



**THE
STORY
OF MHS
@2021-
2022**

02

GREETINGS FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



The past year has been one of the challenges anticipated and otherwise. I have flooded your inbox with numerous information, schedules, issues, new measures, decisions adopted. Yet in all these

scattered bits of reality, the pulse of the School beat with a steadiness that is possible only when all three stakeholders i.e., students, teachers and parents are in sync with each other. To give you an overview of the year, I invite you to travel with my colleague Ms. Lesley Guha Sircar, as she narrates the story of MHS 2021-22.

“April - To A Magnolia Born”

April spells rendezvous for me, as I stand under the strong sun and gaze at the large, delicate ivory-like crafted flowers, nestled among the glossy dark green leaves, of a tree so deeply rooted in our central garden-the Magnolia Grandiflora. It is a refreshing and invigorating sight, and, as I smell the gentle Gardenia-like fragrance trapped in the still air, I feel a sense of reassurance. It is that time of the year, and, quite naturally, Magnolias will bloom.....

We began the new academic year on the 5th of April 2021. What a thought-provoking theme, “Learning from Everywhere” and about anything. Focusing on climate change and artificial intelligence, we have grown to widen our vision and strengthen our resilience. Each of us are Magnolias in our own right, pristine among the enriching leaves of the Magnolia tree. Life skills of every student, irrespective of their stream, will be taken care of. Problem solving, getting children to take care of themselves, learning to reflect, and benefit from the values of consumer education-these are some of the many skills being introduced this year.

I have tried very hard to steer clear off the covid-written path. We have only just begun, and we must surrender yet again, to circumstances beyond our control. It wouldn't be fair to re-write a year's History in this chapter. For, just as the world is far more equipped to cope with advanced skills in medical science and technology, our Institution, armored in Platinum Splendor, will continue to keep the MHS banner flying.

With our feet firmly rooted to the ground, MHS began the year's co-curricular activities in April, by participating in The Sree Ram College of Commerce - "Young Leaders Conclave and Summit" and also the "Symposium for Social Sciences" hosted by Vasant Valley, Delhi. The Co-curricular Department encouraged the participation of the Middle School in the The Art Slogan Competition for Earth Day, and this was organized by Birla Industrial and Technological Museum, Ballygunge. The Cathedral and John Connon School, Mumbai provided a platform for "The Cathedral Stock Exchange" event. Our German Learners were given the opportunity to get a Digital Tour of Discovery, on Subjects related to Vocational Guidance.

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Our Congratulations go out to Ms Sheta Saha , International Coordinator on being selected Evaluation Leader by Global IB Educational Network IBEN in April 2021.

On the 26th of April we began our ISC Class 11 and IBDP Yr 1 classes on a strictly virtual mode using google classrooms. With the alarming spike in Covid 19 cases, no child was permitted entry into School. Everyone has resigned to the fact that classes and co-curricular activities will continue online.

A special mention to our Footloose Club members, who, on the occasion of International Dance Day on 29 th April, 2021, presented World Dance Day. Western and Classical dance moves were perfected to showcase diversity.

It was in the virtual mode that the baton of student leadership passed to the office bearers of 2021–2022, as they took the School Pledge. Congratulations to Anvi Kothari, our Head Girl, Raima Chatterjee and Ayra Ahmed, our deputy Head Girls and all the office bearers of MHS!

April draws to a close now, and the last of the Magnolias, having done their time fall to the ground. The tree will withstand another year of seasonal changes, absorbing, the determination, personalities, pleasantries and numerous other pure qualities of our MHS Community, and, it will bring forth beautiful flowers, once more.

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“May - So Silently Calling”

A kaleidoscope of thoughts mind map my way, as I visualize our silent School grounds. How naive to believe in the immediate, and to presume, that School would resume in the physical. I anticipated our corridors to be buzzing, the grounds filled with laughter and the ice cream cart roll in at the stroke of break time. For in the far tranquil corner of the School grounds, the Shed stands silent - only the Honour Rolls resound. The once flourishing vegetable patch nurtured by members of Clean Club, now watched over by our faithful scare crow. I pause at the closed doors of the Canteen, once, a sanctuary for the hungry, and, there's the state of the art Gymnasium and business - like Bengal Stores. The Marble Fountain stands stoic and the School Planetarium in all its cosmic dignity, patiently awaiting our return. How can we forget the Jungle Gym on which our youngsters, would entangle and disentangle themselves, with not a covid care in the world...

...And, though the wheels of our School buses don't turn no more, nothing can hold back the momentum with which MHS is moving.

The 160th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, Rabindra Jayanti was celebrated on the 9th of this month, with the art students of class 12 (2021-2022) presenting Rabindranath Tagore's love for art, through their inspirational paintings. It was interesting to learn, that Rabindranath Tagore used an eraser more than he did a pencil, and that his artistic adventure started with doodles. His paintings were morphed into stamps. Focus Club members also contributed to the occasion, through their collection of photographs, which are inspired by Rabindranath Tagore's poems, plays, songs and stories. Our class 6 students, as well as the International Wing paid tribute.

It was a sad day, the 10th of May, 2021. We lost Ms Pyali Sengupta, our colleague, ex-student and more importantly, a wonderful person. May her soul rest in peace.

The Graduation Ceremony for the second Cohort of MHS IBDP students was held on the 15th of May. Mrs Kar (Director), Mrs Mukherjee (Principal), Ms Saha (IBDP Coordinator), and IB Teachers were present. The Graduation Ceremony began with a Sanskrit verse beautifully sung by Vani Saraf of Class 9 IGCSE. This was followed by a prayer and a speech by Mrs. Kar. The students were dressed in sarees and their parents were present for the Ceremony. One of the girls shared her IB experience. This was followed by a Virtual presentation of Awards and each students placement was announced. In the concluding part of her speech, Mrs. Mukherjee referred to the Graduands of the Class of 2021 as Graduates, thus marking the end of the Ceremony. And, the School song was sung by Sonya Mal IGCSE Class 9.

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15th of May was also the day Bengal went into lockdown this year. The Summer Vacations had begun. There were no travel itineraries, nor outdoor entertainment, as we had hoped for.

At the onset of the holidays, 15 girls from the Senior School participated in Symbiosis MUN. Though we recognize the efforts of all, we must acknowledge the Special mention afforded to Suhani Kothari - 10C, Anvita Jaipuria - 10A, Mohona Sengupta - 11B, Sneh Yadav -10D and a Verbal mention to Shrinjana Ghosh 11D, and Mannat Nandwani -10 C.

Summer Workshops have begun in earnest, with Classes 7, 8 & 9 attending Summer Life Skill Fests from the 15th to the 29th of May. The workshops focused on inculcating 21st century skills, critical for children to survive and thrive in the new world.

The Speaksart Turn Coat debate workshop was held on the 16th of May. It was a voluntary competition with participants from all over India. Our Anjali Ladha from class 12B took part and she mentioned it being one of high quality.

Sometimes, I think of the synchronizing of our young violinists and flute bearers. What would we give, to be back to the rhythm of routine and to accommodate youthful enthusiasm. How we hushed the girls into silence, and now...the School building resounds it. We miss the peals of laughter, and the full strength of a class room. Summons, and interview calls, singing classes and outdoor physical education. We miss our young karate enthusiasts and the tip- toeing of our disciplined Bulbuls and Girl Guides.

The sound of the heavy metal school gong, so silently calling...

This is the real life. This is MHS Rhapsody.

“June - The Masks We Wear”

George Orwell, the English essayist, journal and critic, pointed out years ago, “the more you wear a mask, the more your face will grow to fit it!”

A little introspection, and, discretion.

We’ve grown accustomed to putting on and taking off our masks. Masks of all colours and designs.

Fashion statements and otherwise. The summer holidays and the extended lockdown have given us ample reason to “take off our masks.” I wonder how many of us though, have taken time to introspect, on the happenings over the past two years, and, to view ourselves and people around us from different perspectives. Well, there are plenty of distractions that get in the way of seeing things clearly, as we attempt to get on with the many roles which make up our lives. Pride , anger, shyness, greed , perhaps certain experiences both pleasant and otherwise are among them. All obstacles in our “Clarity of Vision.” Have you ever thought of the number of masks you wear, as you go about performing your duties in a day? And, responsibilities, which make up the drama of our lives?

While the third phase of the lockdown continues and the unsettled spell of weather building up to the Monsoons take on centre stage, classes resumed after the summer holidays on the 15th of June. We now move on from masks to exposure, by way of a number of activities. Workshops, A talk on Cyber safety and two Quiz competitions (The Grand Bengal Quiz and the Golden Gauntlet Inter – School Debanjan Sen Foundation Sports Quiz Competitions. A special mention to Kaashvi Gupta and Palak Daga of class 12 D who were Moderators for a programme on Sustainable Heritage on the Hoogly River Bank.

The MHS Choir, presented a Musical on World Music Day, the 21st of June.

If ever you feel like drifting into a world beyond the day to day, I suggest that you tune in to our MHS Choir and their outstanding performance on World Music Day.

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“Westerwaldlied”, a German folk song was sung by Irene Altaf 10 A and Twisha Maity 10 D, “Arirang”, a Korean folk song, performed by Anupama Choudhary 11 B and Rhianna G Dastidar 11 B, then came the catchy Swahili welcome song, “Jumbo Brana” sung by Rahee Sarkar 9B and Riona Mitter 11 A. Srijita Roychowdhury 10C and Pranjali Mukherjee 10 C sang “Waltzing Matilda” a popular Bushfire song. “Chaata Dhoro He Deora”, a Bengali Folk song (Bhojpuri and Bengali combination, popular among the tea estates of North Bengal) taken on so beautifully by Adrija Pattanayak 9A and Anuranjita Mati 8A.

The Ring of Fire in all its brilliance marked a Scientific milestone this month, as did our Class 12 Science students, who conducted a series of Science Intra- School Workshops for the benefit of classes 5,6,7 and 8. Then there was the Summer Engagement Week in the middle of June that provided interactive workshops for classes 7 – 12 on various disciplines, by renowned faculty. The Science and Mathematics Kickstart Workshop for Class 12, and the Young Theater der Welt Congress – future (t) her “ Our House on Fire” organized by Goethe Institut from the 10th of June to the 4th of July with Drishya Toshniwal class 8 C, Sanvee Sarada (IGCSE 1), Shrivaani Poddar (IB 1) participating.

It won't be fair to continue without a very, very special mention to our Covid Crusaders who, by their initiative and courage have brought pride to MHS.

Audrija Dutta, of IB year1 enrolled herself for a Covid vaccination trial (Zycov – D) (for the age group 12 – 18 years) at the Institute of Child Health this month.

Brisha Jain and Sneha Yadav of Class 10 started COVAID, an initiative which aimed to make available Covid 19 related information to people who are in need of it. Free home delivered meals and medical equipment were made possible with the help of donors and school volunteers.

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A Highlight

This year the Co curricular department of MHS has taken the initiative to bring talent of the Middle School to the forefront, by encouraging team work through a number of theme related activities. WELFUR – an animal welfare programme. FOOD FOR THOUGHT – Discussions on Recipes. COMICON –lights, camera action. NATURE JOURNALING, as in observing the life cycle of a bee. These are some of the activities in accordance with the School theme for this year – “Learn from Everywhere.”

Cyber Security Workshop

On the 22 nd of June, Mr. Sandeep Sengupta, Founder/ Director – ISOAH Data Securities Pvt Limited CISA, Lead Auditor, Security Consultant, CII Education Sub Committee, addressed the MHS community (Classes 6 – 12), including parents, on awareness about cyber safety guidelines, as part of Child Rights Protection. A special mention must be made to Yashita Choraria of Class X D for her initiative, in identifying the particular website that has this Cyber Safety Certification option. It is encouraging to know that Yashita is also working as an intern in their CSR programme and has also created a video, explaining the programme.

Farewell of the Class of 2021

On the 26th of June, at 4pm, the ISC Class of 2021 were given a School farewell by the Class of 2020. The event was divided into the Formal (which included the teachers and coordinators) and the second part, the Informal was only for the students. The programme began with Mrs. D. Kar (Director) addressing the outgoing Class of 2021, this was followed with a speech by Mrs. D. Mukherjee (Principal) and one by Aanvi Kothari (Head Girl). The evening eased into a song, and a dance, followed by two games, Zoom In and Face Recognition.

On this cheerful note, we must sign off from June. Let us keep an open mind about the many masks we wear, and, do remember to close all virtual doors behind you!

Stay safe, MHS

“ Sacred Space- July ”

When billionaire, Sir Richard Branson successfully reached the edge of space, on board his Virgin Galactic rocket plane, he described it as a magical experience and said, “I was once a child with a dream looking up to the stars, now, I’m an adult in a spaceship, looking down on our beautiful Earth. To the next generation of dreamers: if we can do this, just imagine what you can do.”

Shortly after, on the 52nd anniversary of the Apollo moon landing, (a date chosen for its historical significance,) Jeff Bezos’ New Shepard rocket soared....and Bezos said, “Were going to build a road to space so our kids and their kids can build the future.”

The pull of the unknown has drawn space worldly billionaires to a level beyond, as they thrust through stratified layers of the atmosphere leaving behind , a beautiful Earth , ridden with bewildering climate change and soaring temperatures, floods and forest fires, also a couple of upsets - and wins at Wimbledon, and the Euro 2020. This astronomical experience of viewing the earth from space must have been amazing, and, if the “privileged” so happened to chance upon the activities of our girls from their rarified haven, they would probably have steadied into levitation, at the successful on goings in MHS... Here’s to MHS, where the sky is no longer the limit...

A Human Library Event

We began the month (3rd July) with A Human Library Event. This event was significant, as it marked the inauguration of the innovative “Human Library” in our school. As the name suggests, it is a library where people akin to books are on loan to readers to have conversations with.

Alokananda Roy, an alumna and ex teacher of our school, was the human book borrowed and could not have been a better choice as she is someone who, by using art (dance) as a tool, changed the lives of hundreds of prisoners, some of whom were once branded as hard core criminals. The book “In search of Valmiki” traces her unique journey with the prisoners and certain excerpts of it were highlighted by our Director, Mrs. Devi Kar in the interactive session . Some of our Senior students Anjali Ladha 12 B, Aarshi Majumdar 11 A, Ritika Dhar 11 A, Adrija Das 11 A, Adrija Sen 12 B and Aishani Chaturvedi 12 B were also part of the interaction.

Middle School brought Accolades to the event table...

Our young creative writers participated in “The Toon Star” comic writing competition on the 5th of July. Shortly after, they did us proud at “Spardha,” an event hosted by Mahadevi Birla World Academy. MHS were the overall first Runners up.

On the cine front, Mahadevi Birla World Academy hosted a Wild Life Film Making Workshop which was attended by Drishya Toshniwal 8C and Rajanyya Majumdar 8A of the Middle School. The Footprints Film Festival took place on the 10th & 11th . Aarshi Roy Bishnu 6C and Ajab Patel 7B participated.

The IB Diploma results for the Class of 2021 did our School proud with Kuhoo Mitra the highest scorer, at 43 points. Congratulations to all our candidates.

Discussing, Debating and Thinking.....This “ Month of many MUNs” began with the **Chennai International MUN 2021**. Our congratulations to Akshita Poddar (IGCSE 2) the Best Delegate on Commission on Status of Women . Yashita Choraria (10D) received a Special mention here. Mohona Sengupta (11B) was recognised as the Best Communique on the Joint Crisis Committee and Krittika Chakraborty (9C) together with Keara Bandhan (10A) were deserving of a Special mention and High Commendation.

Calcutta International School MUN '21 .We sent a delegation of 17 members. The agendas set down were diverse in nature, as the delegates tackled problems in the South China Sea, deliberated on the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and talked about human rights violation in the Syrian Arab Republic. Proven worthy, our girls came home with not three.... but four awards! Yashita Choraria (10D) was outstanding, Adrija Sen (12B) and Shrinjana Ghosh (11D) got a Special Mention and Mohona Sengupta (11B) a Verbal mention.

JACO MUN 2021 was hosted by St. James’ Kolkata. Topics ranged from Covid 19, the future of Crypto currency to impactful past events such as the Warsaw pact invasion of Czechslovakia. After 3 days of deliberation, discussion and debating we came home with two awards. Olipriya Chakraborty(12B) got a Special Mention and Rhianna Ghosh Dastidar(11B) and Adrija Sen (12B) a Verbal Commendation.

"Iskule Bioscope" (As told to me by our Head Girl - Aanvi Kothari Class 12.)

“In the iconic film ‘Pather Panchali’ the train continues with its journey as two children one slightly older than the other, run across a field of kash-phool.In the short film ‘Two’, two children from very different backgrounds duel each other, both showing off their toys.

One confined within the walls of his mansion while the other playing a flute standing in the open surrounded by tall vegetation. We have scenes from Ray films memorized as they are just unforgettable.

Through iskule bioscope, its projects and activities, we got an opportunity to explore the world of this extremely talented and versatile man and do justice in our own way to his works which we so very love and admire. Be it through writing, making trailers or paying homage to Feluda or Professor Shonku through art, students got the chance to traverse the works of the Oscar winner through any medium they liked. The highlight? for me it would be making the trailer and getting a taste of Ray's silent yet amusing short film 'Two'.

Hence the whole project was a wonderful escapism from our regular scheduled academic methods of learning, and what better way to spend our summer vacations in this lockdown than being surrounded by the delightful works of Ray himself."

(A quiz was organised by Iskule Bioscope on the life of late actor Soumitro Chatterjee, in which 2 of our students participated.)

We Support The School of Chinese Language.

To mark the celebration of its 13th Anniversary, The School of Chinese Language organised a number of workshops between the 10th and 16th of July, in order to promote various Chinese arts and craft .These activities ranged from paper cutting , Chinese calligraphy, Chinese songs, Gongfu and Taijiquan. The event culminated in a Grand Finale Bingo. MHS supported this event and of the 19 girls who registered, Svava Jalan and Aarika Keyal of Class 2 and Bhavya Jain of Class 6 won prizes.

A Fiscal Fellowship....

From the stock market to personal finance, from game theory to behavioural finance, **the Young Investors Fellowship Programme** was conducted by the Finance Cell of Hans Raj College Mumbai between the 21st and the 25th of July.

Founder of Goodfaith - Kashish Malani of Class 11C, had a drive on Period Poverty where her organisation, "Goodfaith" donated sanitary napkins to underprivileged women and girls, and explained the importance of menstrual hygiene to them. Kashish collaborated with brands, Peesafe and Rahosafe for this drive, and distributed sanitary napkins to an NGO called Stars Welfare Society and the School, Vidyanjali. Assisted by two of her class mates, Srreshtha Sureka and Shalini A. Naik, the girls took on a number of initiatives last year which included, awareness on the use of masks and sanitizers, "Bake for a Cause," and also a Christmas drive.

“An eight hued rainbow of success amidst the apocalyptic gloom.”

- MAITREE

Be it Splattering a bleak canvas or Spotlight of care free comedy or thundering passion of an Outspoken heart.....The two day Intra-school fest had myriad events, with Memes, Moodboards, Sitting choreography, Pet styling, Nonsense Poetry and Doodling, besides traditional events like Group dance, painting, creative writing and Elocution.

There was an overwhelming response to Maitree. **Rose House was declared Champions and Orchid House - Runners up.**

Living Waters Museum (23rd of July) A session with Amitangshu Acharya, an ecologist and a water conservationist , who spoke about Rani Rashmoni, the Founder of Dakhineswar Kali Temple, Kolkata and her relationship with the ghats. He also touched upon women in general, and their relationship with the Hoogly.

Lilavatibai Podar High School Mumbai hosted “Illuminaire 2021” a Psychology Fest on 24th July – Senior School girls participated.

ShowCAsE '21

The essence of creativity, activity and service. A great initiative on the part of The IB year 2 students. They planned this event for IB schools throughout India. CASsette, CAScade and BroadCAST. The latter was a social service event involving initiating a digital campaign. (It was very encouraging to note that the campaigning continued even after the event.

BUYDOWN

This Inter School Business fest was hosted by MHS on 31st July and 1st August. An idea born out of mere passion and enthusiasm. There were 5 events, ranging from start ups to marketing. Buydown tested the business acumen of the participants from eight schools and was a resounding success, as each participant endeavoured to 'outwit', 'outplay' and 'outlast'.

“It is better to debate a question than to settle a question without debating it.”

The Calcutta Debating Circle Monsoon Championship began on this defining note over the 29th, 30th and 31st of July where the senior girls were taught not to raise their voices, but their stance, that their speech was their POWER, and instead of just being argumentative, be convincing.

Felicitations

It has always been a very special day in our School calendar, the 29th of July, and more so this year, as we celebrated the 94th birthday of Mrs. Wilson-de-Rose, our former Principal. We chose this day to felicitate two distinguished alums, Sharmila Ghosh Sinha—class of 1979 and Dr. Nandini Ray—class of 1984. Mrs. Devi Kar, our Director, spoke in the context of the “Time” when Dr. Nandini Ray and Sharmila Ghosh Sinha were in School. The 70’s and 80’s. A time when there was no internet, no mobiles nor computers. It was the rule of the book, and a pen. It was a time when the heart and the mind of the teachers mattered - the time of the chalk, and, the talk.

In her speech, our Principal, Mrs. Damayanti Mukherjee quoted former First Lady of the United States, Michelle Obama...

“ Sometimes the hero stumbles and falls right off, of the beach and sometimes the princess rolls her eyes and says, “I don’t want to be saved.”

Sometimes if you don’t get out there and define yourself, you will quickly and inaccurately be defined by others.”

Mrs. Mukherjee went on to say...

“Sometimes, glass ceilings need to be broken so that the warmth of the sun is felt in all its power.”

With the strength and conviction of these powerful words, may we continue to be fortified within our **Sacred Space - MHS**, for it is a space, in which each one of us, both past and present rightly belong.



MHS - August Rush



I love the sound of August. It mulls in my mind, the sweetness of sentiments both personal and chronological. Often referred to as the Sunday of Summer, my perspective of the month, portrays pleasant achievements of everything gone by. A quarterly threshold, of the School year and a sense of anticipation of what is to come. Now you may think I'm a dreamer...but the truth is, August makes you sigh with content. We've come this far and we will journey thus.

Standing in the Front Lobby and staring at sheets of rain lashing down this warm and sultry August afternoon, I cannot help but reminisce about **School Dispersals on a rainy day**. If you ever had the opportunity to tune in to the dynamics of School dispersal, you would understand my sentiment. There's always a calm before the storm...and then, like a cloud burst, children cascade down the stairs into the front and side lobbies. It feels almost sensational as they artfully dodge teachers stationed on dispersal duty, some to join anxious parents or guardians waiting with monsoon paraphernalia, others clammer on to School buses, while the wayward, simply wade through the school gates. August Rush it is, and if you were to close your eyes and listen.....it would sound almost like Symphony in "D" Major.

I break from this reverie to orchestrate my thoughts to the reasoning behind this explosive energy which continues to withstand the test of time, channelized into much **talent and creativity**.

The Merkyl Era maybe drawing to a close, but our young German Learners are very much in the frontline....

On the 6th of August, Goethe Institute organised *a virtual tour of the secret annexe in the Anne Frank House of Amsterdam* and explained the life of Anne Frank. Students from Kolkata, Bengaluru, Mumbai and Karachi were invited to take part.

The Institut also organised **Freundschaft Monat** (Friendship through Poetry and Music) and **Freundschaft: die Melodies des Herzens** over the 20th and 21st of August.

Asaawari Sahai of class 7C gives us a very clear perspective of this poetry session.

Walter Winchell once said, "A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out", and what better way to express your friendship than a poem.

Freundschaft Monat (Friendship Month) focused on Poetry sessions where groups of students, from different locations, came together to celebrate this special bond. This exciting, interactive and informative online workshop was conducted on the 20th of August, 2021 on Zoom. Each group consisted of 3 to 4 members, each of whom had to contribute by writing eleven phrases describing their friends in German on "Padlet." The session was very exciting as we gained knowledge in an entertaining way. The interaction helped us make new friends and connect socially among peers. Not only did this workshop boost our vocabulary, it also gave us a wonderful interactive experience. We wish that more such workshops are conducted in the future!

Freundschaft: die Melodie des Herzens was an online music workshop which was held on the evening of the 21st of August.

"Rediscovering Friendships – A reflective, creative and expressive journey to reconnect and celebrate friendships. Young Sneha Sarkar, Riddhima Chakraborty, Sajesha Sethia, Meghna Das and Dhani Mehta from class 5 took part in this workshop.

Cath Con, an Inter School online Hackathon was organised by Cathedral and John Conon between the 6th and 8th of August. It was a three day competition with over 260 participants from various Schools. They were taught to use online platforms like Discord and Hackerrank...a pure learning experience.

Morpheus 21 South City International School annual Fest was held between the 2nd and 5th of August. **MHS won the Best School Award for its overall performance across all events.**

Hours of auditions and online zoom practices payed off, as from business to cooking to e-sport, our girls performed extremely well in their events and the result. Nishita Lulla 12C came 1st in **CEO Showdown**. Sheetal Bantia 10C was a winner in **Meme-ories** and Aishani Misra 12B, Ishani Bhowmick 12D and Mohona Sengupta 11B, Swaranya Sarkar 10 A, Ahaana Kandoi 9A and Sanjana Mittra IGCSE2 were winners in **If Events could Talk**. Congratulations to all our girls both winners and participants.

Grooves 2021

When the sound of feet tapping on the stage suddenly stops, there is a silence. "Grooves" filled that void on a virtual stage.

- (Anjali Ladha Fest Head 12 B)

Dance on a virtual platform has been one of the most interesting developments we have witnessed during the pandemic. When words fail us, we can always rely on dance to express exactly what we feel. **Our Inter- School fest is dedicated solely to dance**, for classes 8 – 12. We aimed to focus this Fest on different and diverse dance forms and to allow for inspiration to be drawn from unimaginable concepts. Grooves brought to the forefront different ways of dancing that emphasize creativity, movement and spontaneity, rather than traditional choreography. The mixed bag of events combines the element of dance and rhythm with that of art, science, history and sociology, among other concepts making each performance unique.

Photomatics 21 an Inter-school Photography Competition was hosted by South City International to celebrate World Photography Day. Aaniya Chaudhury 8D placed 3rd in the 7-8th category and Kumudini Chowdhury 11B placed 2nd in the 9-12th category.

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Independence Day 2021

In 2020 when we were in the throes of the pandemic, few assembled on the School field to hoist the National Flag. One year on, it seems significantly encouraging that the School Shed broke its silence and hosted not only our senior administrative team, but the Guide girls of MHS. The positive physical presence seems synonymous with the Freedom Fighters, as we make a brave attempt not only to beat the odds, but to hoist the flag with strength and conviction, that the months ahead, will be more promising.

Behind the screens, all School departments honoured the 74th Independence day through song, dance, poetry, painting, watched online by classes 6–12.

The international wing interviewed some of the students' grandparents on their memories of Independence Day of yester years.

The Tree Planting Ceremony. As customary, class 8 did the honours on the 24th of August. In their "Elements", Piyushi Jha 8D represented Air, Aanya Bindra 8B, the Sky, Ishaani Dey 8 C was Water, Anandini Sengupta represented Light and the Earth – Riddhima Tiwari 8 C.

The Singers - Anandini Choudhary 8C, Sreedatri Lahiri 8A, Anoushka Bardhan 8A and Anoushka Chakraborty 8C.

Dancers - Oishiki Banerjee 8A, Diviyani Roy 8B and Mrityka Das 8C.

It was on the 26th of August, a pretty pink Hibiscus sapling was planted by Mrs. D. Mukherjee and Mrs. I. Roy at the side of the School Shed.

The Class of 2020 – 2021 and the playing Fields.....

I began August with lobby dispersals, and as we draw to the close of the month, there was a significant re-entry of the Class of 2021 (National Curriculum). The girls dropped by over the course of the week, to collect their individual packages. Yes, marksheets, pass certificates and migration certificates. Each going their different ways with well deserved placements and high aspirations. Some pause and take one last look at the freshly mowed playing fields they leave behind.

Perhaps a timeline of thoughts cross their young minds, as they scan the length and breadth of The Field which was once their formative playground. Primary memories of paddling under supervision, in colourful, inflated pools. The excitement of Santa Claus and Christmas Carols. Gradually the understanding of the solemnity of Foundation Day Assembly and the significant release of blue, red and white balloons, that soar over MHS January skies and disappear into the security of the unknown. Morning basket ball practices, Children's Day Celebrations, Sports Day, the winter Art Melas and the inevitable Farewells. One last look...now a vast expanse of green signifying , a fresh start...**we wish the class of 2020 - 2021 well.**



MHS – The Indelible September



For it is written, *that the influence of a great Teacher can never be erased*, and it is known, that, as on life's journey we go, the greatness of a Teacher resides within the *bright* recesses of our beings. With time, like wine, their deeds and words evolve within us, only to carve a permanent niche in our impressionable minds.

On the 5th of September, Teachers' Day, the Senior students serenaded their "Forever Heroes". "I will be alright" was the theme song and the words, "Thank you for Teaching our little minds with your Big Hearts", said it all. Yes, Members of Mask Club also put up a wonderful presentation on the Day.

While we were celebrating the occasion over the weekend, **young Anoushka Poddar of Class 7 A was riding high at the Regional Equestrian League in Jaipur**. Anoushka won silver and bronze for show jumping and a gold in the Hacks tournament in her category. We congratulate her and wish her the very best.

Now, **the third edition of Hakuna Matata** was released to mark the occasion of Teachers' Day. Jiah Karmakar and Vaibhavi Gupta (IGCSE 2), Chief editors and their editorial team did an excellent job of this issue. From Afghanistan, hanging in the balance, to the full capacity of our Highest Judicial System, **Hakuna Matata led us through interesting walks of life**. "Tastea" Teacher favourites and Dead Poet Society. Read on MHS.....Read on.

European Day of Languages 2021. 6th–10th of September

Our German Learners, Irene Altaf and Hadeesha Kaur of class 10 were selected to join students from all around South Asia in this online workshop. Max Mueller/ Goethe institute in collaboration with the German, Spanish and French Embassies showcased a plethora of workshops, film screenings, exhibitions and interactions in an online format on the theme, culture, language and diversity. The prose, poetry, and drama, learned by students, depicted traces from these different European countries and their languages, even if the medium of conduct was English or bilingual.

The 13th edition of Odyssey 2021 was hosted by Birla High School on the 15th of September. 'Humour - Us', 'Amaze –On', 'Fashion–I–Con'- these were the three events where our girls were Runners Up.

High Energy Level

These three words best describe our Middle School. Time doesn't hang heavy for them, as they aspire to achieve a level of excellence through their talent. I've been told that they explore, doodle, and dabble in calligraphy. They learn from their mistakes and draw inspiration from Team Work. That's the spirit...great going Middle School!

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Sanglaap

This event was hosted by Heritage School on the 7th of September. Congratulations to Atira Dewan 7B - winner of the Hindi Elocution, Camelia Bhattacharya Sahu 6B for coming first in the English Elocution and Anjika Fatehpuria 8C who stood 3rd in the Literary Quiz.

Emergence – DAV Public School Ojasvi Doogar 6A and Atira Dewan 7B emerged winners and Anisha Mohta 8D was rewarded a 3rd.

Maths Day 2021

In keeping with the theme of the year, "Learn from everywhere", Class 7 left no "Mathstone" unturned as they celebrated Maths Day on the 26th. You name it – "Maths Day" had it. Live Performance, Video Collage, Block and Tackle, Famous Mathematicians, Baffling Maths, Space Exploration, Jam, Learning From Everywhere, Hands on Workshop, Artificial Intelligence, Quizzes and a Treasure Hunt. Parents were invited to the event and were requested to comply with the rules! Yes, "Raise your hand" was one such rule...that's only fair, isn't it!

Will we, won't we, will we, won't we...rumblings of re-opening in this time of uncertainty. Once again the Senior and Middle School teachers returned to the campus from the 13th of September.

Sweet surrender, September...the build up to the Mother of all events has begun in all earnestness.

We will see you at our prestigious week-long programme of the **Platinum Year Celebration: Academic Symposium-Raising the Bar through Ubuntu...in October.**

“*To Greater Heights*”

Once upon an October time, MHS embroidered the fabric of a very successful academic symposium – Raising the bar through UBUNTU. Twenty-two schools came together, in the likeness of a brilliant piece of tapestry, threaded with colours of creative thoughts, words and action, that live-streamed over a week, from the 3rd to the 10th of this month.

“I am what I am because of who we all are”, manifested itself through the meticulous planning and brainstorming of the MHS Think Tank, and, we had ourselves a success story.

I give you an account through the eyes of the young, and, the experienced.

“Raising The Bar Ubuntu, was one of the most expansive, plural and eclectic fests of MHS. After months of brainstorming and zoom meetings, the 3 dialogues took shape: **Humanity through the lens of empathy, languages through the vessel of empathy and science through the prism of empathy.** The first dialogue presented a unique take on the cost of sustainability in the midst of a growing geometric population when food production grows only arithmetically. The second dialogue encouraged all individuals to make use of creative platforms and embark on a journey of creative expressions as everyone strives to understand empathy in languages. The third dialogue revolves around the age-old dichotomy of Science and Faith. As we usher into a tech-savvy world, this dialogue asked young minds to look at the cosmos through dual perspectives of Science and Theology and find a balance. All three dialogues posed one main question: what decides our choices and how do we make them or break them.

Overall, this symposium was a wonderful week filled with purposeful discovery and unending curiosity and also enabled students to foster deep relations with this world through peers, instructors and teammates.”

- Aanvi Kothari – MHS Head Girl Class of 2021–22

“This symposium witnessed some of the most engaging sessions with speakers from India, UK and Germany. Being a part of the core organizing team, this was a true learning as well as an enjoyable experience for me. From giving birth to the idea way back in November 2020 to actually executing it in October 2021, was like living a dream.”

- Ms Asmita Chatterjee – MHS Teacher and core organizing team.

“Ubuntu – Raising the Bar, conducted by MHS, was an immersive experience for high school students, from a range of schools, to explore empathy in different ways. Through critical questioning and searching for answers, the weeklong academic symposium became a series of thought-provoking interactions, led by competent resource persons, in a mostly non-competitive approach, that encompassed the humanities, the languages and science. The entire exercise was a novel way of forging links to our inherent connectedness and urging young minds to push the boundaries towards holistic lives.”

- Ms Sunita Biswas – MHS Teacher and core organizing team.

Not only did MHS raise the bar significantly, online, but on the golf course too.

Pusti Khemka, class 8A and Anjika Fatehpuria, class 8 C were Runners Up at the 16th Inter school Golf Indian Championship, held at Tollygunge Club on the 7th & 8th of October. Congratulations to our amateurs.

Among the other online events this month, was the debate hosted by Vasant Valley Delhi and the Xuberance Fest at St. Xaviers Collegiate School, Kolkata over the 8th and 9th, with the Senior School participating.

The MHS Banner continued to fly, even at 12083 ft. as during the School Puja Vacation, Shriya Parakh from class 8D enrolled herself for a Himalayan Mountain expedition to the Deoriatal Chandrashila Trek with India Hikes. The trek span was from the 11th to the 16th of October and Shriya successfully completed her expedition and reached the Chandrashila Summit at 12083 ft.

“I had a beautiful learning experience through this trek. I learned to be more independent, to never give up, to keep pushing myself out of my comfort zone and majorly how to acclimatize my body to different and difficult conditions. It was a very proud and fulfilling moment for me when I held my school banner overlooking the mighty Himalayas.”

- Shriya Parakh Class 8 D

And, what do you know....it was while going uphill, Shriya met Stuti Maheshwari, Class 11B and Maanya Maheshwari, Class 5B from MHS! What a magnificent sight it is to see our three trekkers come together at this rarified height and proudly raise the School banner. Colours of MHS in all its splendor....bright red, against blue skies, and white peaks.

We move on to “Words on Wings” by Kshemaahna Nagi and “Silhouettes” by Anoushka Poddar.

Be it at 12,000 feet or at ground level, the MHS success story continues, with Anoushka Poddar 7A and Kshemaahna Nagi 10C having started their writing careers and becoming published authors with “Scholastic Quill Club Writers.”

We were invited to participate in the Dhirubhai Ambani International School – MUN on the 21st of November and, Indus Valley School, Kolkata, hosted the RK Laxman Centenary Celebration on the 25th of October. Anoushka Bardan of class 8A came 3rd, in Cartooning and Zoya Mazhar 8C, in Photography.

As it was in the beginning, October ended on an eventful note with **Mitali 2021**. A fashion photo shoot with pets, dance based on one body part, unconventional orchestra and installation art with e-waste - once again our Middle Schoolers rose to the occasion, portraying friendship and bonding through Mitali 2021. Much commitment and compromise, as they worked around each others schedules, making sure their friends did not miss out on distant Puja revelry during practices and auditions. Congratulations to the winners - Gulmohar House and Magnolia House who were Runners Up.

“Life Goes On”

School is back in harness, online, after the Diwali break. This morning(8th November), while reading the Times of India, I glanced upon a quote by Robert Frost. Here's what the American poet had to say -

“In three words I can sum up everything I've learnt about life - It goes on.”

I bring to you November, with Robert Frost going on to say -

“In all the confusions of today, with all our troubles...with politicians and people slinging the word fear around, all of us become discouraged...tempted to say this is the end, the finish. But life - it goes on. It always has. It always will. Don't forget that.”

As though fortified by his words, and in the hope of a better tomorrow, the gates of our School have re-opened to some semblance of regularity. Middle and Senior School teachers have returned to where they rightfully belong. How lovely it is to hear the sound of music from above, as Junior teachers also come in to practice for Children's Day. And yes, it is also the time of the year when admit cards are being handed out to our class 12 examinees.

This month offered our girls an opportunity to take part in the “Odyssey”, hosted by Sanskriti Gurukul, Assam (9 & 11 participated) and Peerless Hospital, Kolkata organized “Draw As You Like” for classes 7 & 11.

“*The Uniformed Return*”

National Achievement Survey - 12th November, 2021

Down to serious business, as the National Achievement survey -2021 was conducted on campus on the 12th. Gone are the days when we entertained the hustle and bustle of entry in to school. Now cautious steps on red crossed markings lead the way to the examination venues. How reassuring it is to see select students from class 10 return to the campus in uniform.

Despite the watering down of the Historic UN deal on Saturday, 13th November where India and China diluted the coal deal at the end of the COP 26 summit in Glasgow, life continued at MHS.... On the 14th of November, **Children's Day was celebrated online**. The happy ground reality of teachers practicing their song and dance by the throw ball court, all added to a promising come back. Every department put their best foot forward. While the Commerce department enacted and sang “*These are a few of my favourite things*”, the English Department did a skit. The Mathematics teachers put on their creative hats and came up with, “*When Circle Met Square*”,...the falling in love of the 2 most Mathematically different shapes and, how it took an MHS Student to find a solution to unite them! *History went down the ages in good spirit...* from Mohenjodaro....All in all, an excellent performance.

On the 16th, the IB and the IGCSE students returned to School.

A Breakthrough

We resumed offline Board exams from the 22nd of November. With new SOPs and rhythmic procedures in place we swung in to action. Sanitizers, temperature gauges, social distancing, isolation rooms, masks and more...MHS put its best foot forward.

Choir practice started today in the Planetarium, in preparation for Foundation Day.

The 26th of November saw a lot happening both in and out of School.

The event, "Relativity" was hosted by La Martiniere for Boys, for classes 6 – 8, Shaileyee Pal 7B was a winner at "Alchemy" and Fatima Rehman 8B came 2nd for "Cybernetics".

There was an Interactive and Motivational session with Deepak Ranola of the Prabha Khaitan Foundation.

Another Interactive Session with IGCSE learners and parents was held on the 26th in our MACE Hall. Slowly but surely, School has begun to "feel" like School. At 2.30 pm this November afternoon, simultaneous degrees of academic pursuits were taking place on campus, with the ISC Board examination, Semester 1 in progress on the ground (School Gym, Shed and the Junior Hall) and an IGCSE interaction in MACE Hall.

Mr. Satyajit Sarkar, CAIE Senior Manager for Eastern India, Bangladesh and Nepal and Mr. Daniel Emmerson, Director of the International Summer Outreach Programme of Felsted School UK, visited MHS to interact with IGCSE learners and parents.

On the 29th, we began the new week, with the ICSE English paper 1.

"Free Expression" an event hosted by the Prabha Khaitan Foundation took place on the 30th with Pallaavi Banerji of class 7D securing 1st place.

As November draws to a close, I recall last year, almost to this day...that the School grounds looked well rested and, with a patch of green...hope springs eternal. It is hope and prayers which have brought forth the present. The patch of Green has turned greener and, the rhythm of the day, has gained momentum.

“December - The Finishing Line”

Not sleigh bells, but the ringing of the School bell (after almost two years) ushered in class 11(National curriculum) on the very first day of December. Sunny days were short lived, as in the second week, cyclone “Jawad” brought with it, overcast skies and heavy rain. The weather wasn’t a deterrent to the activities held this month, and the National Curriculum Board examinations (ICSE and ISC) Semester 1 continued unabated, as winter afternoons stretched into late evenings, with evaluators and invigilators correcting on - site, and uploading marks each day.

This month saw a number of events in the calendar . A special mention to **Chiaroscuro – an Art & Design Festival hosted by Legacy School Bangalore**. Mohona Sengupta 11B, came 1st not only in the Book Cover category but also in the Comic Design category.

Calcutta International School hosted "Colosseum" on the 17th while Jamnabai Narsee International School, Mumbai offered "HOPE", on the 18th.

Treffpunkt 2021, 16th – 19th December.

In the sunlight ,under the shade of the MHS Peepal tree, Hrishita Baheti, 11D **danced** a fusion of the German Waltz and a contemporary, semi Indian classical. Not far away, virtually, Anushka Chakraborty, 8C and Anoushka Bardhan 8A, **sang** “Ami Chini Go Chini Tomare Ogo Bideshini” (I know you I do . O’ stranger from the distant land) thus heralding our 5th German Fest.

Through the eyes of Ayra Fatima Ahmed – Deputy Head Girl (IBDP2)

“**Treffpunkt 2021** was an enriching and enjoyable cultural exchange, with 180 participants from 4 countries (Bangladesh, Pakistan, India and Germany). The virtual platform allowed us to step beyond the boundaries of cities and countries and the workshops held over the three days connected us through the common thread of the German Language. From sustainable cooking to graphic designing, dance and creating stories through photography, we celebrated the diverse cultural backgrounds of our participants while focusing on the needs of the future with the aim of creating a global community based on the values of friendship, synergy and respect.”

The sound of silence returned to the School corridors, as we slipped into our Winter Vacation...

Let us reflect on the year gone by, with gratitude and the opportunities afforded. We ran our course of classes and assignments, of examinations and events. What lies beyond may not be in our hands, but onward we must continue, with hope and conviction.

“If a picture paints a thousand words, then the sun soaked poster of the School façade that we see poised on the front of the building, speaks volumes - MHS Completes 70 years.”

With each passing year, MHS crosses significant milestones, gaining weightage in recognition, as we move from silver to gold, onward to diamond and now platinum. The Solitaire Success of our institution is reflected in the ever progressive curriculum, clearly indicating the resilience and the forward thinking process of MHS, which has evolved from its very foundation, to present day, both in the National and very recently, the International curriculum.

How gratifying it is to see children entrusted in our care, finding solace within our walls, ever soaking in what the school has had to offer. And when they leave, they carry with them the insignia of honour and pride, deep impressions of mentoring and a promising personality that holds them in good stead wherever they go....

Life goes on at MHS , with Mohona Sengupta of Class 11B coming first in the **Book Cover Design and Comic Design at Chiaroscuro- Art and Design Festival** , that was organised by Legacy School, Bangalore.

We then went for seconds and thirds at **The NAFL Bangalore (National Academy for Learning) Business Fest** on the 7th of January. Riya Kedia of class 11A and Anshika Monga of 9 C came second in “Ready Set Invest.” In “The Journalist” it was Kumidini Chowdhury 11B and Shreya Datta 11B, in “Objection Your Honour” Rhianna Ghosh Dastidar 11B and “Magnus Dominus” Nishita Lulla of class 12C came 3rd.

In the fight against Covid -19 CMRI hospital in association with MHS organised a very successful and attractive vaccination camp in School on the 12th of January, for the 15 to 18 year olds.

The Avsar Fest was hosted by Akshar School

Saanvi Fatehpuria 6C, Kumudini Chowdhury 11B, Priyamvada Mundhra 11B, Nishantika Sengupta 11A, Shrinjana Ghosh 11D Shreya Datta 11B, Nandini Jhunjhunwala 9A, Anoushka Dasgupta 11B, Srijoni Banerji 11D, Udyomaa Sureka 9C and Yashvi Khetawat 9D took part.

MHS were the overall champions at “Quiziness” The International Quiz Festival hosted by DPS Ruby Park. “In the Senior General Quiz” Shrinjana Ghosh 11D, Anushree Mukherjee 11D, Radhika Mitra 10 A and Aarushi Chatterjee 10 B came 3rd. Radhika Mitra was awarded the best Quizzer in the “Pop Culture Quiz” and together with Vaibhavi Gupta 9C they came 2nd in this event.

Our young Anjika Fatehpuria 8C is synonymous with Golf. She's done it again. Runner up in the Protouch Junior Tour 2021 at the RCTC Grounds and the Eastern Amateur Tour Championship 2021, held at The Tollygunge Club.

Moving on to culinary skills, Anshika Monga 9C and Nandini Jhunjunwala 9A, participated in the National Cooking Competition online, organised by Heritage Girls School, Udaipur.

21 -23 January

A Parliamentary Debate was hosted by Strawberry High School, Chandigarh - Vaani Goenka 10C came first in poster making, while Samkiti Ajmera 11A placed 2nd.

26th January, Republic Day

A quiet flag hoisting in school with our Principal, Mrs. D. Mukherjee and a few members of staff. Online, Nandini Jhunjunwala 9A recited a poem by writer, journalist and broadcaster, Savita Patel. There were two individual dance performances by Antara Roy Choudhury 11B and Ishani Bhowmick 12D and "Ae Watan" was sung by Antara Banerjee 11B.

29th of January

19 budding astronauts from classes 9-12 attended the National Space Science Symposium by Presidency University (all curricula participated).

Here they are *Sumiran Hora 9C, Nitya Jay Desai 11C, Samkiti P Ajmera 11A, Aanya Grover 9B, Shrinjana Ghosh 11D, Anvita Ghosh 10CSA, Saloni Chowdhury 11D, Sreetama Mondal 11D, Aishwarya Saraf 11A, Renee Dhingra 9B, Nishantika Sengupta 11A, Kanika Chandak 11D, Vaani Goenka 10C, Riya Mukherjee 11A, Yashvi Khetawat 9D, Anshika Monga 9C, Prishaa Nemani 9C, Maahi Agarwal 9C and Shriya Biswas 12B.*

“February- Say it with flowers”

Simply put, the month of February was beautiful. If you were to enter school from Gate no.5, the garden was a riot of colours. Pretty pink phlox laced the roundabout, with brief interludes of red salvia and then there were the colourful gerberas. Beyond, were the sturdy stalks of full headed antirrhums in regal shades of magenta, orange, red and white, oh yes brilliant yellow marigolds too! Beds of mauve petunia and prize winning potted plants like the geranium, dahlia and the kalanchoe. Forgive me for rambling (as one would in a garden of flowers), but this profuse display reflected the current mood of MHS' reopening. We are almost there...in full bloom.

Speaking of prize winning, awards went to Satavisha Dutta of class 7A, Avishi Choudhary class 8C and Vaanya Karel class 7A for their participation in 'Shutterfest' – A photography Fest hosted by Airforce Bal Bharti School between the 1st and 11th of February.

At the Vasant Valley Speakers Forum, 2nd of Feb- Krittika Chakraborty 9C did very well in “Slam Poetry” and Aastha Burman also of class 9B gave her best in an event called “Turn Coat”.

Devangee Kedia 7A participated in “Tall Tales” as did Atira Dewan 7B in “Oral Interpretation”. Congratulations to you!

The Future Foundation School held an Art Competition on the 2nd of Feb and the winners were Prakriti Chakravarti of class 11A and Pallavi Bannerjee of class 7.

The 2nd Human Library event was held on the 4th of February. It involved a dialogue with Ms Ruchira Gupta, first and foremost an illustrious MHS alum from the batch of 1982 and a social justice activist, feminist, campaigner and journalist.

“Despite her stature, and all her achievements, she spoke as though she was one of us – about her love for reading, how she was introduced to it and the kind of books that appealed to her. Moreover she took time out to answer our questions – really insightful answers that will help us give back to the greater good.” (As told to me by one of the students)

Kumudini Choudhury 11B, Shrinjana Ghosh 11D, Anupama Choudhury 11B, Urvi Agarwal 11B, Udyomaa Sureka 9C, Aastha Burman 9B, Krittika Chakraborty 9C and Aliza Ahmed 9B participated in this event.

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Petal Art on the 15th of February

The Pushpa Bitan Friendship Society (an association of harmonious flower lovers) organised “Petals on Paper” and invited our young artists to share their creative artwork with them

A special mention here to our 20 young Petals from Middle School.

KASHVI HARLALKA 6B, AAINA KAREN RAY 6B, AARSHI ROY BISHNU 6C, AARUSHI CHATTERJEE 6A, DAMAYANTI ROY 6B, BHAVYAA JAIN 6A, KASHVI CHATURVEDI 6C, LAHARI DAS 7C, MEISHA MINHAZ 8A, MIHIKA GOPALAN 8D, NEEYATI JUMRANI 6A, OJASVI DOOGAR 6A, ZAHABIYA MERHABA 6A, PRAMA SURANA 6A, PRISHA KANDOI 8B, SAAVINI SANGANERIA 8C, SHALINI BHATTACHARYA 7A, SIONA MITRA 7B and UNNATI MISHRA 7B.

“It was something very new to work with petals. We have never done something like this before.”, said Aaina Karen Ray 6B.

Aarshi Roy Bishnu 6C went on to say, “We had the opportunity to be creative. We had never seen these flowers before.”

Colours of Life

The Institute for Career Studies (ICS) Lucknow held its 12th International Painting Competition with the theme, “Colours of Life”.

Congratulations to Garima Kejriwal 12C, Kaashvi Agarwal 8A, Samuyah Naaz 10 C and Prakriti Chakravarti 11 A. They featured in the Special Mention category having exhibited their skills, thoughts and actions through creative expressions.

Apart from art much has happened on the sporting front at MHS.

Here’s an update on the sports bulletin for you on some who won and many who participated.

Fitness Enhanced – Aanya Agarwal 11B, Tanishtha Raha 11D, Stuti Maheshwari 11B, Tanvi Bansal 11A, Amisha Sachdev 10B, Hrishita Baheti 11D, Karishma Shah 11C, Yashvi Bajoria 12E, and Radhika Jhunjunwala 12E.

All India Inter-School Online Chess, B.D. Memorial – Saanvi Khanna 11C, Puravi Mohta 11D, Diksha Choudhuri 11D and Samriddhi Kejriwal 12C.

Sub Junior Calcutta District and State Swimming Championship - Anshika Sarkar 11B, 1st place (1500 m, 800m, 400mRelay) and Aishani Sarkar 9B - 3rd place 200m

TTEF Award - Tagyaa Parakh 11C for Outstanding Talent

WB Rowing Association -Yashita Choraria 10D– Member of state team

17th Inter –school Golf Championship –Adrija Dutta 8B, Nitya Himatsingka 8C, Pushti Khemka 8A, Tvisha Sanganeria 8C, Anjika Fatehpuria 8C, and Flora Bavishi 9B.

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World Radio Day

This was celebrated on the 13th of February 2022 and the art theme was Radio and Trust.

I spoke to two of our budding artistic commentators who had this to report.

“The World Radio Day Competition enabled me to expand my knowledge of art. I wasn’t very experienced in “still life art” including objects like the radio. I’ve learnt a lot more, and I now feel I’m better at “still life” too. Wouldn’t mind participating in something similar again!”- Sanaya Choreria 8B.

And in the words of Shanza Zayb Siddique 8B - “The Artwork for Radio Day gave me awareness that there was a Radio Day. It helped me experiment new art styles. I had never drawn a radio before, so this was new to me. I would like to do more artwork out of my comfort zone, which are portraits.”

A special mention here to all the participants.

6A - RAAGINI MITRA, ZAHABIYA MERHABA, OJASVI DOOGAR, 6B - AAINA KAREN RAY, HARSHITA DHANUKA, 6C - KASHVI CHATURVEDI, AARSHI ROY BISHNU, 6D - PIYALI CHAKRABORTY, PRIYADARSHINI NAG, NEERA KARMAKAR, 7A - AHANA BISWAS, AHANA DUGAR, ANIKA GOENKA, 7C - AASAWARI SAHAI, LAHARI DAS, SHREYA KEDIA, PRIYASHA MALLICK, ISHIKA CHAKRAVARTY, MEHER KAUR, 8A - OISHIKI BANERJEE, SANAYA CHORERIA 8B, SHANZA SIDDIQUE, 8B - SAAVINI SANGENERIA, 8D - RITOJA GANGULY

An Essay

Congratulations to Anshley Mukherjee of class 11A, her essay “The illustrious future of our nation’s children” was among the top 10 in the WBCPCR (West Bengal Commission for Protection of Child Rights essay competition).

“I honestly feel that children are the beacons of our future,” says young Anshley. She goes on to say that “They should get the opportunity to live and enjoy their childhood without being a source of labour which deprives them of their fundamental rights in the process. Children should be able to concentrate on their academics and receive proper education thus enabling them to grow into better global citizens and have a pristine mindset as to what to do with their lives.”

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Saraswati Puja 5th Feb

In the presence of Mrs. Nirmala Birla, our Chairperson, Mrs. Devi Kar (Director), Mrs. Damayanti Mukherjee (Principal) and members of the Administrative Team, Saraswati Puja was celebrated in the main school building as well as the International wing.

The Art department did a brilliant alpna in school colours and the cultural programme was presented by members of Deepshika, which included the reciting of the introductory Shloka by Lajbarna Mandal 12A, and the arti and shlok by Shradha Tiwari 9B and Vaishnav Tiwari 12D. The programme was very well anchored by Nishita Lulla 12C.

February left us with a deep Musical Void...

Lata Mangeshkar - noted singer and Indian music composer passed away on the 6th of February. Sandhya Mukherjee (legendry Bengali semi -classical singer) and Bapi Lahiri (singer, composer and record producer) left us for their heavenly abode on the 15th. RIP.

The Vaccination Booster Dose

The School arranged with CMRI, CK Birla group of hospitals to hold a vaccination camp on our premises on Saturday, 19th February 2022.

22nd February

Bells are ringing in MHS, the keys of the school piano come alive with children singing "Home on the Range" and there is laughter in the playground. Notwithstanding the honking of traffic...it's hard to believe but the familiar sounds have returned. It's school time folks! Let us put the scars of Covid 19 behind us for now, and cautiously welcome the future with open arms.

Did you know that February 23rd 1954 was A Red Letter Day in the School's history?

The first five prefects were chosen from the "school final class" by the Principal, (late)Mrs. Violet Clarke and members of staff. They were Andal Krishnaraj, Padma Nair, Salcha Hussain, Laxmi Sanyal and Swaran Saigal.

World News

On the 24th of February Russia began a military invasion on Ukraine.

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“March me to The-end-of-Term!”

I cannot even begin to describe what an invigorating sight it was, this sunny morning in March. The strength of MHS, sitting around on the School field, soaking in the sunshine and reading. As we hurtle towards the end of term, it is hard to believe that the walls, once so silent, now reverberate the all familiar-out of turn squeals of laughter and careless girlish chatter. This too shall pass has come to be...as the children once again return to “offline” school activities.

March brings with it much of the outdoor, with Saanvi Fatehpuria 9D, being placed third in show jumping and fourth in dressage, at the “Dream Alliance 2022” competition, which was held at the Sagar Equestrian Sports Academy in Jaipur, this year.

Then there was the “Biodiversity Walk” on the 16th. A day of discovery for 23 students from the Clean club, and members of Nature school, accompanied by Mrs. Soma Chatterjee visited the Victoria Memorial Hall Garden.

They discovered the “Lucky Bean Tree” so familiar to most of them from the school grounds and learned, that the “Lucky Tree” was called “Adanenthera.” Then there was The “Elephant Tree” with its wide spreading canopy. (The Elephant Tree is the national tree of Costa Rica). “The Mad Tree” where no two leaves were the same! And the “Budha Coconut Banyan Tree”. Yet another where the seeds had 2 wings!...all in all a very satisfying and informative day for our girls.

(It was very kind of Mrs. Soma Chatterjee to enlighten me on the Biodiversity Walk of March the 16th)

A special mention here to the “Lucky girls” who were present:

Avni Kejriwal 6C, Aanya Kedia 6C, Arshi Roy Bishnu 6C, Ishana Gambhir 6C, Devanshi Rajgaria 6C, Yashna Gupta 6C, Lavishka Agarwal 6C, Soumya Kedia 6B, Ahana Mukherjee 6B, Shanaya Danish 6C, Tara Bapat 6C, Nitya Maheswari 6A, Vidhanshika Shah 6D, Mishika Agarwal 6A, Ikshita Chamaria 6D, Aastha Tripathi 6D, Ubika Basu 6D, Suhana Chowdhury 6D, Neera Karmakar 6D, Arva Hamid 6D, Aishani Sarkar 9D, Nayantara Biswas 9A, Sonakshi Sen 9B.

SIMUN at Symbiosis 12th & 13th

Those participating in SIMUN need a very special mention - Anannya Tapuria 11A, Anshika Monga 9C, Riya Mukherjee 11A, Sumiran Hora 9C, Udyomaa Surka 9C and Antara Das 11A.

The Times of India and The Telegraph

MHS was in the news for all good reason on the 18th and 22nd of March. Asaawari Sahai of class 7C, featured in the TOI Kolkata news for successfully clearing her third Microsoft Technology Associate certification and Anandini Sengupta 8B in The Telegraph 18 under 18 award, for her story writing and poetry .

Congratulations Asaawari and Anandini!

Junior Kolkata Literary Meet 24th–26th

These girls represented us at the Literary Meet which was held at the Victoria Memorial Grounds - Anoushka Dasgupta 11B, Aarshi Majumdar 11A, Srishti Choudhary 11A and Aanya Grover 9A.

Farewell to the class of 2022

Tooni bulbs highlighting the red and blue décor, set the mood of a “fairylnd” like evening, as class 11 bade farewell to the outgoing Class of 2022. Fashion and colour came together on the field, and the event on the 24th gave us an inkling of normality, that we could never have imagined over the past two years.

The End of Term

If we were to freeze this moment in time, we would have a tableau in its entirety. Children staged within the MHS campus, each one filing in from their wings of responsibility, coming together to acknowledge a curtain call. It is the end of term, the lights dim, and we fade into recess—only to return in April to play our parts once again...when a new chapter is scripted, for the academic year 2022–2023.