

CULTURAL EXCHANGE INDIA-SINGAPORE PROGRAM

INDIA - SINGAPORE

27 JULY 2014 – 2 AUGUST 2014





ABOUT SMS



The students of SMS are trained to handle curricular and co-curricular activities simultaneously. Care is taken to instill self-discipline in their receptive minds. They are schooled to become responsible leaders with a commitment to society. Under the canopy of the school motto “Loyalty, Truth and Honor”, the students, the staff and the management of St. Mark’s endeavor not only to enable students to compete with others for a place in the professional outlets, but also imbue them with social awareness, pride in their rich cultural heritage and a sense of responsibility towards the nation.

SMS GLOBAL PROGRAMME

The SMS Global Program is an initiative by the school to equip our students with a global perspective. The educational experiences offered in this program in the context of real world issues will widen their horizons and enrich their lives which will stand them in good stead. SMS believes in giving learning opportunities beyond geographical boundaries which allow our students to network with their peers overseas and make connections with what they have learnt in the classroom with the real world.

CULTURAL EXCHANGE

PROGRAMME

This is not just an exchange programme , this is the beginning of a long lasting friendship which will be cherished by us forever.

- Ms Anjali Aggarwal

(Principal , St . Mark`s School)

Student Exchange Programmes intend to increase participants' understanding and tolerance of different cultures as well as improving their language skills and broadening their social horizons wherein a HOST FAMILY volunteers to house a student from a different country during their exchange programme , the host families are well prepared to experience a new culture and give a new cultural experience to the guest students as well. Not only the academic and social development of the individual student plays a significant role in exchange programs, but also the foreign policy interest of each country that sends or receives exchange students. Exchange programs present a golden opportunity for students to visit and live in different countries and gain crucial experiences and skills for their later careers. Such programs help in building relationships and strong bonds with student's abroad. Cultural Exchange Programs bring schools and classrooms together and bring in united strength into the students that benefit humanity.

THE MAIN OBJECTIVES OF THIS PROGRAMME WERE:

- To equip our students with a global perspective. The educational experiences offered in this programme in the context of real world issues will widen their horizons and enrich their lives which will stand them in good stead.
- To give learning opportunities beyond geographical boundaries which allow students to network with their peers overseas and make connections with what they have learnt in the classroom with the real world.
- To deepen student's knowledge and appreciation of the culture of Slovenia through exposure and education to the Slovenian culture.
- To allow students to develop confidence and public speaking skills through presentations, performances, meetings and interactions.

ABOUT MILLENNIA INSTITUTE

Under the leadership of Mr. Tan Chor Pang (Principal), and Mr. Mohd. Azman (Vice Principal, SEL), MI was the fifth pre-university institution to be established in Singapore as a centralized institute which was a result of the merger of Outram Institute and Jurong Institute in 2004. It is the only preuniversity institution to offer the Dual Track Program, where students of MI can take the GCE 'A' Level and Diploma together. MI offers students with a wide range of subjects booked under science and arts and also subjects of business streams. It has a huge campus with abundant facilities.



MILLENNIA INSTITUTE

OUR RELATIONS WITH MILLENNIA INSTITUTE

It all started in the year 2008 when we became the first Indian school to be registered with Asia Europe Foundation, Singapore. Our Global Coordinator attended the 7th AEC-NET Conference in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah ,Malaysia where she met Mr. Tan Chor Pang, the then Principal of MI, Singapore. Under the aegis of ASEF, MI can be called our first international partner. Since 2008, we have worked in many award winning projects - Dream Tours, Home Seek, Livable Cities in the future etc...We have also participated in MI World Conference in 2010 & 2013. Besides this; we have been organizing back to back student exchange programs for the past five years with our delegation visiting MI in July/August while MI visits us in November/December. We cherish our association with the school and hope to strengthen the bond further.



MI AND
ST
MARKS
SR. SEC
PUBLIC
SCHOOL



DAY – 1

27TH JULY, 2014

It was on 27th July that we left for Singapore. A group of 7 students along with our teacher, Ms. Manasi Manchanda boarded the Air India Flight. We reached Singapore on the same day and our hosts were waiting eagerly for us at the **Changi Airport**. They gave a warm welcome to us and we all exchanged pleasantries



**WAITING
EAGERLY
FOR THE
FLIGHT AT
IGI AIRPORT.**



DAY – 2

28TH JULY, 2014

• UNIVERSAL STUDIOS

Our second day in Singapore was marked by a visit to **Universal Studios** along with our hosts. 28 July was a public holiday on the occasion of **Hari Raya Puasa**.

Our visit to the Universal Studios was a wonderful experience. We were thrilled by the 4D adventure and rides like **Transformers** which is the main highlight over there. After that we went for dinner.



At Universal Studios –Enjoying the exciting Rides, 4d And 5d Adventures, Madagascar Rides, Far Far Away, Jurassic Park, Ancient Egypt, The Lost World And Hollywood



DAY – 3 29TH JULY, 2014

This was our first day at Institute. We were given a warm welcome with a special assembly where we were introduced to everyone .The Vice principal, **Mr.Mohd.Azman Bin Mohd.Sidek** later made us tour the entire campus. We, then, attended classes with our host buddies and got an idea of classroom teaching in Singapore.

● HARI RAYA CELEBRATIONS

We cannot forget the celebration of **Hari Raya** where we witnessed graceful performances by some professional dancers.

Later, we all visited ‘China town’ in the city a beautiful place, worth visiting and the day ended with a delightful and delicious Indian dinner.



DAY – 4

30TH JULY, 2014



OPEN HOUSE DISCUSSION AT THE INSTITUTE

The day started with a drizzle. We all met in the school where we were ready to present our Power point presentation for which we had been preparing for the past few days. The presentation was about Indian economy and its aspects. There was an open house discussion with the students where we talked about the relations between the two countries.

After the lessons, we went to the Capital mall for shopping and had delicious Indian lunch. Since MI was also hosting German students, we all went together to visit the historical monument Kampong Glam and Little India. Later we went to the famous market 'Bugis Street'.



AT THE FAMOUS KAMPONG GLAM



AT LITTLE INDIA

DAY – 5

31ST JULY, 2014

The last day at MI was the best in the trip . There was a closing ceremony at the Millenia institution where our teacher ,Ms.Manasi Manchanda and Mrs.Tan Wan Yu, Principal,MI,exchanged mementos. We gifted the Principal a beautiful painting as a token of respect.Later, we went to visit the snow city where we enjoyed to the fullest and also to Orchard Road which houses the most elite shopping complexes The Singapore flyer was amazing. It gave us a perfect view of the city which made our trip most memorable and amazingly perfect.



Time to click some photographs.....

DAY – 6 1ST AUGUST, 2014

On the last day, we visited the Gardens by the Bay which consists of two glasshouses, a flower dome which features plants found in Mediterranean as well as an olive grove and the cloud forest entering which we got refreshing cool air from a huge waterfall. It also has a Cloud Mountain from where we could descend near the waterfall. At last we all sat down under the super trees grove watching its night view and enjoying the last moments with our hosts in Singapore. After that, we all went back with our hosts to their houses singing, dancing and enjoying.



AT THE MARINA BAY AND GARDENS BY THE BAY...

Singapore, It Is



No words to describe Singapore's beauty
All Singaporeans very well understand their duty-

Night sky stars blazing
Being with Singaporeans was amazing-

Learning about their lifestyle
- teaching them ours , was what I enjoyed for hours -

Universal studio ; amazing rides
Garden by the bay ; a true delight
Kampong glam ; a beautiful sight
Celebrating HARIRAYA for the first time was what I liked

China town , Little INDIA , Mustaffa we visited , we shopped ,
we enjoyed

Singapore flyer ; Oh! What a view it was , tall buildings and we
were lost.

I wonder how 6 days passed so fast
memories of Singapore is my glorious past.

By:- Diksha Aggarwal

OUR EXPERIENCE

Culture Exchange Programme to Singapore was an amazing experience for all of us. This programme gave us the chance to go beyond geographical boundaries and learn the Singaporean culture and educational system by staying there. This programme gave us global exposure. We all had a wonderful experience as we had an opportunity to visit Kampong Glam, Little India, China Town, Science Centre, Snow City and Gardens by the Bay. The visit to Universal Studios was truly a great experience. All of us will cherish this stay and beauty of Singapore throughout our lives.

Not to forget the hospitality of our host buddies and their families..We shall cherish this trip forever in our life.



A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL



MI has been one of our first international partners and I am very proud of our friendship. I am happy to say that it was with MI that our student exchange programmes started.

From 2008 to 2014, the journey together has been fabulous. Each project together, every exchange programme has been a fantastic learning experience. If MI World Conference has been a great platform for networking, MI Mart has given great opportunities to my students to learn the skill of marketing and selling their products.

I am proud of my school's association with MI and I am sure it will continue to grow in the years to come

A WORD FROM OUR VICE PRINCIPAL



I, personally, attended the MI World Conference in the year 2010 and was highly impressed. I am happy that our students visit each other for I believe that such exchanges are great learning experiences for the students. MI World Conference is another great experience for one and all. We get to network with delegates from other countries and learn from each other. I am happy to say that many of our partnerships have started because of MI. We have now become good friends with Gimnazija Ptuj, Slovenia and Küstengymnasium Neustadt, Germany to name a few.

I am happy that my school has MI as a partner school and I am sure our bond will continue to flourish in the years to come. I wish MI the very best in all their endeavours.

FEEDBACK FROM THE TEACHER IN CHARGE

The student exchange programme is a good initiative by our school to imbibe values of universal peace and brotherhood among our students. Apart from visiting altogether a new place, children are exposed to the culture, tradition and education system of a different country. Our nine member delegation to Singapore learnt a lot about the country and shared a great bonding with their host buddies. There was a tremendous change in their attitude as all of them became a lot more independent and learnt the virtues of sharing and caring. I thank our principal Mrs. Anjali Aggarwal for giving us this opportunity. We hope that the bond of friendship between St. Mark's and MI will strengthen further."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We pay our sincere gratitude to our Principal ma'am, Mrs. Anjali Aggarwal of ST. MARK'S SR. SEC. PUBLIC SCHOOL, MEERA BAGH, NEW DELHI who gave us this opportunity to represent our school at the global level.

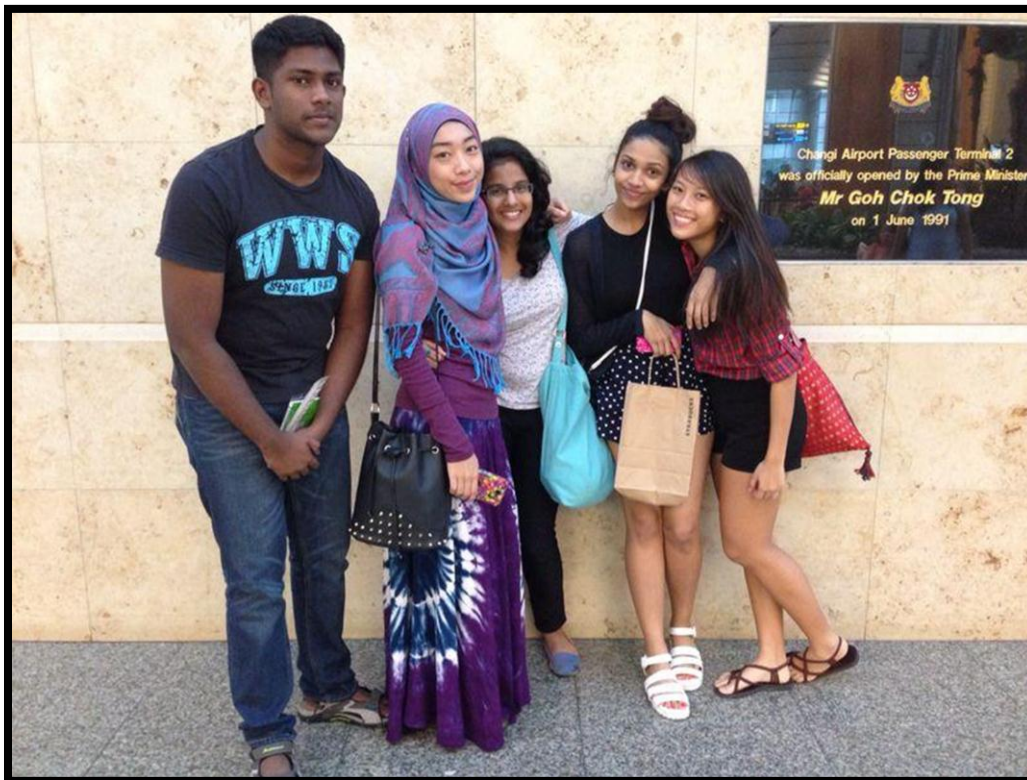
We also pay our sincere gratitude to our global coordinator ,Ms. Geeta Rajan who guided us at every step of our journey through her experiences and made all the arrangements for the trip.

We wish to thank the faculty of Millennia Institute, Singapore for giving us this golden opportunity to be part of The Cultural Exchange Program.

We express our gratitude to our teacher, Ms.Manasi Manchanda who accompanied us on this trip and guided us every time and made our trip wonderful and enjoyable.



SINGAPOREAN FRIENDS



Jatin and Moksh with Avinash



Diksha and Medhavi with Siti Nasuha



Prisha with C. VINITHA



Shambhavi with Shareen



Pragya with Delcia



Aakriti with Shareen



IMPRINTS



FROM OUR HOSTS

PRJSHA 'S HOST

I really enjoyed having you over even though we spent most of our time sightseeing and shopping. I think the exchange program is very beneficial for both of us because we learn more about each other's cultures and lifestyles.

SHAMBHAVJ AND AAKRITI'S HOST

Through the program, being able to host someone from another country was really an interesting experience. At first, when I signed up I did not really think I would be learning as much as I eventually did. I was able to learn to adapt to stay with people of different personalities and cultures. Respecting other people's culture and understanding the reason behind why they do certain things is another skill I learnt.



FROM HOST PARENTS

SHAREEN'S PARENTS

Most importantly is the fact that despite the borders or any other differences that separates us, we are actually similar and related. It was a great opportunity for us to host two girls from India. We felt like we have two daughters. I feel that we should have spent more time together. One week was simply not enough.



FROM OUR PARENTS

SHAMBHAVJ 'S PARENTS

We feel proud that our child represented her school and country through this student exchange program. It was a great learning experience for our child as well as for us. We are happy that St. Mark's gives exposure to the children and helps them to emerge as global citizens. She learnt about a new culture and experienced a different lifestyle which would not have been possible if it would have been any other trip and not a student exchange program. We thank Ms. Geeta Rajan for giving our child this opportunity.

UNFORGETTABLE SINGAPORE...UNFORGETTABLE MEMORIES.....



THANK YOU



EFFORTS BY:

1. PRAGYA MADAN
2. DIKSHA AGGARWAL
3. AAKRITI SURI
4. PRISHA HANDA
5. JATIN KHURANA
6. MEDHAVI DUA
7. MOKSH NARANG
8. SHAMBHAVI PRABHAKAR

TEACHER IN CHARGE:

MS. MANASJ MANCHANDA

GLOBAL COORDINATOR:

MS. GEETA RAJAN