



THE MORAVIAN STAR

MORAVIAN INSTITUTE, DEHRADUN

DECEMBER 2015

Speech and Prize Day

On 26th September, Moravian Institute held its Annual Speech and Prize Day. Guests joined staff, pupils, parents and alumni to participate in the celebration of academic, artistic and athletic excellence. The pupils performed a variety of songs and dances. The Chairman of the Unity Board of the worldwide Moravian Church, Rev. Robert Hopcroft, and Rev. David Howarth, the new Chairman of the British Mission Board of the Moravian Church were present to congratulate the top pupils and to encourage everyone.



Pupils, parents, alumni, staff, and guests spent the rest of the day catching up on old friendships and building new ones. Many weeks of preparation and the collective effort of the staff and pupils made this event memorable.



The Institute's Board of Management presented Rev Hopcroft with a plaque in appreciation of his many years guiding the Institute with dedication and affection.

Choir's participation in the World Elderly Day "Spread the smile"

On 1st October, the members of the senior choir participated in the celebrations of the World Elderly day hosted at YWCA, Cantonment Road, Dehradun. The students interacted with the elderly of the YWCA day care centre and presented Hindi and English Gospel songs. The elderly thoroughly enjoyed the choir's performance and blessed them for "spreading the smile". The choir was prepared by Mr. Tamjuanlung Gengmei and accompanied by Ms. Tripti Mahajan.



Annual Inter House Athletics

The institute resounded with cheers 13th - 16th October as the pupils competed in the Annual Inter House Athletics. The pupils spent a few weeks preparing themselves physically and mentally. The children demonstrated their athletic skills in every event. These were javelin and discus throws, putting the shot, long jump, triple jump, a variety of races, including relays. Their athletic abilities and team spirit were tested at every event.



This year's champions were Phunthsog House with 1137.5 points. They were followed by the Gergan House with 1001 points and Tharchin House with 789 points.



Padma Namgyal
(left) threw the Discus
27.50m, to set a new
Intermediate Boys
record, previously
held by Kakhangthai
Kamei at 26.10m set
in 1997.

Annual District Athletics Meet



On October 30th and 31st, the institute participated in the District Athletics Meet. The competition opened with a march-past. The first day's events consisted of track and field events such as races, shot-put, and javelin throw. On the second day, the finals were held. Many Moravian athletes were selected for the finals of their events.



The competition was very severe as 23 institutions fielded about 1,000 athletes, but our pupils did well. Out of the 23 teams, ours was awarded the special trophy for Fair Play. Our 33 athletes won a total of 12 bronze, silver and gold medals. We expect our athletes to do even better in the future.



Rajpur Nature Festival

From 29th to 31st October, the Rajpur community came together to raise awareness about caring for Rajpur's natural and cultural resources. Our pupils were invited to participate in the art competition where they won many prizes.

In addition, our choir (along with other local artists) was invited to sing. They serenaded the crowds very melodiously.



DDCSA Inter-School Senior Singing and Dance Competition

On 1st November, Moravian Institute's Senior Choir participated in the DDCSA inter-school singing and dance competition hosted by Carman School (Prem Nagar) and competed in the Patriotic Song category. The competition was tough as many schools participated, but our choir triumphed in the end.

The choir director, Mr. Lazar Gengmei, led the choir in a famous patriotic song called "Vande Mataram" composed by A. R. Rahman. They sang beautifully with their melody and harmonies. Mr. Kananding Gengmei, Mr. Anuj Subba, and Mr. Jakaiya Kamei accompanied the choir. The audience commended the choir for their wonderful singing.



We would like to once again congratulate the choir for bringing home the winner's trophy and making us proud!

Moravian Youth Ministry Concert

Students and guests gathered for an evening of singing and dance at the Moravian Church on 24th November. The youth ministry along with the school choir presented English and Hindi songs. It was a great time of fellowship and entertainment.



Dia Mirza at Moravian Institute

On 7th December Dia Mirza came to visit the institute. Dia Mirza is a famous Mumbai actress, producer, wildlife activist and winner of the Femina Miss Asia Pacific 2000 title. She is hosting a Zee TV food, lifestyle, culture and travel program, starting with the upper reaches of the Ganga River and nearby areas.

One special part of the program was a view of the cooking of Tibetan food in our hostel kitchen: the famous "Tingmo" and "Thukpa".



Dia Mirza also interviewed several alumni to gain an insight into how the institute has played a very significant role in their lives, beyond that of most other educational institutions.



The children showcased their talents in athletics, art and music, which pleased Dia Mirza so much that she interacted with the children enthusiastically. She even sang "Joy to the World" with the Choir.



In addition, Dia Mirza interacted with Mrs Zhidey Kundan, the first teacher (and Founder's daughter), about the history of the institute and what made it special as a real home, like a family, for children and adults.



Dia Mirza was delighted and expressed great joy in spending the day at the institute. It was a great day for all of us – staff and students alike.



Farewell to Moravian Institute Staff

We are sad to say goodbye to some staff and friends. We wish them God's blessings in the new phase in their lives after they leave us:

1. Mr John Subba, after 18 years;
2. Mr Chaman Lal, after 16 years;
3. Mrs Anita Shastri, after 7 years;
4. Miss Melody Guainmai, after 2 years.



LOVE by Amisha Rana, Class 6

The most important thing we need in our life is love.

If you don't have love in your heart, you have nothing.

God also said to love each other deeply with all our heart.

Love is what everybody needs.

A broken and lonely person is thirsty for love.

Love each other as long as you live.

With your love, you can shine in this world.

With your love, you can change and win many hearts.

Just forget about the word H-A-T-E today

And start loving each other today

Make yours and other's everyday beautiful.



Child Labour by Simran Sardana, Class 10

"Chhotu ek chai lekar aana" You commonly hear this at roadside tea stalls. Who is "Chhotu"? A boy who is nearly ten years of age. Why is he made to work at such an age when he should be at school?

India is a growing country. India is progressive in each and every field on modern lines. India is progressing by leaps and bounds. But in the race of development, we are overlooking very important things. One such thing is child labour. What is "child labour"? The answer to this

question is quite simple. In the constitution of India, any person or citizen under the age of fifteen is not allowed to work in an economic institution. If any profitable work is thrust upon a child, it is known as child labour. The basic causes of child labour are poverty, illiteracy, exploitation of poor by the rich and many more, but the result is one, the destruction of one child's life, one whole life. Most people in villages who do not have jobs or do not want to work send their children to work. Children are also made to work in clothing mill factories making bangles and even crackers.

In my view, not only the miscreants of the society but also the government is responsible for such inhumane activities. Just making law for something is not enough, implementing it is what counts. The village people should also be made aware of such views. Those involved in exploiting these children should be punished harshly. Child labour should be dealt with an iron hand engulfed in a velvet glove. So next time you go to any roadside "Dhaba" and hear "chhotu" being called just leave, telling the manager that you don't want to be part of this kind of exploitation. You punish the exploiter before the law does it!



True Comfort (Psalm 23)

by Shilpa Kumari, Class 10.

I may have to walk in the darkest valleys,
with the shadow of death all around me.

But I will be free from fear
for my Shepherd is with me,
protecting me and comforting me.

His goodness and love are with me all the way.
His home is my home forever and ever.



We also say 'Thank you' and 'Goodbye' to Ms. Marielle Flores who freely tutored the children, held dental hygiene clinics and helped to edit this newsletter.