

# Choice in Ink

The Choice School  
Tripunithura

"Life isn't about finding yourself. Life is about creating yourself." - George Bernard Shaw.

Another chapter comes to a close only to turn to a new one. With all challenges met and tied up tight, let's leap forward to bring out the better we are capable of. The future looks bright and the path is paved. Let's beat the tunes to the right codes to bring out the best music.

Summer holidays are a recess time to recharge to perform better. Dear children, with you we have achieved big. Future hides behind a plethora of opportunities waiting to be taped and grabbed. Let's put our hearts together to do what we love to do, only to achieve peaks in life. Whatever we do let's be righteous and honest to ourselves. Past is your lesson, present is your gift and future is your motivation. The start is what stops most people. So never be reluctant to start. Be wise and think before you step forward. Wishing you all the best in all attempts you make. Let's strive together to make the best of what we have.

- Sunitha Satheesh  
Principal



## Exceed Expectations

Change is never behind. Tune yourself to embrace it with all your might. Fight to run that extra mile. The world is at your disposal only if you can treat it wisely. Be positive to seize the time passionately. Make the world around you, worthy of you. There are no battles fought without the urge to win. Conquer your fears and give the best for the future to live on, to remember you. What we need is not the will to believe but the will to discover. Charge up future, to slice through every opportunity you find.

- Jose Thomas  
President, Choice Foundation

Choice Editorial Team



## Cultural Evening

The Cultural Evening 2017 put up by grade 4, guided by their talented and skillful set of teachers was one of the most sensational performances to have graced the stage of the JT PAC auditorium. The show was themed around Malayalam literature and culture, highlighting iconic 20th century classic Malayalam movies and actors. The little thespians undoubtedly did their state and its culture proud by depicting the big names of Malayalam literature and film uncompromised in its authenticity of expression, and created a childlike, nostalgic aura with their portrayals of yesteryear actors and actresses like Sheela, Madhu and Prem Nazir. The time and effort put into the production by the teachers, non-teaching staff and the JT PAC team certainly paid off as the extravaganza exuded professionalism and quality. The audience was gifted with a theatrical treat and it was the unanimous opinion of one and all lucky enough to see the show that Cultural Evening 2017 will definitely go down in Choice School history as a show to behold.



## Sparkles 2017

As the day of Diwali approached, the school was buzzing with excitement waiting for the year's Diwali production, Sparkles 2017. The students and teachers of the Middle School pulled out all the stops to make sure this extravaganza oozed with the spirit of Diwali - the lights, colour and energy were kindred to the real Festival of Lights. Even the rain could not dampen the widespread enthusiasm. The students of grades 5, 6 and 9 succeeded in proving their ability to entertain an audience as they bedazzled us with music and dance of a quality that has come to be synonymous with the students of The Choice School. A Diwali carnival of sort, we even had stalls selling scrumptious food and creative handicrafts that kept the crowd busy and as is tradition here at Choice, all the proceeds went to charity. Iridescent, exhilarating and full of "dhoom-dhamaka", Sparkles 2017 was a night to remember.

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# Kinderland



Kinderland students performing "The Magic in Me"

## The Magic in Me

-Ms. Girija Nair (Prep Coordinator)

To spread this message across, the Preppers took the JTpac stage by storm with their scintillating performance in the play "The Magic In Me". We believe that introducing the performing arts at an early age builds selfconfidence, teamwork, communication skills, patience and listening, which is why it is an integral part of our curriculum. We also ensure every child participates in our shows. Writing a script to include 214 children was indeed a daunting task! Every role big and small essayed by our little actors contributed in making this magical musical a resounding success! The story is woven around a Princess whose search for the magic in her takes her through Fairyland, The Kingdom of Arendelle, Italy and finally Hogwarts where she discovers it. The little actors performed with conviction and élan. Their little dancing feet wowed the audience as they swirled & swayed to the rhythm of the beat!

This production by The Choice Kinderland will remain a landmark event as it is for the first time that a show by our Kindergartners was performed completely live!

All of us have a little bit of magic within us - all you have to do to discover it, is just believe in yourself and we are sure the passionate performance by our little babies succeeded in driving this message home with every single person in the audience and they returned home that evening richer for the experience.

## Kiddies Sports Day

-Ms. Elizabeth Mani (Admin Incharge, Kinderland, Parvana)

The idiom "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy" holds true for all young children and The Choice Kinderland strives to ensure that no child ends up like Jack. The Kiddies Sports Day, held on 17 November 2017, is a much awaited event in the Kinderland academic year. The Sports Meet provided ample opportunities for fun and frolic while teaching the kids the importance of living a healthy active life. Introducing sports at an early age sets the children on a path to being well rounded. They develop the awareness that at the end of the game, it is not about winning or losing that matters, but about how well they played the game. The day commenced with a colourful display by the Preppers, which was followed by various age appropriate sporting games like hurdles, running race, shower ball, tug-of-war and football kicking. Every child took part in the events planned for their class, and the most important of all was that every child was a winner. The day was a sportive, joyful and a jubilant experience for everyone.



Kiddies Sports Day - Display and Tug of War

## 'Tis the Season

The festivities of Christmas were celebrated with much fanfare and splendor on 21st December 2017 by The Choice Kinderland at JT PAC. The Stars of the Day, the Kinderarkers, were geared up for the big day which marked the debut of many students performing on a big stage in front of a packed crowd, who were just as enthused to see their children up on stage. The presence of the special guests of the day, their Grandparents, brought more enthusiasm into them and every child was excited to display their talent on such a momentous occasion. The event started off with the active participation of the grandparents in the variety of games which were lined up for them, at the end of which the winner was crowned the "Super Duper Grandparent 2017". The tiny tots confidently took over the stage displaying their talents of Public Speaking and tip toeing to the famous Christmas songs. What's Christmas without Carols? Yes, the little ones, all together, filled the auditorium with their melodious voices, singing all time favourite Christmas songs which added more colour and fervour to the occasion.

The Big Day for the little ones, when they truly performed and displayed their talent on stage, keeping the Christmas spirit alive, marked the event as an unforgettable one for all present.



Grandparents' Day and Carol singing



# Primary



Grade 4 using their notebooks as Wind Vanes



1st Grade's Tour of the City



2nd Grade trip to Kerala Marine Fisheries



Visual Representation of Nature activity by Grade 3



2nd Grade trip to IDrive Cochin



Metro Ride for Grade 4



Nest Making activity for Grade 3



Women's Day Card Making for Grades 1-4

## Bake Sale

-Joanna Noby Eralil, Nandita Thomas and Trina Biju (3H)

We had organised a Bake Sale. Our teachers helped us with the arrangements and in making the goodies. They decided on the price of all the baked items which we had brought from home. Most of our friends bought the delicious delicacies. It was a grand success. The amount raised was donated to Butterfly Cancer Charity for a child undergoing cancer treatment. We felt very happy.



## Memorable Vacation

-Aaron Joseph Fischer (3A)

During the last summer holidays, we were planning a vacation to one of the hill stations, which had to be cancelled for some unforeseen reason. Instead we ended up staying at my aunt's place, which turned out to be real fun. We set off on a Monday. I slept in the car. When we reached there, I was more than delighted. It was a pleasant surprise for them. I ran towards the farm. The cattle were grazing in the field, the ducks and geese were swimming in the pond and I was chasing a brood of hens. One of them came charging towards me. I ran for my life! I fell down, fortunately there were no injuries. I went to the pond to check if anything happened. Then my brother and I tried catching fish with a net. We also tried our hands in a game of cards. After a bath we had a delicious meal and ate till our bellies burst. I did not want to go back home. My parents had a hard time persuading me. I love vacations!



Adventure Camp for Grade 4



Class Day of Grade 1 and 2 students



# Middle School

## The Spirit of Giving

**S**haring the experience of donating to charity with children shows them from a young age that they can make positive changes in the world. Children naturally love to help others, so nurturing their innate generosity will ensure that they grow up with a greater appreciation of what they have and will continue to support charitable causes in years to come. This is the spirit we follow at our school. This year students of middle school visited different charitable organisations like General Hospital, Janey Centre for special education, Evangel Ashram, Nazareth Fisherman Colony, Karunalayam, Mandiram, Amma Thottil, Kerala and Sri Poornathrayeesa Balasramam during Onam and Christmas. At many of these places, students spent time with the occupants, sang songs for them. They donated daily provisions like rice, dal, sugar, wheat flour and semolina and at few places, they also donated old clothes and bedsheets that they had collected. At the General Hospital, the students presented Rs.8000 to pay for the patients' food and Rs 45000 via cheque for the treatment of patients at the Cancer Ward. At the Janey Centre for Special Education, our students presented Rs.4000 towards the purchase of teaching aids. Our school also donated ten beds to both Evangelashram and Capernaum. The moment you know that your little deed of charity has brought a smile to someone's face is the moment you will understand true meaning of life. Our students returned with their hearts full of gratitude to the Almighty for all the things they are bestowed with.

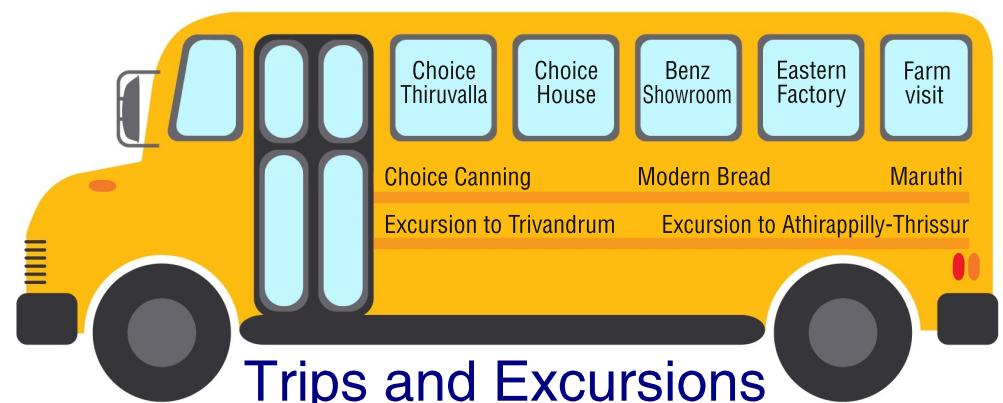


## With the Men in Blue

**E**very experience that a student participates in builds cultural understanding and tolerance, and exposes them to worlds outside their own. In an effort to awaken the desire of the students to pursue previously unconsidered dreams, the Grade VI students and Class Captains of the Middle School were taken to the Naval Base on 23 November, 24 November and 30th January 2018 to observe the Indian Navy at work. The students were taken aboard the INS Sujata and INS Tir and were enthralled by the demonstration of the dismantling and assembling of small arms. The "continuity drill" (precise drill movements done in unison by the squad) by the Naval warriors of INS Dronacharya was equally exciting. The exhibitions held by the Naval Aviation and Diving Schools showcased various aircrafts, gear and equipments used. The Naval Band performed a wide range of repertoire from western classical to Indian pop. Taking up the cause of environmental pollution, a portion of Fort Kochi beach was cleaned as a part of International Coastal Clean-up Day organized by the Indian Coast Guard, Kochi on 16 September 2017. This inculcated a sense of responsibility in the middle school students towards the upkeep of the city's water bodies. Further, in an effort to develop team spirit and bonding, the students also participated in a 4km Walkathon organized by the Indian Coast Guards on 14th January 2018.



The Tree Planting Initiative at Thripunithura Railway Station by the Grade 5 students and Eco Club



Shaastra 2018 at IIT Madras in which 20 students from Grade 6 onwards participated. Two teams won First and Second in Robo Oceana Event.



Jordan Noby Eralil and Basil Alias of Grade 6 at RoboRave Asia in Beijing. Their accommodation, food and local travel was sponsored by Sony who also gave them two KOOV robotics kits worth Rs.90,000 each



Various Events at the Main block- (From top to bottom)  
Sports Day Display, Republic Day, Onam celebrations

# Senior School

## Traversing Borders through Literature

-Rohan Cyriac Paul

**A**s I packed my bags on the eve of our departure, my mind chose to wander amongst its newfound memories: the mesmerising view of the gardens from the Amer fort, the Agatha Christie-like pursuit of Rupi Kaur (which ended in complete and utter failure) and oh! the food!

We had come to be a part of the Jaipur Literature Fest - 2018. JLF, the biggest literature fest in India, was an amalgamation of the biggest luminaries across varied vocations including Zakir Hussain, Shashi Tharoor, Rupi Kaur, Hamid Karzai and so on. All the talks were centred on the theme of using literature to transcend the narrow domestic walls that divide us, to a world without borders. Out of the myriad of the ideas and perspectives shared, there were a few that resonated with me. Homi K. Bhabha, the scholar, opined, "Without dissent, there can be no hope for progress." and Pico Iyer eloquently said, "The moment is only as rich as the perspective you bring to it."

"It's not the place, but the people that count", and it didn't make much sense to me. However, as I took a long sweeping look at our hotel room, I knew exactly what he meant. The sine qua non of my indelible experience at Jaipur, were my 11 companions.

Yes, we were leaving Jaipur, with a heavy heart, but with a plethora of unforgettable memories.



## Spreading your Wings

-Aishwarya Mathews

**F**ebruary hosted two of the most important events of the senior school. Farewell and graduation.

Two days that all twelfth graders start planning for from the first day of their last year in school. 2 February 2018 saw grade 11 students running around like their ends were on fire. A months worth of planning and prepping was coming to an end. It was finally farewell night. An evening that both the 11th and 12th graders had been eagerly waiting for. For the 12th graders, it was their night. Dressing up and walking down that ramp is probably what they had been dreaming about for the best part of the last one year. For us it was a different type of anticipation and excitement; Fighting over the theme, putting up the decor, missing class for "farewell practice", trying to live up to our seniors' expectations, was simply put, fun. The batch of 2018 celebrated perhaps their last night of freedom before The Boards to their maximum as we bid them 'A Gatsby Goodbye'

Graduation was another important event that took place last month. One of the final rites of passage in modern societies, it marks the passage of time and certifies an individual's progress. On the surface, graduation is a solemn affair. A sea of students receiving certificates and handshakes one after the other almost mechanically. But there's more to it than what meets the eye. The smiles are blended with tears and melancholic nostalgia. Graduation signifies the exciting, challenging, and painful process of letting go. On 16 February, the batch of 2018 let go of the safety of dependence and the comfort of familiarity as they prepared to spread their wings and face the real world. Graduation is not just about the student or their education, it's about acknowledging the end of a long journey that taught them right from wrong; punished, then embraced them and gave them the tools to try and make this world a better place.



## The Quest for Truth

-Diya Isha

**T**he curator, unleashes the event as though it's a firefly stuck in a glass jar, with the opening line, "Tonight, we present to you a choice, a chance to discover your truth, my truth, a truth, the truth, the truths of others." The second edition of the TEDxChoiceSchool was held on 24th November 2017. With the theme, 'The Quest for Truth', the event gracefully framed the words of power personalities. Mayankutty Mather having read all three Holy books advocated his perspective on religion. Sabu Cyril enthralled the audience by unravelling the making of Baahubali. Asha Krishnan illustrated on how she fought cancer without chemotherapy. The zenith of the event was Kirthi Jayakumar, a women's rights activist and lawyer, who threw light on the patriarchal nature of history; often forgetting woman catalysts of change. As the student speaker, I got the opportunity to see the heads put together a meticulous curation that can only be placed adjacent to excellence. When the Head of Journalism was busy typing out an article about the speakers, the Head of Media was recording the practice session of the Entertainment team and the Decor team setting up the letters of TED on the JTPac stage. The event helped in directing a group of individuals towards one primary goal, setting an example of leadership and team work. I'd like to conclude with the words of Robin Williams, "No matter what people tell you, words and ideas can change the world.". TEDxChoiceSchool stands as an allegory for that very idea, reminding us what we say matters for words have infinite power.



# Editorial

## The Youthquake

-Shilpa Mariam Joseph

The Oxford English Dictionary has chosen the word "Youthquake", defined as "a significant cultural, political, or social change arising from the actions or influence of young people", as its word of the year. The word was coined in the 1960s, by Vogue editor, Diana Vreeland, to refer to the cultural movement brought about the youth, that involved pushing the boundaries and challenging the norms of music, fashion and pop culture. However, in the recent years, it has been used to describe the youth who are challenging the social and political status quo. As evidenced by Britain's parliamentary elections, or the fight of America's teenagers for gun control, the future promises more involvement of the youth in shaping their futures than ever before. Even in India, according to data from the Ministry of Home Affairs, student-led movements in India surged 148 percent between 2009 and 2014; with movements like "Hokkolorob" (Make Some Noise) in West Bengal, to "Justice for Rohith" in the southern city of Hyderabad, to "Standwithjnu", and the latest, "Students Against ABVP" in the capital city of New Delhi. Student movements are spotlighting pressing issues, influencing government decision-making, and initiating policy change. And the fight isn't limited to student rights, but also about inclusion, women's empowerment, rising fundamentalism on campuses, autonomy in universities, and discrimination in higher education.

This generation is not a monolith. Change happens in the blink of an eye, and the power of mass communication propagates it everywhere. We are the best educated generation yet, we have infinite information at our fingertips, and almost all of us use smartphones. We are shattering the stereotypes of an apathetic and superficial youth everywhere. With hashtags like #wewilloutliveyou or #blacklivesmatter trending on Twitter, our generation is playing a mammoth role in changing the world that it will inherit.

President of the Oxford Dictionaries, Casper Grathwohl explained why this particular word was selected, "We chose youthquake based on its evidence and linguistic interest. But most importantly for me, at a time when our language is reflecting our deepening unrest and exhausted nerves, it is a rare political word that sounds a hopeful note. Sometimes you pick a word as the word of the year because you recognise that it has arrived, but other times you pick one that is knocking at the door and you want to help usher in ... I think this past year calls for a word we can all rally behind."

Your age does not define the validity of your perspective. Your voice matters, your opinion matters, your ideas matter. Even though it may often seem that we are powerless because of our age, we have a responsibility, to ourselves, to speak up, to stand up, and to fight back; without dissent, there can be no hope of progress.

## The End is Nigh

-Esha Paul

School has always been a constant in my life. For fourteen years, it's been the same routine of getting up before the sun has risen, getting dressed and going to school. Having reached the end of my school life, I, like most others, am growing increasingly tired of the cycle. But the continuity of the routine, the certainty that tomorrow it will be the same, the comfort in having a reason to wake up in the morning, is something we all take for granted. As my final year in school begins, I, along with, I'm guessing all of my batch mates, are already dreading the end of this year. Not just because we must finally face the baddest villain of them all, CBSE 12th board exams, but seeing only students younger than us around, the inevitable yet ironically shocking realization hits us: School is over.

I remember walking into the main block for the first time and seeing all these students older than me, looking so wise, confident and ready for the future. I remember thinking, I can't wait to reach 12th and be a senior and be smart and cool and happy and do awesome things in life! But slowly along the way, I began to realize that things were slowly slipping out of my grasp. That I wasn't sure about anything at all; that being smart and cool and happy wasn't as easy as it looked. And as I walked into my 12th grade class I realized I'm so dead scared. The fear of the unknown has plagued humanity for centuries and little me was no exception. All at once I was hit with the reality that by next year I would have reached the finish line.

It's scary not knowing what lies ahead. I fear it every day, when I'm worrying about entrance exams and chemical equations and adulting. But then something I see at school, my friends, laughing about some stupid joke that I made years ago and I think to myself, school's not going anywhere. This life, these experiences, these relationships have molded us for fourteen years and they will forever remain ingrained in us. These laughs, worries and tears we experienced here are not dissipating slowly, but are solidifying into memories that our life will now be based on.

To those going through the same thing as me; though it may seem like the stress of civil wars, world hunger and the population crisis is unicorns and rainbows compared to the stress of board exams, to you I say: Take a deep breath. And stop worrying. We have the rest of our lives to worry. For now, take a chill pill. Look around you and take it all in. Make the most of the finality of your school life. The grades you get this year are definitely important, no doubt. But what's more important is what kind of person you are when you walk out of here for the last time. Dream your big dreams, hold on to your passion and life will present to you a platter of the best opportunities. Don't let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game. Someone once told me that sometimes things get a whole lot worse before they get better. But there's no doubt about the fact that things will get better. To paraphrase the legendary John Green, we're on a roller coaster that only goes up, my friends.

## Au revoir

-Dya Isha

As a 17-year-old who is nearing the inevitable stage of young adulthood, I've always wondered what my future would look like. I, like any other average millennial, do not want a job where I'm stuck in a cubicle of suffocation. Therefore, I have a clear-cut goal which I must attain no matter the cost. The cost, however, skips outside the realm of monetary terms; and is fundable by changes. Starting from the town we live in, the way the floorboard of our house feels against our feet, the specific cup in which we drink our morning coffee, the pencil holder on our study table, to the scattered bits of notes on the walls of our room; we're conditioned to familiarity. The universities we talk about, the courses we wish to study and the jobs we aspire for, pulls us miles away from the idea of home. While we're busy jotting down the perfect college essay, we forget to acknowledge reality. Consequently, we forget to ask ourselves the most important question, 'Are you ready to leave?' I left behind 6 years of familiarity when I joined the Choice School. And why? To pursue humanities. Cochin is 226 kilometres away from Kannur, my hometown. It takes approximately 8 hours to travel between the two and therefore, my trips to Kannur are limited. The last time I was there, my best friend begged my mother to extend the ticket dates twice. Along the same line of events, my phone lit up with a notification that read, 'Why don't you stay here?'. There I was, with two invalid tickets, reading this message as though it had triggered something greater than my conscience. I found myself typing a reply faster than my fingers could pace in between the keys. "Because this town is too small. It's like clothing that doesn't fit, with seams that are tearing apart and patches with threads emerging at the corners. It's like the soggy piece of biscuit stuck at the bottom of a cup of tea; unwanted. This town is the residue of yesterday's curry clad on a steel spoon of constancy." We're composed of places we visit, books we read, handles of doors we touch, and mounts of caffeine we consume; but, there's more to us than just that. And honestly, why stay when there's always a ticket to come back home.

# The Man who defied the Odds

- Gianna Tessa Joseph (5B)

**P**rofessor Stephen William Hawking was one of the most famous scientists of the 21st century. His knowledge of science and mathematics earned him the nickname Einstein when he was in high school. He was born on 8th January 1942, exactly 300 years after the death of Galileo, in Oxford, England.

Stephen was just an average student but enjoyed math and science in school. He was always interested in how stuff worked and would take clocks and radios apart, but had trouble putting them back together. Another thing which he liked doing was to lie on the grass and watch the stars with his mum.

At Oxford, he chose physics and chemistry and studied cosmology at Cambridge. At the age of 21, he was diagnosed with ALS- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis; a disease which paralyzed him and required a speech generating device to communicate. At that time, doctors said that he would live only for a few years. Although Hawking was initially depressed over his diagnosis, he decided that there were things he wanted to accomplish with his life.

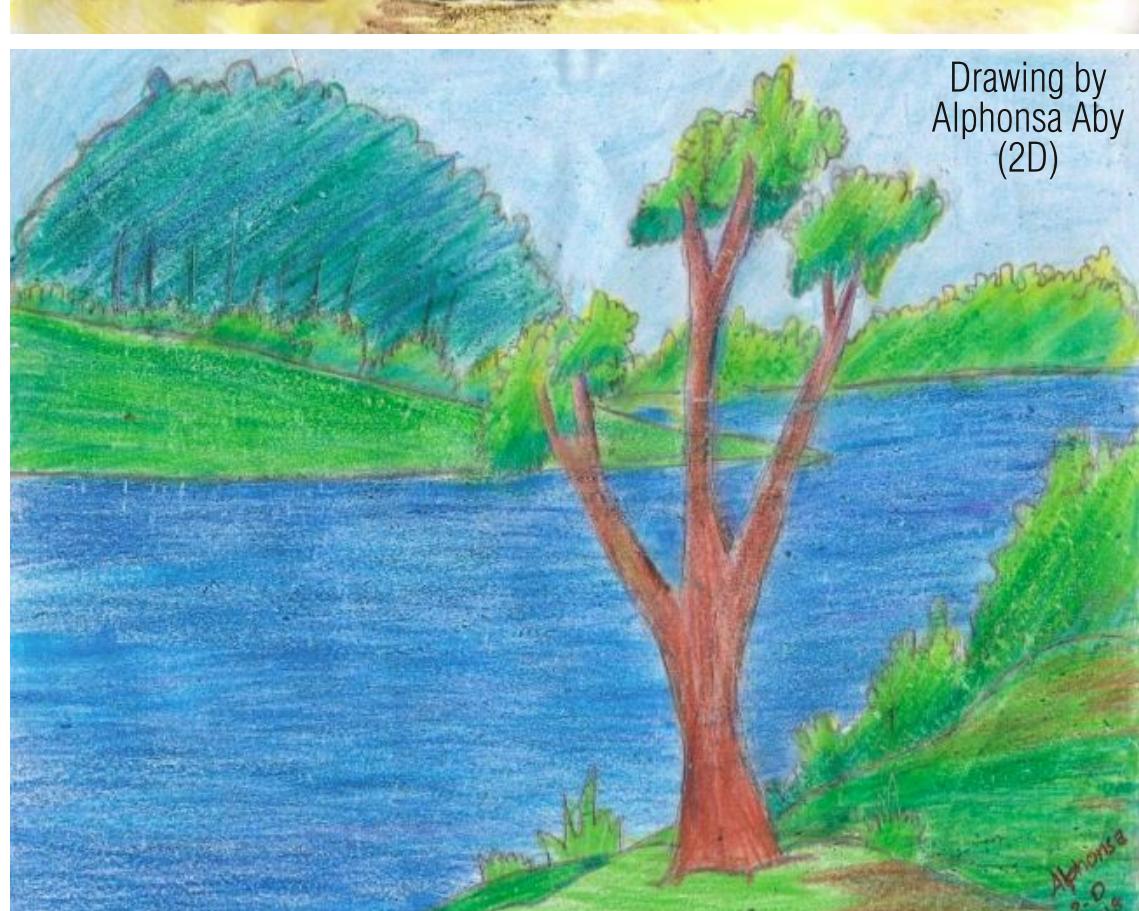
Stephen was a brilliant physicist who taught us many things about the solar system. His books helped ordinary people understand complex concepts. His work on the universe and black holes changed the way scientists think about the universe. Hawking dreamed big. He believed time travel was possible and that people may someday live on other planets. Stephen also enjoyed writing books. In 1988, he published *A Brief History in Time*.

Stephen Hawking passed away on 14 March 2018 at his home in Cambridge.

Hawking lived a full and productive life with the help of science and modern medicine. He had the capacity to relate the most complex physics to relateable incidents in everyday life. Hawking was one of the most famous scientists of his generation.

*"One, remember to look up at the stars and not down at your feet. Two, never give up work. Work gives you meaning and purpose and life is empty without it. Three, if you are lucky enough to find love, remember it is there and don't throw it away."*

- Stephen Hawking



# My First Train Journey

- Stuthi Sabu (5C)

I like travelling and during my holidays I travel to different places. Once I was travelling from Delhi to Jaipur by train during my summer vacations. It was my first train journey. I was very excited about it and I could see beautiful scenic areas throughout my journey. Unlike in plane journeys, in trains we can move about the train and interact with other passengers travelling along. When the train stops at each station, there is a lot of chaos as there are people trying to board the train and some trying to get off the train but what I saw at the station taught me a lesson in my life. I saw two children fighting at the station. They looked very weak and tired. First I thought they would be fighting for some petty things but later on I saw they were fighting for a piece of sandwich that was leftover at the station. Those kids were so hungry that they were not ready to share their food. I felt very sad for them. Few minutes before reaching the station I was making a fuss about eating the food that was offered to me. That's when I realised that we should not waste any food. I felt I was blessed to get food to eat daily. This is what I would like to share with you all. Never throw food and only take what you can eat as there are many people starving each day. My first train journey was beautiful with a valuable lesson learnt.

# A Trip to Gangtok

- Anika Jigaraju (7E)

**E**veryone had a vacation that lasted for two months. My parents and I were going to Gangtok, Sikkim for eight days. We boarded our plane at 6 am during which I read, listened to music and looked out of the window on my flight. I ate chocolate chip cookies and drank latte. When we got off, I held my breath. Would Gangtok be as beautiful as it was said to be?

We hired an Innova and drove through a beautiful forest. Shades of green such as Khaki, Jade, Emerald, Aquamarine tried to capture my attention in the shape of tall ancient trees. We saw a few monkeys, langurs as they were called, gazing at us from high perches with mischievous brown eyes. There were a few tree stumps, the sight of which saddened us. The driver began talking to us about his family. He also explained to us about how people began cutting trees as a result of which the monkeys started wandering towards the roads and city. They loved the taste of the chips and Kurkure that the tourists fed them, so much that they never wanted to go back.

As we drove across an old bridge, there it was - the great Teesta River! Crystal blue waves gushed over stormy grey rocks, sending creamy froth into the air. The water was clear and clean unlike other rivers which were grey and dirty. We drove on, leaving the sparkling waves behind.

I couldn't believe my eyes when I saw a huge mountain with fresh, green trees, beautiful flowers, small little houses sitting cozily as though it were a painting. We passed a town, where fresh faced children played games, pretty women wore bright skirts, every colour of spring was in full bloom, and strong men were busy at work.

Sikkim was truly beautiful - not a single piece of garbage on the streets. Trees and flowers were aplenty in every corner of neat little streets and shops tucked into remote corners. We checked into our hotel, the Nettle and Fern, a pleasant, neat place. We did lots of shopping. We bought ornaments, Tibetan dolls and banners. People were very nice and friendly. We even went to a bookshop called 'Bookman's', from where I never wanted to leave. We went to a flower show and took Nature walks.

Sikkim is one of the most amazing places on Earth. Before we left, I promised myself to come back and rest where the trees and flowers grow.