



NEWSLETTER



**PLEDGE HARBOR
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

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Academic year 2017 – 18

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear PHIS Family,

Eid Mubarak!

As the school year comes to a close, our minds and hearts are filled to the brim. It's been a great year! What a school! Together we've learned much and shared experiences that will long remain with us in the years to come. The strength of our community and wholehearted passion to make our school a wonderful place of learning for our children.

Special thanks to all of you who have contributed in ways small, large and unimaginable! Every teacher has gone an extra mile to see the light of success shine on us. A number of students have come up to the expectations and made us proud.

Our first IBDP batch has answered their exams and our prayers for an excellent result. Our young graduates of grade V will be climbing the next rung and get into MYP year 1. All those who have won appreciation awards and did well keep up your efforts. These small efforts will make you achieve milestones in life.

Regardless, may your summer be filled with play, exploration, and lots of time spent outdoors. This is a great way to learn and we live in an amazing place for it, don't we?!

To those of you who are leaving us for new places and adventures, we wish you all the best. Congratulations to our very capable 12th graders who are onto a new stage in their academic career! And, well-wishes, albeit with saddened hearts, you've been a gift to us for last few years and will undoubtedly be a great asset to your new institutions.

For your calendaring pleasure, the first day of school begins on Wednesday, July 18 (yes, early). Until then, enjoy a restful and replenishing summer with your families!

Greetings and blessings to your families and prayers for you all. Stay safe.

PYP Events

Like any other time of the academic year, this quarter too our PYP department was full of various events. Starting from celebration of the units studied to exhibitions and field trips, we may easily say that the students kept the teachers on their toes till the end of the quarter.

Following are a few updates of the same.

~ Ms. Sanjida in collaboration with everyone from PYP Dept.

PAPER CRAFT COMPETITION

On 11th March, 2018, a paper craft competition took place between grade 2 & Grade. 3 at Pledge Harbor International School, Campus, which left everyone in amazement.



The competition was absolutely neck to neck, where it was actually difficult to select the top 3 winners. The competition gave an opportunity to the participants to showcase their creative side to the fullest. The children created lovely items out of paper which left everyone awestruck. It was a delight to watch how the little ones created various beautiful items out of paper. The competition not only brought out the creative side of children but also reflected the imaginative side of their nature.

QURAN RECITATION COMPETITION

G: 2 - 5

The Holy Quran Recitation activity was held for Grades 2-5 in the month of April, 2018. The objective of the activity was to encourage the students to read and recite the Holy Quran. This was done not only to enhance their oratory skill but to grow the habit of reading the Quran every day, make them pious and respectful of their religion, guide them out of darkness into light and save them from the evils of sins to the righteous path of guidance and insight.

The students of Grade 2 & 3 enjoyed the activity in the presence of the PYP Coordinator. Most of the



students across all grades recited short prayers (Surah) from the Holy Quran. Among Grade 4 & 5, one student recited the scriptures from the holy book. Some recited very well while the others made an effort to give their best.

Some of the teachers from the middle school, who are well versed in reading and reciting the Holy Quran, were invited to judge the activity. At the end of the event, the students were made aware of the importance of reading the Quran and to focus on pronunciation through regular practice. Mr. Juned the MYP Coordinator advised them to be more regular in reading the Quran and offer namaz five times a day. These activities will further encourage the students to read and recite the Holy book with much enthusiasm.

BANGLA ARTICLE READING COMP.

The importance of continued study of the mother tongue has been acknowledged by the IB Programme since its inception. On 26th April, 2018, the children of Grade- 2 & 3 at PHIS competed with each other in

Bangla Article Reading Competition, where developing their Bangla oratory skill was the actual theme. The children were given to read a short interesting article, which each one of them, thoroughly, enjoyed reading. The competition was a very tough one, where there was a tie between winners, and the judges had a real tough time in deciding the final winner. It was also very kind of the judges that, they wisely guided and motivated the young learners, on how to improve their reading skills.

TRIP TO ECO COUTURE

On May 6th 2018, the entire PYP section of PHIS visited the Eco Couture as a field trip under the TD Theme, "sharing the planet."



The entire troop set out for the journey at 8.30 in the morning where they reached at around 10.30 am.

It is worth mentioning here that the place is no lesser exotic than any posh resort. Its rich landscape and well maintained décor captivated everyone present out there.

As soon as the children reached, they were welcomed by lovely bouquets and after the refreshments; they were taken to the various units of the factory where they were explained about Sewage plant, Eco-



friendly industrial unit, different species of plant etc. They were also shown how fabrics are actually converted to a finished product. Besides, children were also given the opportunity to satiate their curiosity by asking questions related to their Eco-friendly unit. The trip came to an end when the entire team left at around 3pm sometime after having lunch. Nevertheless, the trip was very joyous for everyone which



filled their mind with rich experience. Further, the icing on the cake was the wonderful hospitality that the entire team of PHIS received over there which really touched everyone's heart. To sum up, it was indeed a very memorable trip for everyone which will always be cherished and treasured.

EXHIBITION

The Exhibition epitomizes a momentous event in the lives of our students, synthesizing the essential elements of the Primary Years Programme and sharing them with the whole school community. This experience is an opportunity for students to exhibit the attributes of the International Baccalaureate (IB) Learner Profile that they have

been developing throughout their engagement with the PYP. Grade 5 students spent the past seven weeks researching, writing, making, talking, cooperating, and practicing, culminating with this, the opening of their Exhibition on 28th May, 2018.

The Chief Guest, our Head of School along with Principal, Vice- Principal, Coordinators, teachers, parents and students graced the exhibition .They appreciated students' efforts and encouraged them for their learning achievements. Exhibition Program comprised of National Anthem, Water for Life song, dancing to a beat, presentation of candid moments and a Bangla one act play "Obak Jalpaan."

The Exhibition fell under the transdisciplinary theme of "Sharing the Planet" and each student's individual



project work evolved from the central idea "Water is essential to our life, it is our

responsibility to preserve this resource." Students tailored their individual ventures to focus on water energy, distribution and availability of water and utility and responsibility regarding water. They got an opportunity to explore multiple perspectives and put their best foot forward to make the



exhibition a great success. We are proud of our students!

PYP Workshop

PYP teachers of Pledge harbor International School, Bangladesh, attended an in- school workshop, "Making the PYP Happen" Cat. 1 on 29th and 30th of April, 2018, which was conducted by IBO Workshop Leader Mr. Elmer Reyes from China. There were 14 participants in this workshop. It is worth mentioning that the 2 days' workshop was very enriching and enlightening for each and every one present out there. It not only enhanced every one's knowledge regarding PYP and IB ways of teaching but also broadened people's perspective in terms of teaching and education. The workshop consisted of various kinds of videos, presentations as well as interesting activities, which gave the teachers a whole new perspective to modify classroom teaching. In a nutshell, the workshop can be termed as "supremely informative" and whosoever attended the workshop felt elated and privileged to be a part of it.

~ Ms. Neelam Khanduri



MYP EVENTS

The International Baccalaureate® (IB) Middle Years Programme (MYP) emphasizes intellectual challenge.

It encourages students aged 11 to 16 to make practical connections between their studies and the real world, preparing them for success in further study and in life.

PHIS, which is now IB accredited to run the MYP program, breathes in the ethos and spirit of the program. Hence it is no surprise that the MYP department is a much happening and eventful part of the school. From field trips to exhibitions there are a lot happening in the department. Below is a small glimpse of it all.

~ Ms. Sanjida and MYP Dept

VISIT TO THE ECO-FAB UNIT OF VIYELLATEX GROUP



The students of MYP 1, 2 & 3 of PHIS visited "Eco-Fab" which is one of the unique ventures of Viyellatex Group and is a LEED Gold Certified factory. The trip was a part of a unit of Individual and Societies,



"The inventions & their impacts on the society".



The students were inspired as they to walk around the manufacturing units. There they saw the use of modern technology along with the old versions of the same.

Another highlight of the trip was learning about the service Viyellatex Group is doing to uplift the living standards of the ultra-poor women of the country by providing them with hands on training and making them skilled.

The students' moral got boosted when they met these women working efficiently and earning a reasonable livelihood.

"WOW", "Amazing" and "Inspiring" were the words which the students were uttering at the end of the trip.

MYP EXHIBITION

Italian poet and novelist, Cesare Pavese, once said, "We do not remember days, we remember moments".

We all recall those magical school moments that stick in our memory and hold a special place in our minds when we recollect our time at school. For some it is a sporting carnival, a



drama production or outdoor education camp. For learners that pass through the Middle

School, undoubtedly one of those fond moments that they will reminisce upon in the years to come will be their participation in the Middle Years Programme Exhibition.

MYP students of PHIS proved again that they strongly believe in the school moto "AIM HIGH", by showcasing yet another spectacular exhibition on May 5th 2018. Chief Guest, Parents and students from Bikash School were literally flabbergasted to see the presentations and exhibits of MYP students from year 1 to 4.



The MYP Exhibition is the event which display what students have done this academic session. It is a celebration of the child's learning throughout the session in Middle Years Programme.

The children were engaged, challenged and have given tasks to explore their personal capabilities to produce the most innovative ideas.

Above all, Exhibition is a wonderfully joyous community celebration of young people, amazing ability to direct their own learning, collaborate and to make a difference to world around them.

Well Done. Cheers!!!!

~ Mr. Juned Rabbani

SERVICE AS ACTION IN THE MYP

Service as Action (SAA) is an important part of the IB MYP program. Service is how one engages oneself in the action and commitment to help others. Service as Action is about raising awareness of the world around us.

11 students of grade 8 & 9 along with 2 teachers of PHIS went to a school in Akhtarpara on 26/04/2018, under the Service as Action MYP project. After

completing the two stage of SAA i.e. Investigation and Planning. They had accumulated a small amount of money



inside the school by selling drinks and food on special occasions to the

teachers and students made by them. With this money that they had earned, they decided to buy few soft boards, dustbins,



color pencils and color papers for the students of the school in Akhtarpara.

They fixed the soft boards on their walls, decorated their classrooms, and distributed the color pencils and color papers among the students so they feel special and privileged.

MYP TEACHERS' DAY OUT

Our Honorable Chairperson/Head of School had organized a fun filled and memorable picnic for the MYP teachers of PHIS on 21th April, 2018 to reward them for their hard work in achieving the MYP authorization. Apart from relaxation and enjoyment the picnic also aimed at building up team spirit among the members of the staff.

Prior arrangement was made for all at Paramount resort. The spot was excellent and all loved the place with its amenities and beauty.

The staff started the journey to explore the picnic spots like the golf course, boating and amazing floating dining house.

The memories will linger for a long time. Meetings, staff room activities and other work at school have always bound us to be together but the picnic was truly a time where the bonding as a PHIS family became stronger in a cheerful way.





Annual School Award Giving ceremony

On 18th May 2018, was a big day at Pledge Harbor International School. The Annual Award Giving ceremony was the much awaited event in the school calendar.

On this day students were awarded for their outstanding performances in all other aspects of the school term.

The school choir welcomed everyone present with some beautiful songs. The program initiated with the Duke of Edinburgh participants received the certificates and bronze pins for their participation in the Bronze Level of the Award.

Everyone was enthralled by wonderful performance by the PYP students of KG 2 to Grade 2. They showcased bits and pieces of all that they had learned throughout the academic year. It really was a moment of pride for all to see the little Panthers perform like true entertainers.

Mashroor Ahmed Fidal of Grade 1 and Mahfuza Lahoe Rumman of Grade 10 was bestowed the Butterfly Award. The Butterfly Award honors those who through commitment, effort, and positive drive, has made leaps and bounds from where they began the school year. From beginning to the end, they had exemplify the change and growth of a simple small caterpillar into that of a beautiful Butterfly.

Abdullah al Khalid of Grade 5 and Samiul Anan of Grade 6 received the PHIS Ambassador Award. The PHIS Ambassador Award respects those student who is consistently aligned with Pledge Harbor International School's culture, mission, and vision. They continually show high levels of integrity, leadership qualities, and are positive PHIS ambassadors wherever they go.

The PHIS Cultural Leadership Award was presented to Zara Khan of Grade 5. A cultural leader is someone who stands up to represent the school in every cultural program and also motivates others to take initiatives.

One of the most coveted award handed out on that day was the PHIS Student of the Year award. PHIS Student of the Year is someone who is able to handle many different aspects of student life while maintaining excellence in the classroom, someone who promotes and takes pride in PHIS and in themselves. And this prestigious award was given to the most deserving Nazmus Sakib Rezwan of Grade 12.

As the ceremony moved towards the closure the tension in the PHIS Auditorium was felt by everyone. Everyone held their breath as the most desired and esteemed award of the year waited to be announced. The one trophy that drives the spirit of competition among the students and the teachers, The Cock House Award. Houses Neptune, Jupiter and Pluto stood lapping while the champions raised the prestigious trophy of The Cock House Award.



It truly was a day of celebration for everyone, even those who did not get an award, because to see others win a title drives the spirit of striving to do better in future.

~ Ms. Sanjida Rahman

GRADUATION DAY 2018



One big event on any school's calendar is the Graduation Day. It's a day when emotions of all forms run high in every heart. There is pride for the achievers there is fear of the unfamiliarity that awaits, there is joy that a journey of many years is complete there is grief that the end is near. Teachers and students, everyone look towards this big day yet when it comes, it seems that it arrived too soon.



PHIS had its graduation on the 21st of April. After days and nights of labor in preparation for the big day, everyone woke to a thunderous morning. Even though the weather was gloomy, there was smiles on every faces as the big day had finally arrived.

This year PHIS rejoiced in the graduation of three batches, Grade 12 who were graduating their high school years, Grade 10 their middle school years and Grade 5 graduating to MYP from PYP.

Students from all three graduating grade wore their robes and hats and proudly marched to the stage after a welcome from the choir. Everyone got nostalgic as a video was shown of their journey so far at PHIS and a few fought hard to keep tears at bay. Later each student talked about their time spent at PHIS and thanked their teachers.



Crests were handed out by the head of school and the principal and finally the Big day came to an end. The school's camera was kept busy till the last minute, as everyone wanted to take pictures with their teachers and coordinators. Finally the cheers could be felt all around when each graduating student threw their graduation hat up in the air full of joy and pride of success.

~ Ms. Sanjida Rahman

DUKE OF EDINBURGH TRIP

There were 12 Duke of Edinburgh participants that went to Base Camp, Gazipur. We were doing the Bronze level and had to go for an adventurous trip after 6 months of service, physical activity, and skills. We reached there, being the only school that wore their uniforms. Our trainer, Mr. Ferdous Zaman, was very sweet when welcoming us.

After a quick brief on the rules and regulations, we got a specific amount of time, before the horn went off, to change and get ready for the activities. Once we were dressed and at the gallery, our trainer picked two captains, Zenab and Enam for the teams Phoenix and Unicorn.

We had a tough competition where we had to complete some exceptional activities that were really challenging. We had some interesting activities which included the human version of tic tac toe, the giant shoe, tree-top obstacle course, archery, human foosball, backseat driver,



capture the flag and many more. The one activity that we will always remember and cherish was a giant relay race which was an obstacle course involving all the other activities that we had done. In the end, phoenix won, but the competition was very close. Everyone put their best into everything that they did. The healthy competition was the perfect boost for all of us to give it our all. It was an amazing experience to connect with nature and look at how beautiful it can be. And the best thing of all was that I won the best base camper award too.

At the end of the day after completing all the activities, there was a bonfire and we sang different songs, danced on the music, played guitar, shared some

interesting stories and had a lot more fun than we usually have.



We were able to overcome

our weaknesses though that trip. For two whole days, we lived in tents where we witnessed the camp life. We all learned many skills like leadership, teamwork, and living in a tent. Not even a single person wanted to leave the camp. It was hard for people to adjust without Wi-Fi and devices, but once we did, we all felt free and closer. We spent time together and admired the beauty all around us.

The most important thing that we learned was to

respect the nature and adjust with every kind of adversity. There were many participants who didn't know they had so much potential, physically, and realized it after a few activities. In one night, we felt so different, and so much better than what we usually do. It was one of the best trips ever, it taught us so much, and it also



made us realize that hard work can be enjoyable. We all can't wait to go back!



The trip was a lesson of a lifetime for all of us. I look forward to the next level of the Duke of Edinburgh.

~ Ahmed Tanzim (Grade 9)

Teacher Feature

Mr. Juned Rabbani, our favourite MYP Coordinator and ICT teacher. Not only does he teach ICT, but he has also been teaching design and ITGS. He has an outstanding 17 years of teaching experience. Mr. Juned Rabbani is a graduated from Dehradun, he has completed his MBA and has Masters in Sciences.

He has been a professional boxer and is keen when it comes to body building and hitting the gym. Even though he doesn't play in sports he still takes interest in cricket and football.

Mr. Juned thinks highly of IB and finds it most suitable for the learners of present and the citizen of tomorrow. He says this curriculum meets the requirements of real life and prepares the students for the challenging future and real life situations which awaits all students outside their school gates.

He says that the classroom environment should be such that students are able to express their own ideas and explore various thoughts. He also believes in teaching the real life lessons and not just the content of the syllabus. "Teaching is all about learning" says Mr. Juned.

Mr Juned thinks that the students of this generation has not yet realized how uncertain and challenging the future is going to be for them. They need to prepare themselves for the unseen future and be flexible to adjust to the requirements. "The way the technology is moving ahead it is very difficult to learn what will be coming in our way," he says.

Apart from being an experienced teacher he is also an amazing chef. Mr Juned is here with his wife Mrs. Nahid Rabbani who is the humanities teacher for MYP. They have one daughter who is pursuing an university degree in India.



~ Shahidul Islam Shaheen (Grade 11)

On the 7th of March, the day of the historical speech by The Father of the Nation,

BIRTHDAY OF THE FATHER OF THE NATION

Bongobandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman which drove the entire nation of Bangladesh towards independence, Pledge Harbor International School honored the Father of the Nation by celebrating his birthday.

The day began by sharing notable facts about Bangobondhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, considered as the Greatest Bengali of all times. Later, there were various competitions where students wrote letters to the Father of the Nation and essays about him. There was also an art competition for the primary year program (PYP) students, under the topic 'Bongobondhu through my eyes'

~ Ms. Sanjida Rahman



On 29th March 2018, the campus of PHIS

INDEPENDENCE DAY

was adorned in the colors of red and green, as everyone joined hands to celebrate the 47 years of Independence of our beloved motherland, Bangladesh. To remind everyone of the price that the nation paid in terms of the lives lost there

was the awe inspiring backdrop prepared by our very own visual arts teacher Mr. Zakariya assisted by a group of dedicated and hardworking students. The back drop spoke of the feelings that was in every heart as we rejoiced the independence and mourned all that the nation lost in its path towards it. There were a number of performances by the students including dance and poetry recitation. The cultural program that showcased our culture, heritage and most importantly the essence of our independence.

~ Ms. Sanjida Rahman



POIHELA BOISHAKH

the Bengali New Year's Day was commemorated on campus on April 12th, 2018. The Staff and students all dressed up in bright red and white traditional attire and were treated traditional breakfast of "Pantha

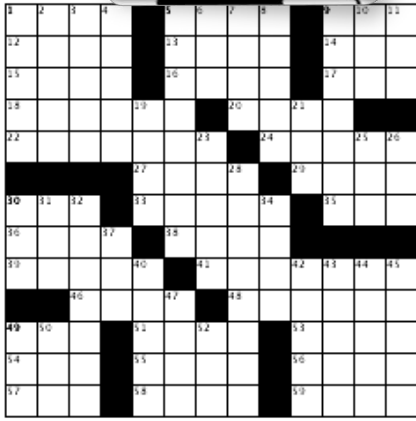
baath and Ilish maach" at the Dorm 1 cafeteria. After this hearty breakfast, they all gathered in front of the Dorm 1 and began the procession carrying the bright, colorful masks which were created by Mr. Zakaria, the Arts teacher and Mr. Faysal, our PYP Music teacher. The students and staff walked until the school round about and then returned back. Students sang traditional songs as the rally went around campus. This was followed by a very enthralling Cultural programme in the Academic Building foyer performed by the students as well as some 'Lalon' performers. After the Cultural programme, there were lots of

other fun activities for the students, namely, water sports, traditional Bengali games, Kite flying, horse riding and much more. Pohela Boishakh bears testament to Bangladesh's history of diversity and inclusiveness, and makes it a celebration that truly brings together not only the staff and students of Pledge Harbor International School but people of this country in unity and harmony.



~ Adnan Chowdhury, Vice Principal

Crossword



58. Yearn
59. Something that is lost

DOWN

1. Plentiful
2. Middle East rug
3. Silly
4. Saltpeter
5. Plea
6. Dove sound
7. Trick
8. Retract
9. Line for hoisting a sail
10. Wood sorrel
11. Spread out for drying
19. Matures
21. Become firm
23. Go away
25. Regret
26. Of recent origin
28. Mercenary
30. Dance
31. Part of verb to be
32. Combat area
34. Persian fairy
37. Not
40. Filbert
42. Knot
43. Eskimo dwelling
44. Deadens
45. Tenuous substances
47. Public swimming pool
49. Very small
50. Pronoun
52. Cardinal number

ACROSS

1. Related by blood
5. Beige
9. Having a high temperature
12. Prefix for small
13. Part of speech
14. Very skilled person
15. Plot of ground
16. Throw
17. Chield
18. Consisting of lines
20. Not difficult
22. Appears
24. Long
27. Apiece
29. Authentic
30. Tooth-bearing bone
33. Divest
35. Condensed moisture
36. Republic in SW Asia
38. Lively
39. Ancient Hebrew coin
41. Convergent
46. Ardor
48. Tongue
49. Which person
51. Tubular pasta in short pieces
53. Donations to the poor
54. Even (poet.)
55. Paradise
56. Cloak
57. Before

NEWSLETTER CREW

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A glimpse of 2017-18

