

# EXCELSIOR



Hearty greetings to all!

Just as spring heralds new life, warmth and brightness, the pitter patter of feet in the Senior School corridors indicate that the school year has not only begun, but is well on its way to being one that is filled with fun and activities. Surely by now everybody, particularly the Class 7 students and the new admissions have become familiar with the school and its way of life. Every 'Allenite' is fairly occupied and is looking forward to something – be it club work, inter-house hockey and basketball, the Win Mumby Tournament at Woostock School or the Hindi Play (preparations for which are in full swing). Also, we have recently bid farewell to the I.C.S.E and I.S.C students. Of course, our prayer and wishes go with all of them, some of whom will be starting a new chapter in their lives. This is the very first edition of the 'Excelsior' and through it we wish to acquaint you with the new members of the Editorial Board. We have great plans for the school newspaper and hope to inspire all of you to become regular contributors. Do not forget that creativity resides in all of you, students and teachers alike, and we are going to make numerous attempts to unleash it!

Masthead designed by Shivika Garg

Special points of interest:

- A contest for the Class Seven and Eight students called 'Design your own Super-hero /heroine'
- Quiz questions

*The I.S.C students were asked what they would miss the most about Wynberg-Allen; here's what some of them had to say:*

I will miss feeding stray dogs, talking to the monkeys and ringing the dormitory bell and running away!

**Trisha Arora**

Dancing in the dormitory, fun fights with Rajneen and Bansal, Teachers' Day and Inter-house Play Practices.

-Shubham



Badminton practice sessions, screaming in the dormitory, getting screamed at by Aunty, head massages on Sunday afternoons, Class Ten girls and Yohima's future plans.

**Srishti**

God gave us memories that we might have roses in December. ~J.M. Barrie

## **APE ATROCITY**

It seems to me that our simian friends are angry with us over the fact that they did not get to reap the benefits of evolution. Be it Monkeys or 'Langurs', gone are the days when we believed that, 'they won't hurt you if you don't tease them.' The 'in' thing is to run and hide as soon as you see one. We love to watch them at play, swinging from branches and realize that we have encroached into their territory, but we wouldn't mind asking them to be more patient with the human lot.

## **BULLS EYE**

On the morning of 21.02.2012 when a certain student of 10B was walking towards her class, a monkey, just out of curiosity, threw a big, round, heavy iron bolt at her head and then it followed her to the staircase, possibly to see how she would react. Perhaps he wanted to see if he got his aim right. "I really saw stars for some time and I had a bump on my head. This monkey has declared a war against me!" Stated the victim, completely bemused.

## **LOVE STRUCK WWE CHAMPIONSHIP WINNER**

On the afternoon of 27 February, 2012 when everything seemed calm and thankfully warm, out of nowhere a rather enthusiastic 'Langur' swung down from the roof in front of the dining hall and chased boys of class 10A. Amidst this chaos, a very courageous student stood against the wall waiting for the furry creature to pass but this 'politeness' of his hurt the 'Langur's' feelings deeply and it pushed him against the wall. The 'langur' further went on to chase another petrified student and just to prove to him that it was faster, it raced ahead of him and gave him a slight tap on the shoulder.

The cherry on the cake was the 'Langur' losing its heart to the beautiful Suranya Indra Sur (ISC 2012) and giving her a tight teddy bear hug to wish her luck for her exam. I hope her exam went well!

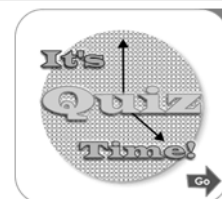
## **ANTI-APE ADVICE**

- \* Always wear a HELMET !
- \* When you see a monkey .....JUST RUN!
- \* Don't make the mistake of thinking that you are 'HE-MAN'.
- \* Don't look pretty and huggable .— **Pranvi Manglick 10A**



## **QUIZ 1**

1. What was the name of Wynberg-Allen's first principal?
2. Where is the school motto 'Excelsior' taken from?
3. How many chapattis are rolled out in the Allen dining hall for dinner ?



**This quiz is for the Class 7 students only. The first three correct entries win a chocolate.**

**One can go to war alone, but you can't build peace alone.-Jacques Chirac**

## Our Guide to Hong Kong...

My family and I went to Hong Kong for our vacation. Our trip lasted seven days. First we went to Delhi and then we flew to Hong Kong. We reached Hong Kong in the morning , at around 8'o' clock, but according to Hong Kong time it was 5'o'clock. There was a bus waiting for us outside the airport which took us to Stanford Hotel.



### DAY 1

We went shopping. We bought many shoes, clothes and I bought an I-PAD. We bought these things from a street which was called 'Shim Sa Sue'. There were so many shops in the hotel itself. So we went for shopping in the hotel as well. For dinner we went to an Indian restaurant.

### DAY 2

On the second day we went for a walk of three hours. It was very tiring but completely worth it as the view from the top was breathtaking. Then we went to Madame Tussauds wax museum. There we saw statues of many famous personalities.

### DAY 3

On day 4 we went to Disneyland. There also we went on many scary rides, like the roller coaster, parallel trawl, etc. We watched 3D shows, and there we saw a very famous show called "THE GOLDEN MICKEY". The show lasted an hour and it was fabulous. Then in the evening there was a parade. At 8'o'clock we witnessed a fireworks show. It was very beautiful.

### DAY 5

On the fifth day we sat in a ferry that took us to Macau. There we stayed in Venetian Hotel. On entering the hotel we saw a waterfall, the top of it was golden in color. The hotel was very big and beautiful. We stayed there for two days and shopped a lot. The trip was truly memorable because I got to see a new place with my family.

— Sanya Wahi 9B



### MY CANINE FRIEND!

Matt eats at the table,  
For meals he is always  
available,

He catches the rat from near the trash can,  
For that he receives a treat from my Nan!

He is eleven years old,

And always does what he is told,

And he loves to eat fruit,

Maybe that is why he is so adorable and  
cute!

He wakes me up in the morning,

With a low bark for warning,  
And then licks my face till I scream and jump,  
He only lets up when my feet hit the floor  
with a thump!

I really miss him when I am in school,  
Life without him seems so 'uncool'.

Sasha Kumar 9B

**We may have all come on different ships , but we're in the same boat now.— Martin Luther King Jr**

My friends, the play practices and Wynberg food.



— Yohima

Hindi Elocution Practices, getting caught with tuck and irritating Shristi Bansal and then crying.

Shreya

Making cakes with Kataria on the last day of school, the 1's and 2's corridor, Class 8 girls and the I.C.S.E (2013) students. Also, the Christmas Musical Practices.

Suranya

The pool, play practices and playing with the Class 8 girls (present Class 8)

Gayatri

Talking to the present Class 9& 10 girls, waking up others and then dozing off myself, sharing a packet of chips with ten other people, midnight parties, sitting with Motwani in class, play practices and 'The Yellow Mug'. **Prakriti**

Shubham's cranky sessions, Independence Day and Teachers' Day Practices, Wynberg food and Vijaya's hip hop dance.—**Joanna**

Thursday's assemblies and sitting in the corridor outside classes 1&2.—**Anshika**

## MY TRIP TO HONG KONG

My family and I went to Hong Kong for our vacation around New Year time. It was a six-day trip. We took a flight to Hong Kong from the Delhi Airport. On reaching Hong Kong, we took a ferry to Macau. Macau is also called "mini Las Vegas". We stayed there for two days in Venetian Hotel, which is one of the best hotels out there.

The first day, we toured our three-thousand-room hotel. It boasts of a huge casino and many shops. The next day we went for a ride in a gondola. We passed through small tunnels and then we went to see the circus. The circus show was performed by one of the most famous comedians of Hong Kong. It was our last day in the hotel. On the third day, we went to Madame Tussaud's which houses wax statues of famous personalities. We also went to Ocean Park that day. The following day we went to Disneyland which is divided into four parts. It has many roller-coaster rides and very entertaining 3D shows. There was a parade as well that evening in which there were many cartoon characters. We stayed there for a day and a half day and it is the best place I have ever visited. On the last day we went to see one of the tallest buildings in the world- International Commerce Centre. Our much memorable trip ended and very soon we were on our way back to India.— **Tanya Tandon 9B**

## Campus News

### Nescafe News!

Did you get a strong smell of coffee in the air as the Board students finished 200 cups of coffee in the first 24-hours of the installation of the brand new coffee machines in the dormitories?

### Musically Inclined!

Hardly had the club lists been put up when a whole army of students marched up to Ms. I.Keskar and Ms. K. Singh pleading to be accepted into the Music Club, the auditions of which were held the very next day! The Hooper hall was bursting at the seams. It reminded one of the Indian Idol auditions!

### With Arms Wide Open!

Along with new students, the whole Wynberg –Allen family opened their welcoming arms wide to embrace new members of staff.

Vijaya and Motwani's jokes, towel fights, 'rosette time', Shubham's cranky sessions. Dancing in the dormitory, study time with the present Class 8 girls, Wynberg's food and listening to Su's ghost stories. —**Rikita**

Wynberg food, Aunty Khare, the classroom where I sat for two years, being the 'tubelight' of the class, playing truant from Maths class and the Annual English Play practices. **Rajneen**

Wynberg food, Thursday's breakfast, cracking bad jokes, sleeping in class, dancing in front of the mirror and shouting 'Go, Kataria, Go'.



Vijaya

### **Time's Running Out!**

Yes, boys and girls, time is running out for the '**Design an Emblem for the Quasiquicentennial Celebrations**'. The final entries should be given to Mr Misra by the 30th of April and, of course, the Excelsior will be publishing the name of the lucky winner!

### **Quite a Splash!**

The 19<sup>th</sup> of March definitely witnessed a lot of 'splashing moments' as the class 7 and 8 students dived into the swimming pool energetically, marking the beginning of the swimming season.

### **Spycam!**

Wynberg students are almost jumping (or rather sliding) with joy as new slides and swings have been installed there. Few senior girls have also been spotted, stealthily tiptoeing to the swings on their way back to their dormitories after night studies.

### **Battle of Words**

The first English debate in the junior division was held on Wednesday, the 21st of March, the topic being 'Junk food should not be sold in school canteens'. Of the eight participants who spoke on the topic, five were new to the debating circuit. The house positions were as follows:

First Position-Foy

Second Position -Powell

Third Position- Condon

Fourth Position- Allen

Also, here are the names of the members of the English Debating Society for the year 2012.

President-Ganga Shinghal

Secretary-Harmony Singh

Time Keeper-Malvika Chauhan

### **Quiz Fizz...**

On the 28th of March, the Sir Kirby Laing Auditorium witnessed the first quizzing session in the junior division. The guest quiz masters for the afternoon were Mr Radcliffe and Ms Banerjee. It was a closely contested session that ended with Foy leading with 124 points, followed by Allen with 85 points, Condon 84 and Powell 79.

### **Members of the Quiz Society for the Year 2012**

**President**– Jayant Nariala

**Secretary & Time Keeper**– Nisshtha Khattar

**Scorer**– Ganga Shinghal

### **Hysterics Over Histrionics!**

The 19<sup>th</sup> of April saw the coming together of a variety of students (including the non-Hindi speaking ones) to audition for the Annual Hindi Play 'Bapu Kaid Mein'.

### **A Proud Moment!**

Wynberg-Allen School will be hosting the Category I, Stage I of the Frank Anthony Memorial All-India Inter-School Debate Competition in the Sir Kirby Laing Auditorium on the 16th of April.





### WYNBERG ALLEN RELIVED

Mr. Gerald Quiros gets candid with members of the school's editorial team. Mr. Gerald Quiros is an alumnus of the school who visited Wynberg-Allen in the year 2012 with his wife and children. He lives in the United Kingdom but his days at Allen are clearly etched in his mind. His excellent memory has managed to recreate for us what life must have been like for a boy of 16 in the year 1940.

#### When were you a part of the school?

I studied here from Class 9 to Class 12 between the years 1940 and 1943.

#### Who was the principal then?

Mr Biggs was the Principal of Wynberg-Allen at that time.

#### Tell us something about the teachers who taught you.

I don't know any teacher presently teaching here. I had some excellent teachers like Mr. Lawrence, Mr. Matthew, Mr. Johnson, Mr Bricknem and Mr. Waller. Among them, Mr Matthews (Maths teacher) and Mr. Mangon (History teacher) were the strictest; they were very particular about their instructions being followed. Mr. Gupta (the Hindi teacher) was very lenient.



#### What was the naughtiest thing you have ever done?

I used to run up to Wynberg quietly to see my girlfriend. (Mr Quiros was very kind enough to give us her name---- Dorothy Armour)

#### What was the common mode of transport?

There were no roads. Luggage used to be carried up from Kingcraig to the school on the backs of the strong porters.

#### What were your favourite activities? (The ones you couldn't do without)

I was a diehard fan of boxing and athletics and I excelled at them.

#### What was the usual punishment given for indiscipline?

Life was very strict and discipline kept the students on their toes.

#### What are the changes that you see in school?

The school has changed in innumerable ways.

Mr Quiros listed the changes:

---The school didn't have a swimming pool then. There was a tennis court there in 1940.

--- There were no excursions or exeats. (Consider yourself lucky then!). The only time we were allowed to step outside the school was during visits to the church every Sunday when the entire school marched off to Union Church for Sunday service in their best Sunday clothes.

--- There was no canteen.

---- However, children were allowed to get their own tuck boxes.

#### What did you do after leaving Wynberg- Allen School?

I joined the police force in Lucknow and completed my training in Moradabad. After partition, I went back to England and worked as an engineer in an Oil Cooperation.

#### How do you stay connected with the school?

I regularly attend the reunions in England.

**(Just as we were moving onto the next question Mr. Radcliffe came up with a relevant question. )**

**One's philosophy is not best expressed in words; it is expressed in the choices one makes... and the choices we make are ultimately our responsibility.—Eleanor Roosevelt**

**Do you think children today are pampered?**

Yes, certainly. The spanking we used to receive helped us to develop into what we are now.

**How would you rate the school's facilities?**

The school has excellent world-class sports and study facilities (referring to the smart boards). The infrastructure and the teachers are excellent. The students should put these to good and wise use.

**What is your message to the students?**

Follow your teachers' instructions, for they have your best interest at heart. Be sincere and always persevere.

**Thank you Sir for your meaningful advice which we shall put to good use.**

## In Conversation with Miss Karuna Singh...

**Where are you originally from?**

I am from Rishikesh.

**How did you come to know about this school?**

My cousins studied here. I studied here for two years (Class I and II)

**Which is your favourite song?**

It depends on my mood.

**Which is your favourite movie?**

'A Walk to Remember'

**Which Quote do you feel is the most inspiring one?**

Work Hard, Work Smart.

**Where did you complete your schooling?**

Grace Academy, Dehradun.

**So, what pranks did you play over there?**

I locked my warden in the washroom.

**Ma'am, any message for the students of W.A.S.?**

Be Good.

**What do you think about Wynberg-Allen?**

It is an amazing place!

Getting to know  
Ms.Keskar...

**How did you come to know about Wynberg-Allen School ?**

An aunt used to teach here before and that's how I came to know about the school.

**Share a funny incident of your life with us.**

When I went for an interview, the interviewer asked me who my favourite psychoanalyst was. Then I told him the name and he asked me if I had ever met this gentleman. Of course I hadn't, and then he disclosed to me that he was the person whose name I had taken.

**When did you think of becoming a psychologist?**

When I was in Class 10.

**What are your plans for the future?**

To complete my PhD.

**If you ever have an option to change your career then what would you choose?**

I would choose a career as a Geologist.

**RAPID FIRE QUESTIONS:-****Your favourite singer?**

John Mayer

**Your favourite song?**

'Your Song' by Elton John

**Your favourite cartoon character?**

Popeye

**Your favourite holiday destination?**

Shimla

**Your favourite movie?**

'You Have Got Mail'

**Your favourite quote?**

"For in Him we move and have our being."

**A message for students.**

'Don't be in a hurry to grow up because this time will never return.'

**Should music be played in the classrooms?**

- a whooping yes! – 42.74%
- it would lull them (students and teachers) to sleep! – 2.82%
- a source of distraction, so an absolute NO! – 0.17%
- depends on the kind of music you wish to play! – 37.5%

**THE EVM- THE  
EXCELSIORIC**

**Should school canteens provide us with fast food such as burgers, noodles, pizza, etc.?**

- no, it's unhealthy! – 1.64%
- children will stop eating in the dining halls, so no! – 2.05%
- they are more wholesome than chips! – 96.31%

**Should we have a playground equipped with swings and slides for the students of class 7 and 8?**

- yes!! – 0.8%
- No!!! – 2.4%
- we're not little children (-\_-) – 61.6%

**The Ghost Electrician**

That morning wasn't 'ordinary'  
My pillow seemed to be a bit 'more furry',  
I could not hear the birds sing,  
Nor could I hear the bell ring.  
That morning was 'scary',  
I had a dream about a fairy.  
In the dorm, I was all alone,  
I wished I had a phone.  
I heard a knock on the door,  
I opened the gate,  
And stared in fear at what was to be my fate!  
I saw a man,  
And asked if he was the man who had been  
sent to repair the fan,  
He smiled and vanished into thin air,  
I think it is highly unfair,  
A ghost ought to warn before it visits,  
Send a telegram, a letter or dial some digits,  
I am sure you all agree,  
They should just let us little children be!

**Vanshika Batra 9B**

**THE EDITORIAL  
TEAM:**

Harmony Singh  
Pragun Tuladhar  
Ganga Shinghal  
Malvika Chauhan  
Jayant Nariala  
Jibraeel Diler  
Samrta Marks  
Pranvi Manglick  
Harsimar Singh  
Shweta Tandon  
Sarthak Bhatia  
Sara  
Tanisha Makkar  
Aditya Vikram Jalan  
Pavni Aggarwal  
Vedika Bansal

Answer the following questions  
and win a chocolate:

When was Hong Kong re-  
turned to China?

Which region of the Indian  
subcontinent issued the first  
prepaid postage stamp?

In which country was the first  
airmail stamp issued?

What did the first stamp of  
independent India show?

Which was the first adhesive  
stamp to be issued in the  
world?

This quiz is open to all classes.