

My name is Noel Swain,
I love to play football in the rain.
I have to go to School everyday,
I wish I could escape it some way.
With my friends I play Badminton in the hall,
Until I hear my mother's angry call.
I am in the church choir,
My best friend is Tom Sawyer.
I like to go to the swimming pool,
I wish, with heavy rain, it is always full.
The sports field is my favourite place,
Every year I run in the race.
On holidays we play a cricket match,
But window panes I never smash.
I was anxiously waiting for the hockey season,
To get a new hockey stick was the simple reason.
People say I cannot keep still,
Unless I am really very ill.
I am in Class VIII-B,
We are never idle nor free.

By : Noel Swain
Std. VIII-B

A TALE OF TWO VILLAGES

I paid for the newspaper and walking along the park sat on the bench facing the city. The Manhattan skyline was a fantasy of purple and gold.

I glanced at the headline which read "Parker dam bursts, destroys Maugham village. No traces, no suspects at all". Mentally I started drifting to a different place altogether.

I was a boy of fifteen who worked at the Nelson dam in the village of Somerset to support a family of six. My family was happy and content and I was proud, but then on the second of April at exactly eleven a devastating incident took place after I had finished my last round of the dam. The dam exploded, I did not know how lucky I was to be saved but I was struck with fear about the villages, about my family, which in half an hour was just a floating garbage.

There could only be one source of this great destruction. It was the rival village of Maugham, which was always behind Somerset in trade and political activities. Anyway I, being the only person around the dam, was wrongly framed and due to lack of evidence and my age I was sentenced for ten years.

After those ten hard years of imprisonment I had become hard hearted and cruel and my only ambition was to destroy Maugham no matter how many innocent people suffered. After I had myself established and supported well, I thought and planned well. Then I started on the course to vendetta. I got my henchman Brian, after much bribing, the post of the night watchman at the Packer dam in Maugham. After keeping a low profile for a month I went to Maugham to see and hear what I had longed for, for years. On the second of April at exactly eleven o'clock I avenged myself. The dam was in ruins; the people were struggling in neck deep water, choking, gasping and screaming and suddenly it all died down; the Volcano in me which had erupted 10 years ago had now cooled.

I picked up Brian fast and together we made it to the helicopter. After we reached our destination we shook hands and parted ways. Slowly the picture started getting out of focus and finally faded away.

I found myself and the newspaper totally drenched and I got up slowly and started walking away. I glanced slightly to the left and saw the Manhattan skyline fainter too.

By : Sabir Noor
Std. IX-A

ON HOMEWORK

It is said that children should not be given homework. I do not entirely agree with this statement. I feel that children should not be burdened with too much homework, as that would leave them with no time to indulge in play, entertainment, or even hobbies that they may like to take up. Students have to prepare their daily lessons; sometimes they have to complete their work, or to revise the subjects they are weak in. They have to be ready for a series of examinations. They have also some household work to do for, all are not born with a silver spoon in their mouths.

When a student comes back from school, he is tired, both physically and mentally, and would not like to touch his books. The History teacher asks him to answer ten questions as homework. The Mathematics teacher wants him to do Exercise one forty-two and one-forty-four in Algebra and a few constructions in Geometry. The English teacher wants him to write an essay, saying 'writing makes a man perfect'. The Sanskrit teacher wants him to memorize some grammar, and the Geography teacher wants him to do some maps. Thus homework proves extremely burdensome.

It is said that 'All work and no play, makes Jack a dull boy.' If a child has to spend a good eight hours at school with his eyes glued to his books, and spend the rest of the time at home doing the tasks set by different teachers — what time is available for play? None at all.

Thus, in my opinion, I feel that the teachers should realize that too much homework, instead of helping the students, does positive harm to them. Children should derive pleasure doing their homework, and not treat it as a burden.

By : Promila Bhatia

Std. VIII-C

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THE STORM

Our winter holidays had begun. I went to my home town of Srinagar in Kashmir for my holidays, and to meet my parents. I enjoyed staying with my parents for some days.

One day, while I was sitting on the balcony, I saw dark clouds gathering across the sky. The mountain tops were covered with clouds and not even a single peak could be seen clearly. There was no one to be seen outside. By then I knew there was going to be a heavy snowfall.

It was by evening when the storm broke. It began to snow heavily. Soon the roof of our house was covered with snow. When I looked out of the window, it seemed as if somebody was throwing cotton from the sky.

Next morning we heard the news that many villages had been destroyed; there had been great loss of life. Some were seriously injured and many had become homeless.

Early in the morning as I was going for a walk, I saw a small boy, crying. I picked him up and took him home. I told my mother to take care of him while I went to inform the police about him. The police-inspector came to our house the next day, with the little boy's parents. They thanked us for saving their son and happily went back to their home.

As far as I can remember this was the worst storm I have ever experienced in my life.

By : Salim Moosa
Std. VIII-C

—:O:—

MY AMBITION — SERVICE TO THE NATION

The Army was raised to defend the country from external aggression and internecine dangers. My ambition is to be an officer in the Indian Army. The reason for my choice is that I have lived in any army environment and am impressed by the dedication and selflessness of its officers. My father and my grandfather have both served in the Indian Army.

The Army has always lived up to its expectations. On several occasions the Army has proved its worth. A very recent attempt by a group of mercenaries to overthrow the Maldivian government was foiled by the timely and effective action of the Indian Army. A Para Brigade was flown from Agra over a vast distance, to bring the situation under control. Within hours of the Cabinet's approval the first giant Il-seventy six aircraft rolled down the Agra airfield and in a matter of a few hours reached the Maldives to foil the coup.

During the 1984 Hindu-Sikh riots the Army played a major role in reducing the violence considerably and looking after the refugees. The Indian Army has repulsed two major Pakistani aggressions. This taught the Pakistanis a lesson, that the Indian Army was a force to be reckoned with.

In the sphere of sports too the Army has done well for itself. Dhyan Chand, Shankar Laxman, Hardayal Singh and Ganesh are some of the hockey greats who never let the nation down. Milkha Singh "The Flying Sikh", the only Indian to break an Olympic record was also a soldier.

A contingent from the Indian Army has been sent to observe the Iran-Iraq peace treaty as part of the U.N. force. They have served the United Nations in peace keeping duties in Korea, Congo, Gaza and now in the Iran-Iraq area.

The Army maintains such a high standard because of its scrupulous selection of personnel. Men of the highest calibre are chosen. They go through a series of entrance examinations, physical training tests and selection boards before they are finally selected to join the army. The Army also teaches a man to be disciplined and to be a leader.

Many a time I have fantasized about being a Surgeon, Pilot or Engineer but eventually it is the Army that has continued to fascinate me. It still remains my choice for a career.

By : Barry Dhillon
Std. IX-A

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TUNNEL TO FREEDOM

Stalag Luft III was established in the spring of 1943. In April the camp was enlarged by the addition of the north compound and about seven hundred prisoners of war were moved into it. The east of the square-shaped compound had a one thousand foot gap, enclosed by two tall barbed wire fences, running parallel to each other and five feet apart. The wide gaps were also crammed with barbed wires. A warning wire was fixed about ten yards inside this barrier. A step across and the prisoners would be shattered with bullets. There were many sentry towers, each fifteen feet high with searchlights and machine guns. Twenty-five yards outside the wire stood dense pine woods.

An organisation "X" was formed secretly by the allied prisoners of war. It was decided that three long tunnels, Tom, Dick and Harry, were to be dug by Block 123, 122 and 104. About five hundred prisoners registered their names to participate in the tunnel work. Each hut was hundred feet long and about a foot above the ground.

The prisoners made a chart on the layout of the tunnel. It was to be dug at a depth of twenty five feet so that German sound detectors would not detect any sound. They decided to sink shafts thirty feet straight down from the trap-

door of the tunnel which would end in the woods. By May 1943, the tunnel digging was launched. Prisoners skilled in engineering and other crafts helped in the digging of the tunnel.

Some prisoners bribed the German soldiers and asked for certain things in return. Some of the German soldiers brought pens, brushes, special types of paper, magnets to make compasses, radio parts to build an illegal receiver, a camera and maps. Once a sentry accepted a gift he could not refuse to help the prisoners, as he was threatened with disclosure of his corrupt activities. The prisoners decided to concentrate on "Tom" which had the shortest distance to go. All the mud from "Tom" was piled into "Dick".

By the end of June, Tom reached the woods. But one day when the Block was being searched, one of the soldiers accidentally drove his probe into the trap-door of the tunnel "Tom". It was discovered, and at the end of August the prisoners were moved into the new compound.

In early 1944, the prisoners decided to extend tunnel "Harry". By March 14th the tunnel was ready. It covered a distance of three hundred feet. On the 24th of March the leader of the prisoners, Roger Bushell, decided that the escape would take place that night. At 7.40 p.m. Roger Bushell descended the tunnel. About eighty escapees came out of the tunnel. The eighty first escapee was seen by a soldier who raised the alarm.

In about two to three days most of the escapees were recaptured. About fifty were shot dead by German soldiers and twenty-seven were imprisoned. Only four prisoners out of the eighty-one, escaped alive. Yet this daring escape was considered a victory by the Allied high command. It was a source of great inspiration to other prisoners of war.

Contributed by : Rahil Nomani
Std. IX-A

—:O:—

LIFE WITH RELATIONS AND FRIENDS

Everyone has some relations or the other and friends and there is no one who does not have one. They are not only our Uncles and Aunts but our own parents are also related to us. So we all know how we also have to go through bad times with them. This is what took place.

My parents had gone out to work, and some of my relatives turned up and more than the adults it was the children who gave me the jitters. Now as the relatives had come from a long journey they were sure to stay here. The thought

of the children made me wake up from my reverie and I ran after them only to see disasters, one after the other. My young cousin climbed up the writing table and as he did so his legs got entangled in the table lamp and he fell, dropping my books, the ink-pot and the table lamp on to the ground. When I picked him up he began to cry and blame me. Suddenly the door-bell rang and my father appeared, I quickly promised the young one a chocolate if he kept his mouth shut and he agreed. The others were still not to be seen. When I went upstairs I was shocked they had rolled up the curtain and were swinging from them like Tarzan, and in front of me they tore half the curtain, and thus I had to hide that also.

At last I agreed to play with them a game of Robber and Police and they made me a robber. As I was going to hide my father asked me to serve drinks to the guests. As I walked out of the kitchen with a tray full of drinks my cousins who were acting as police pulled the rope and once again there was another disaster. I fell and the tray went flying on to the ground and not a single glass remained unbroken not to mention the sticky mess on the floor. Now all this had made me angry. So I decided it would be better if I locked myself in my room. Suddenly I saw one of my cousins coming downstairs and he told me that water was flowing out from the gap underneath the closed door of my room. As I opened it water gushed out of the bathroom and this was surely because of leaving the tap carelessly open. I thought it would be better if I would go out onto the lawn so that all my cousins would get the right punishment if they were caught in the vicinity. Then my mother appeared and at that moment I decided to tell her everything but she did not believe me for my father and my relatives had gone out and as I was the only person around I got the blame for everything; and so later whenever I would hear that my relatives would be coming home I get ready to leave and visit someone else where I would at least get some peace and joy.

By : Nauzad Irani

Std. IX-B

:O:

PAVEMENT PROFESSIONS

Many people in the world are illiterate and do not get jobs easily. These people make their living on the pavement. Entertaining whoever comes along the pavements for money is their profession. From what they collect, usually they get two square meals a day but sometimes on an exceptionally lucky day they manage to get a tidy sum of money.

There are many types of things that pavement professionals do to impress the public. One easy way of making money is by keeping a trained monkey who does acrobatics. It is quite common to see a man making a monkey do acrobatics like cartwheeling, somersaulting and even walking upside down on his hands. Usually

at the end of the show, the monkey gets up and goes around the crowd to collect money. These men who train monkeys visit the beaches of Bombay quite often, as there they can extract a good sum of money from the crowd which is usually a foreign group of people touring India.

Another profession, which is common mainly in Bombay, is selling clothes at cheap prices on the pavement. The clothes these people sell are colourful, fashionable and last fairly long and because of that a number of teenage, college-going students do most of their shopping over there. The owners of these stalls get customers everyday and they make roaring profits as they get a good sum of money.

Begging is also a form of making a living on the pavements and in the poorer countries of the world beggars are not an uncommon sight to see. In India itself there are innumerable beggars on the road who spend their time on the streets, trying to get some money from the passersby. These beggars often run along car windows begging for money when the signals are red and all the cars are at a stop. These people are satisfied even if they are given something to eat by the people. There are some, however, who beg out of sheer laziness and they don't try for jobs anywhere.

There are some people who really get good earnings by performing various acrobatics and death-defying feats on the roads. These people are very skilled and they can balance on poles, walk the tight-rope and even things like fire-eating. They even form tall pyramids which do look spectacular once complete. In many places abroad these types of people are not uncommon. As there are many skilled performers on the roads over there, they even go and sing songs from door to door and get some money in return. Some people perform graceful dances for the people and they manage to collect good sums of money from the people who go to see them perform.

A profession, very common all over the globe, is pickpocketing. It goes on everywhere in broad daylight and in crowded areas. These pickpocket are very skilled and normally are well dressed, to avoid suspicion. All they have to do, is bang into someone and they have got his wallet or bag. Handbags are also stolen by these people and that is done by merely slashing off the straps of the bag and then making off with it into the crowd. The victims do not realise that they have been robbed in the rush. It is only when one wants to take out his money for something does he realise that his wallet has been taken off him. These pickpockets hang around mainly in crowded areas like Churchgate and V.T. in Bombay. A handbag could be saved from these people by keeping an arm around it so that it cannot be snatched or cut off from the straps.

During these winter holidays my pocket also got picked once and since then I've learnt to be extra careful. I was travelling from Andheri to Churchgate and I don't know when my pocket got picked as I realised it only when I reached

Churchgate and reached for my wallet to show the ticket checker over there, my rail pass. I discovered that my wallet was missing and alas with it my pass.

I told the ticket checker what had happened but he refused to believe me and said that I would have to pay a fine of rupees two hundred or go to the police station with him. I was in a fix, I did not have any money on me and so, I called up my father at his office only to discover that he had gone out somewhere. In my frustration I pawned my watch, paid the T.C. and returned home with the remaining money. That had really been a bad day for me. I was supposed to go for a movie on that day. I could not go, and I even lost my wallet which made me sell my watch.

All over the world, these people perform, come home and then go out the next day to perform again. These pavement professions can be stopped in India by providing these people with jobs. These jobless professionals perform on the streets for a living. These people, however, do have exciting times. Some have decent places to stay in, some don't, but still all of them are alike and enjoy their work.

By : Vinay Vinayak
Std. IX-B

—:O:—

CLASS IX-B

Our class IX-B,
Is always making a sound like a bee.
In teachers' absence they act without sense,
And cause nonsense.
Their skin has become thick,
And hence teachers do not use a stick,
When the teacher slaps,
Everyone claps.
You know why the teacher slaps?
When the teacher is teaching Literature,
They are reading books of Adventure.
Also, when the teacher asks them to give answers,
They think about break-dancers,
They do not wish teachers in a proper way,
Hence teachers make them stand the whole day,
This is my class IX-B,
Not ever busy in their work like a bee.

By : Nitin Daulatani
Std. IX-B

"HERE A CHICK, THERE A CHICK, EVERYWHERE A CHICK, CHICK"

India initiated the development of poultry production on a large scale only around 1960. Since then production of eggs in India has risen from a level of 2,400 million to 12,500 million in 1980 and is expected to cross the 25,000 million mark by the end of the century. India did not itself breed high yielding poultry stocks. Import of such stocks was freely permitted to encourage development of poultry. So spectacular and outstanding has been the success of Poultry farming in India, that the Indian Government decided that it was no longer necessary to import Poultry stocks from abroad. Now-a-days farmers are doing farming on a large scale or on a small scale.

If possible the houses are built in an open place where breeze prevails during the day. These breezes are beneficial during the hot hours of the day. In the first and the second weeks they need 0.25 sq. ft. per chicken and in the last 7 to 8 weeks they need 1.00 sq. ft. per chicken. The house is 24 to 30 feet wide. Narrower or wider houses do not produce as good results and are less economical to build and operate.

The poultry houses should be properly ventilated because it has to perform many functions such as satisfy the oxygen needs of the birds, to remove carbon-dioxide and other harmful gases, to control the moisture in the house, to regulate the temperature, and to help control diseases.

Most disease germs can be killed only by thorough cleaning. Normally no medications are required if the management is proper. Vaccinations are carried out according to the disease condition of the area. The chickens also die due to overcrowding in one place.

For the first five weeks, the chickens require heat until they are well feathered. The brooder house temperature should be kept at 70°F to 75°F the first 4 or 5 days, after which it is lowered to 65° to 75°F. As the chicks grow older, the temperature is reduced at the rate of 5°F per week. Only special feeds like "Starter" and "Finisher" should be given to the chickens.

In Poultry farming the income is very good but if the farmer makes even a little mistake in looking after the fowls he loses his fortune.

By : Parinaaz Deolaliwalla
Std. IX-B

—:O:—

WHALES

The commonest kind of whale is the Grey Whale. It is found in many parts of the world, but mainly in the colder seas of the Arctic and the Antarctic.

It is a very big whale. It is about eighteen metres long (that is, almost the length of a cricket pitch), and nine to twelve metres round the widest part of the body. It has a very small throat, and lives on tiny sea creatures that it catches by sieving large mouthfuls of water.

Whales, like all of us, like to keep warm when it is cold and so, when they go to the cold Polar seas, they grow a thick covering of fatty flesh. This is called the blubber. It is from this blubber that we get the valuable oil that is useful in many ways.

During the breeding season, the mother whale moves into the warmer waters. She has a rather big baby called a calf. So you see Whales as well as Cows have calves. She looks after her only calf very well and will fight any enemy, that attacks her infant, to death. At times the fierce Sharks try to kill the infant calf of the Whale and then there is a battle, with the mother Whale using her very strong and enormous tail to thrash the water and the Shark.

Whales are even hunted and harpooned. A harpooned whale can dive a kilometer or more with the harpoon and the rope. After a Whale has been killed, its body is hauled up inside the "parent" Whaling ship and there the blubber is cut off in strips before being heated to extract the oil. Parts of a Whale can be eaten by human beings and in some places it is possible to buy Whale Steaks at fish shops.

Contributed by : Abuzer A. Manager
IX-C

—:O:—

"AS YOU SOW, SO YOU REAP"

Ashok was just eight years old, when he decided to leave his hometown of Igatpuri and seek his fortune elsewhere. With a few rupees that his family could spare him and a few tattered clothes he took a bus to Bombay. After paying six annas (thirty seven paise) for the bus ticket; he was left with one and a quarter anna which is less than ten paise.

It was three days before he could land a job as a tailor's assistant for a wage of one rupee for stitching a piece of cloth eighteen metres long. Though a good meal was available for one anna, Ashok preferred to live on water to take out his

one and a quarter anna, till he got the first day's wage. Ashok laboured hard from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. and in course of time he was able to stitch two pieces a day. This was in 1922.

Within a few years, he had earned enough to buy three Singer machines and to hire a few boys to work for him. In those days Singer machines were sold for one hundred and twenty five rupees.

Ashok stiched many ready made clothes for men, women and children. When tailors were notorious for cheating customers on cloth, Ashok established a reputation for his honesty and soon developed a long list of clientele. Many shop owners who sold readymade clothes came to him as he stretched a piece of cloth to get the maximum number of shirts.

By the time he was eighteen years old, he had saved up fifty thousand rupees. Moreover, he got married the following year at the age of nineteen to a young girl of fifteen, named Sheela. It was in this year that he opened his first bank account.

Ashok travelled every week on the local trains of Bombay to buy cloth from wholesalers for about eight to ten thousand rupees. All business was cash and carry. His business shot up. At the age of twenty five in 1939 he had saved five lakhs of rupees.

Ashok had no recreation or diversion. He was always the first to open his shop and the last to close it. The ten paise that Ashok had had brought him a long way on the road of success and like Washington Carver, Ashok had succeeded by his hard work, honesty and integrity.

By : Ghanshyam Punjabi
IX-C

—:O:—

THE SCHIZOPHRENIC

It happened on a winter night. Terror spread like wildfire. The murders — gruesome in the fullest sense of the word, were committed on a single night, a full moon night.

The horror story originated in the house of a middle aged man. He had been hanged to death, his body had been found dangling from the ceiling. At a first glance it seemed like suicide but when close to the body it was to be seen that the left kidney had been extracted and on the man's back was, cut out by a knife, a picture of two fangs. What was common between this murder and the other six

was that all the victims were middle-aged men and all were green eyed. All of them had been murdered on a full moon night. The fangs were present on all victims' backs.

It was at this stage that the investigation was handed over to Superintendent William. He was a burly man with nerves of steel. He had small green eyes which were forever restless.

It was a full moon night again and people waited to see whether it would happen again. Yes it did. The victims — middle aged, green eyed men, left kidney missing and the carving of fangs on all seven backs. There had been seven murders again.

Williams, groggy with sleep, picked up the receiver. The call was from Head Quarters. There he was ticked off and then asked as to why he had not been able to catch the murderer. . . Williams smiled sardonically and spat twice. After this he slammed the receiver down.

The reaction of the people was disbelief, more than terror, that it was happening to them — it had to be a nightmare. A nightmare it was but a real one at that. Police patrols were intensified and the number of detectives under Williams were increased. Police dogs were brought on. Williams — the overall incharge — was now desperate. This would be the last time he thought. The atmosphere had hot- ted up and green eyed people were leaving the city.

The telephone rang and he was told that tomorrow was another full moon night, and the patrolling had been intensified. The desperation grew. A few days ago a funny thing had happened. A police dog was made to smell a knife left behind by the murderer, the dog picked up the trail and landed up at Superintendent William's house. Everyone had a good laugh.

The night of the full moon came. It saw houses locked securely from inside, every individual possessing a weapon. The general atmosphere was impregnated with fear — uncertain fear. It was as if everyone was waiting for it to happen.

The sound of the telephone ringing woke Williams up. A hysterical voice came over the line. The person was a middle aged man, green eyed, of course. He said that he had seen a burly man wearing a black mask outside his window. The man had tried to break in but he had started and the burly man had run away.

After some time another call came through. This was another hysterical voice. For the first few minutes Williams could not make out anything. Then the voice on the line cleared a little and Williams learnt that it was another green eyed middle aged man. This one had nearly been strangled to death by a burly man. The man said that while he was being strangled the door bell had rung and the man had run away. He had fainted after that.

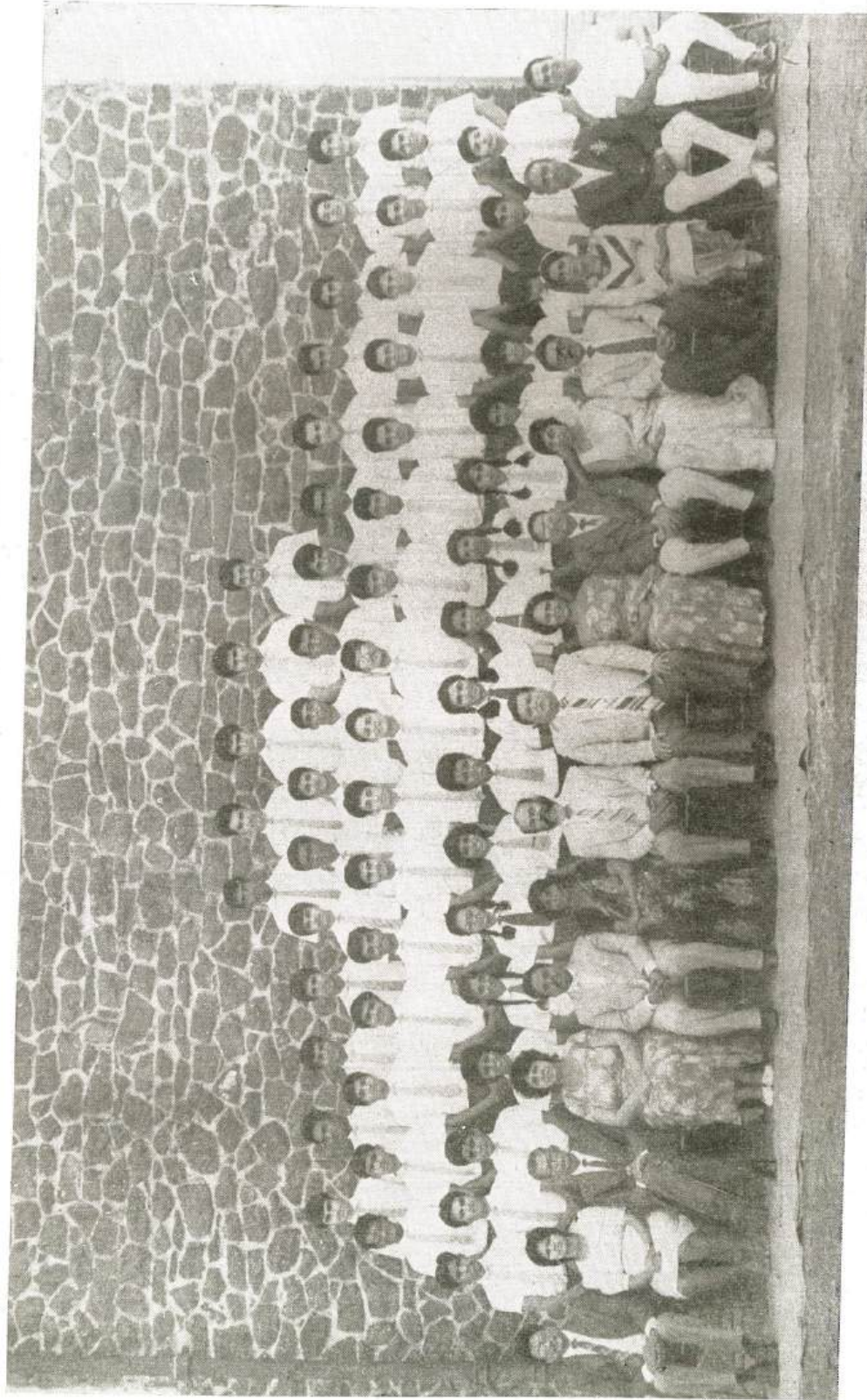


Class IX-B — Mrs. U. Misra



Class IX-C — Mr. A. D'Souza

THE I.C.S.E. CLASS (1988-'89) WITH THEIR TEACHERS



Class X

Sitting (left to right) : Mr. D. Correa, Mrs. J. Mitchel, Mr. K. Emmanuel, Mrs. I. Mainguy, Mr. K. Robinson, Mrs. U. Misra, Mr. M. Thorpe (Vice-principal), Mr. A. R. Baker (Principal), Mrs. A. Baker, Mr. S. Gadre, Mrs. H. Driver, Mr. A. D'Souza, Miss S. Rao, Mr. S. Isaac, Mr. I. Mainguy

Superintendent Williams sighed. He had to do it today — he had to complete the job — somehow.

Williams went out for a walk and came back after a couple of hours. He entered his bedroom and saw a parcel on his table. It was a gift from his brother. He wanted to wear it and look in the mirror.

The full moon was visible through the window. It was also reflected in the full length mirror. Williams knew he should not but it was too late.

He saw his reflection in the mirror. A burly man with small green eyes. A middle aged man with the full moon in the back ground.

He had been afraid it would happen and he had carefully avoided it for all these years, but now it had happened.

While he was still looking at the reflection, something clicked in his mind. He fixed a noose from the ceiling and got a chair. He put his head in the noose and kicked the chair away. Two legs kicked frantically for some seconds and then abruptly stopped — for ever.

The next day the police found Superintendent Williams' body —

The fangs were there on his back and his left kidney was missing.

By : Avi Rai
X-A

—:O:—

THE TELEPHONE

"Kaan plus kar" ! Don't be shocked. This is the Indian name of the wondrous modern invention — the telephone. In this modern world of science, in this fast jet age the telephone has become indispensable. The telephone has helped to bring about a lot of progress in various fields — in business, offices, homes, factories, whether it is for huge business transactions, educational purposes, political games or for matrimonial affairs. The telephone has made our work easier and faster.

Whom do we have to thank for this wonderful invention? Well, it was Sir Alexander Graham Bell. He invented the telephone on the second of June in the year eighteen hundred and seventy five. The word telephone has been derived from two Greek words "Tell" which means "far" and "phone" which means "sound. The telephone takes the sound to far away places and so its name is very apt.

The telephone has two main parts. They are the mouthpiece and the earpiece. Both are enclosed in one cage and are connected by a wire. The mouthpiece of the telephone works as a transmitter. When we speak into it a diaphragm attached to it starts vibrating and a varying current is produced. This current is carried by the telephone live wire to the receiver of the other telephone. This varying current produces vibrations in the diaphragm attached to the earpiece which works as a receiver. These vibrations are converted into original sound waves and the person at the other end hears clearly the voice of the speaker. In this way, two people can talk to each other on the telephone.

The telephone is really a boon to us. It is so much easier to lift up the telephone, dial the number and invite friends over to a party. Good news and bad news can be sent so easily to friends and relatives. Appointments can be cancelled by just giving a ring. Any information from the railway office or any government office can be derived in a jiffy from a place which may be miles away and would have taken so much of our time if we had to go there in person and perhaps would have even cost us quite a big amount of taxi money or unnecessary waste of petrol. The telephone has helped prompt action to be taken by the fire brigade, the police and has helped these important departments to work efficiently and help the nation and the public.

When we are alone and lonely we can ring up our friends and talk with them for hours on the telephone. But, of course, this is not a very wise thing to do, as we hold up the line just for unnecessary chatter when maybe somebody might have been trying, again and again, to get the line for some urgent work, and one never knows it could even be an emergency.

See how impatient we ourselves get when we dial a number and it is engaged all the time! Then we really feel like banging the phone in exasperation or sometimes when there are cross connections, then all hell fire breaks loose. Of course, if we have the time to eavesdrop some of the conversations are really hilarious. Sometimes we may be in the middle of a red hot quarrel or sometimes overhear two girlfriends unawaredly talking nonsense or even two sweethearts saying sweet nothings to each other and when we cannot suppress a giggle we are sure to be bombarded with the choicest of abuses!

Tapping is not quite uncommon. It is usually corrupt, dishonest and immoral people who resort to this base practice. Smugglers and dirty politicians practice tapping like nobody's business. There have been many political scandals in connection with this foul practice. Just recently in Karnataka there was a telephone tapping scandal. The Chief Minister, Mr. Hegde, was involved in this connection and therefore had to resign.

Today every country in the world has a vast network of telephone lines. This extends from one city to another and from one country to another. The world has become very small, thanks to the telephone.

By : Husaifa Basrai
X-A

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LAUGH A WHILE

One day, the Principal was showing off his power to the students, he said, "I've the power to suspend you, I've the power to impose a Fine on you. Do you know where you are?" The student answered "In the power house, Sir".

A boy (to his father): "Father, you are very lucky!" The Father, "How's that?" The boy! "This year, you needn't spend any money on new books. This year, too, I'm going to stay on in my old class."

The chemistry teacher (to Rani), "What will happen if diluted Sulphuric acid and concentrated Nitric acid are taken together in a test tube?"

Rani : "The test-tube will get filled up, Sir."

The husband to his wife, "Why are you bathing the hen in the hot water?" The wife, "So that it lays boiled eggs!"

Rahim to Rakesh: "In our village it's very cold. So we're covering ourselves up with ten blankets when we go to sleep."

Rakesh : "That's nothing. It's much colder in our village. So, nowadays, the cows're giving ice-creams instead of Milk."

"What do you think about women's fashions of today?"

"Women's fashions are going back to 5000 B.C. before clothing was invented".

Customer : "What's this fly doing in my soup?"

Waiter : "Swimming"

Contributed By : Mesfin Demise
Ctd. X-A

————:O:————

AN INDIAN BAZAR

These summer holidays, I visited my Uncle's house in Hyderabad. I went sightseeing and saw many beautiful places like the Birla Temple, the Golconda Fort and the Salarjung Museum. After a week's stay I decided to spend a day in observing the people of Hyderabad, and to do so which other place would be better than a bazaar?

I told my Aunt that I was going to visit the bazaar and she told me not to do so since the bazaars were famous for pickpockets. However, I had made up my mind and I put on an impressive expression and said, "Nitin shall go forth." (Julius Caesar was still fresh in my mind!).

With a fifty rupee note in my pocket and a bag in my hand I proceeded to the Muhammed Ali Bazaar which was a kilometer away. I reached it in five minutes and began looking around.

There were numerous stalls. Many vendors had occupied a piece of land and were sitting on the ground and selling things. The vendors were shouting at the top of their voices. "Superb cloth for five rupees," "Come and taste this Kulfi and you will know what the definition of delicacy is," "One for 7 rupees, two for 11".... My God! Bazaars must be major contributors to noise pollution! I rubbed my ears and wondered how many deaf people Hyderabad might be having.

After I became accustomed to the deafening noise, it struck me that bazaars must be having the greatest variety of colours. Red saris, white dhotis, yellow shirts, blue turbans, green turbans, multicoloured ice creams, black hair...the list would go on and on.

"Pst...pst," I heard a whispering noise, I saw a young boy of about seven years of age, "Would you like your money to be doubled?" he asked me. "Of course" I replied. He beckoned me to follow him and so I did. He took me to a stall where people were gambling. He took out an Indian version of a Russian roulette and told me to bet on a number. I put ten rupees as stake and bet on number seven. I was just dreaming of a crisp twenty rupee note entering my pocket when alas! my fair dream was broken by the boy who only said, "Hard luck."

Dejected, I moved away from the gambling stall. Suddenly there was an announcement on a speaker. "Ladies and gentlemen, now Mike Tyson will fight Micheal Spinks. Hasten towards stall number seventy one." Before I could wonder how these two American professional boxers had reached Hyderabad I was knocked down by a great crowd which made its way towards the stall. Scores of people went over me and as I now write this essay my hair stands remembering that moment. Although I was in a broken condition, I made my way to the stall.

"Come on, Tyson," "Buck up, Spinks," such words could be heard from the stall. So coming here was worthwhile after all! I pushed and pulled to try and see my two heros. At last I reached the ring while losing a shoe and the major part of my shirt in the process and there they were Mike Tyson and Micheal Spinks — two cocks. I struck my forehead with my palm and questioned God, "What have done to deserve this?"

The time had come to make an exit and I thought about buying some thing for my aunt. I saw a flower vase and fixed the bargain at fifteen rupees. He began packing the flower vase and I, searching my pockets. To my utter dismay I discovered that my money had been stolen. I told the vendor to stop packing and he gave me a slap and said, "This will teach you not to play tricks on elders."

So with a torn shirt, and a back that hurt; a single shoe and sock, and face that looked as if it had been hit by a rock; I reached my house. My aunt greeted me and I smiled shamefacedly.

"Once bitten twice shy." I will never visit an Indian bazaar again.

By : Nitin Ahuja

X-B

—:O:—

"MURDER MOST FOUL"

Detective Roberts grimly surveyed the place where the crime had been committed. Yes, it was a perfect murder indeed. The Chief of the Police, Inspector O'Hara had been murdered, and that too, in his very own office. Roberts seemed surprised that a police officer was murdered in a Police station.. Detective Roberts recalled how he had been summoned to the police station that morning.

When he had entered the cabin of Inspector O'Hara, he saw a horrible sight. The chief of the police lay sprawled across his table with a dagger in his back. Detective Roberts had asked the watchman a few questions which were noted hurriedly by his assistant, Sergeant Thomas. The watchman then narrated the events which had taken place that day.

"At 9.00 a.m, Inspector O'Hara had come to his office. As was the routine, the watchman had gone in to give the Chief, his cup of coffee. There the Chief had told him that the previous night, he had received an anonymous phone call that the next morning would be the last sunrise he would witness. Then the watchman came out and sat down, keeping his eyes peeled to look for any suspicious character. After about an hour, he had heard the sound of a struggle inside but he could not get in since the door had been locked from the inside. He had pushed the door

hard, till it finally gave way but not before the murderer had made good his escape. Then the watchman saw that Inspector O'Hara had been murdered and gave the alarm".

Various police officers had come to the scene of crime, but here the watchman noticed that Sergeant Morris, who was a friend of the late Inspector O'Hara was missing. He came a little later and was quite out of breath. Then they had called a detective from the homicide division and Detective Roberts had come.

Detective Roberts saw that everything in the room was in perfect order, the chairs, the table, everything was in its place, everything except the door which had been broken and on the table there lay an old felt hat. Even the aroma of the tobacco of the pipe lingered in the room.

Detective Roberts studied the broken door, the hinges were broken and it lay flat on the ground. The hat was checked for fingerprints but gave negative results. Roberts was confused, something was wrong, but he knew not what.

Later, when he was sitting in his house, he started putting two and two together. There was something peculiar about the hat. Yes, then he realised his stupidity. The hat had no fingerprints, and if the murderer had forgotten it in a hurry, then he could'nt have had time to wipe the prints, unless he was wearing gloves or unless the hat had been put deliberately.

After exercising his grey cells for another hour, Detective Roberts finally saw the light. He went to the office and arrested the watchman and when he was asked how he had pieced out the murderer, he told them that, the watchman had made a mistake by telling them that story about how Inspector O'Hara had been murdered. The watchman had said that there had been a struggle in the room, but the room was intact. This was just one of the flaws in his story. Then he told them that he had broken the door but this was not true since only the hinges of the door had been broken but the latch was intact, this proved he had carefully removed the hinges. Then he said that the murderer had escaped when he came in but, all the windows had been found closed since the smell of the Inspector's cigarettes was still in the room and last of all was the fact about the hat. If it had belonged to Sergeant Morris, it would have been of a better quality but the old hat belonged to the watchman, who had removed his laundry mark but was unable to remove the mark of his ownership from the hat, which was presented by the fact that the hat, although of felt, was not his but was given to him as a present by Inspector O'Hara on his birthday and Sergeant Morris had been present there at that time.

By : Gautam Shiknis

X-B

—:O:—

EATING OUT

Eating out is a source of great pleasure to me. Of course, since every rule has an exception, most of us would not like to eat out at all times. Eating out is great fun and a source of joy only when one goes once in a while to eat out. This gives great contentment because when our want is satisfied after a long, long period of waiting, we enjoy the fruit more.

I am sure that most of us enjoy eating out. It is enjoyable because in a way we get to taste delicacies prepared by experts who try to cook almost to perfection to please us, the customers. It is a sort of a break, away from the same old food prepared by the same person or the same group of people everyday. Eating out in open-air restaurants is the best way of getting a good appetite and enjoying food. What with the stars above, the delicious aroma of so many dishes being cooked, so many dishes to taste! Who doesn't like to go once in a while to Chowpatty? This is yet another form of eating out. It is a quicker and cheaper way of satisfying our wants by consuming our favourite food-stuff there. There are certain food-stuffs, which if they are to be prepared, require a long time, a lot of patience and hard work. Eating out saves all this trouble. It does lead to great expenditure and a control over the cash is needed, but the pleasure derived is worth it all. Cooking food at home and going out on a picnic and consuming it out there is another enjoyable way of eating out.

Each restaurant has its own speciality and own style of preparing food. One dish, ten restaurants will prepare in ten different ways. In this way, people who wish to taste the different styles and manner in which the dishes are prepared are the ones who really enjoy eating out, tasting various dishes from the long, endless list. Eating out will not give us much pleasure if the place is dreary, overcrowded and noisy. During such times, eating out seems to be the worst possible thing to do.

No one would advise anyone to eat out everyday. It is harmful because eating out everyday or too frequently can do great harm to one's health. Apart from our 'old folks at home' no other cook will take care to be clean while cooking, to wash the vegetables properly, wash the dishes properly and all that. With so many people to serve and so much to cook, they are not bothered about the quality, cleanliness. In fact, they are bothered about nothing at all except the appearance of the food in the tray and the taste. Therefore, eating out regularly can be harmful to health and the spices, oily food can also give rise to various diseases. Hence, there should be a limit to one's eating out. I agree that it gives us all a great pleasure and whets our appetite but at the most one should eat out only once in a month : no more than that. It does sound nice if someone says "I ate this outside and I ate that and it was so tasty...", and if someone says, "It is the speciality of the restaurant. It was so tasty, I would love to eat it everyday". It will sound pleasant only if you ate out within limits' otherwise, I can assure you that eating out can become monotonous and the same sentences mentioned above, (the ones which sound nice to the ear) will sound like the croak of a greedy frog.

There are some people who never get tired of eating out and prefer it to eating their own, home-made food and eat out day in and day out. You may have noticed, that unless they are really super-strong, these people often fall sick and are highly susceptible to diseases. As far as one can, one should avoid eating out too many times. The fun of it goes away too. Everything has its own good and bad points, so does eating out, too. I am not saying that one should refrain from eating out altogether. Just imagine, what a boring task eating would be if the flavour of the food, which whets the appetite, remained the same. How utterly boring it would be if there was no Chowpatty, no break away, no open — air restaurants and the like. Eating out certainly gives a flavour to life, without it, an ingredient of life would be missing and both eating and life would be as insipid as tea is without milk. For those, who have not yet eaten out, I would really like to tell them to try it once. Only experience can make one realise the fun of Eating out. I would like to go on and on but I guess I'll have to end this composition for we all are going out in a little while and I've got to get ready. It's the fourth Monday of the month, the day which in our family calendar is marked for 'Eating Out'.

By : Vidushi Rumde
Std. X-B

—————:O:—————

STUDENTS' ADDRESS ON TEACHER'S DAY

"Awkward cubs we were when first we came to school,
Often grimy, spoilt and slack.
Heavy was the way till we had learnt the rule,
Learnt to know and keep the track."

How often these lines have come on our lips but so many of us have failed to realize their significance. It tells us that Barnes converted us from hesitant toddlers to smart young boys and girls. The people who were responsible for this transformation are our teachers.

All men and women in today's world owe their success to their teachers. Teachers are guides, friends and parents all at one time. They show us the right path, help us and give us advice when we need it most.

More than half our childhood, is spent in school and so it is but natural that what we become later on depends on the factors that directly influence us in school. Of these, teachers are the most important.

Which of us can forget the help given to us by them, the love they provide and of course, the occasional beatings and scolding which they so lovingly give us.

Some of you might be wondering why, of all other 365 days in the year have we chosen 5th September for Teachers' Day. The reason is because it was the birth day of our second president Mr. S. Radhakrishnan. He was a great educationist and this day is celebrated in his honour.

That is all I would like to say to you all about teacher's day. I end by paying respects to all teachers in Barnes on behalf of all.

Thank you,

By : Gautam Shiknis
X-B

—————:O:—————

Dear Teachers,

Today I stand before you to show you how much we appreciate what you have done for us. Just as we have our parents at home to guide us, in the same way we have our teachers in school who teach us right from wrong. Where would the world be without education? Ours has been a country in which teachers have been revered and highly esteemed right from the ancient times. A student felt honoured to be a member of the Gurukul. But sad to say, those old traditions have died out. With the introduction of western education some of the ills of western life have also been transferred to us.

All over the world teacher's day is celebrated with great enthusiasm. Students play an active part in entertaining their teachers with a lot of variety entertainment and small skits. No matter how troublesome, arrogant and disrespectful a student may be any teacher is always ready to help him/her in times of need. In most schools the senior students take up the whole responsibility of the school on this day. They try to handle things as well as possible and take great pleasure in doing so.

When students leave school, they realise how much their teachers have done for them. The teachers they had forgotten are recalled to their memory. When they return to school in the future they make it a point to visit them all. In the teaching profession there is a lot of sacrifice. Some schools are situated in villages or far away from towns and cities. Teachers stay there and give their service to the school. Because of them, we are what we are today and will be in the near future. So it is our duty as students to strive hard and reach our goal and thus love and respect them.

Dear teachers you are our guides, advisors, philosophers and friends and on behalf of the students of Barnes School assembled here, I wish you all well.

By : Rachana Emmanuel
Std. X-B

—————:O:—————

FUN TIME

This year we had three occasions where great entertainment was provided for us. In chronological order the first was the magic show, the second was an acrobatic show and the last but by no means the least was the annual Fete.

The magic show was held to celebrate the teacher's day on the 9th of September. A magician Jamalkhan Jadugar, performed breathtaking tricks. Amongst his innumerable conjuring tricks were making puffed rice by tossing uncooked rice on a cloth and making wooden balls travel on a rope according to his commands. Another of his tricks was producing fire from his mouth, in doing so he resembled a dragon from prehistoric times. Another trick which had us gaping with astonishment was making a sleeping body of a person rise upto three metres in air. The intervals between his tricks was occupied by some beautiful and enchanting music on his mystic flute. (Here he reminded us of the Pied Piper of Hamelin). And then, amidst a thunderous applause he bade us good-bye.

The next attraction was the acrobatic show put up by some street entertainers. It was a group of around six people. These people did various acrobatic tricks such as walking on high stilts, dancing on them, cartwheeling in the air without their hands touching the ground and other feats which required a lot of concentration and skill. They broke coconuts by tossing them high in the air and hitting it with the head as it fell. This act had us caressing our heads with the tips of our fingers. The cream of this show were the stunts they did with their hair. One of them pulled a huge army truck (a "Shaktiman") with his hair making our jaws drop in astonishment. Another person tied two bicycles to his long black locks and swung them round and round without using his hands. We wondered how their hair had grown so strong. There was no finish and no finesse in their display but their skill which was generously peppered with a lot of thigh-slapping, chest-slapping, reciting of couplets in Hindi, was unquestionable, and much appreciated by us and we heartily responded by clapping and chanting "wah! wah!"

The day for which we had been going easy on our pockets was the annual Fete. It was held in front of the Haig Brown building on the 10th of February. A variety of stalls dotted the campus. There were a large number of games and snacks which brought water to our mouths. There was a video stall which showed three films. Another stall which attracted many people was the White Elephant stall where second-hand things were sold. The boys, girls, staff and some parents and guardians really had fun that day, the atmosphere was happy and gay. The day ended and we were all light at heart and in the pockets. To top it all the Principal gave us a further treat by announcing that there would be a dance that night. The boys and girls were really delighted and thankful for it. Thus the great day had a great finale and we all thanked the teachers in our hearts for giving us a chance to have such a gala time.

By : Gautam Shiknis

:O:

एक रूपये की आत्मकथा

अब मैं एक बूढ़ा सिक्का हूँ, और मुझे बहुत दिनों तक एक दूसरे के पास घूमना पड़ा। अब मैं मद्धिम हो गया हूँ और मेरे चेहरे पर शेर का सिर बहुत मुश्किल से दिखाई पड़ता है और मेरे पीछे की लिखाई मिटसी गई है। बहुत वर्ष के कड़े काम मैंने किये हैं।

पर मुझे अपनी जबानी अभी भी याद है। जब मैं सरकारी खजाने में अपने साथियों के साथ था। मैं एक चमकता हुआ सिल्वर रंग का सिक्का था। मेरे शरीर पर शेर का सिर चमक रहा था, मेरी पीठ की सारी लिखाई बहुत सुंदर थी।

मेरी तुस्त जिंदगी तब शुरू हुई जब मुझे और मेरे अन्य साथियों को बैंक के काउंटर पर, एक आदमी जो अपना चेक देकर, पैसे लेने आया था। उसने मुझे बैंक के सौ रूपयों के साथ मिलकर अपने जेब में रख दिया। मैं उसके साथ हँसते, गाते गया। परन्तु मैं उसके पास ज्यादा देर तक नहीं रहा। बाहर जाते ही उसने मुझे एक पानवाले को दे दिया।

वह आदमी मुझे छोड़कर चला गया। इसके बाद, वह पानवाला मेरी ओर देर तक देखता रहा। मैंने सोचा कि इसने कभी मेरे जैसा रूपया ही नहीं देखा होगा। उसने मुझे एक गुल्लक में डाला। वहाँ दूसरे रूपये भी थे परन्तु मेरे जैसा कोई नहीं था।

कोई मुझसे बड़ा था तो कोई छोटा। मैं उन सब में मिल गया। उन्होंने भी मुझे अपनी-अपनी कहानियाँ सुनाई कि उन्होंने जिंदगी में कितना सफर किया है।

लेकिन मेरी किस्मत भी देखो, दूसरे ही दिन उस पानवाले ने मुझे एक ग्राहक को दे दिया। मुझे एक और मालिक मिल गया।

इसी तरह मेरी आधी जिंदगी गुजर गयी। तब मेरी चमक भी निकल गई थी। और एक दिन तो ऐसा आया कि मैं अपने मालिक की जेब से एक गन्दे नाले में गिर गया। मेरा मालिक एक अच्छे, अमीर घर का था, इसलिए उसने मुझे बाहर नहीं निकाला। मैं वही कई दिनों तक पड़ा रहा। अन्त में मुझे एक गरीब लड़के ने निकाला और मुझे एक दुकानदार को देकर उसने मिटाई ली। इसी तरह मेरी सारी जिंदगी कट गई।

अब मैं फिर से बैंक में हूँ क्योंकि अब मैं बूढ़ा हो गया हूँ और किसी काम का नहीं हूँ। मैं अपनी गुजरी हुई जिंदगी के बारे में सोचकर उदास हो जाता हूँ।

शेख मोमीन

८ वी (अ)

वर्षगाँठ की भेंट

आज मैं बहुत प्रसन्न हूँ, क्योंकि कई दिनों से पिताजी से कह रही थी कि मुझे एक जीन (पेन्ट) ला दे और कई महिने का अच्छा व्यवहार, कक्षा में अच्छे अंक लाने के पश्चात यह जीन मिली, क्योंकि आज मेरी वर्षगाँठ है, और यह जीन पाकर मेरा दिल खिल उठा, मैं दौड़ी, दौड़ी गई सभी सहेलियों में यह शुभ समाचार दिया कि मेरे पिताजी ने मेरे जन्मदिन के उपलक्ष्य में मुझे एक पेन्ट भेंट स्वरूप में दी है और मैं उसे शाम के प्रीति भोज में पहनूँगी।

सभी उत्सुक थे; सभी मित्रों से ज्यादा मैं जाने क्या-क्या कल्पनाएँ बना रही थी कि ३०० रूपए की विदेशी जीन पहन कर कितनी अच्छी लगूँगी। सभी सोचेंगे कि मैं कितनी आधुनिक फैशन में बल चुकी हूँ। मेरा हृदय प्रफुल्लित कल्पनाओं की दुनिया में संचार कर रहा था। मैं दौड़ती हुई अपने कमरे में गई, धीरे से लिफाफा खोला और जीन निकालकर पहना तो देखा कि जीन थोड़ी लम्बी है, मैं ज़रा दुःखी होकर माँ के पास पहुँची, और माँ से कहा “माँ देखो इस जीन की लम्बाई अधिक है”। “माँ ने कहा कोई चिन्ता की बात नहीं है, मैं इसे छोटी कर दूँगी”।

कुछ देर के पश्चात याद आया कि माँ रसोई घर में बहुत व्यस्त होगी, क्यों न दीदी से कह कर ‘जीन’ छोटी करवा लूँ और जाकर देखा कि दीदी अपने कमरे में पढ़ रही थी। मैंने प्यार से कहा “दीदी, मेरी अच्छी दीदी, शाम को मुझे प्रीति भोज में नयी जीन पहननी है, आप ज़रा उसे छोटी कर देना”।

दीदी ने कहा “हाँ किए देती हूँ कमरे में मशीन पर रख दो”। मैंने जीन मशीन पर रख दी और अपनी वर्षगाँठ के प्रीति भोज की तैयारियों में लग गई। वह स्वर्णकाल आ गया जिसकी मैं अधीरता से प्रतीक्षा कर रही थी। नहा धोकर मैंने अपनी नयी जीन और कमीज़ पहनी। इसके बाद मैं कमरे में गयी। मेरी वह जीन पेन्ट हाफ पेन्ट बन चुकी थी और मुझे ऐसा लगा कि मुझ पर बिजली आ गिरी हो। अन्त में मुझे पता लगा कि माँ को जब समय मिला तो माँ ने काट कर उसे छोटी कर दी और जब दीदी को समय मिला तो दीदीने भी काट कर छोटी कर दी।

कु. उमा गुप्ता
८ वी (अ)

मेरे जीवन की एक रोमांचक कथा

बात उस समय की है, जब मैं पाँचवी कक्षा में पढ़ रहा था। उन दिनों अंग्रेजी का उन्माद हम लोगों पर कुछ ज्यादा ही सवार था। हमें अंग्रेजी अच्छी तरह तो नहीं आती थी, फिर भी टूटीफूटी अंग्रेजी बोलकर हम लोग कक्षा में धाक जमाने की कोशिश किया करते थे।

एक बार कक्षा में छात्रों के अधिक शोर मचाने के कारण अध्यापिका ने आदेश दिया कि हर लड़के के पासवाली कुर्सी पर एक एक लडकी बैठ जाए। कुछ लडको के मना करने पर अध्यापिका ने कहा “इस में शर्म की क्या बात है?”।

उन की हाँ में हाँ मिलाने की खातिर मैं झट खड़ा होकर बोला “दे आर लाईक अवर डाटर्ज” (वे हमारी बेटियाँ जैसी हैं)

मेरी बात सुनते ही सारी कक्षा में हँसी का फन्बारा छूट गया। जब मैंने अपने शब्दों पर गौर किया तो लज्जित हो कर रह गया।

सुमित रंजन
८ वी (ब)

कर्तव्य का पालन

मैं सातवी कक्षा में पढ़ता था और स्काउट का विद्यार्थी था। जब भी कोई मेला या त्योहार होता, हम स्काउट के विद्यार्थियों की अलग-अलग स्थानों पर ड्यूटी लग जाती थी। यह बात सूर्यग्रहण के मेले की है। हम सभी को अपनी अपनी ड्यूटी बता दी गई थी। मुझे यह निर्देश था कि सड़कपर से किसी भी वाहन को आगे नहीं जाने दिया जाए अथवा जो भी वाहन उस सड़कपर आता, मैं उसे आगे जाने से रोक देता।

थोड़ी देर बाद एक विधायक की कार इस पर आई। नियम के अनुसार मैंने उन्हें भी आगे जाने से मना कर दिया, तभी हमारे अध्यापक आए। उन्होंने विधायक का अभिवादन करने के बाद मुझे संबोधित करने हुए कहा, “इन्हीं की कार निकलने के लिए तो हमने इस सड़कपर वाहनों का आनाजाना बंद कराया था”। मेरी कर्तव्यपरायणता देख कर विधायक बहुत प्रसन्न हुए। वह मुझे बधाई देकर चले गए।

उस दिन के बाद आज तक, जब कोई विधायक की कार मेरे सामने से निकलती है, तो मेरे मन में कांटा चुबने लगता है।

उमेश शिकनिस
८ वी (सी)

नेहरू का एक प्रेरक प्रसंग

भारत के स्वतंत्र होने के बाद सन् १९५० में पंडित जवाहरलाल नेहरू लंदन गए थे। वहाँ एक समारोह में ब्रिटिश के भूतपूर्व प्रधान मंत्री विंस्टन चर्चिल से उन की भेंट हुई। विंस्टन चर्चिल भारत के स्वतंत्रता संग्राम, गांधीजी तथा नेहरू के कटु आलोचक थे। मिलनेपर दोनों पिछली घटनाएँ याद करके आपस में बातचीत करने लगे।

विंस्टन चर्चिल ने पूछा, “आपने अंग्रेजों की जेलों में कितनी वर्ष बिताए”।

पंडित नेहरू ने उत्तर दिया, “लगभग दस वर्ष”।

विंस्टन चर्चिल ने मुस्करा कर कहा, “वास्तव में आप के साथ ऐसा दुर्व्यवहार करने के कारण आप को हम से घृणा करनी चाहिए”।

“आप ठीक कहते हैं,” पंडित गंभीर हो गए, “आप के ऐसे व्यवहार पर हमें आपसे निश्चय ही घृणा करनी चाहिए। पर हम ने ऐसे नेता के नेतृत्व में काम किया है, जिसने हमें दो बातें सिखाई हैं। पहली तो यह कि किसीसे डरो मत। और दूसरा यह कि किसी से घृणा मत करो। उस समय हम आप से डरने भी नहीं थे। इसलिए आज आप से घृणा भी नहीं करते”।

उमेश शिकनिस
८ वी (सी)

मजेदार चुटकुले

- १) मास्टरजी : “जब बारिश होती है तो बिजली क्यों चमकती है” ?
छात्र : “भगवान अपनी टाई जलाकर देखता है कोई खेत सूखा तो नहीं रह गया” ।
- २) एक बार हिस्ट्री और मैथमेटिक्स के टीचरों में लड़ाई हुई ।
हिस्ट्री का टीचर : “तुम मुझसे मत लड़ो, नहीं तो मैं सारे राजाओं को बुलाऊँगा”
मैथ्स का टीचर : “कोई बात नहीं । मैं सबको ब्रेकेट से बंद कर दूँगा” ।
- ३) अध्यापक विद्यार्थी से : “नेता भाषण देता है, कि भविष्यकाल क्या होगा” ।
विद्यार्थी : “सर, जूते और चप्पलों की बारिश होगी” ।
- ४) अध्यापक : “जो भी कोई इस कक्षा में मूर्ख और गधा हो तो खड़े हो जाइए” ।
(काफ़ी समय बाद एक लड़का खड़ा हो जाता है)
अध्यापक : “तो तुम हो सबसे मूर्ख और गधे” ।
लड़का : “यह बात नहीं है सर । आपको अकेले खड़ा देखकर मुझे बहुत शर्म आयी और मैं भी खड़ा हो गया” ।

थोड़ा-सा हँसो तो सही

- १) टिल्लू (शमति हुए) : “डैडी, डैडी मैं शादी करना चाहता हूँ” ।
मोटूराम (आश्चर्यसे) : “शादी ! मगर शादी करेगा किससे” ।
टिल्लू : “नानीसे” ।
मोटूराम (हँसते हुए) : “नानीसे, मगर मैं अपनी माँकी शादी तुम्हारे साथ कैसे होने दूँगा” ?
टिल्लू (गुस्से से) : “क्यों ? तुमने नहीं की मेरी माँ के साथ शादी” ।
- २) पत्नी अपने (मोटे) पतिसे : “क्या गिर गया जी” ?
पति (जो किचन में थे) : “कुछ नहीं मेरा बनिचन और अंडरपैट गिर गई” ।
पत्नी (आश्चर्यसे) : “आँ ! लेकिन उसकी इतनी आवाज” ?
पति (धीरेसे) : “उसमें मैं भी था ना” ।
- ३) एक लड़का सड़क के किनारे चिल्ला रहा था कि मुझे पाँच रुपये दे दो बाबा । भगवान आपका भला करेगा । एक आदमी को दया आती है और वह उसे पाँच रुपये देते हुए पूछता है : “लेकिन तुम्हें यह पाँच रुपये किस लिये चाहिये” ?
लड़का : “मुझे मेरे मम्मी और डैडी के पास जाना है” ।

आदमी : “तुम्हारे मम्मी, डैडी कहाँ है” ?

लड़का (सिनेमा गृह के ओर भागते हुए) : “सामनेवाले थिएटर में” ।

- ४) एक लड़का सड़क के किनारे भीख माँग रहा था । एक मुसाफिर को उसपर दया आई और उसे एक रूपया हाथ में दिया । लड़के ने खुश हो कर कहा : “भगवान तुम्हें बहुत धन देगा” । जब लड़के को भूख लगी तो उस मुसाफिर ने उसे अच्छे होटल में खाना दिया । लड़का खुश हो गया और उसने कहा : “भगवान तुम्हें ऐसे ही खाना देगा” । मुसाफिर उसकी बातें सुनकर खुश हो गया और मारे खुशीके उसने उस भीखमँगे लड़के को उठाया । लड़के ने खुशी से कहा; “भगवान तुम्हें ऐसे ही जल्दी उठायेगा” ।

लक्ष्मीकांत मांडवे

९ वी (अ)

: O :

आँखों देखी दुर्घटना

उस दिन की सभी बातें मुझे अब तक याद हैं । आज भी मेरी आँखों के सामने उस दुःख भरे चित्र सामने आते हैं । कानों में उन अभागों मनुष्यों की आहें और चीत्कारें गूँज उठती हैं, जो उस भयानक रेल दुर्घटना के शिकार बने ।

उस रात को मैं नासिक से बम्बई जा रहा था । रेल में काफी भीड़ थी । रेल में रात का अंधेरा भयानक लग रहा था । आकाश में तारे हँस रहे थे । रेलगाड़ी की कटोर आवाज सुनाई पड़ रही थी । स्टेशन पर खरीदी हुई पत्रिका को मैं देख रहा था ।

पहला वाक्य पढ़ना शुरू ही किया कि बड़े जोर का धक्का लगा । हमारी रेल मालगाड़ी से टकरा गई थी । इन्जिन और पहले तथा दूसरे डिब्बे में भयानक आग लग गई थी । सारा वातावरण दुःखभरी आवाजों से गूँज उठा ।

मैं तो जीवित था, लेकिन पत्थर के पुतले के समान । जब मुझे होश आया तो मेरे चारों ओर सामान और घायल यात्री पड़े थे । कितने ही मनुष्य बुरी तरह से घायल हुए थे । किसी का हाथ, तो किसी का पैर कट गया था । किसी के सिर से खून बह रहा था । कई तो बेहोश पड़े थे ।

दुर्घटना की भयंकर आवाज सुनकर पास के गाँव के लोग दौड़े चले आये । थोड़ी ही देर में कई डॉक्टर और नर्स भी आ गयीं । एम्ब्युलेंस भी आने लगी । घायलों को जल्दी ही अस्पताल में भेजा गया ।

इस दुर्घटना में तीन-सौ से भी अधिक लोग घायल हो गये थे और सौ से भी अधिक ने प्राणों से हाथ धो बैठे थे । पता नहीं किन मीठी आशाओं को लेकर वे यात्रा करने चले थे ? पता नहीं उनका मन किन इच्छाओं से भरा होगा ? पता नहीं कितने सुनहरे सपने उनकी आँखों में भरे होंगे । लेकिन एक ही इशारे पर सारे आशाओं और इच्छाओं पर पानी फिर गया ।

इस घटना को कई साल बीत गये लेकिन वे दुःख भरे चित्र अभी भी मेरे सामने आते हैं । शायद जीवनभर आते रहेंगे ।

हमीदल्लाह शेख

९ वी (अ)

मज़ेदार चुटकुले (JOKES)

- १) डॉक्टर मरीज़ से—“हा, तो बताओ कि तुम सुबह नाश्ते में क्या लेते है—चाय या कॉफी”?.....मरीज़ डॉक्टर की बात काटकर “अरे डॉक्टर साहब आप तो यू ही तकलीफ कर रहे है”।
- २) एक लडका किसी विदेशी लड़की से प्रेम करता था। उसे थोड़ी बहुत अंग्रेजी आती थी। एक दिन वह अपने प्रेमिका से कहता है—“आए लव यू”। जवाब में प्रेमिका कहती है—“आए लव यू टू”। वह सोच में पड़ जाता है कि यह तो मुझे टू भी कह रही है। उसे याद आता है कि टू मतलब दो यॉनिकी वह मुझे दो बार प्यार करती है। जैसे उसे बहु अंग्रेजी आती है इसलिए वह कहता है—“क्यों ना मैं तुम्हें आए लव यू थ्री” कहू।
- ३) दो पागल पागलखाने में घूम रहे थे कि अचानक एक कुत्ता उनकी ओर आता दिखाई दिया। एक पागल ने उसकी ओर जाकर कहा—“नमस्कार करता हूँ हाथी साहब”। दूसरा पागल कहता है—“अरे यह हाथी नहीं है”। पहला पागल—“मुझे मालूम है कि यह घोडा है, मैं तो यू ही मज़ाक कर रहा था”।
- ४) मास्टर साहब सलीम से—“हा तो बताओ सूरज किस ओर से निकलता है”। सलीम—“मास्टर साहब, सूरज मेरे घर के आखरी कमरे के ऊपर से निकलता है”। मास्टर साहब गुस्से से—“गधा”। अमर—“गधालाल घोबी के टूटे हुए घर से निकलता है”। मास्टर साहब बेहद गुस्से से—“उल्लू”। अमर—मासूमियत से “मास्टर साहब उल्लू रात को मेरे कंपाऊंड के पेड़ से निकलता है”।
- ५) भूकंप आने से सारे घर टूट गये थे। उस में एक आदमी का भी घर टूट गया था। वह बेचारा बहुत परेशान था। इतने में बादल गरजते हैं और बारीश आती है। उस बारीश में बिजली भी चमकती है। वह आदमी बिजली की ओर देखकर कहता है—“अरे भगवान, तूने जो मुझे इतना नुकसान पहुँचाया है क्या उस से जी नहीं भरा जो अब बॅटरी चमका-चमकाकर देख रहा है कि कहीं कोई चीज़ बची तो नहीं है न”।
- ६) तीन शराबी आपस में बातें करते जा रहे थे तब एक शराबी दूसरे शराबी से कहता है—“अरे यार ये बताओ कि तुम कब पैदा हुए थे”। दूसरा शराबी उत्तर देता है—“मैं मंगलवार को पैदा हुआ था”। दूसरा वाला पहले से—“और तुम कब?”। पहला वाला शराबी—“मैं बुधवार को पैदा हुआ था”। पहला वाला शराबी उस खामोश तीसरे शराबी से पूछता है—“और तुम”। तीसरा शराबी “मैं रविवार को पैदा हुआ था”। दूसरा शराबी “अरे रविवार को तो सब बंद रहता है”। पहला शराबी दूसरे की बात काटकर—“इसका मतलब तुम जरूर किसी मार्केट से चुराये गये होंगे”।

हमीदुल्ला शेख
९ वी (ए)

नीन्द लग गई

सोमवार का दिन था। कक्षा का पहला पहर बीत चुका था, दोपहर का भोजन भी हो गया। अब अन्तिम पीरियड शुरू होने जा रहा था। भोजन ज्यादा कर लेने के कारण झपकियाँ आने लगीं, काफी देर तक मैं अपने आप को नींद की कैद से संभालता रहा। परन्तु न जाने कब मेरा माथा डेस्क को टिक गया और मैं सपनों के संसार में खो गया। मैंने पाया कि मैं अपने घर पर अकेला बैठा एक टी. वी. फिल्म निहार रहा हूँ, मेरे चेहरे पर काफी ध्वराहट थी, माथे

से पसीना छूट रहा था, कमरे में सिर्फ टी. वी. की रोशनी थी। फिल्म काफी खतरनाक एवं भयानक थी जिसे लोग अंग्रेजी में “होरर फिल्म” भी कहते हैं। तरह तरह के दृश्य जो भयानक थे, डरावनी आवाज मुझे डरा रहे थे, मेरा मन कांप रहा था परन्तु मनोरंजन भी हो रहा था। अचानक मेरे कानों में किसी बर्तन गिरने की आवाज पड़ी, जिससे मैं और भी भय मीत हो गया और झट से बिस्तर में घुस गया, कुछ देर बाद काफी साहस जुटाकर मैं रसोई की ओर बढ़ने लगा जाहाँ आवाज आई थी। रसोई के निकट पहुँचतेही मैंने रसोई में झाँका मुझे एक काली मूर्ति दिखी सबसे पहले काले मोटे-मोटे पैर नजर आए, फिर तीखे नाखून वाले चार पंजे नजर आए फिर उस मूर्ति का.....अचानक मेरे सिरपर एक चोट लगी, जिससे मैं चिल्ला उठा, और मेरी नीन्द गई, सामने क्या देखता हूँ कि हमारे भूगोल के मास्टर जी मेरे सामने एक तगड़ा डण्डा लिए खड़े हैं, सारी कक्षा मुझ पर हँस रही है। मेरा माथा शर्मिन्दा से झुक गया। उस दिन के बाद मैंने प्रण कर लिया कि अब से कभी कक्षा में नहीं सोऊँगा। मुझे आभास हुआ कि सारा दोष मेरे ज्यादा भोजन (दोपहर में) खा लेने का ही है। उस दिन के बाद मैंने दोपहर का भोजन खाना ही छोड़ दिया।

हेमन्त भाटी
९ वी (बी)

नाम बताओ

- १) बिना प्राण आकाश में डोले,
बिना जुबान के फर फर बोले,
बिना हवाके जी नहीं पाती,
नील गगन पर किस्म-किस्म के नृत्य दिखलाती।
- २) वह कौन सी चीज है,
जब तक टूट नहीं जाय,
प्रयोग में उसे हम ला नहीं पाए।
- ३) ना पाव है ना हाथ नांही है जुबान,
परन्तु दूर दूर तक पहुँच जाती,
कभी हसांती तो कभी रुलाती।
- ४) गोल गोल चक्कर वह काटे,
फहरा फहरा का टंडक पहुँचाये,
गर्मियों के दिनों में हर मनुष्यकी मांग बन जाए,
बताओ क्या नाम है उसका।

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[१५६] - १५६

[१५७] - १५६

[१५८] - १५६

हेमन्त भाटी
९ वी (बी)

स्त्री

स्त्री का जन्म जिस घर में होता है—कहते हैं कि घर में लक्ष्मी आई है। इस लक्ष्मी की कितनी इज्जत, सम्मान होता है यह हमारा समाज या तो आप लोग जानते हैं। स्त्री अपने एक ही जन्म में बहुत से कर्तव्य निभाती है।

सबसे पहले वह किसी की बेटी होती है, फिर बहन, पत्नी और अन्त में अपने जीवन चक्र सम्पूर्ण करती हुई "माँ" का रूप धारण करती है। हर स्त्री को अपने जीवन के सभी कर्तव्य निभाने होते हैं। स्त्री जब बेटी के रूप में घर में आती है तो कुछ लोग उसे बोझ समझते हैं। ऐसा क्यों? क्या वे भूल जाते हैं कि उन्हें जन्म देनेवाली भी एक स्त्री ही है। बहुत से लोग बेटी और बेटी में फर्क समझते हैं। उनके सिद्धान्त के अनुसार बेटी घर का उजाला होता है और वे बेटी को ही सब कुछ देते हैं। जिस में उसकी खुशी होती है उसी में माता-पिता खुश, कोई बेटी के बारे में नहीं सोचता। परन्तु लोग भूल जाते हैं कि उनके वंश को आगे बढ़ानेवाली एक स्त्री ही है। फिर स्त्रियों का ऐसा निरादर क्यों, बहन के रूप में वह अपने भाई की सेवा करती है, पत्नी के रूप में पति की सेवा करती है और माँ बनकर अपने जीवन का ऋण (कर्ज) उतारती है।

उसी स्त्री का जब निरादर होता है तो हमारे समाज को शर्म आनी चाहिए। जिस समाज में मैं और आप रहते हैं वह समाज मनुष्यों के रहने लायक नहीं है। ऐसे समाज में सिर्फ जानवर रहते हैं। परन्तु स्त्री का बैरी यह समाज ही नहीं है स्वयं स्त्री भी है क्योंकि वह सब कुछ चुपचाप सुनती है और कुछ करती नहीं। "अबला जीवन हाथ तुम्हारी यही कहानी। आचल में दूध और आँखों में पानी"।

कब आएगी क्रान्ति ऐसी स्त्रियों में और समाज में? शायद इस युग के नारियों ने मिलकर ही कुछ सोच समझकर कदम उठाने चाहिए। स्त्री रूप और सुन्दरता से ही पहचानी नहीं जाती। वह समुद्र के समान बहुत ही गहरी होती है। स्त्री का अपमान यानि देवियों का अपमान करना होता है। जिन्हें हम बड़ी श्रद्धा पूर्वक पूजते हैं। यह देवियों तो पत्थर की बनी होती हैं, लेकिन उन स्त्रियों का क्या जो जीवित है। वे तो पत्थर नहीं?

हेमा नानकानी
९ वी (सी)

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चकित करनेवाली सच्चाईयाँ

- १) एक साधारण मच्छर के ४७ दँत होते हैं।
- २) बाँस वृक्ष एक दिन में ३ फुट तक बढ़ सकता है।
- ३) स्कॉटलैण्ड की रानी मैरी, रानी उस वक्त बनी थी जब उसकी उम्र एक हफ्ते से भी कम थी।
- ४) रेगिस्तान में रहनेवाले कुछ लघुप्राणी निरन्तर तीन वर्ष तक सो सकते हैं।
- ५) एक चींटी अपने वजन से पचास गुना अधिक भार उठा सकती है परन्तु मनुष्य केवल अपने से दुगुना भार उठा सकता है।
- ६) मानव के शरीर में इतना लोहा होता है कि उससे एक दो इंच लम्बी कील बनाई जा सकती है।
- ७) गेंडे के सींग से एक कार कुचली जा सकती है परन्तु आश्चर्य की बात यह है कि वह बालों का बना होता है।
- ८) जिराफ जो कि सबसे लम्बा जानवर है उसकी गर्दन में भी उतनी ही हड्डियाँ होती हैं जितनी मनुष्य की गर्दन में।

सन्तोष दरियानी
१० वी (अ)

एक हृदयस्पर्शी घटना और उसका मेरे जीवनपर हुआ असर

चार साल पहले की बात है। जब मैं गर्मी की छुट्टियों में अपने दादाजी के गाँव गयी थी। वह रामपुर गाँव में रहते थे। यह गाँव सुन्दर प्रकृति से हराभरा था। सब यहाँ के रहनेवाले खुश थे। किसान मेहनतमजदूरी करके अपना पेट भरते। गाँव का साधारण जीवन खुश था। हर आदमी दूसरे आदमी की सहायता करते। मेरे दादा इस गाँव के पढ़े-लिखे आदमी माने जाते, उन्हें सम्मान बहुत मिलता। मैं हर रोज दादाजी के साथ खेत जाती। एक दिन गाँव के आदमी आये। उसी में एक आदमी ने नमस्कार कहकर, कहा कि उसकी बेटी की शादी परसो होनेवाली है, तो आपको शादी में उपस्थित रहना आवश्यक है। दादाजी ने उसे बहुत मना किया और कहा बहुत काम पड़ा है परन्तु वह आदमी माना ही नहीं। मेरे दादाने कहा 'अच्छा ठीक है। आजाएँगे'। उन्होंने मुझे भी निमंत्रण दिया।

शादी के दिन दादाजी और मैं दोनों उपस्थित थे। सात साल की बाल्यावस्था में जिसे शादी का अर्थ नहीं मालूम था उसकी शादी हो रही थी! मैंने अपने दादाजी से पूछा शादी कोई गुड्डा-गुड्डी का खेल है? तो मुझे दादाजीने समझाकर कहा यह पूर्वजों से चलता आ रहा है, अब तो यह रिवाज हो गया है। मुझे यह देखकर कुछ हुआ दुनिया कितनी आगे निकल गई है—और ये लोग अब भी रीति-रिवाजों को लेकर बैठे हैं। यह लोग आदीवासी जाति के थे। हम गाना-नाच आदि भोजन करके निकले।

कई रोज बाद जब मैं गाँव के एक रास्ते से गुजर रही थी मैंने तो देखा कि एक घर के सामने शव पड़ा है। मैंने वहाँ दृष्टि डाली तो स्तब्ध रह गयी। जिस लड़की की शादी हुई थी उसी के पति का देहान्त हुआ था। मेरे दिल को एकदम धक्का सा लगा। अब उस बेचारी की पूरी जिन्दगी अँधेरे में गुजर जाएगी। उसके सिर के बाल साफ किए थे, उसे सफेद साड़ी पहनाई थी। सब गहने उतारे थे। मैंने उन गाँव की महिलाओं को मना किया परन्तु उन्होंने मेरी एक नहीं सुनी। गाँव के लोग उसका सुवह मुँह भी नहीं देखना चाहते। उसे सब बँधनों से बाँधा गया। सब लोग रूढ़िवादी हुए थे। वह किसी भी कार्य में नहीं जा सकती थी। किसी भी शुभकार्य में उसका चेहरा देखना अशुभ माना जाता था। इसी तरह वह छोटी बच्चों समाज में सुतकारी जाती थी। अगर मैंने अपने जीवन और उसके जीवन की तुलना की तो इसका परिणाम अपने भारत देश पर क्या हो रहा है? यह कली यानी कि बालिका फूल बनने से पहले ही मुरझा गयी।

इसलिए हर एक आदर्शवादी को भारतीय-नारी को समाज के इन आत्याचारों से बचाना चाहिए। अनेक असहाय नारियों की सहायता करने के लिए हमें स्त्री के मन को पहचानना चाहिए। समाज के बँधनों में जकड़ी हुई मनुष्य की झोंकी स्त्री है। स्त्री का रूप माँ, बेटी, पत्नी है। जैसे एक बार शीशे को धक्का लगने से टूट जाता है वैसे ही स्त्री का मन एक बार टूटने से कभी जोड़ा नहीं जा सकता।

इस घटना को पढ़कर आप भी अपने जीवन में कुछ बनना चाहते थे लेकिन यह घटना मेरी आँखों के सामने हुई है मैं बड़ी होकर महिलाओं की सहायता करूँगी। यदि भारत की हर एक नारी सुखी होगी, तो हमारा देश सुखी होगा, जो देश भारत माता कहलाता है।

जय हिंद!

ज्योती मुले
१० वी (अ)

क्रूर माँ

रात्रि का समय था। सर्वत्र घोर अंधकार व्याप्त था। परन्तु मध्य प्रदेश की लघु कुटिया से एक मन्द प्रकाश उस तिमिर में एक नई रोशनी उत्पन्न कर रहा था। चंबल के बीहड़ वनों में यह एक मात्र कुटिया थी। इसमें निवास करनेवाली थी, एक वयोवृद्धा औरत जिसकी रीढ़ की हड्डी झुककर धनुष जैसे पतली हो गयी थी। इस बूढ़ी औरत के पाँच जवान पुत्र थे। परन्तु सब के सब अपनी पूजनीय माता की विवशता एवं आचरण के पद-चिन्ह पर चलने के कारण डाकुओं में परिवर्तित हो गए थे।

माँ जो कि पुत्रों के भविष्य के बारे में अनभिज्ञ थी उसे पुत्रों के बारे में तनिक भी, चिन्ता नहीं थी। बेचारी को बहुमूल्य धन जो बेटे-बैठे प्राप्त हो रहा था। पुत्र भी वासना में लिप्त और लोभी बन गए थे। बेचारी माँ ने अपने जीवन के अस्सी वर्ष में समाज के नियमों एवं परिस्थितियों से बचकर इस वन में एक सुरक्षित स्थान पाया था। उसका पूज्य पति तो दस वर्ष के पश्चात् ही परलोक सिंघार गया था। उसने अपने पाँचों बच्चों को जन्म भोपाल शहर के एक प्रदूषित वातावरण में दिया। जब उसके दो बच्चे थे, तो अपनी जीविका तो वह किसी तरह संभाल लेती थी। परन्तु जब से तीन उसके कंधेपर लद गए तो वह जीविका चलाने में असमर्थ हो चली। इन्हीं कारणों से उसने चोरी एवं लोगों का कल्ल करना प्रारम्भ किया। पुलिस के डर के कारण उसने चम्बल के बीहड़ में शरण लेना उचित समझा। पास में एक गाँव था, जहाँ पर वह अपने बच्चों को विद्यालय में भेजकर उन्हें एक अच्छे नागरिक बनाने के सुन्दर सपने देख रही थी।

परन्तु आज उसके सपनों में विष घुल गया था। आज उसके पाँचों लड़के उसके ही आचरण के कारण देश के कुविख्यात डाकू थे जिनको पकड़ने के लिए सरकार ने दस हजार का पुरस्कार घोषित किया था। गरीबों-अमीरों को लूटना उनका एकमात्र धर्म हो गया। अत्याचार, अन्याय, हिंसा के वे आदी हो चुके थे। आज वे पकड़े जाते, तो किसको दोष देते, अपने को या माँ को जिस रात को वह वयोवृद्धा अपनी कुटिया में दीपक जलाकर कुछ अध्ययन कर रही थी। पुलिस की जीपों के हार्न के स्वर से उसके मस्तिष्क में आँधी आ गई। अब उसे अपने किए पर पछतावा होने लगा। पुलिस ने उसकी कुटिया को चारों तरफ से घेर लिया। तीस वर्ष पूर्व का बेबस दृश्य उसके मस्तिष्क के सम्मुख नाच उठा। जब वह पुलिस से बचने के लिए दुनियाँ के चारों ओर चक्कर लगाती हुई बेवसी से चारों ओर भागती जा रही थी। अब वह पुलिस के हिरासत में आ चुकी थी। उसे अब प्रतीत हुआ कि अपराध करना संसार में कितना महगाँ पड़ता है। उसके पाँचों पुत्रों को भी पुलिस ने हिरासत में ले लिया था। उनके कारण ही पुलिस उसकी कुटिया ढूँढने में सफल हो पाई थी।

पच्चीस अक्टूबर के दिन जब न्यायाधीश महोदय ने उस के पाँच पुत्रों को अनेक अपराधों के जुर्ममें फाँसी की सजा सुनाई, तो वह मौचबकी रह गई उसे उम्र कैद की सजा हुई। पाँचों पुत्र ने उसे उनकी मृत्यु के लिए दोषी ठहराया। ऐसे क्रूर मनुष्यों में उन्हें परिवर्तित करने में उसका एक बड़ा योगदान था। उसे अब अपने किए पर पछतावा हो रहा था कि उसने यह गलत मार्ग क्यों अपनाया। परन्तु अब क्या हो सकता था। उसके पुत्र तो यह संसार छोड़ कर नए लोक में प्रवेश कर चुके थे। काश! वह गलत कार्यों का महत्त्व समझ पाती तो उसे यह दिन आज नहीं देखने पड़ते।

अमित रंजन
१० वी (ब)

मेरी 'गोल्डी'

मेरे घर में चूहों की भरमार होने लगी। नाना प्रकार के कटघरे स्वादिष्ट मिष्ठानों के साथ चूहों को फँसाने हेतु रखे गए। पर चूहों ने उधर फूटी आँखोंसे भी देखा नहीं।

एक दिन अचानक श्वेत रंग की बिल्ली घर में आ गई और वह बड़े प्यार से बच्चों में घुलमिल गई। हम सबको वह अवाज से ही नहीं पैर की आहट से भी पहचानने लगी। निकट जाने पर वह अपना शरीर हमारे पैरों से रगड़ने लगती थी।

हमने उसका नामकरण संस्कार किया और उसे जातिवाचक से व्यक्तिवाचक नाम 'गोल्डी' रख दिया। वह सब की प्रिय बन चुकी थी। चूहे महाराज उसके आंतक से कोसों दूर भाग गए थे।

गोल्डी को हमसे अनुपम लगाव था। वह मानवीय स्नेह के समान ही निकटता चाहती थी। निकट जानेपर वह सहलाने के लिये अपने गुदकारे पंजे बढ़ा देती, हाथ फेरने पर अपना मुख आवस्त भाव से हमारी गोदी में रखकर आँखें मूँद लेती थी। जब दूर जाने लगते तब दूर तक पीछे आती और फिर रुक जाती थी। आवश्यकता के लिये तो उसके पास एक ही ध्वनि थी, परन्तु प्रसन्नता व उल्लास, दुःख व उदासीनता आदि उसकी नीली, भूरी आँखों में तैरा करती थी।

वह कभी कभी शिकार पर निकल जाया करती थी। ऐसे ही एक दिन मैंने देखा उसे उसका प्रियतम भी मिल गया और अब वह उसकी अवाज की प्रतिक्रिया में जाने लगी थी।

बड़े दिन की छुट्टियों में जब हम उसे छोड़कर कलकत्ता चले गये तो घर की सेविका सुन्दरी ही उसकी देखरेख करती। पर एक दिन दुःख भरा संवाद मिला कि गोल्डी को एक पड़ोसी शिकारी ने बन्दूक से उड़ा दिया। समाचार सुनकर बच्चों ने व मैंने कई दिन तक भोजन नहीं किया।

क्या मूक जानवर को यही पुरस्कार मिलना था? क्या मनुष्य इतना निष्ठुर व क्रूर है जो अपने स्वार्थ के लिये दूसरे पशुओं की निर्मम हत्या करने में तनिक सकुचाता नहीं? गोल्डी की आत्मा आज भी इस विद्यालय के प्रांगण में मानव को हिंसा के प्रति वृणा भाव का सन्देश दे रही है।

ज्योतिका मिश्रा
१० वी (ब)

'मेरा जुम्बो'

जुम्बो प्रतिदिन दौड़कर,
मालकिन के हाथ का स्पर्श उसके तन में,
यह मूक प्राणी मनुष्यता का आदर्श,
हे मानव तू अब भी सजग हो,

करता था स्वागत मालकिन का।
भरता था उभंग का अनन्त सागर ॥
अपनी मूक भाषा में प्रस्तुत करता।
विश्वास पात्र तू बन इस जीव की तरह ॥

ज्योतिका मिश्रा
१० वी (ब)

“अब पछताए होत क्या जब चिडियाँ चुग गई खेत”

अरुण अपने रथ लिए तीव्र गति से प्रस्थान कर रहे थे, बाहर ग्रीष्म की तेज प्रभाव को मन्द करती हुई शीतल पवन बह रहा था।

प्रति दिन की तरह आज भी संध्या प्रकृति के सौंदर्य में चार चाँद लगा कर अरुण को विदा कर रही थी और मैं भी हर रोज की तरह इस सौंदर्य की प्रशंसा करने के लिये दरवाजे की तरफ बढ़ते हुए कह उठा “मैं दरवाजा बंद कर लीजिए”। इतने में मुझे स्मरण हुआ कि मेरी माँ और नितिन, चाचाजी के यहाँ गए हुए हैं इसके साथ ही मुझे अपने माँ द्वारा दी गई सुरक्षा टिप्पणी भी याद आई और मैं अपनी हंसी को रोक न सका, निसंदेह कितनी लंबी और चौड़ी थी वह सीख जिसमें उन्होंने इस युग को कलयुग बताते हुए, दरवाजे एवं खिड़कियों को अच्छी तरह बंद कर कहीं प्रस्थान करने की चेतावनी दी थी।

दरवाजे पर सुरक्षा के चिन्ह को लटका कर मैं सड़क से अपने घर को निहार रहा था कि देखा पिछवाड़े वाली खिड़की खुली रह गई है। फिर से यह प्रवेश करने का विचार मेरे मन ने स्वीकार नहीं किया और समाज को पापहीन कहते हुए अपने रोजाना के मार्ग पर प्रकृति की इतनी सुन्दर देन ‘संध्या’ की प्रशंसा करता हुआ आगे बढ़ चला। कोयल एवं अन्य चिडियों के झुंड आकाश में मंडराते हुए दिखाई पड़ रहे थे। रात्रि अपनी काली चादर संसार को घेरि-घेरि ओढ़ा रही थी और रवि अपने रथ पर बढ़ता चले जा रहा था।

एक घंटे के पश्चात मैंने प्रकृति को ऐसी लुभावनी संध्या के लिए धन्यवाद करते हुए वापस चल पड़ा। मैं अभी अपने भाई नितिन के कुछ नटखट कारनामों में से कुछ असाधारण वालों को अपने हास्य लेख में शामिल करने के विचार पर अपने विमर्श कर रहा था। एक बिल्ली ने रास्ता काट दिया, मुझे तुरन्त अपनी माँ की याद आई जो अन्धा-विश्वासों की किताब लिखने योग्य थी। मुझे अकस्मात ही उस बात पर हँसी आ गई। हँसते हुए मैंने कुछ पथिकोंको अपनी तरफ संदेह भरी दृष्टि से देखते हुए देखा।

दूर अंधेरे में मुझे अपने घर की धुंधली सी आकृति दिखाई दी। काली सी उस आकृति से सफेद रोशनी की किरण सचमुच अच्छी दिख रही थी। परन्तु जैसे ही मुझे स्मरण हुआ कि मैंने बलियाँ बुझा दिया था, मेरे पैर अनियमित गति से घर की तरफ बढ़ लिए। दरवाजे को खोल कर तीव्र गति से सबसे पीछे वाले कमरे की तरफ लपका जिसकी खिड़की खुली रह गई थी।

कमरे में पैर रखते ही मेरी सिट्टी-पिट्टी गुम हो गई। पूरा कमरा अव्यवस्थित रूप में बिखरा पड़ा था और घड़ी, रेडिओ और दो हजार रुपये नदारद थे।

जब माँ को यह सूचना मिली तब वे मुझपर टूट पड़ी पिताश्री न होते तो शायद मेरी हड्डी पसली एक हो गई होती। मुझे अपने आप पर लज्जा आ रही थी और क्रोध भी, क्यों कि यह गलती अनजाने में नहीं हुई थी। दिन बने हफ्ते और हफ्ते महिने और आज भी माँ मुझे हर पल को सता रहती है और नितिन को मुझसे ज्यादा होशियार बता कर ताना कसती है और हर बार की तरह पिताजी बोल उठते हैं।

“अब पछताए होत क्या जब
चिडियाँ चुग गई खेत”।

अमित राज
१० वी (ब)

‘अविस्मरणीय स्मृतियाँ’

पर्वतों और पहाड़ियों की गोद में, एक ऊँची पहाड़ के शिखर पर स्थित माथेरान नामक एक कस्बा है। विगत दिसम्बर की शीतकाल की छुट्टियाँ मनाने, मैं वहाँ गयी थी। माथेरान नैसर्गिक तथा प्राकृतिक सौंदर्य से पूरी तरह संपन्न है।

वहाँ मेरे पिताजी के वनिष्ठ मित्र उनके परिवार सहित रहते हैं। उन्होंने मुझे उनके घर में कुछ दिनों के लिए विराजने का न्योता दिया था जो मैंने उनके अधिक आग्रह करने पर स्वीकार कर लिया था। उनके घर में अतिथि बनकर, उन चंद दिनों में मुझे जो हर्ष और उल्लास प्राप्त हुआ, वह शायद ही मेरी पंद्रह वर्ष की आयु में कहीं और मिला हो। मैं तो वहाँ के वातावरण और उन लोगों का अपनेपन का व्यवहार देखकर मुग्ध रह गयी। केवल शब्दों में उन मनोहर और सुनहरे दिनों का, जिनमें मुझे असीमित प्रसन्नता प्राप्त हुई, वर्णन करने में, मैं असमर्थ रहूँगी। फिर भी उन दिनों का वर्णन कर, मेरे सौभाग्य और आनन्द को आपके साथ बाँटने का प्रयास करती हूँ। उन लोगों के (पिताजी के मित्र मि. त्रिवेदी और सहपरिवार जो एक उनकी पत्नी और तीन बच्चों से अच्छे प्रकार से भरा-पूरा है) स्वभाव और बातचीत के क्या कहने? उन सभी लोगों में अपनेपन का भाव बद्धमूल है। वहाँ मुझे एक पल के लिए भी किसी प्रकार से अभाव का अनुभव नहीं हुआ। मुझपर प्यार ही प्यार बरसाया गया। इतना प्यार, मानो मैं उनकी ही बेटी थी। चाचाजी शाम को जब काम से, दफ्तर से लौटते तब हम सब मैं और उनकी दो बेटियाँ और एक बेटा, उन्हें घेर कर बातें करने लगते। थोड़ा विश्राम करने के पश्चात चाचाजी रोज हमें एक मजेदार चुटकुला या किस्सा सुनाया करते थे जिसके समाप्तिपर हम हँस-हँसकर बेहाल हो जाते। काम-धाम के खत्म हो जाने के बाद चाचाजी भी हमारे संग बैठकर गाना गाती। उनका आवाज बहुत ही मधुर है। फिर हम सब बच्चों खेलने और छेड़ा-छेड़ी और मस्ती करने में मग्न हो जाने और जब अन्तम खाने का बुलावा आना, तो उठने तक की शक्ति हम मेरे किसी से भी नहीं होती थी। चाचाजी हर-रोज अच्छे पकवान बनाकर खिलाती थी। रसोई करने में उनका हाथ बड़ा अच्छा है।

रोज सुबह मैं सबसे जल्दी उठकर बाहर बरामदे में घूमती। चारों ओर शान्ति होनी। मैं अकेली घूमकर वहाँ की निर्मल वायु का आनन्द लेती। बम्बई की दूषित हवा के बाद तो वहाँ की हवा अमृत जान पड़ने लगी थी। वहाँ की शान्ति मन और हृदय को मोह लेनी थी। बम्बई में ऐसी शान्ति कहाँ? उस शान्ति के वातावरण में कितनी आसानी से काम करता था। सारी समस्याओं के हलमुझे वहाँ मिले। जो समस्याएँ थी, उनके बारे में अकेले मैं सरल ढंग में सोचने का अवसर मुझे प्राप्त हुआ था। कभी-कभी हम सब माथेरान के पॉइंट्स देखने जाया करने थे। घने जंगल के बीच से यात्रा करने हुए, ईश्वर के बनाये हुए कितने ही नादान पशुओं को देखने का अवसर मिला कितना ज्ञान प्राप्त हुआ। मनुष्य सुंदरता का कितने क्रूरता से सेवन कर रहा है इसका भी आभास हुआ। प्रकृति के बनाये हुए सुंदर पृथ्वी के सौंदर्य से भरे अनेक दृश्य मैंने देखे। उन दृश्यों से इस बात का एहसास हुआ की इस जीवन में कितने ही अधिक लोग, जगह देखने की बाकी थी। बम्बई में रहकर मैं कितने मनोरम चीजों के अभास में जीवन जी रही थी। वहाँ के घर और आस-पास का वातावरण शान्तिपूर्ण था। न कोई झगड़े-झमेले, न कोई छेड़ा-छेड़ी। सब लोग भावुक और अपने-पन की भावना हृदय में रखते हुए, अपने काम में डूबे रहते। वहाँ के लोगों को देखकर ऐसा लगता था कि शायद उन्हें इस हिंसात्मक के पापी कारनामों का पता ही नहीं था। पता हो भी, तो अब तक वे दूषित नहीं हुए थे। उनकी सरलता लगन, निस्वादर्ना और आत्मनिर्भरता का इस बात के बारे में सोचकर देखकर मुझे शान्ति प्राप्त हुई, कि एक प्रेमी भी जगह है, ऐसे भी लोग हैं, जिनके संग रहकर भगवान के करीब पुण्य कमाकर हम पहुँच सकते हैं। वहाँ के लोगों ने भी

तुरंत ही मेरी ओर मैगी का हाथ बढ़ाया और मुझे हर प्रकार से मनोरंजन करने का प्रयास किया। उनकी सरलता, महानता और शुद्धता को देखा मैंने उन्हें मन ही मन प्रणाम किया।

मेरा बस चले तो लिखते ही जाऊँ। पर वक्त की कमी है और इसी कारण हर अच्छी बात का कमी न कमी अंत होना है, यह ध्यान में रखकर अब यह लंबा-चौड़ा निबंध भी अंत करने जा रही हूँ। वहाँ के लोगों तथा वातावरण के बारे में आपको जो चित्र दिना है, अपेक्षा है कि आप मेरे भाषे को समझ पाएँगे और आप को भी कुछ सीखने को मिलेगा। मैं वहाँ से न तो अमीर, न तो बलवान बनकर लौटी। लौटी, एक ज्यादा समझदार बुद्धिमान बनकर। जो गयी थी वह एक मूर्ख बच्ची थी, जो लौटी है.....। एक ज्यादा समझकर ज्ञानी और अधिक परिपक्व विदूषी। अधिक माथेरान के रम्य वातावरण को याद करते हुए और वहाँ के लोगों को प्रणाम करते हुआ, वहाँ मिले हुए प्यार और सहायता के लिए धन्यवाद देते हुए, निबंध यही समाप्त करती हूँ।

विदूषी रूमडे
१० वी (ब)

टिकट-घर का विनोदी दृश्य

हम सब ने कश्मीर जाने का निर्णय लिया था। हम सब याने माँ, पिताजी, नानाजी, मैं और मेरा बड़ा भाई। कश्मीर जाने लिए हमें सर्व प्रथम दिल्ली जाकर, वहाँ से हवाई-जहाज में सवार होने का हमारा उद्देश्य था। इसी कारण, बम्बई से दिल्ली जानेवाली राजधानी एक्सप्रेस के सीट की टिकट सुरक्षित कराने के लिए मैं आज यहाँ, इस टिकट सुरक्षित करानेवाली लम्बी कतार में, बम्बई स्टेशन के प्लेटफॉर्म क्र. चारपर खड़ी हूँ।

मैं कतार में काफी पीछे खड़ी हूँ और मेरे आजू-बाजू में भीड़ ही भीड़ है। ठीक से खड़े रहने की भी जगह नहीं। सुबह के साढ़े-दस बजे रहे हैं। मेरे पीछे भी बहुत सारे लोग खड़े हैं। चारों ओर से लोगों की बातचीत और चिल्लाहट की आवाजें सुनायी दे रही हैं। मेरे आगे एक आदमी जो देखने से एक दूधवाला भैया जान पड़ता है, खड़ा है। उसके कपड़ों से बदबू आ रही है और मुझे बार बार नाक बन्द करनी पड़ रही है। उसकी कौए की भौंति कर्कश आवाज में वह कह रहा है, “हम कहत हैं, इतनी लम्बी कतार कैसे लग गयी? हम तो सुबह के साढ़े नौ बजे से यहाँ खड़े हैं.....आदि, आदि”। मैं मन ही मन पुटपुटा रही हूँ, “अरे तू नौ बजे से खड़ा रह या पाँच बजे से, पर सारी दुनियाँ को बतलाने की क्या आवश्यकता है??” मेरे पीछे एक महिला खड़ी है। उसके हाथ में एक प्यारा बच्चा है। वह मेरी ओर देखकर हँस रहा है। कितना प्यारा है वह। मेरी दाँयी ओर, और एक कतार लगी है, पता नहीं किस की है, पर यह कतार हमारी कतार जितनी लम्बी नहीं है। बायीं ओर कुछ लोग खड़े हैं। शायद रेलगाड़ी की प्रतीक्षा कर रहे हैं। उनमें एक-दो लड़कियाँ भी सम्मिलित हैं जो बार-बार न जाने किसकी ओर देखकर हँस रही हैं। पागल कहीं की! उनके पीछे हटकर थोड़ी दूर, चार-पाँच लड़के खड़े हैं जो इन लड़कियों को देखकर हँसे जा रहे हैं और फट्टू गाने गाये जा रहे हैं। मैं टिकट के काउंटर के काफी करीब पहुँच गयी हूँ। मेरे निकट ही एक युवा दंपति खड़े हैं जो आपस में कुछ कुजबुजा रहे हैं। स्त्री बार-बार हँस रही है और उसके संग खड़ा हुआ आदमी सीधा चेहरा रखने का प्रयास कर रहा है। न जाने आजकल लोगों को क्या हो रहा है, सब हँसे ही जा रहे हैं। पीछे मछियारों की भीड़ इकट्ठी हो गयी

है और वे सब अपनी भाषा में, जोरों से बातें करे जा रहे हैं। अब मैं काउंटर के बहुत ही करीब आ गयी हूँ। रेलगाड़ियाँ आ रही हैं, जा रही हैं। लोग चढ़ रहे हैं, उतर रहे हैं। धक्का दे रहे हैं, गालियाँ दे रहे हैं, लड़कियाँ हँस रही हैं और वृद्ध महिलाएँ और पुरुष उग्र चेहरे लेकर खड़े हैं। किसी के मुँह पर थकान दिखायी देती है तो किसी के मुँह पर मुस्कान।

अरे यह क्या, मेरा नंबर आ गया। टिकट सुरक्षित भी हो गयी। अच्छा, तो हम चलते हैं। हे भगवान! कश्मीर की वादियों में घूमने के लिए इतनी मायापत्नी! “भगवान भगत को बचाओं”!!!

विदूषी रूमडे
१० वी (ब)

‘काश’!

“भगवान के नाम से पाँच पैसे दे दो, भगवान के नाम से”। आनन्द पटना की सड़को से भीख माँगता हुआ गुजर रहा था। आज उसे कुछ पैसे मिल ही नहीं रहे थे।

बचपन में आनन्द के माँ-बाप मर गए थे। उस समय से ही भीख माँग माँग कर ही बड़ा हुआ था। अब वह २२ वर्ष का नौजवान था लेकिन जब में फूटी कौड़ी न थी।

अमीर कौन नहीं बनना चाहता है? आनन्द के मन में अनेक विचार आते, जैसे - काश मैं करोड़पति होता, काश मैं कोई लौटरी जीत जाता, काश मेरे पास थोड़ी सी जमीन होती, काश.....। लेकिन अब जब वह गली-गली भीख माँगता हुआ जा रहा था उसके दिमाग में सिर्फ विचार था - काश पाँच पैसे मिल जाए।

स्वर्ग की मधरानी और धन की देवी, लक्ष्मी को आनन्द पर दया आई। वह आनन्द के सामने प्रगट हुई और कहा “गरीब प्राणी, मुझे तुम पर दया आई है। अपनी झोली खोल और सोने के सिक्कों को स्वीकार कर, लेकिन याद रहे जैसे ही सिक्के भूमी पर गिरेंगे वैसे ही धूल बन जाएँगे। आनन्द की खुशी का ठिकाना नहीं रहा। उसने जल्दी से एक बोरी निकाली और खोली। लक्ष्मी देवीने अपना हाथ बोरी के ऊपर रखा और बोरी सोने के सिक्कों से भरने लगी।

बोरी जल्दी भर गई। लक्ष्मी जी के पूछने पर आनन्द ने कहा “बस थोड़ा और दे दो”। बोरी और भारी हो गई लेकिन फिर भी आनन्द ने कहा “बस थोड़ा और”।

सोने के सिक्कों के भार से अचानक बोरी फट गई और सिक्के जमीन को झूकर धूल बन गए। आनन्द घबरा गया चिल्लाने लगा “लक्ष्मी जी, लक्ष्मी जी”। पर वे चली गई थी और आनन्द बस धूल के साथ रह गया।

“भगवान के नाम से पाँच पैसे दे दो,” भीख माँगते-माँगते आनन्द के मस्तिष्क में यह विचार उत्पन्न हो रहे थे - काश मैं कुछ सिक्कों से ही सन्तुष्ट हो जाता, काश मैं इतना लालची न होता, काश.....!

नितिन अहूजा
१० वी (ब)

वर्षगाठ की एक मधुर स्मृति

उस दिन मेरा जन्म-दिवस था। ग्रीष्मावकाश का आरम्भ हो गया था और मेरे मित्र व मैं आनन्द से दिन व्यतीत कर रहे थे। तभी अचानक मेरे मित्र अमित ने हमें मेरे जन्म-दिवस की याद दिलाई। मैंने उसे मन-ही-मन कोसा परन्तु होनी को कौन टाल सकता है। तय किया गया कि मैं उन्हें किसी बढ़िया जलपान-गृह में भोजन दूँगा और उसके पश्चात हम कहीं घूमने जाएँगे।

उस भोजनालय का नाम था “स्वर्ग-सुन्दरी”। सजावट इतनी थी कि देखने के लिये दो आँखें बहुत कम पड़ रही थी। हम बड़े मजे से एक-एक मजे पर गये जहाँ पर दस-पन्द्रह कुर्सियाँ रखी थी। हम चारों मित्र वहाँ हँसते-हँसते बैठ गये। जैसे ही हमने आसन ग्रहण किया एक सेवक आया और हमें एक छोटे से मेज पर ले गया। उस सेवक के कपड़े हमसे अधिक अच्छे मालूम पड़े रहे थे।

मेरे मित्रों ने एक-एक करके अपनी माँगें प्रस्तुत की। उस सेवक ने माँगें लिख तो लीं, परन्तु हमें इस सन्दिग्ध दृष्टि से देख रहा था, जैसे अपने आप से पूछ रहा हो— “क्या ये मित्रोंके पैसा दे पाएँगे?” भोजन आ गया और मेरे मित्र उस पर ऐसे टूट पड़े जैसे जेल से निकले हुए कैदी हों।

मैं तो केवल वहाँ बैठकर वस्तुओं की सूची पढ़ रहा था, और यह हिसाब कर रहा था कि सब मिलाकर कितने पैसे लगेंगे। मैंने हिसाब किया तो कुल संख्या हुई एक सौ दस रुपये पचास पैसे। मेरे पास कुल एक सौ ग्यारह रुपये थे। मन में विचार आया कि बाद में बस के लिये भी पैसे न रहेंगे। पैसे जाँचने के लिये मैंने जेब में हाथ डाला और मेरे पैरों तले की जमीन खिसक गई। मेरी जेब में छेद था, नहीं उसे मैं छेद नहीं कह सकता, मेरी जेब में खड्डा था, इससे भी कहना उचित होगा कि खड्डे में जेब था।

मेरे मस्तक पर पसीना उभर आया। मैंने सोचा कि मेरे जन्म-दिवस पर कदाचित् मेरा श्राद्ध भी ही जानेवाला था। मेरी आँखों के सामने बर्तन आने लगे जो हमें धोने पड़ने वाले थे। उन मित्रों के भयानक चेहरे मेरे सामने मण्डराने लगे जो अभी मेरे गुण गा रहे थे परन्तु बर्तन धोने के बाद मेरे खून के प्यासे हो जाने वाले थे। मुझे समझ में नहीं आ रहा था कि मुझे क्या करना चाहिये था।

भोजन समाप्त हो गया। सेवक बर्तन उठाकर ले गया, मैं उसे कहने ही वाला था, “ठहरो! उन्हें धोना मत हम अभी आकर उन्हें धोने वाले हैं,” परन्तु मेरी बोलती बन्द हो गई थी। मैंने मेरे मित्रों के चेहरे देखे, जो शायद यह विचार कर रहे थे कि इस वातानुकूल स्थान में मेरे मुख पर पसीना क्यों छूट रहा था। सेवक हमारा “बिल” लेकर बड़ रहा था। मुझे उसकी आँखें ही सब दिखाई दे रही थी। वह प्लेट पर “बिल” ला रहा था परन्तु मुझे तलवार दिख रही थी। उसने हमारा बिल प्रस्तुत किया। एक सौ दस रुपये और पचास पैसे।

मैंने मेरे हृदय की गति देखने के लिये मैंने हृदय पर हाथ रखा तो मेरे जान-में-जान आई। मेरी कमीज की जेब में पैसे रखे हुए थे यह मुझे अभी याद आया। मैंने चुपचाप पैसे दिये और रुमाल निकालकर पसीना पोंछा।

गौतम शिकनीस

१० वी (ब)

नितिन का सपना

नितिन की जोरदार ठोकर से वह खाली डब्बा दूर जा गिरा। उस ने एक नजर पास खड़े अमित व गौतम के चेहरो पर डाली। फिर गुस्से से जमीन पर थूक दिया और कहा, “ऐसा नहीं हो सकता। जबतक मैं स्कूल में हूँ, मेरे अलावा कोई और टीम का कप्तान नहीं बन सकता। ऐसीही हुआ है, नितिन” पास खड़ा गौतम बोला, “जब से वह नया खेल क्रीडाध्यापक आया है, तब से ही सब गड़बड़ हुई है”।

“गौतम ठीक कहता है, नितिन” अमित से चुप नहीं रहा गया, “मुझे और सुरेश को तो इस बार बैड-मिंटन की टीम में नहीं रखा गया है”।

“अब मुझे कुछ करना होगा। नितिन क्रोधित होकर बोला। यह कहकर जैसे वह हॉल में घुसा, उस की नजर सामने ही बैडमिंटन खेलते खेल अध्यापक विनोदपर पड़ी। आओ, दुष्यंत यह कहकर विनोद सर ने फिर कहा “कहो कैसे आना हुआ? परन्तु तुम कल क्रिकेट के अभ्यास के लिए क्यों नहीं आए”। “सर मुझे लगा आपको मेरी आवश्यकता नहीं है क्योंकि आपको मुझसे अच्छा कप्तान मिल गया है। नितिन ने यह कहा”।

यह बात नहीं है, नितिन, “विनोदसर ने कहा कि बात यह कि पिछले कुछ दिनों से तुम अभ्यास के लिए नहीं आ रहे हो एवं जिस दिन टीम का चयन किया गया था, तो तुम नहीं थे”। “लेकिन आप तो जानते हैं कि मैं एक अच्छा खिलाड़ी हूँ”।

“मैं जानता हूँ, लेकिन अब क्या हो सकता है”। सर ने कहा।

नितिन दसवीं कक्षा का छात्र था। उसकी कप्तानी में स्कूल के नाम को चाँद गया था। परन्तु पिछले साल से टीमों के नए खिलाड़ी आए जाने लगे थे। राज भी उन्हीं खिलाड़ियों में से एक था। वह नितिन को कभी फूटी आँस भी नहीं सुहाता था। इस साल तो राज को ही कप्तान चुन लिया था। इस साल की प्रतियोगिता में नितिन को एक साधारण खिलाड़ी के रूप में चुन लिया गया।

उस दिन सेमीफाइनल का मुकाबला था। विपक्षी टीमने अच्छा खासा स्कोर बनाया परन्तु विकेट गिरने से स्थिति डाबाडोल हो गई थी। उस समय नितिन एवं राज मैदान के परिस्थितियों की जाँच पड़ताल कर रहे थे। खेल शुरू हुआ। नितिन एवं राज बैटिंगकर रहे थे। राज ने भी एक शानदार इन के लिए आगे बढ़ा। उस समय नितिन के मस्तिष्क में एक विचार कौधा क्यों न मैं, राज को आऊटकर दूँ। यह सोचकर वह रन लेने के लिए आगे नहीं बढ़ा। इस तरह राज को अपने विकेट से हाथ धोना पड़ा। किसी तरह उस दिन स्कूल ने सेमीफाइनल का मैच जीतकर फाइनल में प्रवेश किया।

अध्यापक विनोद ने राज को सन्तवना दी कि “घबराने की कोई बात नहीं है। तुम कप्तान के रूप में अवश्य जीत गए हो। परन्तु खिलाड़ी के रूप में अपने आप को कल प्रदर्शित करो”। अगले दिन, मैच शुरू हुआ। विपक्षीटीम ने पहले बैटिक करके अपना स्कोर बनाया १४१ रन आठ विकेट पर। अच्छे प्रारम्भ बल्लेबाजी के लिए एक आक्रमक बल्लेबाजी की आवश्यकता थी। राज ने नितिन को इसके लिए चुना। नितिन की खुशी का ठिकाना न रहा। परन्तु मन ही मन यह संदेह ऊपज हुआ कि मुझसे ईर्ष्या करनेवाला राज भला मुझे पहले क्यों भेज रहा है। नितिन ने बल्ले सम्भाला एवं अपनी क्रिकेट की कला से वह चालीस रन पर खेल रहा था। अर्धशतक हो जाने से पहले उसका साथी आऊट हो गया। उसकी जगह राज आया। उन दोनों की बारी बहुत जमी। उन्होंने स्कोर को १२० तक बढ़ाया था।

नितिन ४८ रनपर खेल रहा था। इतने में उसने बल्ला घुमाया एवं रन लेने के लिए आगे बढ़ा। वह आगे बढ़ा था कि फइकड़र ने गेंद को पकड़ लिया। राज दूसरी तरफ से गेंद को पहले पहुँचने पर ही नितिन के स्थानपर आ पहुँचा, परन्तु आऊट हो गया। उसने पास आकर नितिन से कहा घबराओ नहीं, तुम बहुत अच्छा खेल रहे हो। हम आज अवश्य ही जीत जाएँगे। नितिन अचम्भित अवस्था में उसके मुह ताकता रहा। अत्यन्त आसानीसे स्कूल ने वह मैच जीत लिया गया एवं नितिन को मैच का सर्वश्रेष्ठ खिलाड़ी घोषित किया गया।

पुरस्कार वितरण के समय मुख्य अतिथि ने कहा “आज का खेल सिर्फ खेल ही नहीं था। टीम की भावना एवं खिलाड़ी की आचरण एवं कला का एकमात्र प्रदर्शन भी था। मैं नितिन आहुजा को सर्व श्रेष्ठ खिलाड़ी घोषित करते हुए यह पुरस्कार भेंट करता हूँ”।

नितिन की खुशी का ठिकाना न रहा। एक तरफ तो खुशी थी, परन्तु दूसरी तरफ उसके आँखों में ग्लानि भरे आँसू थे। उसे अपने लिए पर पश्चाताप हुआ। दौड़ कर उसने राज को गले लगाया एवं उससे क्षमा मांगी। मित्रता की भावना से दोनों के हृदय गदगद हो गये। आज नितिन का सपना पूरा हो गया था एवं एक नया रास्ता भी मिल गया था।

अमित रंजन
१० वी (ब)

:O:

हास - परिहास

शादी की खुमारी

मेरी एक मित्र की नयी-नयी शादी हुई थी। दूसरे ही दिन हम लोग बाजार से कुछ सामान लेने गये। भाभी जी ने छह साड़ियाँ, दो गाउन, मैक्सी और ढेर सारी प्रसाधन सामग्री एक ही दुकान से खरीद डाली। मित्र के होश तो पुख्ता हो ही चुके थे, मगर वह क्या बोलता? तभी एक अन्य मित्र भी उसी दुकान में चला आया और उसे शादी की मुबारकबाद देते बोला, “क्यों दोस्त, शादी की खुमारी अभी उतरी कि नहीं?”

मित्र व्यंग स्वर में, परेशानी का अहसास दिलाता बोला पड़ा, “मेरी तो अभी यह बिल देख कर उतर जाएगी ... तुम्हारी भाभी की पता नहीं कब उतरेगी!”

— बाबूलाल संखलेचा ‘रवि’

:O:

दस पैसे में

मैं और मेरा मित्र बिलासपुर के ‘शाम’ टॉकीज में फिल्म ‘आ गले लग जा’ देखने गये। छोटे शहरों के सिनेमाघरों में इंटरवल होते ही खाने-पीने की चीजें बेचनेवाले अंदर पहुँच कर आवाजें लगा-लगा चीजें बेचते हैं। फिल्मी गाने की किताब बेचनेवाला लड़का हाथ में ढेर-सी किताबें रख कर चिल्ला रहा था— “दस पैसे में आ गले लग जा, दस पैसे में आ गले लग जा.” यह सुन कर हॉल में बैठे लोग हंस पड़े.

— उमाकांत खुवालकर

:O:

आप तो गंजे हैं!

अभी १०-१५ दिन पहले की बात है। हम सब परिवार के लोग टेलीविजन पर कोई कार्यक्रम देख रहे थे कि तभी हमारी बेटी योगिता ने अपने पांच वर्षीय भाई प्रभाकर को एक थप्पड़ मार दिया, फलस्वरूप, वह जोर-जोर से रोने लगा। मेरे पति ने उसे रोते देख योगिता से पूछा, “तुमने भाई को क्यों मारा?”

योगिता बोली, “पापा, यह मेरे सिर के बाल खींच रहा था.”

इन्होंने गुस्से में कहा, “तो क्या हुआ?” इस प्रश्न के उत्तर में उसने जो जवाब दिया, उसे सुन कर हम सब हंसे बिना न रह सके। वह बोली, “आप तो गंजे हैं। आपको कैसे बताऊँ कि क्या हुआ?”

— सुरेंद्र लखेड़ा

- 1st row : Mr. A. Baker (*Principal*), Rev. Kelsaker, Mrs. A. Baker, Mr. M. T. Thorpe (*Vice-Principal*).
- 2nd row : B. Sangamnehri (*Day Scholar Prefect — Florence Nightingale*), P. Barnham (*Vice Captain — Edith Cavell*), L. Fernandez (*House Captain — Joan of Arc*), S. Chavan (*Day Scholar Prefect — Joan of Arc*).
- 3rd row : C. Pereira (*Vice Captain — Joan of Arc*), K. Salim (*House Captain — Helen Keller and Vice School Captain*), R. Emmanuel (*Day Scholar Prefect — Edith Cavell*), D. Gupta (*House Captain — Edith Cavell*), J. Muley (*Vice Captain — Helen Keller*), J. Misra (*Day Scholar Prefect — Helen Keller*), E. Fernandez (*School Captain, House Captain — Florence Nightingale*).
- 4th row : A. Makhija (*Day Scholar Prefect — Greaves*), S. Patil (*Vice Captain — Royal*), G. Ochani (*House Captain — Royal*), S. Razvi (*Vice Captain — Candy*), A. Indulkar (*Day Scholar Prefect — Spence*), C. Joseph (*School Captain and House Captain — Candy*).
- 5th row : A. Rai (*Day Scholar Prefect — Royal*), M. Debaba (*Vice Captain — Spence*), O. Maie (*House Captain — Greaves, School Vice Captain*), R. Sukhale (*House Captain — Spence*), S. Ovichagan (*Vice Captain — Greaves*), A. Thomson (*Day Scholar Prefect — Candy*).

THE PREFECTS — 1988 - 1989

