DECCAN NEWS

September 2015
Dear Parents,

New Academic Year! New Challenges! A smooth sea never made a skilful sailor; so let us sail on to learn from these challenges.

During this term, our students whether they are 3 year olds or 16 years, have visited age-appropriate places, as part of their educational trips - fire station, Namma Metro Rail, Chitrakala Parishad, HAL Museum, to name a few. They have also consolidated what they have learnt and given creative expression to their learning. Kudos to all who let their imagination take wings.

As a society today, we are looking only at tangible outcomes like marks, awards, certificates, degrees, etc. from everything, whether it is our career, our children, our time, our schools, our government and so on.

The focus has shifted from intangible to tangible. There has been a paradigm shift in our thinking, expectations and actions. From a quality driven society, we have become a quantity driven community. This capitalistic approach has pushed the intangible qualities out, leading to depletion of qualities like sensitivity, creativity, aesthetics, innovation, etc. These have been recognized by all organizations and surveys as the need of the hour. The initiatives that we have taken this year are all keeping in mind the requisites for ‘Future-ready Students’.

We have introduced a whole school programme called SASS, ‘Safe and Sensitive Schools’ for building positive expression, sensitivity, tolerance as well as GAIT, ‘Grooming Artistic Innovation and Talent’ for the Junior School students, to sustain the creative instinct in every child.

Looking forward to another fruitful year ahead.

Dean’s Desk
Talk by Alumnus

The students of 10 IGCSE, AS and A levels participated in an interactive session on 18th June 2015 with former student Aditya Rao, who has been accepted at the University of Southern California, San Diego. The students were given an insight into the application process, and the requirements to apply for scholarships in universities in the US. Senior students, who now plan for their further studies, with most of them hoping to travel abroad, considered the session helpful.

‘The curriculum abroad provides a freedom which the higher education system in India doesn’t offer’, said Anagha, a senior student. ‘The session helped us realize that we have more options,’ said Swati. Another senior student Deepika, said: “We are offered a wider range of courses, and a change from the ordinary seem appealing.” “Another reason to study in the US is better facilities!” she added.

Rao felt that one requirement for applying, which must never be overlooked, was not just good grades but also co-curricular activities. He said that universities abroad were not only looking for good students, but for good individuals as well.

Inauguration of ZEAL

DIS is proud to inaugurate ‘Zeal’, different clubs for students of grade 7th and 8th on 20th of June 2015. The ‘Zeal’ comprises of six clubs as in WASTE MANAGEMENT, WATER CONSERVATION, QUIZZING, MUSIC, THEATER, ROBOTICS and AERO MODELING. An occasion of rendering information on few life skill activities as an introduction of clubs by the facilitators present and an introductory workshop on all the clubs. It is truly all about ‘ZESTFUL ENTERTAINING ACTIVITIES FOR LEARNING’.
Helper’s Day Out!!!

Every year D.I.S organizes helpers’ day to show our gratitude towards them. This year too, we celebrated it on Wednesday, June 17th.

We invited all the helpers to gather in the Activity room. As scheduled, we started the program at 9.00 a.m. with an invocation song, followed by a welcome speech. The 8th and 9th grade children put up an entertainment program for them. Ms. Vijayalakshmi, Kannada HOD, enlightened them with a story which had a wonderful message. Later, our Dean Ms. Bharathi Krishnamoorthy addressed the gathering. Student Bhavana.S from 9th grade translated the information into Kannada. Mr. Pradeep, our Administrative Co-ordinator, gave them a talk on ‘safety of children.’ The event was concluded with a vote of thanks by 9th grade student Apoorva.

Community Outreach Programme

The student of 10 IGCSE attended a solid waste management awareness drive on the 21st of June 2015. They learnt about the importance of waste segregation. The students also conducted a survey using the following questions.

• Are you aware of E-waste management?

• If yes, do you segregate e-waste?

• Are you aware if the ill-effects of improper disposal of e-waste?

For those who answered ‘No’, the students eagerly shared their knowledge of the proper ways to segregate waste, and informed them of future plans of holding an e-waste drive in the school.

The survey brought about an equal number of aware and unaware individuals, who willingly signed up for the upcoming drives and they proudly collected over 150 contacts.

It was decided that the e-waste collected during this drive would be sent to Samarthanam (a trust for the disabled) and they in turn would sell it to companies in exchange for funds.

In a way, this project instilled a sense of community service and charity among the students.
IG - IN”DEC”TION 2015

On the 10th of June, Deccanites from classes 8th, 9th, 10th IGCSE and AS levels embarked on the first InDECTion, a four day course filled with fun, thought provoking activities and games related to various subjects that IG students take! These team based tasks were as follows:

• **Animation**- Kavya ma’am introduced us to the wonders of Flash. We experienced an insider’s look at some movie magic and tried our hand at some snazzy animation!

• **Think A Thon 1**- Our goal? To make a catapult. Our materials? 6 bamboo sticks, 6 balloons, some strings, a tire tube and 1 meter of tape. The conditions? our projectile (a ping-pong ball) 25m. The rules? USE YOUR CREATIVITY!

• **Think A Thon 2**- TAKE TWO! How does one find a way to safely transport an egg from the third floor all the way to the bottom floor?

• **Mixed Media**- We used oil based paint and water to make colourful creations that came together to form an amazing marbled effect.

• **International Trade**- A picky trader has come to town, cut out the required shapes with as much precision as possible, try to sell it to him and earn as much money as possible!

• **Music & Theatre**- Women’s safety, one of the most important topics in today’s society. It was time for us all to bring out that Oscar winning actor and show people why.

• **Tower Building**- How tall can you make a stable tower with just some paper and tape, no scissors, mind you!

• **Fireless Cooking**- A different theme was assigned to each team, it’s your job to (i) Make an amazing dish out of the given materials and, (ii) Incorporate the theme into vegetables!

• **Math Puzzle**- Time to put those brains to work! A Sudoku leads up to a mind boggling complex word problem!
Music Exam

The students of Deccan International School have enjoyed Music Enrichment classes for the past six years. This year on 18th July they were given an opportunity to earn certificates from Rabindra Bharati University, through exams conducted by the Bangeeya Sangeet Parishad. 118 students took up exams in Hindustani, Carnatic and Western music. Well-known artistes Sri Amitabh Bhattacharya and Smt. Sukanya Vijay kumar were the examiners.

Ethnic Day

19th June 2015 being World Ethnic Day, the day was celebrated as Ethnic Day at Deccan International School too. The students were attired in beautiful ethnic wear making the school environment very colourful and picturesque. Wearing ethnic clothes spread the Indian flavour bringing to the forefront the essence of our culture.
Theatre Workshop For The Teachers

A theatre workshop was conducted on the 28th of June and the 2nd of July 2015 for all teachers at the Deccan International by theatre experts Mr. Ranji David and Ms. Almas Kotadia. They are a part of the Organizational Theatre— one of the wings of the Theatre Company – ‘Yours Truly’; their endeavor being “Theatre for Education!”.

The workshop was conducted to expose all teachers to the world of expression and emotions. How simple classroom sessions could be made more interesting and fun by including theatre was the theme of the workshop. It mainly aimed at developing the personality of the participants and allow them to introspect to become better individuals. Mimicry, dramatization of stories and expressing through ‘Gibberish’ were some of the highlights of the workshop.

Reading Week

The Story Telling Week for Junior School was observed between 13th and 17th July, 2015. DIS’ parents Ms. Bharthi Arun Kumar narrated the mythological tales of ‘Dhruva’ and ‘Prahalada’ from ‘Srimad Bhagavatam’. Ms. Anitha chose a Chinese Folktale. Ms. Madhu Sathvik delivered bedtime stories to our Grade 2 students; while Ms. Sucheta Rao, a regular at DIS, recounted the ‘Teachers Pet’ by Dayle Ann Dodds, ‘Fox in Sox’ by Dr. Suess, ‘Sarah the Cat’ and ‘It Is Hot!’ by Clark Ness.

Her take was: “I cannot thank DIS enough for this precious time with the little ones. I learnt to not read to first graders but engage them through an open storytelling session with tons of FUN!”
Mr. Allan Marshall is the founder of iMedia, a leading international advisory service to the publishing industry. Mr. Marshall served as the head of the Telegraph Media Group technology transformation.

Mr. Marshall has been Non-Executive Director at Independent News and Media plc since June 14 2012. Also he is the founding chairman of Ifra’s Advisory Council and is a graduate of the Harvard School Program for Management Development. Speaking to the students of Grade 10 he mainly focused on the future: the upcoming inventions, fields of work and how the society and the corporate world can be divided into five categories. He told the senior classes exactly how the real world worked but he encrypted it within the stories about inventions and his life.

He emphasized how the world has changed and how we are no longer divided based on our nationality but based on our mind-set. Our world has no boundaries, only the ones we create for ourselves.

Co-Curricular Activities

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<td>14/7/2015 Tuesday</td>
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Early Years Euphoria (K1, K2, K3)

Dr Meena Jain’s workshop for new Deccanite parents

Dr Meena Jain, an eminent child psychologist educated and spoke to parents of the new little Deccanites of K1 on 04/04/15. While addressing them, the issues discussed were- growth and development, safety measures and overcoming separation anxiety in children.

Dr Meena Jain’s workshop for Teachers of the Early Years and Junior School Refresher in Early Childhood Education

Dr Meena Jain had a refresher course on 27/05/15 for all the teachers who handle Gr K1 to Gr 3. Brain function and development since conception were explained. She answered queries put forth by teachers and gave them relevant inputs. Lesson planning strategies were reinforced along with activities to break the monotony in the classroom.

Tiny Tot’s Tweets

The new academic session of the Early Years began for the K1 on 08/06/15 and two days later for the K2 and K3. The first day saw most students enter school happily. There was some crying of course but the little ones were very quick to settle. By the end of the week, we were able to begin our regular schedule. We appreciate and thank parents for their support during the initial week.

The Early Years schedule all their curriculum according to the theme of the month, which includes a colour too.

June-My Fun Family (pink)

July-Rolling Wheels (yellow)
The first working day of the month is the respective colour day and these were celebratory occasions.

The Early Years have an activity based curriculum and both teachers and students are engaged in hands on activity all the time.
My first letter!

The concept of zero!

Speaking skills are enhanced with regular sessions - the monthly Show and Tell.

THEATRE FOR KIDS – K3
Theatre Company – Yours Truly- conducted a workshop for the students of K3 on 15/06/15. The little ones were excited to perform the simple tasks that the facilitator Mr Ranji David asked them to perform.

Lined up for the morning assembly

The fitness club!
Educational Trip to VITM

The students of Grade 8 A, B, C and IG sections were taken on a one day educational trip to visit the Visvesvaraya Museum on Kasturba Road in Bengaluru on Thursday, the 23rd July 2015. In all there were ninety students and four class teachers who accompanied them. The aim of the trip was to enhance learning through interaction with various scientific and technological inventions and to open the minds of students to the marvels of science. Students as well as the teachers were exposed to the various gadgets arranged on the three floors of the museum. The gadgets ranged from the electronic media to aircraft machinery and simple physics to the complicated universe. They also watched a 3D film show on the rare and now extinct dinosaurs. It was an eventful and exciting day, loaded with fun and learning.

Students Day Out!

SAAHAS

On 17th July 2015, a representative of the NGO-Saahas visited Deccan International School and briefed the students of 8, 9, 10, ISC, AS and A Levels on the various aspects of e-waste. The interactive session started off with classifying waste as a valuable resource material. The discussion revolve around how different types of waste could be used for purposes such as composting, recycled into brand new items, and how this was a great boon to the environment since it involved reuse of existing material and avoided depleting the earth’s resources even more. The students were made aware of the fact that placing the priceless e-waste in the hands of people who are not certified to reuse it could turn out to be really hazardous and that e-waste should be recycled legally and by the right people. They also learnt the exact way e-waste was recycled. At the end of the session, the students were eager to contribute to the efforts of these groups who work so hard to keep the city safe, clean and green by joining hands with them.
A Visit To Chitrakala Parishath

On July 31, 2015 Class 10 students set out on a creative journey to admire the most beautiful pieces of art at the Chitrakala Parishath.

A handicraft exhibition was organized with various stalls from where they picked up some exquisite work to take back. A section which was devoted to the works of Russian master, Nicholas Roerich, known for his vivid paintings of the Himalayas, was spellbinding. The work displayed in this gallery ranged from portraits to depictions of the picturesque Kulu Valley. There was also an exhibition of the mesmerizing paintings by Srikala Gangi Reddy, an erstwhile IT professional turned artist. The paintings exuded the beauty of the Odissi dance form.

The institution also has a rare collection of leather puppets and an extensive number of prints by Krishna Reddy. Just as the students felt that learning about the culture and having a look at the magic created by the gifted hands was indeed a new experience, that art could be a career option was indeed food for thought.

Educational Trip to Lalbagh – Grade 1

As part of the curriculum, on 29th July 2015, the students of Grade 1 of Deccan International School went to Lalbagh-A Botanical Garden in Bangalore. They were accompanied by their respective class teachers, PE teachers and helpers. They started with a nature walk, where they observed different kinds of flora and fauna. They were asked to document their observations on a worksheet where they made a note of the varieties of trees and climbers they had seen. Also a group discussion was held where the children shared views on their findings. At the end, as an energiser, a fun relay was conducted with the help of the PE teachers to rejuvenate the children. No better way to learn than - "NATURE"ally!!!!