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MOUNT OLYMPUS SCHOOL

About the school

*Happy Teacher-Happy Student
-Happy -Happy School-Happy
Teacher - Happy students- Happy
Parents - Happy School, this is both
our core belief and commitment. We believe
learning is maximized when happy:
'A happy heart learns the best.'*



Dr. Neeti C. Kaushik

A Postgraduate in Science with over 30 years of qualitative experience in teaching and administration with the best schools of NCR, Dr. Kaushik possesses experience of the entire gamut of school administration, curriculum planning, teacher training and expertise in school projects. She has been the founder and principal of Amity International schools (Sector 43 and 46) and KR Mangalam World School, South City I, Gurgaon.

Dr. Kaushik believes that – 'evolving to be the best version of oneself is the highest goal for any individual.' She relentlessly works to enthuse the spirit of self-competition in children as the greatest gift. Committed to nurturing curious learners, confident, self-assured, skilled individuals, empathetic, balanced and responsible citizens of our nation she constantly strives for excellence in scholastics, co scholastics and life-skills leading to overall well-being and development of students, preparing them to be 'Future Fit' for the 21st Century.

About the Principal

individuals, empathetic, balanced and responsible citizens of our nation she constantly strives for excellence in scholastics, co scholastics and life-skills leading to overall well-being and development of students, preparing them to be 'Future Fit' for the 21st Century.

Dr. Kaushik is recipient of several prestigious awards including Dr. Radhakrishnan National Award for best teacher, Computer Literacy Excellence Award for Haryana, 'Best Principal' in Haryana zone for three years in recognition of the outstanding performance of school in National Olympiads in Science, Computer Science and English. She has also been awarded the prestigious ISA award by the British Council. An avid writer, she has penned down more than 50 school books in the field of science, life skills, environmental science and pre-school series.

School has been her second home where she embraced learning-by-doing throughout her life. While she has played the role of a teacher and a mentor for many young hearts, it has been the company of the virtuous, innocent and pure-hearted children that has continued to nourish her soul. Dr. Kaushik believes that success in life is not always quantified by riches because it is more important to contemplate your deeds rather than count how much you achieved. She earnestly tries to 'fill her life with experiences rather than things such that interesting stories could be told in contrast to material showcase'.

As one walks into the warm folds of our school building, one notices the happy faces of our children learning, sharing, relishing and playing. We nurture our students with the aim to ensure that they are future ready, confident and equipped to excel, as well as virtuous and wise to contribute.

Our school's motto – "REPERIO-CONSTRUCTUM-FULCIO" – "Discover-Construct-Strengthen" compliments the name of our school which stands for power and strength. We motivate our students to achieve their goals and to be the best version of themselves.

Mount Olympus follows the Central Board of Secondary Education System (CBSE), offers formal schooling from early years to grade XII. We present an ICT based curriculum that not only involves the interests of the children but also enables them to integrate critical life-skills for their future. Our spacious building, radiant with natural light and well-ventilated design along with landscape contributes to a safe, hygienic, and disciplined environment.

At Mount Olympus, we follow child centric approach with balanced ideal classroom strength of 1:15 (Primary), 1:25 (Middle) and 1:30 (Senior). 100% participation is ensured in classes through talent hunts, Friday activities, assemblies, enrichment activities, expos, club -activities, training for Olympiads, SEWA etc. Furthermore, we are focused and committed to provide guidance related services to all our students. Our students participate in National and International Competitions, exposure visits and educational programs. Moreover, we achieve successful parent engagement through a plethora of activities involving parents during coffee mornings, parent's educator assemblies, counsellor sessions, and family get-togethers.

It would be right to say that we are a school where intriguing minds come together to gain knowledge and make learning enjoyable. Qualified and dedicated teachers are well-equipped to provide individual and personalised attention following the mechanism of IEP. We strive to make education purposeful, meaningful and a delightful experience that helps unleash hidden potential of each student by recognizing uniqueness and multiple intelligences in students.



Dr. Anuj Pratap Singh

As we approach end of this year's academic session with board examinations and University entrance tests queued one after the other, it is the need of this hour to focus on success and failures. In this edition of Edlines, we bring forward insights on the importance of failing in our 'Voice of Educator' section. A food for thought for our young minds: failures are never in vain and success is independent of the number of attempts. Further, we present key observations on the qualities of a true leader in our 'From the Principal's Desk' column that rightly notes that leadership knows no bounds and should not be limited by the continuum of achievements. For the IIT-JEE aspirants, the 'Rendezvous' column provides key points to remember for the upcoming exam. Last, but not the least, this edition features Mount Olympus in our Big League Institutions.

FROM
THE EDITOR'S
DESK



CHANGING CLASSROOM DYNAMICS



Ms. Devyani Kapoor
Founder, Mentor - Edudevs

Rabindranath Tagore, the prolific poet, writer, philosopher and painter became the first Indian to receive the Noble Prize in literature in 1913. Tagore largely avoided formal schooling as he believed that proper schooling stokes curiosity, and so the Chhota tree in Birbhum district in West Bengal became his first classroom in 1873, where he created and modernised art that led to his worldwide fame.

Confucius Today, in the current technological era, students have a unique situation that has not been present for the generations preceding them, where schools are shut as a result of the pandemic. This situation draws parallel from Tagore's where students are now given seemingly endless plethora of information on the internet without formal schooling. The crucial question here remains, with the new way of learning, are students effectively conducting themselves, or is it the lack of formal education that is compromising with their academic needs? The pandemic left us aloof in front of the screens making us feel like a cyborg with an open realisation that no matter how fast we might evolve we still need the roots to grow and changing the dynamics of the classroom may or may not give education a new direction with an insightful meaning.

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The erratic scenario through the pandemic has left us in a time where there is much uncertainty of economic prospects, with a concern whether the nation is still building a foundation that will provide stability and growth to succeed in the future. We must imbibe the thinking process and enable ourselves to vocationalise the skills required for the education genre. Education, in every scenario, must enable students to take up challenges, navigate the extreme risks and assess the risks inempowering the competitive environment of the 21st century.

Further, teachers play a crucial role in a classroom including that of a classroom manager. For teachers to perform well, they must understand the class room dynamics, which can be explained through student behaviour, emotions and imagination. Classroom dynamics means building of a classroom community and the creation of an active classroom culture. It also includes different pedagogical methods of presenting academic materials and student interactions. Effective teaching and learning cannot take place in a poorly managed classroom, and hence it becomes imperative for teachers to provide well-managed classrooms with an environment in which teaching and learning can take place successfully. In order to create a well-managed classroom, teachers must understand the significance of classroom dynamics by helping students develop skills to work together and create an atmosphere in the classroom where students are encouraged to take risks.

Finally, to practice successful classroom dynamics, teachers must incorporate certain rules and code of conducts to avoid chaotic situations. Rules and tone should be set in the beginning and behavioural expectations should be communicated to the students. Changing classroom dynamics means there is no time for boredom as students are busy with meaningful activities and projects. They should not be overwhelmed with the quantity of material, but simply absorbed with the activities offered. Confucius once very beautifully said: "Education



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From the principal's desk



Irina Mukherjee
Principal, Summer Fields School,
Gurugram.

A TRUE LEADER

A good leader is one who knows the way, shows the way and goes the way

- John C. Maxwell

Leaders of repute never confine themselves to unidirectional objectives to garner achievements endlessly. This thought has become increasingly more relevant for leaders of the 21st century because the relationships, work culture and work ethics have become more complex with time. A true leader is an amalgamation of various qualities such as good communication skills, confidence, sense of responsibility, commitment, etc. This note discusses few qualities that make today's leaders stand apart.

A true leader is undoubtedly a good listener. It is only when the leader is capable of empowering their teams to constructively share their thoughts that a vision can be achieved collectively. A good leader pays attention to ideas and suggestions made by the team members which could then be analysed and incorporated if deemed appropriate. The leader is thus able to instil confidence in the team members who then feel valued and form basis for a cohesive and close knit team.

Further, leaders all across the world have always shown great positivity. This trait is a sure motivator and helps in succeeding even in the most difficult situation. A true leader always keeps the spirits high despite the road being rocky with a wholesome purpose of maintaining a happy environment around. Motivating and finding solution by continuously supporting their peers are qualities that help leaders to facilitate steady growth of any organisation. Leaders often break a hefty task into smaller targets that suddenly begin to appear as achievable. Each time the leader steers the team to achieve an objective, a great sense of relief and positivity follows.

Calmness is another trait of a leader that is always admired by everyone. Keeping calm is good for productivity since it enables clear thinking. You can well imagine the chaos and confusion that might arise if the head of the organisation is not pragmatic, prudent or down to earth. It is in these difficult and adverse times that a genuine and strong leader helps the organisation to shield against the storm

Finally, a leader should be able to recognise the strengths of each team member. Obviously, a leader cannot perform all tasks by himself or herself. Delegation of tasks to the right person of the team requires the leader to know his team well, both their strengths and their weaknesses. Having assigned tasks to the correct person ensures the completion of the job in the most efficient manner. It is always a great motivation when team members are appreciated for their excellent work that subsequently incentivises them to take up bigger challenges en-route achieving leadership qualities themselves. By sharing their knowledge and skills, leaders aid and guide the team members to grow and give them the opportunity to achieve. A true leader thus creates more leaders and the cycle continues



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Voice of the educator

THE IMPORTANCE OF FAILING



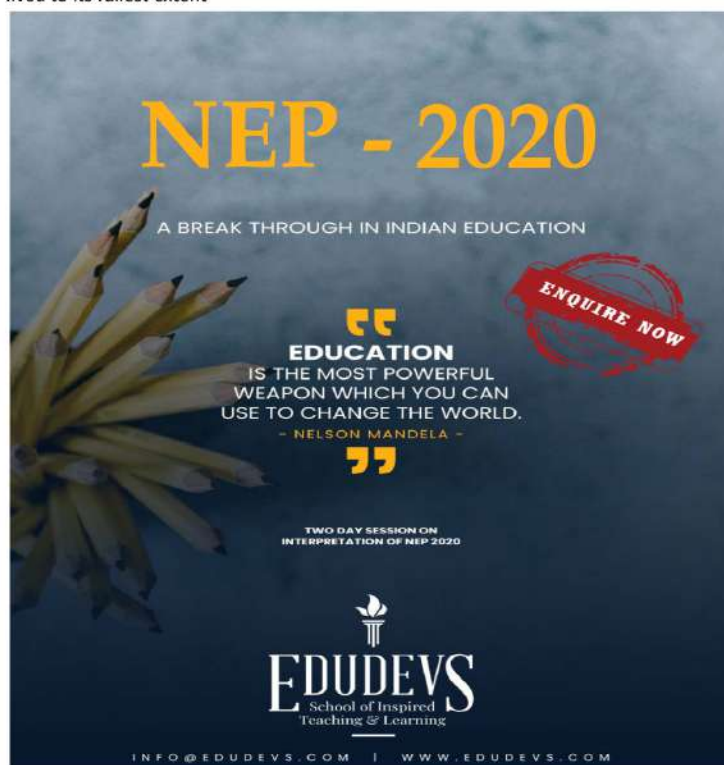
Shalini Agarwal, Vice Principal,
Apeejay, Panchsheel Park,
New Delhi

In my teaching experience spanning over a number of years, I came across some unusual stories. Stories about former students, some who had done brilliantly, some who had not. The ones who did brilliantly were not always the traditional "toppers" or the "bright" students

The toppers a.k.a the front benchers or the favourites had everything going right for them. They were hailed exemplary for the rest and a brilliant future was forecast for them. Many of them went on to achieve that brilliance, however a number of them faltered. For the many who did achieve success, there was again a huge proportion who struggled to find peace and contentment even after the success and therein lies the most powerful message: It is very important in life to taste failure. Failures teach that life does not stop just because you missed success.

It is important to teach our students that success is independent of the number of attempts or an even more important message that everyone cannot be good at everything at all times. The ones who struggle and have seen failures are sometimes better-off as compared to the successful ones as the former are better aware of the ways to deal with failure than the latter who sometimes lack even the most basic emotion attached to failure

A child must learn to respect himself/herself and loved oneself even if he/she does not win any special award or trophy. It is important for children to know that happiness and contentment are independent of material success. Therefore, please find joy in the failure of your child. Let them find joy in just being what themselves and what they can accomplish. Life is not a race that has to be won, it is a journey that has to be lived to its fullest extent



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RENDEZVOUS



Sudhir.K
IIT Madras Alumnus
Career Counselor
Department of Admission
Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham

Who is eligible for JEE Main Exam?

JEE (Main) 2021 Examination will be held in "Computer Based Test" (CBT) Mode only. JEE Main 2021 in four sessions - February, March, April and May.

Whether the JEE Main Exam will be offline or online post pandemic?

No age limit for JEE Main. Candidates passed in 2019/2020 or appearing in 2021 exams. Candidates who have passed Class 12th in 2018 or before are not eligible

What precautions should I take while appearing for JEE Main 2021 post pandemic?

Candidates should ensure to wear a mask and keep their nose and mouth covered all the way during commutation and while in the JEE Main exam centre. Touching any surface should be avoided and regular use of sanitiser is recommended.

Are the multiple sessions at JEE Mains useful?

This will give multiple opportunities to the candidates to improve their scores in the examination if they fail to give their best in one attempt. In first attempt, the students will get a first-hand experience of taking an examination and will know their mistakes which they can improve while attempting for the next time.

This will reduce the chances of dropping a year and droppers would not have to waste a full year.

If anyone missed the examination due to reasons beyond control (such as Board examination), then he/she will not have to wait for one full year. e) A candidate need not appear in all the four Sessions. However, if candidate appears in more than one Session then his/her best of the 2021 NTA Scores will be considered for preparation of Merit List/ Ranking

Is Grade XII score important along with the JEE score?

Class 12 marks have no weightage in the preparation of JEE Main ranks. Students should know that the ranks will be determined based on their score in the entrance exam.

However, for admission into IITs, NITs, CFTIs the score that candidates have secured in their class 12 board exam will be taken into account. In this, candidates should have passed their exam with a minimum of 75 percent and for SC/ST it should be 65 percent. Students should further be in the top 20 percentile to be eligible for admissions

How do I prepare for JEE and my Grade XII Boards simultaneously ?

- Check out the syllabus (Similar syllabus just the exam pattern and difficulty is different)
- Prepare a study-timetable (Help you to cover the topics easily)
- Make short notes (Helps you in revision)
- Practice Sample Papers. (Helps you rectify your mistakes and helps in time management)

Do the crash courses help in preparation if I have not seriously studied till now?

While crash courses are useful in helping candidates revise the portions for JEE Main in the last few months before the exam is held, the best preparation is when candidates are fully



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VISHWA VIDYAPEETHAM

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Teacher Competency Sketchpad

Dear Educator,

This edition's TCS quiz is based on Pedagogy of Language Development

Happy revisiting the B.Ed. classroom!

1. Children can best learn a language when they have

- A. a proficient language teacher B. a good textbook
C. motivation D. inhibition

2. A good paragraph writing in English involves

- A. Correct punctuation marks B. Flowery language
C. Ideas, presentation and coherence D. Legible handwriting

3. The first-generation learners are those who are:

- A. coming first time to school to seek admission.
B. learning Hindi for the first time.
C. learning English for the first time.
D. the first from their family to come to school

4. The study of words and their meanings is known as

- A. semantics B. linguistics
C. phonetics D. syntax

5. Etymology is:

- A. science of Pedagogy B. science of study of language.
C. science of meaning of words D. science of knowing the origin of words

6. Which one of the following methods is based on the theory 'from example to generalization'?

- A. Deductive method B. Inductive method
C. Incidental method D. Progressive method

7. The primary function of language are-

- A. Expression of feeling, meaning, communication and thinking
B. To gain control over other people, as language is a social act
C. Both a and b
D. None of the above

8. Mother tongue influence can be effectively minimised in the classroom by

- A. using the mother tongue less often
B. giving examples relatable in mother tongue
C. giving exposure in the target language
D. providing inputs from the target language in a simple and graded manner

9. Grammar should be taught by

- A. giving clear explanations B. enabling practice in context
C. asking students to learn rules D. making learners do written assignment

10. When students learn language for bright employment opportunities, their motivation is

- A. eccentric B. extrinsic C. intrinsic D. exotic

**Send your answers with your name and institute's detail to info@edudevs.com
The first correct respondent will be featured in the upcoming edition**

Teacher Competency Sketchpad Jan '21 Answers

- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------|----|--|
| 1 | d. active explorers | 6 | a. they actively participate in different activities and tasks |
| 2 | b. social activity | 7 | a. change in behaviour as a result of experience |
| 3 | b. cephalocaudal; proximodistal | 8 | c. should be part of teaching learning process |
| 4 | b. build on | 9 | d. Learner – centred method |
| 5 | c. gender stereotyping | 10 | a. School is an important agent of socialisation |

Educator of the month

As an educational leader, what has been one of the biggest challenges in your career so far?

As a Principal, my professional challenges are multifarious, copious and unending, that's why this profession is so very rewarding, satisfying, as well as, sometimes overwhelming. The demand for 21st century skills has spawned a good deal of enthusiasm among all stakeholders but, the challenge lies in the fact that there is always more to be done. In my opinion, the most important task for a principal is prioritizing: deciding what can be done now, what can wait, and what must wait. This is much easier said than done, as keeping pace with a host of radical changes in educational policies; following or adopting compliances from Centre/ State bodies; retaining and maintaining the quality of teacher; sustainability; deployment of technology; the assessment and teaching gaps, above all parental concerns and issues, etc. especially during the time of pandemic are some of the vital challenges that as an education leader, I need to grapple daily. We need to bring different students from different backgrounds together, understand their strengths and weaknesses, and be vigilant about their behavioral problems while focusing on the all-round development of students. Furthermore, we are dealing with children of the millennia, who need to be provided with an integrating set of abilities as representatives for a genuine commitment to centurion learning

As an educator you have interacted with and inspired several students. Any event that left a mark on your memory?

As an educator all my students leave an indelible mark in my memory. In every students I find a soul who can teach me a new meaning of life and that is the beauty of being together with students. But, the position of a Senior Secondary School Principal involves a lot of administrative responsibilities and commitment. Nevertheless, I am always approachable and accessible for my students. I do share a close bond – an attachment with all of them - be it in a class when I am teaching or rejoicing with my students on their achievements/victories or enjoying a triumphant moment – my ecstasy knows no bounds. All my students in their own way have left a cherished memory

Suggestions for young educators to embrace changes in educational technology?

Technology has impacted almost every aspect of our life today and education is no exception. The current unprecedented pandemic has clearly taught us that. IT has experienced exponential growth and the teachers are playing catch-up. In my opinion, the internet has created a knowledge influx and has greatly expanded access to education that has affected teaching and student learning. Opportunities for communication and collaboration have expanded. Traditionally, classrooms have been relatively isolated, and collaboration has been limited to other students in the same classroom or building. Today, massive amounts of information (books, audio, images, videos) are available at one's fingertips through the Internet, and opportunities for formal learning are available online worldwide through online Academies, MOOCs, podcasts, traditional online degree programs, and more. Access to learning opportunities today is unprecedented in scope and truly revolutionized teaching. The walls of the classrooms are no longer a barrier as technology enables new ways of learning, communicating, and working collaboratively. All educators have embraced this change with a lot of aplomb in the current situation

If not an educator, what would you have been?

I think, I was born to be an educator. If not a science teachers or mentor, I would still have taken up the charge to be a green mentor, a saviour for the environment. I would have been lending a helping hand to the community and society at large. 'Saving the Environment' – is an agenda that always takes a front foot in all my endeavours. Creating an Eco system with 'Green Practices', any new initiatives that can protect the community at large

**THE NEWSPAPER FOR
EVERY TEACHER
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2021**



Manju Rana

Principal - Director

Seth Anandram Jaipuria School
Vasundhara, Ghaziabad

Place of Birth

Bareilly

Zodiac Sign

Capricorn

Your favourite book

'Autobiography of a Yogi'