

**Principal's Report**  
**130<sup>th</sup> Annual Prize Giving – December 15, 2012**

Raja Digvijaya Singhji, Vice President of the Board Thakur Narendra Singh Bidwal, former Presidents, Vice Presidents and Members of the Board, Members of the ODA Executive, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls.

Welcome to the 130<sup>th</sup> Prize Giving. And a special welcome to the Golden Jubilee Class of 62 and the Silver Jubilee Class of 87.

After commanding the elite cavalry regiment, the Guides, now with Pakistan, and another elite cavalry regiment, Hodson's Horse, General Sir Henry Daly assumed command of a third elite regiment, Central India Horse at Guna. Along with this command came the responsibility of politically managing a few principalities that included Raghogarh.

Today the Head of the Raghogarh family, Raja Digvijaya Singhji, is an old student and a Patron of the College and a pillar of strength to us for at least the past two decades. I am also on a personal basis grateful to Raja Digvijaya Singhji for suggesting my name as Principal of DC.

He was a prefect with an excellent academic and sporting record, was known for his sense of responsibility and leadership qualities. He went on to qualify as an engineer, entered politics, became a Minister at a very young age and then served as Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh for 10 years. He is presently General Secretary of the Indian National Congress and plays a central role of strategist and trouble shooter, over exposed in the media but with great substance.

Today Digvijaya Singhji has risen from politician to statesman. He is listened to carefully by all, by civil servants and politicians, from his party and by those in the opposition, and all have the greatest respect for him and what he stands for. Consequently he is an example to emulate and I hope his presence today will inspire more students of privileged backgrounds to join politics and public service.

Thank you, Sir, for being with us today.

I would like to open my report on a positive note and to congratulate the average Dalian, who may not appear on this screen in the next 20 minutes, but who has made us proud. Your increasing self confidence, your ability to take responsibility for personal actions, and your multiple focus on today's challenges and tomorrow's career goals, creates a sense of optimism that, regardless of the governments of India and of Madhya Pradesh ensuring that this is the darkest hour of Indian education, we may, thanks to you, continue to wear rose tinted spectacles.

They say an army marches on its stomach. At Daly we may not march much but our stomachs are of prime concern. From the internationally renowned samosa to the Friday butter chicken, the Mess Committee does its best to battle for the most acceptable menu within budgetary and dietary controls as advised by our sports nutritionists.

This year, however, the College decided to blow the budget and to provide (a) the best available quality of fruits, vegetables and dry rations, now sourced directly from Bharti Walmart's Best Price. (b) chapati machines ensure chapattis are not made too much in advance and (c) rotary

toasters. Add to this the dishwashing machine and the hygienic steel and stone kitchen and hall insisted upon by our honorary consultant, Deepak Nirula, and we have the recipe for a happier and healthier student community. The survey carried out by Old Dalian Shweta Parekh brought in very encouraging responses.

I would like at this stage to acknowledge the infrastructural and other additions in the last twelve months.

1. The Karan Mittal sponsored library is going to provide an intellectual stimulus so necessary for any educational institution. Thus a long required facility is finally made available to our students and that too at an appropriately high level of excellence.
2. The Sharad Sanghi sponsored Hobby Centre for Junior School is also nearing completion. It will have its own small amphitheatre under the trees and will provide stimulus in the cultural sphere.
3. The Abhishek Jhaveri sponsored Green Centre, Bargat, conceived and planned by our student RS Committee as a demo centre for students from far and wide showcasing all methods of energy conservation in production and usage.
4. Additional staff residences which will allow us to demolish some of the old.
5. The Sukhwant Singh Babbar lawns with stream and water fall brightening the lives of our little ones.
6. The new support staff quarters which will enable us to clear their previous location for a forested park.
7. The Hanumant Singh Pavilion donated by Anoop Bishnoi, Chair of Friends of Round Square India. The entire oval itself has been relaid with a sprinkler system and semi carpet grass.
8. The Vibha Bishnoi air-conditioned 25 lane shooting range that has propelled our boys and girls to the forefront at the national level.
9. The cactus garden with consultancy from Moni Kasliwal.
10. An Adventure Park which I hope will make a significant difference in character building. Where students will, live on weekends cooking their own food and learning how to stretch themselves physically and mentally by taking calculated risks and inculcating in themselves that spirit of adventure without which we cannot aim at being the best. As Kurt Hahn said, 'there is more in you than you know' and we at Daly want you to discover this.
11. The Sardar Bolia Trust funds have enabled a third overseas coach to visit us recently – Katrina Hibbert from Australia. The former most valuable player in the US WNBA proved to be a priceless asset in our sports programme.

Her visit inspired the College and the Old Dalians to import a synthetic Basketball court from the US.

12. And Old Dalian Vikram Rajadhyaksha has yesterday announced a donation of Rs. one crore for a trust fund that will enable us to increase significantly the quality of sports at the Daly College. This endowment signifies a paradigm shift in our aspirations for excellence.
13. New offices for the HMs in Holkar House so as to free the Common Rooms entirely for the students.
14. Refurbishing of the physiotherapy room in the hospital and Ashwini Varma's contribution of piped oxygen for emergencies.
15. The parents of the late Anirudh Singh Hada, Old Dalian, have donated 4 annual scholarships worth Rs.40,000 each to outstanding boys and girls in hockey and football.
16. A scattering of benches and water bodies for us to better enjoy the campus.
17. A standalone building with table tennis and fitness gym is now being donated by Amitabh & Neeraj Mandloi in response to a long standing demand of the students.
18. A Vijayanta battle tank has been presented by last year's Chief Guest, Gen. VK Singh.
19. In the tradition of batches celebrating their reunion, the Class of 1987 has informed me today that it will donate a Math Lab to Junior School. Thank you guys.
20. I now seek on behalf of our students a generous donation of Rs.50 lacs for indoor badminton.

In academics, the most significant development has been the graduation of our first batch of IGCSE and the commencement of A levels. We have preferred the non-profit Cambridge University over the IB. There are two reasons for this. Firstly, it is the most widely followed and accepted exam in the world. Secondly and more importantly we can offer it at the same school fees as we do the CBSE. A differentiation in fees would have led to an unacceptable financial caste system.

So far the results look promising.

Ahmed Ansari attended the IPSC Trust Workshop for Deputy Heads held at Welham Girls.  
Sarita Badhwar an AFS Workshop in Manila.  
4 teachers an IAYP National Training Workshop

Darlene Fisher conducted workshops for our CIE teachers.  
CIE Workshops in different subjects and in different cities were attended by 5 teachers.  
Online stage 1 & 2 training in CIE has been completed by 11 teachers.  
Dharam Verma received the Shiksha Ratna award from IIFS New Delhi at the hands of Dr. Bishma Narain Singh and an award on behalf of the College from Education World.  
Daly hosted a workshop on Accountancy for 125 teachers.

We also hosted workshops for CBSE Principals and teachers conducted by the Chairman CBSE & his staff.

Another significant development is the role played by our teachers in FOCUS, the cell monitoring children with special needs.

On the negative side I am concerned that with Parliament disallowing interviews and merit based entrance, there are a growing number of students joining us in middle school with very little English and very poor grounding in academics.

In **Class XII** there has been 10% rise in first divisions with 5 students receiving CBSE Merit Scholarships for being in the top 0.1% in the country in the following subjects:

Mohnish Kedia for Economics  
Nirbhay Singh Jhala for Business Studies  
Akshat Mahajan for English  
Radhika Munshi for Chemistry  
Janmejy Jadeja for Geography

The stream toppers are Augustus Henry & Radhika Munshi in Science; Mohnish Kedia in Commerce; Janmejy Jadeja in Humanities and Shankul Dwivedi in Commerce.

Subject toppers are: Radhika Munshi in Chemistry; Mohnish Kedia in Economics; Janmejy Jadeja in Psychology; Geography & Political Science; Aayush Gupta in Accountancy; Nirbhay Singh Jhala and Anjali Vyas in Business Studies; Simarveer Chhabra in Maths; Bankim Silawat in Physical Education; Akshat Mahajan in English; Sakshi Pahwa in Informatics Practices; Karanveer Parihar, Shourya Jain and Saurabh Taneja in Web Technology; Kartik Chitale in Biology; Shankul Dwivedi and Shivang Sullere in Physics; Leonard Henry & Priya Kumar in Political Science; Prateek Samaya in Computer Science; Sakshi Dhoreliya and Akash Yadav in Entrepreneurship, and Chirantana Jamnia & Ishita Verma in Fine Arts.

In **Class X** 12 students secured a perfect 10 in CGPA. They have received CBSE Merit Certificates.

165 students scored a first of whom as many as 58 got a CGPA of 9 or more.

In related fields:

Meher Kulkarni of Class 3 was placed 5<sup>th</sup> in MP and 26<sup>th</sup> nationally in the Cyber Olympiad.  
Yash Verma of Class 6 qualified for the national round of IKEN Scientifica.

Five students and 4 reserves qualified to represent Indore at the Zee Learn Multiple Intelligence Quiz.

Aaryan Garg, Kush Verma, Advaya Goel and Aira Bhatnagar of Class 2 have qualified for the oral nationals of the Wiz Spell Bee with Advaya standing 1<sup>st</sup> out of 1000 students.

Tanish Keswani stood 11<sup>th</sup> in India in UCMAS. Anant Kasliwal of class IV was the 3rd runners up in the UCMAS international at Malaysia

In the sphere of **internationalism** we have shed our complacency of assured exchanges, conferences and social work opportunities provided by Round Square. Fresh opportunities are now offered to us through MUNs and AFS. Model United Nations Conferences in India and abroad are not only offering more opportunities but are intellectually more stimulating. AFS has helped us send students on scholarships to Japan and the US and to focus on country specific exchanges. We chose Italy in 2011-2012 and Russia in 2012-2013.

Additionally we run a certificate course in Indian Culture which is particularly popular with Canadians.

In November we hosted 12 young post grad teacher trainees from the University of Melbourne as understudies to our teachers. Our next visitors will be teacher trainees from Denmark.

We now have more university representatives visiting us from overseas. The Mayor of Philadelphia has twice sent his Ambassador for Education to us with a request to set up an admissions office at the Daly College for the universities in Pennsylvania and for your Principal to be the face of American education in India. Weeks ago we received an enquiry from the New York office of Oxbridge Academic programmes in Oxford, Cambridge, Paris and New York which stated “we believe that Daly College will have a number of talented students for whom our programmes would be appropriate”.

Earlier this year we hosted the Heads and Reps of 34 schools from India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Oman, Dubai, Armenia, Pakistan, Jordan & Turkey under the RS banner.

And now I need to project the students who have been part of this year’s adventures:

The 12 students who came to us on exchange from Germany, France, Italy, USA, Bangladesh, Oman, South Africa and Scotland.

The 20 students who went on exchange to Australia, Thailand, Canada, Germany, Scotland, S. Africa, USA, Canada, Jordan, Turkey and Peru.

We also had groups visiting us:

14 students and 5 teachers from Canada and the US.

20 students and 2 teachers from Italy.

9 students and 1 teacher from Singapore

5 students and 1 teacher from Assam in India

Outgoing groups have comprised of:

10 students and 1 teacher to Assam

20 students & 2 teachers to Italy

10 students and 1 teacher to Russia

We have participated in the following student conferences:

King’s Academy, Jordan

Maharani Gayatri Devi, Jaipur

Bangalore International  
Chittagong Grammar, Bangladesh

Millennium School, Dubai  
Armidale School, Australia  
Lawrence School, Sanawar  
Scindia School, Gwalior

Punjab Public School, Nabha  
An international debate at:  
King's Academy, Jordan

The RS International Conference at Penryn College, S. Africa

Lead America Business & Entrepreneurship Conference at Stanford University, USA  
The Raffles International Science Camp in Singapore  
A tour of UK Universities

Students have also attended 10 MUNs in 2012. These have been held at:

Pathways World School, Sohna  
Mayo College Girls School  
The Doon School  
Hyderabad  
Sri Lanka  
Vivek High Chandigarh  
UWC, Pune  
Dhirubhai Ambani, Mumbai  
Amman Baccalaureate, Jordan  
British School, New Delhi

Our students have attended Service Projects organised by:

Dhirubhai Ambani near Mumbai  
RS at Ladakh  
RS in S. Africa  
The Doon School at Katapathar  
The Scindia School  
Sanskaar Valley  
IPSC at Scindia

In collaboration with L'Ermitage School France & Choithram Netralaya, we hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Eye Camp in the Malwa Mills area, with the assistance of our coordinator Raghu Parmar. 6000 patients were examined and 4900 free spectacles were disbursed and 197 cataract operations were carried out successfully. Preparations are now on for the next camp. Students and staff have been working in the tribal hamlet of Sanawadia, 9 KM from here. Having raised funds and having got their project approved by Tilt Shift Singapore and the local

government, they have created a double storeyed community hall, street lighting and water conservation.

We have also provided furniture to a number of schools.

In my capacity as Chair of Round Square for 36 schools in our Region I have endorsed a 2 year programme for all of us to build toilets in neighbouring schools and to raise the attendance and so the educational opportunities for girls.

To return to Internationalism

Pushendra Pal is now on a one year BP/AFS Global Citizens of Tomorrow scholarship in the USA.

Nikunj Mittal has been selected for an AFS programme in Japan.

In February your Principal attended the G-20 Heads Conference in the USA at Philips Exeter & at Buckingham Browne & Nichols. We interacted with each other and the Presidents and Deans of Ivy League Universities, with Howard Gardner and with Dan Brown.

G-20 Heads & spouses, including those from Eton, Wellington, Marlborough, Stowe, Geelong Grammar, Kings, Raffles, Harvard Westlake & BBM will be hosted in India for the next conference in February 2013 by the Daly College. The degree of success we achieve in providing the right intellectual stimuli will determine for years to come our place on the international scene. And for involving the best speakers I am receiving the invaluable support of Raja Digvijaya Singhji.

Meanwhile we continue our programmes through AFS, Leading Edge Schools & Round Square. At a personal level I have decided to step down as International RS Director in London from October 2013 and to take up the responsibilities in Global Connections and as Chair of the IPSC from January 2014.

Meanwhile whereas Sarita Badhwar continues as Hony. Secretary of the Region the first alumni Rep from S. Asia and the Gulf is Pulak Muchhal from Daly.

The Daly College also continues to be monitored by a team of professors from overseas universities under the overall charge of Professor Fazal Rizvi of Melbourne University as part of a 3 year research programme funded by the Australian government. Prof. Rizvi is quoted in a magazine as saying that in India the Daly College is as good a school as any in the world and has recommended us as a model to India's Planning Commission..

As a result of all this activity 151 students and teachers have been overseas on school initiative and 89 foreigners have been to us on exchange.

On the Adventure side, an unusual annual development is on campus adventure and camping. Students who attended these camps swear they cooked the most delicious meals in the world.

I would also like to introduce you to Siddharth Tewari, our teacher in residence who catches a few snakes every month.

And you should know about our new project of producing in February a coffee table book on the Birds of Daly College. Photographs are all taken by staff and students on campus and the project is supervised by Mr. Jacob John and assisted by Devraj Badgara who is designing the book on a voluntary basis like he did the History of Daly.

We now have over 200 peacocks on campus.

Multiplication of fish and depletion of oxygen prompted us to hold the first inter-House winner take all Angling Competition.

Our **sports** record for the year is excellent. We are the current IPSC champions in U-19 Girls Basketball, U-17 & U-19 Girls Shooting, U-19 Boys shooting, U-17 & U-15 Boys Squash, U-14 Girls swimming.

Overall 140 students have qualified for the Nationals and the year is not yet over.

Anandita Gupta received the Eklavya Award in Squash. She won a medal at the Inter State nationals, represented India in Sri Lanka & Iraq and is presently ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in the U-17 category in India.

Pooja Laddha captained the MP U-19 Girls Basketball team and led MP for the first time into the finals. She has been awarded Best Player of the Tournament on a regular basis.

Rohit Mehta has been winning medals on a consistent basis in Equestrian Sports at the national level and was earlier awarded the Eklavya Award .

In the SGFI Shooting Nationals at Pune Maharashtra was placed one, IPSC 2 and Punjab 3. Our DC shooters who won medals are Samartha – 2 golds, Zenab – a gold and a bronze, and one bronze each by Dhruvraj, Mihika, Kimi and Ipsita.

Isha Budwal is now ranked internationally and in the top 10 in India in U-14. She is under 14 but won an U-18 IATA tournament.

In the IPSC DC won 2 silver and 2 bronze medals in the team events. At an individual level Isha won a gold, Panya Bhalla a silver and bronze medals were won by Harshyl Sethi, Chaitanya Dev and Tejas Pareekh.

Gehna Modi is doing well in swimming and has broken the IPSC record in 50M butterfly.

10 players are ranked nationally in the top 16 in squash and 5 are ranked in tennis.

Sanaya Modi won the U-13 squash title in Jaipur.

Our U 19 Basketball team won the Honoria Lawrence Memorial, the Sunita Singh Memorial and IPSC tournaments. In Jordan the team beat schools from Jordan, Palestine and the USA. We lost in the finals by one basket to the host team who we had earlier beaten. Pooja Laddha, Aashna Patel & Megha Yadav received individual awards.

The U 14 girls hockey team has qualified for the CBSE Nationals in Andhra. In the Zonal at Ajmer the team scored 30 goals whereas Anjali did not allow a single goal to be scored against us. Deepshikha was declared the Best Player.



In the All India Inter School Shooting Championship 2012 in which 735 shooters participated in Pune DC won the team Silver in Peep Sight Air Rifle.

At the individual level Mihika Poore won the silver in the sub-Junior Women's section.

In the IPSC our U-19 girls won gold

As did our under 17 girls

Our under 19 boys won gold and

Our under 17 boys silver.

In the 11<sup>th</sup> MP State Inter School Shooting Championship we won 42 medals.

In the 15<sup>th</sup> MP State Open Shooting at Bhopal we won 64 medals.

In the IPSC sub Junior Hockey our boys were placed 3<sup>rd</sup> with Ankit Sastia scoring 12 goals.

Our U 19 Girls Football team is the State Champion and will represent MP in the Subroto Mukherjee Tournament. Mrinalini was declared the best scorer in MP.

In the IPSC swimming held at DPS RK Puram, the majority of medals were won by Daly College. The U-14 Girls 4x100 M freestyle relay team and also the U-14 Girls 4x100 Medley relay team set new IPSC records. The girls won the U-14 Championships.

In Chess Deeva Bidasaria who is the U-7 girls State Champion won the West Zone CBSE Girls U-19 and is ranked 36 nationally in the U-19 age group.

Our U-17 boys basketball team did well to beat Modern School.

In the CBSE Cluster Athletic Meet at Gwalior Dalians won 8 golds, 13 silvers and 13 bronze medals. DC U-14 boys were declared champions and overall we came second out 77 schools and 1485 participants.

11 students from NCC Army Wing qualified for the A level.

Scouting continues to be popular for boys and girls.

12 received badges in the International Award for Young People.

And now sports wise pictures of those 141 students who have qualified for the nationals.

And now on to **Cultural** events:

Our brass band has been well appreciated

Shivani Karmarkar was declared the best classical solo dancer for the third year in succession and for the 5<sup>th</sup> year is the recipient of a national scholarship in classical dance.

Purusharth and Akul were placed second in jugal-bandi.

Purusharth was third in classical instrumental solo.

Our orchestra was placed third.

We were third in group folk dance

Shourya was third in western vocal solo

DC was second in qawali

Aashna Patel & Simran Karda were first in Face Painting & Head Gear making.

Simran Karda was second in paper craft and was third in poster making and was second in imaginative composition.

Aashna was third in cartooning.

We were third in photocraft in the IT Fest.

Rahul Sanghvi was declared the best Interjector at the IPSC Hindi debate at Welham Girls

Aditya Singh was the best speaker in the quarter final round at the Hindi debate at Doon.

In non-IPSC events:

Kritika Kasliwal was the State level winner in the Tata All India Essay Competition in Delhi.

Purusharth & Shivani Mangal led the school to second place in JK Kate Memorial Hindi Debate. Shivani was individually second.

Insiya Raja and Sagar Surana took the school to the 3<sup>rd</sup> position at the All India English Declamation contest at Sanawar. Insiya received a special certificate.

Sachi Simlot and Shilpika Ganeriwala won the trophy at the DF Jack Memorial English Debate with Sachi securing the 2<sup>nd</sup> individual position.

Amaan Chandurwala was winner at the fine arts competition in Chittagong Grammar School, Bangladesh. Certificate of merits were awarded to Anand Nair and Naquiya Barwaniwala.

Riya Singhai won the T-Shirt designing competition and Raveena Bhabhor the dress designing competition organised by Pearl Academy Jaipur.

Anand Nair of Class 6 came first in the All for Kids English Elocution.

Dev Singhvi of Class 6 was third in the indore competition of Derek O'Brien's Faster Smarter Better Challenge.

Kavya Pandit, Shivansh Bagadiya, Shaurya Vikram and Manan Pahwa have qualified to participate in the nationals of a World in Motion.

News of Class of 2012

Kavish Munjal and Saloni Bindal are at the University of Illinois, Akshat at the University of California, Kunal at Arizona State University, Shivang at Georgia Tech., Harsh, Karan and Simarvir are at Manchester University.

4 students – Nikita, Siddharth, Rishika & Tanvi are at the Singapore Institute of Management.

12 are at Delhi University with 3 at St. Stephen's.

22 have joined universities in Mumbai

Spread across the country are 15 pursuing law, 2 are doing their MBBS, 5 are in Chartered Accountancy. Radhika Munshi is at IIT Roorkee and Atul and Umang at MNIT. Sakshi joined BITS Hyderabad and 3 have joined VIT Vellore. 5 are at Christ Bangalore and 7 at DCBS.

Preference of this batch are indeed varied but the common factors are law as a career and the preferred destinations are the US, Bangalore, Mumbai & Delhi.

From other batches:

- Avani Bansal has completed a Masters in Law from Oxford and Darshat his LLB from Hertfordshire where he is running a limo service and a restaurant.
- Prince Dhawan stood third overall in the UPSC exam. At the Lal Bahadur Shastri Academy he has been declared the Best All Round Officer Trainee of the 87<sup>th</sup> foundation course for scoring the highest marks in academics and co-curricular activities.
- Jessica Kashyap is currently with Dolliete working on a Community Health system across the USA.
- Major General AS Parab is posted as our neighbour in Mhow.
- Maharaja Tukoji Rao received from the President of India an award for Madhya Pradesh's performance as number one in the sphere of tourism development.
- Swati Bajaj of the 2006 batch who is so far topping LLM at Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya has scored high in merit and qualified as a Civil Judge in MP.
- Mahima Gupta, Head Girl of the Class of 2006, after qualifying as a nuclear engineer at Ann Arber, where she was President of the American Nuclear Society, completed her masters in the nuclear field in which subject she is now a pioneering researcher. She was selected to interact on nuclear policy with Secretaries and Senators in Washington. Mahima is a scientist with an unusual hobby. She has now climbed the highest peak in the US, Japan, Africa, Russia and Europe. South America is her next target.
- Amrita Tiwari is a doctor in Nuclear Medicine at the Army Research Hospital in Delhi. She has been awarded by the Indo-American Society for Nuclear Medicine. At the same hospital Saurabh Beedkar is a senior surgeon.
- Anil Bhalla has been listed in the Limca Book of Records for the largest working collection of antique clocks. It is he and his family that keep our own DC clock ticking.
- Archit Kothari is at IIM Indore
- 19 are at De Montfort University, Leicestershire and a whole lot more at the Universities of Warwick, Sunderland, Cardiff, Manchester & Nottingham.
- Neeraj Mandloi IAS is on a Chevening Leadership Scholarship to the London School of Economics.

A visitor recently asked me what I am proudest of at the Daly College. I can't remember how I responded, but I did ponder her question for a time and I will share four of these reflections with you.

1. First our recipe for a true and wide education which is to supply an endless stream of experiential opportunities, has been eagerly taken advantage of by our students.
2. Secondly Round Square which has permeated all levels and areas of our education has become a living part of our system.
3. Thirdly our systems are now institutionalised with a high degree of delegation and team work amongst the staff.
4. And finally that unlike all the other Indian schools with which I am associated, we at Daly are truly one family where the Patrons, the Board of Governors, the faculty, the students, their parents and the Old Dalians all work together for the betterment of this great institution of yours.

May this spirit endure.

Jai Hind