



# THE PULSE

Our Monthly Newsletter

Volume I February 2018

## EDITORS

*Krina Vora*

*Rinika Sarkar*

## SUB EDITOR

*Shefali Jagtap*

## DESIGNER

*Jino John*

## FROM THE EDITORIAL DESK

Dear Readers,

We are glad that the 1st edition of THE PULSE- Our Monthly Newsletter is being published in the best interest of our valued staff members on the occasion of International Women's Day to celebrate womanhood and to cherish the contribution of each of you.

On this International Women's Day, thousands of events are held throughout the world to inspire women and celebrate women's achievements. In the past, women's rights and achievements have not always been held as important, and even today there are places in the world where women do not have the same rights as men. While Indian women have held high positions – like those of President, Prime Minister and Speaker of the Lok Sabha – they continue to face discrimination on the societal front when it comes to marriage, divorce, employment and inheritance. The state has enacted numerous legislation since Independence to uplift the status of women but many women are not fully aware of these measures as they remain shackled to tradition. From being synonymous with the kitchen to stepping onto the moon, women have come a long way till now. The Women's Day has been a symbol of celebrating such women who have surpassed discriminations and come out with flying colours. We salute all the women for the unconditional sacrifice and dedication.

*'Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence win championships.'*

# SPOTLIGHT

*Interview with Ms Beena Nayaken, Principal (OISP)*

On 7th March, I walked into Ms Beena's cabin with a lot of excitement to have this chat session with her. I was greeted with a big smile like always. While sipping our coffee we began the conversation which led to a lot of interesting stories and anecdotes.

As an HR Professional I believe, it is very important to know our colleagues; formally and informally both. So here's a chance to know Ms Beena, a little more than we all know her.



***So how has the journey at Orchids been so far?***

Oh.... It's been an enriching one. There were and are a lot of challenges but then they spur me on and are the best part of my role. In the initial years there were many teething issues but I am lucky to have a wonderful team and we have worked together to overcome them.

***How was your experience at the time of the initial interview?***

(Laughs) I was called for the interview at Starbucks - Airport, Mumbai. I was told that I would be meeting the CEO and the Zonal Head of the Company. I imagined meeting two middle-aged men who would grill me with questions but to my surprise they were quite young and 'cool'. I was interviewed by Mr Aniket and Mr Jay. The interview went well and the rest is history.

*'If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself.'*

***What made you opt for Orchids?***

Tanvi, my daughter who was studying in Class X then motivated me to take up this job irrespective of the location. And that's what made me finally decide to join here.

***Have you been able to achieve the goals that you had set for yourself when you joined Orchids?***

After having worked in 3 prominent schools i.e. , Xavier's , Billabong and Podar, I found Orchids very different. My main objective was to create a conducive environment for students and staff. I was lucky to enjoy a lot of freedom to nurture and develop this school. My 18 years of work experience along with the support I received from all stakeholders helped me in achieving these goal. I can proudly say that I am very happy with my staff, students and parents.

***What is your vision for the next year?***

Orchids Palagully should be the most sought after school and parents should vie to get their children admitted here. I envision that my school should be known for its academic excellence along with grooming the students socially and emotionally into responsible citizens of our country.

***What are your views on current education system?***

It is more regressive than progressive.

***What's the best compliment you ever received?***

When parents send notes saying, "We're lucky to have you as the Principal." (Smiles)

***Which is your favorite holiday spot?***

The Himalayas. I love the pristine mountains.

***What advice would you give to a new employee who's going to undertake a leadership position for the first time?***

A good leader is the one who creates more leaders. I believe in situational leadership. You cannot be autocratic or democratic all the time. One should be able to use different leadership styles depending on the circumstances. A good leader should be able to set clear expectations to the subordinates and guide them in achieving those.

***What are you doing daily to ensure your growth and development continues as a leader?***

I am currently pursuing my doctorate and I am of the opinion that each individual should be a lifelong learner.

***What do you like to do in your free time?***

Read, read and read more! I am a voracious reader. I like to read all kinds of books.

***What are your life goals?***

I have many (puts her thinking hat on)...I wish to learn a musical instrument, run a marathon and travel the world.

***According to you, which Bollywood actor will be a good teacher?***

Hands down it will be Aamir Khan (instant reply) because he is known to be a perfectionist. He plays every role so passionately. We need passionate people like him in the teaching profession.

*'Unity is strength... when there is teamwork and collaboration, wonderful things can be achieved.'*

# INSPIRATION CORNER



Everyone would have heard about the Harry Potter books series, but almost very few know about the incredible zero to hero story of the author, J.K. Rowling.

## **J.K. Rowling's Story**

Much like the main character in her Harry Potter fantasy series of books, J.K. Rowling took a steep pathway to success. Within five years, she quickly became one of the richest women in Great Britain. Her self-made fortune amassing to nine figures combined with her influence as a writer made her one of the most powerful celebrities by Forbes.

Rowling's humble beginnings can be traced back seven years after graduating from university. This is the time when she saw herself as a failure. She had a failed marriage, she had no permanent work, and she had a young daughter to take care of.

The seemingly hopeless situation was the same source of inspiration that propelled Rowling into becoming a huge success.

She wrote the work in different cafes, especially in Nicolson's Cafe, which also became a local place of interest. The first book, entitled Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, was originally a manuscript written on an old manual typewriter. Twelve publishing houses initially rejected the manuscript.

Fortunately, a small publishing house owner Barry Cunningham agreed to publish the book. From then on, she became a highly sought for writer and subsequent installments were successfully released with the series growing more and more in popularity.

She then established in 2000 the Volant Charitable Trust which helps in alleviating social inequality and poverty. To quote Rowling, "I think you have a moral responsibility when you've been given far more than you need, to do wise things with it and give intelligently."

*'Success is not final; failure is not fatal: It is the courage to continue that counts.'*

# EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



**GEETA GAHLOT**

Secondary Teacher  
OISB



**RUKMINI THAKUR**

Primary Teacher  
OISJ



**YASHASWINI T**

Pre-Primary Main Teacher  
OISM



**SREEDEVI CHILUKURI**

Secondary Teacher  
OISS



**PRATIBHA KALE**

Admin Staff  
OISK



**REKHA CHAURASIA**

Art Teacher  
OISKKH



**MANISHA DHANI**

Pre-Primary Main Teacher  
OISMLD



**NAQIYA SAKARWALA**

Secondary Teacher  
OISP



**SANDHYA BANGERA**

Secondary Teacher  
OIST



**GAYATRI DURVE**

Secondary Teacher  
OISNGD



**SRUTHI DEEPTHI**

Pre-Primary Main Teacher  
OISH

***Congratulations!***  
***Keep up the good work!***

*'A successful team is a group of many hands and one mind.'*

# WELCOME ABOARD

This year has started on a real positive footing. We take honour in welcoming the Principals, who have joined the new schools (CV Raman Nagar & Vashi). The exciting time of the year when children embark upon new adventures in the world of learning, your stepping in to this school marks a huge difference.

**Vandana Sanjay**  
Principal  
OISC

**Uma Bagde**  
Principal  
OISV

**Gayatri M**  
Librarian  
OISB

**Akansha Sharma**  
Primary Teacher  
OISB

**Jyotika Patidar**  
Primary Teacher  
OISB

**Natividade M Fernandes**  
Executive Assistant  
OISK

**Chitrali Ashok Kharat**  
Office Assistant  
OISK

**Franklin Solomon**  
IIT Faculty  
OISP

**Rina Siroya**  
Pre-Primary Main Teacher  
OISP

**Namrata Thakur**  
Pre-Primary Main Teacher  
OIST

**Lavanya Ashok**  
Primary Teacher  
OIST

**Prathyusha Kanasi**  
Secondary Teacher  
OISH

**Upasana Kumari**  
Pre-Primary Teacher  
OISH

# WORK ANNIVERSARY

We are proud to have you as a part of our work family.

**SOLEYAMMA**

DOJ : 1<sup>st</sup> Feb.2013  
Tenure Till date : 5 Years  
House Keeping  
OISJ

**KALAIVANI S**

DOJ : 1<sup>st</sup> Feb.2013  
Tenure Till date : 5 Years  
Physical Education Teacher  
OISM

**MOUSUMI PAL**

DOJ : 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb.2015  
Tenure Till date : 3 Years  
Pre-Primary Main Teacher  
OISJ

**HARPREET KAUR RAYT**

DOJ : 2<sup>nd</sup> Feb.2015  
Tenure Till date : 3 Years  
Primary Coordinator  
OISK

**RATNA DEVI**

DOJ : 20<sup>th</sup> Feb.2015  
Tenure Till date : 3 Years  
Primary Teacher  
OISH

**NEETU SHARMA**

DOJ : 9<sup>th</sup> Feb.2016  
Tenure Till date : 2 Years  
Secondary Teacher  
OIST

**BHARATI KOCHADE**

DOJ : 10<sup>th</sup> Feb.2016  
Tenure Till date : 2 Years  
House Keeping  
OIST

**VAISHALI KAAMBLE**

DOJ : 5<sup>th</sup> Feb.2016  
Tenure Till date : 2 Years  
Primary Coordinator  
OISK

**SRIPORNA SEN**

DOJ : 6<sup>th</sup> Feb.2017  
Tenure Till date : 1 Years  
Secondary Teacher  
OISM

*'Being positive in a negative situation is not being naive, it's leadership.'*

# SPECIAL INITIATIVES

## ZUMBA

Dance, Sweat, Squat, Repeat!!  
 Following this mantra the staff members participate with a lot of energy and zeal. It gives them a good break from routine and as they say, "laughing while working out burns even more calories!"  
 The sessions are conducted in all the schools once in last week of month.



## Pinkathon

An initiative to make our staff participate in Marathon, to help them stay fit and get a sense of accomplishment!!



Birthdays are an ideal time to build some camaraderie among the team. It is a great time to show how much the employee means to the organization. Taking this idea forward, a personalized gift and card is given as a token of birthday wishes from Orchids family.



*Birthday Celebration*

*'If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.'*

# WRITE UP

A woman ..... a complex creation of Lord is made in part - of love, compassion, sternness, sacrifice and selfless dedication. She can be as timid as a flower but when time calls for it she can be the fierce lioness ready to face the most difficult of challenges.

And, in this itself a woman exhibits her first trait of dynamism and flexibility. If she's a teacher too then her responsibility doubles as she owes herself to a number of students entrusted under her care who look up to her for guidance, motivation and encouragement. A teacher needs to touch their lives and brighten them just like the candle which consumes itself to lighten up an entire room.

Being a teacher is an onerous , unending job but at the end of the day it is sure one of satisfaction , contentment and joy of seeing your own students blossom into beautiful humans ready to serve the society with the skills and talents that you had once efforded to impart to them ....

On this Women's Day, I pen down my musings for the first e -newsletter and I dedicate this one to each one of us 'A WOMAN, A TEACHER.....'

The tea is coming to a boil  
Awaiting the start of the day's toil,  
My child still slumbers deep  
Unconcerned that school beckons him and me.  
Oh school!! The other world  
A quagmire, a maze, a whirl wind,  
Of tasks and works and assignments  
A medley of emotions all at once.

Five long chapters untaught in the books  
A few young truants deserving sharp looks,  
Pending correction a dozen papers of language  
I really don't know how I am going to manage.  
The lectures drag through the tiring day  
The students not tired, whiling their time away,  
Uninterested in the lessons at hand  
Unconcerned that this tutoring is for their future ....their nurture....

Me thinks what's the fun, what's the gain  
All these efforts, is this hard work all in vain?  
Then why this hammering, howling shouting  
Why this unnecessary strain?  
And just when the tea threatens to spill out  
Does a sharp thought strike over this clout?  
My patience is my greatest lesson to my dear students.

They shall imbibe what they see  
And while they observe me,  
I must show them virtues worth mirroring  
And a life worth modelling.  
For being a teacher is a daunting task  
And yet if you ask,  
I would for once and forever like to be  
The strong, steadfast and loving teacher that you see!!

**Hina Desai**  
Principal (OISMLD)

*'Happiness is not a matter of intensity but of balance, order, rhythm, and harmony.'*