

IN MEMORIAM

March 3, 2011

Dear Friends,

With deep sorrow, we inform you that Dr. Vidya Sagar, Founder and Patron of The Sagar School, passed away on February 27, 2011. He was 85.

A barrister at Lincoln's Inn and a doctor from the Free University, Berlin, Dr. Sagar earned a reputation as one of the country's most formidable legal minds soon after admission to the India bar in 1952. He took over the practice of Remfry & Son in 1973 (renamed Remfry & Sagar in 1991) and as Senior Partner steered the firm to become the Indian face of Intellectual Property law.

Deep influence of Indian and European traditions as well as his consuming passion for developing young talent, found expression in the establishment of The Sagar School in 2000, which he nurtured so lovingly.

Of sharp mind, strong will and unmatched vigour, uncompromising in his insistence on the highest standards of professional integrity and conduct, he was unfazed by difficulties. He was a visionary but a rather unassuming one as he shunned the limelight. For all those who had the privilege of knowing him personally, none can forget the sheer range of his experiences and the depth of his curiosity.

He leaves behind a giant legacy and his loss is an irreparable one for family, friends and colleagues all over the world.

The Sagar School holds in trust his philosophy and his principles. Taking after its inspirational leader, it is set on its path to excellence, fully resolved to develop young people whose accomplishments will become the most fitting tribute to an exceptional man.

Hemant Sagar
Chairman

Sharmistha Julka
Director

Lt. Col. Rattanbir Singh
Principal



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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Friends, our community of Parents and Well-wishers, members of the School Staff and dear Sagarians,
Warm greetings to you all!
We are happy to bring out this newsletter for the second term of the session 2010-2011.

All our apologies for not being able to bring out the newsletter in January, 2011. This quarter, the School marched ahead with several developments. Most notable of them was the appointment of a new leader at the helm - our Principal, Lt Col (Retd) Rattanbir Singh.



Significantly, The Sagar School has grown from strength to strength. The School witnessed an array of activities, inter-house and inter-school competitions. These are seen by us as an essential means of generating enthusiasm in the bright young minds for taking up newer challenges in life.

On the academic front, the students were seen balancing their curricular and co-curricular activities quite effectively. The students have also done exceptionally well in implementing social work programmes at the Malliyar Village adopted by the School. Besides this, many useful seminars and workshops also took place during this period and much knowledge was disseminated.

We express our sincere thanks and good wishes to all the Good Samaritans who continue to help The Sagar School grow into a mighty banyan tree. It is through their efforts that our mission of imparting secular education integrated with global can reach out to many more people in the globalised society. And yet, there are many more areas to conquer and lots more to accomplish in our bid to produce the largest possible number of elite world citizens. To remember the immortal words of Robert Frost :

The woods are lovely dark and deep,
But *we* have promises to keep,
And miles to go before *we* sleep,
And miles to go before *we* sleep...

Read on ...

(For those interested in keeping tabs on the ongoing activities at School, do stop by the School Website www.thesagarschool.org)

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3 SEP 2011 : QUIZ TIME

It was the first Invitational Inter-school Quiz Competition hosted by The Sagar School. Nine teams from member schools of the **ALWAR SAHODAYA SCHOOL CLUSTER (CBSE)** participated in it. These were, Lords International School, Alwar; St. Xaviers School, Bhiwadi; Modern Public School, Bhiwadi; National Academy, Alwar; St. Anselms School, Alwar; Parle School, Neemrana and The Sagar School, Tijara.

Dr. V. Ravindran, Director and Counselor, Institute Of Counselors Training Research and Consultancy (ICTRC), was the Chief Guest during this event. It was a very interesting quiz with ten rounds. The competition consisted of screening, rapid fire and the final rounds. Students participated in the quiz with great enthusiasm. St. Anselms stood first with 190 points followed by The Sagar School at the second position with 160 points and the St. Xaviers School followed close behind with 130 points. Certificates were awarded to all participants. Mr. Praveen Kumar Chaturvedi was the quiz coordinator. Mr. S. Karmakar, Mr Vijay Masih, Ms. Shivani Gupta and Ms. Priyanka Sharma were the quiz masters of various rounds.

**4 SEP 2010 : THE TRIANGLE**

A parent teacher meeting (PTM) was organized for classes IV – VIII to involve parents in the learning process of their children. The children as well as parents benefited from this interaction. We at The Sagar School believe that such events significantly impact the academic achievement of students.

5 SEP 2010 : TEACHERS DAY

The dream begins with a teacher who believes in you, who tugs and pushes and leads you to the next plateau, sometimes poking you with a sharp stick called "truth." ~ Dan Rather

Good teachers are like candles - they consume themselves to light the way for others !

Each year, **5th September** - TEACHERS DAY - is celebrated at The Sagar School in tribute to the contribution made by teachers to the betterment of society. This day is the birth anniversary of a great personage, former President of India a renowned scholar, but above all, a visionary teacher - **Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan** - a staunch believer in the liberating power of education.

Teachers Day is an occasion that is eagerly looked forward to by all teachers and students because on this day not only do students get to understand the great responsibilities shouldered by their teachers, but the teachers too feel happy to see students acknowledging and respecting their efforts.

**6 - 11 SEP 2010 : A GAME OF SQUASH**

As in all other games, there is no overnight success in squash. The only way to reach the top is paved by hard work. Of course, one must also have the correct technique to go with it. As our modified saying goes, ***Mere practice does not make a perfect person ; It requires perfect practice to make a person perfect!***

The INTER HOUSE SQUASH COMPETITION was keenly contested. The final results - the Diamond House bagged the Winners Trophy, Emerald House was Runners - Up, and Ruby House had to be content with the 3rd position.

7 SEP 2010 : ENCHANTING SAROD

The **Society for Promotion of Indian Classical Music and Culture Amongst Youth**, popularly known by its initials (SPIC - MACAY), is a non-profit organization which promotes Indian classical music, dance and other aspects of Indian culture. It has its chapters in over 300 towns and cities all over the world.

Since we are members of the Society, it regularly organizes its cultural programmes at the School auditorium. The latest in the series was a performance by the renowned Sarod Maestro, **Pt. Tejendra Narayan Majumdar** who cast a spell on the audience with his rendition of the Sarod. Born into a musician's family, Pt. Tejendra Narayan Majumdar is one of the most well known

Sarod players of his generation who was initially trained by his own his father, Sri Ranjan Majumdar - himself a vocalist of great repute. Pt. Tejendra Narayan Majumdar has successfully combined the techniques of *Tantrakari* style with that of *Gayaki* and has performed in all the major music festivals in India and abroad. We, at The Sagar School were left mesmerized by him and later, after the performance was over, many students could be seen eagerly asking him questions about his life and career.



11 SEP 2010 : TALENT SHOW AT THE HOUSE SOCIALS (DIAMOND AND EMERALD HOUSE)

This was a great time for students to exhibit their talent and enjoy themselves. Excited faces and fun filled eyes, giggles and peals of laughter is what made up this Social. It was a splendid and scintillating show put up by the talented students of these two houses and their eagerness to entertain the rest of the School was clearly visible. The programme was followed by a dance party and special dinner organized exclusively for Diamond and Emerald House students and teachers. An enjoyable evening indeed!





14 SEP 2010 : A WARM WELCOME

A special assembly was conducted to welcome the new Principal Lt Col (Retd) Rattanbir Singh. The Director, Mrs. Sharmistha Julka introduced him to the gathering of staff and the students. Formerly of the Army Educational Corps, Lt Col Singh exhibits tremendous energy and high spirits. A strict disciplinarian, his vision and aim is to lead The Sagar School in setting a new benchmark for the rest of the schools in the country. In his own words, *“By the time the current generation of primary school children enters the job market, maximum opportunities will either be available on Indian soil or in Indian owned multinational companies in other countries of the world. It is therefore my ardent desire that our*

School forever be the place where staff members, parents and even other stake holders synergize their resources and creativity to enrich the learning environment in which our children can holistically and fully develop their physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual capacities.”

18 – 25 SEP 2010 : SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT - I

This year being the inaugural year of the **Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation**, teachers and students have approached the series of tests and examinations with mixed feelings of relief as well as anxiety. Although two series of Formative Assessments lay behind them, the approach of the SA - I exam did bring some tense moments for students of classes VI - X. However, their worst fears were put to rest when the exams finally began on 18th Sep. The semester system is indeed proving itself to be quite refreshing for the students and the situation is bound to improve further as other refinements presently in the pipeline, get implemented.

3 OCT 2010 : SPECTACULAR OPENING COMMONWEALTH GAMES

The Nineteenth Commonwealth Games got off to an inspiring and magnificent start on 3rd of October, 2010 at New Delhi with a spectacular opening ceremony. Students enjoyed the telecast of the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth games in the School auditorium. The grandeur and co-ordination held the audience spellbound. The students were mesmerised by the ceremony and could not stop talking about it for a long time.

5 OCT 2010 : CAREER GUIDANCE & PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT

"Do not run through life so fast that you forget not only where you have been, but also where you are going. Life is not a race, but a journey to be savored each step of the way. "

Students of classes X, XI & XII attended a workshop in Career Counseling, and Personality Development. Professional Executives from **Indian Planning & Management, Jaipur** conducted the workshop in a most informative and inspiring manner. Later a lot of students approached the Principal to make this a regular feature in the School routine and they were assured that not only would there be a whole series of workshops and field trips about various career options, but the School also aims to reinforce career counseling sessions with psychological and aptitude testing support to each student.

8 OCT 2010 : THE FIRST ADDRESS OF THE NEW PRINCIPAL LT COL (RETD) RATTANBIR SINGH

A special assembly for the month of October was held in which the new Principal, Lt Col (Retd) Rattanbir Singh addressed the gathering for the first time. He stressed the need for Value Based Education and in the context of the multi national and multi cultural nature of the students community in the School, urged everyone to work very hard for developing tolerance and understanding of other people's points of view.

In this context, he introduced the gathering to the six best friends that anyone can have *viz.* **What, Why, Where, When, How and Who** and urged the students to cultivate them vigorously. He also said that he sincerely believed that there would be no need for externally imposed discipline if the students could make a habit of living by his Five Golden Rules : **Be at the Right Time, in the Right Dress, at the Right Place, for the Right Work, in the Right Manner!**

Finally he awarded prizes to 16 students who scored "A" grade in scholastic as well as co-scholastic skills and said that he would like to see many more students achieve the 'All Round Best' status.

10 OCT 2010 : CROSS COUNTRY

INTER HOUSE CROSS COUNTRY is probably the most exciting event in the School Calendar because it brings the opportunity for the students to run free over the idyllic terrain around the School. It was a fun filled day of real hard work with Vikas Yadav (Ruby House) adjudged Winner and Sandeep Yadav (Diamond House) as Runners Up. The Championship was won by Diamond House while the others resolved to 'show the winners their place next year!'



13 OCT 2010 : CBSE CLUSTER FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

The School Football Team along with Mr. Anand Bohra (Coach) and Mr. M. I. Singh (Manager) participated in the Xth CBSE CLUSTER FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP held at BRJD Public School, Churu, Rajasthan. The matches were tough but the Sagarians acquitted themselves well and returned at No 4 position.

18 OCT 2010 : CBSE CLUSTER BASKET BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Sagarians participated in the Xth CBSE Cluster Basket Ball Tournament organized by GR Global Academy, Jaipur. Our team was led by Thipbodee Singh (Cl XI). According to him, "The match proved to be an invaluable learning experience."

16 OCT 2010 : A TALENT SHOW AT THE HOUSE SOCIAL : RUBY AND SAPPHIRE

The HOUSE SOCIAL jointly organized by the RUBY AND SAPPHIRE House students was presented with great enthusiasm. The amazing show was followed by a dance night and an exclusive and sumptuous dinner for the Ruby and Sapphire House students and teachers. It was a great time for students of both the Houses and their teachers to socially mingle with each other.

SOFIA GETZIN : THE NEW GERMAN INTERN



Sofia Getzin, an intern from Free University, Berlin joined the School on 14th October, 2010. She stayed with us for three months and taught German, Dance, Piano, Aerobics and Science to the students.

Her contribution was appreciated by one and all and she was given a tearful farewell when she left the Sagar family on 11th December 2010.

Incidentally our Founder, Dr. Sagar also was a student of Free University, Berlin and now we regularly have interns from this university visiting us for internship experience. The benefits of this collaboration accrues equally to both sides.



20 - 21 OCT 2010 : INVESTITURE CEREMONY

The new Prefects were administered an oath by the Principal to perform their duties to the best of their ability and to always give preference to larger interest of the School over their own personal comfort and privileges. The following students were made Prefects for the remaining part of the 2010-11 Session .

CAPTAINS:

Captain of the Boys: Nikhil Singh

Captain of the Girls: Shim Go Eun

PREFECTS:

Diamond House (Boys): Sandeep Yadav
 Emerald House (Boys): Manjeet Singh Sehrawat
 Ruby House (Boys): Rudra Kumar Saran
 Sapphire House (Boys): Pushkar Yadav
 Diamond House (Girls): Megha Deshwal
 Emerald House (Girls): Manisha Rani
 Ruby House (Girls): Aditi Sharda
 Sapphire House (Girls): Komal Negi

ASSISTANTS:

Diamond House (Boys): Tam Hage
 Emerald House (Boys): Deepak Rastogi
 Ruby House (Boys): Dominic Hijam
 Sapphire House (Boys): Thipbodee Singh
 Diamond House (Girls): Sisira Hawaibam



27 OCT 2010 : A SPECIAL ASSEMBLY

A special awards presentation assembly was conducted on this day. The Principal first presented the awards for various sports disciplines followed by certificates for participation in Inter-School Shakespearean Play Competition held at Rajkumari Krishna Kumari Public School, Jodhpur. The latter award went to Zenia Huidrom, Deepak Rastogi, Vega Sampa and Siddharth Agarwal.

27- 30 OCT 2010 : THE SAGAR ANNUAL SPORTS MEET

The Sagar School Annual Sports Meet was organized for the first time in the history of the School. Around 200 students from The Alwar Public School, Alwar; SMS School, Jaipur; Mayoer School, Ajmer and Salwan Public School, Gurgaon; participated in the meet along with the hosts.

Apart from track and field events, everyone got the time to unwind during the Inter School Rock Band competition held during the night. As the various track and field events came to an end, the spectators got to see a spectacular display of aerobics by our students on the foot tapping tune of Vengaboys. The meet closed with an impressive horse show.

The prize distribution was followed by the Thanksgiving speech by the Principal followed by an inspirational speech by our Founder Dr. Vidya Sagar. Individual prizes as well as trophies were given to the winners, runners up and second runners up. The Chief Guest, Shri Ram Singh an athlete of international repute also gave a rousing speech. The overall championship trophy was bagged by The Sagar School.

**31 OCTOBER, 2010 – 9 NOVEMBER, 2010: DIWALI BREAK**

Students went home for a week long Diwali Break to spend time with their loved ones at home.

7 NOV 2010 : GERMAN EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

13 students (12 Girls / 1 Boy) and 3 member escorts from Hoelderlin Gymnasium, Stuttgart, Germany visited The Sagar School as part of our ongoing German Exchange Programme. The high level of interaction in and outside the classroom was a great learning experience for both.

Besides attending classed, the students were exposed to the local rural life and visited Agra, Jaipur and Delhi also.

The Germans also put forth many presentations familiarizing our students with their culture. For this purpose a cultural program was organized one evening in which Indian and German students presented beautiful dances and music pieces . The Germans were in high spirits and loved every moment of it.

Mementos were also presented to all. The visit this year was unique because Mrs Martina Grupe, The Principal of Hoelderlin Gymnasium had herself accompanied the contingent. Therefore as a special gesture, our Principal presented her The Sagar School flag with a small sized Indian National Flag sewn onto the upper left hand corner. As a mark of respect to both the nations and to stress the point of world citizenship the cultural evening closed with the gathering singing the Indian and German National Anthems.

The visitors returned to Germany on 21st November, 2011.

**11 NOV 2010: PEOPLE TO PEOPLE
AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME**

A delegation of 35 mathematicians from 27 states of USA, visited our School. Prof. Johnny W Lott, Past President of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and Visiting Professor of Mathematics Education, was the Leader of the group. This group of delegates had expertise in several areas of mathematics education but the exchange of ideas was confined to the difference in teaching strategy at the middle school level in the two countries besides the use of technology at that level. The visit led to the fielding of many questions and interesting answers from ours as well as their side.



14 NOV 2010 : CHILDRENS DAY CELEBRATIONS

Childrens Day was celebrated with great verve and vigour culminating with a Kite Flying session between 4-6 pm. A cricket match was also played between the students and the staff. Although the students fought till the end, the teachers won the match by 20 runs. It was a wonderful experience to note the high spirits of the students. The day ended with a movie show for the students.

**21 NOV 2010 : IMPACT OF TELEVISION
A SEMINAR**

World Television Day was observed with a seminar on “The Impact of Television” along an interactive question students of all the classes eagerly participated. It proved to be an occasion of many revelations for the students with the Principal himself joining the deliberations.

**BRITISH COUNCIL : INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL AWARD
TO THE SAGAR SCHOOL**

Earlier in the year, a group of teachers from The Sagar School had attended the ISA orientation programme at the British Council office in New Delhi and decided to take up the novel idea as a challenge. The ISA programme covered many types of activities. *(download the complete report from our School website.)*

We being a School with students from various nationalities, benefitted immensely from this journey leading up to bestowal of the ISA award upon us. In this context, special mention must be made of the eagerness displayed by our foreign students to present and share their culture with everyone.

As a mark of its elite status in the comity of international schools, The Sagar School has now earned the right to display the ISA logo besides the School Logo on all formal and informal documents for the next three years.

**16 NOV 2010 : WORLD TOLERANCE DAY**

On the occasion of the **WORLD TOLERANCE DAY**, a presentation was given to the students to reinforce the United Nations Charter which states: 'We, the people of the United Nations, determined to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war ... to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights ... and live together in peace with one another as good neighbours'.

The presentation stressed on the vital importance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which affirm that 'Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion' (Article 18), 'of opinion and expression' (Article 19), and that education 'should promote understanding, tolerance and friendship among all nations, racial or religious groups' (Article 26). For most of the people in the audience, it was quite an eye opening experience.

The same day saw the fixing of a huge clock on the Tower next to the Dining Hall. The symbolism of a clock tower coming up on this day was an apt statement on the growth and development of Tolerance in the World.

25 NOV 2010 : A PRESENTATION BY STUDENTS

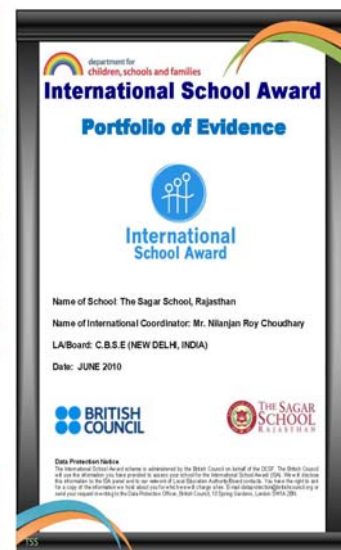
There was a combined assembly on the occasion of the “**International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women**”. A presentation by students was followed by the students expressing their views about this special day.

1 DEC 2010 : WORLD AIDS DAY

The **World AIDS Day** was observed in the School. The students were made aware about the seriousness of the situation through a playlet performed by the students. A documentary this subject was also shown to students of classes XI and XII .

5 DEC 2010: MATHS OLYMPIAD

Five students ie. Shim Go Eun, Kirti Dalal, Rishabh Garg, Rajeev Gupta, Siddharth Agarwal escorted by Mr. Sharad De- tha went to Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan, Jaipur to participate in the CBSE Maths Olympiad. The results are still to be declared. The competition was of a very high level.



11 DEC 2010 : FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATIONS

The Founders Day celebration started around 12 PM with the singing of the School Anthem followed by reading of the School Report by the Principal, Lt Col (Retd) Rattanbir Singh. Dr Vidya Sagar, Founder, gave away the prizes to the meritorious students. Mrs. Sharmistha Julka, Director, proposed the vote of thanks. An eight item Cultural programme was presented to the audience. Parents



were eager to see the talent of their children expressed on stage and the children did not let them down. Baming faces of the parents and students alike is what makes The Sagar School so special. The cultural programme was followed by the inauguration of the School exhibition. Simultaneously, the School fete also got underway. Parents of Harshit Saboo, topper of CI XII Board Exams last year were given the honour of inaugurating the School exhibition. It was a fun filled day in an atmosphere closest to our Founder's heart.

**12 DEC 2010 : TRIP TO SIKKIM AND DARJEELING**

27 students and 3 teachers left for the trip to Sikkim and Darjeeling. An experience to remember for students as many of them traversed the mountains and valleys of the East for the first time in their lives.

Sikkim is a landlocked Indian state nestled in the Himalayas. This thumb-shaped state, borders Nepal in the West, the Tibet Autonomous Region of the People's Republic of China to the North and the East and Bhutan in the Southeast. The Indian state of West Bengal borders Sikkim to its South.

Students enjoyed their trip to Darjeeling a land of natural beauty, clean, fresh mountain air, tea gardens and above all, the smiling resilient people who call it home.

The best part of the Darjeeling visit was to see the sun rising near the Kanchenjunga (K2) peak. The mountains awaken



first with a tentative peeking of the sun. A steep ride, five kilometers from Ghoom, or an invigorating walk up a steep incline, leads the sun worshippers to Tiger Hill for

a spectacular view that left everyone spellbound. To the East, an orb with a dull glow emerged, and began to paint the sky with brilliant strokes of magenta, gold, orange and fuchsia. The snow capped Everest, Kabru, Kanchenjunga, Jannu and other peaks slowly emerged from slumber to start a new day.

As the fog lifted before the penetrating sun, we could from this point also see the town awakening gradually. "A never to forget experience!" said one student, "Words cannot express what the eyes saw and the heart experienced." Mr. Sharad Detha, Mr. Amit Thapa and Mr. Praveen Kumar Chaturvedi were the teachers in-charge who took great care of the students all through the trip.

13 DEC 2010: PRACTICE TESTS

Class XII students stayed back in School for an extra week during the winter vacations to do some extra practice tests as a formal beginning to their revision exercise prior to the Board exams coming up in the 1st week of March 2011.

25 DEC 2010 : CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS

As the School had already closed for winter vacation, Christmas was celebrated by only class XII students who had stayed back in School for extra classes. A small function, but a wonderful experience shared by students of class XII, teachers and the Principal. Chocolates were distributed to all present.