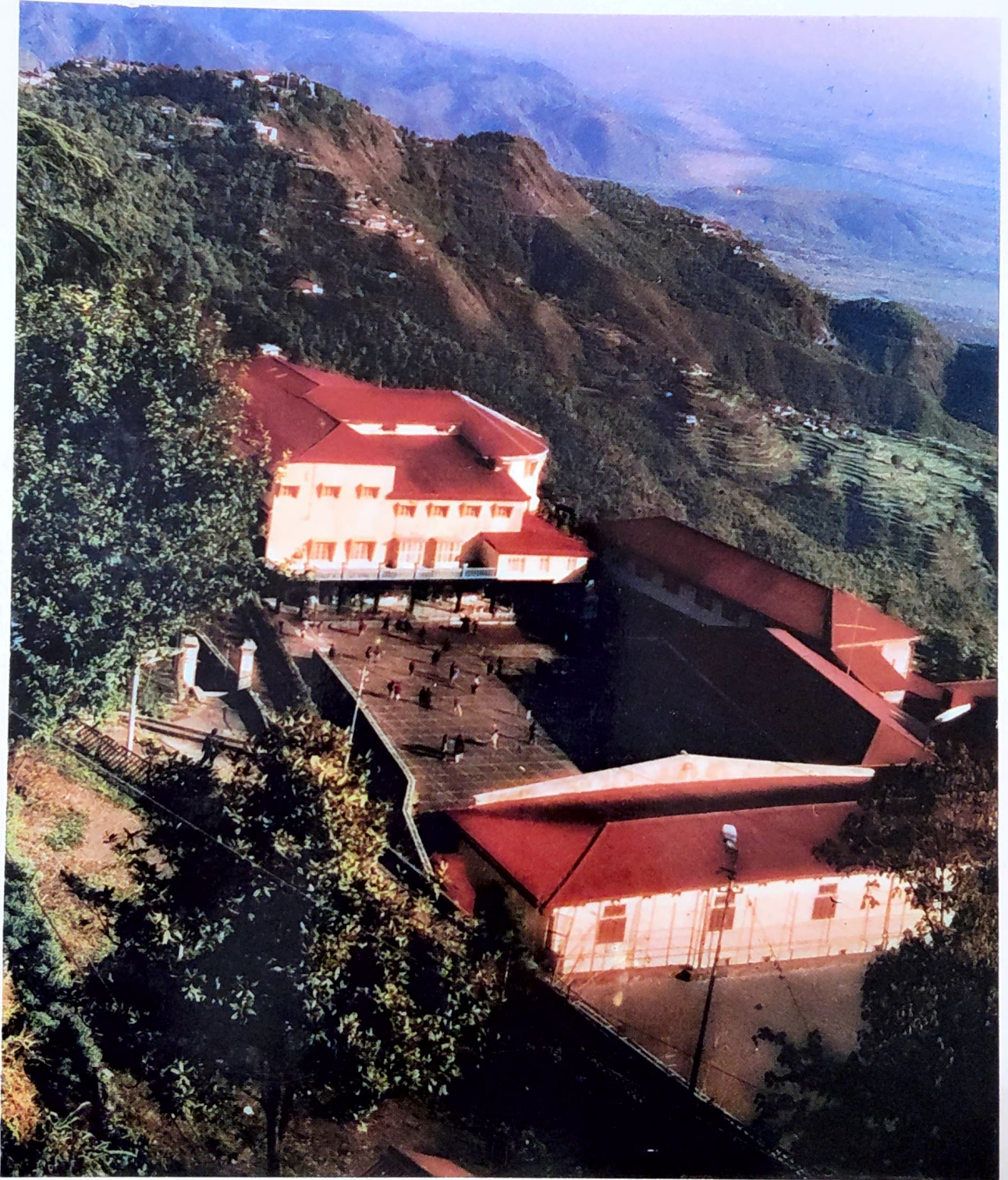




HAMPTON COURT

MUSSOORIE



1995



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1995

Editorial

Dear Reader,

This is our very own Magazine for the year 1995 when Hampton Court completes 73 years of its existence.

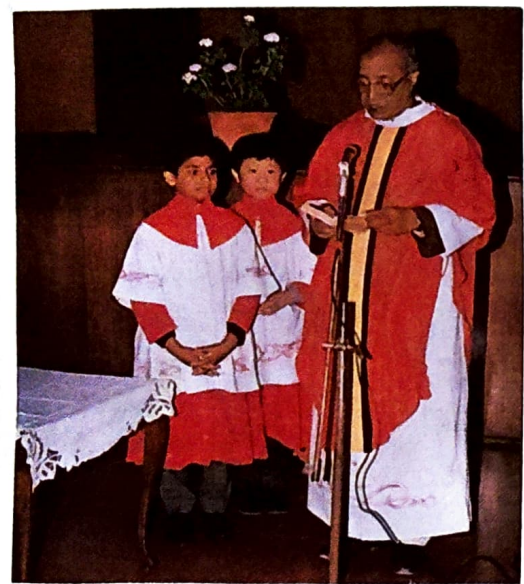
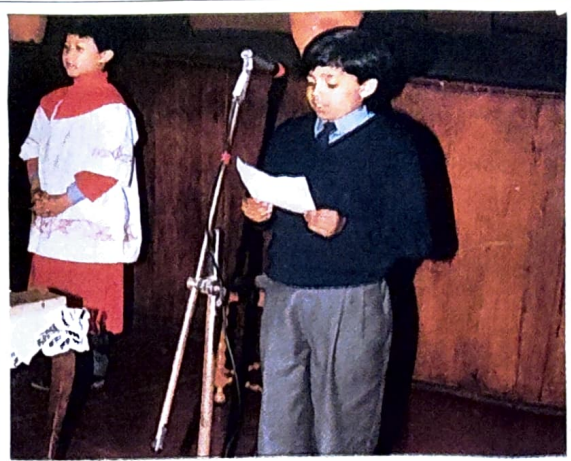
We thank God for the graces received all through the year. We thank Him too for Sr. Anita to whom we said "Good bye" and "God be with you" — in June.

Our staff and students have been busy in all that education entails to-day: studies, activities, fun ... — all recorded for you by them in word and pictures.

We look forward to more creative contributions from our young writers.

Till we meet again.

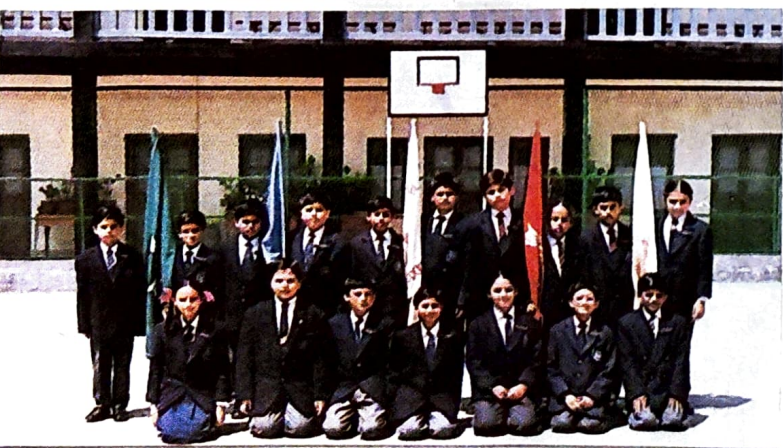
—Editors.



Invocation

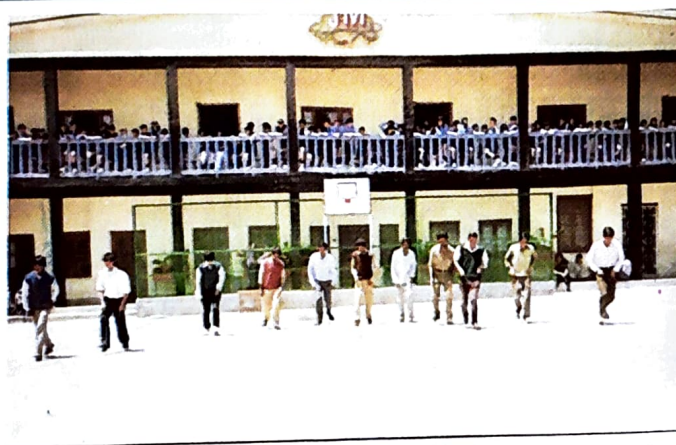
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Artists at Work

Helpage India

Helpage India is a society which among other deeds, aids in the girl child's education and upbringing.

In India, girl children account for about 20 percent of the total population. The development of the girl child into a happy, literate and healthy child is the primary goal of child welfare.

It is well known and well proved that if a girl child is educated, she will educate her family when she grows up. Realizing this fact, Hampton Court participated with full vigour in collecting funds when Helpage India asked the school to help. Most of the children and their parents came forward enthusiastically to donate towards this cause.

Even the people from Helpage India were impressed by the fact that in spite of the short notice, a substantial amount of Rs. 9000/- was collected.

Students were given gold and silver medals and certificates depending on the amount collected. One boy got a gold medal for collecting over Rs. 400/-. Many children who collected more than Rs.75/- were given certificates.

The children felt proud and so did Hampton Court for contributing towards such a noble cause.

—Mrs. R.Sharma

A Tribute to Our Helpers

There are some people that are not prominent, yet needed. They toil and toil backstage unseen sometime through out the day. We can notice them by saying a kind word or two for it is they who sweep and clean and make our school premises neat and shiny. If they were not there, what a state our school would be in! It is they who make our school a better place.

1st May has a great significance all over the world as it is celebrated as Labour Day. We in Hampton Court celebrate it as Helpers' Day.

To show our gratitude and thanks towards them a programme is organized. The

programme starts with a prayer service followed by a short entertainment by the children. After this all the helpers are presented with a gift. Some games are also organized for them. All the helpers take an active part in the programme and feel honoured.

It is not enough to respect them only on 'Helpers' Day'. Let us be nice to them throughout the school year and thank them whenever they render a humble service. Take it up as a sheer duty to love and pray for our helpers. This will be an act of beauty.

'Oh God, bless our helpers
In a very special way.
Help us recognize the hard work they do
For us from day to day.'

—Mrs. R.Aikant.

The Barbecue

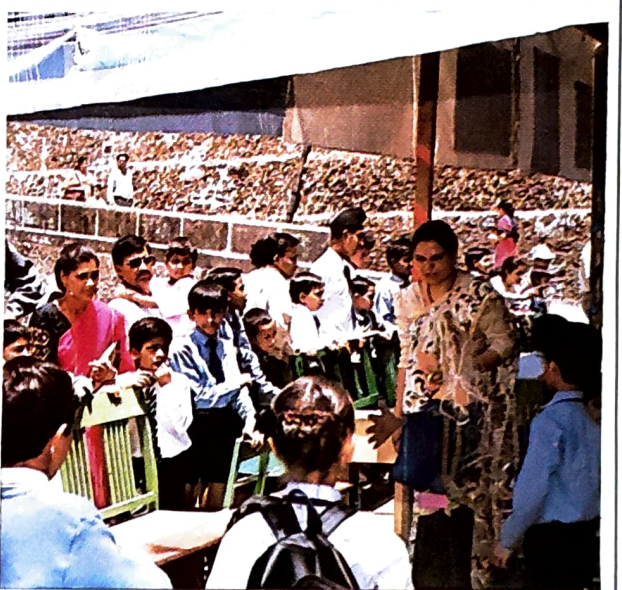
The school fete is an annual happening to which everyone eagerly looks forward. This year our school fete was held on 18th May, 1995. The day arrived with colourful banners, posters and buntings being displayed all around the school and in the adjoining area. There was festivity in the air. The children arrived in their best dresses. They carried large bags to take things back from the fete.

The fete was inaugurated by Sister Andrew Sequiera R.J.M. The chief guest appreciated the arrangements made for the fete. It was really a grand event. There were many stalls which were manned by the staff and students of Hampton Court.

Some of the stalls were Fishing the Bottle, Shooting the Bull's Eye, Hatting the Scarecrow, Ringing the Duck, Tailing the Donkey, Testing Your Nerves, Lucky Dip, and so on. There were lots of snacks, cold drinks and an Ice cream stall to boot. The range of eatables was really mouth watering. It included the ubiquitous chips, chhola and bhatura, dahi-wada, bhelpuri, and several other items. And, of course, there was music in the shape of a Song on Request stall.

Fishing the Bottle required the contestants to use the fish hook to ring the bottle. There were several other 'ringing' stalls. Test Your Nerves had the students and visitors vying with each other to test the steadiness of their hands while moving a key-like object over the surface of a wire without touching the latter. (If contact was established, a light would go on ending the chance). Feed Me had people attempting to throw a ball into the open mouth of a wooden figure. Bull's Eye was the inescapable shooting range.

School Fete



Boards' Day



The fete attracted a large number of visitors. There were parents, residents of Mussoorie and, of course, the tourists. A large number of children from several Sister institutions, such as Waverley School and St. George's came to the fete.

It was indeed a great whole day of outing for the students and staff of Hampton Court. They stayed out and had fun and food together - a veritable barbecue.

—Mrs. Agnihotri.

Class Picnics

Picnics or outings are always good to break the monotony of the continuous tiring boring situation of work days. Specially in school a picnic once or twice a year helps the children to relax and enjoy nature. Keeping their interest and this aim in mind we plan picnics every year for our children according to their age level. This year for our little ones of the pre-primary and Class I we planned out a picnic to the Company Garden which is indeed one of the popular picnics spots in Mussoorie.

The children and the teachers of pre-primary and Class-I went by bus. Sr.Anita, Sr. Aloysius and Sr.Lucy accompanied them, We left at 9 O'clock and were there in half an hour at the Company Garden.

The main attraction there for the children was the lake which had paddle boats. There was a beautiful glass house too. We played games for some time and then all had refreshments. Soon it was time for lunch. The music and dance session after lunch saw all enjoying themselves. Cameras went clicking. It was time to return. We could see the joy and excitement on the faces of the children though they wanted to stay there longer. They had a lot of fun – sufficient for the day. They were all in the bus riding back – glad to be home after a day of fun and laughter.

—Ms. Shobna

The Art Competition

On fifth June, the World Environment Day, an art competition was held in our school. The topic was "Mussoorie in my Dreams."

This competition was organized by the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie (L.B.S.N.A.A) to motivate people to greening the town. The paintings created by the children were inspiring as they presented a picture of eco-friendliness. The concept of a friendly neighbourhood with cleanliness and greening was a striking feature of the paintings. They were being adjudged by a panel of professional artists. Our boys did well.

We share in the pride of being the teachers of such creative children.
"Congratulations!"

— Ms.Madhu

The Annual Inter Class Elocution Contest

The Annual Inter Class Elocution contest was held on 9th June 1995. Bro. Carroll, Principal, St. George's College, and Mr. Padam Vir Singh from the Lal Bahadur Shastri Academy were judges at our contest.

Each class prepares two poems: one recited by the class as a group and a second one which is recited by an individual child who represents his class. Teachers were allowed to select poems on any topic. A variety of entertaining and thought-provoking poems were presented.

Though formal invitations to parents are not issued, a large number generally turn up, especially those whose children participate in the individual events.

The standard of presentation was very high and our judges had a difficult time deciding the winners.

Bro. Carroll congratulated the staff and students on their performance and Mr. Padam Vir Singh gave away the prizes.

Well-done Boys !

—Mrs.J.Paul



Expressions

in Sound ...

Elocution



Picnics



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d*



Excursion - to Chandigarh



Boarders' Day

Come 21st June 1995, and the boarders of Hampton Court were agog with happiness and excitement. It was their day — Boarder's Day, the feast of St. Aloysius. Dressed in their best with radiant smiles, the boarders arose early and were revelling on the grounds.

The prayer service, organized by the staff, set the children in a prayerful mood. The youngest boarder was invited to light the diya and the teachers had special prayers offered for the boys.

Next, were the games which were held indoors due to bad weather. It was real fun to see the boys making a go for it.

The tiny tots of Pre-Primary had trouble recognizing their names. Class I-A, did their best "Bursting Balloons," while the "Frogs" of I-B, did seem to be enjoying the weather as they jumped around.

III-A boys required perfect concentration for their paper tearing, while III-B racked their brains in the "Memory Game." If IV-A "Balanced Books," then, IV-B ran with "3 legs" The boys of V-A tried their hand at being football sandwich boys, and those of V-B made a dash to the end point – walking only on "Islands."

The game got the boys so hungry that they relished the sumptuous lunch. The afternoon had a surprise in store for them, when a stunt man performed quite a few amazing feats. The boys watched with their mouths open and were soon trying out the stunts themselves. Class-V had an exciting time later when Mr. Rawat took them for a walk.

On the whole, it was a great day for our boarders – and specially for those who will be leaving us this year, it was a day to remember!!!.

—Ms. Wilma

Founders' Day

Is a day well known to those who are a part of the circle of Jesus and Mary in some way or the other. It is the feast of our Mother Foundress, Saint Claudine Thevenet. For those belonging to the II's and III's this day was even more memorable as the dramatics of these two classes — based on our Founder's times were held on that day.

We began this auspicious day with a prayer service for the sisters. Through this meaningful service we felicitated our dear foundress; and preparing for it enlightened us on her inspiring work.

The long, over-due General Knowledge Quiz was held in the morning. This Quiz is held each year in an attempt to test the mental faculties and I.Q. levels of our budding intellectuals. Besides other topics, there was one on the foundress. The ruling supremo at this contest was the Green House.

Then followed the dramatics of classes II and III. Both the classes attempted to portray, through song and drama, sections of the life and work of our Mother Foundress. With their angelic faces, sonorous voices and quaint costumes, they found their way into every one's hearts. Then followed the other classes singing songs they had learnt during the year.

The success of their performance can be attributed to our singing teacher who worked ceaselessly to bring out the musical talent of our children.

It was a day we all enjoyed.

—Ms. Glynnis

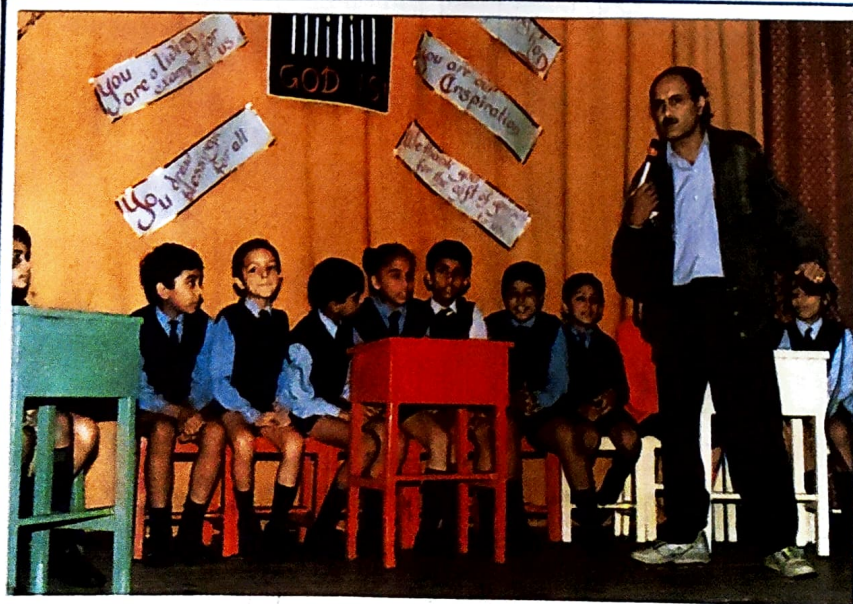
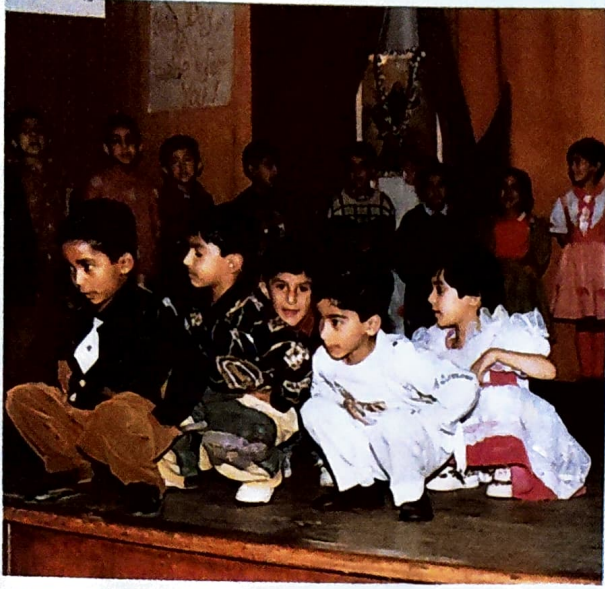
Independence Day

Fifteenth August is an important day in the history of our country. It is on this day in 1947 that India got her freedom after a hard struggle. On this day our 1st Prime Minister hoisted the national flag at the Red Fort. All the people celebrate this day every year with joy. It is a public holiday. On this day we take a pledge to defend our country with all our might. Independence day is always celebrated: people fly kites and sing the National Anthem. All the prisoners are allowed to go out. All the schools, colleges, offices are closed.

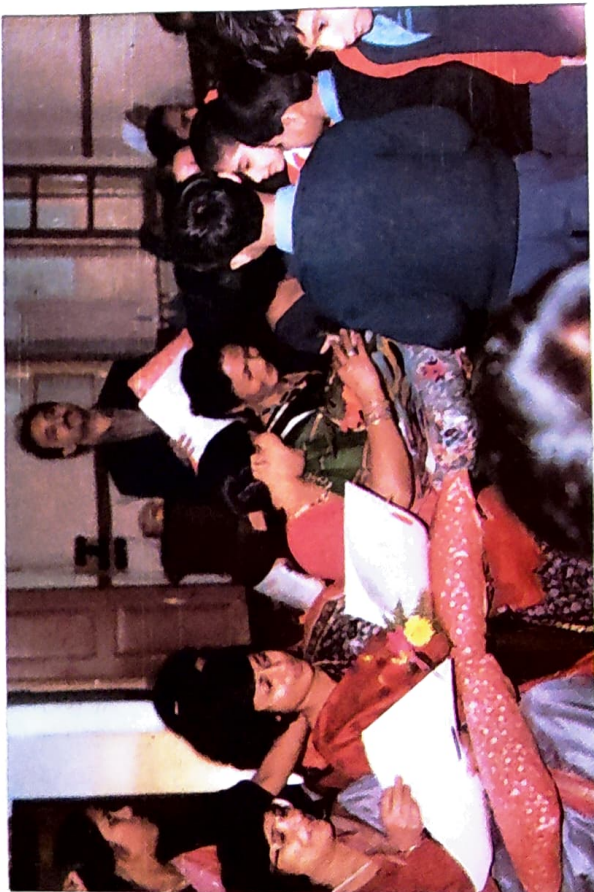
Like every year, this year also we celebrated Independence day with great enthusiasm. The Prime Minister hoists the national flag at the Red Fort and then gives a speech. The foreign ambassadors and dignitaries also join in the function. A salute of many guns is fired. When it comes to an end, people sing the national anthem. I like this day very much.

—Nirankar Singh Chawla V A

Foundress' Day



Teachers' Day



The Staff Seminar

As part of every teacher's updating requirement, a seminar for the staff was conducted in Hampton Court. The theme was the "Role of the Teacher in the Development of the Child." It was conducted by Mrs. Aloo Dubash, MA in Child Psychology, an experienced teacher both in India and currently in the USA. The scope of the seminar was the teaching activities for the Junior School classes: Pre Primary to III.

The parents took over the classes for the two days (Aug. 16th & 17th) while we attended the seminar. The first day, itself, we teachers realized that Mrs. Dubash was easy to understand and relate to. An Indian settled abroad, she informed us of the different methods through which she was teaching the children.

The books and pictures were helpful reference material, Besides she had hand outs for us. Her main emphasis was on the play way method of teaching. To supplement her talks she showed us a video clipping on the play way action as she herself conducts it in her class.

It was an enlightening and renewing experience for us. The staff of Waverley and St. Lawrence's Schools too joined us and were very appreciative of the inputs received.

—*Ms. Mary Geroge*

If All the World Were Apple Pie

If all the world were apple-pie,
And all the sea were ink,
And all the trees were bread and cheese
What should we have for drink ?

—*Abbas Qayyum*

What Shall I Be?

I want to be a doctor, who would help an ill man.
I want to be a pilot, who would take people around.
I want to be a swimmer, that I would bring honour to my country.

—*Suwan Singh*

Teachers' Day

Have you ever seen daisies swaying in the breeze? Nothing bugs them . . . not even bugs. Well, I'm no Daisy or Lily or Rose for that matter. I'm just plain Astrid (no, not Jane) and I do get bugged especially when I look forward to something and am then disappointed.

This was precisely what happened to my first Teacher's Day. Mother Nature made me pack my bags for an out of the blue trip to Tonsillitis Town. So, that Teachers' Day morn, while the other teachers sashayed into school, I dragged myself behind them.

Despite my ailment, I must admit I was quite touched by the beautiful prayer service we took part in. Each of us lit little lamps and placed them at the edge of the stage. The children made some really meaningful intentions for us. We were each then greeted with a gift, flowers and a big hand painted card. The children also put up a lively and entertaining programme for us. I could not but skip the scrumptious lunch that awaited us with the sisters.

The life of a teacher is like one big mosaic with grand events, like Teachers' Day, being the most colourful pieces of this great mosaic. I can't deny that I have not many colourful bits in my little mosaic yet but, at the same time, I can't help but look forward to my next Teachers' Day. So, Teachers' Day 1996 . . . here I come.

—*Ms.Astrid*

The Annual Art and Craft Exhibition

The Annual Art and Craft Exhibition was held on 9th September 1995. Preparation for the exhibition began months before the actual date. This year our headmistress, Sr. Dorothy gave each class, projects to do related to their class work.

The children of class pre- primary prepared a collage on the theme, "Our little world." This involved paper tearing, paper folding, paper crushing and colouring. Writing cards, too with the patterns taught, were prepared.

Class I prepared different types of houses, means of transport, all by making use of waste materials. The children made use of boxes converting them into useful paper and letter holders.

Class II prepared a project on 'A seaside scene'. It brought out the reality of sand, shells, trees the light house and boats. They also made paper folding little figures and dogs, puppets and birds of card board boxes and paper rolls.

The theme for the projects prepared by class III was Uttar Pradesh and Kerala. Besides art sheets of thread painting, colour smudge were beautifully displayed.

The craft of class IV covered a topic in geometry that involved the use of a pair of compasses. Spray and marble painting cards and envelopes brought out the students' creativity.

Projects of class V were related to their class work particularly in science such as the Volcano, the Solar Eclipse, the Sources of Energy and the Life Cycle of a Butterfly. The good use of waste polythene was specially brought home in the form of flowers, stuffed animals, mats, dolls and mobiles.

The exhibition was open to parents and a good number turned up to see it. Everyone commented that it was a good effort on the part of the staff and students.

—Ms.Clara

The Quiz

General knowledge is an intrinsic part the school curriculum. It keeps a child informed of the recent happenings and makes him/her aware of the world events. It serves as a window to the world and involves a great amount of intensive reading on the part of the child.

To further cultivate this habit of reading, our school encourages as many students as possible to participate in the inter house as well as the inter-school quizzes. One such inter school quiz is the Maggi Quiz held in Hampton Court and is eagerly awaited by the students. This year it was held on 15th September and was conducted by Mr. Khurana.

Two of our participants Rajiv Siddartha and Abbas Qayyum were selected for the finals scheduled for 11th October at St. George's, College. Hampton Court took the second position among five other schools who participated in the quiz. They were St. George's, Mussoorie Modern, Mussoorie International and Guru Nanak Boys & Girls School.

The main purpose behind a G.K. Quiz is to stimulate the child to become aware of the present and past events. Even though there is tough competition, our Hampton Court boys have always attained good if not the best results

"Keep it up Hampton Court!"

—Ms.Neena

Our Sport's Day

“Games and sports are such fun,
That one is always ready to run,
If one kicks, the other full of tricks
Scores a pin and makes one win.”

All over the world sports have a special place. Whether it is the child at Pre-Primary stage or may be the person at Ph.D. stage no one can deny the statement. ‘I love sports’.

Every year the most important and interesting event of our school is the Sports Day. It is important because it is one of the most exciting events for our children. It is also appreciated by parents. Of course, it is a necessary event as far as the physical activity of our children is concerned.

This year it was held on 29th September. The preparation started from the very beginning of the year. Once all was set and well arranged, our chief Guest Mr. Sharad Sachan declared the meet open. Then there was an oath-taking ceremony by Sameer Khan, our school games captain. This was all done on the Hampton Villa field of our school. Many parents came to see their children taking part in various activities.

At first we had various races in which many boys of all four houses participated. The prize winners were awarded the medals by the different honorable guests.

The second performance was the P.T. display by each class. For this we had the following drills:

PP	-Tambourines
Class I	- Flags
Class II	- Free hand exercises
Class III	- Discs
Class IV & V	- Clubs
Class IV & V	- Aerobics

We also had some fun races for our little ones. We could see them running like caterpillars, passing the ball, and eating biscuits and running as fast as they can.

As the sport's day is not only for children, we try to involve the whole community of our school. We had events for our helpers, the parents and visitors too.

Then there was the march past competition among all the four houses. None of the houses were bad in marching, but the best was the Blue House.

Some of our best athletes were: Sheren Samson, Swet Rana, Ravinder Singh, and Suthikait Sethi. Last but not the least was the prize giving. The Champion House was given the Trophy and a Cake.

A short speech by the chief guest and the vote of thanks brought to an end our Sport's Day – but not before the whole school sang the National Anthem.

The joy of the children and the Teachers was not hidden from anyone. A Sport's Day is really fun and of course an inspiration to be better each time, even in life.

—Mr. A Ali

A Trip to Chandigarh

In the school year 1995 an excursion to Chandigarh, Pinjore and Bhakra Nangal was conducted.

The excursion began on 30th September 1995. Sixty-six students of Classes IV and V, two sisters and six teachers formed a group of seventy-four. We left Mussoorie in the morning in two luxury coaches.

We reached Chandigarh, the most beautiful and the first and the only planned city of India at 7:00 p.m. We stayed at Hotel Aroma.

On 1st October we left for Bhakra at 9: 00 a.m. After a journey of about three hours we reached the valley across which the turbulent river Sutlej has been spanned and tamed to create a wonder and a marvel, the Bhakra Multipurpose River Valley Project. It is one of the highest dams of the world.

Pandit Jawahar LaL Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India had described the Bhakra Nangal dams as the temples of modern India and so indeed they are, providing with all their benevolence, water to the vast grain fields in the countryside, electricity to hundreds of mills

and factories and light to millions and millions of hearths and homes. We visited the Nehru Museum at Bhakra where models of the Bhakra Nangal River Valley project have been displayed.

On our way back to our hotel in Chandigarh we stopped at the Nangal Dam and saw another big River Valley Project. We stopped at Anandpur Sahib also and saw the Gurudwara where the personal arms of Guru Gobind Singh Ji have been kept.

On 2nd October we went to see the famous Pinjore Garden. The Mughal rulers of India had laid this beautiful garden which is a symbol of their love for nature.

From Pinjore we came to Sukhna Lake near Chandigarh and from there to the Rock Garden. Here using broken pieces of bangles and broken china hundreds of statues have been made.

After our stay in Chandigarh for three days on 3rd October we left for Mussoorie at 9:00 a.m. On the way we stopped at Paonta Sahib. Here there is a beautiful Gurudwara and it is a place of Pilgrimage. We reached Mussoorie in the evening at 5:00 p.m. The excursion was a profitable one, contributing valuably to the store of knowledge of the students, providing first hand experience and proving a small step forward on the road to maturity.

—Mrs.A.Dilawar

Banta Singh:: Yar Santa, last year the name plate outside your house read “Santa Singh B.A”. This year it reads “Santa Singh M.A.” When did you get the master’s degree?

Santa Singh: : You don’t understand. Last year when my wife died, I put B.A. to indicate “Bachelor Again”. Then I took a second wife so M.A. is “Married Again”.

—Jaskaran & Govind

Children's Day

What fun it is to celebrate Children's Day. But what is Children's Day? It's a day for children. Children are really lucky that such importance is being shown to them. How can we forget Shri Jawaharlal Nehru who loved children so much and stressed their special place in society? Yes, they are our future generation and citizens. There's no human being who doesn't love children. How can we forget the saying of Jesus – Let little children come to me because the kingdom of god belongs to such as these!

Wherever children go, they are given attention and we have a special affection towards them. On 14th November, we the staff of Hampton Court entertained our children. They were given an opportunity to participate in different games. The teachers and the sisters showered them with love — love they too give us. We began with a short prayer-service in the hall. Then a small cultural programme by the staff followed. We then had different games for each of the classes.

We could see our little ones twisting and hopping full of excitement and joy. They were given prizes as well as chocolates and sweets.

They really had a Fanta - Fab Day!
After all it's their Day - Children's Day. !!

—Miss Viny

Clean and Green Mussoorie

The call of the last decade has been environment, ecofriendliness, global warming etc. With increasing population and proportionate development there has been a growing pressure on environment in the form of pollution and deforestation. Mussoorie is no exception and, over a period of 15 years, has undergone a sea change which has not only altered its climatic pattern but has also witnessed un-precedented inflow of tourists thereby increasing problems associated with over crowding such as cleanliness and sewage disposal. The demand created by tourists for accommodation has witnessed the change of slope character with green lands being used for buildings and waste lands reclaimed by way of afforestation. The concrete jungle, looks more imposing than the natural green cover which once covered the undulating mountains. The changed use of gorges and ravines has affected the course of water channels and springs. Precisely the fragile eco-system of the Doon is under a siege which needs immediate redressal, lest the pristine glory of the region be lost into oblivion.

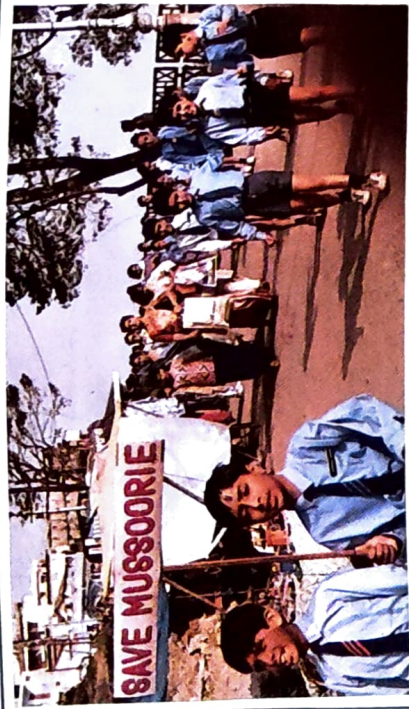
Alarmed by the environmental degradation caused due to indiscriminate human activity it became indispensable to think of remedial measures as a way to this impasse. Thus the first step forward was taken to think in terms of disposal of the non-degradable waste which is one of the most important factors of causing water logging in culverts on the one hand and is a soil contaminating agent on the other. A meeting of an active, highly motivated group of teachers, professionals, doctors and business men was convened by the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration to look into the various aspects of waste management in association with the local board for an effective monitoring of the cleaning programme. Distribution of hand bills, posters, door to door campaigns were conducted to acquaint the people of the ill effects caused by the biologically non-degradable waste.

The "convenience pack syndrome" comprising of polythene, plastic, bottles, aerosols, tins etc. has caused the maximum environment related problems as compared to any other factor and of course their disposal poses the biggest challenge to mankind. One of the easiest ways is to separate the degradable waste from synthetic material at source, i.e., at the kitchen level and then later collect it for disposal through the rag pickers. Another way is to re-cycle this material as much as possible to be finally disposed of. This demands separate bins to be provided for the purpose. However, the final step to get rid of this kind of material is not by accumulating it on dump sites but incinerating it so that the ash can be deposited in compost pits for degradation. This initial bid made by the activists has only proved to be a tip of the ice-berg. Persistent and concerted efforts are on for an effective garbage management which undoubtedly requires an herculean effort to deliver the expected results.

With urbanization becoming a parameter of progress, the building industry has made rapid strides which has changed the outlay of the town. Here it is worth mentioning that in the seventies and early eighties these mountains were ruthlessly exploited by the miners who not only denuded the green cover but also drove the fauna of the region into wilderness. The rich deposits of lime stone and dolomite were enticing enough to the miners who wrought havoc on the virgin green mountains. It was the Eco-Task force founded on 1st.Dec.92 which took the challenge of planting trees on a war footing level. The results of their untiring effort can be seen on the mined slopes which have been greened, naturally. Taking a cue from the army personnel various voluntary organizations have taken to planting trees with the help of students and people from all walks of life. However, the desired results have not been achieved as the infra-structure required to take care for 4 to 5 years was not evolved as a result of which the mortality rate of the planted trees was very high. As an experiment the concept of Smritivans was launched with an idea to involve students and each individual not only to plant the tree but also to take care of it for 4 to 5 years. One such Smritivan was raised in Hampton Court where each child planted a tree as his symbolic presence. The trees are being regularly looked after and to meet the mortality of plants a small nursery has been raised so that the dried plants could be replaced in the next sowing season.

The idea of friendly neighbourhood is afloat all over the town and the solid step taken to attain success has been to stress upon a clean and green Mussoorie.

—Mr.V.Kumar

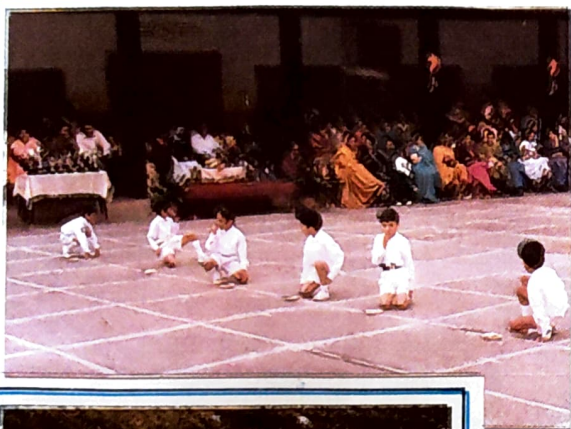


Mussoorie

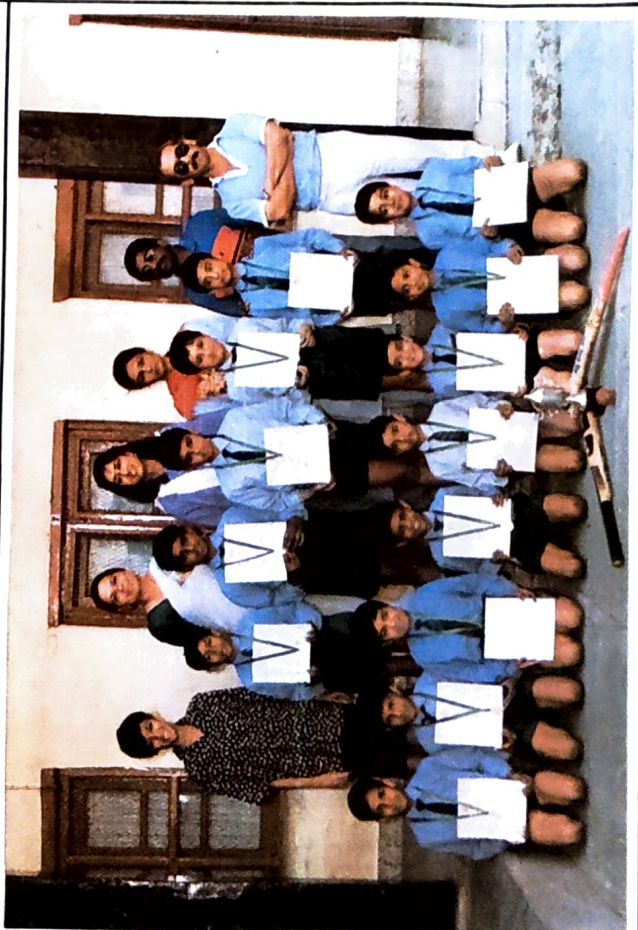
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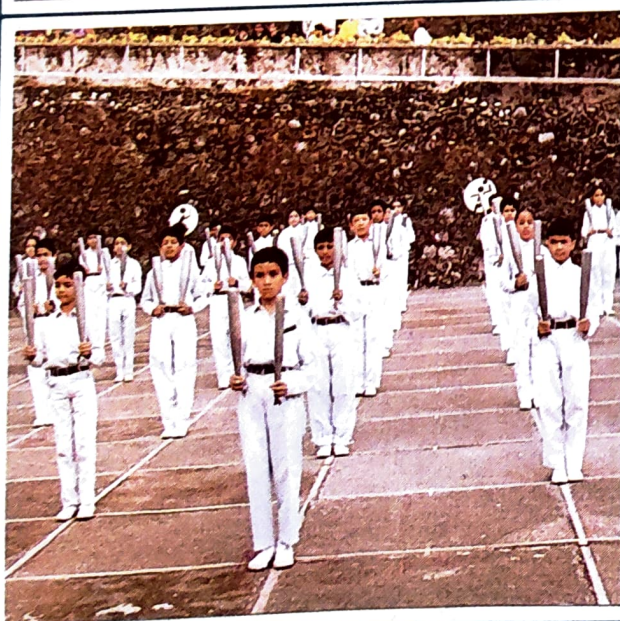
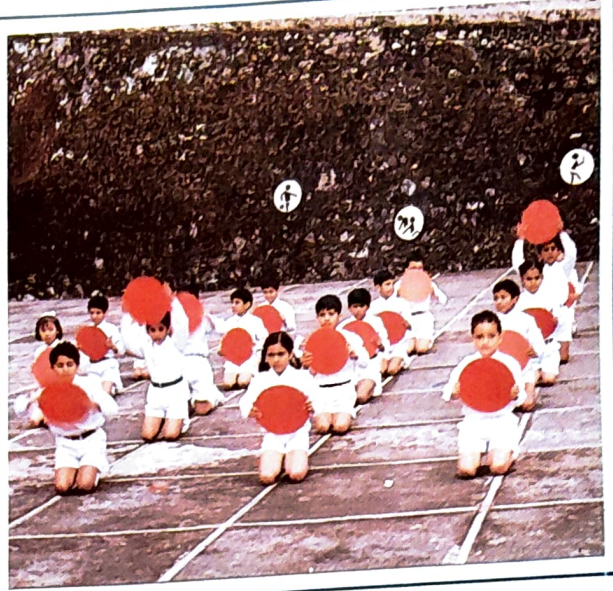


Sports Day



Rivals ... Inter House Games





Games and Sports

Games and Sports are an integral part of the curriculum and are held on the 'Inter House' and 'Inter school' basis. Ever since the MSSA broke up, games and sports competitions have been restricted to only inter house events.

This year Hockey matches were held in the month of April after a month of continuous practice. The final match was played on 29th April between the Green House (Tagore House) and Yellow House (RadhaKrishnan House). The Green House won the match 2:1. The best Goal Keeper of the tournament was Akshay Arora, the captain of the Blue House.

After Hockey, the next game taken up was Cricket and boys from class II to V were provided the opportunity to display their talent. The boys showed their innate qualities during the course of the tournament which began on 22nd May. In the final the contest was between the Green and Red Houses, with the former defeating the latter by 47 runs. The highest scorer was Saarthak Gupta, the best bowler Shahid Ali and the best partnership was between Sheren Samson and Ashish Bhandari.

The Interhouse Badminton tournament was limited to the boys of classes IV and V of the four houses. The final match was played between the Green House and the Yellow House. The most exciting match of the tournament was the doubles match between the Green and the Yellow Houses. The Green House pair of Ashish Bhandari and Amorn Khanejou was evenly matched by Sayan Kukreja and Vichai Gambhir. However the Tagore House defeated the Radhakrishnan House and lifted the winner's trophy for 1995.

Come the month of July, and with the monsoons in full vigour it was time for indoor games like Table Tennis. With the variety in skills the boys displayed it was really difficult to choose the players as all gave tough fights in the qualifying rounds. Once again it was the contest between the Green and the Red House. In the finals Rachan of Red House easily won the first match for his house which was to be finally the loser as the remaining two games were won by the Green House. And once again it was the Green House all the way.

With the monsoons active all over, Soccer teams were formed of classes II to V. They displayed their skills and grit trying to make it to the final team of the House. The finals were played between the Red and Green Houses in the Senior Boys section and between the Blue House and the Red House in the Junior Section. In both matches the winners was the Red House, the Nehru House.

Come October, and the boys were now busy with Sports preparation and athletics.

—Mr.B.S.Rawat

My Lexicon

Dear Diary,

The school year 1995 opened with the usual Hi! How are you? How were your holidays and welcome to the new teachers who were soon made to feel very comfortable and at home by the older staff. 11th March morning brought the laughter and chatter of the boarders; all eagerly exchanging news, each was trying to outshout the others as thoughts were flowing faster than words. Oh dear! The little ones are crying but what a touching and beautiful scene to witness! You know dear Diary, the elder boys actually picked up the cry babies and tried to quieten them with a toffee or by playing with them.

It's Holi today, the children played with colours on sheets as they were not allowed to play with colours. The art sheets looked bright and colourful, while the holiday project displayed by the children showed how hard they had worked during their holidays and yet enjoyed themselves doing it.

Dear Diary, I wish you could have seen those proud and erect marching captains, on the investiture day, my, did they look grand! Hurry! It's holidays already — it's Easter and we go home — the school is once again silent as some boys went home.

of Memories

Oh dear! It's the unit tests now and Sob! Sob! It's I haven't learnt this and I don't know that and Oh God! That teacher sets such tough papers. Lord it's maths today, and then it's all over — it does pay to work hard at the right time, so lots of new resolutions were made only to be forgotten promptly of course.

Dear Diary, this I must tell you. I do not know how many really love studying but there is not a single one who doesn't love playing and now it's time for the matches to begin — football, hockey, badminton, cricket, table tennis, just watch the champions play. I can assure you, some of them will definitely land in the national and state level teams.

Phew! Its Tests again! Do well, do well! Work hard! Why do we have to have tests this often?

Sob! Sob! Two of our dear teachers Ms. Mary Ann and Ms. Claire are leaving, they are getting married can you hear the wedding bells?

Dear Diary, I just love 1st of May — I wish you could see the well-dressed helpers, how happy they look and how the children love them! Just look at them cheering them. Wow! Just shows the values inculcated in them in Hampton Court.

My Lexicon

Hey! what this – Don't use polythene? Indeed! So what should we use and why not, any way? They say that polythene lying around the countryside kills the biotic life around and takes 500 years to degrade. Ok! Ok! Point considered. So we won't use polythene or at least try to recycle it, because I don't promise to be all that goody, goody.

And now what! What are these young ones up to? I can see them with lots of saplings. I don't believe it! They are actually planting it all over Hampton Court. Oh! How they love their school, just brings tears to my eyes. Yes, some day they will come back as men and see the tree they planted. They can truly say "This school is mine."

Dear Diary, come with me to the class picnic – colourful caps, water bottles, chatter, chatter and chatter. What fun! Food to be shared, games to be played and no one to say "keep quiet."

Three cheers! Its Hampton Court Fete day and believe me dear diary, everyone in town looks forward to our fete. It's the best in town. Lots of eats, games and friendly interactions, so much of everything that no one can go dissatisfied. Our Sr. Christine is the best cook – no exaggeration – honest, I mean it. Lots of prizes won and collected in

of Memories

pillow covers like Santa Claus, the only difference being that instead of the toys and eats being distributed they are being collected by the happy chattering children.

The celebration of Foundress' day is the most awaited day. Children pray to Saint Claudine that divine and pious soul who laid the foundation of the congregation of Jesus and Mary. Our boys sing to the piano and musical instruments. If you heard them you would never believe people who say that boys are unmusical.

Dramatics by various classes the Kings and the Queens Ha! Ha! Look at those Sardars dressed as girls. I bet the real girls must be all envying their long hair. Gosh! Even the beggars have appeared from nowhere in our school.

Dear Diary, today everyone is very sad in our school as our headmistress Sr. Anita, a picture of patience and affection is leaving us. The soft smile on her face shall never be forgotten. Her presence around always infused a sense of confidence in each one of us.

Dear Diary, the staff is having a seminar today. Do these 'know all' teachers also have to study? I wish they will also get a scolding today so at least

My Lexicon

they will know what it's like to be scolded in front of everyone, but I hope my teacher gets the best marks.

No not again! TESTS and then Open day Gosh! I think even the parents dread this day, just look at them they look so nervous almost as if they were going to be hanged.

Dear Diary, today our Superior Sr. Dorothy is leaving for Rome and we have to get ready for Sport's Day, march past practice, P.T. display ... I bet you can hear Sir Ali roaring all over making sure everything is in order and coordinating all the events. The great day has come — medals to be won, speeches and flowers for the chief guest. Some day one of our own boys will come back as the chief guest, who knows.

Today, classes V and IV are going to Chandigarh for their educational tour. I wish you could accompany us and see the Bhakra Dam, Pinjore gardens and buy lots of things along with the boys.

Our Superior is back and I can see lots of activities going on in class V - its entrance exams for them - poor boys, even the teachers have lost their sleep. So it's all over and I hear, most of them have done well, after all Hampty boys!

of Memories

Now the stage is set for the final exams. Bags are being packed, trunks are being aired. Sisters and Matrons are running around to get their belongings in order. But in spite of all the hectic activities around, I can still hear the melodious jingle bells ringing from the hall. They are getting the Christmas play ready for the Annual day - Annual prizes and the All Rounder Cup to go to the best student of the year. How eagerly they are waiting for it.

Dear Diary - its the last day today everyone is exchanging addresses, wishing farewell. Those big brothers of class V are going for ever. I wish them well in life and I hope they will come back one day as great men. Oh! I am going to cry - I love those boys, so I better pen off here.

Another year passes in the history of records, of success and failure, of endeavour and patience, of sobs and laughter, of course nothing new for you Dear Diary, as we enter in your 74th year with the blessings of Saint Claudine Thevenet for this home away from home.

—Mrs.N.Kumar

The Teacher I Like Most

Teaching is a very noble profession. The teacher takes a personal interest in our studies. He helps us whenever we are in trouble or have problems.

Every student has his favourite teacher. But among all the teachers Mr. Vipin Kumar is my favourite teacher. I worship him for his good qualities, discipline and knowledge. He has the qualities which are essential for an ideal teacher.

Mr. Vipin Kumar teaches us Maths. He is the most popular teacher in our school. All the students love him and obey his orders. Even other teachers give him great respect. His method of teaching is good as every student can understand his teaching very easily. He does not mind us asking him questions. He answers our questions politely.

Many of his ex-students are now doctors, engineers and in high office.

In reality he is one of those teachers who are the builders of our nation. He is a disciplined man himself. You will always see him in a cheerful mood. He wears simple but neat clothes.

He is punctual and regular in his classes. He also wants us to have these qualities. Of course there is a very strict discipline in his class. He does not beat us if we are not regular in our studies but loses his temper with our indiscipline. No student dares to make a sound. He can't tolerate indiscipline. But still we all respect him very much. In reality he has won the hearts of the students by his good nature. He loves his students just as he loves his children. He is respected like a father by the students. It gives me great pleasure to attend his classes. I never like to miss them. If sometimes he does not come to class due to urgent work or illness, I miss him throughout the day.

Mr. Vipin Kumar Gupta is a very good teacher of Maths. His articles have been published in newspapers. He is a teacher of Junior Classes too. He has won a prize of Rs. 5,000/- from the Government for Maths. Actually he was a teacher of Physics. As his father was very good in Maths. He too came to be a teacher of Maths. He has taught many students and now they have taken up different professions. Sir Vipin Kumar has taught us the values of truth and justice. We all wish him a long and happy life.

—Ashish Bhandari

The Work of a Computer

A computer is a machine that can do many kinds of jobs for us and it is believed that in the future in an office there will be only a computer and a printer. A computer can store information, send messages, and draw pictures. Through some computers we can send letters too. There is a story about a boy who moved the NASA satellites with the help of a computer. Well the story goes like this: -

Once in America, in the town of San Francisco a sixteen-year-old boy was playing with a computer at his home. He put on the fax Modem (this is a small machine which has to be attached to the computer and then to the telephone – with it we can send messages and letters to any part of the world) and started to play with it and headed for NASA (the place where American satellites are controlled.) When he reached NASA he didn't know the code but he jokingly pressed FRIEND and to his excitement the answer was welcome to NASA. Then he started to play with the computer again. He entered NASA and started to play with the satellites. The scientists at NASA were surprised to see the satellites moving in the opposite direction. Then with the help of a computer the scientists sent messages to the telephone station and asked if anyone had phoned to NASA. Then they told the scientists that someone had phoned NASA from a house in San Francisco. The scientists thought that this was the work of the Russians as they were their enemies. They immediately sent messages to the police. Then at San Francisco 50 men with rifles surrounded the house. When they opened the door, they saw the teen-ager and his computer. They asked him what he was doing and he told them that he was playing a game. Again they asked him which game he was playing and his answer was the NASA game of satellites. Then they told him the truth and he was fined 50 thousand dollars.

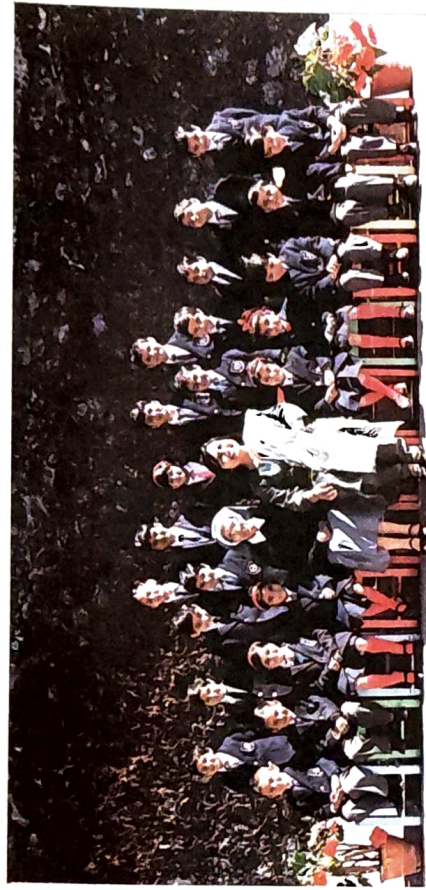
—Veerapal Singh

Farewell to Hampton

It was a bright, sunny morning in the month of June when I started off for my first trip to Mussoorie as I was appointed to the post of a teacher in a school named Hampton Court. This was a hill station which I wanted to visit since my childhood. Within no time I had packed up all my bags and set off for the ever so longed journey to Mussoorie, the queen of the hills. The thought of meeting new people and living in new and different surroundings so thrilled me that it just cannot be expressed in words. On my way up, I was in my own land of imagination of the school and Mussoorie. When I finally reached Mussoorie that evening it was like a dream come true and my ecstatic feelings knew no bounds. Sr. Florence welcomed me with a sweet smile and handed over my room keys. I met the head mistress Sr. Anita who was a very loving lady.



Pre-Primary A



Pre-Primary B



Class I A



Class I B



Class II A



Class II B



Class III A



Class III B



Class IV A



Class IV B



Class V A



Class V B



The Mainstay

Community



Boarding Staff



School Staff

All the teachers were so friendly and glad to have me as their new colleague. The students looked at me with great curiosity wondering which subject I was going to teach them. Teaching in a highly reputed school like Hampton Court has been a turning point in my life. I treaded on this path with new hopes and new horizons. Enjoying each and every step of mine with the students as well as my colleagues, here was a chance to nurture my dreams. It was a memorable experience working with Sr. Dorothy from whom I have learned so much which would definitely help me in the future. I would have liked to continue for another couple of years but as the saying goes, "life is a journey to be traveled by all". So now the hour has come to bid farewell to my dear Hampton Court. I will always cherish the memories of the days spent here – laughing, joking, going for evening walks and last but not the least our own kind of entertainment in the teachers' cottage. A few years back this kind of life was just among one of my fantasies. It has become a reality for some time now.

I know I'm going to miss all this through out my life but I'll always cherish my days in Mussoorie. The school has really given an impetus to my otherwise stagnant life and for this I am ever so thankful.

—Ms.Neena

Good Manners

Good manners in life are very essential for everyone. Although manners cost nothing, yet they are valuable for social relations with others. They also help in winning others. A man is judged by his manners not by his richness.

Good manners make a man civilised and cultured. Although a person may inherit some of it from his parents, it is essential that children are taught good manners right from childhood. Bad mannered children bring a bad name to their parents.

If a child possesses good manners he will be liked and admired by everyone. It is true to say that manners make a complete man without them he is like an animal.

Good manners are based on courtesy and politeness. We can learn good manners by reading books on great men like Gandhiji and others. We should use polite words like "Thank you", "Excuse me", "Sorry", "Pardon" etc. which can impress and influence others. Whenever we have to say "no" we should say it in a polite manner, so that we don't hurt others' feelings. While sneezing or coughing we should put a handkerchief to our mouth and nose and say "Excuse me".

We should not throw about papers, banana peels and other things. They bring a bad name to our country. While two men are talking we should not "poke our nose" in between. We should obey our elders, and their orders.

While a well-mannered boy gains a good name an ill-mannered boy will have a bad name. So let us try to be well-mannered boys.

—Ashish Bhandari.

Mountains and Plains

Mountains are high and plains are low,
Breeze in the mountain, in the plains rivers flow,
Mountains are tipped and plains are flat.
Huts in the Mountains and in the plains, flats.

—Anirudh Rawat

The Fair

The fair is such fun,
In spite of the hot sun
And when I think of the fair,
I see seesaws everywhere.

And I look back and see,
The giant wheel turning free
With many a dancing doll
That it looked like a mall.

The roundabout's going round
That giddy I fall to the ground,
The fair is so much fun, I say,
There I spent the whole day.

--Veerapal Singh

My Friends

I have four good friends,
Here is how each tends.
If you say to them "hi"
They'll always sigh,
If you knock at their door,
They'll drop you to the floor.
They are fond of melodies,
And have funny memories
They are short in height,
But like to fight,
They never lie,
So here I say "Good Bye".

Blessed Dina

Oh! blessed Dina,
Please bless us and help us
To rise to great heights.

Oh! Blessed Dina
We pray to you and thank you
For your love and kindness

Oh! Blessed Dina.
We are thankful to you,
For helping us in bad times.

We will always remember you.

—*Jatin Kapoor*

That is Why

The robbers rob
From the beginning
of their lives
that is why
they are robbers.

The honest boy
is wonderful and
does not tell lies
That is why
he is an honest boy.

I need the people
of the world
to be honest men,
tell the truth
and never lie.

That is why,
I need all of us
to begin by being
honest men ourselves.
—*Suwan Singh*

My World Tour

First I went to Japan
There I bought a frying pan.
Then I went to China
Where I met a sweet little hyaena.

The third place I went was Nepal
Where I met a sweet pal.
Then I went to France
Where I saw a Roman dance.

The fifth place I went was Afghanistan
There I saw a Pathan,
Then I went to England
Where I saw a fish from Finland.

After finishing my world tour
I became very poor
With the drain on my finance
But rich in knowledge and experience.
—*Akshay Arora*

Loony Limericks

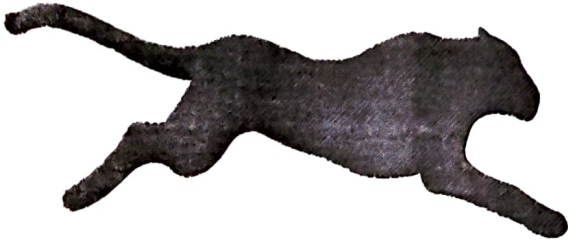
A Giraffe

A giraffe who was lanky and lean
Decided to scrub himself clean
So he plunged in a tank,
Oh my gosh ! how he shrank
To the shortest giraffe ever seen.



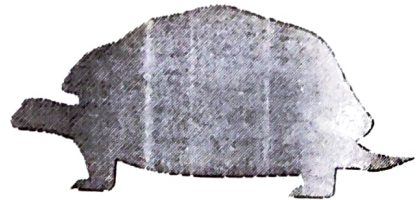
A Tiger

A tiger who had too much gin
Grew tired of the stripes on his skin
So he peeled off the lines
Found himself in new designs
And threw the old one in a bin.



A Turtle

A turtle was once in a fix
His legs totalled seventy six
He ran mighty fast,
Even Ben Johnson he outclassed.
So he entered the Olympics for kicks.



- Ashish

Jokes

Banta Singh happened to be in the queue at the railway station ticket counter with two men ahead of him.

1st man : Ek Punjab Male dena.

Banta Singh : Ek Punjab Female dena.

Clerk : What do you mean by Punjab Female?

Banta Singh : It is for my wife.

A learned professor was once travelling by train. He was absorbed in reading a book. Soon the ticket checker came along and asked him to show his ticket. He was a past student of the professor. But the professor could not find his ticket and he was a little restless. "Never mind", the ticket checker said, "You can show it at the next station". But it was just the same at the next station. The learned professor was unable to produce his ticket. The ticket checker said, "That does not matter" and turned to go. "But it's important to me" said the professor "Because I must know where I am going".

—Rajesh Uniyal

First Lalaji : Friend, what is the big deal going to the moon? Any body can go to the moon;

Second Lalaji : What do you mean by that? We will go direct to the sun.

First Lalaji : But if we get within 13 million miles of the sun, we will melt.

Second Lalaji : So what? Let us go at night.

Did you know?

That when lizards shed their tails, they can grow another tail.

That a snake had a glass eye fitted in the London Zoo.

That an eel goes all the way to the Pacific Ocean to lay eggs.

That paper was invented in 8000 B.C. in China by a Chinese.

That a shark can grow teeth every time it loses them.

That a dolphin is the only mammal that cannot survive on land.

That Leonardo Da Vinci could paint with one hand and write with the other.

—Abbas Qayyum

Riddles

What do you serve but never eat?

A tennis ball

What dress does everyone have but none wears?

Address

Who settled in the west before anyone else?

The Sun

What does a cat have that no other animal has?

Kittens

Why did they have to put a fence around a graveyard?

Because people were dying to get in.

What lives if you feed it and dies if you water it?

Fire!

What is black when it is clean and white when it is dirty?

A blackboard.

Why is a cat like a penny?

Because it has a head on one side and a tail on the other!

What has a big mouth but doesn't say a word?

A river.

What is the longest word in the English Language?

Smiles because there is a mile in between.

How can you spell a mousetrap in three letters?

CAT.

—Jaskaran and Ashish

होली

होली आई, होली आई
इतना अच्छा दिन ये लाई,
रंग-बिरंगी होली आई
पप्पू खेला, मुन्नी खेली ।

सभी लोग खेले थे होली
खुशियों से भर डाली
हर एक की झोली,
रंग-बिरंगी होली आई
रंगों की टोली आई ।

हरा, गुलाबी, नीला, पीला
हर एक को कर देगे गीला,
रंगों की बौछार आई
खुशियों की बहार लाई ।

लड्डू लाओ, सबको
खिलाओ
गाढ़ा रंग पानी में मिलाओ
होली आई, होली आई,
खुशियों की बहार लाई ।

Alok and Roopinder
Class V-A

रक्षा बन्धन

रक्षा बन्धन का आया है त्यौहार
लाया है खुशियों की बाहार
खेलो कूदो धूम मचाओ
जल्दी-जल्दी राखी चुन लाओ
राखियों से कलाई सजाओ
राखी बांधती हैं बहनें
भाई भी देते हैं क्या कहनें
राखी आई राखी आई
खुशियों की बाहार लाई ।

Mahesh Kumar
Class V-A

होली

होली आई, होली आई ।
रंगों की डोलियाँ लाई ।
पत्तों से झूम उठे पेड़ ।
हरयाली छा गई चारों ओर ।

बच्चे उठ गए सवेरे
रंगों और गुलाल से खेलने
लड्डू और मिठाईयाँ खाने
लोगों को गुलाल लगाने

होली आई होली आई
रंगों की बौछार लाई ।

Rajnish - Uniyal
Class V-A

होली

होली, होली, होली, होली
रंगों की गोली
सबके मुहँ पर फेरो गुलाल
कर दो मुँह को हरा, नीला और लाल
रंग बिरंगे गुलाल से खेलो
अच्छी, अच्छी पिचकारी लेलो
होली आई, होली आयी
खुशियों का मेला लाई ।

Mahesh Kumar
Class V-A