



VOLUME 1/AUGUST/2017

“For last year's words belong to last year's language and next year's words await another voice. And to make an end is to make a beginning.”- T.S Eliot

The new academic year started off with new goals, new aspirations and new opportunities. Learning from the past, accepting best practices, and putting the best foot forward make the challenge ahead less intimidating.

We are well aware of our roles and responsibilities and our accountability is not just to self, but to the society that these children will be part of in the near future.

The complex world that is awaiting for these young, vibrant and enthusiastic learners is always evolving. Jobs that are prevailing now will disappear sooner than expected. The challenge that is ahead of us then is to prepare our children for life and not for careers. Educating the parents on this trend is definitely not an easy ride. The Inside thus play a crucial role in talking to you about “what now” and “what next”

We look forward to your continued support, advice and as always, your constructive feedback. *-Team Inside*



SNIS Leadership Team

(Mr. Rajesh Vasudevan (Head of School Senior & Middle, Ms. Lakshmi Reddy- Academic Director & Trustee, Mr. Gnana Durai-Activities Coordinator, Mr. Kapil Mehrotra- Head of Primary)



*“August rushes by like desert rainfall,
A flood of frenzied upheaval,
Expected,
But still catching me unprepared.”*

The month of August was action packed. From setting the right pace to establishing the Student Council, August kept all of us on toes.

- ♣ Parent Orientation Day- 05 August
- ♣ First Day @ School- 07 August
- ♣ Independence Day- 15 August
- ♣ Investiture Ceremony- 19 August
- ♣ Clubs On the go 21 August

A detailed report on all these events are present in the following pages. You may also log into our website and our Facebook page for instant updates.

Website:

<http://snis.edu.in/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/snis.edu.in>

Parent orientation Day

The first Parent Orientation on the various segments of students' school life was held on Saturday, 5 August 2017. A day-long event was enthusiastically attended by parents from across the PYP, Middle and Senior school.

The session started with our Academic Director Ms. Lakshmi Reddy's insightful overview of the School's Vision and Philosophy, the new Leadership Team, and an over-all synopsis of the Academic Life. In her presentation greater emphasis was placed on building the correct pathway for our students once they graduate from our school. Mention was also made on the initiatives for the current year and plans for the upcoming years.

This was followed by a detailed presentation by our Head of Middle and Senior school Mr. Rajesh Vasudevan. The relevance of international curriculum, its future scope and the necessity to revisit our pedagogical framework was discussed during his presentation Mr. Rajesh also presented his mission for the Middle and Senior school.

Mr Kapil Mehrotra, our Head of Primary School gave a very structured and meaningful presentation to the parents on how he envisages his program for the 2017-18

academic year. The presentation was greatly appreciated by the parents for they received a lot of clarity and details on the PYP program and its transition to the next level.

Our Activities Coordinator, Mr T Gnana Durai, presented to the parents, the entire years' activities and initiatives that he and his team have planned. A detailed presentation on the various clubs, the house system and after school activities gave a sense of reinforcement to all the parents.

Post lunch, Mr Ramesh, our IGCSE coordinator gave a very succinct presentation about the IGCSE program at SNIS. This helped our parents assist their wards with the right subject choices.

There was a separate session for the Resident students and their Parents by Mr Rajesh who is also our Dean of Pastoral Care. The interactive session with the parents, students and pastoral staff gave a new dimension to the entire presentation.

The Parent Orientation Day launched the beginning of a successful journey for the entire SNIS community.



Children return to an exciting 'first day back at school'

Equipped with new bags and their newest back-to-school uniforms, students entered SNIS on Monday, 7 August 2017 with mixed feelings of excitement and curiosity.

The students were welcomed with an array of cultural events, games, music and dance organized by the teachers. Lot of crying, lot of laughing, lot of murmuring and lot of nothing, made a perfect preface to the numerous exciting days to come. It is never a Back to School, but a Back to Home for all at SNIS.



Academic Culture

♣ **Acceleration Program**

The Academic **Acceleration** is pre-teaching of the concepts and skills of a particular unit or topic of the teaching week. This puts all the students in the same pedestal as it does not discriminate students based on their individual learning styles. The concepts are pre-taught using essential questions, acceleration strategies, and finally concluding with an assessment or an assignment. There is no high level achiever or low level achiever in an acceleration, because students learn the concepts together that will speed up their



understanding of the content. Since it provides students equal opportunity to learn, academic **acceleration** enhances the self-esteem of every child, as they learn without any inhibition.

♣ SNIS English Curriculum Framework

SNIS requires students to act in accordance with the School Specific English curriculum developed by our team. We aim to develop the students' interest and pleasure in reading as well as developing their ability to write. The ultimate goal is that the student will have the opportunity to gain the fluency of English compatible to a native speaker at the end of the ninth grade. By the time the student completes the ninth grade, they should be able to give a persuasive speech, protecting their views with proof and making use of convincing language. In writing, the ultimate goal is to acclimate style to genre and purpose and to use a variety of sources to plan writing.

♣ Wednesday INSET

The teacher INSET on Wednesdays focuses on continuous growth of the teachers both professionally and personally. At a professional level, the INSETs deal with strategies that will meaningfully improve the quality of teaching strategies and at a personal level, these INSETs aim at improving the self-esteem of the teachers. Personal development is the precursor to professional development.

Independence Day

Independence Day celebration at SNIS was not just a tribute paying ceremony but the remembrance of great sacrifices urging young and old alike to shoulder greater responsibilities of Nation Building, upholding the core Indian values. Our Academic Director, Ms Lakshmi Reddy unfurled the National Flag amongst great fervor and zeal.

The cultural extravaganza designed and staged by the four houses was definitely a treat in every sense. The patriotic sentiments need for ethos were delicately yet powerfully prompted by all.

♣ Monday Clubs

The clubs mentioned below are offered to the students during their clubs period on Mondays. The club leaders have a fixed agenda for each Monday and ensure the members of the club learn from various activities that are designed to sustain the interest level. Club reports further communicate the progress of the clubs. In most cases the children were given their first choice. Where the members were less than five, they were given their second option.

Clubs	
♣	Backyard Science
♣	Math Logical Thinking Club
♣	Editorial Club
♣	Robotics
♣	Dance
♣	Chess





Investiture Ceremony @ SNIS



The investiture of the First Students' Council was a solemn function in the morning of 19 August 2017. With an air of pride, the Captains designate led by the School Captain Ms. Chandana Lakshmi N took the oath of office.

The School Appointees, Ms. Chandana Lakshmi, School Captain, Ms. Suhani Sudhakara, Boarding Prefect, Master Supanut, Sports Captain, & Ms. Ruchita Sai, Activities Captain, were given the official titles by our Academic Director, Ms. Lakshmi Reddy.

Managing Director of SNIS Trust, Mr. Nagaraj Reddy installed the four House Captains and our Head of PYP, Mr. Kapil Mehrotra installed the PYP representatives.

Mr. Rajesh Vasudevan, Head of Senior School and Mr Kapil Head of Primary, addressed the Student Council.

Students dressed in resplendent house colors, cheering as their captains were appointed, added to the grandeur of the event.

Student Council members

School Captain- Ms. Chandana Lakshmi

Boarding Captain Ms. Suhani Chandrasekhar

Sports Captain- Master Supanut

Activities Captain- Ms. Ruchita Sai

House Captains

♣ Sequoia – Master Gaurav Narasimha

♣ Aspen- Master- Kanchanuch

♣ Magnolia- Ms. Rita Joanna Durai

♣ Juniper- Master Pranava Shrisai Gande

PYP Representatives

♣ Sequoia- Ms. Kaitlynn Maria Fernandez

♣ Aspen- Ms. Akshara Harini Gande

♣ Magnolia- Master Samuel Samarth Ramesh

♣ Juniper- Master Akshay Sankar



Our Young Leaders

School House System

Since time immemorial, trees have elegantly and kindly provided food, shelter and the air we breathe. Their strength, beauty and stillness symbolise the magic and wonder of life. With its roots burrowing deep into the soil and its branches rising to the Heavens, the tree is universally seen as the symbol of the connection between Earth and Heaven. The four elements are to be found in the tree: Water circulates in its sap, Earth becomes part of its body through its roots, Air feeds its leaves, and Fire is produced by rubbing its sticks together. The many symbolic representations of trees are all related to the notion of the living cosmos in a state of perpetual regeneration. Their annual cycle is associated with the natural development of life, death and regeneration. Trees symbolize life in continuous progression- the ultimate seat of all wisdom.

Juniper House- *The Juniper tree has long been recognized as one of the most powerful of all fairy tales trees. In the language of flowers Juniper symbolizes perfect loveliness, beauty and protection and was said to have sheltered the prophet Elijah when he was fleeing from Queen Jezebel. Legends of old tell us "Frau Wachholder" the Jupiter tree goblin, could be invoked to make thieves return stolen goods to their rightful owners. Juniper is a fabled symbol of great Journey, having taken many twists and turns, and being capable of staying true to yourself and never compromising your integrity.*

Aspen House- *The Aspen, considered part of the poplar family, has a habit of shimmering or quivering in the breeze making whispering sound. The Aspen's root is rarely killed during a fire, and Aspens are generally the first trees to grow in a burned out area. Aspen wood is very lightweight when dried, becoming very buoyant and was therefore a popular choice for oars and paddles and also was used to make arrows in medieval times. In many cultures and religions the wind is associated with the "Voice of Spirit," and in the boughs and leaves of the Aspen, the wind finds a distinctive voice to inspire those who would listen with patience and sensitivity.*

Magnolia House- The magnolia tree was named after the French botanist Pierre Magnolia in the 1600s. Magnolias are a striking variety of flower because the magnolia blossoms are so large. The flower is associated with nobility, perseverance, dignity and a love of nature. The magnolia tree is a symbol of magnificence because of its impressive height and enormous flowers. The green magnolias represent pride coupled with vigor and affluence.

Sequoia House – The first reference to Sequoias appeared in the early 1800s when an explorer named J K Leonard stumbled upon them. The Sequoia's remarkable longevity prompts many to call it a "Tree of Life." In fact, they seemingly share elements of human development. For instance, their three main systems of root, trunk and branches seemingly parallel human development of body, psyche and spirit. The Sequoia is an emblem for stretching your limits and reaching to be the best you can be.

House Masters

Aspen House



Dr. Kunal Pal
Chemistry Teacher

Juniper House



Ms. Lolita
Home Room Teacher

Magnolia House



Ms. Dimple Saluja
French Teacher

Sequoia House



Mr. Reshigesh.G
ICT Teacher

Class Teachers

Grade 6



Ms. Rukmani
Math Teacher

Grade 7



Ms. Jayashree
Physics Teacher

Grade 8



Mr. Johnson
Biology Teacher

Grade 9



Mr. Mathew Elliatil
English Teacher

Teaching Faculty



Ms. Anupama Jha
Hindi Teacher



Mr. T. Gnana Durai
Activities Coordinator
History Teacher



Ms. Sushma.N
Kannada Teacher



Ms. Chitra Raman
Head - SEN



Ms. Sangeetha Krishnan
Art & Craft Teacher



Mr. Mithun Eshwar
Music Teacher



Garima Patowary
Drama Teacher



Sampa Mallick
Dance Teacher



Mr. Justin Durai Raj
PE Teacher



Ms. Janipa.P
Swimming Coach



Mr. Vasant
Swimming Coach

Final

Touch

This is our earnest endeavor to update you with the events and activities of the Middle and Senior School that happen every month. Ranging from academics to co-curricular, Inside provides you an album of student life. Being the first issue, we have touched upon few general events that are part of the whole school; however in the coming months, you will get to see a kaleidoscope of episodes from the Middle and Senior school.

For all your enquiries related to:

- Academics, please write to Head of Middle and Senior School and Dean of Pastoral Care (Boarding related issues): rajesh.vasudevan@snis.edu.in
- Activities, please write to Mr Gnana Durai, our Activities Coordinator: gnanadurai.t@snis.edu.in
- Our Academic Director can be contacted at: lakshmi.reddy@snis.edu.in

Inside Team

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