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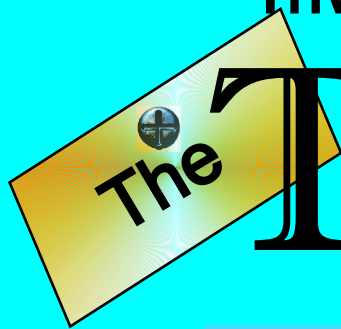
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# From the Principal's Desk



Dear Friends,

*May I take this opportunity to send a special message to my dear students of the outgoing batch who are ready to face the world and also, as they step into their prime era of life i.e. being young adults... I am still learning but I strongly feel that I must share what I have gathered so far with you. I am sure that it would be of some use to you as I can still see things from your perspective as well.*

*Let us ponder over the paradox of our time in the past. We are certainly progressing in many ways, but the decision rests on us to choose the direction we choose when progressing. There are several areas wherein we want to reflect. Here is one such reflection:*

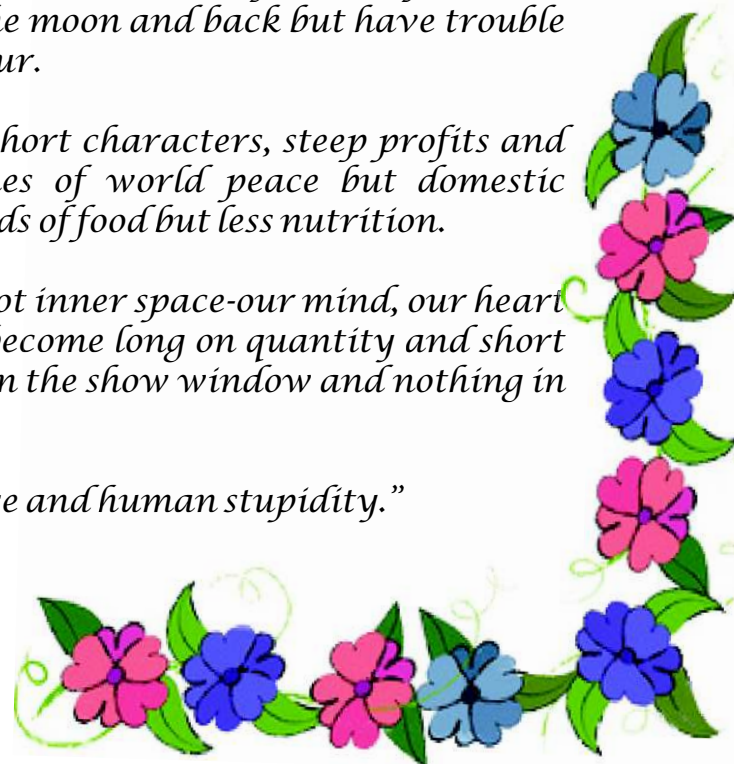
*The paradox of our time in history -we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wide freeways but narrower viewpoints. We spend more but have less. We want more but have less to give. We have more degrees but less sense, more knowledge but less judgment, more experts and more problems, more medicines but less wellness.*

*We have multiplied our possessions but condensed our values. We have learned how to make a living but not a life. We have added years to life but not life to years. We have been all the way to the moon and back but have trouble crossing the street to meet the new neighbour.*

*These are the times of big shots and short characters, steep profits and shallow relationships. These are the times of world peace but domestic warfare, more leisure but less fun, more kinds of food but less nutrition.*

*We have conquered outer space but not inner space-our mind, our heart and most importantly, our soul. We have become long on quantity and short on quality. It is a time when there is much in the show window and nothing in the stock room. We see but we don't observe.*

*"Only two things are infinite. Universe and human stupidity."*



*It is time my friends, to choose to make a difference or accept that things are better today than they were years ago.*

*Who are we? Where are we going? Where were we before? What comes next? Can we avoid or modify the process? No one knows. Everybody will produce a different viewpoint. But our positive attitude is in our hand. Consistency in behaviour leads to harmony and inner peace in a moral compass that point in the same North regardless of situational ethics and diplomacy. Remain a person with a straight backbone. Be positive. Be courageous. It is better by noble boldness to run the risk of being subject to half of the evils which we anticipate, than to remain in cowardly listlessness for fear of what may happen.*

*We are not even a decimal in this universe but our egos are bigger than the size of millions of galaxies. Avoid being egoistic. Forgive and forget.*

*Try to build a positive environment around you where a marginal performer can be good for in a negative environment a good performer's output goes down. The complexity, unpredictability and inherent dynamism of nature and change in all its manifestations may sometimes run counter to your expectations. Take it as a challenge. Give all possible emphasis on your weaknesses and convert them into your strength. This is the secret to success.*

*Try to live in such a manner, before you breathe your last breath of air. Be content and move onto your next journey. We all are afraid of Death. But it is not the end, just a new beginning.*

*Start fresh. Do not think about the future, since it comes soon enough. Have faith in God, he has something in store for you all the time. He is not playing dice with the planets and the galaxies. In fact, imagine the difficulty he undergoes in handling this planet as humans live here. Who knows, God may be surprised at his own creation.*

*So, let us be humble, try to retain values and build a strong character, and be civilized in the true sense.*

*Have a positive day. God bless you.*

**Sanjay Tiwari**



# Reflections Reflections

## Dare to dream

**D**o You Have a Goal?' Being the captain of your ship, would you set off on a voyage with no destination in mind? The second question is, in the words of Steve Jobs - 'How Hungry Are You?' How badly do you want success? How far will you run chasing your dream? I'm not talking about a wish – a wish is usually only a passing thought that most people never act on. But a dream is something that captures your heart and spirit. It ignites your imagination and fills you with an unquenchable hope. It becomes something you can't easily set aside. Martin Luther King became famous for four words- I HAVE A DREAM. Steve Jobs followed his heart though circumstances have been unfavourable.

So, the first mantra for success is 'DARE TO DREAM!'

Dreaming has a corollary...sometimes a person's dreams are their friend's, parent's or sibling's. Far removed from reality, their interests or passion, many clamber impossible mountains huffing and panting every inch of their way, chasing what is not theirs. Don't let what you cannot do interfere in what you can do. What do YOU love doing? What would you have done if time and money were not an issue? Follow YOUR passion rather than foisted ones.

It takes courage to dream. Any time you dare to dream, there are risks involved. What if it never happens? What if it costs too much? What if people laugh at you? Be a risk taker, take on challenges and fight off the fear factor.

It's hard to hold on to your dreams. It's hard to believe when the world and those around you give you no reason to press in and press on. But if you believe in yourself and persevere each step of the way to set new benchmarks, beat old records and in a sense compete with yourself, raising the bar every time and conquering uncharted territories, you will soon pave the way for success. "Inventions and discoveries have emanated from creative minds that have been constantly working and imaging the outcome in the mind. With imaging and constant effort, all the forces of the universe work for that inspired mind, thereby leading to inventions or discoveries". Dr APJ Abdul Kalam

Follow your dream to the end of the rainbow....to the bag of treasure. How do you do it? Simple - by working hard; by persevering. There is unfortunately no short cut... When Oprah was asked how she made it big in spite of being a maid's daughter...she said her grandmother had taught her to aspire for excellence in whatever she did, no matter how menial or inconsequential the job may seem. 'If you are folding shirts in a laundry master the art so that no one else can do it as well as you...soon opportunity will come knocking on your door because there is always place for excellence in this world. Yes children, make excellence a habit! The compass of discipline will keep you focused on the right track while the passion to conquer new frontiers will keep your quest alive. Strive to be the best in the field...and soon enough people who value excellence will find you. 'PURSUE EXCELLENCE AT ALL TIMES' is the second mantra for success.





Surround yourself with people who are very positive, say 'NO' to negativity with a lot of conviction. A negative word may lead to a negative action, a negative action will lead to destruction; destruction will lead you to hit rock bottom, and you may never bounce back.

Every human can perform anything in the world because the human spirit is unconquerable..... we just need willpower and positive thinking. As hard as the situation may seem, difficult as you may realize, never stop believing in yourself for you were born to succeed. If you want something badly enough the whole world will conspire to make it happen for you!

' BE POSITIVE ' is the third mantra for success.

Often we forget the quality of empathy and compassion and look with disdain at our less fortunate brothers and sisters.

Success comes to people who are kind and considerate. No one likes a haughty or selfish person. There is a saying which goes like this... 'Be nice to the people around you as you go up ; who knows- you may need them on your way down'. As you become more and more successful remember to be humble and helpful to your friends and colleagues and the needy. Bill Gates has an organization that spends millions of dollars on educating women in India. He says that it is payback time - and nothing has given him more happiness- not his job and certainly not his fleet of cars or his money. The epitome of simplicity-Mr Narayana Murthy has set aside a large percentage of Infosys- profits for philanthropy.

True happiness is when you give, and success without happiness is like a body without a soul.

“MAKE PLACE FOR CHILDREN OF A LESSER GOD IN YOUR HEART” is a mantra which uplifts your inner conscience and gives a new dimension to success.

Last but not the least, on your journey through life, be true to yourself. Often we find poor caricatures, gilded plumages and blatant flamboyance with little substance. Imbibe old world values like respecting your parents, elders and teachers. Honour the given word, be loyal, imbibe the attitudes of integrity, co-operation, tolerance and punctuality. Seek good music, inspiring books and true friends.

BE PROUD OF YOUR HERITAGE,  
RESPECT TRADITION AND CULTURE  
AND DON'T CHASE MIRAGES!

BON- VOYAGE!

**Ms Ajitha [PYP Facilitator]**





## The magic key

Once upon a time there lived two friends Emily and Eastly. One day their mother told them to pick some flowers to decorate their rooms because their cousins were visiting them. So off they skipped to the flower garden. One the way Emily fell over a log. Eastly helped her up. Emily found a bottle by the wayside. She picked it up but it disappeared as if a snowflake melted away. They were surprised. Then a key fell on Emily's head from nowhere; after that a map appeared. She took them. But the key flew away leaving a trail behind. Emily and Eastly took the map and followed it. The first place was Stock Snake Cave. They entered the cave. It was dark inside. No sound was there. On the other side of the cave were a few snakes ready to attack any stranger. Emily and Eastly tiptoed and got rid of the snakes. Next was Seagull Sea. It took them a little while to build a boat. Then they sailed across the sea. Next was the Destination. It was huge door. They opened and there was a room. Suddenly they turned around and found a beautiful gown, before they could utter a word. They slid down a beautiful slide. The flower petals and butterflies flew around them. They opened the lock with the same key that flew away which landed on a table near the opening. They went back home with the beautiful gown in their hand and the flowers they plucked from the garden. They told their mother the whole story. She had to believe it when they showed her the gown. Emily and Eastly played with their cousins and lo, you know what? Their story got published in the Trinsian.



## Snigda, IV B

# ARTgallery





# NEWS views previews

## Learning by doing



The KG 1s have come to the end of their theme on “How the world works” learning about Transport. They wrapped up their theme with the tiny tots having hands on experience washing their school bus. It truly was a pleasure to see the tiny tots all set to do the cleaning session with their bus driver and conductor, who were even more enthusiastic to see the little ones all eager and set to help them with the cleaning.

With a hose and a sponge in their hands it was a sight to see the little hands go 'wish –wash' and the squeals of laughter and screams that accompanied it. The bus conductors and drivers were even more appreciative of the gesture of the little ones coming to help and enquiring about their duty hours and their working conditions. At the end of the interview session with the drivers it was almost like they were all set to take on more.

Their enthusiasm and interest to know more about the different modes of transport made the bus drivers give them a treat by taking the tiny tots for a joy ride around the school area. The theme did not stop with this; the teachers have gone out of their way to take the little ones on a trip to show

them the bus stand, the railway station and the local harbour. They are now familiar with the different types and modes of transport.



Kg2s are into the final UOI Nature and Conservation. The students discussed why they love living on planet earth and how we are responsible for keeping our planet clean and green. They now know that nature is all the plants, trees, animals, birds, insects, the oceans and the creatures in it. Nature also includes us and we sometimes harm nature by cutting down trees, being unkind to

other living things and littering. The students learned to be principled and protect nature by being more caring. They also read the book 'Why should I protect nature?' to understand the concept better. Students also went on a trip to “Benoy Marbles” and had hands on experience with the different kinds of marbles and also became knowledgeable about the resources the mother Earth provides. As a part of the unit “nature and conservation” students read two books on recycling– 'Where Does the Garbage go?' and 'Why Should We Recycle?' All living things even the tiniest worm is an important part of nature. They also learned to separate garbage into good garbage and bad garbage.





# A Journey through Rainforests

Infant school Class 1s have started their final theme for the year 'Sharing the planet' in which the unit of inquiry is "Rainforest". The students learned about the different layers in the rainforest and also about the different types of animals, birds and insects that live in these layers. They enjoyed listening to the sounds of birds and animals native to a rainforest.



The ambience in the classroom is also that of a rainforest and the students enjoyed watching different PPTs. They were truly amazed to see the dense forests and the wide variety of colourful animals, birds and insects that are present in these forests. To add more originality to the ambience the students brought in stuffed toys and other paraphernalia related to rainforests. Besides the theme the students of



Class1, enjoyed a shopping session in class when they were learning about the topic 'Money'. The students were really excited to touch and have the feel of money in their hands. They enjoyed the role play on shopping and buying things of their choice in class. They were excited to be able to do mental calculations and give the correct amount of money to their teachers. The students are now able to identify the currency signs for dollar, pound and rupees.



## Student Led Conference



On 16th March, 2012 (Friday) Grade 4 (A & B) conducted their SLC. At the outset, Dr. Prameela working at KIMS gave an informative talk on the topic Healthy diet for children. She elucidated the importance of having a proper diet for better learning and addressed the queries of parents. The session was followed by the SLC organized in the classrooms of 4A and 4B. Students got a golden opportunity to share their learning with their parents. The function was lively with the interactive session of students and parents. Parents showcased their talents as well. The session ended with a grant feast organized entirely by the students.





# IB Diploma Authorization Visit



To observe how equipped and competent our school is for IB DP authorization, a team from IB visited our school on 21st March, 2012. The team comprised of two esteemed members of IB.

The three day long visit proved fruitful for both the IB team and the school. The team was elated to see the welcoming ambience of the school in the morning assembly on the first day. Students as well as teachers sang the IB Learner Profile song in English, French and Hindi. Trivandrum International School is the first school to compose and sing the Learner Profile song in various languages. The daily English lessons during the assemblies, beyond doubt, grabbed the team's attention and appreciation.



Accompanied by our Principal and Coordinators the team toured around the school to see the infrastructure and learning process in the school. Learning made visible through charts, pictures, and models spoke volumes about the inquiry based, transdisciplinary and concept driven learning happening at Trins. They also had meetings with the Management team, teachers, students and parents.





# Thought in Action



Thought in action is what drama is, according to the famous director Vayalar Madhavan Kutty, who is well known as a good Samaritan who loves to interact with kids. When invited to present a session on drama to grade IV, he was willing to adjust it with his busy schedule. To cream it up, he brought along with him the actor Praveen Kumar. Though the session was in accordance with the PYP theme, “How we express ourselves” meant for grade IV, the entire school was invited and the turnout was more than expected. We had many middle school students and teachers who not only enjoyed it but were also enlightened by the session. The session began with a Bharatnatyam dance by Manasa of grade V. After that the director took over the stage and

had a 'pied piper effect' on the students. Actor Praveen Kumar performed a mono-act in which the importance of expression in drama was emphasized. The curtain drop was by our own teacher Ms. Brinda, who performed the Navarasangal or the nine basic expressions with perfection. The essential features of drama were emphasized later on in the second week of March by Mr. Dominic Savio in another interesting session. He, too, through PPT presentation and graphical representation, drove the concept of drama right into the hearts of students. Tomorrow, if anyone of them turn out to be excellent dramatists, they will know whom to thank.

**Ms Newshee Thahir[PYP Facilitator]**



## Farewell



The days of students of grade V in Junior School are now numbered. Next year in a new form they will join Middle School. The students of grade IV gave grade V a farewell party to express their love and care. They performed and entertained their seniors. The children also had games and snacks arranged. Both teachers and students shared their experiences. We wish the students of grade V all the best not only for their promotion to middle school, but all through their lives.



# Parent workshop



The IB aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. The parents of a PYP school are also considered to be learners. Becoming a PYP school and maintaining the climate of inquiry throughout the school community is considered to be an ongoing journey where all the members of the community are encouraged to become better lifelong learners. **A series of Workshops were conducted for the parent community of learners to develop the understanding of the IB Primary Year Programme.**

Following points were discussed in these sessions with the parents:



- the PYP promotes learning for all students in the school regardless of their cultural background, mother tongue or special educational need.
- although some of the content included will be unique to any one school, the PYP determines the framework for all schools, and the IBO requires that the same standards and practices apply to all schools
- the PYP framework requires the development of particular concepts, knowledge, skills and attitudes, and that opportunities for students to take action are considered and planned for
- the PYP is part of the continuum of international education offered by the IBO—the approach to teaching and learning in the PYP is an excellent preparation for, but not a prerequisite for, the IB Middle Years Programme or the IB Diploma Programme



- the PYP curriculum has been developed by highly experienced teachers and school leaders from a variety of school contexts; they contribute a global perspective supported by compelling educational theory and research.

- the teachers plan the programme together, providing a coherent education, with expectations of the students that are similar from one teacher to another.

- the PYP promotes good teaching practice through the written curriculum documents, the sharing of ideas among IB World Schools and ongoing professional development

- teachers' collaborative planning ensures a rigorous programme that includes assessment tasks that are specific to what is being taught and allows student learning to be continually supported.

These sessions were organized in an interactive IB way where Parents participated in framing Central Idea and Lines of Inquiry on the given topic and they also presented their collaborative work to others. These sessions were thoroughly enjoyed by the parents and by the PYP team. We are thankful to the parents for their precious time and support. We look forward to have many more sessions with parents in upcoming year.

**Jyoti Tiwari**

IB PYP Coordinator





## Aesthetics in Mathematics

The mathematical contest was conceptualized this academic year to foster creative thinking along with mathematical dexterity based on Inquiry based learning to suit individual student's interests and talents.

There were three Rounds; the first was a Mental Ability test in which the entire Middle School students participated. The next two levels tested the technological creativity in students.

The winners are Nayanika Krishnan of class 7 and Anand.A of class 6. Nayanika was also the topper in the Mental Ability Round. The performance of Nirmal Rajesh of class 7 is also appreciated. The winners will receive certificates and also guidance from school to create their own educational website. For the mental ability questions and answers log on to:

<http://trinsmath.wikispaces.com/Mathematics+Talent+Search+2012>

The topic of the second contest is 'Literature in Mathematics' in which the students are asked to prepare a Mathematics resource book (about 15-20 pages) on the topics: Introduction to Algebra (for Grade 6), Linear Equations (for Grade 7) and Volume and Surface Area of Solids (for Grade 8). The book will be judged on the following criteria: Math content, Activities included, Illustrations/photos and the language style.

## Boarding House Report



This month exam fever gripped the hostel and students could think of nothing more than the upcoming board exams. However they still managed to get respite from their constant studies with activities like a lunch at Techno Park food court on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March. As the exams drew closer so did the farewell to our dear 12<sup>th</sup> grade boarders and so on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March a fond farewell was given to the 12<sup>th</sup> and the 10<sup>th</sup>. This included passing of the candles and a delicious dinner. The boarders also witnessed dances and skits from various classes. Later everyone present there joined a group dance. All good things come to an end so did this event. Everyone was back to studies especially the ISC's who had to work hard for their upcoming board exam whereas the rest of the hostel prepared for their mock and final exams. On the 24<sup>th</sup> a

pleasure walk was organized by the hostel to help students calm down as their exams drew to a close.

**Vineet John**



# Assemblies

## Class 4 A



**B**edtime story is a favourite of every one of us. It reminds us of the warmth and fondness of our grandparents. When 'Bedtime stories' is chosen as the theme of the assembly you can imagine how curious the audience can be. Class IV A enacted some interesting stories with enthusiasm. The stories also conveyed morals such as: Smile is a contagious and effortless way to radiate happiness"; "Disability should not be look down upon. Disabled must be given equal opportunities"; and "Parents value care and love the most from their children". A special feature of the assembly was news reading. It was done with a professional touch. In accordance with the news theme, music was played announcing the start and

end of news and the news readers wore coats and looked absolutely elegant. On the last day, the class sang and danced to the tunes of "So long, Farwell" from the movie Sound Of Music. Ms. Reshma, Ms Aswathy, Ms. Latha, and Ms. Brinda were thanked for helping the class with their makeup, dance and music. The class also expressed their gratitude to Joel's mother for the wonderful chart she drew depicting the theme. In a nutshell, the assembly was a great success. Hats off to IV A.



# Class 4 B



With life becoming very hectic we tend to skip breakfast and conveniently forgo exercise to make time for our routine activities. Addressing this grave situation class 4 B, from March 12th to 16th, presented their assembly on the theme “Food” which is related to the transdisciplinary theme 'Who We Are'. The demonstration on how to make a quick vegetable sandwich was commendable. They have also touched upon the importance of having good table manners.



# Puzzle



Here is an interesting Appended Anagram! Add the letter C to each of the words below, then rearrange the letters to find a new word. Add another C, resort the letters, and find yet another word. For example, add a C to OIL and create COIL. Add a C to COIL and create COLIC.

HAT  
SEAR  
SPITE  
RILE  
LEAN

LOUT  
TAPE  
HEAD  
IRK  
NEAR

HATE  
ARK  
HERE  
NOSE  
NEAT

If you know the answers, mail to [trinsyearbook@gmail.com](mailto:trinsyearbook@gmail.com)

The first all – correct entry will be the winner. So hurry up! What are you waiting for? *Answers in next month's Newsletter. Don't miss it!*

## February solution

### Across

1. Alcopop
2. Catastrophise
3. Cheeseball
4. More

### Down

1. Mish mash
2. Frenemy
3. Copy left
4. earworm
5. Elancer



# Star of the Month



Anjali Nair of Class 5 is known for her charm and simplicity. As a member of students' Council she motivated, inspired and directed ideas and action on many issues. The campaign "Say no to plastics" was her initiative. Academically, she stands out with excellent grades. She is well versed in writing discerning book reviews, solving mathematical problems, painting posters with flair etc. Her hobbies are reading and drawing and she hopes to become a famous writer one day. Her focus and dedication will surely ensure success in all her endeavors. We wish her the very best.