



NEWSLETTER



**PLEDGE HARBOR
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

Volume: 03, Date: 14th March, 2018
Academic year 2017 – 18

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

A million reasons are too less when there isn't a purpose but with this volume we have a big purpose to say Congratulations to our MYP Coordinator, our dear teachers and our worthy parents, as Pledge Harbor is now MYP authorized. It is indeed a proud moment for each one of us.

As we turn in the next volume of PHIS newsletter for our stakeholders, with spring in the air and in our being, we hope that everyone enjoys reading it. The wheels of the session seem to chugging out quite quickly and before long we shall be in the final lap. It is heartening to see everyone working hard and making sure that all activities and visits that were planned are executed and add value to child's learning at PHIS.

It had been a very engaging quarter and even the cold winters could not dampen our spirits. It was a great pleasure to witness the PYP students welcoming spring and our students braced up with back to back activities of commemorating the Language Day and also putting up amazing inter house dramatics- pralucente. Congratulations to all students and teachers. Indeed every performance was worth all applause.

Always you should remember that guidance is required by each one of us at every point of our lives, sometimes its stern sometimes it is soft. Yet never misconstrue the intention because only a compassionate heart will be concerned with your welfare. Comparing your self is not giving yourself due respect. Always give your best and then you are incomparable. Wishing my children who are going to face the mocks from the first week of March all the very best and lots of resilience to be calm. Only a calm mind can think positively.

Mind is very powerful tool to shape our destinies so allow it to be in a calm state and not be disturbed by any pettiness and shallowness of ill-bred people who will always be there in hordes to crush your spirit but you need to stand tall and sure. Always think right, do right and you should be able to look into your own eyes without remorse.

Wishing them the best and good health. Enjoy our updates till we bring in more in the next vol.

MYP Authorization



In the month of February, PHIS marked an important milestone in the history, when the MYP verification team visited the campus. It is a small step in the development of the PHIS middle school education, a giant step towards the final piece of the jigsaw of the IB continuum of international programme that links the PYP and the DP at Pledge Harbor.

With the hard work of our staff, students and parents, PHIS is delighted to announce the authorization and accreditation of our International Baccalaureate Middle Years Program. This program aims to create global citizens who are not only knowledgeable in core content areas, but who are knowledgeable in concepts they will encounter in life. This is a big accomplishment for our school, and will help continue to drive our students towards success.

PHIS had started its MYP journey, when it received the candidature status.

PHIS Teachers were excited about the implementation of the IB Middle Years Programme. As an IB candidate school, we strived to have our students develop the qualities of the IB Learner Profile, identified as: Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Thinkers, Communicators, Principled, Open-minded, Caring, Risk-takers, Balanced, and Reflective.

With the team of experienced IB teachers to very new, we started implementing the standard and practices laid down by IB. The staff of PHIS worked diligently to incorporate the MYP model of teaching and learning since 2016, when we received this news. Although strictly unofficial, it is fair to say that the team was highly impressed with our school, our mission, the quality of education and the support of the entire school community. They were especially praising (amazed was the word they used!) of how hard the faculty had worked and how much they had achieved in working towards the MYP in such a short time.

Best wishes!



~ Mr. Juned Rabbani, MYP Coordinator



Pledge Harbor at Bangla Olympiad

Pledge Harbor does not fail to leave its legacy anywhere. Like last year, PHIS students have actively participated in the Bangla Olympiad on February 17 held at International Turkish Hope School under the lead of Bangla Department Head and our Dean, Mr. Salah Uddin Abir. We have showed that we are equally efficient in our mother language though our medium of education is English. Our students participated in the following categories: poetry, painting and essay writing. And, same as last year, we showed one outstanding performance in one of the categories. Nazia Hossain Khan, from grade 11, has achieved the 3rd position in the senior section of Bangla Essay Writing out of 1400 participants. The topic of her essay was "Embroidered Quilt". The prize

giving ceremony was held on February 22. Honorable Minister of Information, Mr. Hasanul Haq Inu, was present in the ceremony. She was awarded one bronze medal, a certificate, and Tk. 2,000. We hope for more amazing performances next year.



~ Nazia Hossain Khan, Grade 11

DISA Festival - 2018

The students of Pledge Harbor International School participated in the much awaited annual DISA FESTIVAL held at International School Dhaka, Bashundhara, Dhaka on January 30th, 2018. The theme for this year was Colors of Life.

A total of 8 well renowned schools participated in this year's festival, including ISD, Aga Khan, Sir John Wilson, Scholastica, AUSIS, Chittagong Grammar School and Singapore Kinder land.



PHIS participants comprised of students from all the three programmes: PYP, MYP and DP. The students practiced very hard for several weeks under the watchful supervision of Ms. Sifat Hossain Piya and Ms. Rithesha Paul. Students performed the Butterfly dance accompanied by a Spanish theme dance. The PHIS dance was a huge hit with the crowd, with the audience never having seen such a novelty and evidenced by the huge round of applause when the dancers exited the stage. The costumes, including the butterfly dresses

and wings with lights which glowed in the dark, were created by Hamza's Wear.

It was truly an evening to remember for the participants, the accompanying teachers as well as the audience. Our Head of School, Ms. Kaniz Zareen, Vice Principal Mr. Adnan Chowdhury and Head of Planning and Administration, Ms. Tazeen Sinha were also amongst the audience cheering for PHIS.

~ Mr. Adnan Chowdhury, Vice Principal

International Mother Language Day at PHIS

International Mother Language Day, the day when the world remembers the



Language Martyrs of Bangladesh, who sacrificed their lives to protect the Bengali Language on 21st February 1952. Later in 1999 UNESCO recognized this day as International Mother Language Day.

In Pledge Harbor, the day started with a rally organized by the students and teachers together. The chief guest for the day was none other than our beloved Head of School, Ms. Kaniz Zareen.

A replica of the Shaheed Minar was built in front of the Academic Building where all the teachers and students showed respect to the martyrs by observing a minute of silence and by offering flowers to the monument.

Later the Cultural Committee organized for a cultural program, hosted by Zenab from Grade 9 and Nazia from Grade 11. With song, dance, poem recitation and a presentation the program ended with a speech from our honorable Vice Principal.

21st February is a history we Bangali feel proud of.

~ Minhaz, Grade 10



Duke of Edinburgh Program at PHIS

In the last newsletter, it was announced that the bronze level of the Duke of Edinburgh Award program has been resumed with some MYP and DP students. Now, we are going to update with our activities.



Duke of Edinburgh program consists of three parts- skills, physical activity, and service. Each Duke of Edinburgh Award

participant has to perform each of this part for at least 1 hour once a week. For creativity and activity part, the participants can choose their activities based on individual taste. Creative activities include crafts, cooking, music etc. For physical activities, participants can choose sports, dance, running, jogging, cycling and so on.

The service part of Duke of Edinburgh is decided by the school. Each week all the participants get together and spend the required time for service of the school and beyond. In our first activity, we learned about "First Aid Box" under the lead of our very own Dr. Nasimun, in the school infirmary. We learned the names of the tools in a first aid box and the purpose that they are used for. This learning will help us in the adventurous journey (described later). Later in that week, the participants arranged a workshop for the PCS team at the auditorium sharing the knowledge that we had gathered.

No matter how dirty we make our school building, we find the school clean every day. How do the people working for us feel? To understand this, the second activity was cleaning the outdoor basketball ground. When all the other students were rushing towards the indoor for playing games on a Saturday evening, you may have seen

some students moving with cleaning materials to the outdoor basketball ground. There the participants worked for over an hour cleaning the grounds. We also cleaned the playing rides for the junior students beside the basketball ground. It was a



feeling of achievement when at the end the playground looked so clean.

"There is no limit for donation"- there were posters all around the school. The third activity was fundraising for the underprivileged children. As the students are not allowed to have cash in the school, we collected the amount and signature on a paper for the amount to be later deducted from their tuck shop account. The teachers have also donated a big amount. From all the money, we are going to arrange a treat for the underprivileged children. Our aim is to bring smiles to their faces and to find out how we do that you will have to wait for the next issue of the newsletter.

These are the activities we have done so far. The upcoming activities include "Live Green Week" where we will be promoting recycle and reuse of waste materials. Moreover, in the first week of April, we are going for an adventurous journey for two days to The Base Camp Bangladesh.

~ Nazia Hossain Khan, Grade 11



Field Trips

Grade 1 to Jolputal Puppetry workshop



In grade 1's third unit their TD theme was 'How we express ourselves' and they were inquiring in ways which we express ideas beliefs values and feelings. And their central idea was *Ideas, Beliefs, Values and Feelings can be expressed through stories*. To take their learning further they went for a puppetry workshop to Jolputal puppets with their Homeroom Facilitator, Ms. Priyangshu and there they have learned how to make easy puppets out of scratch. Further they learned how to express their Ideas beliefs values and feelings through the puppets. All of the first graders of Pledge Harbor really enjoyed this workshop.



KG2, KG3 and Grade 1 to Bangabondha Safari Park

The students of KG 2, KG 3 and Grade 1 visited the wild life Sanctuary Safari Park for their current TD Themes. The TD Theme of KG 2 was How We Express Ourselves, the TD Theme of KG 3 and Grade 1 was "Sharing The Planet". The children were thrilled to see the various animals, birds and fishes right in front of them, and raised a number of interesting questions like why the white lions were sleeping during the day, why the pelicans have a bag under its beak and etc. It was a funfull successful trip for all the students lead by Ms. Mumtaz, Ms. Priyangshu, Ms. Sifat, Mr. Faysal & Mr. Mrinal.



Grade 3 and 4 to Ogilvy & Mather, Bangladesh



On 14th February, 2018, the Grade 3 & 4 students of PHIS were taken for a visit to a renowned advertisement agency Ogilvy & Mather, Bangladesh. The visit was a part of their TD Theme, "How we express ourselves" where they are learning about the impact of visual communication, advertisement & media in today's world. The trip was of immense help to the students where they were given firsthand knowledge on advertising and its importance in people's lives. They were also taught how advertisements are made and the factors that determine to make a good advertisement. They were also taught both the advantages and disadvantages of social media in our lives and how to make the right choice while buying products. They were further guided about the things they need to do if they want to pursue a career in media in future. Needless to mention, this trip provided children with lots of information and enriched the young minds thoroughly.



~ Ms. Neelam A. Khandoori, PYP Coordinator

Celebration of Season's @ Pledge Harbor International School

"Merry Spring"

How beautiful is the spring!

I don't know how many songs to sing.

How marvelous are the flowers' scent ,

Everyone loves them, to those I've sent.

I ask myself, " Why is the spring so beautiful?

Give me a reason!"

All the flowers, trees and plants that grow,

And the birds that chirp, in this season.

People are out in the streets dressed in orange
and yellow,

Every child and every grownup is a God's
fellow.

This is the spring season ,

Won't you say "hello?"

In this season everyone loves to dance,

Won't you take a glance?

I'm wishing you Happy Spring in advance,

How beautiful is the spring!

I don't know how many songs to sing

~ Najeeba, Grade- 5



SPRING

Oh! The King of Seasons, Spring,

Thank you for the flowers.

Thank you for the birds singing,

Thank you for the marvelous weather,

Thank you for everything

The King of Seasons, Spring

~ Mohammad Ahnaf, Grade 4

"Wonderful Spring"

Spring, the start of a new life.

The buds start to blossom,

The animals wake from a long sleep,

Like bears, snakes, lizards like to peep.

The bugs, bees, butterflies start to collect pollen,

Flower to flower you see some fallen ,

The bees start to make honey,

The bugs sound really funny.

And the beautiful scent of the tube roses,

O! See how the butterfly poses!

The insects all roaming dancing and flying,

All the other animals begin sighing.

A glimpse into the beautiful nature,

O ! How joyful is their future!

O ! How wonderful are all the creatures!

~ Param Detha Grade -5

Welcoming Spring at PHIS by the PYP students



Spring brings a lot of joy to us. The weather of the season is moderate; not too hot, nor too cold.

On the 15th of

February, the third day of Falgun, we were asked to be dressed in yellow. The day was full of events, including making a floral Rangoli, sharing food, singing songs etc.

Grade 5 students danced to the song FAGUNER – O – MOHONAI towards the end of which they were

joined by everyone in the PYP section. The day was fun filled and enjoyable for everyone.

A Few Budding Poets even wrote poems about spring:



~ Abdullah AL Khalid, Grade 5

Winter Picnic by KG3 and KG2

As a part of KG2 and KG3 current TD

Theme

“Sharing The Planet” and “How The World Works” respectively the children went



for a picnic at the PHIS football ground on 4th February 2018. It was a Fun filled day for them and a great outdoor experience

as they ate their food and got the opportunity to be with nature and

play with kids and goats that grazed around the field. They learnt about eating healthy food and about picnic season.



Inter House Spelling Bee Contest

On 22nd February, 2018 Pledge Harbor International School held its first ever



spelling bee contest. A list of 250 words were given out to the four housemasters a few days in advance. It was the responsibility of the housemasters to select three suitable participants from their house to start preparing for the competition. At the end of a very busy week, during the last period of Thursday, all the students filled up the senior library along with all the teachers. Everyone was full of excitement to experience the first ever Spelling Bee competition at PHIS.

In front of a big audience, seated at four different round tables were the three participants from each house. Seated at the side of the room was the judges with their questions ready.



There was two rounds of the competition. The first round was a written round

and each house had to write ten difficult words as told by the host. The second round was an oral round, where each house had to try to spell words given to them.

This competition brought out some of the hidden talents present at PHIS, who are just like walking – talking dictionary.

At the end of this exciting competition, the result was given out right away.

Although it was a very close competition, every game must have a winner, and the first ever champion of the PHIS Spelling Bee competition was Mars House. The first Runners – Up was House Pluto.

Competitions like Spelling Bee, which excites us and help us to learn needs to be held every year.

~ Mahfuza, Grade 10

Inter House Dramatics 2018

In the afternoon of 21st February’18, the Inter house Dramatics was held in the auditorium of Pledge Harbor International School.

In the competition, each house faced the challenge enhancing their creativity and their acting skills. The show started with the performance from Mars House who did a small skit about the Language Movement of 1952. Next was Jupiter House with William Shakespeare’s The Merchant of Venice. After that Neptune House did a drama called ‘What on Earth is the Matter?’ – A play that focused on the various environmental issues faced by the Earth. Finally was Pluto House who put together a Greek play called Antigone a performance about a sister who fights against the injustice faced by her brother.

It was truly an exciting show put together by all the houses and enjoyed by the whole audience including our Head of School, Ms. Kaniz Zareen.

After the show our Vice Principal, Mr. Adnan Chowdhury announced the results, where Jupiter came fourth, Mars came third and by a very close gap Pluto came second



and Neptune the winners of the Inter House Dramatics 2018.

~ Minhaz, Grade 10

Reincarnation of cricket at PHIS

The name of the Pledge Harbor cricket team used to haunt the teams of many schools from Dhaka. Yet this perished into thin air, with Graduation of the Batch of 2015. Since then the popularity of football was on the rise. But thanks to the new generation of high school Panthers, PHIS can again hope for victory on the cricket pitch.

For the last couple years, the cricket ground had been hope to pests and grass dwellers. Very recently the solid hard pitch is back and full of life.

The year started with a good note, when our team beat the local team quite comfortably. With the introduction of Enam, from grade 9, our team is more organized than ever. Now, we not only have the courage to challenge the staffs but to beat them too.

The main aim by the team is to hold up the form and head into further challenges

~ Rifat Bin Maruf, Grade 10

Upcoming Events

APRIL

- 1st Traditional Sports starts.
- 4th – 5th DofE Bronze level Award Journey
- 7th – 12th Unit test of all grade will commence.
- 13th – 15th Inter-house swimming competition
- 27th Graduation Day for Grade class 5, 10 and 12

MAY

- 1st Inter-house chess and carom competition
- 4th Exhibition for MYP and DP
- 10th Inter-house Quran recitation
- 18th Prize giving & award ceremony
- 23rd – 30th The end of session for Grade 6 to 12
- 31st Summer vacation begins

Teacher Feature

Mrs. Neelam Khanduri

Mrs. Neelam Khanduri from Gujarat, India is in Pledge Harbor International School as the PYP Coordinator. She has been teaching Mathematics and Science for the past 17 years. She studied in India and completed her Bachelors in Science and Bachelors in Education.

She started teaching in the year of 2000. In her free time, she likes to read Biographies of great people and watch sports. Also, on the social front, she is performing the role of a mother, a daughter and a daughter in law. Even though she doesn't play any sports, she loves watching it. She usually watches cricket and soccer. A few of her hobbies are creativity (any kind of work related to creativity), and cooking.

Again, Mrs. Neelam has been teaching for 17 years and now is currently working with PYP. She was working with the MYP department in the 2016-2017 school year. She fell in love with teaching while teaching her niece/nephew and her own daughter.

Mrs. Neelam thinks of IB as a challenging program, which is driven by inquiry. Students are taught concept not content in this program and thinks IB believes in holistic development of students. Her personal goal for her future classroom is to challenge students and watch them grow to their full potential. She wants to take students at different levels and see them develop together for the betterment of each individual.

Mrs. Neelam's teaching philosophy is: To promote positive learning; to spark learner enthusiasm for learning; and to provide a strong foundation for lifelong learning.

She feels the key to helping all students' reach their fullest potential is assessing and accommodating their diverse needs. A challenge she faces while teaching is helping parents and students meet long-term goals, as IB education is relatively a new concept in Bangladesh. She is used to living in this campus and claims to not have any challenges, while being in this campus.

She has one daughter and she is doing her bachelor degree in English and French in India. Something she loves about Bangladesh is the simplicity of the people, ready-made garments and sweets. She came to Bangladesh, specifically Pledge Harbor International School because she believes that it's a challenge to set up IB education system and wanted to take up that challenge. Also because she likes that Bangladesh is very close to her country, India. A habit that she is trying to get rid of is repetition of a statement.

She is now in Pledge Harbor International School with her husband, Mr. Anoop Khanduri. We are thrilled to have you here, ma'am!

~ Zenab Aameir, Grade 9

New Teachers Introduction

Mr. Bazul Karim

What do you like about PHIS?

Being surrounded by like-minded people at PHIS where students and teachers have access to 21st-century tools in the classroom to explore in the domain of knowledge.

What advice would you give to the students of PHIS?

I would tell the students to not waste any moment waiting for anything. Your schooling is a part of your education for few years but your education is a lifelong learning process till your death. Be a lifelong learner.

What is your favorite Quote?

Education is the ability to listen to almost anything without losing your temper or your self-confidence. So, listen.... listen to your preceptors, to your parents, to your peers. Learn to listen and really listen to what others are saying. You should know that a deaf is a dumb. – Robert Frost

Mr. ASM Zakaria

What do you like about PHIS?

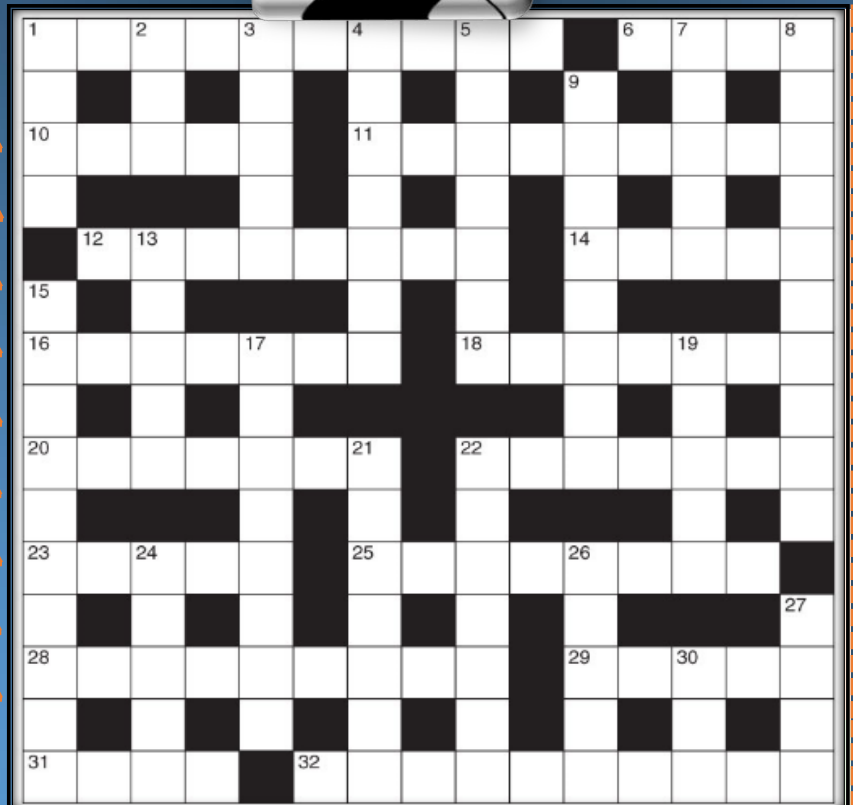
The environment of the school.

What advice would you give to the students of PHIS?

Always be well mannered.

What is your favorite Quote?

Every Child is an artist- Pablo Picasso



ACROSS

1. Talkative person
6. Motorway off-ramp
10. Cathedral, ... Dame
11. Slanting lines
12. Ticketed
14. Japanese seaweed roll
16. Pierced with fork
18. Every evening
20. Annoyed
22. Nuclear process
23. Vanilla slice topping
25. Railway bridges
28. Take apart
29. Was gloomy
31. One-on-one fight
32. Carry out (crime)

DOWN

1. Dollar division
2. Appropriate
3. Here, ... & everywhere
4. Overrun (with disease)
5. Continually (2,3,2)
7. Bone photos (1-4)
8. Giving evidence
9. Delivers (goods)
13. In existence
15. Tolerant (4-6)
17. Weight unit
19. Discredit (reputation)
21. Dedicated admirer
22. Sudden outburst (5-2)
24. Agenda item
26. Unfulfilled
27. Rim
30. Ham & ... soup

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