

The Tiger



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EXCITING TEACHING DEVELOPMENTS

Inside this issue:

This past year has seen exciting developments in our KG to 4 teaching and learning program. This was achieved through some fine cooperative professional development bringing together international and Indian staff in pursuit of common educational goals. Georgie Dixon (Rugby teacher) and Charlotte Hughes D'aeth (English teacher volunteer) picked up our theme of 'How we might promote more interactive learning in the classroom in English and Mathematics,' from which we hoped to develop a fresh curriculum that would motivate and challenge young learners, and step them seamlessly from one year to the next. The enthusiasm and open-mindedness of Future Hope KG-4 teachers was crucial in making this a success. Over a four month period a lot of discussion and sharing of ideas took place and now an enthusiastic team of teachers is ready to put new ideas into practice.

Meanwhile, Rupa Miss (Junior Coordinator) and Ranjita Routh (Junior teacher) also visited Rugby School and Bilton Grange, two top UK schools, as well as several State schools to observe their junior education. On return to Kolkata, they were able to reinforce many of the principles developed by our own team, but added also a number of exciting new pedagogical ideas. Our teachers have benefited greatly from these initiatives and it was exciting listening to Rupa and Ranjita report back on all they had experienced.



Rupa Miss addresses Junior staff.

NEW LEARNING SUPPORT

It is now an aim of Future Hope to get as many new children into a classroom setting as quickly as possible. This has led to the creation of a new Support Learning Program managed by Subhra Dasgupta. Subhra's efforts in teaching primary school were rewarded with this new appointment overseeing English and Mathematics support. Immersing children in an English medium classroom means they quickly pick up on communication skills and build a wider-base of friendships that quickly normalizes school. Good social interaction is crucial in building personal confidence which, in turn, has a big impact on learning. We are already seeing the benefit of this new arrangement.



Subhra in the foreground helping with Mathematics.



Learning Support is carried through to mainstream classes with volunteer teachers supporting staff. Georgie Dixon in background.

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Tonnie helps Rubina with her writing skills. We asked Tonnie, a teacher from London, what she thought about volunteering at Future Hope.

Tonnie said: "I feel that volunteers can make a great difference to academic life by being able to spend extra time with students and sharing their skills in whatever they are good at.. I also feel that Future Hope students are keen to learn and it is easy to see this in their attitude towards school life."

Would Tonnie recommend other teachers volunteering? She said: "Yes! Of course, I would. It is challenging but the feeling of gratitude and overall sensation of being useful makes it all the worthwhile."

DARJEELING CRICKET TOUR 2014



Preparing to head up the mountain to St Paul's School Darjeeling from NJP Station. The train trip from Howrah Station was a long one, but fortunately 'air-conditioned.'



Experiencing cricket like we have never done before. All the practice pays off as we beat St Paul's School Darjeeling on their beautiful home ground. Win or lose this was a day we were never going to forget.



The boys look on from the immense scoreboard stand at St Paul's. Abhishek and Rohan (Captain) look pensive after an early loss of wickets. They watch Ranjit and M.D build a match saving partnership.



Here we are standing on the main field at St Paul's School. We were proud to wear our new blazers, jumpers and caps with the Future Hope badge. Rev Joy Halder, Rector of St Paul's, is in the middle, and standing to his left is Mr. Gupta our coach and manager. The field was sandy and the pitch a flat jute wicket. Conditions were fine but understandably cold. Not only was the cricket itself a wonderful experience, but so too was visiting St Paul's and making new friends. We were made to feel very welcome and cannot thank St Paul's enough for their great hospitality. The same was experienced at St Joseph's. We were thrilled to be invited back next year.



A VERY SPECIAL REUNION FOR RAM

Ram came to Future Hope on a long train journey as an eight-year old running away from home. He was found roaming Howrah Station, in Kolkata. As years went by, Ram found it difficult to remember where he had come from. He naturally began to think about his mother and her concerns about his safety and whether she was still alive. Repeated efforts to find her had failed, but in March 2014 both Ram and Jaes (Outreach) found his mother in a remote village near the border of Bihar. Ram also discovered 14 brothers and sisters! It was some reunion. Now 14, Ram is a very contented boy who intends to finish his education at Future Hope and go on to change the fortunes of his family. This is a good example of the great work done by our Outreach team of Mintu and Jaes.



Ram in the middle holding his youngest brother on his shoulders

ZUMBA TAKES THE GIRLS' BY STORM

It is fast, moving to the beat, tests one's coordination and keeps everyone on their toes! It's Yoga in the fast lane. It is ZUMBA. Yes, we girls have a special private class where we can work on our fitness in a way that is fun and takes a lot of skill to master. Zumba on Fridays is a great way to end the school week. Almost forty of us attend each session along with staff. It is a lot of fun.

SCHOLARS –YOUNG AND OLD –ACKNOWLEDGED AND REWARDED AT FINAL ASSEMBLY

It is always at the forefront of our efforts and in our final assembly of the year, Mr. Thomson paid tribute to all scholars who excelled in the final examinations. From KG upwards, the whole school applauded the efforts of students who came forward to receive their merit certificates. This was one event where height didn't matter. As Mr. Thomson said: "Scholars can lift the performance and confidence of those around them. If we work together, everyone will benefit from positive peer support." The great work of Arindam Sir, our coordinators and teachers was also highlighted and applauded.



Our scholars stand before the assembly with their certificates.

SCHOOL NEWS

CHILDREN ENJOY A NEW BACKYARD AT ROWLAND ROAD

We were so happy to receive generous support from Dutch Rotary for a major overhaul of our backyard. Once a dirt patch that flooded in the Monsoon and provided a good breeding ground for mosquitos, it is now a beautifully laid synthetic grass surface, well-drained and useful for assemblies in the hot months and all manner of sports and games.

Post holes for netball will be created at both ends of the court.



The stages of construction proved interesting for many students who watched enthusiastically in the holiday period. The area has now been sloped enough to drain well through extra outlets. The synthetic grass is nicely cushioned.



A WHOLE SCHOOL GATHERING CELEBRATES (LEFT)



GIRLS' NETBALL TRAINING WITH ANNIE (RIGHT)



THE SCHOOL WATCHES THE JUNIOR HOUSE SPORT (LEFT)



RUPA MISS & STAFF TAKE AN OUTDOOR

HOUSE SPORT: T.C. DUTT TROPHY DECIDED

It was always going to be a tough, close campaign. The last months of T C Dutt were keenly contested, as we enjoyed watching friends compete hard for the ultimate prize. House leaders had to be diligent in choosing participants in twenty different areas of competition, as is shown on our magnificent House Board (right).

It was a fitting end that Academics and ‘Attitude and Effort’ points determined the outcome, after last rounds in touch rugby, cricket, hockey, cross-country, soccer, noticeboard and debating.

Our final assembly was full of anticipation as the final points had been kept a secret. Well done, Mr. Gupta! Mr. Thomson then went through the achievements of the year, holding the suspense until the very end. Panther! Panther won the inaugural trophy and its captain, Satyender, came forward to collect it, and give a speech. Everyone was proud of their house’s performance and are already preparing for the start of a fresh competition. Well done to everyone. It was a great experience.

Activity	Tiger	Cobra	Elephant
ATHLETICS			
BADMINTON	4	1	2
CRICKET	3	1	2
HOCKEY	1	4	2
RUGBY	4	1	1
ROWING			
SOCCER	4	2	3
TABLE TENNIS	1	3	4
TABLE OF WAR	4	2	1
VOLLEYBALL	4	3	1
WAR CRY	3	2	1
BANNER	2	2	1
CHESS	4	3	1
CARROM	3	2	1
DEBATING			
DRAMA	4	3	1
MUSIC	1	3	4
ACADEMIC	3	1	2
BEHAVIOR	4	1	3
ULLUC	1		
TREASURY			
TOTAL POINTS	1358	1616	1489

Like all good competitions there was a slight correction before the final results were settled! Places unaltered.

FINAL T C DUTT POINTS 2013-14

Panther
1611

Elephant
1489

Cobra
1434

Tiger
1353



The T C Dutt Trophy was created to help students appreciate that everything we do is important. It is not just about sport, but drama, debating, academics, etc.... all of which were awarded points. Even getting to school on time and good class behaviour earned us points.

(Left) Satyendar claiming victory with house members and staff in full voice behind him. The role of House Captain and leaders has helped in developing leadership skills through fun events. Everyone student, no matter what age, can identify with a house and feel part of a student-led activity.

ART BLOSSOMS

FUTURE HOPE STUDENTS HAVE A COLOURFUL LOVE OF ART AND EXPRESSION

Those who travel to India know that art is an integral part of culture and national expression. The talent in using colour, form and material is truly wonderful, as are the skills of working in different media. Future Hope children follow in this great tradition and love their Art classes.

Jayashree Basak, our new Art teacher, has been with us for 6 months. Her teaching and encouragement have inspired many children to play with colour and learn the basics of appliqué, modelling, sketching and painting. She is well supported by our much loved Mrs. John.



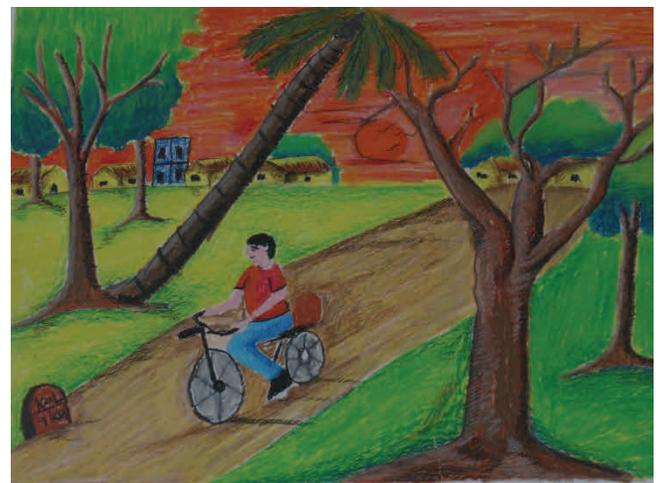
The Art Room (Above)



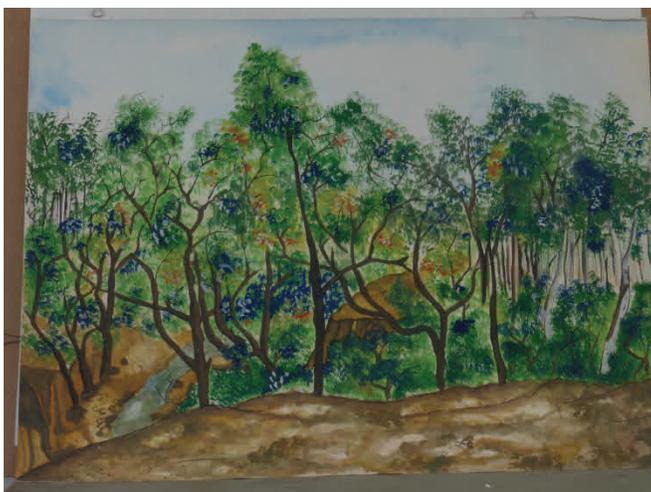
'Spooky Home' Vivek P
Class 12B (rRight)



'A Day at the Races' : Arpan Class 9A



'Riding through a village': Biswajit Class 10A



'A rural scene' : Amresh Class 12B



'A Fish' : Teacher Jayashree.

GOOD MEALS ARE THE KEY TO FUTURE SUCCESS

Our wonderful cooks –the best in Kolkata –cook in excess of 500 meals per day. Meals are varied – depending on the market—and healthy. It is amazing to see the difference in young boys and girls who join Future Hope. In a matter of weeks tiny frames are strong, skin improved and, of course, happiness is seen in smiles. Nutritious, simple food transforms the lives of our children.



Lining up for lunch at Rowland Road.



Taking a plate. Is that a volunteer feeling the heat?



Teachers and cooking staff help to serve meals.



Children enjoying good food and the company.



GOING



GOING



GONE

MOWALI TREKKING BRINGS OUT THE BEST IN US –AND NATURE.

Our trip to Mowali Pass was made possible by the generosity of donors. It is a vital part of our curriculum and the type of opportunity that enables us to see, experience and grow. Seeing the beauty and raw power of nature is a rejuvenating and spiritual event that is far removed from the crowded and polluted streets of Kolkata. Our intrepid leader, Mr Swapan Paul, led the expedition and his experience and example enabled all of us to complete what was a challenging but safe trek. Here are some photographs of what we saw on the way.



When we returned to school after being away for ten days, we did a power-point presentation of the trek to the whole school. Everyone enjoyed it and came to understand just how important our environment is and how very special India is away from its big cities. This was such a great trip in so many ways.



Mr S Paul, most likely in deep thought as he crosses a mountain stream



It was scenery like this that made us stop and think: life is good!

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND SUPPORTERS



Photographer: Sophie Baker. Taken from atop a precarious ladder.

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR FUTURE HOPE

May Summer Vacation brings the Puja and Home excursions.

May Summer Vacation brings jobs placements for all Year 12, 11, 10 & 9 students who are 18 years and over.

May sees our Junior 4 'Awesome Foursome' compete in the Bengal Rowing Regatta.

May sees the start of Rugby, Soccer and Hockey seasons.

House Sport involves: Tug O' War, Netball, Hockey, Rugby, Soccer, Volleyball, Carrom, and Chess.

May sees the start of House Drama Competition practice. Performance scheduled for after Mid Term Break July/ August.

June sees School Prefect Leadership Camp.

CONTRIBUTING COMMITTEE

Our thanks to: All volunteers and especially Annie Conway for photographs, Mr. Gupta, Cricket Squad, Mark Lewis for photographs, Mr. S. Paul, Mrs. B Mok, Ms Basak, The Spy, Ram, Sophie Baker for photographs, and Pradeep our regular 'Tiger' student advisor.