

## Principal's Report

### 126<sup>th</sup> Annual Prize Giving – November 15, 2008

Air Chief Marshal Fali Homi Major, Mrs. Major, President of the Board of Governors, Maharaja Narendra Singh Jhabua, Vice President, Mr. Dilip Kasliwal, Members of the Board, Mr. Dhiraj Bora, Mrs. Bora, Puranjay Singh Sitamau, guests, Old Dalians, especially the Class of 1983 which is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> year, colleagues and students.

You have Sir been kind to accommodate us in your busy schedule and we are delighted that your charming wife, Zareen, has also accepted our invitation.

The Chief of Air Staff studied at Wesley High School Secunderabad and was commissioned into the Air Force in 1967. He is a graduate of the National Defence College and of the Army War College.

He has flown over 700 hours on the Sentinel, T6G, Mi-4, Mi-8 and Mi-17 helicopters. He commanded the first Indian Mi-17 Squadron at the world's highest battlefield on the Siachen glacier and another in battle as part of the peace keeping force in Sri Lanka.

As Station Commander Sirsawa he personally led a daring and successful rescue mission to help 11 tourists who were helplessly trapped in a disabled cable car over a deep gorge in Himachal. I actually happened to witness a part of this rescue.

The Air Chief has, during his distinguished career held a number of important field and staff appointments. These include Director Operations for Transport & Helicopters, Air Officer Commanding in Leh, Assistant Chief of the Air Force, Deputy Chief of Integrated Staff Operations and Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief Eastern Air Command before being appointed Chief of Air Staff on March 31, 2007.

He commanded the post Tsunami rescue, relief and rehabilitation operations of the Air Force and as AOC-inC Eastern Air Command conducted 3 successful major international exercises respectively with the US, Singapore and French Air Forces.

Gallantry awards earned by him include the Ati VishishtSeva Medal, the Shaurya Chakra and the Param Vishisht Seva Medal.

Thank you Sir for gracing with your presence our celebrations today.

I would like to start my College report by quoting a resolution of the Board of Governors .“The President on behalf of the Board, congratulated the Principal on the excellent academic results achieved in spite of two major events held before the exams, the RS International Conference and the 125<sup>th</sup> Year celebrations. He asked the Principal to convey the Board's sentiments to the staff”.

Our students have once again proved that academic excellence does not require sacrificing other fulfilling moments in the life of a child. It also vindicates our aspirations to provide a broad and inclusive education.

In Class XII our stream toppers were Raashi Singhal with 93.2% in Commerce, Vineeth Rajan with 93% in Science, Sonia Daga with 90% in Medical and Manpreet Singh with 89% in Humanities.

Students secured marks between 85% and above 89%.

And here are the 20 students who topped the 17 different subjects which were offered by this batch.

Samarth Sachdeva received a CBSE Merit Certificate for securing 100% in Mathematics as did Manpreet Singh who scored in the top 0.1% in Political Science.

The following 9 students of Daly College have been offered scholarships for higher studies by the Government of India:

Anuj Jain, Priyal Jain, Raashi Singhal, Abhishek Kabra, Vineeth Rajan, Aakansha Damani, Resham Kasliwal, Manpreet Singh Chawla and Paridhi Singhal.

In Class X 153 students secured first divisions. The toppers were Siddhant Sachdeva with 96.4%, Garima Agrawal with 96.2%, Mukul Laddha with 92.2%, Shantanu Karmarkar & Dayesh Jaiswal with 91.8%, Shweta Patwa with 91.2%, Dhruv Permani with 90.8% & Nishith Maheshwari with 90%.

Those who received CBSE Merit Certificates are Shantanu Karmarkar in Science, Siddhant Sachdeva in Science and also in Social Science and Garima Agrawal in Social Science.

From the batch that has recently graduated 9 are at universities in USA, UK, Canada and Switzerland. 3 are doing their BA, 4 Interior Designing, 16 Bachelor in Engineering and are studying in prestigious institutions like Vellore Institute of Technology, Manipal Institute of Technology, Ramaiah College of Engineering, Palit Institute of Technology, 4 in Biotechnology, 5 are studying to become doctors, one is in Fashion Designing, 3 in Mass Communication, 5 are doing Hotel Management, 3 are pursuing degrees in Law, 20 are doing B.Com and 48 are doing BBA of whom 8 are at the Daly College Business School. 4 are preparing for IIT.

I credit this wide spread of career choices to our career counselling programme. Our Chief Guest will however note with some disappointment that there are none who have opted for the armed forces.

The Daly College won the Best Achievement Trophy for UCMAS (Mental Arithmetic). Tejas Gandhi and Amogh Kawthekar were adjudged the State Champions in their levels. Winners from 43 countries will be participating in the UCMAS International Competition later this month. Three of these are from Daly College – Shrishti Beri, Manan Ranka & Abhigyan Gandhi

From Academics I now move to Round Square activities.

This year 18 students have gone on exchanges to other schools in Canada, USA, Thailand, Peru, Germany, Australia, France, Dubai and to AVS.

This unique experience has enriched and matured them.

Similarly 7 other exchange students from these countries have visited us on exchange.

At this moment we have 4 more students with us at DC who I would like to welcome by name ; Sharon Martin from Australia, Megan Herrin from Canada Max Rechberg from Germany & Saloni from Oman.

The College sent a delegation to the RS International Conference hosted by Glenlyon Norfolk School in Victoria, Canada. The students went on a pre-Conference tour and then discussed 'Sustainability and Carbon footprints' for 5 days. They have brought back fresh ideas to implement at DC.

Two students went on a Round Square International Service Camp to Ladakh.

The Daly College students involved in a slum literacy project decided to hold an eye camp in this slum area. Also participating with them were students and staff from L'Ermitage School in France.

In 5 days 4010 patients were examined and a total 2324 spectacles were fitted and distributed free of cost.

Students attended the Regional RS Conferences at the Lawrence School Sanawar.

Educational visits by students to China and the USA were thoroughly enjoyed.

As also was the visit to the International village of Auroville in South India

There have been a number of adventure outings including those to Teerthan

To the Western Ghats & Goa

And to Daraya Bugyl & Bakaria Top

25 years of scouting has been completed at Daly College this year.

And now on to sports:

Our new indoor shooting range sponsored by the Batch of 1979 has borne rich dividends and now we will by next year have a new 25 lane range.

In the Girls IPSC Shooting at Sanawar our girls did us proud. They accumulated the maximum student points of any team. Unfortunately the points won by the 4 coaches of the host school were added to the students points of that school and so we were declared Runners up. Our girls won 12 golds, 6 silvers and 3 bronze medals.

New IPSC records were established by Laveena Rajwani & Sakshi Gupta.

In the Boys IPSC Shooting held at Mayo College, the Daly College was declared the Champions. Beating Mayo is of course always satisfying but it was most creditable to beat the Rashtriya Indian Military Academy.

Our boys won 5 golds, 13 silvers and 6 bronze medals.

In the State Ranking & Inter schools meet our students shot really well. The total haul was of 17 golds, 23 silvers and 21 bronze medals

22 boys and girls were selected for the National Shooting Championships in Meerut. There were about 800 contestants and three of our teams did well to win medals. Our girls won silver in the Jr. Women's peep sight event. In the Air Pistol sub-Junior Women's event our team again struck silver. In Air Pistol Jr. Men's category our team won the Bronze.

Chess has been introduced this year as a competitive sport at the College. The first tournament had 250 entries. Obviously there is a good future in this game. Samyak Gangwal stood 3<sup>rd</sup> in the MP State tournament.

In Tennis two of our girls are nationally ranked in the Under-12 category. Ojaswini Singh is ranked 11 and Isha Budwal 49. Ojaswini won the Talent Series in the U-12 age group. In the IPSC tennis at RKC Rajkot our under 14 boys came second and our girls came third. At the individual level Abhijay Patwa and Ojaswini Singh reached the semi-finals.

At the State level Abhijay Patwa, Bankim Silawat & Harshil Sethi are among the rankings. Abhijay won the MP State U-19 & Bankim won the All India Talent Series and the State U-14.

In Squash the Dalians did extremely well at the Otter's Club tournament in Mumbai. Those deserving special mention are Anandita Gupta, Dhananjay Singh, Vedant Baheti and Kopal Patni.

In the UP State Squash Dheeya Somaiya won the Girls U-17 and was runners up in the Women's category. Shreya Suresh was the runners-up in the U-11 and reached the semi finals of the U-13.

Six girls and 19 boys represented MP in the nationals at Chennai. Dheeya Somaiya and Tanya Jain reached the semi-finals. Presently Yaduvir Singh & Manik Dutta are nationally seeded in the top 16 in U-15 boys, Hardik Matharu & Siddharth Nahar in the top 16 in U-17 boys and in the U-17 girls Dheeya is seeded No.3 & Tanvi No. 4

Dheeya is among the probables to represent India at the Commonwealth Games.

In Badminton Rishabh Modi won the U-14 State Championship. The girls stood 3<sup>rd</sup> in the under 17 team event. Kamini has been selected for the nationals.

In Athletics the Daly College was declared U-19 Champions at the CBSE meet in Bhopal. Our students won 3 golds and 18 silver medals.

Nikita Mann, Shakti Pratap Singh and Akash Singh Bundela have been selected for the Nationals At the IPSC Athletics Meet in Nabha we sent a token team of just 10 boys. They secured overall 3<sup>rd</sup> position and returned with 6 bronze medals, a silver and 4 golds. Individual golds were won by Yohann Shah and Akash Bundela. Shakti Pratap Solanki won 2 golds, set a new IPSC record and was declared Best Athlete of the IPSC for 2008.

In Hockey the girls were placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the IPSC at Pilani. 6 girls have been selected for the nationals. These are Surbhi, Nandini, Gautami, Jhanvi, Sneha & Raveena. The Junior Boys team was placed 4<sup>th</sup> at the IPSC in Himachal and Tejeshwar Singh was declared the most promising player.

In the 37<sup>th</sup> MP State Swimming Meet our students won 17 golds, 5 silvers and 9 bronze medals. Gehna Modi was declared the Individual Champion in the U-10 category and Saloni Chhabra the Individual Champion in the Women's category.

Gehna Modi, Saloni Chhabra, Mukul Singh & Suraj Pamecha have been selected for the nationals.

At the IPSC Swimming at YPS Patiala, Daly came in 4<sup>th</sup>. Our students won a gold, 12 silver and 7 bronze medals.

In Football the school won the Kasliwal Trophy.

Yash Mittal, Naman Kohli, Akash Bundela have been selected for the nationals in the U-19 category.

In the U-17 category Shubham Suri, Mihir Inamdar & Siddhant Vyas have been selected to represent Madhya Pradesh.

In Basketball the Boys and Girls teams were placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the CBSE meet at Bhopal.

Devraj Agrawal has won a Silver medal in the sub-Junior MP State TaeKwon-Do Championship and will represent the State in the nationals.

In the Mayo-Daly Jr. Schools meet at Mayo College, Daly won the Hockey and Football matches and lost in Cricket.

In Cricket we have hosted teams from Dubai, Australia and our cricket, hockey and football teams have played at Aitchison College in Lahore

Daly hosted the IPSC Cricket tournament for boys. Our team was placed 4<sup>th</sup>. Anand Vardhan, Parth Kasliwal and Nagaditya Ranawat have been selected for the nationals. Parth Kasliwal was declared the most promising player of the Tournament.

Anand Vardhan has been awarded a sports scholarship by SAI.

And now to Cultural Activities:

The Daly College was overall winners of the IPSC Literary Fest 2008.

Kadambari Rathore won 4 first prizes. Kavya Rawat & Isha Kothari also won first prizes. Daly won the team trophies in Dramatisation of a Hindi poem, Hindi Debate & What's the Good Word. Deepak Solanki, Saloni Bindal & Nandini Bansal also won prizes.

At the IPSC Visual Arts Fest hosted by Mayo College Girls School first prizes were won by Anamica Jain & Sakshi Todi. Prizes were also won by Shreya Patwa & Shreya Sharma.

At the IPSC I.T Fest hosted by LKS Gotan, Harshveer Jain stood first in Cartooning. Sauhard Bindal & Mayank Agrawal came second in C++ programming.

At the IPSC Cultural Fest hosted by VDJS in Hisar the Daly College won the champions trophy for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in 4 years, stamping our supremacy in this area.

We sent 39 participants and 36 returned with prizes. This in spite of the strong field of contenders from Mayo Girls, VDJS, MGD Jaipur, Doon & Welhams, Lovedale and so on.

We stood first in both the Indian Orchestra and Western Orchestra, second in English Skit, Hindi Group Song and Choreography. Tanya Sojatia came third in individual classical vocal solo and Akash Sethi in Fancy Dress cum Elocution.

At the Aarohan Cultural Festival the College was placed second in Western Dance and Ishita & Urvazi first in English Debating. Ishita Kothari was declared the best debator.

Suryadev Singh reached the finals of the Cicero's Challenge International Debate in a field of 126 debators from 16 countries.

Palak Sood & Rhea Sanghi stood 3<sup>rd</sup> in the IPSC English Debate at MGD Jaipur.

Harshveer Jain, Archit Kothari, Suryadev Singh, Shantanu Karmarkar, Siddhant Sachdeva & Dheeya Somaiya are participating in the five stage international debate being organised by the British Council.

The Doon School IPSC Hindi Debate was won by Daly represented by Sakshi Tody & Siddhant Sachdeva.

Daly represented by Kadambari, Shantanu Karmarkar & Parika Singh came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Madhavrao Scindia Hindi debate.

Shantanu Karmarkar was placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the IPSC Hindi debate at LKS Gotan.

Anam Raja & Siddhant Sachdeva took College to 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the IPSC Hindi debate at MGD, Jaipur

Aman Jain & Harshveer Jain won the Nai Dunia Quiz. Harshveer Jain has also cleared *Kishore Vaigyanik Protsaha Yojana* of the Govt. of India.

Archit Kothari entered a field of 288 debaters and reached the last 20 of the Outlook Magazine debate

News on the staff front:

In the last year we have bid farewell to Col. Giriraj Singh, Bursar, whose contributions in so many spheres will always be remembered.

Mr. Naveen Suley has retired after 33 years of service as has Miss TK Chauhan after 35 years.

Mrs. Rashmi Ahuja has gone as Vice Principal to Sanskaar Valley School in Bhopal. Mr. Ravindra Kirtane has moved to a school in Malaysia.

Mrs. Shalini Verma has also left.

Col. RD Sharma has joined as the new Bursar and Mrs. Rakhi Sharma is teaching at the Junior School. I wish them a long innings here.

Dr. Rajopadhyay has been re-elected and nominated to the Consultative Committee of the International Association of Sanskrit Studies, Paris. He has also been invited to present his research paper at the World Sanskrit Conference to be held in Japan in September 2009.

Ms. Sarita Badhwar has received the BOLT (Broad Outlook Learner Teacher) Award instituted by Air India to recognize excellence outside the field of academics.

Mrs. Mridula Agarwal is now our full time Student Counsellor.

Mrs. Subohi Rashid our residential Career Counsellor has been on a visit to Universities in England & Wales courtesy of the British Council.

Our Vice Principal has visited Colleges in Singapore courtesy of the Govt. of Singapore.

Nine members of the staff undertook a successful motorcycling expedition from Daly to Kanyakumari and back.

I would like to share some Old Dalian news which has come to my notice in the recent past.

Anand Rathi, Kshitij Tulsian & Rahul Himmatsingka have joined the IITs at Mumbai, Delhi & Kharagpur respectively.

Dr. Prabhat Patnaik has, along with 3 other international economists, been appointed by the UN to submit a report on reforming international financial organisations in the light of the present world financial crisis.

Advait Sodani has joined AFMC Pune and Gautam Mediretta & Aditya Baser BITS Pilani.

Devesh Taneja has joined the Yale School of Management for an MBA.

Mohit R. Unwal has joined IIM Ahmedabad

Aditya Singh of the Class of 94 is doing his doctorate in remote sensing at the University of California and is radio tracking Mahaseer in the Cauvery.

Avinash Sodani was a member of the Research team which has developed a new computer chip for Intel which will be marketed in December.

Sandeep Kothari has been awarded the 'Equity Fund Manager of the Year' by Business Standard.

Daly has provided 2 ADCs to the President of India in recent times. Currently Maj. Hemant Singh Ponwar is ADC to the President and now Col. Akashdeep Bhanot succeeds Col. Ali Adil Mahmood as Commandant of the President's Body Guard.

This year Deepak Obhrai has been returned to the Canadian Parliament for his 5<sup>th</sup> term. Arun Yadav enters the Indian Parliament for his first term. He will join Lakshman Singh Raghogarh but they will sit on different sides of the political divide.

Maharaj Nagendra Singh Nagod has been appointed Minister for Higher Education.

Maharaja Tukoji Rao Puar has been appointed Minister for Tourism, Sports & Youth Affairs in Madhya Pradesh.

Rahul Patwardhan has been appointed Global Director Application Services at Logica CMC Amsterdam.

Sanjiv Kakkar of the 79 batch has been appointed Chairman of Unilever Ltd. for Russia, Ukraine & Belarus.

Priyo Kumar Singh, Commandant of the Manipur Rifles has been awarded the President's Medal for Meritorious Service.

Dr. Kanwaljeet Singh is making a name for himself as a leading medical specialist at the Mayo Clinic in USA.

Dr. Praveen Mathur of the 66 batch is Professor of Clinical Medicine at the School of Medicine Indiana University USA.

Vivek Kumar has been appointed Director in the Ministry of Petroleum & Gas in Delhi.

I now conclude by thanking Mr. Anoop Singh Bishnoi for sponsoring the soon to be built new indoor rifle range, the Modi family for sponsoring the Athletics Pavilion inaugurated today, and the Board of Governors for its sage guidance and great support and also for sanctioning projects to be taken up soon. These include new toilet blocks for Vikram & Ashok Houses, Study rooms for Holkar House, a new block of staff flats, and an ambitious project to go in for transferring all our campus electrical cabling underground. Already we have completed the replacement of all damaged marble in the Main Building, have restored Sitamau House, have expanded the area under landscaping and are presently giving a facelift to Junior School.

My very grateful thanks to Mr. Kamal Morarka who has in response to Mrs. Sangeeta Kathiwada's request donated Rs. 50 lacs for the CTDC.

My thanks also to my colleagues on the staff, to the Old Dalians Association, to the Administration of Indore, to the Municipal Corporation, to all the other departments who have been so helpful and to the Vice Chancellor of Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya through whose cooperation the Daly College Business School is now the only foreign degree Business School in the entire country to have AICTE approval.

Many thanks also to the 4<sup>th</sup> Estate for their constant encouragement to the children by covering their various achievements.

Thank you.