



IMPACT

- STS E-NEWSLETTER...

Vol. 1 Issue 1

Pgs - 4

July-Sept 2010

HEY READERS!

A balmy breeze fans its wings, the air redolent with the whiff of dew-clad blooms, the lilac of the sea and the sheen of choicest primroses, the gentle caress of the glistening rays into your eyes - Yes! It's the sheer thrill of beginning anew...

The cabinet 2010 presents - IMPACT - your own newsletter, which gets you an hourglass view of the selfsame silver, up close and personal.

Dear readers, relish the intoxicating cocktail of creativity, reflection and nostalgia as we share our moments of glory, fun and felicitation.

IMPACT is, thus, the labour of love, crafted with punctilious care and devotion.

As far as IMPACT goes - You're the BOSS! So write in to us and tell us what to do to make it a better read and a better friend

Post your articles on - impact.stsnewsletter@gmail.com, and pour your heart out to us!

We're Listening!
Till then -
HAPPY READING!

- Editor-in-chief

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The newsletter is moderated by the Principal.

I'm (anti)sociable!

-Social networking made me so!

I don't want to be sounding like this ancient old person who passed out of school ages ago and is now doing philosophical talk on generation gap and changes. You all know too much about it already, and I am anyway bad at saying such stuff. I might as well just accept it by the time you finish reading this article, you'll doubt my age and consider me to be fit for re-joining Grade 7 probably! The reasons for that are obvious: I still continue to watch Hannah Montana and have a fetish for heart-shaped, orange-coloured sunglasses. I still have a pair of capris which has Mickey Mouse on it. Two days ago, I was fighting with my Mom over the Tweety poster on my bedroom door, and Winnie the Pooh on my bathroom door. She wanted to remove them, I want them to stay. Forever. I guess.

The point is, there are some things in life which we never grow out of. We want them to remain with us forever, and the moment we move away from them, we feel incomplete and handicapped. In some way or the other, we are obsessed with them, or addicted to them. Today, social networking does that for all of us.

Few days ago, I was talking to my 8 year old cousin, and found out that he has joined Facebook, MySpace, Orkut and a couple of other new ones that I am not aware of. (Yes, well, for some things I can claim I am old enough because I am not as updated as school children when it comes to new social networking sites!) I asked him, "Aren't you too young to be on these sites?"

And he gave a crisp, or let's say rock solid and impactful response back "Don't you think you are too old for these things? You should really be focusing on other things you know, rather than updating your status message everyday and taking Anora Love and Anita Luck Psychic tests!"

I was left speechless.

He had a point to make. And even though my head was screaming, "I second that! I second that!" My lips were moving furiously trying to figure out a possible response to his "true-but-not-good-to-listen-to-allegation".

There is obviously a right age when you should get on to these sites. And this right age is often decided by parents, keeping in mind cyber crime incidents and cases where people's personal information has been misused.



by some third party. However, the control on the activities on these sites is totally up to us. And while we love to show the world how we celebrated our birthday, or love to dedicate status messages to our friends, it is up to us to decide how much time we spend on these sites, and what all activities we actually indulge in.

For instance, social gaming when done in a limit is considered to be a form of entertainment. But when people go overboard saying that they set their study timetables based on how many hours their crops will grow in, or how many hours their dishes will be prepared in, it is clearly obsession.

Picture sharing on social networking was introduced to share your life's good moments with your near and dear ones. It even helps upcoming photographers like me to showcase their portfolio to potential clients and business contacts. But when the same photos take away four or five hours of our day where we keep uploading, tagging and commenting on them, it is a time-wasting activity and a sign of obsession.

You may ask, "Why should I be bothered even if these activities are time-wasting? I am a school kid after all! Not like I have a job to go to after school or some other work to do..."

Point taken. You are a school kid. Precisely why your parents get worried. They don't want their kids to be uploading scandalous pictures at such a tender age.

Admit it, each one of you has been scolded at least once for staying on Facebook all day long. You might sign in from a personal laptop or from your mobile, or might just shift the desktop screen a little to make sure that your parents don't get to know what you are doing. But they've been there, and have done all of that! They are much smarter than you think!

At the age of 19, I am not saying that you should turn into conscious freaks that simply give up all fun and focus on serious activities. Even at 19, I feel and behave like it, so I obviously do not have the right to tell you what to do and what not to do. But all I can do is give you a little signal to set you thinking. I received my signal at the right time, and decided my own rules after that. I decided how much time I would spend on social networking, and what all things I would restrict or completely stop doing. I also became more sensitively aware. All those times when I was sitting on the computer and commenting randomly on friend's profiles, I had left my Mom alone. Today, I choose to talk to her about random things for 2 hours straight, than spending that time on Facebook. I don't even remember my 165 password now, and I deleted my Orkut profile to save myself from the trouble of accepting and rejecting incessant friendship requests from unknown people.

You may consider yourself to be really social when you say that you stay connected with your friends on these sites. But here's the reality check they are the same friends you meet in school daily! What's the point of talking to them so much on a site just 10-12 hours before you meet them again? You are not really social in that sense. You are in fact, anti-social. You are selfish, looking at your entertainment and fun, and ignoring the happiness of those who keep waiting for you to talk to them. Yes, they're your parents. The same people who actually got you your computer and taught you how to use it.

Choose between things wisely. Limit yourself and your activities timely. Balance now. And yes, the lesson that I learnt here can be updated as a status message later! :D It takes just a minute to do that!

-Ridhi Rajpal

YOU AND ME BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP SEA

When I got promoted to IX, my aunt told me to enjoy as much as I could in the first few months, as thereafter I would have to start preparing for class X boards. I have seen several of my cousins who have lost their weight, interests, passion, glow from their face - all while preparing for the dreaded "Boards"! Board Examination has been an eternal symbol of one-time opportunity in your stint in class X, a matter of life and death, success and failure. The 3 hour exam at the end of the year which will determine, what you are capable of- Science or Humanities or Commerce!

Several times the students just got burnt out till the time they could reach the ultimate stage of those three hours. It was a systematic oppression of children to which we had all mentally and emotionally condemned ourselves. However, One fine day, there came a divine brain wave- lo and behold, life becomes possible without the tenth boards. Initially it was unbelievable, gradually I could see my seniors going green with envy. I could not believe in my good luck and did not quite know how to thank the Almighty to have chosen me to be in the first batch of post-board liberation.

allowing me to remain a cat by staying outside the rat-race. We were to have a system which would provide a holistic profile of the learner through assessment of both scholastic and non-scholastic aspects of education spread over the total span of instructional time in schools. The purpose of CCE was to identify those positive attributes of the learner which are not usually assessed during the examinations conducted by the Board. As CCE is spread over a period of two years in class IX and X it is supposed to provide, several opportunities for the school to identify the latent talents of the learners in different contexts.

I was gearing myself to lap up this opportunity and was still gloating in the glory of the gentle sunshine of a stage in life which was going to be relaxed and cool. Just then ... came a tsunami. Who knew what destiny had in store for us. There is deluge of projects, viva-voce, assignments, presentations... Even mules can pity us. We never knew, we would be subjected to such creative forms of oppression - work, which is like a bottomless well. Some of the others of my species have said- "CCE is monstrous, I barely have time for other work."

School work takes up all my time," says Arpita Vaghela. "Just loads of homework and projects to make. More importance is given to neatness over content." - Divita Vats
"It is good in some aspects. It gives opportunities to speak in public which will be helpful for us in the future." - Samihan Sahni

CCE is indeed a noble idea, if so many intellectuals have thought so, it must be good. I earnestly hope that when this system gets established it will reduce pressure on the students- it will create opportunities for success- several and not one; there will be no scarcity of excellence; it will make learning meaningful; identify uniqueness of each single child and help all of us grow responsibly, intelligently and happily together and not at the cost of each other. A big step has been taken in this direction, let's all make it a success for our own welfare.

- Srishti Sehgal, X-E



School News

APRIL 2010

April 28: Earth Day

Celebrated on April 28, a special assembly was organized to create awareness amongst the students. The students took a pledge to take preventive measures and protect their mother Earth. 'The Speaking Tree' was 'planted' by the Environment Ministry where students could voice their opinions.

April 30: Shakespeare's Day

The programme began with singing the sonnet 'Shall I compare thee to a summer's day' to set the tone. This was followed by an enactment of Shakespeare's plays that enthused the audience.

MAY 2010

May 3: Investiture Ceremony

Filled with zeal and enthusiasm, the new cabinet members shouldered their responsibilities and duties. The cabinet realized afresh the need to respect the trust invested in them and pledged themselves to prove worthy of STS and keep its banner high.

May 8 - May 9 : 150th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore

The celebrations began with a very evocative dance drama; An array of Gurudev's most famous songs, a presentation of his renowned poems and skits were the highlights. Vignettes from his most outstanding plays- Chandalika, Shyama, Chitrangada to name a few- gave a thought provoking insight into the amazing creativity of 'Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore'.

May 14- 16:

Kho-Kho Matches (Sub-Juniors):

Results - Chand Bibi - 1st position
Nightingale - 2nd position
Madame Curie - 3rd position
Sarojini Naidu - 4th position

Kho-Kho Matches (Juniors):

Results - Madame Curie - 1st position
Nightingale - 2nd position
Chand Bibi - 3rd position
Sarojini Naidu - 4th position

July 2010

July 9: Talent Hunt:

Results-

1) Western Music (solo):

Chand Bibi - 1st position
Nightingale - 2nd position
Sarojini Naidu - 3rd position
Madame Curie - 4th position

2) Indian Dance (solo):

Sarojini Naidu - 1st position
Chand Bibi - 2nd position
Nightingale - 3rd position
Madame Curie - 4th position

3) Mono-Acting:

Madame Curie - 1st position
Sarojini Naidu - 2nd position
Chand Bibi - 3rd position
Nightingale - 4th position

July 26-30: EPIPHANY 2010-

ST. THOMAS' had a week long carnival of multifarious activities-EPIPHANY 2010. The week commenced with Srijan - an art competition for the budding artists. This was followed by the Helen Jerwood Debate where the students debated on the topic - 'India has Arrived: An Emerging Economic Power to Contend with' and Sarojini Naidu poetry recitation competition where the themes were 'How Green Was My Valley' and 'A Farewell To Arms'. The week ended with 'Sur Lehari' and Moods 'n' Melodies' where a fine display of musical talents was seen.

July 26: Kho-Kho Matches (Seniors)

Results-

Sarojini Naidu - 1st position
Chand Bibi - 2nd position
Madame Curie - 3rd position
Nightingale - 4th position

Aug 2010

Aug 7 : Table Tennis Matches Results(Sub-Juniors):

Madame Curie - 1st position
Sarojini Naidu - 2nd position
Chand Bibi - 3rd position
Nightingale - 4th position

Aug 10: Chess Trials organized.

Aug 13 - Independence Day Celebrations

1) Inter-house March Past Competition

Results:

Chand Bibi - 1st position
Sarojini Naidu - 2nd position
Nightingale - 3rd position
Madame Curie - 4th position

2) Inter-house patriotic solo-singing:

Results:

Chand Bibi - 1st position
Nightingale - 2nd position
Madame Curie - 3rd position
Sarojini Naidu - 4th position

3) Inter-house group singing;

Results:

Sarojini Naidu - 1st position
Chand Bibi - 2nd position
Madame Curie - 3rd position
Nightingale - 4th position



Earth Day - The Speaking Tree

Investiture Ceremony

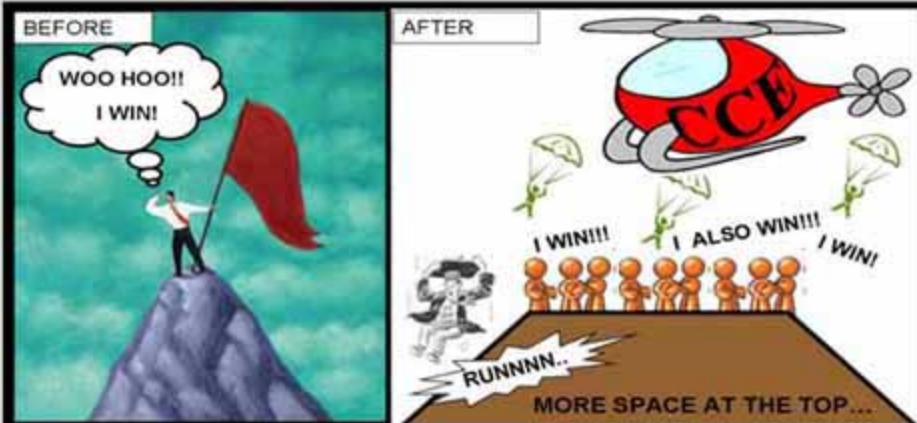


Tagore Day

Srijan



Moods 'n' Melodies



A tête-à-tête with

PRINCIPAL MA'AM - Mrs. A. Amos



W: Are you nervous?

Ma'am: No. Not at all..

W: Three things that you would like to change in the next three years in STS?

STS as an institution is brimming with positivity. My endeavour is to give opportunities to all - be it staff or students to grow. But if I had to change three things, they would be:

- 1) I would like my children to be more aware.
- 2) Would like the girls to be physically fit.
- 3) Would like the students to be more discerning.

W: How would you define your Dream Student?

M: My dream student should be a healthy mix of academics and co-curriculars. Well read and well-spoken. And if the person is a girl - gracious!

W: Ma'am what's the secret behind that 'ICY' smile?

M: Just a longing for a 'WARM' heart!!

W: Your subject being History - If given a choice, what role would you take up? Being Akbar or being Mohd. Bin-Tughlaq? And Why?

M: Given a chance, I would willingly take up the role of both - Akbar and Tughlaq. Akbar had an admirable personality-he gave the country a national character. And Tughlaq for his courage to think 'out of the box', experiments and impulsive nature!

W: (Impressed..)

W: Do you ever envy your teachers/students?

M: Yes. Of course. The students are much more free. We are responsible and answerable.

W: Your opinion on CCE instead of Boards?

M: CCE gives the chance for more students to top. For instance, We had 11 students with a CGPA of 10 this year. So you see, there's more space at the top.

W: Your take on the school cabinet 2010?

M: A group of dynamic young ladies-brimming with ideas. Initiate and encourage dialogue with the authorities. Good future leaders.

W: If you were 'PAUL - the octopus' what would be your prophecy for STS 2020?

M: Make it a happier place in terms of co-curriculars and academics and let the children take more initiative. Everything should not be technology-driven because then, the human touch goes away. It is ultimately the 'people' we have to deal with..

Your Favourite:

- **Book(s)** : To Kill a Mocking Bird, A town like Alice by Nevil Shute
- **Place to Visit:** Switzerland
- **Actor:** Amir Khan/AI Pacino
- **Comic character:** Charlie Brown, Beetle Bailey, Asterix
- **Movie:** Khuda ke liye/Godfather
- **Bed-time story:** Ginger bread man
- **TV character:** Maya Sarabhai

CLUES:

1. If you've been called there, you'll pull your socks up!
2. You can sing here, dance here... and guess what?!.. there's a mirror too.
3. Great minds at work! Shh...maintain silence.
4. The school has full attendance while this annual music event takes place.
5. Head of the senior department.
6. The house that stands for freedom.
7. The place where all the food-a-holics of the school are found.
8. _____ are the bricks of red.
9. If basketball is for basket, then football is to _____
10. The freakiest exams of class XII
11. Present Ma'am, absent ma'am
12. The house that lives to serve.
13. The colour of the house that is named after a great poetess.
14. STSers tie their hair in a _____

-BY Divya Batra
XII - CB



...ce camera and a elid...
 ...ghting...
 ...can...
 ...to...

...of 2005...
 ...outing outside...
 ...

facebook

Home Profile Friends Inbox

Settings Logout



Edit My Profile

By: Divya Bhagia,
Ridhi Rajpal (Pass-outs)

Information

Relationship Status
It's Complicated
Birthday
Leave that..
The age is 80 years..

Friends



Vishakha Jain Mohini Kakkar Sriшти Sehgal



Deeksha Govil Kushaara Dua Raunika Kumar

2 of 4 albums

See All



Notes

2 notes

See All

You Know You're an STSer when..

Wall Info Photos Video Notes +

Update Status Share Link Add Photos Add Video Write Note

What are you doing right now?

Post

All Posts Posts By Posts by Others Settings

1. The words "outside assembly" sound as a nightmare to you...
2. You think the Christmas party at STS is the most ROCKING party of the year....
3. You love to criticize the school cabinet....
4. I bet you CAN sing the school-song without the hymn book....
5. You believe that "co-ed schools are more fun" is just a MYTH....
6. You have been to Lodhi Garden at least 3-4 times on a school picnic....
7. You have at least once been corrected by your school Principal regarding the pronunciation of some word...
8. You are always asking for credit facility from the canteen manager or the ice cream vendor....
9. You have atleast been to "pappu ki daukan" once after school....
10. You go to the the senior-section, estate supervisor's room and the sick room, time and again to check yourself out in the mirror...
11. You believe everyone who wears a high-waist skirt is a nerd...
12. You like to spend most of your money on buying churans, chatmola and stuff from lala than the real food....
13. When you're used to SINGING 'Good Afternoon ma'am and thank you ma'am' to your teachers rather than SPEAKING it...
14. When you're used to picking the computer just opposite to the teacher's chair so that you can have a quick look at your FACEBOOK account while pretending to compile a program...
15. The corner behind the last shelf next to the wall that housed the literature books in the library was the best place to have a chat. Perfectly hidden...
16. When cabinet members take off your coloured rubber bands and clips and DON'T return them...
17. When spiritual teachings - especially faith in God, become your biggest strength in the worst of times...
18. You are VIOLENTLY SENSITIVE about the correct pronunciation of "Thomas" with "T" than the "TH"...

Answers

1. Principals office, 2. Music room, 3. Library, 4. Sur Lehrs, 5. Mrs. Nigam, 6. Chand Bibi, 7. Canteen, 8. Yonders, 9. Coah
10. Boards, 11. Attendance, 12. Madame Curie, 13. Blue, 14. Plat