

# THE BRITISH CO-ED HIGH SCHOOL



## THE HERALD

### EDITORIAL NOTE

"We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future."

**Franklin D. Roosevelt**  
*32nd president of US (1882 - 1945)*

This short quote perfectly sums up our students and their work. This academic year 2009-2010 has seen lots of progress on an individual level as well as collectively.

You will read in these pages of the Herald and in the Celebrating 5 Years book about the individual and collective progress. What one can only vaguely glimpse and feel from these pages, however, is only an iota of the dynamic atmosphere we experience every day at school. Students busy, excited, learning new skills that they do not know they are learning. What marvelous actors and dancers we have seen this year, not just during the Celebrating 5 Years function but throughout the year. And here, we are not just talking about cultural celebrations. At a grass-root's level, during the SUPW periods, students have made such an impact. Recently when I visited the village school, I was very impressed by the posters on the wall regarding Health and Hygiene. I praised the teacher-in-charge and asked her did she need any First Aid equipment. I was so impressed when she told me it was our students who had made those posters and that they had also supplied the basic First Aid materials. How much better than that can you ask for?

Sometimes students advise me on how to use certain technology, or, maybe, how they would like their subjects to be taught differently. So, therefore, students are posing challenges to us, the staff and parents. GOOD! In my opinion, this means that, yes, we are building students for the future, a future that is as uncertain today as it was a hundred years ago when the great Franklin D. Roosevelt wrote this.

Rosa Kucharskyj  
Principal

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## Master of Ceremonies

‘The experience was terrific, the feeling awesome’

When I was chosen as a comperer for a very special occasion Celebrating 5 years of our school. The programme was the result of the strenuous toiling by teachers and the students. The school choir stole hearts of many by singing, we feel the pride’ - our school song and give me sun shine. The powerful act next in chronological order was a classical dance Durga Stuti dedicated to Goddess of Power. Bulbul Sandhu spoke about Shakespeare’s plays. Amanjot Singh Chawla informed the gathered audience why the school has decided to enact As You Like It in Punjabi. Mudit Tandon and Ayush Sood talked about school progress in the last five years . Ashim Gohri described it as the best school in the city.

The spectacular play ‘As you like it’ won many hearts and a whistle or two. It was directed by Mr. Partho Bandhyopathyay, a renewed director from National School of Drama. The energetic lasses gave a stupendous performance in Sammi- A Folk dance. Lovely evening ended with the Principal’s vote of Thanks and everyone went home with a smile on their face. The school Song and the song “ Give me some sun shine.....”added the rhythm to the programme.



**Nandni Bhardwaj**  
**Class XI SS**



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## Orchestra

1. Shaurya ( Guitar)	VIII DB
2. Dhiren (Guitar)	VIII DB
3. Navjot (Drum)	IX KS
4. Saira ( Guitar)	VIII DB
5. Samira (Keyboard)	VI JY
6. Nishtha ( Keyboard)	VIII DB
7. Deepanshu (Keyboard)	VIII DB
8. Shiven (Keyboard)	VII RR
9. Amitraj (Keyboard)	V DS
10. Rewant (Keyboard)	VIII NK
11. Arman (Keyboard)	VIII DB
12. Karanjot(Guitar)	V HJ
13. Ridheymet (Guitar)	VII JB
14. Anirudh(Guitar)	VI SK
15. Sagar (Congo)	IX KS
16. Rajat(Keyboard)	VIII JB

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14<sup>th</sup> Feb 2010 was a memorable day indeed for everyone: for the students, staff members and the parents of the British Co-Ed High School, celebrating 5 years of the High School. Mr. Stanley Vinod Kumar graced the occasion as the Chief Guest for the celebration.

A Punjabi translation of the Shakespeare play 'As You Like It' was appreciated by one and all. The dances, school band & choir added class to the performance.

The children who participated in the play-'As You Like It' have narrated their experiences.

1) **Gagandeep Dhillon (Rosalind)** - Rosalind is a blend of feminine grace and manly qualities. She is witty, prudent & majestic and can present herself as a man while being beautiful and compassionate like a woman.

Gagan feels that it was indeed a challenging character which required a lot of practical work to emulate it. Partho sir, the director, introduced them to many facets of human nature and how these can be defined creatively.

2) **Sajalpreet Kaur (Celia)** - Celia is Duke Frederick's daughter and Rosalind's cousin. Sajal learnt the basics of drama with dance movements. Everyday working from nine till two or four in the afternoon was a very hectic experience but very enjoyable.

3) **Sukhdeep S. Toor(Orlando)**- Orlando is mistreated by his elder brother, Oliver and falls for Rosalind.

Sukhdeep has learnt that discipline is a vital ingredient in theatre and experiences have polished their skills.

4) **Swati (Senior Duke)- Somansh Goyal (Oliver),Arjan Singh (Duke Frederick), Harmanjeet Sidhu (Companion of Duke Frederick), Prabhsimrat Randhawa (Lord William)**

These children feel that they have learnt finer details of stage acting and helped in building their confidence to face the audience.

5) **Karanveer Perik (Touchstone)-Manroop and Jatin Bansl( Guards), Shubham Ahluwalia (Attendant), Rashi Kausal (Servant),Kashish (Adam).**

These students learnt to be patient but meantime experienced a thrill while playing their

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6) **AnnaRoop Raj (Phebe), Harmanpreet Kaur-Audrey, Kunal Singla-Slivius Shepherd, Rohtash Mattu-** A Shepherd.

These children not only learnt about acting but everything related to other aspects of the play like stage decoration, correct posture, managing back stage and much more.

7) **Aditya Thakar-** He played three different characters Duke Senior, who is banished to the forest, a friend of Duke Frederick and a chorus boy.

Aditya says that he was the first one to reach school for auditions and finally made it. He had the audience in splits because of his style of dialogue delivery.

8) **Hardik Tandon-A** wrestler, **Kanishak Sharma-Le Beau.**

These boys were thrilled to be a part of the play and it was an experience of a lifetime for them.

9) **Ravjot Kaur-** Chorus, **Alisha Verma-Chorus, Komal Mittal- Chorus, Vineet Kaur-Chorus, Pranvi Goyal- Chorus, Anmol Saran- Chorus, Vishavjot Singh- Chorus, Talvender Singh- Chorus, Roohi Dhir- Chorus.**

All these students felt that this practising for the play have bonded them well and they have made them good friends. They say that this experience has made them obedient and cooperative.



## Book Review

Title : Holes

Author : Louis Sachar

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'Holes' is as intriguing a book as its title. The story revolves around a young boy named Stanley Yelnats IV, whose family had been under the spell of a curse by the fortune-teller Madam Zeroni. The story begins with Stanley getting falsely arrested for stealing a pair of sneakers from a homeless shelter, which were donated by a famous baseball player nicknamed Sweet Feet. Stanley was then taken to court where he faces an option to go to jail or to Camp Green Lake, a juvenile detention facility. He opts for the camp, however, he soon finds out that there was no lake, nothing green and no happy campers. In place of what used to be "the largest lake in Texas" was a dry, flat, sunburned wasteland.

The cause for the curse on the Yelnats family is because of Stanley's "no-good-dirty-rotten-pig-stealing-great-great-grandfather" named Elya Yelnats. Elya had fallen in love with beautiful but stupid Myra Menke. He went to the fortune-teller known as Madam Zeroni for help. Madam Zeroni advises him to go to America and leave Myra. But Elya decides against leaving Myra, and the generations of Yelnats come under the spell of the curse.

The book's genius is that it delicately balances so many elements- the camp, Stanley's history, his friendships with a quiet but thoughtful boy nicknamed Zero, a legendary female bank robber named Kissin' Kate Barlow and a mess of very creepy yellow spotted lizards. All the pieces of the story fit together seamlessly. So seamlessly, in fact, that when it's finished you realize that it couldn't have ended any other way.

This is a book, which interests the kids and adults alike. It's smart, funny, thrilling and moving-all at same time.

**Adil Virk**  
**Class VII**

### **Book Review – 'One Smile'**

What can a smile do? Quite a lot as we find out in this note worthy tale. The story begins with Katie walking with her mother through the park. She thoughtfully bestows a bright smile on a forlorn, out of work young man sitting on a park bench. It inspires the young man to begin looking for a new job. While doing so, he sees a woman whose car has a flat tyre. He changes the tyre for her. She, in turn, leaves a large tip for a waitress. This continues on until, eventually, the good feeling inspired by Katie's smile comes back to her and her mother.

The text is well written and flows smoothly. The themes of kindness and interconnectedness shine through on each page.

The illustrations are exceptional. The realistic paintings are done in vibrant colours. Each double-page spread captures perfectly the mood and atmosphere of the story and invites the reader into the scene.

Without lapsing into moralizing, one smile shows the readers that small acts of kindness, when sent out in the world, can have profound and lasting effects.

**Milanpreet**  
**Class VI-R**

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# An insight into the dances performed

## Sammi

This traditional folk dance was performed by women in the Sandalbar region now in Western Pakistan. Sammi is danced to the beat of the Dhol. The traditional percussion instrument of Punjab. Its songs reflect the tender human emotions, happiness and sorrows of day-to-day life.

Since this dance is not as common as bangra & giddha it was performed by us on the occasion of five year celebration at our school. The beat of the drum and colourful attire gave a perfect setting for memorable end to the variety show presented by the school. The twelve minute dance had the audience enthralled & they left the venue with the music and dance imprinted on their minds & hearts.

Parents commented that this dance programme was the most professional they had ever seen .  
The following girls participated in the dance

- |               |         |
|---------------|---------|
| 1. Daman      | IX SM   |
| 2. Kashni     | VIII NK |
| 3. Vasundhra  | VII JB  |
| 4. Akanksha   | VIII MJ |
| 5. Ruban      | VII JB  |
| 6. Arpit      | IX SM   |
| 7. Sukhan     | VII JB  |
| 8. Annanya    | VII JB  |
| 9. Ekam       | VIII NK |
| 10. Harpuneet | IX KS   |
| 11. Astha     | VIII NK |
| 12. Vibhuti   | VII JB  |
| 13. Harsimrat | VIII NK |

Ruban Somal  
VII JB



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## Classical Dance-Kathak

Kathak a classical dance form means to tell a story derived from the dance dramas of ancient India. Durga Stuti a classical dance was performed by the girls of the school in which all the nine forms of goddess Durga were shown.

- |               |        |
|---------------|--------|
| 1. Reha       | V HJ   |
| 2. Rhea       | V DS   |
| 3. Ayushi     | V RA   |
| 4. Kriti      | VI R   |
| 5. Mansi      | VI R   |
| 6. Jaspreet   | VI R   |
| 7. Ria        | VI R   |
| 8. Manya      | VI JY  |
| 9. Kritinder  | VI JY  |
| 10. Saisha    | VII RR |
| 11. Jaskeerat | VII RR |



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# Shikha Bhardwaj 's Farewell

**Every farewell combines loss and new freedom.”**

**Mason Cooley - City Aphorisms**

On February 6th we have to say goodbye to Ms. Shikha Bhardwaj. Shikha Ma'am has been with us at High School since almost the beginning.

Words and praise are insufficient to describe Ms. Shikha's work, her devotion to the school, her ever-readiness to take on new responsibilities.... the list could go on and on.

But, the bottom line is: she is a brilliant teacher: she teaches from her heart, and it is not just a question of teaching. Everything she deals with is embellished and enriched.

And, do you know, when I feel sad that she's leaving, I tell myself- well, actually, she's only a phone call/e-mail away. And, to further console myself, our school will also gain because all the innovations and ideas she'll pick up in Mumbai will come back to us. Sorry to be selfish, but one has to find some consolation!

Ms. Shikha will always be with us in so many ways, but for the time being, we wish her ADIOS - Spanish for goodbye and May you go with God.

**Rosa Kucharskyj  
Principal**



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