

Greenwood High International School



Apr-Jun 2016 Newsletter

Greetings! This is the final edition of the Greenwood High International School Quarterly Newsletter for the school year 2015-16. Even though it is the last quarter of the year, and the focus has been exams, exams and exams – IGCSE and IB Board Exams and grades 5 to 9 and 11 May-June Summative, a lot has happened. Greenwood High students have proved once again that they can balance studies and co-curricular activities wonderfully.

Mach 12th: Greenwood High TEDx Talks ‘Transcending Synapses’

This event was the culmination of all the hard work and organization put in by the Grade XI CAS students. Pavan Chitta and Siddharth Pandiya hosted the event, where six speakers, all experts in their fields, spoke to the enthralled students. The first speaker was Subrat Mohanty who works in a leadership role at one of the largest private life insurers in India, and his talk centered on transition generations and their importance. The next speaker was Manoj Kabre, the founder of the CaNTrust and India's very first 'storytelling cloud', an initiative that harnesses simple technology to bring together storytellers from all across the globe. With his belief that storytelling is one of the most powerful tools to introduce ideas into today's society, he hopes to cultivate language, communication, and thinking skills to empower the young India with a new sense of perception.

The third speaker was Radhika Nathan, author of the historical "The Mute Anklet". She spoke about the importance of a secondary passion and how to pursue one while balancing it with your primary focus area. Dr. Rajgopal Gubbi followed Radhika Nathan. An alumnus of IIT Madras with decades of experience in the IT industry, Dr. Gubbi is a well-known expert in the field of wireless technology and holds 29 US patents, though his passion is incorporating technology in rural schools. His talk was about improving education in India through technology. Meera K, the fifth speaker of the day is a change-maker, deeply involved in community media, urban local governance, and technology. She has co-founded Citizen Matters, an award-winning media outlet that pioneered community journalism in Bangalore, and her talk was about the environmental issues in the city of Bangalore. The final speaker for the day was Nelson Vadasserry, a passionate engineer and entrepreneur who co-founded Sea6 energy in 2010 along with other alumni of IIT Madras. He and his team aim to make our oceans the energy farms of tomorrow, and he spoke about ocean farming. The TEDx Talks event was hugely successful and inspiring.

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April 12th: International Francophone Day (MSP)

The MSP French students celebrated Francophone Day focusing on the theme of Bande Dessinée (comics). They put up a TV show, introducing famous French comic characters like Tintin, Smurfs, Pink Panther, Asterix and Obelix, as well as their creators, and talking about the history of the . There were skits and advertisements, songs and dances, and fun facts as a part of the television program, and the audience got tested on their knowledge of comic characters through a quiz contest. It was indeed an enjoyable French experience.

April 16th: Graduation Day – Grade 12

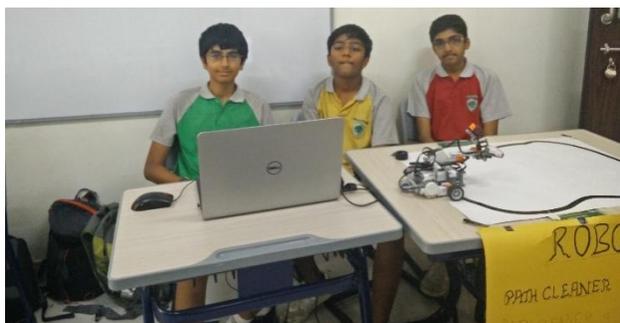
The much awaited Graduation Day arrived and the graduating students were joyous, because they had almost made it to the end of their IB years, and sad, because this marked the end of their school life, were looking their best in formal attires – colorful sarees and dresses, and suits and ties. The Chief Guest Dr. Devi Shetty shared his inspiring and inspirational stories from the medical world with the students. Mr. D’Mello and Mr. Bijay Aggarwal wished them and blessed them, and the class valedictorian Rohil Verma spoke of the perils of procrastination, making his classmates laugh at remembered antics.

After the handing over of the diplomas, the new graduates Shubhangi Das and Anusha Sreekumar brought tears to all eyes with the song ‘I will always love you’. Graduating band consisting of Daksh Jotwani, Aman Almeida, Vishwa Kalyanaraman and Vishal Giridhar played a foot tapping number, and then the much awaited presentation IB Memories by Merzia Cutlerywala, Shruthi Sekhar, Tanushree Kumar and Sonakshi Sunil made the graduates and the rest of the audience laugh as they dwelled upon those cherished moments that went into making their IB years. A grand dinner, music, dancing and photography marked the rest of this memorable evening.

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April 23rd: Science Exhibition (MSP)

The MSP Science Exhibition was an excellent platform for the budding scientists and science enthusiasts of the middle school to experiment, discover, invent, explain, and above all, understand scientific concepts. Students displayed their experiments and models on different aspects of science like magnetism, electromagnetism, prevention of wastage, recycling and many other topics. This Science Exhibition introduced computer science and robotics as well and hence gave the robotics and computer science students a platform to exhibit their interest but as well as an avenue of opportunities in research and presentation.

May 23-26: Art Exhibition

Greenwood High opened up as a colorful tableau for **Simulacra**, the MSP, IGCSE and IB Art Exhibition. The entire school became an extravagant art gallery, with artworks displayed on corridor walls, and sculptures towering in the green central lawn. Indeed, the visitors, the parents and other students were amazed by the variety of sculptures on the lawns, ranging from a gigantic nest with eggs, a giant tube of yellow paint, a large pair of cracking glasses, mother and her baby birds made entirely out of bus wheels, and a gargantuan tap overhead, threatening to shower all below any moment.

The paintings, drawings, sketching and etchings were amazing, on both paper and canvas, done with a multitude of media, by a multitude of young aspiring artists. The Greenwood High art exhibition Simulacra – copies that depict things that either had no original to begin with, or that have no longer have an original – indeed was a very extra-ordinary and unusual event.

June 10th: Theatre Presentation

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The Department of Drama organized the Middle School Drama Festival on 10th of June, 2016 at 12.30 PM. As part of the festival, the drama students of each grade from MSP performed their annual drama production in their respective classrooms. The students designed the production as well as the performing space aligning with their creative ideas. Parents were invited to watch the performances and this was a wonderful platform for the young thespians to showcase their talent.

Jun 15th: Science Display

The Science Exhibition on the last day of school was indeed a great opportunity for the students to show their enthusiasm for all things scientific, without the pressure of examinations and tests. With the summative getting over on Friday June 11th, the students of grades 9 and 11 began to focus on their science projects. The exhibition was indeed very cerebrally enthralling, as students experimented with dancing flames, prosthetic limbs, rocket launches, blood splatter, surface tension of water, Reuben's Tubes, creating electricity from solar and wind energy, as well as from organic sources, wind and sustainable environments, and even recycling. The Science Exhibition was indeed a wonderful way to mark the last day of the academic year 2015-16 for the students.

This is the end of this academic year, and it has indeed been a very eventful year. After the staff lunch on June 17 and the Report Card collection on June 18, the summer break will begin. We all look forward to the new school year **2016-17**.