

## LOOKING BACK AT JULY-AUGUST 2010

### Highlights

- Environment Week
- Malhaar
- Celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore
- Independence Day celebrations
- Science, Maths and Social Science exhibition
- Pre-Primary Independence Day Quiz
- Pre-Primary department visit to the National Science Centre
- Community Outreach
- International Links- UKIERI visit to England, Global Fellowship Programme

This year because of the Commonwealth Games to be held in our city, school holidays were rescheduled to accommodate the games. School was therefore scheduled to re-open on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June. The weather Gods however had other ideas as the mercury spiraled and the education department advised that children stay home for a few more days. So it was that school re-opened for students of all classes on the following Monday.

### ENVIRONMENT WEEK : July 1<sup>st</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> 2010

*Trees are poems that earth  
Writes upon the sky.  
We fell them down and turn them into paper  
That we may record our emptiness.*

*Kahlil Gibran*

Each year when school reopens after the summer break, we continue with our efforts to sensitize our students towards the world they have inherited. Caring for the environment cannot be restricted to a day, a week, a month or even a year. It is a 'must do' for every day of every week, month and year. As one of our own little infants, standing centre-stage carrying a slogan almost as large as himself said "EVERY DAY IS EARTH DAY". How true!

However, we do need to remind ourselves of the tremendous debt we owe Mother Earth and the responsibility we have, to protect and save our environment, and so, we set apart one week to 'energize' ourselves, so that once the momentum has built up through wide ranging activities, at every level in school, we can sustain it through the year culminating in Project "**Save the Tiger**" and our celebration of **EARTH DAY**, in April.

We, at The Indian School are not only aware that we must save water but have taken concrete steps towards it by installing a **rain water harvesting system** in our school,

where it has been an on going project since its installation in 2004- we believe that every drop counts!

From July 1<sup>st</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup>, be it a dress code for the teachers-shades of blue, green and brown, to hand-crafted badges for the children which could depict anything ‘natural’-from a raindrop to a tree, we have embarked on age-appropriate projects and activities ranging from face-painting and identifying animals along the Silk Route at the Pre-Primary level, to water related projects-drawings, skits and action poems, collage and poster making in classes I-III; quizzes based on the environment and ‘discovering’ our senses, a film show, a green lunch and campus cleaning for classes IV and V; poster making, skits and campus cleaning will be the order of the week for classes VI –VIII while Panel discussions on water conservation and an inter house competition featuring a PPT/documentary on the topic ‘Aftermath of the Bhopal gas tragedy’ are on the agenda for classes IX-XII.

The entire school is thus galvanized into showing that “we care”!

## **MALHAAR**

The first of our Inter school events is also held in July and so it was that with The Silk Route as our theme for the year running through all events of the competition that the school hosted “Malhaar” The 1<sup>st</sup> of our inter-school events for each session, **Malhaar** which started out as a **Music and Dance competition** has evolved into a veritable celebration of the fine arts and technology with the inclusion of two new disciplines-**computer animation and art.**

As always the theme for the year is woven into the theme of each event and as we traverse the **Silk Route** we invited premier Delhi schools to travel on it with us through music and dance, art and computer animation. This year The Indian School hosted this event on the 22<sup>nd</sup> July and as always we had participation from many schools of repute who have consistently participated in this competition. As always, too, we do not vie for the rolling trophy though we were adjudged the ‘best’ in dance, music and art and bagged the 3<sup>rd</sup> spot in computer animation.

We were privileged indeed to have **Padma Vibhushan Sm. Sonal Mansingh** as our **Chief Guest** for the occasion, and a panel of distinguished judges, each acclaimed in his/her own field to assess the various disciplines.

Budding dancers, singers and musicians, talented artists and computer whizz kids from 18 leading schools of the city enthusiastically responded to our invitation to join us as we traversed ‘The Silk Route’. All the judges were captivated by the enthusiasm of the participants and applauded the high level of performance.

Linked as it is with our theme for the year “**The Silk Route**”: the music, the dances, the paintings and the themes selected for computer animation reflected the fascinating explorations, innovation and discoveries that linked the civilizations of different regions

from the Far Eastern countries to the Mediterranean; from Eurasia to the South Asian region for over 3,000 years.

### **Science , Maths and Social Science exhibition at THE INDIAN SCHOOL on the occasion of INDEPENDENCE DAY**

On the occasion of India's 64<sup>th</sup> Independence Day The Indian School celebrated the freedom of the human spirit by exhibiting the flights of Science, Maths and Social Sciences undertaken by students from Class I –XII. With The Silk Route as the theme for the year, we called the showcasing "The World as a Global Village", for the silk route was the harbinger of globalization, tempting man to traverse territory hitherto unknown and binding these ancient civilizations for centuries. Through exhibits ranging from charts, projects, experiments to a solar car the children lucidly and enthusiastically explained their creations to the visitors.

We were privileged to have Padma Vibhushan awardee, Professor MGK Menon, scientist par excellence as our Chief Guest for the occasion. Professor Menon applauded the efforts of the students after viewing the exhibits. He appealed to his young audience to approach all endeavours in a scientific manner. This he added was beautifully contained even in a nursery rhyme "Twinkle, twinkle little star, **How, I wonder what you are...**" .

If only we retained this sense of wonder, honing it into a spirit of enquiry as we grow up! Sh.Prafull Goradia, school Chairman addressed the gathering of students, teachers and special invitees and introduced the Chief Guest to them.

A short but beautiful cultural programme was held in the school's Foundation Hall. The school's special equation of **Raksha Bandhan** with Independence and **Gender Equality** were also showcased and explained. Our Honourable Chief Guest also released the Eco Club's new edition of **GEO TIMES**.

All this happened on the 14<sup>th</sup> August. Not far behind was the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of the Pre-Primary section's **Independence Day Quiz** also focusing on the Silk Route. The little ones answered confidently and correctly, some questions which left the grown ups foxed!. A special feature this year were young visitors from several pre-schools accompanying their principals and teachers, answering questions and winning prizes too!

Apart from the highlights mentioned above and these mega events, the focus remains on academics while there has been a lot of activity on the sports front with the introduction of '**sporting Saturdays**' and on co-curricular activities through '**hobby clubs**' also taking place on working Saturdays-which now include Class V.

**Educational trips, teacher workshops, excursions, interactive sessions with specialist visitors** have been a regular feature through the two months that draw to a close today.