

"At St. Mark's School, we believe in Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam hence it is imperative for all students to learn to live in harmony for only then will we build a beautiful world."

-MS. ANJALI AGGARWAL  
(Principal)

# SMS EXPRESS

An annual edition of Student's Media Society of St. Mark's Sr. Sec. Public School, Meera Bagh

Newsletter Date



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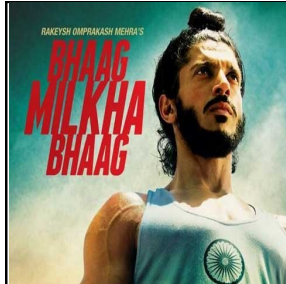
"Appreciation and acceptance of culture of different communities would make one relish the beauty and triumph of human spirit over any kind of circumstances."

-MS. VEENA WAHI  
(Vice-Principal)

**A Review on the PM Candidates of the 2014 polls**  
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**BADALTA WAQT**  
**BADALTI FILMEIN.**  
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**St. Mark's & Communal Harmony**  
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## COMMUNAL RIOTS IN INDIA

### SIKH RIOTS 1984:

The 1984 anti-Sikhs riots or the 1984 Sikh Massacre were a series of violent events directed against Sikhs in India, by anti-Sikh mobs, in response to the assassination of Indira Gandhi by her Sikh bodyguards. There were more than 8,000 deaths, including 3,000 in Delhi.



**JAMMU & KASHMIR RIOTS 1986:** The 1986 Kashmir Riots was a communal conflict that took place in the Muslim-majority state of Kashmir against the Kashmiri Hindus. This religious clash claimed the lives of numerous Hindus and forced thousands to move from their native land.



**GUJARAT 2002:** The violence which started as a result of the burning of the Sabar-mati Express returning from Ayodhya by the Muslim vendors at the Godhra Railway Station had converted into a big war because of the feeling of retaliation among the Hindus. The fight ended with thousands of people being killed, eventually disrupting the Hindu-Muslim unity.

**ASSAM RIOTS 2012** In July 2012, riots broke out in the state of Assam between the indigenous group of Bodos and Muslims. The first incident was reported to have taken place on 20 July 2012. The National Government was held responsible for a delay in army deployment to riot-hit areas.



**MUZAFFAR NAGAR RIOTS 2013:** Another recent and pitiable example of Hindu Muslim violence is that of the Muzaffar Nagar riots of 2013. The clashes between Hindus and Muslims began on 27 August, 2013. The result of this, like any other clash, has been devastating. The attacks have been described as "the worst violence in UP in recent mem-



## COMMUNAL HARMONY: An unaccomplished aim!

Siddharth Chugh (IX-B)



Shantav Jatav (XI-D)

THE freedom from disagreement and the amity between different communities in the country is known as Communal Harmony. Internal peace and harmony is very important for the progress and development of any nation.

We have seen in India, from time immemorial, people belonging to various religious faiths have lived in harmony and peace. All religions teach us to live united and happy. We all know that India is a land of diversity in terms of religions, faith, traditions and so on but mankind demands the realization of diverse values to ensure their individual and collective well being. It is also observed that certain communal forces in the society engage in exploitation, oppression, persecution and other forms of deprivation resulting in disturbing communal harmony. Based on these observations 'human rights' and the legal processes have come up both at national and international level.

At the end we want to spread a message: "A community divided is a nation divided and a community united is a nation enlightened."

## Communal Harmony and National Security

-Hanupriya (XI-B) & Manan Jain (X-F)

COMMUNAL HARMONY and the national security of India are interlinked.

At the time of freedom and partition, it was believed that partition was a temporary phenomenon and once the communist fervor subsides, a united and strong India would be formed. However, contrary to their expectations, India and Pakistan stand apart as separate nations and the fraught question of their bilateral relations remains unsolved till date.

India is a developing country, and an emerging economy and this development can't fructify unless the internal security of the nation, particularly communal harmony, is intact. The disputed State of Kashmir has been ravaged by violence, civilian casualties, curfew and more resulting in disruption of normal life. Leave international issues, even inside the borders of the nation, communal disharmony exists to such an extent that riots break out every now and then. The latest example is of the Muzaffar Nagar riots which tormented the state of UP and eventually warlike condition prevailed. To pile on the agony, instead of consoling and rebuking the CM of that very state decided to have a gala time spending 300 crores on an unproductive function. It has not been long since Mr. Thackeray gave his ridiculous comment that only Marathis may dwell in Maharashtra as if Maharashtra is not a part of the Republic of India. In addition to it, the Shiv Sena got agitated on Pakistani Sufi band performing in India and disrupted their performance. With our political leaders and organizations using religion as a tool to increase their vote banks, harmony in India cannot exist.

Communal disharmony is the root cause of all problems. In order to bring about communal harmony, there must be harmony in the minds of the people. Maintenance of communal peace and tranquility occupies lot of Government attention and energy, and in case peace prevails, an ambience of trust will develop between various communities. Only then internal security will be ensured and the nation can embark on the path towards social development and economic advancement.



Garima Phutela (XI-B)

## SMS SPEAKS

HINDUISM  
JAINISM  
BUDDHISM  
SIKHISM  
ISLAM  
CHRISTIANITY

Mayank Sharma (X-C)

## As said by Mahatma Gandhi & Manmohan Singh

-Hanupriya (XI-B)

'GOD never created Hindu, Muslim or Christian...he only created HUMANS. All these divisions are superficial and man-made.' Mahatma Gandhi always gave first place to communal harmony among the people of different faiths. Gandhi always pleaded for the cause



GARIMA PHUTELA (XI-B)



of better understanding among individuals and communities. Everywhere in the world, individuals and groups are divided because of fear, suspicion, and hatred towards each other all because of the divisions that exist along religious, economic, political, caste, or color lines. He felt that if Hindu-Muslim unity was established, unity with other communities which were already there, could easily be strengthened.

developments which would reflect on our individual and collective obligations to promote goodwill and amity in our polity and society. He further added that we as a people have an overall outlook and that a very small group of people is responsible for creating divisions amongst us. He also made people believe that it is the solemn duty of each one of us to resist these forces.

"We belong to a country which is characterized by great diversity with a very proud legacy of tolerance and respect for others", PM exclaimed.

"EVEN though India has proclaimed itself to be secular, there is religion, caste, color and language intolerance everywhere. When politics is mixed with religion, it deepens the problem. Police can play an im-

portant role in urging the people to calm down and not allowing rumors to result into another riot. Somewhat, the media has also made it impossible to lessen the problems."  
-VIDUSHI KHANNA X-A

### KYA AAP JAANTE HAIN?

An Australian man named Bill Morgan was declared dead for 14 minutes and lived unscathed. To celebrate his survival, he bought a scratch card & won a \$27k car. The media/news asked him to reenact the scratch card moment so he bought another card & won a \$250k jackpot.

## HOME TUTORING

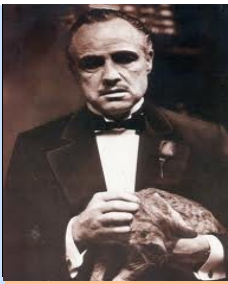
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“Finance is a gun. *POLITICS* is knowing when to pull the trigger” - MARIO PUZO

02

# GET...SET...GO!!

THE RACE BEGINS.....

Our constitution says that election is the most important right of the people of our country to elect their representatives. But is the statement justified in real life. In this time when Lok Sabha elections are so close, everyone is curious to know what the result would be. Would BJP, led by Mr. Narendra Modi get a majority in the house or will our country witness the biggest deadlock ever with the biggest hung house in Indian History or will Mr. Arvind Kejriwal and his 'AAM AADMI PARTY' take over as the new ruling body. It is also possible that a miracle occurs and UPA swings in back at the centre. The third front rumours are also making news these days as Ms. Mayawati and Mr. Mulayam Singh shake hands to make up the third front. It would be really interesting to see what happens in the next elections. These forth coming elections are one of the biggest turning points Indian Politics can witness.

## RAHUL GANDHI

-ISHAN ARORA (X A), MANAN JAIN (X F)

India needs a young PM whose actions are indicative of his anti-corruption stance. We need someone who has actually taken a stand against corruption. Perhaps, this is where Mr. Rahul Gandhi, the vice-president of INC comes into the picture. Gandhi comes from the politically influential Nehru-Gandhi family. He studied abroad under a pseudonym, his identity being known only to a select few including university officials and security agencies.

In March 2004, Rahul Gandhi announced his entry into politics contesting the May 2004 elections, standing for his father's former constituency of Amethi in Uttar Pradesh in the Lok Sabha. Rahul Gandhi won, retaining the family stronghold with a margin of over 100,000. Until 2006 he held no other office. Rahul Gandhi was appointed General Secretary of the All India Congress Committee on 24 September 2007 in a reshuffle of the party secretariat. On 19 January 2013, in a party conclave of AICC, Rahul Gandhi formally took charge of Congress Vice President. He was elevated to the post of Vice President at the party's Jaipur conclave. As vice-president, he is second only to party President and his mother Sonia Gandhi.

To be prime ministerial candidate or not to be prime ministerial candidate? He chose not to be. At least not yet, preferring – under the watch of his mother, the Congress' president – to wait and see if his beleaguered party can convince voters to re-elect them in the general elections this spring. It was a move befitting of Shakespeare's indecisive and reluctant protagonist, Prince Hamlet of Denmark.

Like Hamlet, Mr. Gandhi has often ap-



YASH ANEJA (IX-)

peared wary, even conflicted, about his position as heir to a country's most powerful political family. At times, Mr. Gandhi's career in public life has seemed driven only by the weight of responsibility to continue the Nehru-Gandhi legacy.

He has appeared hesitant to take power bequeathed to him – either refusing outright, or doing so cautiously when he couldn't put it off any longer. Earlier in January 2014, the party's leaders raised expectations that Mr. Gandhi would officially be named candidate for prime minister, telling television crews that Congress workers were clamoring for a declaration. Mr. Gandhi himself stirred speculation further when he said in an interview that he would take on whatever responsibility his party gave him.

Mr. Gandhi, at present, seems to focus on the long-term goal of reforming his complex, old-fashioned party, rather than on running government. Let's wait and watch for the final verdict..

## NARENDRA MODI

-MANAN JAIN (X-F)

Mr. Modi, known for his thought provoking speeches, was nominated as the Prime ministerial candidate by the BJP in mid-Sept last year. Nitish Kumar's exit from NDA has helped his cause increasing the odds in his favor. Mr. Modi is the favorite in the race to the PM's office.

One of the greatest advantages of Mr. Modi is his mesmerizing oratory skills. He has consistently moulded public opinion through his sessions, speeches and public meetings.

On the other hand the stigma of the Godhra riots still looms large on his aspirations to lead the largest democracy of the world. He had the option to intervene and prevent thousands of Muslims from being massacred. However, the prevailing law and order after that incident has eased social and political pressure on Mr. Modi. Although there have been many explanations given and several 'REAL PICTURE OF THE GODHRA RIOT', spread across the net, the point is that this has certainly turned the Muslim vote bank as well as other social ideologist against him.

He has brought tremendous industrial growth in Gujarat, provided 24-hour electricity and increased job opportunities that too in a state which was drastically affected by the 2001 earthquake. Many of his counterparts and political pundits question the growth of Gujarat in the past decade. However, facts suggest a different story. Between 2004-05 and 2011-12, overall poverty in Gujarat fell by about 15%. Also he needs to be commended for reducing poverty among SC's in Gujarat by approx. 21%. In contrast to his Anti-Muslim projection, Gujarat now boasts the lowest poverty ratio for Muslim in rural areas.

But he still has to work on his polarized image. He is either the best politician for a person or the worst. There is no such mediocre view about him. So there are few shortcomings the BJP has to work on if they want to return to the government after a decade.

## THE AAP EFFECT

-SIDDHANT (IX-E)

Less than two months after Arvind Kejriwal rode the metro to take his oath as Delhi's Chief Minister in a large park packed with tens of thousands of people, the man who delivered a seismic shift in Indian politics has shaken things up again. By quitting. Mr. Kejriwal, leader of the AAP, is an engineer from one of the premier engineering institutions of India, IIT-Kharagpur and yet he chose to be a politician. AAP have made an incredible start to their political journey by winning the Delhi Assembly polls. They went from door to door and increased their popularity by making some really BIG promises. Political experts said that these promises couldn't be fulfilled but people believed in AAP and voted them to power.

They have been rumours that AAP would contest all the seats for the Lok Sabha elections which later turned out to be true. Mr. Kumar Vishwas is a live example of the spreading AAP effect. He is gaining rapid fame at Amethi, through massive campaigns. He has decided to contest elections against Mr. Rahul Gandhi which is a brave and courageous step. The AAP Effect continues to spread and if the current conditions remain the same, it might happen that we get AAP as our ruling party and Mr. Arvind Kejriwal at the helm of affairs.

## INDIA'S LIMP LAW

-SANJANA CHOUDHARY (X-B)

'Kaanoon Andhra hota h (law is blind)'- somebody rightly said. the change required in this quote is that it is not only blind but also, deaf dumb and completely handicapped. nowadays law has just become another random word in the dictionary which means, "the system of rules which a particular country or community recognizes as regulating the actions of its members and which it may enforce by the imposition of penalties." Our country recognizes rape as a crime but the penalty given to the guilty is free food in jail for years till the final verdict is announced. A country's law should be so strong that people should think at least 100 times before doing such a crime. The punishment for their



crime should scare them till death. But unlike this, the criminals perform crimes and then think about the free stay in jail and the free food 'if they are caught'. Ajmal kasab, the infamous terrorist who was responsible for the 26/11 attacks was given a treatment of 51 crore rupees just to keep him alive. Moreover, our law had sentenced him to death on 6 May 2010 while he was finally hung on 12 November 2012. Jessica Lal's murder case took 7 years to be solved even when Manu Sharma shot her in a populated club with thousands of witnesses. Many hit and run cases are still pending in courts the question arises Why does it take so long when the proofs are in the hands of the lawyers? Our constitution was made 65 years back and the then constitution makers could not have even imagined the present state of our country implying that the laws aren't strong enough. Our constitution needs major amendments and the judiciary needs to be strengthened. As soon as we begin to say, "we have always done things this way but it might be a better way" conscious law making will begin.

## CAREER IN POLITICS

-MAYANK SHARMA (X-C)

Being a student, I often hear from my peers that they never want to step into politics. The word 'politics' is considered to be a mere game of caste, money and power today. However, according to me, 'politics' has two sides, just like a coin. One of them represents the negative and dark side of politics. Fake promises, corruption strategies and selfish motives have become the key features of a politician's image today. This dirty image of politics that has been set-up in everybody's mindset is what prevents us, the future of India, from entering the political arena. We need to understand that rather than cursing the existing political scenario, we need to create a spark for change. We need to expose the other side- the white side, representing purity and truth, to everyone. It is only us, the youth, who can accomplish this task. A radical change needs to be established by us. If we, the youth, will not take a step forward towards the betterment of India, who else will? Politics has innumerable opportunities. When in politics, one can become a member of political parties, can stand for local elections, can then also contest as an MLA. Other than these, one can also opt for social services. You think yourself- If an 'aam aadmi' called Arvind Kejriwal can become the Chief Minister of Delhi, don't you think that politics favours the one who dares? The ones who have suffered can only understand the need to step into politics and transforming it. It's high time that the youngsters shoulder responsibilities to break the common notion of having no career in politics and prove that politics is a great career option, both, for a better tomorrow & for a better India.

## THE ILLUMINATI

-RUSHALI SETHI (X-D)



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### Have a Laugh :P

>Rahul Gandhi's answers make Manmohan Singh's silence look good.

>Kejriwal is so honest if you find meaning of Honesty on Google it will say "Did u mean Kejriwal??"



"When you're curious, you find lots of interesting things to do." -Walt Disney

## BLOOMING IN BRAZIL!

-SHIKHAR SURESH (IX-D)

2014 has kicked off, and is an anticipated year for many reasons. One of them being, the FIFA World Cup -Brazil 2014! Football has remarkably caught the eye of the whole world since its inception and what more a special occasion to rejoice the success, than the World Cup itself, which is held every four years. FIFA (Federation Internationale de Football Association) was founded back in 1904 at Paris. It spent its first few years of existence in development and hosting tournaments at the Olympics, and was quite successful.



The FIFA World Cup 2014 will be held from 12 June to 13 July, in the South American country of Brazil. A total of 12 locations have been finalised, with eight of them on the coast. The final will be held at the picturesque Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro. 32 teams have qualified for the finals, and will play 64 matches including the knockout fixtures.

Who will win in Brazil? A tough question to answer. Every team did quite well in the qualification process, and look equally matched to some extent. There are some underdogs too though. Brazil and Spain are favourites to win the Cup, the former boosted by their Confederations Cup win last year. Not far behind are 2010 semi-finalists Germany, who have availed some great talent since their venture in South Africa. The other 2010 semi-finalists Uruguay along with Messi's Argentina also look dangerous, having plenty of attacking options. Italy and France, who unexpectedly self-destructed in 2010 are not to be ignored, considering their recent form. 2010 runners-up Netherlands are somewhat back in flow after their highly

disappointing performance at the Euro 2012 but will face a tough task with Spain in the same group as them. Not to forget Cristiano Ronaldo's Portugal battalion too, who impressively beat Sweden to break into the World Cup. But they too will face a huge obstacle, Germany, in their group. Last, but not the least, Belgium, a side full of talented youngsters like Eden Hazard, may well come out to be favourites if they deliver in Brazil.

Anything can happen at the World Cup; who knows, we may see Iran winning the title, or a player from Bosnia-Herzegovina taking away the Golden Boot. We are really looking forward to the best from Brazil and one thing we can be sure of, the excitement level will always stay high!

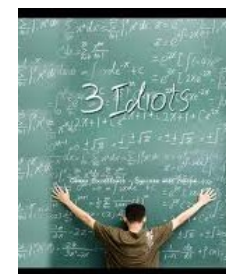


**F A C T**

- The Jules Rimet Trophy (later FIFA World Cup), was first held in the year 1930 at Uruguay and the hosts won.
- Brazil has won the tournament 4 times, Italy 3 times, Argentina and Uruguay 2 times and England, France and Germany once.
- The current holder of the golden boot is Thomas Muller of Germany.

## Literacy in itself is NOT education

-MANAN JAIN (X-F)



Development of a strong nation demands on youth's will power, mighty determination and tremendous grit. With a population of 50 crores under the age of 20, pressure on the Indian education system gets altogether augmented. What needs to be pondered over is whether we have developed a system to comprehensively educate the 88% of this young population, since the rest do not get enrolled.

While going through figures, one finds that 74% of the Indians are literate. But, they are literate, not educated. Gandhiji once said, "Literacy in itself is no education. Literacy is not the end of education or even the beginning. By education I mean an all-round drawing out of the best in the child and man-body, mind and spirit." So actually, cramming up a day before and vomiting it out the next day is not education. Being educated means being able to conquer pressure and flourish through numerous hurdles that are bound to come.

Overviewing the current education structure, we find that the govt. and the policy makers haven't left any stone unturned to ease down exam pressure by introducing the grading system and eliminating 10<sup>th</sup> class boards. This might be a relief to many of us, but, according to me, it's going to be hazardous in the long run. These changes in curriculum, along with many others, were made on account of the increasing incidents of suicides among teens. But, how can we expect a child to handle tremendous job pressure efficiently if he gets depressed studying 10<sup>th</sup> grade algebra? How is he going to survive in a highly competitive corporate world if he is unable to manage his time appropriately? The present day schooling system throws a child, for whom passing exams had been a cakewalk, into this highly dismissive world and he ends up getting depressed as Thomas Carlyle quoted, "No pressure, no diamonds."

Another aspect of the prevalent system is the emphasis on co-curricular development. This certainly is the only pro among many cons as it opens up a variety of career options and helps in all-round development. This element of the system allows us to learn a variety of life skills but this has not helped to broaden the career options as only a few are able to pursue non-mainstream professions.

In a nutshell, though the revamped system has certain dimensions which have eluded exam pressure, it has also expelled the crucial pressure which moulds a child into a man. There is still a need to emphasize on practical lessons, which would help us in our lives, rather than theoretical learning. I would stop by quoting John Dewey, "The aim of education should be to teach us rather how to think, than what to think -- rather to improve our minds, so as to enable us to think for ourselves, than to load the memory with the thoughts of other men."

## GETTING HOOKED TO HOOKAH

-MAYANK RAWAL (X-C)

"Hookah" – The all new fashion in today's generation! What is hookah really and why this sudden craze for it?? Well, what was essentially very 'dehati' is today so popular among the youth that one finds a Hookah Lounge in every locality. When I ask some of my friends who frequent such a lounge, I am told that it is just fun. There is no tobacco or nicotine, hence not harmful. If so, then what could be the reason that children hide it from their parents. Going to Hookah parties may be the 'in thing' but teenagers don't realize that in some way or the other, they are inhaling smoke which contains various harmful chemicals and toxins. Directly or indirectly, they are getting involved in an activity that might ultimately lead to various addictions. The questions that arise here- Is it really 'cool'? Is this craze for hookah justified? My personal take- this craze for hookah is due to peer pressure and the urge to look cool. It is a way to flaunt your courage. The net result from what I perceive is self destruction.

## INTERESTING FACTS

-TEJASVA KALRA (X-F), MAYANK RAWAL (X-C)

Chadwick (the discoverer of the neutron) was a student of Rutherford (discoverer of the proton) who was the student of Thomson (the discoverer of the electron)

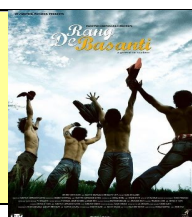
There is a company releasing genetically modified mosquitoes with a death gene to breed with other mosquitoes to decrease mosquito population

The titanic was originally designed with sufficient lifeboats for all passengers and crew members on board. however the extra lifeboats were deemed to interfere with the viewing experience from 1st class suites so



"MERE HISAB SE TOH EK HI KAAM KARTA HAI DHARAM YA TO WOH INSAN KO BEBAS BANATA HAI YA PHIR AATANKWADI" - **OMG!**

"KOI BHI DESH PERFECT NAHIN HOTA ... USSE BEHTAR BANANA PADTA HAI" - **RANG DE BASANTI**



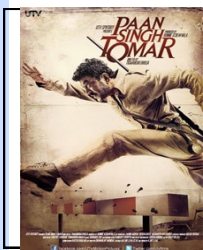
## CHANGING FACE OF BOLLYWOOD

-MANAN, SHIKHAR AND MAYANK RAWAL

It has not been long since the Indian audiences loved the monotonous melodramas with an expired storyline and suffocating screenplay. The interest then gradually shifted to action-packed movies which used special effects to an extent that they appeared impractical. But between these repetitive movies, some caught the eyes of audiences and occupied a place in the viewer's hearts. A number of such non-mainstream movies have been released and what is inspiring is that they have been applauded and appreciated by the Indians. Some of them are commonplace but fantastic, some thrilling and exciting, some hilarious while some of these masterpieces have raised serious national issues. Take for example *Bhaag Milkha Bhaag*, which inspired thousands of youngsters as well as aged ones to work hard with tenacity in order to achieve their goals emphasizing the phrase, "No pain no gain." *Rang de Basanti* depicts that the youth in our country is a priceless asset and it needs to understand the problems and work to solve it

themselves. *Oh My God* presented a new way of looking at the almighty wherein it showed that God can be worshipped only by worshipping his creation, the humans. *Paan Singh Tomar* is a classic which projects the plight of Indian sportsmen who didn't gain any accolades after winning medals for their nation. *3 Idiots* inspires us to pursue our passion as we can succeed only if we are interested in our vocation. *Barfi* signified that love needs no language and is omnipresent.

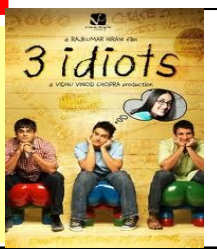
But the thing that surprises me is that all these movies were still far behind in terms of box office collections. The Indian audiences are still attached to their superstars because of whom crappy cinema like *Chennai Express*, *Krrish 3* and *Dhoom 3*, movies lacking sense, cross the 200 crore mark. All these inspirational movies are not yet wholeheartedly supported by us. We need to encourage films of the type of "The Wolf of Wall Street" and "Inception" which will take Bollywood to new horizons. In spite of this, we have producers and directors like Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra, Sujoy Ghosh, Vikramaditya Motwane, Anurag Kashyap, and many more who are still creating amazing movies and deserve a lot of commendation.



"DESH KE LIYE DAUDO TOH KISI NAPOOCHO JAB BAAGI BAN GAYE TOH SAB HI NAAM JAP RAHEY HAI SAALEY" - **PAAN SINGH TOMAR**

"KAMYAB BANNE KE LIYE NAHI, KAABIL BANNE KE LIYE PADHO..."

**KAMYABHI JHAK MAARKE PEECHE AAYEGI!" - 3 IDIOTS**



## THE RETURN OF RAP GOD-

-Shikhar Suresh (IX-D)

Marshall Bruce Mathers III, better known by his stage name **Eminem**, is referred to as one of the greatest rap artists by many famous personalities. A man of many professions, he is also a songwriter, actor and record producer. He has an estimated sale of 220 million records worldwide. Eminem's career started off in the year 1990, and he gained remarkable



fame ever since. He won many awards for his works during his career and some of his songs served as inspiration for others too. He got addicted to drugs and anti-depressants and disappeared after composing his renowned album 'RECOVERY'. He spent the next three years in rehabilitation and announced an album in 2012 expected to come out in 2013. He's now back with a bang; releasing *Marshall Mathers LP 2*; featuring the appealing songs *Rap God*, *Berzerk* and *The Monster*.

Slim Shady is back, and has a lot more to give. Never expect less. |PEACE|

## Glasgow Commonwealth Games

-RIYA NAGPAL (IX-F)

In the inevitable call of the much awaited FIFA 2014 of the new year, the enthusiastic XX Commonwealth Games can not be forgotten. This platform gives a chance to emerging talent in various sports. Initially started in 1930, it has taken place every four years. Although there are 53 members of Commonwealth of Nation, 71 teams participate. The XX Commonwealth Games will be held in Glasgow, Scotland over 11 days of competition from 23 July to 3 August 2014. Just like Shera, Clyde is the official mascot of the 2014 Commonwealth Games. Everyone has their eyes on the event because of the enthusiasm and zealous patriotism it brings.

“CHILDREN SHOULD BE TAUGHT HOW TO THINK, NOT WHAT TO THINK.”

-Margaret Mead

ST. MARK'S SCHOOL AND COMMUNAL HARMONY

Today, we live in a world where people of all ages, ranging from small children to adults have forgotten the real meaning of unity and brotherhood. This is particularly common among school students who fight over petty issues. To counter this problem, schools have been taking various steps to promote integrity and unification of the young-minds. At St. Mark's, instilling the ideas of faith, communal harmony and castelessness have always been a great priority. Students study in such an environment that is totally free from negative aspects such as inter-communal and inter-faith disturbances. In addition to this,

participated in. In fact, the school incorporated the Face to Faith doctrines in the school curriculum to promote harmony among all. To ensure communal harmony is practiced, Video Conferences with other schools are organised. These schools are both, national and international. The best part of these video conferences is that children across different nations and states can debate on a given topic and contribute towards world harmony. Also, our Principal Ma'am, Ms. Anjali Aggarwal, had been on a trip to Pakistan to foster the relations that exist between the two countries. This great step taken up by our



the school has always been organizing activities and competitions to ensure that the students break all the barriers of caste, creed and faith that exist between them and live together as one, single unit. Recently, the school organised a 'Face2Faith Week' wherein students participated in various activities. Creating logos on 'faith', debating on the topic 'Human Rights', etc. were some of the activities that the children

World Peace Day is celebrated through various activities such as peace-slogan writing, card-making, etc. In a nutshell, St. Markians are not only taught how to handle academic stress but are also taught how to understand and tackle the upcoming issues they are surrounded with. After all, it is true that - "Peace and harmony are the pillars of a healthy society."

CBSE AND COMMUNAL HARMONY

Although it has been 67 years since India got independence from the Britishers, we all are still surrounded with problems and conflicts based on religion, caste, creed, and language- to name a few. Such problems adversely affect the socio-economic growth of India. Back a few years, the CBSE thought that the youth needs to be given a special type of education, an education that is not theoretical and bookish and teaches students to maintain a broad, secular outlook by the medium of co-curricular activities. Therefore, the Central Board of Secondary Education has taken various steps to instill the values

students the real, deep meaning of communal harmony and unity of "Communal Harmony." And among the youngsters studying at different schools. All the schools affiliated to the Board are advised to organize activities/competitions on themes such as harmony, brotherhood and unity. This has been successful to a great extent as students become



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EDITORIAL

Armed with words, powered by will, I guided by CBSE, motivated by teachers, and sustained by you- that's what makes the SMS Xpress one of the best initiatives taken by the students of our school. It is believed- "Nothing motivates man as fear does", but we think that "success" does! The taste of success through our first edition of SMS Xpress helped us rise and do better to come up with the second issue.

This edition features a special theme, given by CBSE- 'Communal Harmony'. It's a theme of utmost importance and relevance in modern society and sure to be thought upon by our young minds.

Money can't get you happiness, right? But 'harmony' can. So let's learn about this a bit; how this will lead to a stage of self-satisfaction & accomplishment, to a state of peace of mind... to a society with no distinctions, to minds with no discrimination, to a world without boundaries are to the world God wanted it to be.



CREDITS

TEACHER INCHARGES: MS. GEETA RAJAN, MS. RASHMI KOHLI.

OVERALL INCHARGES: MANAN JAIN(X-F), MAYANK RAWAL(X-C), MAYANK SHARMA(X-C), PALAK HAJELA (XI-A )

CREATIVE DESIGNING TEAM: MAYANK RAWAL(X-C), MANAN JAIN (X-F)

CHIEF EDITORS : MAYANK SHARMA(X-C), ISHAN ARORA (X-A).

WRITERS: SHIKHAR SURESH(IX-D), SIDDHARTH CHUGH (IX-B), SIDDHANT MALHOTRA(IX-E), RIYA NAGPAL (IX-F), VIDUSHI KHANNA (X-A), SANJANA CHOUDHARY(X-B), MANAN JAIN (X-F), SUASHA GIRDHAR (X-D), HANUPRIYA NARANG (XI-B), MAYANK RAWAL (X-C)

ILLUSTRATORS: YASH ANEJA (IX-A), RUSHALI SETHI (X-D), AASHIMA CHUGH (X-D), GARIMA PHUTELA (XI-B), SHANTAV JATAV (XI-C).

ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE: DEV SONI (X-D)