



# Pathways School Noida



**PATHWAYS**  
**SCHOOL**  
Learn • Work • Play • Think • LIVE

## From the Director's Desk...

Last Saturday captured perfectly our ideal school partnership. We began the day with the Parent-Teacher meeting, reviewing together our students' academic development and targets for their progress. The Sports Fiesta which followed was an explosion



of fun, physical activity and skill. It was good to see so many of you parents display exactly the same enthusiastic house spirit as your children! And to celebrate the sports skills of the adults as much as of the students. Pictures of the event will be available on



the school Facebook page by Monday. If you have any more, do send them to

me and we will upload those as well.

The first event organised by the Student Council - Whacky Hair Day - led to much fun and laughter. Students and most teachers arrived with weird and wonderful hair - jelled, streaked with luminous colour, braided, covered with safety pins...It was a great celebration of out-of-the-box thinking and ingenuity. Particularly in the primary school, this was

greatly contributed to by parents - I believe some of you were at work from 5am to assist your children.

Our programme of after-school activity has been launched and a large number of students have signed up. I understand that some of you have difficulty with organising your own transport. We are reviewing the situation and in the next academic year in July we will try to offer transport to certain designated central points.

We are happy to welcome our new Head of Design and Technology, Mr Roger Torrington, and his family.



Roger has begun setting up the DT lab with machinery and tools and we expect to offer this subject to Board level students taking IGCSE and IB from the next academic year.

In this newsletter I am pleased to include plenty of student input. Further down you can see an email correspondence between Form 4 and myself on school timings. Also included is an excellent reflection on the Anish Kapoor art exhibition which students from Form 4 up went to.

Finally, please mark **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 10am - 1pm** for the **Exhibition of Art, Science, Maths, ICT & DT**. This is a major display of student work from primary to senior students, and our students are really looking forward to explaining their projects, experiments and

Volume 1, Issue VII

25.02.2011

### Special points of interest

- ☺ 8<sup>th</sup> March 10 - 1pm: Student Exhibition
- ☺ 9<sup>th</sup> March - Form 4-8 Adventure Camp
- ☺ 10<sup>th</sup> March - Form 9 & 11 Adventure Camp
- ☺ 14-20 March - Spring Break
- ☺ 21 March - School re-opens

and creativity. *Please feel free to bring friends and family to encourage our students and their work.*

Reminder that students from Form 4 up go on Adventure camps from 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> March and the following week is the Spring break. School re-opens on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March.

**Shalini Advani**  
School Director

## Late timing appeal...

From Form 4 to the School Director

Dear Dr Advani

Greetings and Happy Valentine's Day!

We are writing this mail to you as a request for changing the school timings back to 9.30 am. We all feel that little children, including us, are having problems while waking up so early in the morning. It's still dark when we board the bus as early as 6.40 am. Sometimes we miss our school bus also. Don't you feel like staying in bed till the sun comes up and smiles at you? We're sure no one would like to leave their cosy bed at dawn in winters!

We request you to extend the timings only until February ends. We can resume the older routine from 1st March. Anyways, coming late for all of January spoilt us a bit and we feel winter is still not over. So why did the school timings change? We feel dead tired now as compared to January!

We understand your perspective also, that school started late and in January we missed out on lot of studies and activity time. But we assure you that we'll catch up in March and we can manage with some extra homework in this month. We hope you will consider our request and take some suitable action.

We are looking forward to receive a mail from you on this subject.

Yours Sincerely

Anjali, Anhad, Dhruv and Rohan  
Form 4



From: School Director Noida (Shalini Advani)

Sent: Tuesday, February 15, 2011 10:20 AM

To: T - Vandana Parashar

Cc: Principal Primary School Noida (Usha Lamba); [pramila.sen@gmail.in](mailto:pramila.sen@gmail.in)

Subject: RE: A request for change in school timings...

Dear Form 4,

Thank you very much for your Valentine's Day greeting and your mail. I was very impressed at how well you had thought through the issue and how strong your arguments were. You almost persuaded me! As you say, I too would love to have a relaxed morning in bed.

However as you predicted I would say, losing out on nearly two hours of school means that you lose out on learning in class, on music, PE, dance. And of course lose out on time with friends.

Besides, it is believed that too much sleep is bad for you. Your mind is more active in the early morning, your body functions better. The general belief is that people who wake up early are energetic and creative and those who wake up late are lazy. Let me know if you agree with this!

Warm regards

Dr Shalini Advani  
School Director

# Senior School Principal

Education is a partnership. But often we forget that it is not between parents and teachers alone, but this is an alliance essentially with the students themselves. These young, intelligent minds are not passive recipients of instructions or school policies, but are active solution finders, trouble shooters and in fact, determined architects of their own future. As an evidence of this fact, we recently had a glimpse of their free and strong will in solving the problem of 'absenteeism.'

Since we were unable to reduce unwarranted, casual and avoidable student absenteeism in our new term, with any disciplinary or academic measure, I decided to bring the problem to our students themselves on one fine occasion. After much productive discussion with them, they were able to give constructive suggestions (of course which are acceptable to the school management) on how to make the school atmosphere more exciting, refreshing and reviving to the student community. Therefore, we have already begun implementing these pointers in the form of school visits to the Na-

exhibition of the contemporary artist Anish Kapoor. Needless to say that these visits will certainly have an academic bearing, which will be incorporated into the curriculum by the teachers. The opening of the sporting facilities has also played a huge role in breaking the monotony of the school schedule for the children. Not only have the sports activities been included within their school time table, but also after-school activities have started which has increased attendance. Those parents who participated in our

24<sup>th</sup> Feb, we were completely amused and entertained to see bright boys and girls (and teachers too) in very many varied hair colours, styles and dos! It was no surprise that we teachers could recognize almost nobody! Each sported a different look- some vibrant, few sprightly, a handful naughty and couple even incomprehensible! But through it all the children enjoyed so much and how! The whole school resonated with laughter, freedom and life! It was a day that will not be forgotten for a long time, by everyone in Pathways!



Sports Fiesta on last Saturday would certainly vouch for this. While CAS has been so far restricted to activities within school, we now have decided to take it outside the school

premises, which has also boosted their zeal and enthusiasm for attending school. As more suggestions will begin to take shape on the ground, I must mention here an unconventional and creative idea of the students to combat the monotony of school-life- Wacky Hair Day! And what would we from the 'previous, old

generation' know of this!? Well, on

And what I have learned from this? Well, apart from the names of a few new hair styles, it indeed is reinforced that a child and a child alone can make a difference with his will- be it positive or negative. It has been only two weeks since the implementation of students' sugges-

tions and already the problem of absenteeism seems history (to large extent)! Therefore it stands unquestioned that unless the students are involved in the process of schooling, education will indubitably be an unfulfilled and an unfinished process.

Apart from trouble shooting absenteeism, we were very happy and encouraged to know that the students bear in their hearts and minds much appreciation for the Pathways curriculum, teaching practices, policies and teachers themselves. The excellence of our faculty, their professionalism, approach to learning and



tional School of Drama and the art

teaching itself is actually the crucial factor in converting school enquiries into successful admissions. When we started off last October, we had only 50 students on the roll, but today we have doubled that score- we have 100 students on board with us! This was also possible because of the constant support and appreciation we receive from the parents in establishing Pathways' reputation as an educa-

tional institution to be reckoned with by prospective parents. As we forge forward with deep commitment to bring unparalleled success to Pathways, I do realise that there will be many difficulties and obstacles in our path. But I also realise that it is industry, perseverance, and frugality that will make fortune yield. For, many a time we may fail in our efforts or feel the weight of

the problem on our soul, but I do remember the old English saying that, "The greatest oak was once a little seed who held its ground"

**Umar Jaffar**

## Visit to Anish Kapoor's Exhibition

Last Thursday, grade 8, 9, and 11 visited Anish Kapoor's exhibition currently held at the National Gallery of Modern Art.

Anish Kapoor, one of the preeminent contemporary artists in the world, as we saw, is a man fascinated by space, a fascination that borders, or perhaps even crosses, the line that separates it from obsession. Unlike many other artists, he is clearly not one to be content just painting on a flat board. The first thing that strikes us about it is its sheer size followed by the abstractness of his ideas, and the fact that he provides hardly any explanation for his work. Close behind is his use of reflective surfaces and bold colours. Perhaps there is nothing about his work that isn't fascinating. I feel his work is so vast that it may be a mistake to classify it or to describe it in just a few words.

What I feel is best about Kapoor is the ability of his artwork to involve his audience. As a lot of his works include reflective surfaces, we see ourselves in the sculpture and become part of it. With every step we take we alter the art, and we may take as many steps as it takes to

change the sculpture to something that suits our liking. Some of his works actually take us inside them and make us lose sense of time. Another fascinating aspect of Anish Kapoor is his use of black to create a void in his work. In the artist's own words, "I have persisted in working with the idea of void. It's something that I discovered years ago, but the way paint behaves and becomes dark, it's not a still darkness but a dynamic darkness that suddenly fills one up with the experience of looking at it." Not only does the darkness fill us up, it also creates sense of mystique and intrigue, like a closed door or rather, a deep well, a long tunnel. We are not satisfied merely staring at the piece; we are overwhelmed by the need to touch the structure, to feel it for ourselves. I would say that this impulsiveness to touch the structure is further magnified by the fact that we are not allowed to even get too close to the objects.

The lack of titles and explanation to most of his works makes the spectators question. "Thousands of people have come to this exhibition, millions have appreciated Kapoor, money in

millions of dollars is spent to purchase his work and to maintain it. There must be something good about it. So WHAT IS THAT HUGE YELLOW (red/blue/black/shiny) THING!?" The answer is: We don't know- whatever you make of it. But to do that, we must look at it, think about it for a few hours (even days) and relate it to our own experiences



to come to a conclusion. And the fact that his art lingers and ruminates proves that as an artist, Anish Kapoor has done his job, and done his job well.

Anish Kapoor, in an interview with Tasneem Mehta, Art India, August 1996 (Quoted from 'Indian Contemporary Art Post Independence')

**Srishti Mehrotra**  
**Grade 11**

## Middle School Principal

"To trust children we must first learn to trust ourselves...and most of us were taught as children that we could not be trusted"

— [John Holt](#)

Form 8 students had the responsibility of conducting assembly this Tuesday. As I went to them during lunch time on Monday, my natural question to them was, "Are you all prepared for your assembly? Do you think I should see a run through once? All of them replied in unison "Trust us, It's a surprise for you. We are doing something different" Another surprise! ,Doing something different !.....I was not sure , but I decided to trust them. **And stu-**



*Assembly by Grade 8*

**dents came up with an interactive and informative assembly and earned a well -deserved applause by one and all!**

In our endeavor to expose our children to different educational envi-



*Skype Lesson Form 6*

ronments ,a skype session of Form 6 with Dan Greenberg, a teacher who works with Professional Development at Houston, Texas, was organized. The topic of discussion was "Population Growth from a Global Perspective" .It was a fruitful exchange.

On February 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, the entire middle school visited the National Art gallery to see Anish Kapoor's exhibition of "installation art". Anish Kapoor is a world renowned British

Sculptor of Indian origin. It was an experiential learning, one of the 'other ways' of knowing and being. Sculptor of Indian origin. It was an experiential learning, one of the 'other ways' of knowing and being.

Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> February was a fun filled day during which we had organized interaction with parents as well as Sports fiesta. This helped Parent -School partnership to grow.

At Pathways we welcome the feedback from the parents and we believe that a positive parent-teacher relationship demonstrates to your child that he could trust his teacher, because you do. This positive relationship gives a child feeling that important people in his life are working together.

**Sunanda Sandhir**



## Health Department Bulletin

We received number of strain and sprain cases in the month of February.

We are sure that each one of us have a fair idea about the term, but pathways medical team would like to give a simple insight so that one can get on with right kind of line of treatment.

### If You Get a Strain or Sprain

Stop! That's the word to remember if you get a strain or sprain. Don't use the part of your body that's hurt. It can be hard to tell the dif-

ference between a sprain and a broken bone, so it's often a good idea to see a doctor.

The symptoms mentioned below will help one take the decision:

- Redness or Bruise
- Tenderness around affected area
- Swelling or puffiness

### Your role as a Parent-

Always remember RICE. We're not talking about the food. RICE is a way to remember how to take care of your injury. It stands for

### Rest, Ice, Compression, and Elevation;

- Rest the injured part of the body
- Apply ice or cold packs to the injury . This helps bring down swelling, so the injured area will be less puffy
- Wear an elastic compression,bandage or splint. Compression means to apply or press something together. When an injury is wrapped firmly, the pressure prevents and decreases swelling (puffiness)
- Elevation means raising the injured

part so its higher than your heart. You can use pillows to raise it up. This also prevents swelling.

After 24 hours, it's OK to use warm compresses or a heating pad to soothe aching muscles.

**Santosh Sharma**

**Senior Nurse**

### **Information Box:**

#### **What Are Strains and Sprains?**

When a muscles is over stretched its called strain where as if a ligament is over stretched, or torn its called sprain.

#### **How Is a Strain Different From a Sprain?**

Even though both can hurt a lot, strains are not as serious as sprains. Because a strain is **pain** in the muscle, it may start to hurt immediately or several hours later. The area will be tender and swollen and may also appear bruised.

A sprain will probably start to hurt right away. Usually the injury will swell and look bruised, it may be hard to walk or move the injured part, and you may even think you have **broken a bone**.

#### **How Does a Strain or Sprain Happen?**

Strains:

- By putting a lot of pressure on the muscle
- While lifting a heavy object
- If you haven't warmed up before playing.

Sprains:

- By injuries
- By trips or falls

# Primary School Principal

This fortnight I would like to highlight the voice of the children of Pathways Primary School

## Reflections by Srijan of Form 5 on 'Grand Parents Day



On 18-2-2011 was our grandparents day, which was also my birthday. Our grandparents came after the breakfast and we were all nervous. First Manav's grand parents came, we all normally welcomed them.

Manav's grand mother gave us all chocolates. So we were happy. Then came mine and Mehak's. Later my grandfather showed us very old news papers. Then we all asked all the grandparents happy questions like when were you born and kind of questions.

Soon it was time to go to the multipurpose room. There, we had to dance which was a bit boring but our grandparents enjoyed it. Overall, it was a good fun. It could have been better by adding more games which were fun by removing the dance. We should have made them stay the whole day and made them had fun. Or we could have studied all our class with them like UOI, and they could help us with our models and some class work to see which is the best grandparent!

## Reflections by Manav of Form 5 on 'Form Evening'

The parents were welcomed with a hot cup of tea and yummy samosas. From the cafeteria, our parents headed towards our grade 5 class room. We welcomed our parents with a smile, the form evening was attended by our school director, the principal, all the activity by teachers and grade five students.

Form evening are held to tell the parents that what the student have done in the past few days and what they will do in the future. Our form tutor Ms.Megha started the presentation and then we all students also



said something but when it was my chance, I was very nervous and I said about the Math "on the first day in the Math period after the holidays Miss said that we will do something related to UOI in Math. We all were shocked. We made 3 drafts. 1<sup>st</sup> draft was in the jotter. 2<sup>nd</sup> draft was a printout of a survey on a healthy living. The 3<sup>rd</sup> draft was final draft. We will also go to the school building and ask questions. After that all the activity teachers said aloud in their period that what is it about. Our parents had a great and a different experience at the form evening. After seeing the teachers and presentation, they felt secure that their son is put in the right path that is 'Pathways school'

## Reflections by Mehak of Form 5 on 'Form Evening'

Our class room was filled with nervousness and excitement. We, the five of us, Manav, Akshit, Anmol, Srijan and me were standing on the door, with shining eyes to welcome the parents..

Everything was set for our form evening. We all were just revising our subjects to speak on but stopped when it was time for action. We stood on the door, preparing to welcome our parents. When all were present, we seated them and then finally started. Ms. Megha first started the form evening, talking about the general stuff we do, after a while it was our, the children's turn to talk! I started and it was ended by Anmol. Then parents were so engaged, they did not make a single noise. Now it was the moment the children were waiting for, the slide in which the parent had to admit we have improved by giving examples! Now it was the teacher's time.

Each teacher came in with their own presentations, talking about their own subject. It was indeed interesting, the way each teacher was interacting with the parents. Then, as everything has an end, we also came to an end.

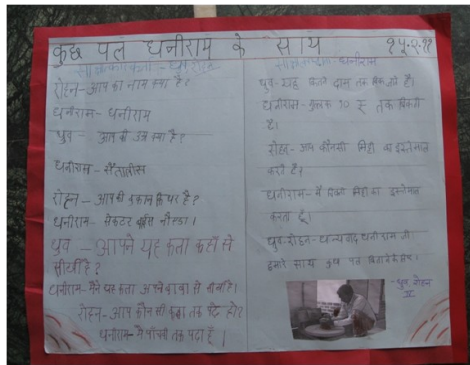
## Skype Friends -

Mehak and Sudeep Duggal (Teacher of ICT for Form 5) had a successful conference with Mary, her Grade 6 students - Jake, Lindsay, Matt, Liz, Allen and Yussef, their art teacher Ms. Ruth McDevitt and music teacher Lindsey Wilson. Mehak had prepared the questions they had sent in advance.

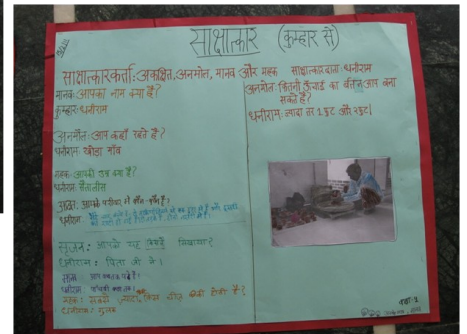
They would like to continue conferencing every week. We have planned the next session for February 23. The students participating from their side will be - Austin, Jeff, Emma, Natalie, Eddie , Emily, Carleigh, Beth, Moira, and Brook.

I will be asking all grade 5 students to participate and ask questions, and will be working with them to improve their communication skills. Yesterday's conferencing revealed that the students need to give detailed answers by themselves, as it is not possible for the teacher to prod without the other school listening. There were some issues with the connection from Mary's side, and Mehak and I had to wait for 45 minutes before we finally established a successful connection.

Usha Lamba



**Interview - Form 4**



**Interview - Form 5**



**Student counsel members meeting with Cultural Secretary**



**Interaction with a Space Scientist**



**Working with a potter**



**Working with a Cobbler**