

DECEMBER 2018 ISSUE 10

Neev Times

The Newsletter of Neev Academy

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Founder's Note

Dear Neev Community,

I am thrilled to have a partner in Aloha and our many team members to share the labour of love called Neev. This gives me the opportunity to spend more time with kids, structure the school for sustainable excellence and take steps towards our long-term vision of reimagining education for a changing India by developing Neev as a community around Ideas, Physical Fitness, Culture & Creative arts, and, Reading.



Early this month, I tagged along on the North-east trip with our Grade 11 cohort. I will forever cherish this trip; not just because of what we experienced together in this distant and interesting part of India but also because of being with the intellectual and physical power-houses that only 16/17 year olds can be! We dove deep into this multi-ethnic, multi-linguist, multi-race and varied-landscapes region, while taking on challenging treks, reading, writing, interacting with local people, observing keenly and questioning continuously. We experienced the many layers of identity - ethnicity, community, nationality, and the conflicts between - social structures and norms. Sacred groves, water management, indigenous medicines and laws, music and much much more. One student said of the Angamis - they are so happy being themselves, maybe that's why they don't really care about being a part of India. Others countered, that's no reason to not be part of India, and they do need economic growth. But realizing that the delivery of government has been a disappointment, led to many debates about government, self-sustaining society, how develop happens and what it means to be a minority community in a larger national narrative amidst treks, campfires, root-bridges, hornbill festival, late night reading, long drives and many bars of Dairy milk :) Only these older teens, almost on the verge of stepping out into the world, almost college ready, could have handled the complex concepts and region. We came away, understanding the region more, and our own identities even more as a result.

Sarvajeet Diwas right after that was an energizing community event. The Grandparents race, with Mrs. Sangyogita Manon determinedly walking (nay, bouncing energetically) to the finish, last but definitely not the least, is an image of grit that we have to model for kids that will stay with me. When Parents and Grandparents jump in, it shows kids that they are also risk-takers, open minded, curious, confident... the IB learner profile :) and that we value what our kids work so hard for. As we go forward SJD will change further to create more participation, more events, and bringing in homes and school into a quest for fitness together. Many parents saw the field for the first time and asked me - Now that everything is done and the school is on its way what will you do? It is when the school buildings are done, that the harder work of building schools truly begins.

Learn to read - read to learn, is a mantra at Neev. Books have long shadows and the size of my thoughts changed when I recently read Ramachandra Guha's, Gandhi: the years that changed the world 1914-1948. Gandhiji has been an inspiration for most of my life. Yet there is so much about him I didn't know. First, Gandhiji was at war not only with British; he was at war also with Indians on womens rights, untouchability, and religious tolerance. Second, he had firm convictions as a leader and yet had the capacity to change his mind - he made himself a magnet for debate with an open mind on different perspectives and there was a "consistency in his inconsistency". Third, he built a solid organization that collaborated towards challenging goals - Gandhiji turned followers into leaders. Besides Nehru, Patel, Rajaji, Sarojini Naidu -described as his heart, mind, hands and feet - Gandhiji inspired and drafted hundreds of others to his cause. Last, it was his hope and optimism that drew people most - like hope that Gandhiji brought to a 105 year old woman who put Tilak on his forehead in the Dandi March, telling him to not return without independence. What a visionary...what a book!

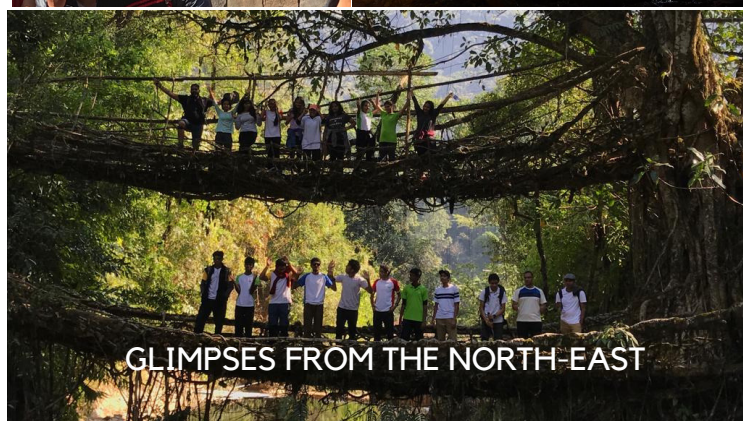
As I think about the resilience of Neev over decades, I am mindful that we need to strengthen governance. Look out for the new members of our Governing board early next year. Wishing you a fantastic break inspiring our Gen Z and all round with love, laughter and learning!

Kavita Gupta Sabharwal
Founder & Trustee

CAMPUS BUZZ

Grade 6 Gujarat Trip: Grade 6 will be travelling to Gujarat from 28th January to 4th February 2019 to experience the excellence of urbanization and how a vision to benefit human life can sometimes re-shape ecology. The trip will also include exposure to the cooperative revolution and various traditional art forms.

Sarvajeet Diwas @ North Campus: To learn life lessons and get the opportunities to handle disappointments and excitements, winning and losing, Neev Academy - North Campus is all set to celebrate sportsmanship at its best.



Learning Journeys

"...only good readers make good writers."



On 28th November, students of grade 5 attended an expert talk by Ms. Rasil Ahuja on being good readers and writers. She claimed that only good readers make good writers. A few of the students said that they don't have much interest in reading. However, Ms. Ahuja suggested that perhaps they haven't yet found the right genre or the author that interests them.

She further added that if you don't like a book, you should switch to another, until you find the suitable piece. This was a helpful piece of advice as many of us completely stop reading in case we don't like a particular book. In addition to this, she also stated that one needs to read at least three to four chapters before judging a book. This is also true, as people usually read the blurb and right away decide whether he or she likes the book or not. In many cases, the blurb doesn't do justice to the whole book and therefore, it is not the right judgement. Ms. Ahuja also said that when you read a novel, it is like a reflection of yourself in the mirror - look at the happenings around or step into a whole new world through a sliding glass door.

This expert talk has helped us realize the importance of reading and will further help us improve our writing standard.

Adrita Ganguly (5B)

Snippets from the North-East

Tenacity

The trek was gruelling and the cave, treacherous. We trekked and climbed for hours together. Even though my legs groaned and begged for rest repeatedly, I paid them no heed, for I had set my mind on a destination, which I was going to reach no matter what. Not to boast, but I am proud of myself for I successfully managed to reach the destinations on both occasions, almost unassisted. However, even though I say I was unassisted, it was the tenacity of the 50-odd-year-old teacher in front of me, who achieved something truly wonderful, that inspired me to push myself to my limits.

Nongriad Village Visit

Every month of my life it is likely that I spend the amount that a person of this village may take a whole year to earn. After learning this fact, I was quite surprised that people over here spend less in a month on the necessities of life than I spend on things like new video games and shoes. It was one of the first times I was explicitly shown the small percentage of people in the world that live like us and made me think about what I did to end up with a life as privileged as the one I have.

Being Human

The man talked to us about his profession. He spoke with passion of the work that he did. The work being- the rehabilitation of displaced animals. When asked to justify the money people spend on this "trivial" task, he replied by saying that it is humanity's moral responsibility to help, not out of pity but out of obligations, these animals. I realized that it is this, not our social systems and tools, that make us superior to others on this planet.

Purpose

As I walked through the streets of Khonoma, I noticed something peculiar. Even though I was a stranger, they wished me, no matter how busy they were. They were not particularly rich, but they all had smiles on their faces. They lived in a beautiful place, with no pollution, and low crime rates. They had to work hard, but still had time to sing and dance. It made me question- what really is development if you are already happy and satisfied? Don't we all in a way aspire to live the life they do?

G11



G11 students on their journey of collecting memories from the North-East

Knowing our city



As a culmination of unit 3, students went on a field trip to various parts of Bangalore including, - Lalbagh Rock, Bugle Rock, Bull Temple, Gavi Gangadareshwara Temple, Kempegowda Tower, Kempambudhi Lake. The field trip commenced at Lalbagh where the students visited the rock and found out about one of Kempegowda's first watch towers that was built there. They also learnt that the rock was about 2.5 billion years old making it almost as old as earth. They also learnt about how the British changed the landscape of Bangalore many years ago. At the Bugle Rock, they observed the natural rock formations and the surrounding tree cover had a cooling effect on the surrounding weather. They also learnt that it was home to one of the largest species of bats called Flying Foxes. They learnt that the river Vrishabhavati once originated at the temple but due to human intervention it is now a carrier of the city's waste which has turned it into a giant sewage system. The students marveled at the naturally formed caves at the Gavi Gangadareshwara temple, and visited another one of Kempegowda's tower. The Kempambudhi Lake proved to be a great way to show students how Kempegowda planned that and several other hundreds of tanks which had a great impact on the lifestyle of the people living in Bangalore. Through this field trip, students of grade 2 were able to understand the geography of Bangalore and how that impacts the lives of people here.

G3 Team

The Grade 7 trip to the Vishveshwaraya Museum was a unique experience that helped me learn and understand science through games. With a visit to the Technology Room, Biotechnological Room, Space Room and Engine Hall, we learnt about how silicon chips are made and what are the different types of electricities, cells and genetics, facts about GPS and satellite and what is the mechanism behind engines.

The Fun Science area had the whispering dish where I could speak through it and the other person heard it from the other end. There was also a machine that tells you how much water you have in your body. I also saw how a water whirl and tornadoes start to form.

This place was a fun place to go because it gives you experiential learning where we can play games and learn at the same time. It relates to real life and history. Overall, I really enjoyed this field trip.

Ananya Sahay (G7-C)

Students' Voice

PYP Gallery Walk - Looking back at what we learnt

"If you cannot reuse it refuse it"

Why is it important to recycle? It is important because we humans will just keep on using plastic and other materials that will harm animals' habitats/home. So I would say, never ever use plastic again. Some of us will just throw plastic wherever we want like the sea and other water bodies which will harm, no wait.....KILL the animals in that habitat! When I recycle, I feel very happy because then I am not causing harm to an animal's home, I am saving it.

Did you know that without nature we cannot survive? So when you litter in the forest or cut trees, you are not only destroying nature's beauty but you are destroying nature itself. Trees and plants give us oxygen so that we can breathe and survive but if you cut down every plant in the world, throw plastic in the forest (plastic cannot decompose so it will just stay wherever you throw it) we will DIE!

I strongly believe that more than half of earth's population does not recycle and always litter. So, I am saying it again, never ever litter with plastic and always recycle and by doing that you and I can make earth a better place.

Nihaal (G4-A)

The gallery walk for the transdisciplinary theme unit of 'How we organize ourselves' was a truly challenging experience. In this unit, we got the opportunity to present our summative on the detailed comparison between India and another country of our choice. We had been working on the research and presentation in groups for a few weeks and the gallery walk showcased our effort and the learning journey.

Through this journey, we understood how the Government functions in India and in other countries. My group chose to research on the decision making process in China and compared it to India.

This was our last gallery walk in PYP. Working in teams, we got to collaborate with each other. We learnt to accept each other's ideas and perspectives and be open-minded. We shared roles and responsibilities and tried to leverage on each other's strengths. We worked diligently and put in 100% effort.

The feedback from the parents and our teachers during the gallery walk was very encouraging. It reinforced an important lesson for me, that I recently read, "Successful people are not gifted; they just work hard, then succeed on purpose". I'm proud of our team and the results we achieved on this new subject that we had never touched upon before!

Diya Shetty (G5-A)

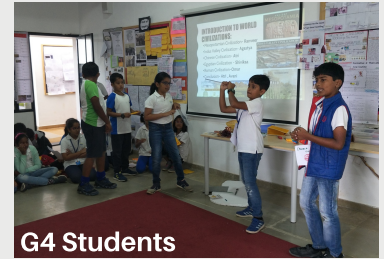
Dance Pe Chance Mar Le ...

Neer Interhouse Dance Competition

"Everybody says destroy what destroys you. But what if the thing that is destroying you, is yourself? At the end of the day, we all just need a little bit of Love!" - The message was brought out by Brahmaputra through the medium of dance.

Stressed minds, sleepless nights, and a winning spirit are what this inter-house dance competition brought with it. The dance competition was themed on 'Social Cause', and the Brahmaputra house decided to touch upon depression and spreading love as the topic, considering its importance in any community. Our team, comprised 9 members, with whose cooperation, enthusiasm and hard work, one-week preparation was well... possible. With many of the teams comprising extremely good dancers, Brahmaputra could either give up or try hard and win. With a few dancer's content skills, and creative inputs of adding quotes, heavy breath sounds, ribbons, roses, etc, the result ended up being the latter. Whether it be 3-hour long video calls together with multiple technical glitches or arguing about a black or red tee, it was all worth it when the Brahmaputra took forward its winning streak. With Ganges following, holding second place, taking up the topic of child labor, Narmada third with domestic violence, and Kaveri fourth with inclusion, the competition definitely held the house spirit high and revealed the talents of all students who took part. We thoroughly enjoyed the process and look forward to taking part in more such events.

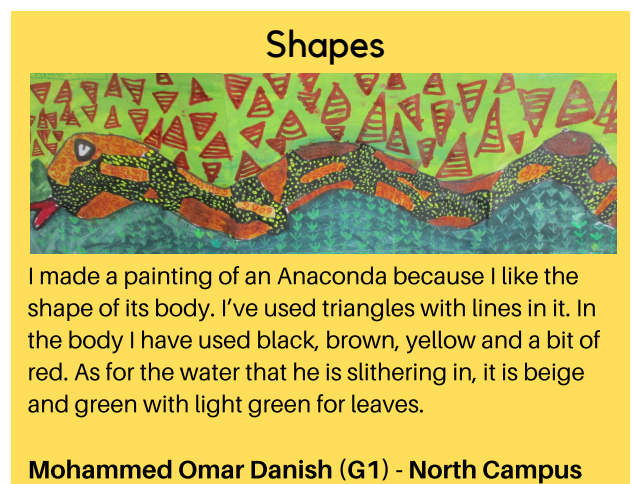
Yuvika Goel (G8-B) and Kriti Sarawgi (G9)



G4 Students



G5 Students



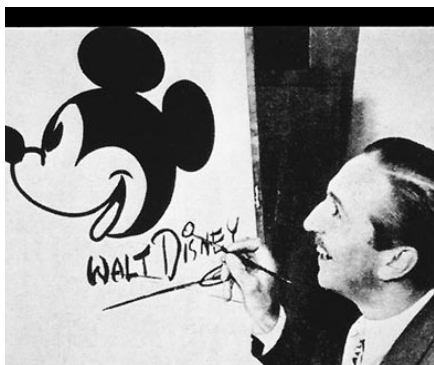
Mohammed Omar Danish (G1) - North Campus

Students' Voice (Tributes)

The Man who moved the World with a Mouse

The man who found great joy in making children happy and making them laugh is the world's greatest and most innovative animator - Walt Disney.

Mickey Mouse, his most iconic animation, was just the beginning of a repertoire of several animated films like Snow White or Cinderella. Born in 1901 in Illinois, Walt Disney lived a life of several professions - an artist, animator, film producer, family man, businessperson, and so on. But it all started with the dreams of a small boy who loved to draw.



His early years were a struggle as finances were tight. However, he partnered with a co-animator, Ubbe, to start his own company; 'Laugh-o-gram' in order to give shape to his dreams of making animation popular. With most of his attempts ending up as failures, Walt, with 40 dollars in his pocket, finally decided to move to Hollywood to join his brother where their partnership developed into a venture called 'Disney Brothers Cartoon Studio'. In 1934 he made his first feature-length animation film "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." The production was lengthy and left him in debt. People also passed comments that no one would sit through such a long film however, the tables turned with the release of the movie; it was a huge success. Walt Disney became a millionaire almost overnight. In 1955, he came up with the brilliant idea of bringing his characters alive, and that led on to the creation of 'Disneyland.'

Walt Disney was a visionary who thought much ahead of his time and making children happy was the ultimate goal. He experimented with many techniques and took all possible risks. Hence, this 5th December, we salute and celebrate the birth of this pioneer who will always be remembered for making just an ordinary mouse world-famous!

Arjun Varma (G7-A)

Stop Motion Animation

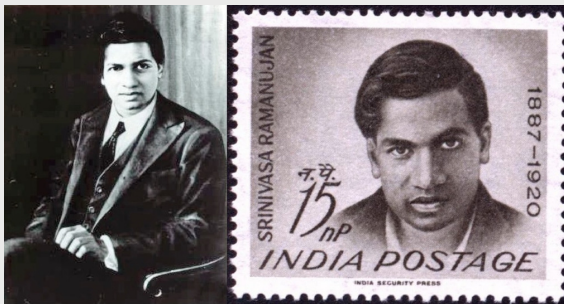
In Digital Design, Grade 7 is learning about stop motion animation. According to me, stop motion animation is a very different way of looking at entertainment and videos. Intellectually, we are just looking at a series of sequential images put together, creating an illusion to the eye of the pictures looking like one set of actions. Stop motion animation is used everywhere today! Most of the cartoons we see, such as Mickey Mouse and Spongebob are all created using this technique.

Until now, we have learnt about how stop motion animation has impacted the world because it is a huge industry today, from kids to adults, it has had a positive impact on all of us. Currently, in class, we all have started working on our own stop motion videos and it is very interesting.

Today, it is used to raise awareness everywhere and is very efficient. Some of the best ads, animated movies and videos are created using stop motion animation and it is an essential part of today's world.

Riya Mehta (G7-B)

Blooming Flowers



Let me tell you a story. Sshhhh! Close your eyes, listen and imagine. On the 22nd of December, 1897, in the town of Erode, Tamil Nadu, a boy was born. The boy was soon began to be perceived as academically gifted, surprising those around him with his brilliance. Being academically inclined, his ordinary future held security, however, at age 16, he stumbled upon the book, "A Synopsis of Elementary Results in Pure and Applied Maths". From that day on the boy's life changed forever. He could do nothing but mathematics after he lay his hands on the book. With very little knowledge on advanced maths, the boy from the little town in Tamil Nadu became one of the greatest mathematicians of the world. The boy's name was Srinivasa Ramanujan.

Due to his limited prior knowledge, Ramanujan's originality was not tarnished by the work of others. He came up with his own theories and wrote them in three notebooks. Some of the theories had been already discovered by others but some were so entirely new, different and creative on their own that they are used in complex physics problems till this day. For some time, Ramanujan's theories remained undiscovered up until he sent letters containing his mathematical work to a mathematician at Cambridge-Godfrey Hardy. In a trice, his brilliance was recognised and he soon began working with Hardy to develop mathematical theories. Although his lack of proper education resulted in the inability to justify his theories with accurate reasoning, the majority of his theories were valid making them the most unique, authentic theories in the history of maths. He soon gained acknowledgement for his work

Ramanujan was not suited to the culture and climate in Cambridge and died at the young age of 32 due to tuberculosis. He left behind a few notebooks containing all his mathematical work. And so ends the story. Or does it?

Ramanujan may not have lead a happy life but his work such as his theory of numbers, his theta functions, etc, all have contributed to the field of mathematics significantly. He achieved a lot. But if he had had the right environment to grow in and a longer life, he could have achieved so much more. In my view, Ramanujan was like a bud waiting to bloom into a flower. The bud wanted to grow, but there wasn't enough water, enough sunshine for the bud to develop. Still the bud tried and beautified it's surroundings greatly. But only if it had grown into a flower...if only. His birthday, on the 22nd of December is Mathematics Day. Ramanujan had very little in his life. But the one thing he did have was maths. And hence, let us all remember him on Mathematics day and let us all give the proper treatment to each of our buds. At the end of the day, we should all grow up to be blooming flowers that would do Ramanujan proud.

Navya Sahay (G9)

Sarvajeet Divas 2018-19



We stand together, we win together

Sarvajeet Divas - Spirit of the event

From small acorns grow mighty oak trees and what a journey it has been for the SJD at Neev since its inception! From outsourced public field to our new spectacular state-of-the-art infrastructure, we have come a long way and this year's event was truly breathtaking. Highlights of this year worked vastly on the improved sporting performances by the student athletes and also the expanded format which ensured wider participation and formation of the houses that added to the competitive flavor. What a photo finish it was by Kaveri house which bagged the first position followed by Bramaputra to finish as runners up followed by Ganges winning the third position and Narmada being the fourth. The grand presence of the Army Band added to the festive cheer. In the end, everybody felt like a winner... a true embodiment of what sports and Sarvajeet Divas stands for.

PHE Team

My Sarvajeet Divas - A Day of Anticipation

"We are a team not because we work together. We are a team because we respect, trust and care for each other."

I have always been interested in sports and enjoyed any challenge that came my way and I still do to this day. Living in the Netherlands, I was exposed to a culture where sports is an integral part of life, football, and hockey is the most popular. Children as young as five begin their football journey and two-thirds of the population over fifteen engage in sports at least twice a week. There was only one thing more important than sports and it was taught to everyone, respect. The Royal Dutch Football Association, KNVB, under which all clubs function, follows the slogan, "Zonder Respect Geen Voetbal," which translates to "Without respect no football." Yes, there is the ambition to win but not as the cost of sportsmanship and enjoying the game.

Here, at Neev Academy, Sarvajeet Divas, "the day when everyone wins," is just around the corner and I hope to see similar traits. In these days of my recent association with the school, I know that everyone has the passion inside to win and to perform the best as they can and to improve themselves. Sports is not only about the time when you are on the podium, being handed your medal but the journey that got you there, the challenges you faced and the people that supported you along the way. I wish everyone good luck and hope this sports day is filled with fun, and the ambition to better yourself. But above all, respect should be held as the core value. Having respect during the battle and graciousness in defeat as well as in victory is what I feel differentiates a good athlete from a great one.

Shashank Prabhu (G10)



Candid Moments

This is what some of our G1-3 students and parents had to say about Sarvajeet Divas...

"It was very nicely organized; especially the ground. I liked the way it has turned out. I think one good thing is splitting the Sarvajeet Divas into two days - it's great! And the kids were able to complete their events before the sun gets too harsh. The other thing which I observed is that there are more team events and individual events. I think that kind of sets the foundation for them that winning matters, but winning as a group is what really matters."

"As kids, we never had this kind of an opportunity. Neev keeps making it clear that it is not about winning but trains the kids to be mentally and physically prepared for this big day."

"I LOVED the Sports Day! I think making the event just for the first to third grade batch was awesome, and the way the field has been created is just fabulous.."

"The bake sale was absolutely lovely. It's lovely to see children growing up to become good sellers and marketers.."

Individual Champions

Grade 4 & 5- Risamaya V and Krishay Swain

Grade 6 to 8- Meher Bhunia, Sannara Anna Steiger, Nachiket Kulkarni, Raghav Choudhuri and Pranav Gupta

Grade 9 to 11- Anika Hireemath, Onkar Kulkarni, Arya P Varma and Azhar A

Sarvajeet Divas 2018-19

Moments of Glory



Last year's champions



Winning House - Kaveri



Runners up - Brahmaputra

The Neev Community comes together



Grandparents' Race



Parents' Relay



Winners - Parents' Relay



Winners - Tug of War



Victory lap of the champions



Teachers' Voice

Neev Academy College fair 2018

Neev Academy strives to provide its students with meaningful experiences that will enhance their college and career readiness.



On 30th November 2018, Neev hosted its first college fair at the Yemalur campus. The fair was aimed at providing students and parents with an opportunity to interact with various college and university representatives, hence allowing them to learn more about higher education as well as interesting career opportunities. Representatives from more than 27 colleges and universities from across the world participated in this event catered to different courses ranging from the field of Science, Business, Arts, Design to Hospitality and more. It was an apt forum for parents and students of grades 8-11 to gain information about the admission procedures, timelines, programs offered, as well as financial aid /scholarship options hence making the decision process easier for them.

We could tell the students were enjoying themselves as most were seen enthusiastically moving from one stall to another asking the representatives various questions. According to the parents, it was a well-organized event, which provided them with a wonderful opportunity to meet various universities. Some parents were especially relieved as the Indian colleges reassured them about the acceptance of IB by them. The university representatives were amazed at the enthusiasm of our students and were all praises for our students and the school. In Ms. Sadhana, the FLAME university representatives words "I was impressed with how involved your parents are with their children's education. My table seemed to be the busiest that day!"

Colleges that attended the event

Canada - York University, Vancouver Island University, King's University College, University of Victoria

India - Ashoka University, FLAME university, Korea University, Shiv Nadar University, Bennett University, Srishti Institute of Art, Design & Technology, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, SP Jain

Ireland - Trinity College Dublin

Netherlands - University of Twente, Rotterdam Business School, Vrije University Amsterdam, Saxion University, Radboud University & HAN University

Switzerland - Les Roche Global Hospitality Education & Glion Institute of Higher Education, EU Business School

Singapore - Singapore Institute of Management

USA - University of Idaho

Shalini Sharma
(Career Counsellor)

For the Love of Reading

Rasil Ahuja talks about her journey as a reader and a writer

Ever thought of books as being mirrors, windows or sliding doors? Rasil Ahuja, (Author of 'Watcha Gonna Do, Rosie Singh?') spoke to Grade 5 about the magic of books and her personal reading and writing journey through the years. She started her talk with a quote - "Readers need not be writers, but every writer is a reader" (Anonymous). She shared her journey of becoming a good reader, her inspirations, first attempts and how she developed the love for books. Later, she also shared what inspired her to be a writer. She has written across various mediums, keeping the audience in mind. She reiterated the importance of reading, with a question to the audience - "Why does reading fiction matter?" She went on to explain how reading fiction is very important and that it leads to their holistic development.



Henry Eliot Answers the Question- Why classics?



Author and Editor, Henry Eliot visited our school to talk about why classics are relevant to Gen Z. By cleverly putting together common themes prevalent in world classics like Monkey by Wu Ch'eng-En to the Ramayana and even The Odyssey, he was able to generate enough intrigue among the students into asking pertinent questions about the vast world of this genre.

Perhaps the gist of the session could be best summed up by referring to a question asked by one of our students, "Why should we read the classics when there are so many newer options out there?." "To feel more human," he said, "and to understand the world through the mind space of authors who existed much before us and to know that we are still all connected even after all this time." Touche.

Nidhi Shah
(Teacher Librarian)

The Eternal Power of the Library

Neev Academy had the pleasure of having Ms. Dalbir Kaur, (Founder of One Up Library) interact with our PYP teachers about all things reading.

Over the course of three days, she discussed literacy strategies, shared book recommendations and conducted Read Aloud sessions and book talks for children. She helped the students understand the art of selecting the right book for themselves, set reasonable goals and yet be adventurous with their choices.



Neev has always been serious about building a culture of enthusiasm for reading and this was just another way we are working towards creating future readers who love to read and read to love.

Teachers' Voice

Broadening the Horizon - Neev Academy North Campus

Life is a succession of moments with children, with each energized day bearing its own gift of learning experiences. Excellence is not simply an objective but a fulfilling journey in which every member of the Neev community strives to enable students to grow and blossom into responsible, global citizens.

At the North Campus Queen's Road, we work towards moving from a fixed mindset to growth mindset -- one of the many ways that we help children build learning assets. We do not expect children to just know, but to experience, to not just be a trail but a path blazer in their endeavors.

The transition from K2 to Grade school is indeed colossal. Persevering the ideology of early years, and the transition into the Enhanced PYP, we strive towards giving children a voice, choice and ownership with students empowering their own learning and we as teachers only facilitate the process.

Developing the right mindset early on is crucial for a full, big life. When kids learn that putting effort and using the right strategies can make them smarter, they try harder and achieve more. When they know their brains are capable of growing, amazing things can happen. We found children coming from early years palatable for the concept taught in K-2 while some children were new to it. So how did we in The North Campus Teach this simple concept?

Kids often mirror the acts of their adults. The best possible way to enrich this was by interviewing their teachers. They devised their own questionnaire, customised to the teacher they talked to. Students here are now reasonably aware that it's okay not to know but it's not okay not to try.

Helping learners understand that the 'power of yet' is an elevator to success - like, 'I cannot solve this number model yet, but I will do it nonetheless' is the credo to triumph.

We do see children applying it in different domains in school and dynamically even at home. Once the mindset changes, everything on the outside will change along with it. To quote Thomas Fuller, "All things are difficult before they are easy."

Team North Campus



Read Aloud Session @ North Campus



Music @ Neev

The music programme at Neev is designed to enable students to express themselves with the help of music. We at Neev are slowly building the department which began this year. We have started with class room instrument training of Ukulele/ Recorder for Grade 4 and Guitar + Keyboard for higher grades. We are currently running three ensembles which include Keyboard, Choir and Rock Band. For the first time music is being offered as a subject for e-Assessment which is for Grade 9 and Grade 10.

In the music department we have a recording setup too which helps students record their work and playback to listen and improve on their instrument, composing and vocal skills. Buskers is one of our activities we do for both PYP and MYP where a few instruments and mics are set up for children to showcase their talent. Busking helps give them a platform to sing for an audience who are their peers and have a stage-like feeling which brings out the best in them

Neill Braganza, Music Teacher

The Digital Portrait : Our Photo Story

"Photography is a way of feeling, of touching, of loving. What you have caught on film is captured forever... It recreates all the little details long after you have forgotten everything." — Aaron Siskind

With the proper camera and vision, a photograph can be worth a thousand words. Photography for students offers a range of exciting and valuable learning experiences, not to mention some great memories on the way.

Today we stand in the era of digital photography - it is being used in every possible field, starting from science and medicine to fashion design and communication. This evolution has opened many career opportunities for young enthusiasts who can now easily merge multiple interests.

Photographs are our personal story, a timeline of our lives filled with faces and places that we love. They are our story, which we can share with others. These images come together to form a narrative of our lives. Perspective, form, connection, change and function would be a few concepts we will focus our lens on through the medium of photography. The journey so far has been very interesting and also engrossing- Students learnt about different types of cameras, their uses and why photography is important. They also took pictures of geometric figures and abstract themes in monochrome lens. It was especially interesting when they were given an assignment to capture any 3 photographs in similar frames in sequence to narrate or depict a story in itself. This was both challenging and creative when they presented their final photo-stories to the club.

If you love anything to do with pictures, design, cameras or photography itself, you should be here with us.

Shiza Mehreen (Teacher/ Club Facilitator, G4-6)



Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)

Finding your inner self through CAS

Mahatma Gandhi once said, "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others". Here at Neev, we believe that is what Service as Action (SAA) is about. Finding your personality by helping others. Not only do you discover yourself, but you understand the society's need for aid and build self-awareness. We have divided the students into six groups, Children's rights, Animal rights, Health and nutrition, Recycling, Sustainability and Inclusiveness. The topics already addressed are - problems from poverty to bullying. This is key to the purpose of SAA as it leaves students with a choice based off of their interests.

The different groups are supervised with faculty and Creativity Activity Service (CAS) representatives from different grades. The CAS representatives ensure that the sessions are productive and that all the students are enthused by their selected topics. They also ensure that all of the student's input is taken into consideration and the solutions/initiatives that are put forward are a compilation of all the student's interests or has been agreed on.

All the initiatives have showcased their creativity and originality by bringing forth new initiatives rapidly. The Sustainability initiative has already begun creating a "Green Neev" and they have also decided to collect second-hand books. The Children's rights initiative performed a skit and invited underprivileged children to the school's literature festival (The Neev Literature Festival). The Animal rights initiative students had a great experience as they were visited by an organization called CUPA and have decided to focus their funding towards them. The Inclusiveness initiative has started to promote their campaign of Anti-Bullying and the other initiatives have also come out with inventive ideas to take forward. The initiatives focus on upcoming events such as gallery walks and other parent visits to promote their campaigns and raise funds.

Change is our future. Change in lifestyle, in technology and most importantly in people. Service is our way to ensure that change has a good impact. We try to ensure that animals and children are safe, that all students are included, that we work together to create a green future. This is our future, and as students of CAS, we can change it. To quote Heraclitus "Change is the only constant in life." It's our job to keep it that way.

Noor Sabharwal (G8-A)

Session with CUPA: "Our planet is theirs too"

Animals do have a language, but we are often incapable of understanding it. They do try to express their pain, but we are uninterested in listening to them. They do cry for help, but we disregard their cries, and yet we call ourselves human? We think it is time; we question what being human really means. We personally strongly believe that humanity does not give us a sense of superiority, rather it gives us responsibility.



On the 29th of November the Animal rights initiative had a session with CUPA (Compassion Unlimited Plus Action). It is an organization which works towards animal rights and provides animals that are hurt, sick or abandoned, the care and the treatment that they need. In this session we learnt a lot about CUPA as an organization and what they do and what we can do to help animals.

Animal rights group gained many insights and learnt different ways to protect animals that are being abused on the roads, don't have a home or are diseased. We have set two main goals for our initiative. We want to passively adopt a pet and work towards his well-being till he gets a home and start an awareness campaign. This campaign's aim is to increase the number of people visiting rescue shelters and rescuing animals over buying from a breeder who only cares about money and not the animal itself. It also aims to increase the number of people that donate and help out at their local rescue shelter.

To achieve our first goal we did a fundraiser on the 13th and 14th of December to raise money which will be used for passive adoption for a pet in association with CUPA.

"Little steps can take you far".

Nia Foley (G6-C) on behalf of Animal Right Initiative group

Spirit of Sharing & Giving- 'Fundraiser for a cause'

The way CAS encourages learners to become involved in helping others is a fantastic part of the IB program.

We believe in today's world people can become too wrapped up in their own lives not to realise how a few minutes or hours of their time could really improve another person's well-being. At Neev, Service, and Service As Action have always been a shared value. We strive to be caring members of the community who demonstrate personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

In the spirit of sharing and giving we involved the entire Neev community to make generous contributions towards various organisations. The activities aim to foster the spirit of sharing, caring, unity, empathy, gratitude and global citizenship within the community and the society we interact with on a day-to-day basis. Students of Middle School also planned and executed a fundraiser for a cause and all the proceedings will be going towards buying items mentioned in the wish-list of organisations like Parikrama Humanity Foundation, Nightingale Old Age & Alzheimer Center for the Underprivileged, community school and CUPA. Students raised a total of Rs. 1,11,000 during the two days of Sarvajeet Diwas.

We would like to thank each one of you for your generous contributions and encouraging our students to work towards this noble cause.

CAS Team



Junkyard - Poetry Competition

A new year, new beginnings and... new resolutions! Well, resolutions are meant to be broken, so we often just make resolutions for the sake of it. But what if someone just decides to be a better person or someone just wishes for a better tomorrow? The students of Neev Academy made their pens and their imagination play best buddies in order to come up with thoughtful, sensitive and very personal pieces in the Poetry Competition that was conducted by Neev Times. The following frames have captured how our students got engaged with the event wholeheartedly.

We also have our best entries enlisted here. Do not forget to cheer your friends when you meet them and don't hold yourself back from letting your imagination do the talking, because, Neev Times has events planned for you. All the best. May the most creative mind take over!

Moments from the Poetry Competition



G1-G3

The Best Me

This New Year is,
Another year when we are expected to
Change.

Not me, I'll stay the same,
The concept seems a little strange,
On new year's eve, I'll be this me,
I will suddenly not wake up
With responsibility,

Change is the only constant they say,
From who I am I will not drift away,
Sure I have hopes and dreams,
I will towards them as and when I please.

This year,
My Resolution is to be the best me,
confident, controlled and most importantly,
Happy.

Samara Prabhakar (G6-B)



My Resolution

New years resolution
Can solve your solution
It happens through dedication
My new years resolution
Is to make an invention
To stop pollution
And that is the conclusion
To the poem on my resolution

Anvi & Niyathi (G4)



Fun Time

New year has come
Let us have some fun
The year has just begun
I want to fly up in the sky
Climb the tallest mountains
Swim in the deepest sea
Lets celebrate
New year has come
Let us have some fun

Ira Dwivedi (G2-B)



Touch the Day

The snowflakes, like crystal gems, fall on the
window sill;
I wonder, how would it feel to go outside;
To touch the snow flying through the blue, gloomy
sky;
To hear the howls;
The winds whisper in my ear;
Cold, sacred, holy words;
That shakes me like a winter's chill;
Maybe that's my resolution;
Here today;
To go out in the snow;
To feel it moving, unstill;
To feel as if time itself has stopped;
To leave my shell;
To leave my frozen heart;
And join the winter in its merciless glare;
That's spreads through the cities;
Like the crystal flairs,
That fall from the sky on this cold winter's night;

Anvi & Niyathi (G4)



G4-G10

Tomorrow

See, admire the vision afar,
A mere speck of light,
Close your eyes and dream what it could be,
For it is tomorrow, gleaming in the vastness
Of the night.

A chance to spread one's wings
Listen to the silent,
Make oneself better, and do
Honorable things.

It is a new day
Just think of what you could do.
Imagine, dream, express it through and through

Mythri (G4-B)

Yes, that's it;
That's what I'll do;
I'll go out today;
I'll go out at noon;
And watch the sun go down;
And all go solemn;
Cold, and forgotten;
On this sunset sky;
Then the sun will go down at night;
Pulling along the chained stars;
That hang from the night sky;
The moon at its brightest will illuminate
more;
When it sees the snowflakes;
And me in tow;
I'll go outside;
Yes that's what I'll do;
I'll go out today;
For the first time;
Somewhere around noon.

Aarushi Giri (G7-C)



JUNKYARD... It's all fun and games...

Wish you all a
Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

Unscramble these Christmas words

1. eetilsmot
2. astna sulac
3. srenoatmn
4. pldohru
5. ohtnr eplo

=



Christmas Crossword



ACROSS

1. Pumpkin or mincemeat
3. Santa's ride
6. Celebration
8. Newborn
9. Northpole crew
13. Word of praise
14. Words on a Christmas card
17. It's opened on Christmas

DOWN

1. Alternative word to 17 across
2. Christmas drink
4. Christmas dinner centerpiece
5. Dec. holiday
7. Christmas warmer
8. "Jingle ____"
10. Christmas tree
11. O. Henry's "The Gift of the ___"
12. What carolers do
15. French Christmas.
16. Snow glider

Source: <https://www.puzzles-to-print.com>

Some BAD Christmas jokes!

1. What do you call a greedy elf?
- **Elfish**
2. What does Santa suffer from if he gets stuck in a chimney?
- **Claustrophobia!**
3. Why does Santa go down the chimney on Christmas Eve?
- **Because it 'soots' him!**
4. What do Santa's little helpers learn at school?
- **The elf-abet**
5. Why does everybody like Frosty the Snowman?
- **Because he is so cool!**

#What's Trending ?

Christmas Edition

Songs

- All I want for Christmas is you
- It's the most wonderful time of the year
- Jingle Bell Rock
- Last Christmas
- Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree

Movies

- The Grinch
- Polar Express
- A Christmas Carol
- Miracle on 34th Street
- A Christmas Story

FUN IN THE FIELD

Some stories are short, but some are EVEN shorter (10 words)....
You think you can do it?
Watch out for the next competition
COMING SOON!

Feel it. Write it. And you will love it!
If you are part of the Neev Community, please share your articles, suggestions or thoughts with the Neev Times team at neevtimes@neevschools.com

