



Established in 2024

The Gyananda Echo

*"Knowledge is empowerment"*September 23rd, 2024 | Issue 02**FIREFLY IN THE MIDDLE OF
THE NIGHT***"See Page 3"***FASHION – THE GREAT
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A Decade of Growth: The Visionary Journey of Gyananda School"

Gyananda's Journey: A Principal's Vision and Resilience Shaping the Future-E.B

On the occasion of our school being awarded and ranked number 1 in Dehradun and number 1 in Uttarakhand for "Improving Student Learning and Progress" by Education Today, the students of **THE ECHO** interviewed Principal Ma'am on the morals, vision and challenges that the school has faced so far. It gave us an insight into what goes on in the mind of the Head of School and the responsibilities she has on her shoulders.

Through this engaging interview **THE ECHO** tried to understand the principal's perspective and the foundational morals that were laid for the school. She explained that Gyananda is a school that came into existence purely due to a father's love for her daughter- The Founder, **Mr. Naveen Bisht** wanted to create an all-girls school which provided quality education for his daughter. The groundwork for Gyananda was laid in the year 2015, she told us that at first, the idea of being a principal didn't sit

well with her. "I can't do it, it's too big a task for me" she would say as it carried a lot of responsibility, experience, and time and due to her inexperience in the field at the time, she questioned herself. She described herself as rather 'Non-Principal material' and thought that she did not fit the typical image of a principal. It was then that ma'am's mentor **Manu Sir** encouraged her and convinced her that she was the right person for this job. She personified Gyananda as a being that did not have any rules or guidelines and being the founder principal with no predecessor to look up to, she personally made Gyananda from scratch: From the name to the vision. All of which was undoubtedly a herculean task.

She explained that she had an extremely negative attitude towards being a principal and in the first three years she constantly told herself that 'This is my last day in this office, I won't come to work tomorrow.' She had to overcome the personal challenge of keeping herself motivated and the professional challenge of being a principal and coordinating everything. She did not have any admin staff or coordinators at that time and had to do most, if not all the work on her own. Gyananda was a project that was out of her comfort zone but as the school

progressed, she grew with it and is now ready to overcome any hurdles.

She talks about Gyananda, a school that has grown from nine students in the first year to over 500 today, is committed to constantly evolving and improving its education quality. The school's focus is not only on students but also on teachers and support staff, who despite extreme struggles during the COVID 19 Pandemic, received full salaries. She also mentions how the school values parents, who are crucial for the school's growth and development and acknowledges the need for parental support. We also delve into the importance of avoiding unnecessary comparisons between students and how parents must support their children in all their endeavors and challenges as this is the age to grow and learn.

The school's journey, she says, has been fulfilling, with the support of teachers, students, support staff, and parents. The school accepts change and is constantly looking for ways to become better and as it approaches its 10th anniversary, it is essential to continue growing and adapting to new challenges. Gyananda's commitment to continuous improvement and adaptability is a testament to its dedication to providing a happy place for all.



Campus Chronicles

• Travel the world



Lebanon

- ***“September 17, 2024 – HEZBOLLAH VOWS RETALIATION AGAINST ISRAEL FOR DEADLY PAGER”***

How the attack unfolded: Hezbollah bought the pagers that exploded in recent months, according to a Lebanese security source. Those devices detonated simultaneously after receiving a message.

Israel widens war aims: The pagers exploded hours after Israel's security cabinet voted to add to a war objective to its conflict with Hezbollah, which has seen months of cross-border attacks. Israel has not commented on the attack.

- ***“SUPREME COURT GRANTS ARVIND KEJRIWAL BAIL BUT SETS 5 CONDITIONS”***

Arvind Kejriwal bail: The Supreme Court on Friday, September 13, granted bail to Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal in the corruption case lodged by CBI in connection with the excise policy 'scam'

Some of the bail conditions for Arvind Kejriwal:

- Release subject to a bail bond of ₹10 lakh.
- Arvind Kejriwal cannot make comments about the Delhi excise policy case.
- The Delhi chief minister will have to be present for trial unless exempted by courts.
- Arvind Kejriwal can't enter the chief minister's office or the Delhi secretariat while out on bail.
- The Delhi CM cannot sign official files unless absolutely necessary to obtain the Lieutenant Governor's sanction.

The court also observed that prolonged incarceration amounts to unjust deprivation of liberty.

- ***“INDIA EDGE PAST CHINA TO WIN ASIAN CHAMPIONS TROPHY”***

Despite not being in full strength in the Chinese city of Hulunbuir, India still managed to defend their Asian Champions Trophy crown on Tuesday by winning the continental title for fifth time in eight editions. Only this, it wasn't without a fight

Gyananda School for Girls proudly hosted the 3rd Inter-school Swim Meet on 31st August 2024. The event witnessed the participation of 11 schools showcasing their prowess and skills. The day was marked by fierce competition and outstanding performances.

The participating schools included Wynberg Allen School, Doon International School Riverside, Ecole Global School, Oasis, Shri Ram Centennial, Woodstock School, Summer Valley School, Unison World School, Kasiga School, Doon School and Gyananda School.

Overall Champion: Gyananda School for Girls

Overall Runner-up: Wynberg Allen School

Congratulations to all the participants for their hard work and dedication.

We are very happy to share that the Gyananda Swimming team yet again did us all proud by winning 20 medals in the 6th Ecole Inter- School Swimming Competition held on 2nd September.

A total of 9 girls participated in two age groups (Junior and Intermediate).

We stood over all at 3rd position out of 15 participating schools, which is nothing short of a commendable feat!

The break- up of medals tally is as follows:-

SILVER MEDALS – 14, BRONZE MEDALS- 06

Many congratulations to the participants and their coaches!

The Doon School hosted an Inter-School Debate Competition on August 29th and 30th, and three of our teams competed in Chuckerbutty Debate, JEDI Debate, and Kamla Jeevan Debate categories and won notable accolades:

Best Speaker - Sharanya Rajmohan Iyer, Dhunn Saluja, Pari Jain

Most Promising Speaker- Mridusha Bisht, Raavi Kaur, Simone Miller, Anusha Maurya

We are excited to announce that starting this fortnight, our newspaper will accept **anonymous submissions!** This initiative aims to encourage open expression and diverse voices within our community. Whether it's an opinion piece, creative writing, or artwork, you can now share your work without revealing your identity.

Submissions can be sent via our mail or can be put in the anonymous submission box, and we look forward to featuring your contributions. Join us in enriching our pages with your insights and creativity!



Creative Construction

नायक हमारी धड़कन

सालों से ढलते हैं सूरज, पर ये सितारे न मिटे,
 शहीद हुए जो वीर, उनकी यादें कभी ना मिटे।
 खून से रंगी ज़मीं पर, लहराए तिरंगे गगन में,
 सैनिकों की वीरता हुई सजीव, उनके बलिदान से हमारे
 मन में।
 उनकी यादें हैं हमेशा साथ, हमारी आंखों में आँसू,
 मरे नहीं वो कभी, उनकी अमर कथा में समाए आँसू।
 ऐसे वीर शहीदों के संसार में गुणगान हुए,
 तभी तो वे मर कर अमर वीर जवान हुए।

-अनुषा मौर्य

23 Years Come, and Gone

23 years come, and gone
 Yet the echoes of sirens, New York still haunt
 The towers fell, the world stared and gaped
 Through fire and ash, nowhere to escape
 We honor all who fought their way
 Through molten chaos and toxic cloud
 Al-Qaeda claimed the deed
 With bin-laden as the viscous lead
 A first time on American Soil
 Terror had come to roost
 Shock and panic spread far and wide
 And the world was asked to choose a side...

-Kirsten Ruth Burrett

Firefly in the Middle of the Night

Our midnights lie dark Darker than Nyx's veil, In all its honour and glory Zeus trembles before.	And enough for Nyx to let me go. You entered a room of black Unable to tell the difference between blood and water And the light you brought alongside, Enough to make my barriers shatter.	And you tamed her oh-so-gently, That calling you, is something I can't regret.
But in the outstretch of what seemed A night sky without its diamonds studded, A dark veil to consume what was left of the shards of grief she had embedded.	Darkness revealed itself Only to show shades of red And to the sight of which others ran away You rolled up your sleeves instead.	And you reminded me yet again, As you drew the curtains open In this sky of blue-white phosphorescent sparks How could one possible call the night dark?
To what seemed like a midnight lacking of heavenly glow You brought light enough for Zeus to cower	You put aside your own monsters Only to face the one I hadn't conquered yet	But little do you know That despite all the stars you returned to the sky You're the brightest of them all

My Little Firefly...

-Anahat (Pen Name)



Opinionated Editorial

Fashion- The Great Dictator: Uniformity at Schools – Mr. Philip Burrett

There is a part of us humans that detests being like others, we all crave being UNIQUE. Having a unique DNA or a fingerprint isn't enough, we all want to look and be seen as individuals apart from others. The world at large and advertisements in particular feed this desire to be unique by offering us such a choice in clothes, sports equipment, watches and shoes so that each of us has a chance to look different.

As our pluralistic country haggles over a Uniform Civil Code, in each household, we too have to battle a question of what it is to be unique, especially with teenagers.

One area where students and school management clash, is over there being too many rules, particularly rules directed to a uniform dress code and how hair is to be done and what jewellery can be worn.

Most schools have a uniform- Some have a number of uniforms- Sports, Summer, Winter, Formal, Outgoing, Cultural, etc. as uniforms undeniably have their advantages.

Students are recognized out of school by their uniforms and because they are the best advertisement for a school, this serves a useful purpose. On trips and treks students are easily spotted by a uniform dress code.

In schools, where students come from diverse socio-economic backgrounds, having a uniform, places all students on the same platform. Imagine if some wore designer skirts while others had to wear plain 'Hand Me Downs'!

As with clothes, uniformity also involves being allowed to wear jewelery and personal accessories. In some schools students can only wear a school watch otherwise some would flaunt their Cartiers and Rolexes while others had to make do with a simple Casino. (Both keep time equally well, but one grants more status than the other)

The same applies for hairstyles and other adornments.

In the school I finished at, all boys had to have a parting in their hair, a trouser width of not less than 14 inches and no Bracelets; very Draconian it seemed at the time, but later when the reason DONNED, we accepted it. Likewise, most schools have their own set of restrictions.

Most of us, but mainly teens are passing through a period where self-identity is of upmost priority and looking like someone else is an anathema, while being different is pure bliss.

Some schools follow a 'No Uniform' policy and students may wear what they like. These are usually schools where the fees are exorbitant and where dressing for class turns into a fashion parade with students flashing their St. Laurent, Christian Dior and Hugo Boss outfits.

I firmly endorse the uniform for all policy but with some caveats:

1. With everchanging fashions, the students through the offices of the student council should have a say in a periodically altering the design, cut and fall of their uniform;

the material used more than the colour, as schools have fixed colour schemes.

2. It is important to explain to the more rebellious students why a school has uniforms and the advantages of looking all alike- a dismissive wave of the hand followed by, 'Don't argue with me' does not lead to a mutually acceptable solution. In my experiences, if students are explained the 'WHY' they will understand the 'HOW'.
3. Since children like some authenticity and freedom in their lives, it is important they be given some leeway in somethings. I often like to call it the 'Red', 'Orange' and 'Green' for the 'Let's not interfere with them' stance.
4. Experience has shown that when children are proud of their uniform, and keep being envious of that 'other schools' uniforms- then they will do all they can to make their own minor illegal alterations (sleeves rolled up, rip-off turn ups, raised collars) Hence, the job of parents and teachers is to, by and large, allow them clothes they love wearing.
5. It is useful to have one day in a week where students are allowed to wear their personal clothes. (be out of uniform) This not only gives them some freedom of choice but also helps them to learn to dress appropriately



Club Updates

Greetings Readers!!

Gyananda has always given great emphasis on co-curricular activities and clubs/hobbies and Community Service has always been a part of the school's calendar. We are hence, introducing a club's column to keep you updated about the learning and activities conducted in each club

CLUB CLUSTERS ON OFFER (2024-25)

1. **The English/Hindi Literary Society**- Debating, MUN, Creative writing, Poetry writing, Book Reading, The Gyananda Echo, The School Magazine, Celebrating Famous Writers, Showcasing new library books.
2. **The Arts Society** -Fine Arts, Pottery, Fashion design, Calligraphy, Young Entrepreneurs.
3. **The Environment and Nature Club**-Bird watching, Tree planting, Environmental issues, Eco clean ups, Water harvesting.
4. **Photography and Videography**-Photography trips and training, making videos and chronicling the schools' activities.
5. **Robotics/Science/ IT CLUB**- Appeals to the scientific and tech minded and offers a variety of activities in these areas.

Photography Club

The students of the photography club explored photography techniques such as leading lines, group photograph, composition, architectural landscape, symmetrical arches, and some new frames at the Forest Research Institute (FRI) last Monday.

Science Club

The Science Club of our school is excited to announce a science exhibition taking place at the end of December. This event will show case innovative projects and experiments created by our talented young scientists. Keep reading the Echo for more

MUN/Debate Club

The students of MUN/Debate club got extensive training for developing MUN and debating skills with the help of mentors from Speak India program. The girls participated in Unison World School MUN 2024 and The Doon School debate competition and returned home with numerous laurels

Birthday



Aaditri Pundir - 24th September – G-11

Aaradhya Gupta - 26th September – G-6B

Ojasvi Gupta - 28th September- G-7A

Aishwin Sehgal - 29th September- -G-7A

Aarna Pundir - 4th October- G-7B

Aanya Sajwan - 4th October- G-9

Shreya Jain - 6th October- G-8A

Rhythm Istwal - 9th October- G-6A

Sharanya Rajmohan - 13th October- G-11

Sonalika Suri - 19th October- G-8A

Santushti Chander - 19th October- G-10

Saanvi Kaushal - 23rd October- G-6A

Shradha Bhosal - 27th October- G-10



Upcoming Events and Holidays

2nd October- Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti

4th October- Assembly, Gandhi Jayanti

4th October- Wildlife Week Celebration

10th October- Special Assembly, Dussehra Celebration

11th October - Holiday, Ramnavmi

12th October- Holiday, Dussehra

17th October- Holiday, Valmiki Jayanti

19th October – Third Saturday (Working)
*Subject to Change

26th October- Founder's Day (Junior School)

27th October- Founder's Day (Senior School)

28th October-3rd November- Diwali Break



Snapshots



The Wanderer



Exams and Last-minute prep



Rhythmic Traditions

Keep your Data Safe and Secure

Here are Some Cyber Security Tips to keep your data secure

- Choose strong passwords
- Make sure you're using a secure internet connection
- Enable multi-factor authentication where you can
- Keep software and operating systems updated
- Check that websites look and feel reliable
- Review your privacy settings and understand privacy policies
- Make sure your devices are secure.
- Backup data regularly
- Be careful what you download
- Use a good antivirus and keep it updated



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