

Snapshot

APL Global School's e-magazine

May 2015
Issue 11

Leading the Path to Restoration

An interview with renowned environmentalist, Arun Krishnamoorthy, and his work in EcoConnect

Revisit memories of some of the school events in

HOT NEWS

Art Work

A sneak peak into the student's world of Art and Photography

Following her Heart . . .

An interview with a talented and inspiring cricketer and coach. Meet . . . Ms. Hemaamalini.

POTPOURRI

Want to have some chilled salads for the summer? We have just the recipe for you!



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editorial

Greetings!

Welcome back to APL's school magazine, SnapShot! Informing you about what all has happened these few months, we hope to make sure this edition will be an enticing way to keep you hooked.

For this edition, we were lucky to get an interview from the well known cricketer and coach, Ms Hemaamalini. She speaks about the challenges and troubles she faced and how she overcame them during her struggles to become a professional cricketer. Her words of motivation and inspiration will truly touch your hearts and will encourage you to follow your dreams.

Among our usual sections, Open Boat exhibits our students' captivating dexterity with words and art in the form of poems, stories, and artwork, while in EcoConnect, our Resource Person Arun Krishnamurthy, a 28 year old environmental activist, shares his story of how he founded the Environmentalist Foundation of India. In ParentSpeak, parents voice their thoughts on Sports Day.

If this isn't enough, your responses could be featured on SnapShot too! So, good luck getting your hands off this edition!

Schaum Day, Grade 9A

Editorial Team:

Content: Grade 9A & 9D

Disclaimer:

We acknowledge that some of the images used are from the internet, modified to suit our educational magazine, not intended for commercial purposes.

Readers' Response

The December issue of SnapShot is amazing! The sections I liked the most are Voice, Junior Corner, TeacherSpeak and Expressions Unlimited. The writings in the magazine are very simple, easy to understand. Excellent work! Day by day I can see a vast improvement in the designing and writing.

More gradient colours can be used to make the page more attractive, Background pictures of flowers, or our APL pictures can be used. We can add more jokes columns and short stories about our national leaders.

Shanmugapriya, Faculty, Remedials

The latest issue of SnapShot is good and so is its design. I liked Junior Corner the best. The articles are easy to understand and interesting. They are awesome and straight from the heart.

Try to accommodate more artwork and stories. The kids will be happy to see their own work, It will be a motivation for them to think on their own, gain more confidence and it will increase the number of participants.

Vasanthkumar. J, Reader

SnapShot is amazing. Junior Corner, ParentSpeak, Expressions Unlimited, and Editorial are my favourite sections. The articles are of very good quality and they reveal a high level of thinking.

The book review was excellent - it motivates the students to read books and share their opinions. In this fast moving world, having one's own opinion is the best way to create unique experiences in life.

While the magazine's design is good, it can be more vibrant and cohesive across all the pages. You can include more on the latest in IT from students' point of view. They do see TV and have started using mobiles (if not their own, their parents'). They can share the best app they have seen, used or their wishlist. For the events, the school can conduct a completion for the students to develop the apps.

Reader

The latest issue of Snapshot is amazing! I really liked TeacherSpeak and ParentSpeak. Issue no.11, December 2014, VOICE section, article named "Revictimized" : The overall tone and content looks out of place for a school magazine being presented by junior high school students. Emotional maturity is a good thing for a child to gain early on, but this article is either written by someone older than an eighth-grader, or it is 'adapted' from external articles. Either way, it speaks volumes of how childhood innocence is lost so early on in today's society.

Many pages have a predominantly white background, which may be improved by using a suitable colour matching the page contents. Please don't neglect your kindergarten section! There's hardly any news from our tiny tots!

Renjith Unnikrishnan, Father of Parvathi Renjith, LKG

Dear Sir,

We really appreciate your honest feedback and your concern. We would like to assure you that our editorial faculty takes great care to ensure that the students' articles are genuinely their own.

Editorial Team
SnapShot

SnapShot is amazing! I liked Open Boat, Junior Corner, Potpourri, TeacherSpeak, Expressions Unlimited. I thought the articles were varied and interesting. The themes and topics covered by various poems and write ups were quirky and fun. Some of them were also informative and thought provoking, which was good. I think the designs were very colourful and eye catching.

One suggestion I would like to make is that perhaps Readers' Response could be at the end, rather than right in front. Since the reader has not yet had a chance to go through the entire magazine, the responses of other readers would be out of context for them and there would not be a frame of reference for the reader to link it too. However, if it is placed at the end, the present reader would have already gone through the entire magazine and hence would be able to connect with what other readers have responded.

Susan Chandy, Faculty, Economics, Senior School

The latest issue of SnapShot was good. I liked Open Boat, Junior Corner, Voice, ParentSpeak, Editorial and EcoConnect. You could carry more short stories, art and write ups on events. Everything was well written. But many people got their articles published more than once, which isn't fair on those who didn't even get one article published. The design was pretty attractive but next time keep things a bit simple. There could be more catchy captions on the front page. It could be colourful. We could ask people about events like a football tournament, excursions or field trips.

Vidya, 5B

CIE Results for October - November 2014 session

IGCSE



Aadithyan G A



Kushal Bohra A



Aanya Y A



Sai Ajeeth A*

ART & DESIGN



Nikitha Sreekanth

English as First Lang. A **ICT** A **Math** A

AS LEVEL - ^ denotes AS Level



Abhishek Dash a^
Math



Shivesh R a^
Math



Priya V a^
Math
Economics



Phani T Kethana a^
Math
Chemistry

Cultural Evening

At the Cultural Evening, the innovation and talent displayed in the High School and Middle School plays were much appreciated by the enthusiastic audience.



Cultural Evening

Our tiny tots from KG enthrall their parents and grandparents with their fabulous performance.



Inter-school football and badminton competition

This year APL launched its first inter-school football and badminton competition. Our students benefited as they got to play alongside some of the best teams in the city. Our school bagged the trophy in the under 14 football competition and were runner up in the under 12 category. In badminton our girls were runner up in single and doubles in under 12 category.



Excursion trip to Yercaud by students of grade 6 and 7



My Yercaud Trip Experience

I had been to an excursion organized by Youreka. This was the first time I went without my parents out station. We stayed in a tent instead of a hotel or a cottage and the climate was cool. My tent members were Rohan, Rohith, Min, Pranav, B and I. We were surrounded by trees and insects. In our tent there were two wild spiders and one cockroach.

There were many fun activities including rappelling, rock climbing, stream walking and dance party. According to me rappelling was easy, because we just had to walk down a mountain with a harness and helmet. When we were stream walking, I accidentally fell into the stream and I enjoyed the drench. They gave us a cool book so we could explore more about ourselves. We were also separated into 2 groups and our group name was “*Why Me*”.

Rock climbing was a different situation where we had to climb steep rocks. There was also a night out where we had to go to a place outside the camp, pitch our tents and stay there overnight. We had a camp-out where we told horror stories in the night. There were small places where we frequently met for discussion and their names were The *Lapa Lapa*, *KPRD* and *White House* (a.k.a Graffiti House).

We had small activities inside the campus like Log Walk, Dragon Race and Chotta Hazari. The food was really good. It was self-service and we also had to wash the plates. The teachers were really kind. We didn't feel like leaving that place but we had to get back and so we bid goodbye. It was really fun.

Pranav Ponnivalavan
Grade 6 A



Excursion trip to Pune by students of grade 8 and 9



Autism Day

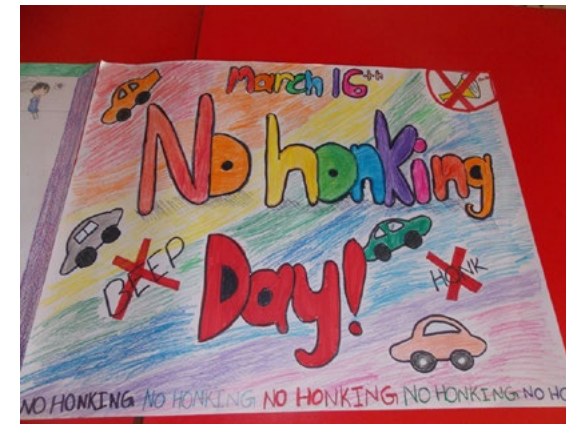


Staff and students turn up in blue in observance of Autism Day.



No Honking Day

APL students join hands with teachers, and the schoolbus drivers and conductors to celebrate 'No Honking Day' with a colourful display of banners and posters, and interactive activities to raise awareness and encourage participation.



Project Day

Parents and grandparents visit our school to learn about the wide variety of projects done by the students of Middle & Senior School, Inclusion and KG. This year we invited the students of the Ramaniyam Shankara School to participate in the project week. The objective was to give them a platform to share their learning with a larger community.



Trip to Ramanujam's Museum

Ramanujan Museum & Math Education Centre
EFFECTIVE TEACHING through MATH KITS in MATH LAB

The trip to Ramanujam Museum was very inspiring considering what he was able to achieve in such a short time (33 years). I was taken aback when looking at some of his work. It was really complex and each sum was really long.

As I entered the museum for the first time, I was surprised at its simplicity. I personally thought that the museum of such a legend would be big and fancy but I was wrong. First, our whole grade were settled in a hall and were split into groups to go visit the museum.

My group was first. The museum was no bigger than our classroom but the amount of mathematical content present was astonishing. It was nice to get to know him better as a person. One story which was nice to listen to is the one where he only attempts challenging questions during his math exam. That shows that Math should be difficult and challenging for someone of his calibre.

The museum displayed Ramanujam's work and letters sent to and from G.H. Hardy. G.H. Hardy was very important in Ramanujam's life since he was the one who invited him to Cambridge where his talent was showcased. G. H. Hardy stated that Ramanujam's work was way ahead of his time. His theories were proved right after many years of mathematical research. People say that he had the theorem but he could not afford paper and so he used a slate to write it down.

After we left the museum we were given some sums and were taught how to do it. I felt that mathematics could have made giant studies ahead if Ramanujam had lived longer but then he died at the age of 33.

As I left the museum I understood something. The phrase "don't judge a book by its cover", also applies to museums. The size or look of the museum doesn't matter but what does is the content and information inside. Visiting the Ramanujam museum was truly an unforgettable experience.

Ashwin
Grade 9D

Don't Do That!

Don't do that,
Don't do this,
My mother says that,
So does my sis.

Don't eat this,
Don't eat that,
My brother keeps saying,
So does my dad.

Don't say that,
Don't say this,
My friends keep saying,
So does my Miss.

I keep thinking,
What should I do?
I ask my parents,
And I ask you.

Srishti
Grade 7A

Grandmother

There was once a beautiful woman,
Who was also beautiful at heart.
Her eyes sparkled like night stars
which gleamed to attract the man--
The man she chose to live with.

She loved to make outfits for her child,
but never expected to have five.
She had to work as busy as a bee,
but never thought twice about
working for her family.

Years passed and passed
So swift and smooth like a flowing river.

It was now then the era,
of her life peaceful and settled.
But her children wouldn't agree,
to mature and let her free.
From both work and thoughts,
From stress, sore and sick.

She seemed to express and talk
of how she felt but failed.
O, poor soul of hers,
With great agony and pain!

She granted the wish they had,
but they wouldn't care to listen,
to her complaining, sad voice,
which only wished for three--
to see her grandchildren, her son-in-law and
daughter-in-law.

She is now left alone
gazing vacantly at the cone
of a tall, snow covered pine,
Wishing her children to succeed
like those tall pinetrees.

But soon she perceived the cruel reality,
When her eyes dropped to fill in her hands,
All wrinkled and rough,
Narrating her life---
Once excited. Once exhausted. Once depressed...

And now she wished to have a friend.
A friend to listen and sorrows to end.

Hah Yeon Lee
Grade 9A

Blue Raven



I was reading a book when I looked up at the window and I saw a large raven staring back at me. I'd never heard of ravens with blue eyes, but here was such a bird. Ravens, of course, a cousin of the crows-- yet the word 'scavenger' seemed a little insulting for such an odd but beautiful creature.

I noticed it was clutching a piece of paper in one claw, and wondered when people had started sending messages via birds again-- Twitter, of course, doesn't count. Hesitantly, I reached over to the latch on the window and upon unlatching it, I slowly eased open the rotting wooden frame. The bird stood on the sill, unafraid and unflinching. Rather odd behaviour for a bird, I thought. Before I could offer up some of the grapes I'd been eating, the bird squawked. A loud, shrill sound that managed to wake up not only my dog, but also the baby, cat, and parrot that resided in the next house.

"Shh!" I cried, in a desperate attempt to keep it quiet, but it just went on squawking with two-second intervals. Finally, before my eardrums burst from the ensuing racket. I grabbed the piece of paper from its now loosened grip. The bird fell silent immediately. I suppose that is why it had been creating such a commotion. Feeling a mixture of apprehension and excitement, I unfolded the piece of paper and tried to make sense of the foreign words. It seemed to be written in German, a language I had only just started learning. Nevertheless, I sat back down in my swivelling chair and pushed myself to my study desk. Fortunately, I'd left my English-German out, and so finding a translation for each word was easier.

It took me forty five minutes to grasp it properly and grammatically. I stared in anguish at the newly translated words on the paper in front of me. The raven gave a soft squawk, reminding me of its presence. Looking at it, I noticed the glint in its eerie blue eyes.

I hoped I was dreaming, but the message seemed all too real: "On 7th March, Birmingham burns." I lived in Birmingham. And today was the 6th of March.

Only ten seconds to midnight, now.

Nine.

Eight.

Seven.

Six.

Five.

Four.

Three.

Two...

One.....



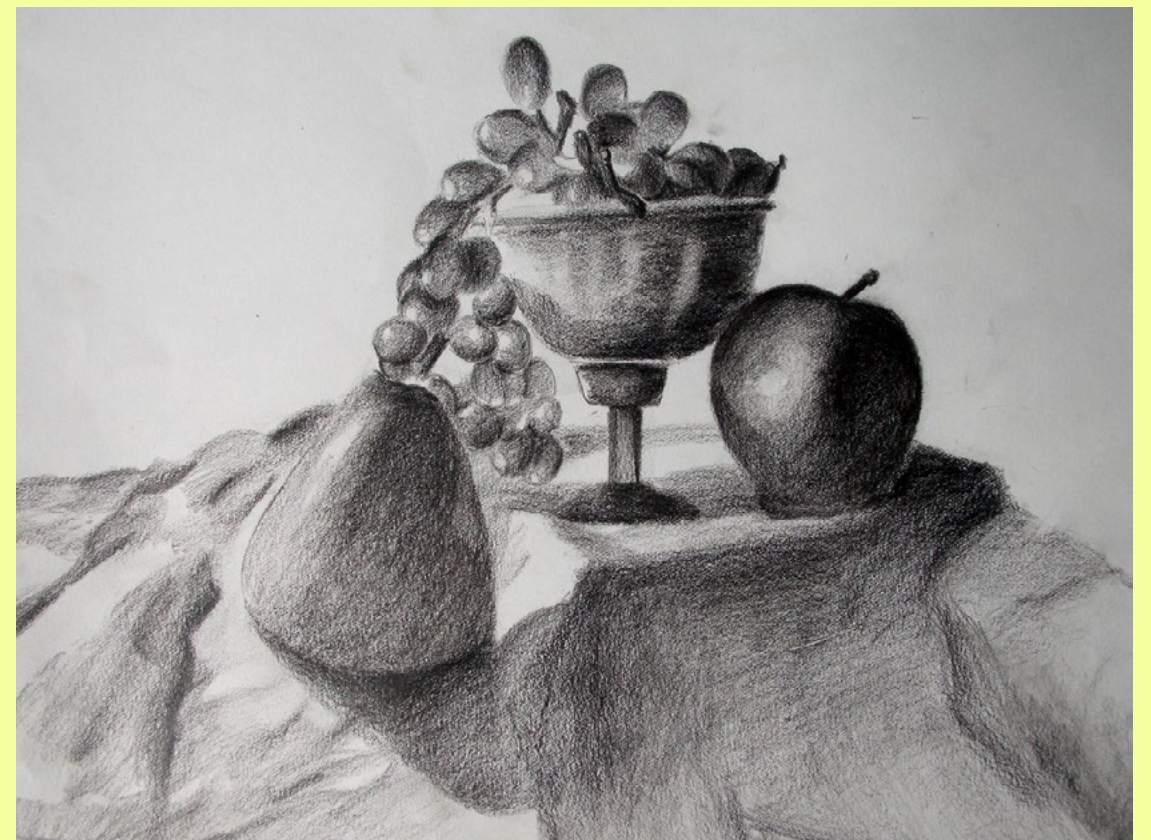
Neha - Grade 9



Art Work



*Pradeep -
Grade 9*



Namratha - Grade 9



Pooja - Grade 9



Digital Artwork by Rudra - Grade 9



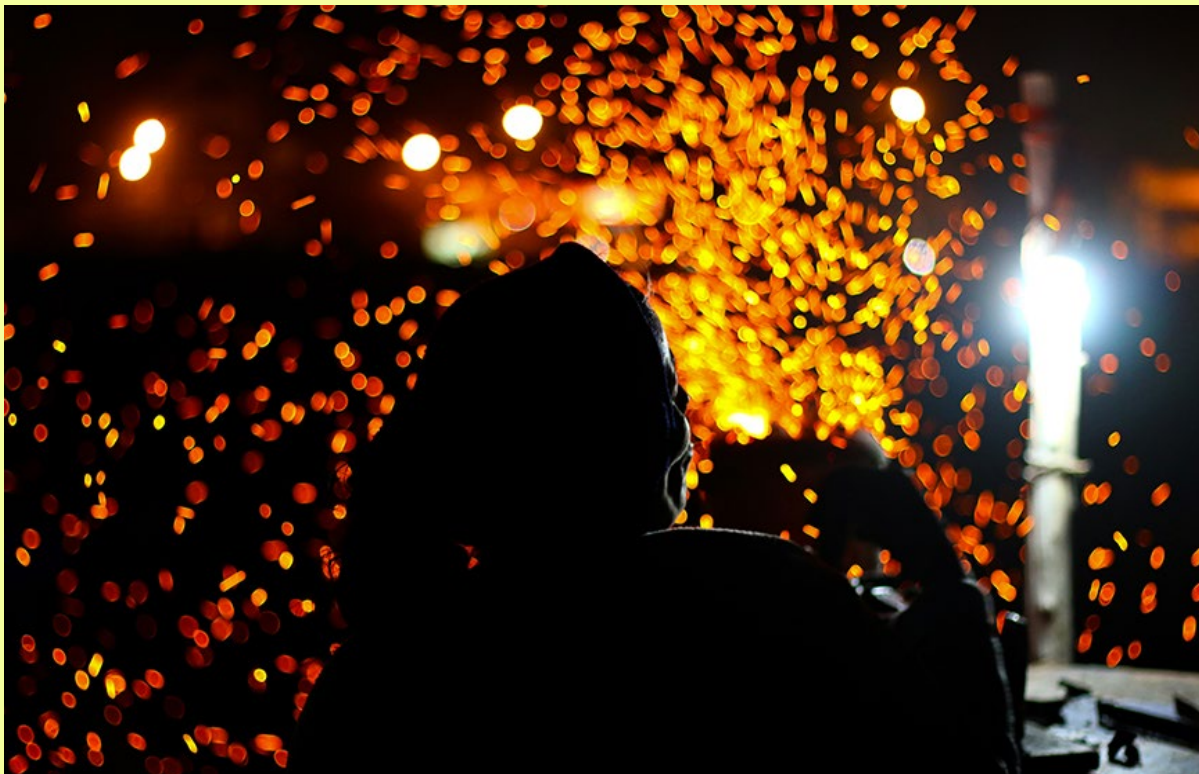
Pencil shading by Nishika - Grade 9



Photo Gallery



Abbas Sultan -Grade 9



Poorvesh -Grade 9

Leading the Path to Restoration

A great leader is one that exhibits persistence and commitment to his/her occupation. He rises from among us as a true leader, one with compassion and dedication. **Mr. Arun Krishnamurthy**, who conducts our EXPLORE classes, is a 28 year old social and environmental activist, chosen as among the five people for the prestigious **Rolex Awards for Enterprise in 2012** for restoring Lake Kilkattalai in Chennai. Quitting a job with Google, he founded the organisation **Environmental Foundation of India (EFI)** along with which he has succeeded in cleaning over 17 lakes in the country. We interviewed him to learn about his perspectives on aspects in the community.



Who/What was your inspiration to begin this organization?

The pond next to my house is the primary reason why I got involved in conservation. Dr. Jane Goodall's efforts in saving the Chimpanzee inspired me. My school Good Earth and the college Madras Christian College and Jawaharlal Nehru University where I studied at were all green campuses with more trees than buildings and that also led me to start EFI.

What were the difficulties you faced when this cause was first established?

More than difficulties, there were and are several challenges which we have to overcome before accomplishing what we aspire. That holds good for conservation too. Convincing multiple stakeholders and changing people's mindset is the toughest challenge that was and prevails.

How did you overcome those difficulties?

Innovation is the key to overcome challenging situations; effective communication and strong dependency on science has given us results in terms of environment conservation.

Do you find any development in your area from when you began these projects?

An entire apartment complex was built on a lake next to my house and ironically named "Lake View" Apartments without a lake to be viewed. This triggered a rage in several of us to protect at least what is left. Development in terms of concrete structures has definitely taken place, but growth and development in terms of quality of life has deteriorated.

Do you have any ideas to implement in the future?

Scientific restoration of lakes/ponds in Chennai-Hyderabad and Coimbatore with bio-diversification as the key focus and a fully fledged animal home catering to the injured-diseased and sick.

What are the characteristics you expect to find in a good citizen?

Patriotism and Peace. A sense of responsibility is what defines a good citizen.

What are your previous projects?

Green Gramam- A holistic village development program

Waste Not - A waste recycling project

Anipal – Zoo volunteering project

Fence It – Lake Restoration

Herbs Restoration

Re-Bags - Sustainable bags project.



Can you suggest any methods by which we can help the city in clean-up projects, charity etc.?

Volunteerism is the key to change. We need to selflessly give in terms of time and effort more than money. We need to participate more than sit back and complain. We make time for everything in life; we should also learn to make time for India and her environment.

~Interview by Poojaa Srinivasan.



Following her Heart . . .

On our Annual Sports Day, we were honoured to have with us Ms Hemaamalini, a talented and inspiring cricketer and coach. Her speech on this very special day truly touched us and made us ask her a few questions. Excerpts from the interview:

When did you start to love cricket and why?

I started playing cricket very early when I was 8 or 9. I loved cricket because I used to play with my friends, and cricket ran in my family.

Who was your inspiration and why?

My elder brother was my inspiration. Every day I used to watch and stare in awe at how wonderfully he played cricket. This truly inspired me.

What difficulties did you face?

Back then, I had problems with shoe size, the right coach and training, and these things concerned me the most.

What made you strong enough to face these challenges?

I had zealous commitment to my cricket dream and THAT was what made me strong enough to face these challenges.

What do you think is most important in life?

In this age, being humble, honest and straightforward, is the hardest but, most important.

Any final words for those who look up to you?

Be brave and daring, know your dream and follow it with all your heart.

*Interview by Neha, Sneha B, Preston and Simha
Grade 9*





Chef's Corner

Kanchana Selvakumar
Grade 6B

POTPOURRI

Zangy Tangy Pineapple Salad

INDREDIENTS:

Pineapple – 2 cups chopped
Mango (raw) – 1 big piece chopped
Carrot – 1 cut into small pieces
Cucumber – 1 cut into small pieces
chopped

DRESSING:

Mix 1 teaspoon olive oil, 1 teaspoon
honey, salt and pepper to taste. Add ½
lime juice. Mix them well.

METHOD:

Put all the cut vegetables, fruits and mint
leaves in a large bowl. Mix them well and
add the salad dressing and serve them
chilled.

KANCHU'S KAJU DELIGHT!

INGREDIENTS:

Cashew nut powdered – 1 cup
Milk powder – 1 cup
Icing sugar – 1 cup
Vanilla/Rose essence – a few drops

METHOD:

Take a mixing bowl and add powdered cashew
nut, milk powder and icing sugar. Mix them well
and add a few drops of rose essence. Add water
little by little and make soft dough. Roll them and
shape them the way you want!

Riddles and Questions

1. *Why can't a man living in the USA be buried in Canada?*
2. *Is it legal for a man in California to marry his widow's sister? Why?*
3. *A man builds a house rectangular in shape. All the sides have southern exposure. A big bear walks by. What colour is the bear? Why?*
4. *If there are 3 apples and you take away 2, how many do you have?*
5. *How far can a dog run into the woods?*
6. *One big hockey fan claimed to be able to tell the score before any game. How did he do it?*
7. *You can start a fire if you have alcohol, petrol, kerosene, paper, candle, coke, a full matchbox and a piece of cotton wool. What is the first thing you light?*
8. *Why do Chinese men eat more rice than Japanese men do?*
9. *What word describes a woman who does not have all her fingers on one hand?*

.....

Here come the answers to the questions:

1. *Why should a living man be buried?*
2. *No, it is not legal to get married if you are dead.*
3. *The bear is white since the house is built on the North Pole.*
4. *If you take 2 apples, then you have, of course, 2.*
5. *The dog can run into the woods only to the half of the wood - then it would run out of the woods.*
6. *The score before any hockey game should be 0:0, shouldn't it?*
7. *A match, of course.*
8. *There are more Chinese men than Japanese men.*
9. *Normal - I wouldn't be very happy if I had all my fingers (10) on one hand.*

Teen Trends

This design represents a typical Punjabi style. Its colours indicate happiness. It is a kurti with a patyala worn with a gajra (ornament, flowers) on the hair.

This drawing was inspired by my music teacher, Ms. Christelda.

Sadhana Shukla
Grade 9C



Teacher Speak

~ Forever Learning ~



“An affinity for learning gets me through my laborious schedule.”

We know her as the one who ensures we maintain discipline. And she is our Chemistry teacher. But our conversation with Mrs. Jayalekshmi revealed many more interesting aspects. Excerpts from an interview:

What are the predominant changes you’ve noticed in this school over the past six years?

I have noticed that the functioning of this school has become far more structured and organised, especially since the management divided the coordinating responsibilities within us teachers. An increase in the number of students has made my work more challenging. We also started hosting events like Synergy, MUN etc which nurtures various skills in the students.

What is the one attribute to APL that you appreciate the most?

The working atmosphere. The management and teaching staff are very supportive and understanding. I’ve also built a strong bond with some of the batches I’ve taught. We have developed a mutual understanding and I really do appreciate that.

All teachers have a very special relationship with their profession. What is special for you?

Teaching is my passion. I always focus on the so called ‘weaker students’ and when I manage to bridge the communication gap and help them thoroughly understand a concept, it gives me a kind of joy like no other. Even outside of the syllabus, when a student is distracted and they consider my guidance and get back on track, I really feel like I have accomplished something.

What does being the coordinator for examinations call for? What are your duties in this role?

I enjoy being the coordinator because I'm constantly learning. I've developed documenting skills, I've learned how to manage my time very carefully and how to communicate with adults when it comes to certain sensitive aspects. My work as coordinator includes preparing schedules, running exams, coordinating with teachers and compiling report cards.

What is the process of disciplinary action?

Any complaint that is received from a student or teacher is confirmed to be true before any action is taken. The student is first heard and spoken to. If necessary, the child has a session with the counsellor. The child's emotional condition is considered before any action is taken, if at all.

Where did you grow up and what was your childhood like?

I was born and brought up in Cochin. I studied at a co-ed school and was always very quiet and reserved, but I still managed to have some great memories. My mother was a very important part of my childhood and before I do anything or take any decision, I always consider what she might have said/done in the same situation.

How do you find time to manage responsibilities both at home and at school?

I always find myself carrying work home for the weekends. So the only way I can find time to finish all my work is by cutting down time for myself. However, it gives me great joy and satisfaction when I sacrifice my own time to complete work to the best of my capabilities. Like I said, any work I do involves learning, and so I'm very motivated to work.

What are your interests?

I enjoy flute music. I watch movies every now and then on TV. I love the comedy segments in movies. However, I'm not a fan of movie stars because I believe that there are people who better deserve the limelight movie stars get. My heroes and heroines are social workers like Malala and Dr. Sunitha Krishnan who puts her life at stake to rehabilitate sex workers.

***Interview by Maithreyi
Grade 9A***

Parent Speak

Sports Day was celebrated with an infectious verve in our school playgrounds. Parents share their responses:

Excellent! Coordination and confidence is seen in every part of the students, activities on Annual Day and Sports Day.

Encouraging and building self-confidence in the students is done wonderfully by the teachers and management.

Very happy to be part of the school.

~Uma Sounderrajan, mother of Thejaswin. R., 6B.

Good display of skills and very well coordinated by the organizers and the grounds staff.

~Sunitha Moopanar, mother of G.K. Pranav, grade 8

Enjoyed the boys' handball game. Very engaging.

~Sridevi, mother of Phani & Manas

So much fun to see all the kids charged up.

~Devanshu's mother

Simply awesome! The children and teachers have put up a wonderful show together. Thank you so much for inviting us.

~Niranjani, Manasa's mother

Amazing to see kids with so much enthusiasm to participate in sports.

Thank you, teachers, you give your best and bring out the best from kids.

~Darshana Mehta, Dhairya's mother

As usual APL students and staff have pulled together a very good show. March Past was excellent!

~Malavika, mother of Shwetha Dalia, 6A

Simple and neat Sports Day. Can have more group games for the kids.

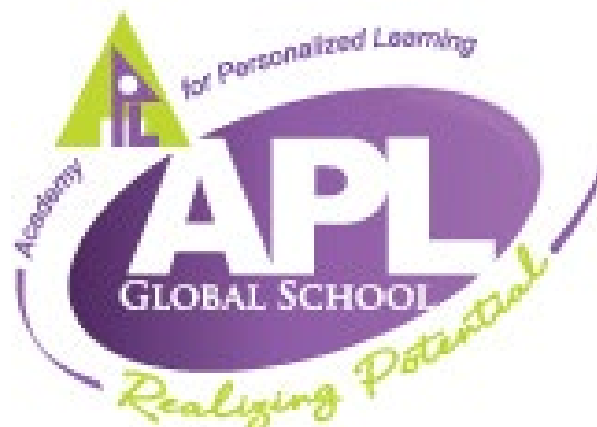
~ Pavithra, Manasa's mother

Well planned and well executed. Each Sports Day is unique at APL, thanks to all!

~Neelani K, mother of Mithavani and Rachelle, 8C

A very relaxing view and event for all. Keep it up. The right Chief Guest for the event.

~ J. Elango, father of J.E. AAdithya, 6E



**Students, Teachers, Parents, Readers,
Want to share your thoughts and ideas?**

**Send us your articles, stories, poems, jokes, artwork, photographs or
whatever you feel is interesting. (150-300 words)**

**We would love to have your feedback too!
Write to us at editorial@apl.edu.in or
Click on the link below and leave your comments:**

https://docs.google.com/a/apl.edu.in/forms/d/1V0AbpGTmay0uKRzb_6p-Kt7QQn8ab-rfNCf9iKM6aDg0/viewform?formkey=dGx3aVA0cnFsbHloNn-h0cnFPbEd1b2c6MQ#gid=0