



PHIS MONTHLY

M I R R O R

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Sports Day at PHIS, 2016-2017

COMMEMORATION OF 21ST FEBRUARY
Artistic Performances
Entering Internationalism through different languages

LITERATURE COLUMN
The Promise
Spring at PHIS

BANGLA OLYMPIAD
MEET OUR NEW PRINCIPAL



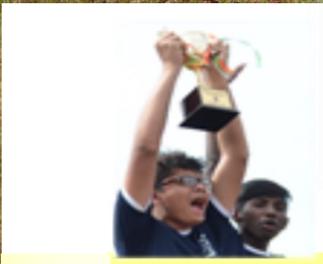
PLEDGE HARBOR
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

A Concern of Viyellatex



PLEDGE-E-THON

2016-2017



Discipline and Unity leads to Achievement

All your dreams can come true if you have the courage to pursue them

Perseverance leads to Success

Engaging minds with dignity in action

PLEDGE – E – THON- the annual sports day of Pledge Harbor International School (PHIS)- was held on 23rd February, 2017 in the school’s premises with blue skies welcoming the competitors and spectators. It was a well anticipated event that the students, teachers and staff of Pledge Harbor International School put their marvelous effort for making it a success. The Pledge - E - Thon allowed students to showcase some of the skills they learnt throughout the year. The day became very special due to the amazing turn out of the guardians as well as the effort and sportsmanship displayed by the participants.

The day kicked off with the students assembling on the cricket field. Students of four houses of the school: Mars, Jupiter, Pluto and Neptune were dressed in their house uniforms. The event commenced with the opening announcement by the chief guest Mr. Kaniz Zareen, Head of School. This was followed by the students taking an **oath** where they pledged to abide by the rules of the competition with sportsmanship. The oath was followed by a wonderful parade led by the school’s head boy, Jabir Hossain from grade XII.

Sports events began taking place such as burst the balloon, sprint, tug of war and so forth. The house competition provided opportunities for everyone to participate. The events were very competitive. The judges were able to judge accurately as they were videotaping all the races and watching slow motion replay of each event. Along with the events, prize giving ceremony was going on.

Events like sack race, marble-race and backpack race for the primary students of Pledge Harbor were adorable to watch indeed. The winner of sack race was Farhan, while Najiba won the marble race.

Long-jump and high-jump of the seniors (grade 6-12) took place the day before sports day. Winners were Ayas and Mohid, followed by Yuma and Ishaat winning the 2nd place and Radith came 3rd in both the events. The other competitions for the seniors were sprint, relay and tug of war.

The sprints showcased the explosive pace of the participants. The event was divided into 7 categories. Among the juniors (grade 3-5), Anan took the 1st position. From. grade 6-8 Touhid was the winner. Safat won from grade 9-10. Ryo took the 1st place followed by Yuma and Ayas both from grade 11. Zenab was the winner of women’s category. Ms. Aria and Mr. Sharad were the winners from female and male teachers categories respectively. The last one was an exciting parents’ 100 metre race where Mr. Shahidul Islam had the winner’s smile.

The relay was an event participated by four members of each houses. House Pluto were the 1st house to cross the finishing line. At last, all the members of each house participated in the tug of war. This displayed good hearted physical strength of the participants. It was won by the mighty house Jupiter finally.

Shak Ryo (Grade 11) was awarded as the **Best Athlete**. House Neptune was announced the best performers of the march past.

Finally, the most anticipated result was announced where House **Pluto became the champion of the Pledge – E – Thon 2016 – 2017!**

The day ended with a very positive note from the Head of School, Ms. Kaniz Fatema Zareen and the Principal, Ms. Meenakshi Ahlawat. Ms. Zareen took the opportunity to introduce the new Principal, Ms. Ahlawat as well as the new Vice Principal, Mr. Akteruzzaman, to the parents and guardians.

It can be positively assumed that events like this one enable children to develop as all-rounders when it comes to real life situations. The sports day in Pledge Harbor was a milestone success in terms of sportsmanship and mutual understanding indeed.

Zarif Bin Azim, Grade IX
Tahmid Ansari, Faculty Member

SPRING AT PHIS



Commemoration of 21st February



21st February, recognized as International Mother Language Day and also known as the Martyr's Day in Bangladesh, is a significant day for the people of Bangladesh. PHIS commemorated this day in an esteemed manner. A part of that was the cultural program on 21st February held in the school auditorium. The students worked for weeks to make this event successful.

Prior to the program, a rally was proceeded to the Shohid Minar- a monument inside the PHIS campus- made by the PHIS community. Everyone was dressed in traditional attire.



The transition from winter to spring is clearly noticeable and also undoubtedly pleasant. When the environment is shriveled due to the extreme cold of the winter, spring pours out its magical spell of reinvigoration into the environment. Dull, crunchy leaves of the almost denuded trees become green and soft again. As if the dead environment has been brought back to life.

Same transformation is also seen in our very own campus of Pledge Harbor. It is one of those rare schools where the spectacular beauty of spring scatters its wings. Colorful buds of flowers which are yet to bloom in winter, starts to bloom in spring bursting their colors out and casting their slight syrupy smell in the premises of Pledge Harbor. Among those flowers; marigold, dahlia and cosmos are the most mentionable ones. Foggy introduction of the day during winter is replaced with warm sunshine of spring, which does not burn the skin rather gives a warm and fuzzy feeling.

Murmuring new green tree leaves dance to the whistle of the cold breeze of the spring. The small mango trees behind the academic building start to bloom mango buds. Late-ly cuckoos' charming songs are heard quite frequently. Along with cuckoos, other birds' chirping and cicadas' buzzing can be heard as well.

The transformation of the weather is made more salient on the first day of spring (also known as Pohela Falgun in Bangladesh) by our Bangladeshi teachers. They are brightly dressed in yellow traditional attire to welcome the first day of spring.

Students seem to really enjoy and become exuberant in spring. Though the colorful and refreshing weather of spring is a reason behind the excitement of students, another different reason for the exciting sensation, however, is the spring break which is drawing closer and closer every day.

Mahfuza Laohe Rumman, Grade IX



They left flowers as a symbol to pay respect to those who sacrificed their lives for the sake of their mother tongue. Later, the cultural program began in the auditorium. The program was made into a success by the students with their wonderful performances. Most of the performances conveyed the message of the language movement. At the end of the show, a prizes were distributed for the Bengali art competition.

The programme ended with words of wisdom from the distinguished Vice Principal of PHIS followed by concluding speech of the honorable Principal. It was satisfying to see the efforts students put to make the programme memorable. PHIS hope to arrange even better cultural program next time.

Zenab Aameir, Grade VIII

A SHIP IN THE SEA LIKE PRACTICING LANGUAGE THROUGH LITERATURE

THE PROMISE



Grade IX students underwent Narrative writing practices with their English Teacher, Mr. Ferdous for three weeks long and adopted different features of narrative composition as a part of their IGCSE syllabus. Among some fine Narratives, here is a fine paradigm which is graded according to the mark scheme of IGCSE and it scored 84%.

'Tabin! Tabin! Come here dear, I have a very important secret to share with you boy' called his grandfather in a mild voice. Tabin was a teenager around 17 with black curly hair and a pointy nose. He was a nerdy type guy who was always curious about things.

By the time he reached the room his grandfather told him the every bit of secret he had in his life, which made young curious Tabin's jaw dropped. He didn't took the words seriously at first but his grandfather's sparkly and determined eyes left him no options. So he promised to bring back the precious key from their old house and witness the miracle.

That day was very strangely gloomy and it looked like there would be heavy rainfall. Tabin knew exactly where their old house was as he had a lot of sweet memories of his childhood with it. So wasting no time he hurried to the house and found the key exactly where his grandpa instructed.

By the time he returned home rain was pouring heavily and he was all soaked up. He jumped out of his bike and rushed to the house with full of excitement.

By catching the first sight of his grandson he was jumping like a kangaroo. 'Ah, you made it, after all these years it is time for another adventure', said his grandfather as his eyes was sparkling like a bright star.

'Adventure? What adventure? What are you talking about?' asked Tabin who was looking so puzzled!

'First give me the key then I will explain everything to you on the way when we will leave for the journey', said his grandpa who was looking serious and excited at the same time.

As Tabin put his hand into his pocket, to his horror the pock-

et was empty! He searched his back pocket too but it still was not there!!

'Where is the key boy? What happened? Give me the key quickly, I don't have much time left unless I open my treasure chest with the key and take the secret medicine I once created for this incurable disease', urging grandpa who was looking very pale now.

'I...I'll be back soon' murmured Tabin who is very frightened now. And went back to the road where he might have dropped it. Before leaving he **promised** his grandpa that he would not return home unless he finds the key.

Hours and hours went by still no sign of the key. Even a day went by but still he was not losing hope and determined about his **promise**. He slept in the roadside, eat whatever he could find yet he didn't returned back home. Three days went by like these still he didn't break his promise. He was looking as pale as a ghost, exhausted and body full of dirt. All his money is finished to buy food. Suddenly he remembered that he got a pocket on his shirt, and there might be some money. So with little hope he put his hand into the pocket and he couldn't believe what he just touched, the key was lying there still! He completely forgot that he kept the key on the shirt pocket!

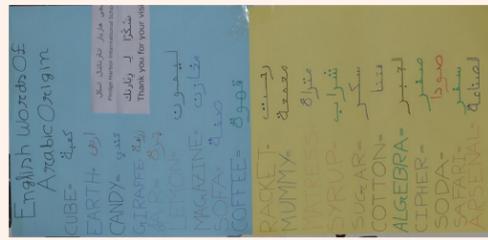
No sooner he started running his home with all his might as he had hardly any energy left. When he entered the house he saw his grandfather is sleeping on his wheel-chair.

'Grandpa? Grandpa? Wake up' he called his grandpa loudly. No answer, no movement. Then he touched his grandfather and horror stuck him, it was cold as ice and frozen still.

Rifat Bin Maruf, Grade IX



ENTERING INTERNATIONALISM THROUGH DIFFERENT LANGUAGES



On the occasion of 21st February, 'The International Mother Language Day' PHIS organized an innovative event referred as 'Literacy of different Languages'. This event took place to accomplish the following objectives: to create awareness and respect of self and other languages, to promote international mindedness and to create interest of learning new languages. Eight different languages' speakers came up to participate in this creative competition where they tried to attract as many learners and visitors as possible to present their

languages and attracted them. The best three booths were given awards for their real strive. Bangla Language participants won the 1st, Arabic Language became the 2nd while Spanish Language participants won the 3rd prize. Individual competition attracted the visitors where they were asked quizzes on the materials presented in the event. The winners were: 1st Mr. Badol (a parent), 2nd Najeeba (a student) and 3rd Munmun Das (a teacher) respectively. The panel of judges were consisted of the Principal and two coordinators respec-

tively Ms. Meenakshi Ahlawat, Mr. Adnan Chowdhury and Mr. Junaed Rabbani. This successful event was planned and coordinated entirely by Mr. Hemayet Ferdous, a Faculty Member of PHIS.

The language club is going to be emerged based on the tremendous success of this event. Students, faculty members and parents will have a scope to learn different languages.

Abrar Ishaat, Grade IX

BANGLA



Safat and Ishaat both from grade IX were the presenters of this section. The supervisor of this booth was Ms. Sharmin. The booth made presentation on the history of Bangla language. They also played a game where they asked 5 quiz questions to the audiences and with every correct answer they awarded them chocolate. That is how they attracted lots of visitors. They won the first prize in the competition due to their informative aspect of making the visitors aware of the origin of Bangla language.

Rifat and Rohan from grade IX, Nahid from grade XI and Jabir from G. XII organized the booth and it was supervised by Mr. Noor Islam. They introduced the Arabic alphabets to the visitors in an artful way. As well, they presented some outstanding calligraphies along with some English words from Arabic origin such as cube from kaba. Furthermore, they prepared an informative power point presentation emphasizing on the distinct features of Arabic language that adorned the Arabic as the king of all languages. They won the 2nd prize for their thoughtful presentation.



ARABIC

FRENCH



French booth was full with PYP students. Asaad, Maruf, Zara and many other PYP students did an excellent job in terms of presenting their materials. They also introduced the French alphabets and some basic phrases. They also highlighted some distinctive feature of French grammar and how it differs from English. Ms. Mehnaz supervised this group.

Spanish booth was consisted of Grade XI students: Nasif, Ayas, Farheen, Radith, Rezwana, and Nuzhat, and they won the third prize due to their enthusiastic approach of Spanish Language to the visitors. They attracted the visitors with cheering and singing



SPANISH

JAPANESE



Yuma, Maksud from grade XI and Tonmoy from grade IX worked for Japanese Language. Japanese language had no alphabets but has million of signs to communicate with which familiarized the visitors. They attracted the visitors specially the children by showing fascinating images of famous Japanese animated cartoons.

MARATHI



Mr. and Mrs Abhijeet and Abhita came along with the similarities between the alphabets of Marathi and Bengali.

Although many people there had listening and speaking comprehension of Hindi, they could not read Hindi before Minhaz from grade IX introduced the Hindi alphabets with the supervision of Mrs. Rabbani.

HINDI

TAMIL



Najeeba and Param did an outstanding job. They presented the Tamil alphabets with some surprising facts regarding Tamil that many people were not aware of. The visitors got to know about Tamil language quite well due to the nice work of this booth. By the end of the session, the visitors were able to answer the questions asked by this booth. Mr. Sam supervised all these.

Meet Our New Principal



Ms. Meenakshi Ahlawat has joined Pledge Harbor as the principal. She has got an immense experience as a teacher and a principal. We had the pleasure to introduce her through the following interview.

Please tell us something about yourself.

I have become a teacher by choice. I started teaching at the age of 21. Prior to joining to Pledge Harbor, I was the Principal of *Mind Tree*- a school that I was the founder principal of it.

What did make you inclined towards teaching?

There was absence of competent teachers when I was a college student. Since then, I was determined to choose teaching as my profession and felt the necessity of excellent teachers in students' life to advance a nation. Besides, teachers always have a felicitous access to know the unknowns. They are privileged with a tremendous opportunity to become life-long learners.

What is your future plan about PHIS?

To create a brand value of PHIS so that people become interested to send their children to this great school.

What should be the most important goal of education according to you?

Creating an environment of education that will lead to a virtuous and profound life opportunity.

Would you mind to share a sweet experience you have had in your teaching career?

When a group of students saw my name in the notice board as their class teacher, they found a *yes!!! she is our class teacher* moment.

What do you think the greatest challenge the education system in general facing today?

One problem the system facing is to unite the students to be principled as students come from numerous backgrounds. Another problem is the vision of parents, students and teachers is not synchronized.

Md Jabir Hossain, Grade XII

PHIS PARTICIPATE AT BANGLA OLYMPIAD



In a tribute to all martyrs of 1952, International Turkish Hope School (ITHS) has been organizing Inter-school Bangla Olympiad for the last six years. This year, it took place on February 4th. Many prominent English and Bangla medium school students participated in this competition. It is an annual Inter-school competition organized for the students to cultivate their interest and intellect in Bangla. As well, another aim of Bangla Olympiad is to increase awareness of Bangla among international curriculum students.

With the involvements of the prominent intellectuals, artists, linguists, academicians and media personnel, the Olympiad gained an enormous momentum. Previous success of this event increased the number of schools participating this year. 1414 students represented 58 different schools in the Olympiad.

For the first time, PHIS students participated in this grand event and put a strong foothold. Jabir Hossain (G. XII), Shuvojit Saha (G. XI), Mahfuza Laohe Rumman (G. IX), Abrar Ishaat Safi (G. IX), and Ahmed Menhaz (G. IX) represented the school. They opted for two categories; essay writing and drawing. Among the best art students from best schools from all over the country, Shuvojit Saha stood 3rd in the drawing competition. This is an outstanding achievement for PHIS indeed.

Ahmed Menhazul Kabir, Grade IX

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