

# Bhaktivedanta Gurukula and International School Vrindavan

Newsletter for the first quarter 2015- 2016



Better people better world

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## Nirman Shubharambh Ceremony

A grand Nirmaan Subharambha Ceremony for the new campus of BGIS was held on 16th May, 2015 in the presence of Honourable minister Shri Shivpal Yadav and other important dignitaries. The program begun with the performance of yajna at 8:15 AM and was presided over by Dr. Lila Purushottam Das, Director BGIS. Simultaneously, the students of BGIS led by Kartik Tyagi of 11th grade, started performing reverberating sankirtana or chanting of the Holy Names of Lord, which is the most powerful means of invoking auspiciousness. The yajna was performed to prepare for the most important event of the program which was the installation of Ananta Sesa. Ananta Sesa is an incarnation of Lord who holds up the entire universe on His hoods effortlessly.

The Chief Guest for the program, Honourable Minister Shri Shivpal Singh Yadav ji assured of full cooperation by the State Government for the new campus of BGIS. In particular, he declared that a new road will be built by the government connecting the BGIS new campus with NH-2. HH Gopal Krishna Mahara ji concluded the program by his speech in which he revealed the grand vision of the founder acharya of ISKCON, Srila A.C Bhaktivednta Swami Srila Prabhupad to establish holistic education to produce ideal leaders of the society. He expressed his heart felt gratitude to the minister and all other guests. Before departing, the honourable minister unveiled the stone plaque for the program and carefully observed the 3-D model of the new campus

***Mr Bhargav is the architect. The labor contract has been given to BL Kashyap Pvt. Ltd.***







Goti Pua Dance By Gurukula Students



Minister Observing the 3D Model



Speech by Honourable Minister Shri Shivpal Singh Yadav ji



Other Distinguished Guests



## Clicks from Construction Site



## BGIS In Rome



Raghunath Das, the chief coordinator for department of RGPR, had participated in convergence where young religious environmental leaders from around the world, including four ISKCON devotees, attended an environmental “convergence” and march in Rome at the end of June.

The event was put on by Our Voices ([www.ourvoices.net](http://www.ourvoices.net)), a New Jersey based international organization created to encourage religious communities to put pressure on political leaders for the upcoming 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris this December. Our Voices also encourages religious communities to be more vocal about environmental concerns in general.

The convergence began with the “Una Terra, Una Famiglia” or “One Earth, One Family” march on Sunday June 28th. Rather than being a protest march, it was an uplifting, joyful event thanking Pope Francis for his recent encyclical, or papal letter, supporting environmental action.

Around 2,000 people, including members of the World Wide Fund For Nature, Oxfam, other environmental NGOs, and various religious groups participated in the one-and-a-half hour march through Rome. A group of local Rome devotees also participated, chanting Harinama Sankirtan.

The march culminated in St. Peter’s Square in front of the Vatican, where the Pope’s encyclical is traditionally broadcast from to over 1 billion Catholics across the globe.

Pope Francis appeared to give his weekly Sunday afternoon address, and was greeted by the marchers holding up 1,500 oversized green leaves cut from cardboard.



## BGIS—ONCE AGAIN

### Students Results :-

The Council for the Indian Secondary Certificate of Education (CISCE) released their final exam results recently and Bhaktivedanta Gurukula and International School (BGIS) students in the 10th and 12th grade had a 100% pass rate. Ashwin Bhusan Bhat, who graduated from 12th grade, was Second in the Mathura district in the highly - competitive science stream with 96.5% overall average. Three students of class 10 namely Devansh Agarwal, Sandesh Sikarwar and Kartikay Goswami got 100% marks in Commerce.

### Some of the highlights of the results:

- Ashwin Bhusan Bhat of class 12 topped ISC with aggregate of 96.5 % marks, which is the second highest in Mathura District.
- Devrat Wagle of class 10 topped ICSE with aggregate of 94.2%.
- Three students of class 10 namely Devansh Agarwal, Sandesh Sikarwar and Kartikay Goswami got 100% marks in Commerce.
- The average score obtained by the students in Computer Science in class 10 is 97.75 % and in class 12 is 97.2 %.

The results have been remarkably good this year and have set new records for BGIS and Mathura District. All credit goes to the sincere efforts by the students and teachers. Dhruv Singhal, the topper in the ISC Commerce stream got 95% marks in Economics. Students at BGIS are excelling in both academics and spirituality will fulfill its vision to create leaders of the society with character and competence.



Ashwin Bhusan Bhat



Kartikay Goswami



Sandesh Sikarwar



Devansh Agarwal



Dhruv Singhal

## Mayapur Spiritual Retreat

Bhaktivedanta Gurukula & International School had its annual spiritual retreat this May 2015 in Sridham Mayapur. The retreat was from 19<sup>th</sup> May till 26<sup>th</sup> May 2015. This year the retreat was planned for classes 7-12.

Although the journey was formidably a long one, of more than 30 hours and the

weather was unpleasantly sultry, it became transcendental with delicious prasadam from Jhansi and Allahabad ISKCON temples combined with ecstatic kirtans. Students joyfully participated in singing and we had a little 'train sankirtan' that helped beat the heat!

The 8 day retreat was filled with extraordinary transcendental delights. Students and teachers were getting up every day to chant and attend mangal aratik darshan of the beautiful Sri Sri Radha Madhava, Sri Panchatatva and Sri Sri Narasimha Dev at the beautiful Mayapur Chandrodaya mandir. This was followed by memorizing the Bhagavat Gita shlokas. Teachers and students both had to memorize Bhagwad Gita slokas which was fun.

After this came the most interesting part of the day, the "Hare Krishna Therapy", designed by our director HG Lila Purushotham Prabhuji. It is a specialized therapy for relaxation of the body and mind for all students and teachers. It was full of fun. The session was appreciated by the teachers as well students.



Soon after the session everyone rushed to the lecture hall to listen to some nectarean pastimes of Chaitanya Bhagavata given by HG Krishnananda Prabhuji. With his unique humorous style he would transfer us to the era of Mahaprabhu and mentally take us around all those places of Navadvip, Mayapur and other places where the sweet pastimes of Gauranga took place. This journey continued everyday for almost 2 hours for 8 days without break.



## Mayapur Trip

There was no time for the teachers and other support staff to relax as there was a philosophical Chaitanya Caritamrita class by HG Lila Purushotham prabhu for them. This was far from being taxing. The classes were highly informative, thought provoking and nourishing through which our understanding of Gaudiya siddhanta as explained in the Caitanya Caritamrta by Krishna Das Kaviraj Gosvami became much clearer.

Every day we had the much awaited climax of the day, the Ganga Snan! All students and staff had a joyful dip in the holy Ganges, which was not only purifying but highly relaxing. Ganga Mata is so merciful that by just remembering her we have the benefit of getting purified, what to speak of taking a dip in her that too in the most sacred of all places, Mayapur dham.







***The New Project***



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*I appeal to all our well-wishers to come forward to help  
us generously to build this world-class Gurukula  
infrastructure for our kids.*

**H.G. Dr. Lila Purushottam Das**

