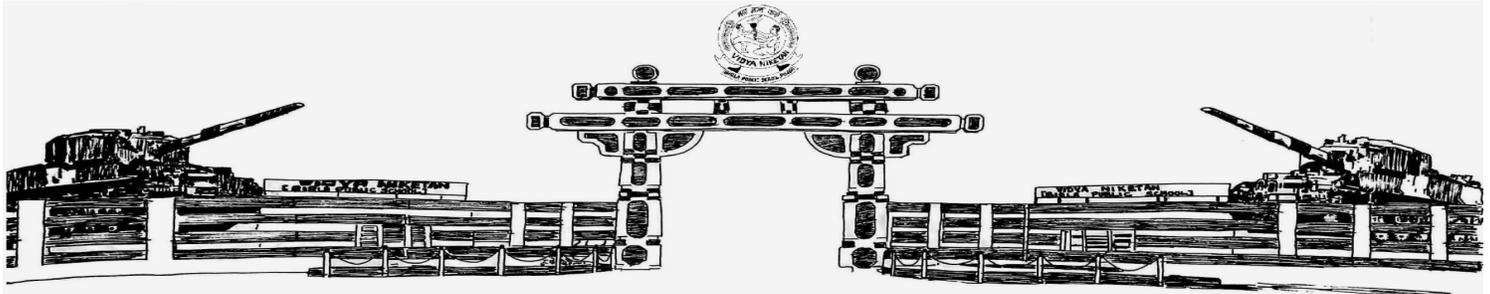




# Vartakar

APRIL 2017



## Editorial

We are happy to present you the second issue of the *Vartakar* (English Version). These two issues were interspersed with a 'Holi Special' Edition (Holi Humour) which really added a splash of hilarity to the colours of Holi. The 'jugabandi' of funny cartoons and light-hearted anecdotes featuring staff members tickled the readers' fancy.

March month in the Middle Section is normally a tad bereft of co-scholastic or extra-curricular activities because the final exams consume a big chunk of it. Though our school remains abuzz but this is the buzz of studies and seriousness.

Yes, the celebration of Holi in the campus makes up for the droop caused by reduced number of activities and this eagerly awaited fun-filled festival of colours never fails to recharge the campus atmosphere. The colours are washed away in the evening but the rejuvenation left behind by them marches up to the end of March.

Exams and studies didn't blunt the creativity of our students and they enthusiastically churned out poems and write-ups for the *Vartakar*. This belongingness and concern of the students for their beloved '*Vartakar*' really overwhelmed us.

We solicit readers' feedback. We welcome both, 'bricks and bouquets'.

*Jaskaran Singh*

## Events & Achievements

- A workshop on '**Waste Management**' was organised on 25<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017. The resource person was Ms Neha Jain, the mother of one of our students. All members of Waste Management Club of the Middle Section participated in the workshop. Mr. A. K. Khanna, the teacher-in charge of the club also gave his creative inputs during the workshop. The participants learnt the art of creating useful and decorative items from waste material.
- Kshitiz Bhandari of class IX participated in a state level camp 'Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan' held at Rukmani Birla School, Jaipur on 27 Feb 2017. The camp provided a platform to 150 students from different schools of Rajasthan to showcase their scientific temperament, work in collaboration, share and learn from each other.
- On National Science Day (28<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017), 4 students participated in the quiz and poster making competition held at BITS campus. Our students bagged third position in quiz.
- BPS won coveted BET Talent Search Examination trophy for the year 2016-17. Five students of class IX and one student of class VIII scored over 70% . Anurag Mukherjee stood second with 83% marks.
- Inter-house Sanskrit Shaloka Competition organised on 11th March was won by the Vivekanand House.
- A special workshop was organised for the students of photography club on 11 March by Mr. A. K. Ray, a former teacher of BPS.
- A Special *Godhuli* programme was organised on the eve of Holi. Bhajans by the students, talks on the significance of the Holi festival by Mr M.M. Pathak and Principal Alokesh Sen were the highlights of the event.
- Holi, the festival of colours was celebrated on 13 March with befitting enthusiasm.
- Chirag Choudhary and Rudraksh Rao of class IX designed and launched a gaming video youtube channel. It made ripples in the arena of gaming videos.
- A special assembly for the session 2016-17 was held on 9th March 17. Students and teachers reflected on the activities and progress made by the Middle Section during the concluding session. Headmaster, Dr. Shukla thanked the teachers and students for working towards the common cause of improving the standards of the Middle section.

# LITROSARY

## A Friend Indeed!



### THE TIGERISH TIGER

From dawn to dusk,  
He majestically lurks.  
He rules the vast forest,  
He unquestionably is above the rest.  
Everyone acknowledges his glory,  
None dares to enter his territory!  
He never needs a crew for hunt,  
Cause he knows his weapons aren't blunt.  
Mind alert and eyes on a scan,  
Cause he had to feed his clan.  
Suddenly he spots a deer,  
Destiny knows it's end is near!  
The deer runs like lightning,  
Followed by the fate frightening.  
The deer pushed himself up to his limits,  
Next five minutes were deer's last minutes.  
With his trophy, here comes the 'winner'  
The uncrowned king, the tigerish tiger.

Ishan Singh  
IX

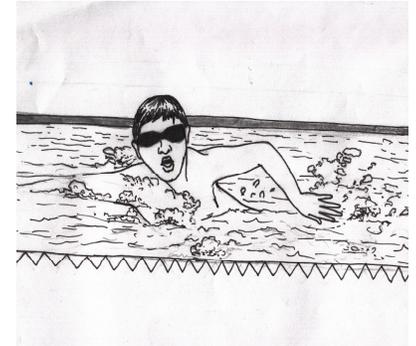
### HOLI

Holi, the most eagerly awaited festival,  
Glorifying the victory of good over evil.  
Not only rituals, it also brings fun,  
The spirits get high with the rising of sun.  
The colours cover faces, all look alike,  
That's why this festival, I most like.  
Sweets make relations sweeter  
All talk sweet, no one talks bitter.  
It brings people closer, all agree,  
Tease, have fun, no one gets angry.  
Let's celebrate Holi with the right spirit  
By overdoing things, don't spoil it.

Alekshandra Singh  
VIII-E

He was really an amazing boy,  
He filled my hostel life with joy.  
Vividly I remember, when I was new  
And had friends very few.  
He was the one who fancied my mind  
As a friend he was my real 'find.'  
Played together, we laughed together.  
Each day made our bond stronger.  
He left the school, there was a reason,  
Spring to autumn, changed the season.  
I have friends and friends but feel alone,  
Then I realize, the show must go on...

Aditya Goyal  
VIII-B.



### THE SCHOOL POOL

What I love the most in my school?  
Undoubtedly, it's our swimming pool.  
That is like my territory where I feel  
I'm the king,

This is where I feel, I rule.  
After the hectic day in classes,  
This pool really makes me cool.  
'Move ahead' throwing the obstacles  
back,  
It taught me this thumb rule.  
I am learning to swim across  
challenges here,  
Thank you my swimming pool.  
Thank you my school.

Tejnoor Singh Bajwa  
VIII-D

#### Quote of the Month

"Keep away from people who try  
to belittle your ambitions.  
Small people always do that,  
but the really great make you  
feel that you, too, can become  
great."

- Mark Twain

Vartakar feels proud to announce that the budding novelist of the Middle Section, Dhruv Chawla (Class IX) is working on his maiden novel (yet to be titled) and he hopes to complete it by 31 Jun 2017. An extract of the novel will be published in the next issue. Keep going Dhruv!!

## AVERSION THERAPISTS

(Editor's note : This article was written by the author when his sons were studying in class XII and X and CBSE class X board exam had not yet been scrapped)

My two sons, Savvy and Arpan studying in class XII and X respectively have developed a very freakish type of phobia, the 'Guest Phobia'. Sound of our call bell, though an extremely euphonious one, sends them into a tizzy. Dying down sound of the engine of an automobile near our house is a danger signal for them and time to scurry to their rooms and not to venture out in the drawing room till they hear the *vahan* coming into life, reaching its crescendo again and taking the nuisance away.

Have we, I mean, the parents, failed in our duty to socialize our kids? Should one blame their school for not inculcating proper social behaviour? Has it something to do with late-adolescent angst? No! None of these. My sons were doing well on socialization front till they reached class X and XII. It's our so called 'guests' who are to be blamed for the abnormal behaviour of my 'chips' off the old block.

On arrival of a guest, after customary *hello shello* and display of dry concern for *haal chaal* at both ends starts enquiry about the study of my children, their plans for future. Not only this but minor details like their hours of study and what they do to ward off '*nindiya rani*' (sleep). Honest details provided to them leads to a harangue on myriads of topics like how to do well in exams, how to hold off sleep, how and what to eat, what field to opt for after class XII and good tutors of various subjects in the city (these are the ones who are blessed by the kids of my guest by agreeing to be taught by them and keep on changing).

I fail to understand what makes these unwelcome quack councilors think whatever their wards have done or are doing is worth emulating by my sons. What my visitors fail to notice is the effort that goes into keeping our patience in check. Ethos of *mehmannawazi* holds back my impulse to shout "Enough sir, you have passed the best genes to your offspring. That's it. For God's sake change the topic". Nevertheless, I make couth attempts to do it tacitly but never succeed. Lavish offering of snacks with tea also fails to keep their verbose, uncomfortable enquiry and ensuing advice-loaded stomach-turning sermons in check.

Now on arrival of a visitor my sons go into foxholes to escape the direct darts of uncomfortable queries about studies and bamboozling gems (or germs?) of advice leaving me and my wife to bear the brunt. To save the time and most importantly the self confidence and self esteem of our progeny, our opening salvo is in the form of a white lie that our sons are not at home. As anticipated, our lie invites plethora of advice on dangers of young boys staying away from home on holidays. The advice is substantiated by narration of some horrifying incidents involving teenagers. My wife deserts me and escapes to the kitchen on the pretext of preparing tea leaving me alone to assess and appreciate the oratorical skills of our guests. I feel reassured when my wife enters with the tea and jumps into fray like a typical *Bhartiya Patni* to share her husband's ordeal. We hazily listen to our visitors' advice sometimes coupled with admonishment impatiently waiting for the soothing words '*achcha to chalen!*' (We take your leave now) from the fiery tongues of these un-consulted consultants. The sight of their backs make us feel the way Harbhajan Singh (Bhajji) feels after seeing the back of Ricky Ponting after getting him out.

Jaskaran Singh

## EVERY OPINION DOESN'T MATTER

In our journey of life or while traversing towards our destination we get distracted by what others opine about us. Many times, we stop pursuing our goals because our determination gets shattered by what others say about our pursuits. There is no dearth of people who get influenced by the opinion of others and give up their natural course of life. Many people decide to let the success slip away even when they very near to achieving their set goals. Here, I am reminded of a story which many of you must have heard before but I will reproduce it in my own words to highlight my point. The story goes like this.

One day a father and his son were going to the market with their donkey. Both were walking and the father was holding the rope of the donkey. On their way, they met a man who told them that the boy should ride the donkey and it was a sheer stupidity to make the child walk since they had a donkey with them. They followed his advice and continued their journey.

After coming some distance they met another man. Seeing the boy riding the donkey he criticized the boy for not showing respect for his father and advised that the father should ride and the son walk along. The son didn't want to show disrespect, so he got off from the donkey and started walking.

Soon another person crossed their path. He laughed at the father for making the young child walk and suggested that they both should ride the donkey. They did so and again continued their journey.

Again a man crossed their path and disapproved of both of them riding the donkey and said it was cruelty towards the donkey. Fed up with all this they both got off from the donkey and started walking towards the market.

The moral of the story is that we are generally dependent on the other's opinion. We start doubting our abilities or our common sense and get entangled into the cobweb of others' suggestions. Though it is good to listen to the good advice and a constructive, useful and practical suggestion but reacting to each and every remark and doubting our own ability or decision is the sign of a fickle mind.

We should never forget that we are not pendulums that would move with every external stroke and reach nowhere.

So, what's the lesson? When someone criticizes you don't react instantly. Hold your reaction for one day or while. Analyze, think whether the person's opinion is based on fact or it is just an opinion. At the end of 24<sup>th</sup> hour, if you find that the criticism was based on the facts, please don't forget to thank that person and if you find that the criticism was just an opinion then you can afford to ignore it. Our ability to hold on to our goal, self confidence, ability to judge good or bad advice, being determined but at the same time listening to and act according to useful advice are the skills that we must cultivate in our personality.

Ammar Sohail  
VIII-C

## Failing to Succeed

Failure always prepares us for success because when we fail, it makes us realize our weaknesses that must be overcome. We all know the great scientist Thomas Edison who did a great service to the mankind by inventing the light bulb. It took him 1,000 tries before he developed a successful light bulb. When it comes to failing, our ego gets hurt and we get shattered. It takes courage to admit our mistakes or recognize our weaknesses. When courageous and determined persons fail in their pursuits they do not waste time in crying over it. They learn lessons from their failures and become wiser and without wasting much time make another attempt and succeed.

Everyone has to face failure in life. Life is full of ups and downs. It is not a bed of roses. One has to learn the art of using failures as stepping stones to get success. Failure is a part of our life. A man who has never tasted failure means that he has never attempted anything great. Success is the result of hard work, determination and dedication. We have to face good and bad circumstances at every turn of our life. Failures should not be allowed to break our spirits. We need to keep our self-confidence intact. I feel a successful life without facing failures is just not possible so let us make failures ladders and keep moving towards our goals.

**Gaurav Mata**

VIII-E

*We are happy to announce that Birla Public School has launched its new website. The URL is [www.bpspilani.edu.in](http://www.bpspilani.edu.in). Parents and teachers are requested to use the following email ids:*

*Principal – [principal@bpspilani.edu.in](mailto:principal@bpspilani.edu.in)*

*Bursar – [bursar@bpspilani.edu.in](mailto:bursar@bpspilani.edu.in)*

*Headmaster – [hmmiddle@bpspilani.edu.in](mailto:hmmiddle@bpspilani.edu.in)*

## Let's visit the Center of the Earth



The name 'Jules Verne' needs no introduction to the book lovers. His phenomenally popular novel *Around the World in 80 Days* took us 'around' the world but this time he decided to take us 'into' it. Yes readers, I am talking about '**Journey to the Center of The Earth**'.

The epic adventure begins when enthusiastic geologist Professor Otto Liedenbrock's inadvertent discovery of old documents, which he believes are instructions on getting to the center of the Earth. Along with his nephew, Alex Liedenbrock, he discovers the key to the document, and takes us along them where he the title of the book promises, I mean to the location of the crater.

Their pack contains everything one can think of from survival point of view. They hire a great guide Hans, Otto and Alex on this fantastical and risky journey down the volcanic tubes and craters. What questions naturally come to readers' mind and keep their interest and imagination fire up are the questions like, 'Will their supplies last?' 'Will they survive?' 'Will they be able to cross the endless maze inside the Earth?' Haven't these questions aroused your interest to read this book? What are you waiting for friends? Just lay your hands on the book and join this adventurous journey.

This book takes a while to get going but when it does there is no putting down as it is grippingly interesting. It enriches our vocabulary familiarizes us with many scientific theories. If you ask me to rate it, I would probably give it 9.5 out of 10. If your parents and teachers prod you to read classic novels this is the best place to start.

**Moksh Goel**  
VIII-B

### Editorial Board:-

Chief Patron: - Principal, BPS  
Student Editor – Ashrut Sinha  
Assistant Editors – Ammar Sohail, Shourya Singh

Contact : Vidya Niketan, Birla Public School, Pilani – 333031

Feedback : [hmmiddle@bpspilani.edu.in](mailto:hmmiddle@bpspilani.edu.in)

Published By :- Headmaster (Mid. Sec.), BPS  
Staff Editors – Mr.Jaskaran Singh, Ms. Kushagra  
Art :- Mrs. A.Kedar , Pratiyush , Ishan Singh  
Designed by – Mr. Manish Kumar Sharma