

Vignettes









THE INVESTITURE CEREMONY



On the bright summer morning of April 29th, senior school was ready to partake of the highly anticipated annual investiture ceremony. Every true Johnian today, knows the importance of this coveted assembly. Students and teachers alike began to file in, patiently waiting to be formally introduced to the brand new student council. And of course, the council themselves anticipated their very own moment of glory.

So it started. The stage was set. The school was ready. The parents were ready. The lighting of the lamp of knowledge ignited a fire in all of the participants' hearts. Each parent anticipated their son's golden moment. The St. John's family was ready. The previous student council had led our school onto the international mantle, and it was up to the present to outperform (a huge task in itself).

Captains, photographers and editors were full of pride and needless to say, very excited and as each new



house captain was invested, thewill to lead their house to victory was noticeable. As each new school captain was taking charge, the loyalty towards St. John's was noticeable. Finally as a new photographer and editor, there was a promise to cover every piece of action.

The new council promised to lead our school to even greater heights and we are sure it will be fulfilled. However, it was the words of our ex-captains that really got through to some of us. As they cherished each little giggle in their time at this sacred institution, somewhere deep down we all realised how lucky we were. Lucky to be part of this family. Lucky to be able to call this school our own.

Finally, it was time for the grand finale. The moment all of us anticipate each year. It was time to present the IolairRiyoga! And what

a finale it was indeed. Br. Crease House had finally managed to capture the pot of gold, ending what many had begun to feel was a never-ending losing streak. Hundreds of students erupted in joy. Their hard work and dedication had finally paid off. The effort of the tireless teachers had paid off. Br. Crease

The moment all of us anticipate each year. It was time to present the IolairRiyoga!

House had won. Even as the assembly was coming to a close, the excitement didn't dwindle. Everyone was ready to see the new student council in action and we're sure they will never disappoint.

By-Rohan Narula (Student Editor)











This year was no different. The Debate takes place across three distinct stages with the first being the preliminary round where each student, individually, debates on one of the many invigorating topics of the 21st century. Then, the best of the best are chosen which move on to the semi-final round where they can display their adeptness amongst to the school. Eventually, the horde becomes thinner and thinner with one house team from each class being the winners of their respective SJOBA debate. An intriguing yet central part of these debates is that the rebuttals for each speaker are posed by the audience.

The Johnians never disappoint. Each year, due to thorough research and preparation, the standard of debate only goes higher and higher, mesmerising the audience as well as the judges. The SJOBA debate is an integral part of the year for each Johnian as it serves as an opportunity to work their heart out and debate to the best of their potential. The persuasive speeches, followed by the mind-boggling rebuttal questions are truly a fine example of the inclusive education that we pursue at St. John's.

~Rohan Narula Sub-Editor



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31st July 2019



There is a special aura surrounding this sacred institution today. Smiles are wider, chests are broader and confidence is skyrocketing as each achiever makes his way onto the podium to seize his own moment of glory.

Proclamation Day is one of the most highly anticipated events undertaken in the school each year. It is one of our most prestigious assemblies, intricately designed to encourage the genius inside the young minds to blossom. The protocol is straight forward: You rack up 90% or more in the academic year, you get the Scholar's Badge; you do this continuously for 3 years, you get a Scholar's Tie; you do it for 4 years, you get a Green Scholar's Blazer and finally the most prestigious Black Scholar's Blazer at the end of 6th year. What a journey!

But that's not all! There is always more to achieve. The top scorers from all the different classes, from 6th

through 12th, receive their very own moment of glory and of course, the cherry on top, A Cash Prize!

Besides academic achievement, the students who have attended school on each working day, in scorching heat or freezing cold, are also rewarded with the Full Attendance Certificate.

Each year, a flabbergasting amount of awards are handed out in the ceremony, proving the determination that each Johnian possesses: to be the best, to be number 1 and to be a respectable and responsible gentleman. These awards will definitely go a long way for encouraging the young, innovative minds who have worked tirelessly to be worthy of them. But this is just the beginning of a success story, that we are sure each Johnian will be known by one day.

ROHAN NARULA(10 C) Student Editor

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Tour with Ranvijay

Ranvijay Awards are highly coveted in our school. We had the pleasure of interviewing none other than the son of Sri Ranvijay Singh, Mr. Manu Raghuvanshi who is currently settled in Australia. He spoke to us on the various aspects of his childhood days with Sri Ranvijay Singh. He also shared his thoughts on the institution of Ranvijay Awards.

Mr. Manu Raghuvanshi was kind enough to share some precious photographs with his father.

Q1: You were recently at the school, to be a part of the Ranvijay Awards ceremony. How did you feel about being a part of this function?

In the first place, I would like to extend my whole hearted thanks to the honorable Principal Ms. Kavita Das and Mr. Sandeep Goyal who gave me

this unparalleled opportunity to be a part of the Ranvijay Award ceremony. I was overwhelmed to see the faces of the students which were filled with a lot of excitement and enthusiasm. May they lead a healthy life ahead and achieve great heights of Success. Also, I would like to thank the teachers who had undoubtedly put in a lot of effort to brighten this ceremony and ultimately made it a success. I felt extremely nostalgic on being made aware about some distinguished childhood memories of my father by his friends. Truly this ceremony will always be a beautiful part of my life.



Q2: How close a bond do you share with your school time friends?

Having studied in a boarding school, friends have always been like a family for me. Friendship is all about being there for each other and I am lucky to share such a bond with a lot of my friends from school who have always there with me through thick and thin. We still have fun together at times and constantly remain in touch.

Q3 Please share a few memories of your childhood especially with your father Sh. Ranvijay Singh.

My father has always been the greatest source of motivation in my life. He always inspired me to lead a life of honour and respect. One of the childhood memories I recollect is that whenever I got low grades in school he never scolded me for marks.Instead, he always motivated me to work on being a human first. I still remember how I scored a big fat zero once and he just smiled and said "Try harder next Time ". But being indisciplined at school was something that he didn't like. The second incident I remember is that of my father telling me about my grandfather - that he in his entire life had given boundless respect to everyone irrespective of their gender or status. He told me that whenever they used to go to a bank his

father would always greet the security guard...
This left an indelible imprint on my mind.

Q4 Can you recollect any anecdote of your father's time at St.John's, which he might have shared with you?



Yes, he often told me that he with his three friends used to cycle every day to reach the school and that was the best of the times. He cherished those moments of his life.

Q5 Now that the Ranvijay Awards have been in place for more than a decade in our school, how would you like to see it grow in the decades to follow?

I would definitely wish to see these awards flourishing at a blistering pace in the coming decades, inspiring the students to become good human beings and also cherish the bond they share with their school friends. I am very grateful to Mr. Sandeep Goyal and his family for this very kind gesture and their tremendous efforts in architecting the award to exactly what my father was - a very nice guy.

Also, I would like to thank Mr. Gurmit Singh for being very patient and helpful in doing this interview.

K.G's crossover to Class 1

What a fantastic start to this new session!





The handsome gentlemen from Class 1 were warmly welcomed into our Junior School's first assembly for the session 2019-20, to jumpstart their new session and give them a feeling of being home.

The confidence they exuded while bouncing their way to the assembly area seemed to indicate that they were all set to broaden their horizons by expanding their knowledge and discovering new things.

We are marking time to see these little boys with dreams become Gentlemen with an astounding vision, dignity and profound sense of gratitude!!











Keeping up with the annual tradition of making the world a "Cleaner and Greener" place, the young gentlemen of Kindergarten celebrated Van Mahotsav along with the senior school NSS boys by planting various trees around the school campus. The NSS boys taught the young Johnians the value of trees and its dire need for our future generations. The boys had a whale of a time planting the trees and later putting guards around them as well to protect the trees from getting destroyed. Joining hands with them was our esteemed Principal Ms. Kavita C. Das along with the junior and the senior school co-ordinators, who enthusiastically supported the boys in their noble cause.

'One who plants a tree plants a hope.'











Visit to 'The Institute for the Visually Impaired'

The whole essence of the Johnian spirit is to give to society. The whole experience was wholesome and awakening for the boys as it was the first time in their lives that they were exposed to such a strata of society. As timid as they look, they lived up to the Johnian spirit by sharing their learning at school with these little ones. The inmates were delighted to learn good habits and courtesy words from our boys and also received small dental and hygiene kits which would help them in their upkeep. Adding to the whole experience we had parents' who happily accompanied us and also apprised the children about good habits and hygiene.



I ASPIRE TO BECOME THE ONE DAY

The heading reads something that is in almost every Johnian's heart. To become the school captain is not a piece of cake, it is instead the fruit of hard work, determination, clear focus and most importantly a crystal clear heart.

A leader with a great idea and a vision is the one that inspires people to be better versions of themselves and leads them on the path of success. Being the school captain not only means that you are the representative of your school, it

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also means that people look up to you and you are the most appreciated and adored person in school. This position gives you a chance to make yourself a better version of you not only for yourself but for the hundreds of school mates that look up to you. This position makes you selfless. Leadership qualities help you further in your life and you stand out in a crowd. This selfless attitude is what makes leaders great. They think of their team, their school, their country before anything else. They direct their subordinates in the right direction.

A school captain's duties are organizing and presenting important school events, actively promoting school values and demonstrating a caring and supportive attitude. After having conversed with

many captains, I have come to the conclusion that to become a leader you need to start small and then move forward slowly and steadily, and always have an optimistic approach.

To sum it all up, I genuinely feel that leaders do not get influenced by anything easily. So, to be a great leader you need to be strong headed and make an impact with your decisions in life.

Written By Rishit Bhanot Class: 8D

INTERNET SAFETY TIPS FOR KIDS

Social media and online shopping activities require you to fill in your personal details, which leads to many threats.

Let us learn some tips, that will help usstay safe online.



Ujjwal Aggarwal X D

PASSWORDS

Passwords are meant to protect your information, so make your passwords strong with a combination of letters of the uppercase and lowercase, numbers and special characters that are difficult to guess. Don't share your passwords with anyone and keep changing them on a regular basis.

PRIVACY SETTINGS

Change your privacy settings on various social media sites and appsto control who can see what about you.

PROFILES

Keep your bio and information short and precise. Also, try to make sure that strangers don't get any sensitive information from your profile picture and bio.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Don't share your personal information like your email, phone number, address or name of your school to people you don't know.

PADLOCK

Have you ever noticed a padlock symbol in the browser address bar? It means that specific information is secure. So, before you give your private or financial details on any website, look for the padlock symbol on the address bar. If it's not there, do not share any information. I hope the tips given above will help you cruise safely online.

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Visit to

Mother Teresa's Missionaries of Charity 7

Class 3 having adopted this institute visited their centre in Chandigarh and presented a plethora of activities especially prepared for the inmates. They also spoke about personal hygiene and carried Cloth Detergents for them. This invoked the spirit of commitment to reach out to the not so privileged.



Visit to

Little Flower School 7

In an effort to sensitize our boys to the needs of those at the margins of the society and instill a sense of responsibility towards the well being of all, Class 5 boys accompanied by their Class Teachers' and a parent visited the school. The boys beautifully role played the story 'Fruits of Labour' and later conducted a Quiz.

The overall interaction was immensely fruitful and the message of Hard Work was beautifully conveyed. Our boys came back with a sense of compassion and love.

Visit to

Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School

Sector: 26, Chandigarh

Diversity at its BEST!!

The boys of class 4, accompanied by their teachers and a parent, visited the School adopted by us with the primary objective of breaking the barriers of language, caste and creed. The children shared very informative health tips and recited a poem for them to create Health Awareness amongst them. Having made some friends, the boys are looking forward to visiting them again.



Class 5







With the aim of enabling a smooth transition of the not so privileged children into the mainstream teaching of our school, we at St. John's give these little ones a year of love, care and facilitation to help upskill them and gradually streamline their entry into mainstream education.



Children belonging to the first generation of schooling and weaker sections of society, are the ones who are given this reinforcement.

Hands on activities like sand tray activities, newspaper scribbling, paper tearing activities (to name a few) are done with them to help improve their skills and hand-eye co-ordination.



Prep Activities











Killing #TheHiddenMonsters

Savlon, the brand of antibacterial personal care products manufactured by Johnson & Johnson has started the "Savlon-Swasth India Mission" whereby it creates awareness and education amongst children on how to stay clean and hygienic.

The boys from Classes I-VI had an enlightening session with the resource person who demonstrated the dire need to stay clean and hygienic, through an interactive video and quiz. Each of them also walked away with a bottle of hand wash as a fantastic giveaway to start staying healthy and clean.



AUSTRALIAN

7 EXCHANGE Days with Our Blue Eyed Buddies.



On the 24th of October, at 10:45pm 8 boys and 2 teachers set out on a journey, a much awaited and an equally delayed one. But it had begun.....finally. We left for an adventure of our lifetimes.

After travelling for nearly 36 hours we arrived at the land of the kangaroos and were welcomed by heavy rain. Our Indian cab driver Sandeep who preferred being called 'Sandy', drove the tired travellers toSt. Patricks College, Ballarat. We were warmly welcomed by the Deputy Principal Mr Stephen Hill and a few staff members. But the one person we were eager to shake hands with was our buddy Jude Jeandet who was now a staff member at St. Patrick's, and also our exchange co-ordinator.

The value a bed can hold to a person is only realised if you haven't seen one in 2 days. We were shown to our rooms in the boarding house and served dinner at 6:00pm, which is the Aussie standard dinner time, followed by everyone hitting their beds to get a good night's sleep.

The next morning we got ready to leave for our first tour, the Zumsteins and the Grampians Cultural Centre. The former is a small hill with trails for those fond of trekking and wonderful sightseeing and the latter a cultural centre which made us familiar with Australia's history. I found the Australian indigenous mythology very similar to our own religious mytholo-

gies. We also got to paint our own boomerangs in aboriginal symbols and tried to throw them later; efforts were stopped when we almost sacrificed one of our own in the failed attempts. Once we got back to the boarding, after dinner (at 6pm) we were free to go around to the nearby supermarket and the lake that was mellifluously named Windereee, which would become a ritual in the coming days.

The 28th was the day for our tour around the school, attending some classes and giving a lecture on Indian history to a class of year eights. Going around the school we found an uncanny resemblance to our own, big airy classrooms with large windows on one side of the room and graffiti on many walls. These kids were so similar to us in Chandigarh. Moving on, we had our first lesson in Food Tech which is basicallyChef's Club but with a big room to itself and sinks and stoves and other equipment to put things into perspective. We made these amazing 'Yum-Yum' balls and Anzak biscuits which were successfully digested because of the Australian Football session following it.

Post lunch we had to deliver the lecture on Indian history which happened to be an amazing, interactive session with the year eights, who knew an impressive amount of stuff related to our breathtaking nation. One can say that we significantly helped the economy by convincing so many of them to come over for a holiday.

Next morning was to be a hectic one. We we larat resembles Chandigarh, Melbourne is Delhi. Known for being fast and housing almost every community known, it had a large population of Indians. The sight-seeing involved the gigantic State Library, the Melbourne Cricket stadium and the Federation Square full of graffiti. We had to walk for around





10kms but there was satisfaction in our exhaustion at the end of the day. And with that the day ended with us at the pool table of the boarding, a preferred hangout for everyone at the boarding house.

The 30th of October will probably be a day I'll never forget. It was the first time I would go to a beach and see the sea. The vastness of it all was beautiful and scary at the same time for it makes you realise how very small you are. Nevertheless it was a fun day. We went up a 128 year old light house, had fish by the sea and fed some sulphur crested cockatoos which is now my favourite species of birds. This was followed by a walk

to the pier with our Aussie pals who wanted to jump in the water for a swim, which was pretty insane for a non swimmer like myself. However, that was thankfully avoided. It is difficult to describe the beauty and the fragrance of the ocean. It isn't something one can put into words; it can only be experienced and relived through the memory of it all.

Like a person who prays more towards the end of their life, there was an increase in the pictures taken by us as the end of our dream trip neared its conclusion. The 31st of October led us to the Ballarat Wildlife Park, which housed a considerable number of species like kangaroos (who were happy to oblige us with selfies), Koalas (who sleep for 22 hours a day) and various reptiles. However this was also the day we were to go over to our buddy's place for dinner which gave us a deep insight into their way of living which was surprisingly quite similar to ours.

The last two days went by in a wink. The former included a visit to Sovereign Hill, based on the gold rush days of Ballarat. There we were introduced to one of the biggest gold nuggets in the world, which gave me enough reason to plot a hypothetical heist;Oh how beautiful it was! This was to be our last day at Ballarat; something which stayed at the back of our minds throughout the day. The next morning we bid adieu to our pals and their lovely teachers and the funny boarding house manager and left for Melbourne where the rest of the day would be spent at the mall before we boarded our flight.

The trip which wasn't meant to be because of all the obstacles, was finally over and the 8 kids and their 2 teachers were again on 36 hours of travel, only with more baggageand unforgettable memories....

Guralam Singh Dhillion 2019-20 batch

FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS



It was the 3rd of May, the Founders Day of the School, celebrated in the memory of Blessed Brother Edmund Rice, commemorating his rich legacy bestowed upon the Edmund Rice institutes

Every student of the school came dressed in casuals with a big smile on his face. Now that was a rare occasion, because that day, was the FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS. The day started with our buses coming in and the excitement was palpable as the junior boys clung to their bags and the seniors planned the day with each other. Yes! We were ready to go!

The day started with a prayer, calling upon the spirit of Blessed Brother Edmund Rice to bless each one of us with his vision and generosity of heart. We waited with bated breath as our Principal, Mrs Kavita Das declared the day open.

We started off with the games and they were good. Not the same old games. This time we had new ideas. From Battle Royale to What's in the Bag, we never ran out of games.

Then it was time for our guests, from Carmel Convent, Sacred Heart and a few Government Schools. The assembly area and the School Auditorium's entry suddenly burst into activity. On seeing our guests, the music became slightly louder and the boisterous boys became the epitome of gentlemen.

And then it was the turn of our School Band, The Soaring Eagles whose live performance throughout the celebrations, made the whole place come even more alive. The DJ in the Auditorium, was also one of the biggest hits! The fun we had inside was immeasurable. . We danced for about two hours sharing our joys and excitement. By the end of the day,

I had a sore throat from singing too much. But at the end of it all, I felt happy, so happy, about spending those five hours of my day in ecstasy, in euphoric surroundings.

> Arjun Singh 10A







GOING GLOBAL ST. JOHN

Un 22 September, St John's greeted their friends along with their accompanying teachers from CBC St. John's, South Africa and Edmund Rice College Bindoon, Australia on a beautiful, hazy evening. The lush green lawn of the Brothers' Residence was witness to the exuberance and the anticipation visible on the guests and the hosts faces.

Battling with jet lag, they woke up early in the morning, had a lovely breakfast at the Brothers' Residence, and were greeted with a heartwarming welcome assembly, which included a "tikka" ceremony and garlanding. They were presented with handmade gift bags and welcome cards. To make them feel at home, we had a delightful tree plantation ceremony followed by a tour of our junior school. After having their day brightened by the beaming faces of our young Johnians, they visited the transgender community to brighten other people's days, as well. We wound down the day at the Rock Garden, a wonderful setting for the exchange of memories, cultures, and stories.

After that day, time just flew by. Our friends joined us at Sukhna Lake and rallied on urgent issues like "Water Scarcity" and "Plastic Free Chandigarh, pitched in at the community service at the Mansa Devi Temple, wandered in and participated in the Just Fair, hung out at the fabulous Elante Mall, and celebrated the art of debate at the St. John's All India Debate.

Every place they visited and every person they met, from the Institute of the Visually Impaired to the Animals Lover's Association, was illuminated with their gift of giving. They enthusiastically participated in all activities without any qualms.

Our time together was short, yet everlasting, and to bid them goodbye we had a night of camaraderie were the school band The Soaring Eagles had them dancing to their music and the DJ introduced them to the bhangra beats.

We bid them a teary goodbye on the 28th of September, after 6 days of joy, giving, sharing and immersion.



Anhad Singh Asst Editor- The Eyrie







CHECKMATE



Recently, I participated in an interschool chess tournament which was held in our school for the first time. It was organized by SJOBA and more than 30 teams participated in it. Our school had 4 teams with four students in each.

This tournament gave me a taste of the fast paced chess battle. My team was not the strongest on paper but that was not going to stop us. With a thrill of excitement, and not to mention nervousness, we went into the school hall to meet our worthy opponents. Some sweet victories and bitter losses made us reach the top 10.





Although we did not win any prize, the tournament gave me valuable experience and helped me hone my skills further. The tournament was well organized and I look forward to participating in many others with the spirit of, playing to win!

THANK YOU

Kartik Suri 9-B

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT THE JOHNIAN WAY





The yuletide spirit was engulfing the world. The markets were lit bright, the malls were elaborately decked up and special events were being held to celebrate Christmas. The winter chill and the red Santa caps added flavour and fervour to the enthusiasm.

Like everyone, St. John's too was rejoicing. Brightly decorated Christmas trees and buntings hung in every classroom. However, the Edmund Rice Community believes that Christmas has more to it than just decorations and Christmas dinners. So before the school closed for the winter break, we volunteered to bring in lentils and rice to gift to the community kitchen which was run in the P.G.I., for the attendants of the patients, as well as to the Missionaries of Charity.

The project was called 'A Fistful of Rice'. Every student brought a small packet of lentils or rice. It was an enormous success. Over 900 kilos of grain were collected. The motivation was from the proverb'every single drop counts'. We should never forget the blessings received by giving. One should never wait for an opportunity to arise before being generous.

We followed the saying- 'the more you give, the more you have'. We realised that while we are warm and cosy in our homes, there are still millions out there who are not so privileged. God has given us plenty and expects us to be kind not only to our fellow human beings, but also all other living beings. We have resolved that in the New Year, we will endeavour to make everyone around us smile.

Joshaan Singh Sidhu- 6D



Christmas is an annual festival, commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, observed on December 25 as a religious and cultural celebration among billions of people around the world. It was on this day that baby Jesus was born in a stable far away in Bethlehem. He was nestled in a manger and his tiny head lay on straw. The shepherds, wise men and Kings from far and near travelled to Bethlehem where Jesus lay. They all looked at the infant's face and found him the Saviour of the human race. He tried to remove superstition, ignorance and misery from the world and revealed the true nature of God to the people.

We at St. John's celebrate this auspicious day with great fervour. The school reverberated with Christmas carols as the whole school assembled for the annual Christmas assembly. The Christmas story was enacted by the students. A beautiful manger, which was created by a parent out of recycled material, was center stage. Christmas carols were sung with enthusiasm and the rendition of Silent Night in French left the audience spell bound. Santa Claus dressed in all his finery distributed sweets.

On this auspicious day to keep the spirit of Christmas alive we planned to help the needy or visit old age homes or orphanages where people live without families as Jesus taught us that Christmas isn't just about celebrating and making merry, it's also about spending this time with family and helping out the needy.

Aryan Narang - 6D

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Joshaan Singh Sidhu- 6D





THE RANVIJAY

"Set an example. Treat everyone with kindness and respect, even those who are rude to you - not because they are nice, but because you are."

This mindset reflects what the St. John's community represents and the great legacy that Ranvijay Singh has left behind. Everything he said, did and wrote was done with virtue, integrityand honour. He was a good man and to ensure that his bequest lasted to inspire thousands more to have a mentality like him, the Ranvijay award was instituted.

Every year, through a long and a democratic process which includes multiple rounds of vetting, the nicest Johniansfrom the eighth and tenth grade are pronounced.

This year, two genuinely wonderful studentsKartik Suri from the eighth grade and Edgar Ankit Thorpe from the tenth grade have been selected as the recipients of this prestigious award.Our heartiest congratulations to both of them for achieving this milestone.

The Ranvijay award may sound clichéd to some but in fact, the award is more important than ever. In these times, we can clearly notice the global increase in hate crimes, violence and negativity. This viciousness is spreading like wildfire and is igniting pessimistic emotions in countless people. In this fog of negativity, the Ranvijay award and its recipients are bright beacons of hope. The award inspires everyone to be good and to be nice. It gives us inspiration when we need it the most. The Ranvijay award has been and is crucial in maintaining the family values of St. John's High School.

By Anhad Singh, 10A



