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## MRS. RACHNA PANT - PRINCIPAL RAMJAS SCHOOL



Mrs. Rachna Pant, an Educationist, Principal of Ramjas School started her career way back in 1979. She advocates that an educational system should ensure a 360 degree growth & development of all students. When the students are encouraged to think critically and analyse logically, it is the best. An education system can be termed great if it boosts the confidence of the students and sharpens their creative instincts. Mrs. Pant also states that knowledge today is rapidly expanding and to keep abreast with it, it is important to give up the redundant and accept the latest. Unwillingness to change would lead to stagnation and backwardness. She also focuses on the role of teachers as mentors to change their approach and is able to meet the requirements of the students and prepare them for the dynamic world.

## SOCIAL CONNECT



Mrs. RachnaPant tells why addi  
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Moments Of #RBCL2017 Day 3  
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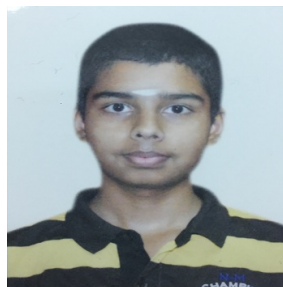


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# Event/Activities

## Some moments of motivation with "Anand Kumar"



Subtle, Humble, Dosile, Down to Earth and what not...I may fall short of words ,but the personality we met today has an entire truckload of achievements that he will never fall short of. Today we got the rarest chance to meet the Maths wizard,The Messiah of underprivileged and the founder of the institution which has been awarded as the "Best institute in the country" Super 30 Mr.Anand Kumar.

I would like to tell you all about the institution first. Super 30 is an Indian educational program started in Patna, India under the banner of Ramanujan School of Mathematics. It was founded by Anand Kumar, a mathematics teacher, and Abhayanand, the former D.G.P of Bihar. The program selects 30 talented candidates each year from economically underprivileged sections of Indian society and trains them for the "JEE exams".

Our school was invited by the inox group to come, meet and greet the wizard Mr. Anand Kumar. The first sight was very surreal for all thirty five of us. A man in a simple shirt ,blue jeans and simple sandals with a face full of happiness, simplicity, intellect and daring caught all of our attention in the first go. His voice so subtle ,body language so professional and personality so attractive was enough for all of us to agree to the fact that who else could take thirty students,teach and feed them like his own children and get them selected for India's most renowned Institutions than him. After a brief session of questions and answers about his personal life, social background and bits from the movie based on his dramatic but struggling life we had a golden opportunity to get ourselves clicked with him and none of us literally none let the opportunity go vacant. The passion of teaching, the glamour, the vigour, the charisma was all visible on his shining face that got lit up after seeing such restless but enlightening souls of ours.

We finally left him as he had another gathering waiting for him to get enlightened and motivated by his witty and amusing words. We still cherish upon the 4 mantras that he gave us to be successful in life "continuous hardwork", "continuous upthrust", "positivity" and "optimistic attitude".

## Independence Day Celebrated At Ramjas Schol



Classes 1and 2 celebrated Independence Day with proud and patriotic fervour on 14th August 2019. Principal Ma'am of our school hoisted the national flag, all the students and teachers sung National Anthem followed by Vande Mataram and other patriotic songs.

### **BHARAT KE VEER**

This activity was organised with great zeal. The young learners dressed up in various characters as national symbols, freedom fighters, political leaders. They spoke few lines on their character. Children also made the national flag and coloured it where the teacher explained about each colour of our flag.

### **Lemon and spoon race**

A lemon and spoon race was organised. It was a sporting event in children were asked to balance a lemon on a spoon and reach the finish line. Students displayed their concentration and patience through this activity.

### **Investiture Ceremony 2019-20 Junior School: The Journey Towards Leadership Begins Celebrated At Ramjas School**



In order to scale the heights and reach the Pinnacle of success, Ramjas School, R K Puram, always strives to inculcate a sense of responsibility and commitment among the students with their heads held high, ready to shoulder responsibilities as leaders.

The Investiture Ceremony is a solemn occasion wherein all the young students are well prepared to don the mantle of leadership and responsibility while carrying it out with utmost dedication.

The newly elected student council members pledged to work earnestly and uphold the honour and glory of the institution



while receiving their prestigious badges and sash from the teachers.

The Head Boy, Head Girl, Sports Captains and House Captains stood tall while holding the flag of the school as destiny prepared itself to bring in many more laurels to the institution.

The Principal motivated the children to keep moving forward despite all the obstacles and challenges that life throws in front of us. He said that being a leader is a vital role and that the new Student Council would have ample responsibilities to shoulder.

With the flags held high and heads standing tall, the ceremony concluded with the National Anthem.

### MAGIC SHOW FOR CLASSES 3 AND 4



A magic show was organised at Ramjas School, RK Puram on 8 August, 2019. The show was presented by a talented magician Mr. Ankit. He performed many tricks and illusions that made children and teachers watch him in rapt attention and excitement. The magic wand, the magic words and the interesting and distinctive lifestyle of magician kept everybody astounded. Children were amazed by the chanting magic words used by the magician frequently. Borrowing things from the children and making them disappeared was another feature that impressed everyone, The students and teachers kept guessing as how the tricks worked. All of them could not stop clapping as he unfolded his magic tricks one by one. We thanked Mr. Ankit for making the morning really magical and entertaining for everyone. The show was a great success and the children enjoyed it very much.

### Origami For Class 5 Conducted At Ramjas School



The Junior school conducted origami activity at Ramjas School, RK Puram on 8 August, 2019. Children participated in this creative venture with great zeal and high spirits.

The children were amazed to see transformation of a flat sheet square of paper into a finished sculpture through folding and sculpting. They created unique and exclusive shapes and structures to showcase their finesse in paper craft. They made book marks and displayed them with great pleasure and gratification.

This activity triggered their imagination and enhanced their creative skills.

Origami provided them with wonderful “schematic learning through repeatable actions”. As the resource person demonstrated, children watched closely and listened carefully to the specific instructions and then carried them with originality, neatness and accuracy.

The paper folding craft was not only a fun filled experience, but it also proved to be a valuable means to develop artistic skills in the young ones.

### Climate Giri At Jantar Mantar Organized By Nineismine



Students of Eco Club from Ramjas School, R.K. Puram participated in a protest ‘ClimateGiri’ held on 12<sup>th</sup> July, Friday at Jantar Mantar organized by NINEISMINE a renowned NGO. This campaign was the outcome of the inspiration by 'Greta Thunberg' a 16 year old Swedish Girl, climate-activist and Nobel Peace prize nominee, who was able to draw attention towards deteriorating climatic conditions all over the world.

Friday was chosen as the day of the campaign because ‘Fridays For Future’ in which students actively participate. Students of our school presented a dance on the theme ‘Hawa Badlo, Soch Badlo’ and posters on climate change were also displayed with catchy slogans.

Various activities such as skits, dances and poem recitation motivated people to take a step towards Climate Emergency. People’s attention was captivated by shouting slogans on top of their voices such as “What do we want? Climate emergency”. “When do we want it? Now. Because there is no Earth B.” In the end there was a team building activity using parachute which signified to pull the bad air cover away from the Mother Earth. It can only be possible if we work together. The event was a grand success as it was able to create awareness among masses about climate emergency.

### Rabindra Jayanti Celebrated At Ramjas School





The primary wings (class I to V) organised an assembly on 9th May, 2019 to celebrate Rabindra Jayanti. The children showcased Rabindra Sangeet with live song and dance wearing traditional Bengali dress.

### Earth Day Celebrations at Ramjas School, R. K. Puram



Eco club of the Ramjas School R K Puram celebrated Earth Day on 22 April' 19 with great fervour and enthusiasm. Many activities were planned and conducted for the students to sensitise them towards the cause of Mother Earth. E-waste workshop was organised for the students of class 5<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> by Mr. Rakesh Khatri, Director of Eco Roots Foundation. As E-waste is hazardous for health, its proper disposal needs special care. So, E-waste collection bin was donated to the school by Mr. Gaurav Gupta, CEO of Laxmi Metalloys, who is one of the renowned e-waste recycler amongst 150 recycler existing all over the India.

In the afternoon, Matt Perry, who is actively working on the issues related to environmental destruction and social inequality, conducted an interactive workshop. A registered society PRATeYK became instrumental in bringing Matt Perry to our school for an enriching session on climate change. Climate change is the area of serious concern for all of us in present scenario.

A special assembly was organised by Eco Club students on 25 April' 19. Students from classes I to XII were involved in large number of activities and competitions like Head gear making, Brooch Making, Poster making, self-composed poem writing, group dance, group song, skit etc. This year's Theme of Earth Day is 'Protect Wildlife Species' and topics for the competitions were based on this Theme. Topics of Poster and poem were Save wildlife, Don't buy in haste, reduce e-waste, Fuel- I will perish, if you won't replenish.

Chief guests of the function were Mr. Anil Arora, Director Partnerships from Earth Day Network along with Mr. Rakesh Khatri. Guests were welcomed by school Principal Ms. Rachna Pant. The students presented colourful and interesting cultural programmes to spread awareness about environmental issues. Best entries were awarded with prizes and certificates. The respective students recited prize-winning poems. The celebrations were concluded by placing nearly the 100 Nests for the conservation of house sparrows prepared by Eco Club students under the guidance of Mr. Rakesh Khatri in the school garden. In the end, everybody took oath to Preserve and Conserve Mother Earth.

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### **Adventure Paradise, Rajaji National Park**



Vanshala camp was organized from 14th October to 18th October 2018. A group of nine children of class 5 were accompanied by two teachers-Mrs. Anamika Pandey and Miss Sonali Kakkar. Vanshala aimed at inculcating knowledge about saving nature and wildlife to make us aware about their importance and our dependence on nature. Through various competitions like drawing, collage making and many more, the students were given a chance to pen down their visual sites. River bathing was an exciting experience for the students. A seasonal river was selected for this activity. To make the children understand the life of the village, village study was also conducted. Children visited the Ganga Bhogpur Village and met the Sarpanch Mr. Pyarelal and they interviewed him. He told them about the administration of the village and also provided them with additional information that wheat and rice were main crops and the major occupation was agriculture. We met the forest rancher also. He added on to our knowledge about the pugmarks of tiger and lion. Honourable Convenor divided the children into four houses-Abhimanyu, Bharat, Dhruv and Bharat for the convenience of carrying out various activities. We went to take blessings of Maa Durga by visiting the temple nearby. It was an awesome experience and students were able to imbibe the values of saving nature. A big step was taken by Ramjas foundation to remove the demons of pollution, deforestation in the era of urbanization by spreading awareness in the future citizens.

### **Yuvvani Audition at Akashwani Bhawan**



The Yuvvani audition was on 6th of September, 2018 at the Akashwani Bhawan, Sansad Marg Road. Yuvvani is a section for the young talents, those from the age of 15-30 years. I had prepared 3 songs for the audition. I had applied for light music, Rabindra Sangeet. On the audition day, there were about 100 people in the light song category who were scheduled for that day. Yuvvaani auditions took place on 3 days, as there were many people who had applied for it, and mine was the second day. The Yuvvani singing section is divided into classical and light.

I was a bit nervous during the audition because firstly no one was allowed inside the room where the audition took place, only the musicians were there for supporting my song. And secondly, I was not allowed to see the judges. There was a curtain between the judges and the participant. I could not see the judges' expressions, which made me more nervous. Still, I gave my best, and the result is here. On 13th October 2018, a letter arrived from the Akashwani Bhawan, which stated that i have been selected, and will be called for recordings, and also be paid. I was extremely happy. And what adds to it, is that i, being a non-Bengali have been selected under the Bengali light song category.

### **Visit to DRDO's Delhi Branch**



On 15th October 2018, our school organised a visit to the Deference Research and Development Organisation's Delhi branch building for the members of the Atal Tinkering Lab (under the Atal Innovation Mission) on the 86th birthday of our former president and a great personality in the field of science and Indian defence and aviation, Late Doctor A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. This visit was also meant to bring to the minds of these young innovators, some real-life problems faced by the country and leave them in thinking solutions to those. India's current Defence Minister, Shri Nirmala Sitharaman,

along with four other personalities in the field of Indian defence sciences, was present at the function. Along with the 70 students from the different ATLs across Delhi and NCR, the students from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi campus and some young scientists already working in DRDO were there to attend the function. We were all firstly taken to the cafeteria to have refreshments, on arriving the place.

After this we were gifted with a jute handbag which contained some merchandise of DRDO (T-Shirt, Ball Point Pen, Hat, Dairy) and especially, a new book that was about to be launched on that very day, titled: 'MEMORIES: INCREDIBLE KALAM'. After this, we went to the small museum dedicated to Mr. Kalam, depicting small scale models and some real specimens of all the projects he might have worked on, and some other innovative ones too. After seeing the exhibits, we all went to an auditorium in which the ministers came later and were shown some documentaries with us after which the book and a website- 'Dare to Dream' was launched. After this, three young scientists from different IITs showed their ideas on presentations which were intended for the Indian Defence Forces. After this, the ministers shared their thoughts, joined us in the National Anthem, and some went for the refreshments while others (three of them) still were in the auditorium answering all types of questions from the audience, especially students. After this, we all were once again given some refreshments and soon left for our way back to school. This trip was a very interesting and informative one in which many of us were struck by new ideas to tackle problems a very similar way and have a lot more respect for our beloved Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam while also getting to know the power of our nation. Certainly, this was a phenomenal visit.

By-Kartik Mishra  
Class- X – 'C'

### VISIT TO DRDO



Our school ATL club had organized a trip to DRDO on fifteen October 2018. DRDO themselves provided an AC bus for our journey. It was an amazing trip and we were able to get a close view of the Rashtrapati Bhavan. After all security checks, we had a nutritious breakfast in DRDO dining lounge. Then we proceeded further to see Dr.APJ Abdul Kalam's great works. The models of Agni and Brahmos missiles and the shining Padma Bhushan and Bharat Ratna was a sight to behold. On our way to the conference hall, we have gifted a jute bag which contained a shirt, pen, hat and a book on Dr Kalam. The conference hall was filled with the media crew and the colourful flowers increased the beauty of the stage. We watched a short film on DRDO until the

honourable chief guest Smt . Nirmala Sitaraman arrived. It was a lifetime opportunity to meet the defence minister of India and the current MD of DRDO, Sh. Sudhir Mishra. We had a quick presentation of innovations by three young innovator's accompanied by the release of the book "Memories: Incredible Kalam" and the opening of the DRDO official website. After the national anthem, we had a discussion with the head of TAIR and Sh. Sudhir Mishra who answered all our queries in a friendly manner. This interactive and knowledgeable session concluded with a light refreshment.

It was an eye-opening trip as it motivated us to chase our dreams and to become a leader ourselves rather than waiting for a leader to guide us. My special regard to Anu mam and principal mam who had planned this trip for us. I feel honoured to be part of this trip on the birth anniversary of Dr.APJ Abdul Kalam, the missile man of India.

-ANN PRIYA, X-C

### DRDO Experience



On the occasion of the 87th birth anniversary of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, I got the opportunity to visit the headquarter of Defence Research & Development Organisation of India. It was a huge lush green place beautifully decorated with colourful flowers. On entering the premises, we were warmly welcomed by their staff. Their hospitality was commendable. After a small breakfast, we were guided to an exclusive exhibition from DRDO on models of various weapons and missiles. It was completely awe-provoking to watch and study such devastating weapons. It also gave a feeling of pride as an Indian to discover the great military strength of our country.

After the exhibition we attended a session on the recalls of Kalam presided by honourable Defence Minister of India Mrs. Nirmala Sitaraman, here she launched a book 'Memories: Incredible Kalam' based on incidents related with Kalam's professional life. She also dedicated a website to the missile man, 'The Kalam Vision-Dare to Dream'. This website is designed for people like Kalam who forefeet all the barriers of poverty, illiteracy, who dare to watch dreams and work for their fulfilment. After the address of Mrs. Sitaraman, we were accompanied by the DRDO scientists and the Chief Scientific Advisor to the Prime Minister of India Dr. Vijay Raghvan for a wonderful question answer session specially arranged for young students like us. At the end of the program we each of us was gifted with a copy of 'Memories: Incredible Kalam' book. It was really a great experience going there this not only motivated me but also enriched my knowledge.



## Visit to DRDO's Delhi Branch



On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, the former president of India, students of Ramjas School, R.K. Puram were taken to the Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO). The chief guest of the program was the honorable Defense Minister of India – Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman. She was accompanied by Dr. Subhash Ramrao Bhamre, Minister of state for Defense and Dr. Krishnaswamy Vijayraghavan, Scientific advisor to the PM. Along with Ramjas School, the program was also attended by the students of ASN School, Kendriya Vidyalaya and IIT Delhi. The primary focus and the aim of the program were to encourage the students to work with their full potential and innovate new technologies to fulfill the vision of a developed India. Firstly, the students were taken to an exhibition on Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. The exhibition consisted of many models of missiles and tanks and other instruments which are used during wars. After this the students were shown a short film on DRDO. This is followed by a small documentary on Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. After this some innovators were invited to present and showcase their ideas which were followed by the launch of the book “Incredible Kalam” which was published by DRDO. After this the chief guests were invited to address the students. They made the students aware about the vision of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam and how we should work towards it. After this our honorable Defense Minister launched the website “Dare to Dream” which is also made by DRDO. In the end there was an interaction session between the students and Dr. Krishnaswamy Vijayraghavan. The session helped the students to recognize the correct path to work for the development and also helped them to clear their doubts.

By: Abhinav Anand

### Celebrating Mahatma Gandhi's 150th Birth Anniversary



The students of Ramjas RKPuram celebrated 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary with great enthusiasm. The students spoke about Gandhiji, his three monkeys. The students sang his famous bhajans and songs. They depicted a short play on one of the incidences of his life. They took an oath to keep surroundings and their country clean. Few students recited poems and slogans on SWATCH BHARAT.



As a part of Swatch Bharat Abhiyan cleanliness drive was carried on in the school premises with students from primary to senior wing cleaning their classrooms. This Abhiyan aimed at motivating young minds to keep their school, their surroundings and their country clean.

### Scribble Fun Activity



## Kindergarten Independence Day Celebrations



On the 10<sup>th</sup> of August Pre-primary children celebrated Independence Day.

It has been 72 years after India's Independence and the students showed their patriotism by dressing up in the costume of a soldier, and singing patriotic songs. In the presence of Respected Principal ma'am, the celebrations started with a prayer, followed by action songs performed by various sections of Nursery. The students combined the Janmashtami celebrations and performed a Gopi dance on the occasion of Lord Krishna's birthday. Some students came up dressed as our freedom fighters like Mahatma Gandhi, Subhash Chandra Bose, Sarojani Naidu, Jawaharlal Nehru while some came and talked about our national flag, bird (peacock), animal (tiger), flower (lotus), fruit (mango).

As the program progressed, the students were all hyped up, standing and hearing the songs while simultaneously clapped to the rhythm of the songs. The event concluded with everybody standing and singing the national anthem.

### Masterpiece of Dots and Circles



On August 10, Ramjas School and FairGaze conducted an art workshop for students of class eighth.

The students were taught an intriguing art form called Dot Mandala Art in this interactive session.

Dot Mandala Art is a combination of two different art forms which originated in two different continents. Dot painting is an aboriginal art form of native Australians. Mandala art is said to be originated in the Tibet and is practised by monks. Practicing Mandala art soothes the mind, reduces your anger and increases your focus and patience. The combination of



Students of classes 3 and 4 had an activity on word building using word options given like PHOTOSYNTHESIS, EVAPORATION, WONDERLAND, AEROPLANE (Eg: pear, learn, lane etc). They were asked to make as many 3,4 or 5 letter words from anyone word at a time.

Each child of class 5 created a "Wordsearch" game and the partner had to look for the hidden words in a stipulated time.

### Augmenting Creativity of Students



Students of the Environment Club, Ramjas School, R.K. Puram, participated in a paper bag making activity. The activity was organized to show the dedication and the willingness of the children to work for Mother Nature. These kids showed incredible creativity and did their work with passion. They all used eco-friendly materials and designed many attractive and beautiful paper bags. The idea was to awaken and sensitize the society towards the need of the hour- start protecting the environment. The teachers guided the students and took part in this event actively. Students from classes VI- VIII made over 30 paper bags- beautifully crafted and designed. The activity was aimed at giving a push to their imagination and creativity. To sum it up the activity besides giving an impetus to students' creativity created mass awareness to "SAVE THE EARTH"

M. Piyush

XI- C

these art forms resulted in yet another awe-inspiring art form which fascinated the children.

The students, under the guidance of the teacher, drew a pattern of circles on a black sheet of paper. The pattern resembled a flower made up of circles. The pattern, thus formed, was called the 'Seed of Life'.

The students were so engrossed in the session, that they didn't even worry about missing their games period. All the students gave a positive reply regarding the programme.

- Written by M. Piyush Jayachandran

- Photo by Chirag Gupta

### Workshop On Anti-Addiction India



Eco club and Interact club of Ramjas School, R K Puram organized Mega Tree Planation drive on 28th July 2018 at Sector 4, R K Puram, New Delhi. The event was organized in collaboration with Gautam Gambhir Foundation, Resident Welfare Organisation, Sector 4, R K Puram and Rotary Club, South East Delhi. Occasion was graced by the presence of CEO Mrs. Priyanka Raifrom GGF, Mr. Shahid from "Give the Tree" trust associated with GGF, Councillor Mr. Bhagat Singh Tokas, President Mr. Surinder Kumar, Ex MLA Mr. Anil Sharma from RWA, Sector 4, R K Puram and members of Rotary club were among some of the dignitaries.

Eco Club students presented skit based on the theme "Saving the Mother Earth by Planting Trees". More than 400 students from classes 6th to 11th participated in the rally to create awareness about planting trees and protecting Environment. More than 300 trees of varieties such as Doon Cirus, Moringa, Champa, Chilbil, Peepal, Pilkhan, etc were planted by the dignitaries, school Principal Mrs. Rachna Pant, students and residents of Sector 4, R K Puram. Saplings were also distributed to the residents and teachers for planting in their neighborhood areas. Eco Club students also distributed paper bags to the shopkeepers of sector 4, R K Puram to reduce the use of plastic bags. It was an initiative towards the greener planet and to conserve nature. Residents and students took oath to protect the saplings to become trees. The program was a grand success and all the dignitaries present appreciated the efforts of the school in the direction of environmental conservation. The residents also assured to take this drive forward.



The workshop was conducted by people from Brahma Kumaris World Spiritual University. The workshop was a part of their Addiction Free India Campaign which mainly aimed at the youth. It was a very spiritual and an informative session conducted by Brahmkumari Meera Ji.

She started by talking about how one should keep in mind his physical and mental well-being. She talked about the need and importance of sleep. She talked about how sleep boosted your spiritual, physical and mental life and how a teenager required 6-8 hours of sleep per day. She also informed us about the various reasons like depression, peer pressure, etc. that lead people into drug addiction. But, for the other half, she also talked about how one can relieve a person from his drug addiction by giving him good thoughts, getting him indulged in social work, meditation, etc. The posters which they showed also infused us with a lot of information regarding the harmful effects of these drugs. They cause cancer, and a variety of harmful diseases. Every cigarette a person smokes reduces 6 minutes from his life. Tobacco kills a lot of people, so much so that the amount of people who died due to tobacco is greater than the total people who died due to accidents, cigarette, alcohol, drugs added. She also talked to us about the new thing the civilians, mainly younger ones are getting addicted to – Mobile phones. She said how they strain our eyes and how some harmful radiations are emitted by them. The workshop was a very informative one which filled the students with a lot of facts regarding drug addiction, it's causes, it's harmful affects, reasons why people persue it, and most importantly - how one can overcome it or help others overcome it.

### Tree Plantation Drive: An Initiative By Ramjas School, Sector IV, R K Puram



### A Run to Beat Plastic Pollution





On 03.06.18 students of Ramjas school Sect 4 ,R.K Puram participated in in minimarathon "ENVITHON" . Its theme was to "RUN TO BEAT PLASTIC POLLUTION". Marathon was organized by Deptt of Environment,Forest and climate change on account of World Environment Day on 05. 06.18. Students assembled in the school premises at 5.00am in the morning and reached the venue at Vinay Marg sports complex. It was a great site to see the enthusiasm and fervour among students and their parents. Mr. Mukesh and Mr. Nitin from the school accompanied students. Many dignitaries from Deptt of Environment and Forest motivated students in combating plastic pollution. It was a great step by the students, their parents and exstudents to make this event a big success and to spread awareness about plastic pollution.

### Earth Day Celebrations



Together we can make everyday Earth Day and each one of us in the school can make a difference'

Earth Day was celebrated on April 20th, 2018 at Ramjas School R.K.Puram in the school premises.

It was a great day to showcase environmental education, highlight efforts to green the school and engage the whole school in making a change.

Street play showcased in the assembly explained to the students how Earth can be saved . Classes 1 and 2 also participated in the assembly where in Preksha of class 2-B delivered a speech where she spoke about the importance of the 3R's . The assembly was concluded by a pledge taken by the whole school to plant more and more plants to make our environment clean and green. The little kids in the classroom were engaged in colouring activities and badge making along with some poems related to the mother Earth .

### The Project on "Foldscope" Gets a Kick-Start

<https://fairgaze.com/SchoolNewsLetter/PrintNewsLetter/view?SchoolId=22055>



In 2017 our school sent a proposal for a project on Foldscope ( a foldable paper microscope made by Prakash Labs) which was selected by Department of Biotechnology. Under this project the school will be given a grant of Rs 400000/- to be utilised for the project in a time period of one year. An orientation program for the same was held at ICGEB which was headed by the COO of Prakash Labs and 30 Foldscopes were handed over to be used by the school.

The project kick-started in our school with an orientation and sensitisation program for the teachers of science department on 26 April, 2018. The workshop was conducted by Mrs Sonia Varghese one of the project coordinators ( the second being Mrs Charu Arora). The teachers were shown how to assemble and use the foldscope in the class. They were also told about the advantages that the foldscope brings to the classroom. Foldscope were distributed to the teachers for further use in their projects.

### A Concluding Session for the Sparkling Stars



The concluding session for the Sparkling Stars 2016-17 was held on April 7, 2018 at Ramjas School.

The sparkling star is a project undertaken by the school with the help of The Venkatesh Trust , to cater to the needs of the high IQ students in Science and Maths. Classes are conducted throughout the year , students plan a project and ultimately they give a presentation in the presence of Mrs and Mr Raghavan, teachers and students of other schools.

The concluding session started off with lighting of the lamp and recitation of a shloka by students of our school. A welcome address to welcome Mrs and Mr Raghavan, Mr Bharat Shrivastava, Principal Mrs Rachna Pant , parents and students was given by Mrs Sonia Varghese, coordinator for the science group. Students of class 6, 7 and 8 sparkling club members of science and maths were given appreciation

certificates and books. The gathering was addressed by each of the esteemed guests. They appreciated the work done by the teachers and the students. They even encouraged the students to patent their inventions. Students and parents were invited to present their views. The school principal, Mrs Rachna Pant, further praised, encouraged and motivated the gathering. A thank you note was spoken by Mrs Aprajita Sood, coordinator for the maths group. The teachers and the Principal were given mementos by the Venkatesh Trust. The program ended with tea and refreshments for the gathering.

### Changing Moves Changing Minds



The programme was sponsored by British Council and conducted in Lords, London from 21.03.2018 to 24.03.2018. The pilot programme was attended by Mr Manjot Singh Matharu and Ms Rekha Batra.

There were 9 selected schools of India : 5 Public and 4 Government schools, who were part of this pilot project. The teachers visited Burntwood School, London and were engaged with stakeholders in relation to Royal Academy of Dance, programme that was delivered in partnership with Marylebone Cricket Club. The 4 day programme was a training of teachers to create a new dance form integrating skills of cricket and dance. Thereafter, teachers had to train a group of 30 students in their school, imparting the skills learnt in the training programme. The duration for training students was two hours per week for 63 weeks. Members of MCC visited the school on May 2, 2018 to observe the outcome and success of the programme.

The programme aimed to bring about gender equality through cricket and dance.

During the Training, the teachers were well looked after by the British Council. They stayed in Danubius Hotel, Lodge street, London. Ms Reesha, British Council Head for the project accompanied the group to London, U.K.

REKHA BATRA

MANJOT SINGH MATHARU

### The Project Hover Car



The project **Hover Car** flies at a constant altitude of up to a foot above the ground which can serve as a very useful method of transportation for the fisherman and it can also be used as a personal vehicle.

**Scientific Principle Involved:** Principal-- action and reaction for water and on land the principal is mechanical energy, hover car is a personal vehicle and is used for personal transportation in the same way as the modern automobile is employed. It usually appears in works of science fiction. The closest real-world devices are the hovercraft, which elevates itself above a water or level hard surface using a cushion of air retained by a flexible skirt, and the hover train, which is a type of high-speed train that replaces conventional steel wheels with hovercraft lift pads, and the conventional railway bed with a paved road-like surface, known as the "track" or "guideway".

**Material/s used:** Ice-cream sticks, Pepsi cans, ultrasonic sensor, jumper wires

Male to male, male to female, led's, 9v battery, breadboards, Geared motors, dc motors, tires, RFID Mcrf522, servomotors, Arduino Uno, fans, connectors, 7805 voltage regulator, bluetooth

Module hc05, potentiometer, lcd screen, gas sensor, water sensor

Switches,

**Construction:** Its basic structure is made using ice-cream sticks which are joint together in a certain pattern using glue. I have used multiple electric motors as an engine. Arduino Uno is used which is calibrated with the motor and hc05 for making bluetooth controlled. Small sized LEDs of different colors are used as head lights and tail lights.

**Working:** As mentioned above engine "the electric motor" is used for powering the vehicle. The vehicle is bluetooth controlled all the steering controls and Forward and backward controls mounted on the phone. This vehicle is back wheel powered, For the movement on water, 'Pepsi cans' are attached as they can easily float on water. These cans are sealed using water proof material so that air can retain in cans and prevent water lodging. There are fans attached at the back side of car with two dc motor that provides the thrust to the car for moving forward and backward.

### FUNCTIONS OF THE CAR

. I have used ultrasonic sensor with buzzer so that if obstacle come in front of ultrasonic sensor within the range of 15cm the buzzer will make sound so that we can get to know that



there is some obstacle in front of us so it can prevent in colliding of the obstacle.

. I have used automatic brightness control so that if a car is coming in front of us and both headlights are on then they will automatically decrease our headlight brightness level so that other car is able to see us and it will help in preventing the accidents.

. The car is bluetooth controlled.

. I have used the RFID for the door locking system of the car so that we can just swipe the card in front of the door scanner to unlock it, and the card will also be used for starting our car's engine without using a key.

. I have also used a gas sensor system with a LCD screen in my hover car that helps us in, like suppose in a car if any gas is leaking from our car the gas sensor will smell the harmful gas and And tell us by giving a higher value in the LCD screen that is attached in front of us.

. I have also used an alcohol detect system, it will stop the car if the driver is drunk and it will help in preventing the accidents.

**Application:** The Project, though can be used by anyone, is primarily targeted for the fisherman, who frequently travel on both land and water. Although at present the project is in prototyping phase, in future its existence will change the scenario of transportation on both land and water making the lives of many fishermen simpler and easier.

### Havan Ceremony on Akshaya Tritiya



On the eve of an auspicious day (Akshaya Tritiya), the management of Ramjas School R.K.Puram organised a 'havan' (sacrificial offering to the fire god) for the welfare of the students, the teachers and the management. Any good deed done on the Akshaya Tritiya day is believed to increase its fruits manifold. Being the beginning of a new academic session for all the students, the blessings of the almighty was invoked through the havan.

The Principal led the havan from the front, ably assisted by the rest of the staff. All the students were present, along with their respective class teachers.

The havan instilled a sense of confidence and enthusiasm amongst the students and the teachers, who look forward to a new academic year with great ardour and zest. Upon the successful completion of the havan, the 'Prasad' (devotional food offering) was distributed to every student and staff member.

By: **M.Kaushik**

### ATAL Community Day



**Ramjas school R K Puram** celebrated **Atal Community Day** on **14 April, 2018**, by commemorating Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's birthday. Staying true to **Dr Ambedkar's** philosophy and ideologies, **Ramjas School R K Puram** opened up their **Atal Tinkering Laboratory (ATL)** to all surrounding schools as well as local NGOs in order to give an opportunity to students who don't have access to these facilities.

The chief guest for the day was Dr Ayesha Choudhary from **Atal Innovation Mission- NITI Ayog**. School Principal Mrs Rachna Pant and Dr Ayesha Choudhary interacted and encouraged the children to think differently about problems, introducing them to the world of technology innovation and unlocking their innovative mind at a young age

The program was attended by about 100 students and teachers from neighbouring schools Laxman Public School, Gyan Bharti school, Tagore International School, MM Public School and an NGO 'DEEPALAYA' associated with **Ramjas School, R K Puram**.

Various activities such as **Newspaper Building, Scratch games, Mechanical kit building** were conducted. Students were divided into mixed groups for all activities. The concept behind this was to bring the students to interact with other students from different backgrounds and thereby, create an atmosphere of empathy and an environment where the schools and the associated NGO –benefit from the exchange. Students got a chance to work with tools and equipment to understand what, how and why aspects of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math).

The program was a huge success in meeting its objective and was very well appreciated by Dr Ayesha Choudhary and the participant schools. Students from all the schools were highly motivated and are looking forward to more such future associations.

### The Earth Day Celebrations



trip . They presented a short report on their visit and the sustainable and energy conserving methods used in the TERI building.

### New Nursery Orientation Programme



Ramjas School, R.K. Puram organized an orientation programme for the parents of Grade nursery on 3rd April, 2018 in the school lawn. The aim was to familiarize the parents as 'partners in progress' with the curriculum, rules and regulations of the school, teaching methodologies and the co-scholastic activities.

The session started with a welcome note by respective class teachers. Parents were briefed about the various forms that are required to be filled.

The teachers gave an overview of the co-scholastic activities which provided the parents with an assurance that our curriculum involves hands-on learning activities which not only are a vent to the creative talents and energies of the children but also help in their all-round development. The respective teachers gave detailed information about the learning parameters and stressed upon the innovative teaching and learning methodologies followed in school.

While addressing the parents, all nursery teachers emphasized that nursery follows creative curriculum which offers children plenty of opportunities to exhibit creative behavior. Such a curriculum will emphasize on independent learning, self-initiated projects and experimentation. Today's children must be given the chance to develop their creativity to the fullest.

The orientation programme was ended on a good note with an aim of growing our children into happy, skillful and creatively well-adjusted citizens.

### REPORT ON TREE PLANTATION

Students of Ramjas School, R.K. Puram participated in Tree plantation activity organized by Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and NDMC to plant 200 trees on Friday, 18th August 2017 at Bolivar Square, the crossing of Sardar Patel Marg with Simon Bolivar Marg under the slogan 200 Trees for India.



On the prosperous occasion of the Earth Day, Ramjas School, R.K. Puram from the courtesy of the Eco club and some students of class 10 organized a special function to nurture and spread awareness among the young minds about the theme of 'End Plastic Pollution' this year. The students organized several interesting competitions as well as some unique programs to make the young youth understand the importance and relevance of the Earth Day. The function started by imparting knowledge about the significance and history of the Earth Day celebration. After imparting the knowledge about the significance of the Earth Day, the results of the competitions were announced first of which was the Best out of Waste competition which was organized to encourage the students to show their creativity and enhance their skills to make something innovative with some common yet eco-friendly materials which we think is a complete waste. Keeping the theme in mind the students also had a poster making and poetry competition. The students made magnificent posters depicting the ways to end plastic pollution. Poems were also recited both in English and Hindi to make the students realize the real importance of Earth Day. When anything is depicted by a picture or presented in an audio format, it leaves a deep impression in our minds and influence our soul to work for a good cause. This was followed by a skit with comical representation in a healthy manner by taking up a real-life situation which had the main theme of a plastic devil giving a message as well as scaring the students not to throw plastic anywhere. The students by enacting the skit left a very influential and deep message about the disadvantages of throwing plastic. Last and the most important was the tree plantation ceremony which actually depicted our pledge to save mother Earth and influence the future generations to plant more trees for human survival.

This year's Earth day celebration had everything in it. After the eloquent and persuasive posters had a diverse influence as an act of scintillating slogans and catchy cartridge sketches shaped a new vision for the future, it was now the turn for the little ones to show what they had. Their creative craft work from simple waste materials to an unimaginable miniature piece bolstered their ideas for nature and usable things build up from rags and plastics stood outspoken for everyone-The best out of waste competition results were declared and the winners- the little ones were bestowed with cash prizes. Class X students were also given the golden opportunity to visit TERI - TATA ENERGY AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE, India's first sustainable building as a part of the Earth Day celebration's educational excursion



Students of class 6th were accompanied by sport's teacher Mr Sanjay Singh and the other dignitaries of Venezuela embassy and NDMC planted saplings with great enthusiasm. This was in connection with the Earth Day celebration held on 22nd April in the Ramjas School where Mr Augusto Montiel, Ambassador, Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was invited as a chief guest for the occasion. This activity promoted the importance of planting more and more trees to preserve the environment and balance the Eco-system.

## Sports

### The Adventurous Journey of 23rd Ramjas Basketball Champions League 2017



The splendor of 23<sup>rd</sup> Ramjas Basketball Champions League 2017 glittered in the eyes of everyone. Undoubtedly, the students participated with a lot of zeal and thoroughly enjoyed this event organized by Ramjas School, R.K. Puram. The winners of this league were Raghubir Junior Modern School in the boys section and Scottish High International School, Gurugram in the girls section of the Primary category. In the junior category of boys, Bal Bharti Public School, Pitampura and in girls, Delhi Public School, RK Puram came out as winners. Then Modern School, Barakhamba (in boys) and MontFort School, Ashok Vihar (in girls) were winners in the senior category of this league.

## Annual Function

### Annual Day Celebration 2016



Ramjas school, R. K. Puram celebrated its Annual Function on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2016. The school premises were mesmerizingly decorated by the school's creative team. To grace the occasion, the guests of honour present were Mr. Somnath Parthui & Dr. Kuldeep Sehgal accompanied by the Chairperson, Principal of the school Mrs Rachna Pant and other honourable members of the Ramjas foundation. The event started with lighting of the lamp by the Chief Guests and Principal. The choir group welcomed the parents and the guests by singing a hymn in the praise of god. Next in the line was a dazzling performance by the orchestra group who melodiously gave an ode to some of the old Bollywood hits. The choir group was next with their euphonious voices; they sang a multilingual song in praise of the river "Ganga". This was followed by an amazing performance by the tiny tots of Ramjas, succeeded by a soulfully active yoga performance by students of classes I and II. The audience was truly spellbound by some of their yoga postures. The umbrella dance and drill by students of classes III to V left the audience awestruck followed by the prize distribution ceremony in which the school honours and nurtures the young academic achievers and appreciates student's achievement in field of sports and creative arts. The Principal addressed the audience and gave the annual report of the school and thereafter the Chief guests motivated the students with inspiring words. The school heads gave report of their respective departments like sports, academics and cultural achievements. Then was an authentically beautiful performance by the students of classes VI to IX. They gave a glimpse of the Punjabi traditional dance "Bhangra". they concluded the performance with a fusion of acrobats and the bhangra dancers. The event was concluded by Mrs. Smita Hegde giving the vote of thanks to one and all. This was followed by the national anthem.

## Workshops

### A Visit to OH ! MAX





The students of primary were taken for an educational cum recreational trip to OH ! MAX greater Noidia. The students were shown the secret chambers of Taj Mahal, Jungles of Amazon , Egyptian mummy land , funny experiences in chocolate factory , Treasures of TUT and did some adventurous activities .



They were shown the history of unsinkable Titanic too . The children had wonderful learning experience of OH!Explore , OH !ADVENTURE , OH! EXPRESS .

### ATL TINKERFEST - 2018



Ramjas school organised an ATL Tinkering Summer Festival from July -31<sup>st</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup> , 2018.

Day 1: On 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2018 , the students brought their ideas to life for which students had been given the exploration time at home or outside ATL prior to this date where they were made to identify a problem in their community / society and conduct a survey around their neighbourhood and list down the pain points. The students were motivated to develop a

detailed problem statement with the help of their research. They were made to create a prototype for the same.

Day 2: On 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2018 , the students refined their prototypes , showcased them and proposed a business plan and a business pitch for their prototypes.

Students from Ramjas RK Puram and various other schools like Bluebells school International, DeepalayaSchool, KV RK Puram and Gyan Bharati School participated in the event.

The dignitaries of the event were Dr. R.C Agarwal Registrar General in “Protection of plant Varieties and farmers rights authority “of Central Government. He talked about the use of technology in agriculture and apprised all of us with amazing facts. His thoughts were highly motivational for all.

Dr. Agarwal was accompanied by Ms Chhavi who is working as a management consultant with DelloitteUS , motivated and guided students for entrepreneurship. She is an engineer from Delhi College of engineering and an MBA graduate has worked for prestigious names like Goldman Sachs and Google.

The programme also included certain knowledge enriching presentations like the foldscope presentation by Mrs Sonia Warghese and Arduino workshop by Mr Mohit. This event helped various students to present their innovative ideas catering to the needs of the society.

The students were awarded various prizes under different categories like best presentation, best idea and overall winners.

The fest culminated on a positive note with a planning to come back with a greater energy the next time.

### ATL-Unbox Tinkering Workshop at Ramjas School, R.K. Puram, New Delhi



A two day unbox tinkering workshop was held at Ramjas School, R.K. Puram on 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2017. Eleven schools, teachers and students, participated from the community and neighbourhood along with the host school. The schools invited do not have an Atal Tinkering Lab facility in their own school. The purpose of organising such a workshop at Ramjas was to encourage students to identify problems in their immediate surroundings, ideate and come out with solutions which could benefit the society at large. The workshop started off with the words of encouragement from our guest of honour Mr A. Muralidharan (parent advisory committee) and our Principal Mrs Rachna Pant. The activities of the first day consisted of an introduction to ATL, Introduction to the ATL takeaway electronic kits and a hands-on session using paper circuits.



Day two consisted of an introduction to Arduino, problem-solving and a brainstorming session on related problems. An ATL challenge was put forth to the teams so that they could come up with solutions to problems that affected them the most. The teams demonstrated their ideas and solutions by the end of the workshop. It was a great learning and enriching experience for all stakeholders as suggested by their feedback forms of the participating schools.

We thank STEMROBO technologies Pvt. Ltd. for technical support during the workshop.

Ramjas School, R.K. Puram welcomes all the neighbouring schools of the community to participate in such endeavours in the future as well.

Junior boys (Vansh Trivedi 6C)

First prize

Junior girls (Aditi Bhandari 6A)

First prize

9. Painting competition

Senior girls (Shrabona Mondal 10C)

Second prize

10. Mono Acting Competition

Senior boys - Rubyansh (First Prize)

Senior girls - Suhani Mohan (Third Prize)

**Arunima Khanduri: Class 12th CBSE Board Exam Topper**



Arunima Khanduri from commerce stream topped the CBSE Board Exams of class 12<sup>th</sup> with 91.6%.

**Sadanand Modak: Topper of Class 12th CBSE Board Examination**



SADANAND MODAK of Class XII Science (Non Medical) secured first rank in the CBSE Board Exams with 96%. He got admission in IIT, Delhi. He has chosen Biotechnology and Bio-chemical Engineering. Congratulations to Ramjas School, Principal Ma'am, staff and Sadanand.

**Aman Joshi: Class 12th CBSE Board Exam Topper**

## Scholars of the school

### Zonal Level Cultural Competition for Students (2018-19)



1. Hindi debate (senior girls)

First prize (Lakshita 12B, Kashvi 11B)

2. Solo dance (kathak senior girls)

Third prize (Pihu 10C)

3. Solo table (senior boys)

First prize (Ayush 12A)

4. Solo table (junior boys)

First prize (Bhavesh 8C)

5. Drawing competition (junior)

First prize (Siddhant Sharma 6A)

6. Drawing competition

Senior boys (Devansh Kumar)

Third prize

Senior girls (Amrita Choudary)

Second prize

7. Poster making competition

Junior girls (Rashika Tokas 8A)

First prize

Junior boys (Mrinal Parida 8B)

First prize

Senior boys (Tushar Singh 9B)

Second prize

Senior girls (Saumya Tamta 10C)

Third prize

8. Painting competition





Aman Joshi from science (medical) stream topped the CBSE Board Exams of class 12th with 95.8%.

Eeshan Awasthi of class 10th topped in the CBSE Class 10th Board Exam with 95.8%

**Negi Brothers Won the Delhi State Open Badminton Championship 2018**

**Devansh Rawat: CBSE Board Exam Class 10th Topper**



Rudransh and Shivansh Negi of class 8th participated in the DELHI STATE OPEN BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIP 2018 held at Modern School Barakhamba Road .

Devansh Rawat of class 10th secured second position in the CBSE Class 10th Board Exam with 95.4%

**Shaunak M**

**Articles**



**मैं नहीं हम**

Shaunak M a student of Ramjas School, R.K.Puram Won a prize from NASA for Ames Space Settlement Design. Shaunak made a design on " A Life In Space".



**Student of the month**

**Eeshan Awasthi: CBSE Board Exam Class 10th Topper**

आज का युग 'मैं' नहीं 'हम' का युग है। 'अकेला चना भाड़ नहीं फोड़ सकता' आज यह कहावत कितनी सही प्रतीत होती है।अकेला व्यक्ति चाहे वह कितना ही प्रतिभाशाली तथा परिश्रमी क्यों न हो ,सब कुछ तो अपने बलबूते पर नहीं कर सकता 'एक से भले दो' यह



आम प्रचलित कथन 'हम' को आधार बनाकर किए गए कार्य के संदर्भ में बिलकुल सही बैठता है।

मिलजुल कर कार्य करने का सबसे अच्छा उदाहरण हमें प्रकृति देती है। चींटियों की सहयोग भावना को कौन नहीं जानता कि वह कैसे लोहे की जंजीर की तरह आपस में एक दूसरे से जुड़कर गोलाकार छल्ले बनाकर बड़ी-बड़ी नदियों तक को पार कर लेती है। दीमक भी तो इसीलिए अपना अस्तित्व बनाए हुए है, मधुमक्खियाँ भी तो इसी नीति को अपनाकर छत्ता बनाती हैं। जब तुच्छ समझे जाने वाले पशु-पक्षी एवं कीड़े-मकोड़े तक सहयोग एवं संगठन-शक्ति का महत्व समझते हैं तो कोई कारण नहीं कि विकसित और बुद्धिमान कहा जाने वाला मनुष्य साथ-साथ मिलजुल कर कार्य न कर सके। अपने 'मैं' को दरकिनारे कर 'हम' के सिद्धांत पर कार्य करने से ही आज के युग में सफलता मिल सकती है। बारिश की एक बूँद, तूफान की तुलना में क्या है। एक विचार, मन की तुलना में क्या है। 'मैं' की स्वार्थ परक संकीर्ण भावना से ऊँचे उठकर हाथ की पाँच उँगलियों की तरह रहना, आज की आवश्यकता बन गई है क्योंकि ये हैं तो पाँच लेकिन काम सहस्रों कर लेती हैं। मिलजुल कर काम करने से मुश्किल से मुश्किल काम भी सरल हो जाते हैं। समय की बचत तो होती ही है, तमाम बाधाओं को भी दूर किया जा सकता है। किसी ने ठीक ही कहा है—

एक-एक फूल से बनती है माला

एक-एक धागे से बनती है दूशाला

घर बनता है एक-एक ईंट से

घोंसला बनता है एक-एक तिनके से

एक-एक बूँद से बन जाती है नदिया

एक-एक फूल से खिल जाती है बगिया

मुड्डी में जो शक्ति है, वह उँगलियों में नहीं

रस्सी में जो ताकत है, वह धागे में नहीं

इसी तरह -

'हम' में जो महा शक्ति है

वह

'मैं' की स्वार्थ परता में नहीं

वह

'मैं' की संकीर्णता में नहीं।

श्रीमती धीरज दरबारी

हिंदी विभाग अध्यक्षा

रामजस विद्यालय

आर . के . पुरम

नई दिल्ली -21



Religion is one of the most sensitive issues in today's world. With the rise in right-wing politics, terror outfits and Islamophobia, it has become one of the most discussed issues too. But what if someone does not conform to a particular religion? What if someone doesn't believe in God? Atheists comprise almost 8% of the world's population. This means that atheism, or the absence of belief in the existence of deities, is a significant world view. I consider myself an atheist but I have stopped advertising my views. Many times, I have been criticized for being an atheist. Explanations are demanded. I give no reply because of the sensitivity of the issue. I don't wish to hurt the sentiments of any person who believes In God.

Once drawn into a debate on this topic, I was told by a friend that he believed in God. He believed that God had created life and he respected and worshipped Him. When I probed him about his belief in religion, his reply was that religion is a means of functioning in society, a set of rules and customs to follow. It started a new train of thought. The existence of God is a concept I have wrestled with for some time. It goes against one of my most fundamental beliefs that I alone have the power to change my circumstances and my destiny. No amount of prayer and chanting can change that. To believe in an Omni-present, all-powerful entity means to relinquish control over my abilities. However, believing in the existence of God is not unacceptable to me. I understand that millions of people all over the world derive comfort and happiness from their faith. However, I am firm in my conviction that no religion can define the rules for existing in society, no religion can dictate the right way to worship God.

My moral code is an amalgamation of the principles I value and the practices of different religions that I have come to respect. It is the reason why I light diyas on Diwali but stop short of muttering a prayer whose meaning I don't know. Reading the newspaper every day is a reaffirmation of my conviction. The amount of blood shed in the name of religion is unacceptable. So, perhaps I am simply only nonreligious. I would also just like to say that I have never met an atheist who has demanded that a person give an Iron-clad reason for believing in God but I have on several occasions been berated for reasons behind my non-belief. I think it speaks volumes about the liberalism of religious people. I believe that a person's religious identity or the lack of it is important. In any society, a lot of emphasis is placed on religion. People form their own views on religion after much contemplation and deliberation. To censure them for their views is unfair. The debate about faith and God is never-ending. People grapple with their beliefs over their entire lifetime. I am

Accepting Atheism

confident that my own thoughts about this issue will evolve with time and experience. I just hope that I remain receptive and rational.

Trishla Sood

XII-A

