Hello everybody!

The Scindians have been receiving the issues of the Review regularly, since ages. I must tell you the publication of an issue is not an ordinary thing. It requires lot of toil & travail on the part of all those who are associated with its publication. I must congratulate the Editorial Board for doing such a wonderful work, fortnight after fortnight. As per the requests from a certain section of our readers, we shall be including articles and poems in Hindi language as a regular feature in the Review from now onwards.

The last two months in the school were the busiest months of the session. In addition to it, the school has recently taken up massive projects of renovating the Dining Hall, Open Air Theatre and the school’s Academic Block. It seemed too much going on at a time. We are humbled by the workers who are working day and night and are doing such a fine job. And most of the renovation work, if not all, will be completed just before the Founder’s Day! The O.A.T with a snazzy Light and Sound Control room, new extended stage and a few other decors is looking mind-blowing and is just apt for the 21st October. The main school building’s stones have been cleaned and polished, the walls have been plastered with a different material to give it a regal look and the mess too looks awesome with a big school logo which is conspicuously visible as we enter. It now also has a false ceiling and really soothing colour combinations of painted walls and pillars; very aesthetic indeed!

The last fifteen days of September saw nothing but books in the hands of students. While Classes IX to XII had their Summative Assessment-I, the junior school and Class VIII students had a great time relaxing, like always. With the exams over now and the Founder’s Day round the corner, we can already see the teachers along with their students running here and there to prepare for the big day. And this time since the Chief Guest is the magnetic personality - Mr Shashi Tharoor, who is perhaps the most charming man in Indian politics, quite a few departments plan to schematize their exhibitions with political themes. We can also catch sight of the Orchestra and Play practices taking a serious turn. While all this is going on, many activities like the Inter-House hockey tournament and Hindi elocution would also be running side-by-side!

Outside the fort wall, there is brewing an unnecessary controversy (in my opinion) of ‘meat ban’ in the country. It started off with the Maharashtra government banning beef. There were mixed reactions over the 20 year old bill being suddenly passed. Different political parties have taken their stance either ways. Some politicians say, “Yes it’s good, since the riots related to cow and bull slaughter will end and it will be seen as a legal offense and not a religious one”. They say it is vital to respect sentiments in a democratic country with heterogeneous population and where majority of Hindus consider cow slaughter as a sin. But I have a relevant question here. What about the Hindus eating pork while the Muslims consider it a sin. Or even if we say that the majority wants it to be banned- when was such a survey conducted that confirmed this desire of the majority? Can the country still be called a democracy where states can impose a certain food culture on a group of people? What will happen to the people associated with the Beef industry for decades? On the other hand, beef has been a cheaper source of protein compared to other forms. Won’t banning it deprive the poorer sections of the society of their protein intake even more? The answers to these questions are just too unclear, mystifying and the government too, possibly will not like to answer.

After Maharashtra, some other state governments also banned beef and other non-veg food for a few days, and some other governments have been contemplating on the same lines. Well, suddenly so much love for the animals as well as for a few communities, by the politicians of our country, is giving me indigestion!

There appears to be another side or aspect of this provocative meaty story too and we might all have different opinions. But I think that’s how it has always been, and will be, until we learn to respect each others’ sentiments and develop mutual tolerance and acceptance.

I wish the school good luck for the Founder’s day and hope you enjoy reading this issue.
Ms Renu Mehra, an ‘Image Consultant’ of exquisite reputation was on campus from 12th – 13th September 2015 to conduct a workshop for the faculty. She has 25 years of experience in India and overseas in this field. She has mentored top politicians and corporate bigwigs like Airtel, The Times of India and Maruti Suzuki to name a few. She has also been a Fashion designer, Interior designer and a Style consultant.

We had the privilege of meeting her. A brief tête-à-tête that we had with her is presented below for our readers.

Q1. What does your job as an Image consultant entail?
Ans: In today’s fiercely competitive world, knowledge alone is not enough to make you stand out in the crowd and help you meet your goals. We, as image consultants connect your inside and outside to project your image which is appropriate, authentic, attractive and yet affordable. No one can be spared from this image projection- be it a political leader, CEO, celebrity, people looking for a promotion, a job, admissions to various institutes and even homemakers. Remember, when you look good, you feel good, you think good, people’s reactions to you are good and hence you are drawn closer to your goal. For this to happen, both Image and Soft skills have to be honed to bring out the best in you and connect the Inside -Outside and vice versa.

Q2. In an educational set-up like ours, how do you think ‘Image Consulting’ can help?
Ans: In a prestigious institution like yours, when the teachers project the right image, firstly they lead by example. When they look good, they feel good - hence better interaction takes place. Feel good factor promotes discipline with their peers and students and work atmosphere becomes pleasant yet remains competitive. Since they appear and feel good, they do better job. Only when you are happy with yourself can you share and deliver better. The teachers look good, feel good, do good, it is natural that the students reactions towards them would be better. Such a scenario not only works individually but raises the morale and projection of the entire institute.

Top 10 Life Lessons

1. Make your passion your profession.
2. Create an opportunity that supplements, compliments, builds upon your innate competencies, strengths and gives you a chance to express / demonstrate them in real life- my adventure based experiential learning which commenced way back when I was in Scindia School….is quite an unique example
3. Don’t keep looking back…look in front…eyes are in front…burn your bridge / bridges behind you, or you may head back!!
4. Plan, plan, plan but above all prioritize. Always have a back up plan
5. Prepare for the worst case scenario. Learn very quickly from your mistakes and make new ones but AVOID repeating the same ones…By the way…I am a PhD in mistakes from the university of hard knocks!
6. Be selfish. Have a buffer. Idealism can cost you too many unwanted pains. Pay yourself first and then the others!
7. Know your limits. You are not SUPERMAN/ GIRL/ BOY 😊
8. Keep in sync with harsh realities. Look around and keep track of what’s happening in the world around you.
9. Keep changing, reinventing your inner and outer self. Try to be ahead of the masses, even if it is only a couple of steps. Keep an escape route always ready or you will get trampled!!
10. Last but not the least:
   • Build Credibility, little drops of water is the way forward.
   • Become known, engage in self-marketing.
   • Establish a good network, use social media effectively. Publicise yourself obtain testimonials
   • Keep your word at all times

11. Practice, preach and prevail on the ‘Seven Ps’ written below.
   • Punctuality. Others should set their watches by your consistency
   • Professionalism. Ultimately paves the way for repeat business. Percolates and makes people relate to you better.
   • Perseverance. Age old adage - try and try again (with modification…SMART working)
   • Proximity / patronizing (excessive/unwanted) may often beget counterproductive results!
   • Prevail…keep doing the right things and things right…you can’t go wrong always! 😊
   • Patience
   • Poised
The last fortnight we saw two heavy downpours following which the average temperature has come down, although the afternoons are still quite warm. The evenings and mornings have become enjoyable and the feel of the Founder’s day is subtly seeping in.

The Junior School Inter-House Football tournament 2015-16 was held recently. The results are:

I   Jankoji  II  Kanerkhed  III Nimaji  IV Dattaji

On the 3rd of September a delegation of 7 boys, namely, Saksham Bansal, Aaryan Tiwari, Anya Laddha, Nitya Mehra, Aryan Dubey, Aryan Kapoor and Karnik Kanojia were escorted by Ms Jasman Randhawa to attend the Genesis School – MUN. The sessions were intellectually stimulating and the boys were appreciated for their enthusiastic participation despite their inexperience owing to their tender ages.

Inter - House Senior group Hindi Debating contest was held on 5 September.

The topic for the debate was: “Social networking Sites par Pratibandh lagna Chahiye”. The results are as under:

I   Tejas Agrawal  II   Faizan Karim  III Sarthak Agrawal

House positions :
I Ranoji  II   Jayaji  III Daulat  IV Shivaji
V Madhav  VI  Jayappa  VII Mahadji & Jeevaji

The Middle Group Inter - House English Debate was held on 6th September 2015. The topic for the debate was `-Parents are always right`. The debate was in the Oxford Format. The judges were Dr Maitreyee Bishnoi, Mr Vishesh Sahai and Mr Rohit Sood. The results are as follows.

Individual Positions:
I  Rishabh Jain  II  Abaan Khan  III Saksham Goel

House Positions:
I   Jayaji , Ranoji, Jayappa  IV Madhav, Shivaji
VI Mahadji  VII Jeevaji  VIII Daulat

On 11th of September, an interesting interaction was conducted by Mr Rohit Vadhut of Microsoft for children of classes IX and X. He informed the students of an international, technology based competition, scheduled to be held in 2016, which he suggested is a ‘must’ for our students. He gave a presentation on future technologies which was nothing short of mindboggling and he also informed the students of a ‘Virtual Academy’ which any student can access for self-learning.

The triumphant Madhav House receiving the trophy.

The final results of the Inter-House Soccer tournament 2015-16 are given below.

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<tr>
<th>Group A</th>
<th>Group B</th>
<th>Overall Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I Jayappa</td>
<td>Jayappa</td>
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<td>II Jayaji</td>
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<td>Jayaji, Daulat, Mahadji</td>
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<td>III Madhav</td>
<td>Shivaji</td>
<td>Jeevaji</td>
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<tr>
<td>IV Daulat</td>
<td>Jeevaji</td>
<td>Shivaji, Ranoji, Madhav</td>
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<td>V Ranoji</td>
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<td>VI Jeevaji</td>
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<td>VII Mahadji</td>
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<td>VIII Shivaji</td>
<td>Madhav</td>
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A ‘National Astronomy Quiz’ was conducted by an NGO – ‘Aryabhat’ on 12th September, 2015. The result is mentioned below:

I Kartikeya Mishra  II  Advait Jain  III Agit Kapoor

The entire school celebrated Ganesha Sthapna on the 17th of September 2015 which was an opportune moment to evoke the God of wisdom just before the examination. An idol of Lord Ganesha was placed in the quadrangle situated in between the bank and the clothing store. The entire community sang a couple of songs dedicated to Lord Ganesha which was followed by an Aarti and a mouthwatering Prasad. The next evening i.e. on 18th September the idol was manually lifted and taken all the way to the Suraj Kund by the boys. They danced all the way and finally offered the idol to the waters of Suraj Kund while chanting – Ganapati bappa morya, agley baras tu jaldi aa. Kanha, a student of the Junior school made the Visarjan rhythmical with his amazing Dhol beats.

The triumphant Madhav House receiving the trophy.
Junior House English Elocution was held on 19th September, 2015 in the Junior's school campus. The picturesque setting of the stage enhanced the mood of the event. The intonation and pronunciation of the students in general was of exceptionally high standard. The Judges for the event were – Dr M Bishnoi, Mr Vishesh Sahai and Ms Priyanka Agarwal. The results are as follows:

In Prose - I Hriday Soni II Parth Agarwal
In Poetry - I Shakti Mahendran II Arya Adhikari and Aditi Joshi

House-wise positions are as follows:
I Kanerkhed II Nimaji III Dattaji IV Jankoji

The students celebrated Eid-ul-Fitr on the 25th of September. Faizan Karim, Sahil Khan, Akmal Karim and Khubaib Alam were escorted by Mr Mustak Khan Chaudhary to offer Namaz in a Mosque in the city. Chicken Biryani was served for dinner to mark the festival.

Paryushan festival was celebrated with élan by the students of The Scindia School from 18th – 27th September. Special food was prepared for the entire duration for those who practiced the discipline of their faith.

Congratulations

The Scindia School has been ranked 4th in India and 1st in M.P. in the Boys’ Boarding School category by the “Education World - India School Rankings 2015.”

Obituary

The Scindian fraternity mourns the sad demise of Varun Nepram (Ex JE, 2015) who passed away on 20/09/2015. He unfortunately succumbed to dengue. While at school, he was the Band Major and the Tennis Captain but we will remember him most for his ever-smiling face and impeccable courtesies. We offer our most sincere condolences to the bereaved family and friends. May his soul rest in peace.