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Ecolecho

Ecole Globale Monthly



Colours of Joy

EDITORIAL

Holi came and went, leaving us dancing in the colours of joy.

The powerful waves of the Annual Examinations came and along with it came stress and tension but on its way back the ebb left us relieved.

And now! It's that time of the year when nature is dressed flamboyantly, in a magnificent multi-hued, jeweled gown.

It's spring! Just like it is for Nature, for Ecole too it's a month of rejuvenation and meaningful growth. Our family has grown significantly with the addition of new teachers and new students.

The incessant chatter and hysterical squeals of the girls reverberate in the buildings and pour new life into the pillars holding up the edifice, tall and proud. As the wind blows, the trees flaunt a triumphant dance. We stand and gape in awe and admiration, because, almost suddenly, Ecole has become a thousand-fold livelier. And this transformation, we gladly welcome.

The students emote thrill and glee as they walk down the corridors towards their classrooms. It's the new session! And much does this represent: new challenges, new opportunities, new friends, new achievements, new mistakes, and new lessons!

There's more colour, more joy and more life to Ecole.

Signing off,

Megha Rathi (Editor)



Early sunrise at Horrawala

The other day we had some guests from 'The Land of The Rising Sun', Japan. As it gave us a chance to play hosts and escape from the tiresome 2nd school, we were definitely not grumbling at the last-minute change of plans.

It was a very interactive session and the two university students from Japan – De Hi and Min Ami, along with a social activist Mai Chan, had us chatting freely in a matter of minutes.



After a general introduction about student life in Japan, we moved on to more serious work. They informed us about some burning social issues in Japan like 'The Declining Birth Rate', 'The Ageing Society'; two things that we don't have to worry about in our country, in fact, it left us wonderstruck that declining birth rate can really exist. The third topic was 'Garbage on Earth'.



This, of course, we were very familiar with! We worked in groups and each group came up with numerous solutions to these problems.

Min Ami enlightened us about life in Japan and the problems faced by the Japanese people. A Q&A session followed, where we had a lot of curious hands going up. A very informative hour indeed!

They even got the time to teach us how to use chopsticks and our little champ, Samriddhi, picked up the skill quite fast.

We look forward to many more such interactions in the future. It was great fun having these Japanese friends in the ECOLE CAMPUS!

Sayonara!

Shraddha Sawhney



Ecolites' Message on World Water Day

On 22th March, World Water Day, the Ecolites set off to a nearby village school, Shreya Shiksha Niketan in Horrawala, to spread awareness on water conservation. This was done through a

Nukkad Natak presented by the students. Mrs. Nidhi Pathak trained the students for it.



At 11 o'clock, the energetic students set off on their campaign, shouting out slogans, '*jal hi jeevan hai, jeevan hi jal hai*' (water is life, life is water), as they walked the kilometer to the little village school. The enthusiastic children of the school walked along with the Ecolites and so did some curious elders of the village. We soon came to a junction of roads where the girls began their performance.



The audience stood casually around the performers. We could see them eagerly trying to catch on to every word over the sound of passing vehicles. Posters prepared by the Ecolites were distributed to the audience; these were held up as they watched the performance. This made them feel a part of the campaign. The message of the play, 'Neela Sona' (Blue Gold), was loud and clear. The water that we take for granted today will be a rare commodity in the future. The students wanted the villagers to realise that a time will come when people will be at war for water.

Although man is aware of this inevitable truth, we take water for granted.

Let us not wait for this dreaded day, let us wake up and work towards this cause. Each one of us must play our part in conserving water. Our message to all is - By conserving water we conserve life.

Musical Holi

It was a melodious afternoon on the 26th of March (a day before Holi). Ecolites celebrated the day with music. Our guests for the afternoon were Mr. A.K. Das, the principal of the Asian school along with a few Asianites.

We had various performances by the students such as a Bengali song, 'phagun legeche bone bone' sung by Megha and 'phagan phoramto aayo', a Gujarati song sung by Riddhi. A very energetic performance by the students of class 8 'Kaiyo Re Mangetar' and raag Malhar followed.

The finale was a soulful rendition of Raag Maru Bihag by Mrs Pooja Pattar. Since it was her last performance in Ecole, we did not let her go so easily. On the request of Mr. Das, she sang a Thumri- Lagi Karejava Katar. This was indeed a beautiful beginning for the festival of Holi!



Sakshi Lakhota





'Holi hai.....' Holi the festival of colours was celebrated with grace and colour at Ecole. Although it was a holiday all the Ecolites woke up early in order to get ready for the celebration. After all the girls had applied oil on themselves as guided by the teachers, not a single minute was wasted by them...they ran out and collected the 'Gulals' (the Holi colors). They were provided with various colors so that by the end of it they would end up in shades of green, blue, yellow, purple, red, etc...

When they reached the ground to celebrate the festival, they found a number of buckets that were filled with coloured water and also some 'Pichkaris' (the water pistols), awaiting us. They ran, got hold of whatever came their way and started playing Holi. Very soon all the girls were dripping wet with the colourful water. All the Ecolites were transformed into multicoloured aliens.

As they continued to play, Mrs. Rai, Ms. Soni, Mr. Mike and other members of the staff joined in the celebration. When Mrs. Ghosh was spotted in her white suit they were glad to still have enough colour in their hands, but such was their luck that they were told not to put any colour on her as she is highly allergic to it.

To add more excitement to the celebration, Mrs. Ghosh played a trick on Ms. Afifa. She managed to get her out of the room and call all the girls to colour her. Now Ms. Afifa was also a part of their 'Coloured Aliens Gang'.



All of them were coloured in different shades and now all they wanted was to show Mr. Ghosh to see this work of art. To fulfill this wish, a few of them along with Mrs. Ghosh called him from the garden. Sir ended up clicking plenty of photographs of all the girls.

All good things must come to an end but this end was delicious. The 'gujias' added to the charm and fun of this festival.

'Holi hai holi hai bura na mano holi hai' !!!!.....



Riddhi Sarvaiya



SYNERGY CAMP



Riiiiinnnggg...went the bell! I woke up with excitement for the first day of the Synergy Camp. I rushed down to where my closet was and picked up various things and rushed into the bathroom. I brushed my hair and teeth and changed into the sports uniform. I ran down to the cafeteria and felt stifled with the rush of kids crowding everywhere! Soon after breakfast we were briefed and led

to the first activity that was pottery. This was the first time for many of us and actually being able to create one's own little clay pot thrilled us. After 45 minutes of pottery we went for Juice Break which is always welcome.

The next activity for my group was Zumba. I didn't really have the knowledge of what Zumba was all about, until someone said "dancing" and I was like, "Whattttt!" because I thought I disliked dancing, and honestly, I am not very good at it. However, when the activity was over, I was so sad that it got over because surprisingly, I really, really enjoyed myself, especially the music.

The next 45 minutes were spent playing team building games under the guidance of Mr. Bhandari and Mr. Dutt. It was great fun but of course, very tiring too since we were in the hot sun most of the time.





Time was flying and before we knew it, it was lunch time- another usual favourite time of the day!

Soon after lunch, we went for 'bamboo craft'. If I asked anyone they would probably say it was boring, but we did make some pretty cool stuff.

The BEST activity of the day was indeed aerobics! I have to admit that this was extremely enjoyable not because two young

boys were teaching us but because of the way we moved! My friends and I could hardly take it seriously, it was a lot of fun.

The activities weren't the only part of the day... it was followed by training for various sports. At the end of it all we were only too happy to be back in our dormitory and just relax. Some of us played, some sang, a few danced and the rest watched T.V. Later in the evening, we went for the bonfire and sang some really nice camp songs. The dinner, that followed, no doubt, was great! I loved it!



Then was the moment I had been waiting for....Sleeping in the tent! It was a fantastic experience, except for when the dogs began barking at midnight. I would do anything to get into that tent again. The most amazing part was that I got

to spend the night with my best friends. We spent the time talking about all possible things (will keep the details of this to myself). We must have fallen asleep after midnight. It was really great!



The next two days were the repeat of the same routine. The only thing that changed was that sadly it was not us but the seniors in the tents.

Natalia Teig



Trek on Track

April 6. A bright Saturday morning. Making it even brighter was the excitement to go on a trek. Having finished with the daily morning routine, we all got into our track pants, picked up our bags and waited for it to be 9 to start our most awaited trek. As

the bell rang for all of us to line up, I could see the enthusiasm on each student's face. We were divided into groups; each group supervised by a teacher. Finally we started with the hike.

As I moved out of the École Globale gate, I couldn't help but notice the path I had seen while driving to this school with my parents just the other day. It was driving through this road that gave me the opportunity to experience so many amazing things.

Thus we trekked on this most spectacular path. We had to cover a distance of 6 kilometers. We walked half the distance and stopped for our juice break. As the juice and snack reached us a little late we got busy singing and chatting under the shade of the trees. After the juice break, with renewed vigour, we moved on to complete the other half of the trek.

The hills seemed to be touching the sky. The trees, the birds, the animals-everything was extraordinarily eye-catching. The village that we passed through seemed to be far away from the extravagance of the cities. It was wonderful to see nature in its pure, beautiful form. We were all spellbound by the splendour of nature.

After having a lot of fun chopping vegetables, cooking, playing, dancing and singing, we trekked back to the school. I have been for many treks before, but I must say this was a whole new experience since it was with new people, in new surroundings.

Arushi Gors



Izhaar-e-Hunar

On 12th April 2013, Hometown Girls School organized a youth festival, "Izhaar e hunar". This included a series of competitions. Various schools were invited to participate. Ten of us Ecolites participated in three competitions - Face Painting, Turn - coat and Spoof It.

The theme for Face Painting was 'Africa'. The competitors who had their faces painted also had to dance to African music. Three of our girls participated in

this competition; Palak and Kashish were the painters while Varnika was the '*paintee*'. I must say

that all of them did their part remarkably well; a special mention must be made of Varnika, who danced with grace to African music while she exhibited her artistically painted face.



Turn-coat was interesting! Each participant was given a topic and had to speak in favour of the topic for one minute and against the same topic for another minute. To top it all, the participant was given only one minute to prepare. Aarushi spoke on 'Diamonds are a girl's best friend' while Megha spoke on 'Hospitals are losing their noble intentions because of money'. Both of them did their best.

'Spoof It' was a competition in which the participants were shown the trailer of a movie and they had to create a spoof of it and eventually act it out on stage. The participants were given one and a half hours to prepare. The clip Ecole got was from the movie 'Liar Liar'. To begin with, we spoofed the name to 'Liar on Fire!' Sakshi, Natalia, Vasundhra, Shraddha and I were the participants for this competition and I think we did a good job and got the audience laughing.



Initially, all of us were very nervous about our respective competitions, but at the end of it all we did a fairly good job of it and come to think of it, we actually enjoyed ourselves. There was a relaxed atmosphere and we in fact enjoyed the whole experience. We performed to the best of our ability in every competition. Winning or losing doesn't really matter, what really matters is whether you learnt something from your experience....and I know we definitely did!



Aditi Dixit



Little Ecole turns one!

Ecole has been going through a series of changes - changes in routine, changes in the food served, changes in the infrastructure.... And how swiftly the 12 months have passed, we can't quite believe!

Ecole has turned one, already!

It was a time for merriment! 14th April was celebrated



by the students with a dance party. As we grooved to the music, a quick flashback of all the memories of last year danced in our heads, too. Just before dinner the two cakes were cut and relished by all.

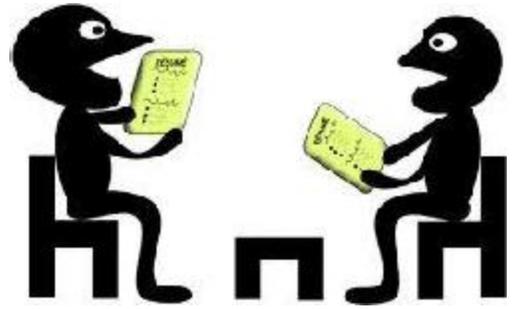
HAPPY BIRTHDAY ECOLE !

May God bless all of us at Ecole.

Megha Rathi



Interview with Mrs. Pattar, Music and Environment Management Teacher



Q. Ma'am, tell me something about yourself- a couple of words maybe.

A. (laughs) Very talkative and fun loving!

Q. What has been your best memory with us?

A. Quite a few, you know. (thinks!) Well, all the EVM lessons and of course, my recitals...

Q. What are your plans for the near future?

A. I don't know... Maybe, continue with music. Yes...I'll continue to learn from my *Guru*.

Q. Talking about music, when was it that you started singing?

A. Since I started speaking. (laughs) No, really!

Q. We're going to have a Rapid Fire now...

- E.V.M: Fun
- Food: Yumm!
- Fat: In (thin is out!!)
- Funny: Meeee
- Music: Passion
- Students: Interesting
- Ecole: Wonderful!



Q. Is there any message that you'd like to convey to all the students?

A. Just follow your dreams and work hard..Sky is the limit for you guys!

"We'll miss you, ma'am. All the best! Hope you achieve success in all that you do."

Megha Rathi





Mrs. Preeti Sharma to teach Middle and Junior Section, Mathematics & Science

Mrs Bhashwati Ghosh as the teacher for class 5

Mr. Vijaykumar Bhatt, the Music teacher



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