

## Principal's Report

### 124<sup>th</sup> Annual Prize Giving – November 11, 2006

Our honourable Chief Guest, Mr. Deepak Obhrai, Maharaja Narendra Singhji and Members of the Board of Governors, Hon'ble Member of Parliament Shri Laxman Singhji, guests, parents, Old Dalians, colleagues and students, welcome to the 124<sup>th</sup> Annual Prize Giving of the Daly College.

Mr. Deepak Obhrai is an Old Dalian who has become a truly global citizen. Born in Tanzania he completed his schooling at Daly and then did his graduation in the UK. Thirty years ago he made Canada his home where he became a successful business entrepreneur. He has been elected to the Canadian Parliament from Calgary East in 1997, in 2000, in 2004 and for a fourth time in 2006. Amazingly Mr. Obhrai's vote share has increased with each successive election.

At an international level Mr. Obhrai is the Vice Chairman of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs & International Trade and President of the Canada-India Parliamentary friendship group. He is also a member of Parliamentary friendship groups for Canada with Pakistan, USA, Africa, the Commonwealth, Sri Lanka and friends of Tibet. He speaks English, Hindi, Punjabi, Gujarati and Swahili. Mr. Obhrai is today Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs with special emphasis on Asia-Pacific and Africa.

Sir, we are proud of your very substantial achievements and that your spirit of public service and expertise on multiculturalism is so well appreciated in Canada. We are also grateful to you for having honoured us with your presence today.

Sir, you will be happy to learn that in the audience today are two young ambassadors from your country, exchange students JJ Maxwell from Lakefield and Yashoda Singh from Appleby. I also take this opportunity to welcome Minoor Ramanathan, a gap exchange teacher from the Indian School, Oman.

And now for my annual College report which seems to get longer each year, not because I wish to talk more but because our students have achieved more and it would be unkind not to recognise them on this occasion.

Let's start with **Academics**. In Class XII more than 90% students passed with a first division and the rest with a second division. No child got a third division and no child failed. Prince Dhawan topped the school and Indore in the Science stream with 95.4%. He is now at IIT Delhi pursuing a Dual Degree course in Chemical Engineering and an M.Tech in Computer Application.

Nikhil Dugar topped the school and stood 2<sup>nd</sup> in Indore in the Commerce stream with 93%.

Avani Bansal topped the school and Indore in Humanities with 88.6%.

CBSE merit certificates for coming in the top 0.1% of a subject on an all India basis have been awarded to Prince Dhawan in Physics, Prince Dhawan in Chemistry and Shruti Gupta in Chemistry.

18% of the Science students are now abroad at the Georgia Institute of Technology, Michigan State, Buffalo, Heidelberg & Wellington. 80% are pursuing technical courses in India and 2% are preparing for competitive examinations. Of the Commerce students 12 have qualified for the Daly College Business School.

Subject wise the top marks were as follows:

Mathematics:	99%	Prince Dhawan
Computer Science:	99%	Prince Dhawan
Business Studies:	98%	Riya Chhabra
Physics:	98%	Prince Dhawan
Chemistry:	98%	Prince Dhawan & Shruti Gupta
Economics:	95%	Aniket Kasliwal
Psychology:	93%	Avani Bansal
Accountancy:	93%	Vishwas Jain
Geography:	91%	Rushil Shukla & Neha Mehta
English:	91%	Aditi Badani
Physical Education:	90%	Swati Bajaj
Informatics Practices:	87%	Prabharjan Anand
Political Science:	86%	Avani Bansal
Biology	85%	Aditi Badani
Entrepreneurship	80%	Prabhanshu Shukla & Tanvi Trivedi
Biotechnology:	75%	Poorva Jain

Looking at the last 7 years performance we have the highest class averages in 10 subjects, the second highest in 4 subjects and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> highest in one subject each. The Class of 2006 have the best results in the last 7 years and possibly the best results in the history of the Daly College. Well done boys, girls & teachers.

In the **Class X Board exams** 85.5% of the students secured a first division, 13.53% a second division and 0.71% a third. There were no failures. The class average was 73% with 23 students securing over 85%.

CBSE Merit scholarships were awarded to Raashi Singhal in English and to Abhishek Kabra in Mathematics.

The subject wise toppers were:

Mathematics:	Abhishek Kabra	100%
Social Science:	Ankit Agrawal	98%

Science:	Samarth Sachdeva Arpita Gupta Ujwal Soni & Anand Rathi	97%
English:	Raashi Singhal	96%
Hindi:	Surbhi Singhal	92%
French:	Kruti Jain	85%

Rashi Singhal topped the class with 92.6% followed by Abhishek Kabra with 92.4% and Paridhi Singhal with 91.8%.

Well done students and teachers.

I would here like to mention that these excellent results have been possible with the leadership provided by the Academic Council which has effected some well thought out changes in a phased manner over the last couple of years. My grateful thanks to the Vice Principal Mr. Rajan Potty, the Director of Academics Mr. Jacob John and all other members of the Committee.

I would like to acknowledge Mr. Chansoria, Headmaster Junior School and his staff for implementing the new systems devised for academics and continuous assessment which have started showing positive results from this term.

**UCMAS** mental arithmetic has now become an integral part of our Junior School system. Srishti Gupta of Class I has been selected to represent India in Malaysia. At the nationals in Chennai she topped by solving 100 sums in 7 minutes. At these nationals Viraj Govindani of Class IV represented MP.

Akshat Mahajan of Junior School, who has composed over 100 poems entered an online contest run by American Website Poetry.com. Out of 30,000 contestants he reached the semi-finals and his poem has been published in the USA.

Palash Goyal of Class V stood first in Indore city and 4<sup>th</sup> in MP in the **National Cyber Olympiad**.

On the **Cultural** front we have again done well under the leadership of the Director for Cultural Affairs, Mr. Ahmed Ansari, and with the dedicated efforts of his team.

Tanushree Patwa, Ridhisha Kalani & Shreya Surana prepared a collage which was judged the best entry from 55 schools from five continents. As a result the College won the Roy Macomish Art Trophy at the 2006 Round Square Conference in Scotland.

In **English debating**, Nainy Seth stood overall second in the IPSC Debate at MGD, Jaipur and the College was placed third. The College stood overall second in the LKS Gotan combined English and Hindi debates with Himani Lohiya coming third in the English debate and Bhavna Verma third in the Hindi debate. Deep Priya Kejriwal was declared the Best Speaker at the Hindi debate at Welham Girls School in Dehra Dun and she was again declared the Best Speaker in the

Madhav Rao Scindia Memorial Hindi Debate at Gwalior. Shivi Kochar and Kadambari Rathore secured second position for the College in the IPSC Extempore Hindi Debate at the Doon School in Dehra Dun.

In **Quizzing** Sauhard Bindal and Harshveer Jain participated in the Bournvita Quiz which will be telecast tomorrow at 10.30 am on Sony TV. In the NDTV Quizzes telecast live on October 2, Aditya Baser and Abhinav Biyani took the College to second place in the English Quiz and Manpreet Singh and Geet Chaddha took the College to third place in the Hindi Quiz. Daly will be competing with 15 other schools in an English debate which will be telecast live on NDTV 24x7 in the third week of this month in India, the Middle East, England, USA, Canada & South Africa.

The **College Band's** display was well appreciated at a function organised by the Commercial Tax Department.

In a function organised by SOS Children's Society the College came second in the folk dance competition and our performance was much appreciated by His Excellency the Governor of Madhya Pradesh.

Our students have returned last evening from the **IPSC Cultural Festival** at Gotan in Rajasthan. The Daly College was placed first for the second year running in this prestigious and very competitive all India competition. Out of 53 Dalians who represented us 40 have returned with prizes.

The detailed results are as follows:

In music Vineeth Rajan created history by coming first for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year running in instrumental solo classical, Shambhobhi Ghosh stood first in **classical vocal solo**, the **Indian orchestra** was adjudged first and comprised Vineeth, Sanchit Baveja, Sarthak Gandhi, Mahak Agarwal, Raashi Singhal, Pulak Muchhal, Harshdeep Vasu, Archit Arora, Sahaj Arora & Rahul Bhayani. In the **Group Song** DC came second and the choir consisted of Raashi Singhal, Neha Vaidya, Anupama Trivedi, Shivi Kochhar, Agrima Gaur, Mahak Agarwal, Rahul Bhayani & Vineeth Rajan.

Worth mentioning is that the solo classical instrumental and the Orchestra received standing ovations with even the judges standing up and applauding.

In **Dance** Sonia Daga stood second in classical solo and DC stood second in Choreography represented by Aditi Agarwal. Agrima Gaur, Asmita Sharma, Bhavini Soni, Kadambari Rathore, Pulak Muchhal, Rouble Verma & Sonia Daga.

In **Dramatics** DC stood first in the Hindi Skit. Performers were Karamveer Birthare, Lovaditya Singh, Yashraj Huria, Nitesh Bhagchandani, Bhavna Verma, Umashree Pancholy, Shravan Shukla & Palak Sood.

In **Fancy Dress Elocution** Dhananjay Mankotia stood third.

In **English Creative Writing** Dhananjay Mankotia was placed first and Adeeba Ansari second.

In **Hindi Creative Writing** Adeeba Ansari was placed third as was Kadambari Rathore in the **Hindi Debate**.

In **Web Page designing** Fida Ali Fidvi and Amit Juneja stood first. In Software Development Aviral Shah and Ankit Singh stood second. In **Multi Media Presentation** Raghvendra Agrawal and Nitin Shukla came third.

In **Fine Arts** Aditya Vardhan Singh was placed second in Still Life Composition and first in Imaginative Composition. Esha Singh's collage was placed third and Apoorva Jain's cartoon was also adjudged third.

**Aeromodelling** has been re-introduced with the efforts of Old Dalian, Dilip Kasliwal and we should have a display next year.

In **sports** the College continues to do well under the various Managers, Coaches and the Director for Sports, Mr. Dharam Verma.

Mudit Agrawal of Class II was placed first winning all five matches in the Under-7 years MP State Chess Tournament in Jabalpur. He will now be representing MP at Goa. Pursharth Singh & Mayank Gangwal of Junior School represented Indore in the U-11 age group.

After winning the IPSC Hockey last year for the first time in 60 years, it has now been the turn of the **Football** team to create history by winning the IPSC title for the first time in 60 years. Our Captain Tejas Gupta was declared 'Player of the Tournament' and Pradyuman Singh was awarded as the Best defender of the tournament. The Daly College team qualified to play in the international tournament, the Subroto Cup.

Daly College footballers to represent Madhya Pradesh are Shubham Suri, Aishwarya Singh Dhurve & Samarth Singh. They will be playing in Andaman & Nicobar. Players who have represented Indore District are Rituraj Singh, Soham Jethmalani & Ankur Bajaj.

The College won the Kasliwal Tournament. Rituraj was declared Best Defender and Gurshaan was adjudged the Best Player of the tournament.

Our girls put up a spectacular show to defeat Mayo Girls in Football by a solitary goal scored by Palak Agrawal.

In **Karate** Ishita Agrawal of Class V stood 1<sup>st</sup> in Karate in the U-30 kg. category in the meet organised by the MP Academy.

In **Cricket** the Daly College defeated the Indian High School Dubai by 54 runs. DC also defeated by 41 runs the Aitchison College Lahore. Our Captain Shiladitya Singh led from the front in all departments of the game and scored an unbeaten 132. Sheeladitya has been selected for the Nationals in the U-19 age group and Anand Dixit for the Nationals at Sirsa (Haryana) in the U-16 age group.

In **Hockey** Daly defeated Aitchison College 3-2 in a thrilling match. Our goals were scored by Avinash, Shubham and Shivank. In another excellent match we lost after many years to the Old Dalians.

Our girls defeated Rajkumar College Raipur and drew their match with Mayo Girls. Our Senior Boys hockey team was placed third in the CBSE tournament held at Raisingarh in Rajasthan. Our Under-15 boys were placed second in the IPSC tournament at Gwalior and reached the semi-finals.

Two girls, Devika Mankotia and Bhavna Verma have been selected to represent Public Schools in the nationals.

Our Junior School team played a tournament in Himachal Pradesh. They beat Scindia Gwalior 3-0

In **Athletics**, Daly was placed third among 59 schools at the CBSE Cluster Meet held in Bishrampur, Chattisgarh. Our students bagged 5 golds, 19 silvers & 13 bronze medals. Five Dalians - Yash Mittal, Shivank Dev, Anandvardhan Dikshit, Hardik Surana & Pradeep Bundela have been selected for the Nationals to be held in Jamshedpur.

In **Skating** Parva Kapoor won 2 bronze medals at the CBSE West Zone meet in Gwalior and will participate in the Nationals at Chandigarh. Divyanshu Gupta came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Open Roller Skating Competition and first in Rink Skating and 1<sup>st</sup> in road skating.

In the State Championships Parv won a gold and a silver, Divyanshu Gupta also won a gold and a silver. Both will represent MP in the Inter State at Ahmedabad.

In **Swimming**, four boys and one girl have been selected to represent MP at Ahmedabad. They are Mukul Singh, Abhishek Singh, Yashowardhan Singh Chordia, Suraj Pamecha and Swati Saiwal.

At the State Championship Daly won 9 golds, 8 silvers and 3 bronze medals. In the under-14 State meet in Bhopal Suraj Pamecha won a gold and 2 silver medals.

In the IPSC Swimming meet at RIMC Dehra Dun, the College bagged a gold, 4 silvers and 2 bronze medals.

In **Basketball** at the CBSE Cluster in Dhamnod our boys were placed third and our girls second. Divya Singh & Pooja Ladha of Class V have been selected to represent Indore at Jabalpur.

In **Volleyball** Archit Dubey & Atik Bansal have been selected to represent MP at the Nationals.

In **Tennis** Suraj Hariyani of Class V will represent Indore at Sagar. Jai Bapna is presently ranked 2 in MP in the U-14 category.

In **Table Tennis** at the State Bank of Indore Tournament the College won the team event and Achyut Bajaj secured an individual first position. Achyut has also won two other district championships. Samyak Jain & Prakhar Jain will represent Indore in the State Championships.

In **Shooting** we commissioned our new indoor shooting range a fortnight before the IPSC championships in RIMC Dehra Dun. The College was placed overall third and we secured 3 golds, 11 silvers and a bronze. Golds were won by Nagendra Singh, Arimardhan Singh & Shiladitya Singh.

In the MP interschool championships we bagged 6 silvers and 2 bronze medals.

In the All India Inter School Championships held at Ahmedabad our Sub Junior team consisting of Divya Raj Singh, Devanshu Brahma and Suraj Mordani were placed first and awarded gold medals. Two Dalians, Nagendra Singh and Arimardhan Singh have been selected for the Nationals. Some of our boys and girls missed qualifying by a whisker.

In **Squash** our girls have done us proud. Swati Muchhal, Dheeya Somaiya & Nikita Mann blanked out Mayo Girls 3-0 in the Triangular Meet. Our students have participated in 3 major tournaments this year. In the Jaipur Open Dheeya Somaiya, Swati Muchhal and Tanvi Jain reached the semi-finals while Dhananjay Singh reached the quarterfinals.

In the Little Masters at Mumbai, Dheeya reached the finals, Swati & Yaduveer Singh reached the semi-finals whereas Tanvi, Nikita Mann, Bharat Verma, Aradhya Kasliwal & Dhananjay Singh reached the quarterfinals.

In the Nationals at Calcutta, Dheeya reached the finals, Swati reached the semi-finals whereas Tanvi, Nikita, Dhananjay & Yaduveer reached the quarterfinals.

At a national level, Dheeya is now ranked 2 in the under-15 category, Swati is ranked 4 in the U-17 category. In the U-15 category Tanvi is ranked 5 & Nikita is ranked 6. Dhananjay is ranked 6 in the U-13 & Yaduveer is ranked 7 in the U-11. This is first time ever that 6 Dalians are ranked nationally and quite appropriately Mr. Gajendra Singh has been declared Best Coach by the Squash Rackets Federation of India. Well done.

Focus on another dimension was provided in 2005 when Daly College became a full member of the **Round Square** group of schools. The Round Square has high expectations from its members in 6 areas, Internationalism, Democracy, Environmental awareness, Adventure, Leadership and Service. At Daly the students have achieved much under the leadership of our Director for RS & Internationalism, Ms. Sarita Badhwar and with the assistance of Mr. Rajesh Santhanam who looks after Service and Mr. Hasan who looks after Adventure.

At an international level our sporting exchanges have been maintained with Australia and expanded to Pakistan and the UAE. A cultural group of 23 students and five teachers toured 5 Round Square schools in Canada. They toured from Montreal to Toronto and in process saw more of Canada than most Canadians. Our host schools were Lower Canada College, Ashbury College, Lakefield College, Appleby College and Bayview Glen School. Our boys and girls held

dance and music concerts and also some workshops. They were covered live on local television in Toronto.

We have now received an invitation from the Australian Round Square schools for a similar concert tour. Whether or not we can manage this will be decided by the availability of funds.

However, Brauer College from Australia will be visiting us a few weeks from now with their cricket team and will also interact on public speaking, debating and discussions on world issues. Also a cultural group from Appleby College, Canada will be visiting in March.

Six students, Ms. Badhwar & I have recently returned from the International Round Square Conference held at Gordonstoun School in Scotland. Dhananjay Mankotia, Ahzam Husain, Varun Inamdar, Nandini Parmar, Pulak Muchhal & Shambhobi Ghosh proved to be excellent ambassadors for Daly and for India. Apart from listening to some excellent speakers and participating in discussion groups they got to meet and hear Prince Andrew the Duke of York, the Princess Royal, Princess Anne and King Constantine of Greece.

5 of these students will still be with us next year when it is the turn of S. Asia and the Gulf Region to host the Conference at the Daly College. It will fall largely on them and another seventy or so Dalians to organise this Conference for 400 students and 200 adults from schools in Canada, USA, Peru, Japan, Thailand, Singapore, Australia, New Zealand, Germany, France, Switzerland, UK, South Africa, Botswana, Kenya, Oman, Dubai & India.

Students who have come to us on exchange in the last 12 months are Andrea Noreiga and Maria Fernanda Gaga from Peru & JJ Maxwell and Yashoda Singh from Canada. Students who have gone on exchange are Azham Husain to St. Philips in Australia, Garima Agrawal to Ivanhove in Australia, Nainy Seth & Sunaina Shahra to Markham in Peru, Himani Lohia to Appleby in Canada, Nishant Makhijani to Lakefield in Canada. In the next scheduled exchange Prachi Mandloi will go to Billanook in Australia and Jess Martin will come to us from that school.

Democracy and Leadership are more difficult to quantify. However, I do feel the students today do have more opportunities in both spheres as they have a greater say in College affairs. Similarly teachers in charge of various areas have been given more autonomy in their respective spheres.

We, as a community remain environmentally aware and are involved in tree planting, water recycling, paper recycling, vermiculture, water harvesting and energy conservation.

**Adventure** has now to be balanced with risk management. 40 students attended an adventure and nature study camp at Chandrakhani Pass in Himachal, where they did rock climbing, rappelling and trekking.

42 students went to Solang Valley & Rohtang Pass. Apart from the above activities they also got to do a traverse and paragliding.



21 students trekked in the hills near Almora where they were hosted by 3/9 Gorkha Rifles, courtesy Col. Giriraj Singh.

A group of 11 students went for adventure to the Brauer College adventure campus in Australia. Sport climbing and local treks are again becoming popular and there is now an obstacle course in the College.

In **Community Service** the College Social Service League has been extremely active. The College has adopted one child at the SOS orphan's village in Bhopal. A group of Bharati House girls led by Shivali Jain, Shambhobi Ghosh and Garima Agrawal conceived the idea of making greeting cards and costume jewellery for a fund raising sale. They have held two sales on Sundays and have raised Rs. 12,000 for adopting more orphans. I applaud these Dalians on the initiative they have taken.

The Daly College teaching & admin staff, on hearing that the orphans of Jyoti Niwas in Indore have no funds for milk powder have sponsored from their salaries 200 kg of milk powder. Most laudable has been the adoption by DC, in partnership with Appleby College Canada, of a health project and sub centre at the tribal village of Jhirijamli in Barwani District. Staff and students have been interacting with the villagers, the District Collector and the Minister for Tribal Affairs and a fairly ambitious project is now on the anvil. Funds and manpower will be provided by students of the two schools. Towards this purpose the SSL organised a very successful fund raising fete last month. Meanwhile Karan Grover and Yukti Gursahaney attended a Round Square International Service Project in Maharashtra and Siddharth Singhal attended an RSIS project in Ladakh. Manu Mishra and Cadambari Khandelwal attended an RSIS project in Scotland.

Before concluding my report on Round Square I should also mention that your Principal has been elected to the International Board of Round Square to represent S.Asia and the Gulf.

Development work in the last year has been more in the nature of consolidation and renovation. There has been an emphasis on technological advancement and also the 50M swimming pool has been commissioned. When we meet again next year the Craft Design Technology Centre, the new Science Lecture Rooms with smart boards and a new Girls Boarding House will have become operational.

Most important the Daly College will finally have a 1200 seater air-conditioned auditorium. Donations are being solicited to help finance this project and I have written to all parents and Old Dalians in this regard.

**Career Counselling** and student and staff workshops continue at a satisfactory level. Notable are the following:

9 students and Mr. Rajesh Santhanam attended the 3-day International Delhi Sustainable Development Summit. Daly was the only school in India to be invited to attend this interactive summit where they met global policy makers, including Nobel laureates. The students were Shambhavi Shekhar, Apoorva Tandon, Khushboo Singh, Garima Agrawal, Sonia Seth, Shruti Suresh, Geet Chadha, Sauhard Bindal & Deepali Bhargava.

Dr. Manish Patel organised a medical seminar for the students. The resource persons included 3 doctors from abroad.

Dr. Neera Tahilramaney, Mrs. Kirti Jain, Mr. Vijay Thatte, Mr. Manish Kakkar, Dr. Ragini Norman, Mr. Dharam Verma, Mr. AK Singh, Mr. Harish Benbi, Mr. Siddharth Tewari, Mr. Pushpendra Jain and Mr. Y. Fasate attended subject based workshops.

Mrs. Jayashree Patel attended a World Wildlife Fund Water Conservation project in Delhi & Bharatpur. She will now be helping to develop a Water School Curriculum.

Mrs. Jaya Chakravarty attended the Hornby ELT Seminar in Bhopal organised by the British Council.

Ms. Sarita Badhwar attended a 10-day workshop in Rishikesh & Gurgaon on 'Exercising Leadsip in Schools'. In her capacity as member of the NCERT Text Book Development Committee for Class XII Chemistry she attended NCERT Workshops in Delhi.

17 teachers from Junior School attended a JIL Workshop and now audio visual facilities have been expanded.

Dr. DC Sharma has been awarded as Best in GST when he did his Junior Division NCC Refresher Course. 18 of our cadets are presently at NCC camp.

Long serving staff who have retired this year are Ms. Tej Kunwar Chauhan & Mr. Himmat Singh Shrimal, both from the Art Department. Our good wishes are with them.

In conclusion I would like to record my grateful thanks to the Board of Governors, to my colleagues on the teaching, administrative and support staff, to the Prefects & Captains, the Collector and all other district level officials, the SP, the Narmada Control Authority, the MPEB, members of the media, the ODA and all other well wishers of the College. We will next meet on December 7, 8 & 9, 2007 when we celebrate the 125<sup>th</sup> year of the Daly College.

Thank you.