SITTING DOWN WITH THE CULTURAL CAPTAINS

TOT: As the Cultural Captain, what were your goals for the year and have you managed to accomplish any so far?

TCC: Ever since I have accepted this post, my main goal was to bring a revolution to the Cultural department. Hosting the inter-school event, Vision, was a huge success thanks to my team and our diligent teachers could be seen as one of the many goals I have achieved so far.

TOT: What does the term 'Founders' mean to you?

TCC: For me, Founders' means celebration through learning; regardless of the trial and error faced during the making of the show, the final result is an open proof of growth and thus, might be considered the most remarkable achievement of all. I can attest to this as upon first joining the school, I was unaware of the various traditions it followed and so it took me by great surprise when I realised that I had to play an instrument as well, something I was not entirely familiar with but this in turn, proved to be an artful learning experience.

TOT: You talked about how you were unaware of our school's traditions earlier, now that you have a better insight on the topic would you like to comment on it?

TCC: MIS manages to extravagantly portray the allurement in our traditions, and the weekly Havan is the prime example for the same. By chanting mantras one can feel a positive mindset engulf them and this helps in putting all our troubles aside. It is an absolute blessing to have an institute that offers holistic development, with its esteemed value system.

TOT: What could be considered as your driving force as the Cultural Captain?

TCC: The love and support I receive from my peers is truly the factor that keeps me going. Disappointing those who have put their utmost trust in me is something I fear. Although I may not be perfect, I wish to be remembered for who I am as a person and this factor makes me want to constantly prove myself.

TOT: Since you have experienced Founders' in school, how does it feel to host it virtually now?

TCC: Truthfully, it saddens me. Last year while working as the coordinator, I often talked about how the next founders would go beyond everyone's expectations since we would be back on campus but to my dismay, we are celebrating it virtually yet again. But regardless of the situation, my team managed to do their tasks exceptionally and seeing them put in the hard work lifted my spirits as well.

TOT: Many seem to consider you as the pathbreaking Cultural Captain since you broke the boundaries many see when looking at this position. What made you want to achieve this post?

VCC: Ever since I stepped into the school, the post seemed like a dream come true. Growing up performing is something that really piqued my interest but my underlying fear of judgment always kept me from doing my best. On the day of submitting the name of our desired post, I was perplexed about whether I should try or not but I feel like my passion for this position made me realise that there is no harm in trying after all.

(Continued from Page 1)

TOT: What is your first memory of founders and what has it taught you?

VCC: It was back in 8th grade, I remember constantly being told all these stories about this day and how working for it would be an overall amazing experience and looking back, I have to agree as it was something completely new to me since this level of preparation was something unheard of in my previous schools. After seeing everything I could see why many consider founders to be the highlight of the year.

TOT: It is known that YOU worked in light and sound for 3 years. Could it be considered a learning experience and what is your message to the ones who will eventually step into those shoes?

VCC: Working for light, sound and backstage is genuinely a life-changing opportunity and as exaggerated as it may seem, it not only teaches you about teamwork but also makes you learn all about responsibility and how it is okay to hold yourself accountable even when you are not entirely at fault but despite the hardships that come along with the title, it will be an episode in your life that you will never seem to forget and is an experience no number of words can put justice to.

TOT: How do you manage to keep up the up's and down's that come with being a Cultural Captain?

VCC: There are often times where I feel defeated and low, and personally, going back to my roots and remembering what originally made me want to be here today helps me get back on my feet. The constant support from my Cultural Captain, and the council as a whole, is another factor that helps me move over my hurdles with great ease.

TOT: What is your message for the aspiring cultural captains who want to break those same boundaries like you?

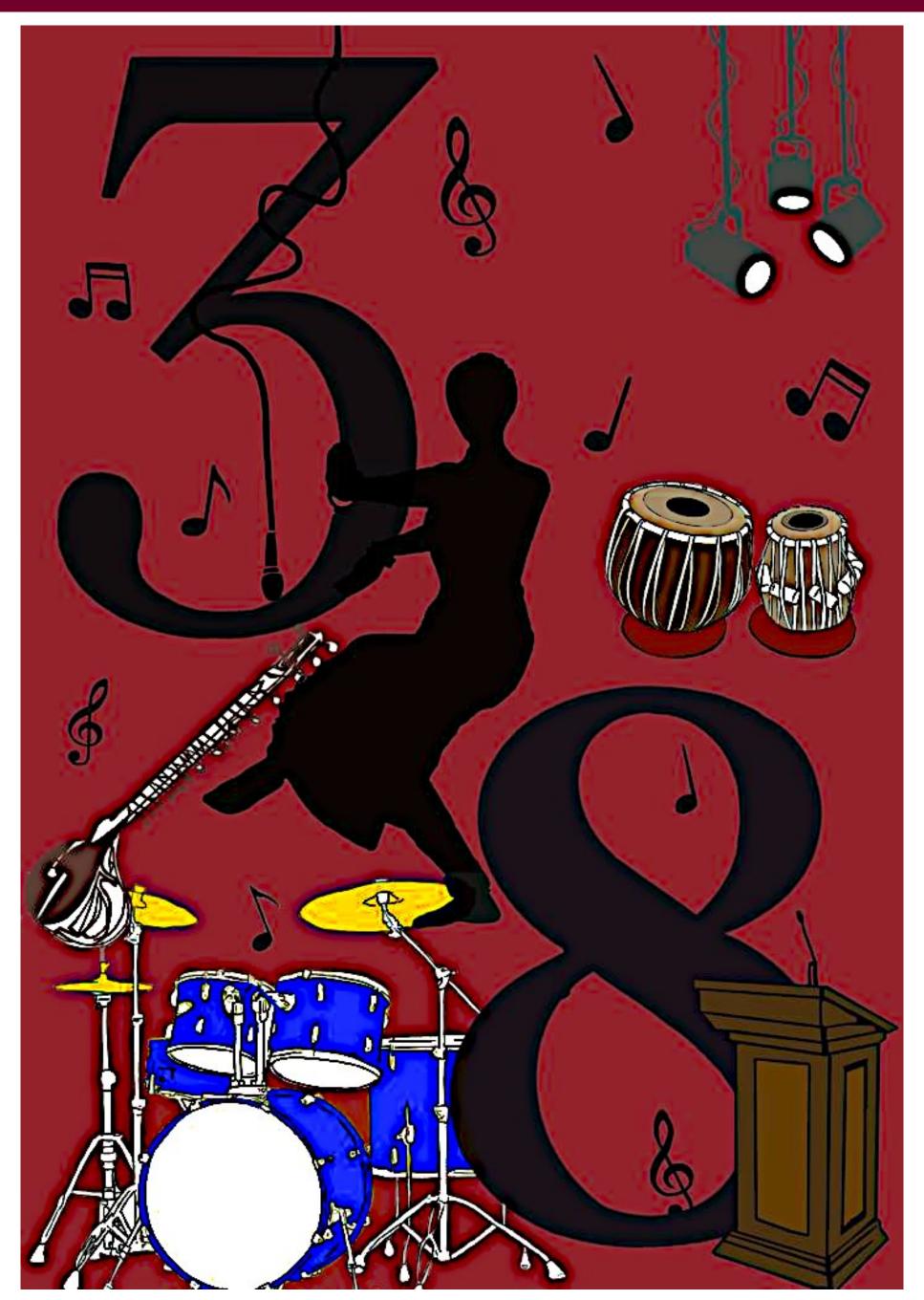
VCC: The reason why I wanted to try out as the Cultural Captain was not about its title, rather it was about giving everybody who feels the same way as me hope and to make them realise that without trying, there is no way of knowing whether you can do it or not. After all, you can always learn the talent but you can never learn the mindset required to be a leader.

TOT- The Originals Team
TCC- The Cultural Captain
VCC- Vice- Cultural Captain

ONCE IN A LIFETIME

~ Snigdha Jain

Conducting a grand event like Founders' Day online was not a small challenge, it came with its pros and cons. During the first meeting for the event, everyone, including the Principal, Vice-Principal, and the music/dance teachers, was present. My team and I had been working restlessly on the theme and performances for the event. I was pretty confident in our plans and could not wait to discuss them with everybody in the meeting but, it all went downhill for me when my network posed an issue and I could not attend the meeting as planned. I was disappointed and scared. This incident got me thinking of how difficult this challenge could be because a network issue is a pretty common problem for anyone during online shows or practices. However, there is no progress without challenges or struggles so, we went forward with our plan despite the questions and doubts in everyone's mind. Our struggles did not end there, obviously. We had to face many other roadblocks on our way, like contacting the participants, adjusting to online practices, and making the show a worth-watch while sitting at home. Despite all this, we were able to put up a successful and memorable show for all who joined us and it would not have been possible without the help of my coordinators and teachers who worked for this event despite all odds. For the Class of 2022, "The key to a successful event is teamwork", work well and closely with your event coordinator and teachers because they are the real backbone of the event. Encourage yourself and the participants to give their best at all times. For the captains, Naomi and Shreya, believe in yourself at all times. Fall back to each other when there is a problem and always be there for your team. Happy 37th Founder's Day!



~ Shreya Ranjan

HEADPHONES AND SCREENS

~ Shreya Ranjan (Vice-Cultural Captain, 2021)

As we culminate thirty seven years of excellence, I look back at the time and effort spent to make today's effort a success and it is truly heartwarming. This year began with high hopes of spending my last Founder's in school, consumed by the excitement and zeal, or what I like to call 'the Founders' Spirit'. However, times have been tough and we were not able to witness this spirit in person. I was not very sure about how to go about preparing for this event on a virtual platform, but I got to witness MIStars come together from different corners of the world to make it all come together. Over the last few weeks and over countless zoom meetings, discussions, auditions and a lot of hard work we have put together a show for everyone to enjoy. There have been numerous difficulties that we have all had to overcome, ranging from bad internet and deadlines that needed to be met. But the immense spirit that takes over each MIStar shined through this year as well and was why this year, like all the past years, has been a huge success.

OUR THOUGHTS ON PAPER

~ Disha Chokhani

The commerce department focuses on three different types of magazines. Consumer magazines target a specific audience within the masses of people. They focus on a certain need or interest, such as sports, fashion, health and homes. Examples of consumer magazines are "Reader's Digest and Seventeen". Trade and professional magazines are published for readers in professional or business fields. Examples of trade and professional magazines are "Publishers Weekly and National Fisherman". In-house or house organ magazines serve the needs of employees, clients or members belonging to a specific company or group. Examples of in-house magazines are "Avon Hill General" and "Nintendo Power".

The humanities department addressed the three branches- history, literature and law. History is systematically collected information about the past. When used as the name of a field of study, history refers to the study and interpretation of the record of humans, societies, institutions, and any topic that has changed over time. Literature is a term that does not have a universally accepted definition, but which has variably included all written work; writing that possesses literary merit; and language that foregrounds literariness, as opposed to ordinary language. Law means a rule that (unlike a rule of ethics) is enforceable through institutions. The study of law crosses the boundaries between the social sciences and humanities, depending on one's view of research into its objectives and effects. Law is not always enforceable, especially in the international relations context

ANOTHER FOUNDER'S ONLINE

~ Manya Batra

Without any doubt, Founders' remains the most glamorous event in our school. The way each MIStar works in collaboration with each other is impeccable. Throughout the years, we have portrayed various historical stories and events in a miraculous musical manner, such as the Ramayana. Despite us physically not being together at this particular moment, the legacy of Founders' Day has continued to take place via a virtual platform. Considering the technical issues, there may be hiccups in the way but the team is dedicated to showcase their ability to work and participate from home. This year, each grade will be delivering a separate performance, representing a different event from the cultural department. Even though we might not be able to wear the most extravagant costumes or have the most precise makeup, it would yet be an effort put in by many. The best part of experiencing and participating in the Founder's, when it takes place physically, is the continuous journey and the bonds that get created between the fellow juniors and seniors. It also feels different when we are performing in front of a massive crowd of parents, teachers, and fellow friends. This pandemic has unquestionably made us realise the shortcomings that we experience staying at home unable to meet and collaborate physically with anyone. As students, we are trying our best to make this year's Founders' as interesting and elegant as it

can be.

विद्यालय स्थापना दिवस

~ शिवाजी गायकवाड, संगीत विभाग प्रमुख

मसुरी इंटरनेशनल स्कूल इस बार 38 वा स्थापना दिवस मनाने जा रहा है। वैसे तो हर विद्यालय के लिये इस दिन का अपना एक महत्व होता है। छात्राएँ इस दिन अपने अन्दर के विविध गुणों की सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रमों द्वारा प्रस्तुती देते है। हमारे विद्यालय की यह एक परम्परा और विशेषता रही है की इस दिन सभी छात्राएँ और शिक्षकगण पुरी मेहनत से अपनी कलाकारी की प्रदर्शनी करते है। विद्यालय के सभी छात्राओं द्वारा 30 प्रकारों के वाद्ययंत्रों (orchestra) की प्रस्तुती देते है और साथ साथ मे प्राथमिक विद्यालय के छात्रों द्वारा एक बालनाटिका और माध्यमिक और उच्च माध्यमिक के छात्रों द्वारा पौराणिक या ऐतिहासिक कथा के आधार पर एक नृत्यनाटिका की प्रस्तुती देते है। इन प्रस्तुतियों द्वारा हम दर्शकों को अपनी भारतीय सांस्कृतिक धरोहर से और उसके महत्व को उजागर करते है,हमारे भारतीय संस्कृति का दर्शन और महत्व को बतलाते है। ऐसी प्रस्तुतियों द्वारा छात्रों के सर्वांगीण विकास को बढ़ावा मिलता है। लेकिन पिछले 2 वर्ष से पुरे संसार मे आये इस कोरोना महामारी के कारण ऐसे कार्यक्रमों के ऊपर बड़ा बुरा असर पड़ा है क्यों की जब विद्यालय मे छात्राएँ ही नही है तो ऐसे कार्यक्रमों को ऑनलाईन द्वारा प्रस्तुत किया जा रहा है। लेकिन ऑनलाइन द्वारा ऐसी प्रस्तुती करना बड़ा कठिन होता है। क्यों कि छात्र अपने अपने घरों में रहकर स्वतंत्र रूप से ही प्रस्तुती कर पा रहे है और उसे कम्प्यूटर की मदद से जोड़जोड़ कर कार्यक्रम को प्रस्तुत किया जा रहा है। क्युंकि इस समयकाल मे दुसरा कोई रास्ता भी तो नही है, इससे मनुष्य को समय के अनुसार कैसे ढलना है और आगे बढते रहना है यह सिख मिलती है। ऐसी मुश्किल घड़ी मे भी मनुष्य को हार माननी नही चाहिये। विद्यालय स्थापना दिवस को मनाने की परम्परा को निरंतर मनाते रहना चाहिए।

OUR GAMBOL TOWARDS SUCCESS

Felicity knocks at my heart as I look back at those starting days when the future lay diaphanous and just our ebullience wasn't enough. Erstwhile, labyrinthine lassitude held us back, but we conflated our minds and reached our zenith. But it's an irony on its own, for we reached it but are yet reaching towards it. Our dalliance with disaster was ephemeral yet was repetitive. But our dedication wasn't fugacious, we held on for our lives and we rose like the phoenix from our ashes.

~ Ariel

JOURNEY THROUGH THE MYSTERIOUS GLOBE

- 1. A 7-year old Brazilian girl, Nicole Oliviera, who found 7 asteroids through the 'Asteroid Hunt Citizen Science Programme', has been named the World's Youngest Astronomer.
- 2. 2,500 US military troops in Iraq, who have been helping counter the remains of the IS group, have reported to leave by the end of the year.
- 3. Lancet study shows that Pfizer and AstraZeneca vaccine antibody levels start to decrease after 6 weeks of complete immunisation. Researchers at University College London, in the UK, note that if this continues, there will be major concerns regarding the protective effects of the vaccines.
- 4. A Sudanese media personality and journalist has been sentenced to four years in prison in Saudi Arabia due to critical tweets he posted in support for Sudan's 2018-19 revolution against Saudi. He has been denied a lawyer or legal representation at his trial.

LEARN. REHEARSE. SHOWCASE.

~ Mahima Nandy

The most awaited celebration of Mussoorie International School is not too far. MIStars began preparing themselves under their respective teachers' guidance three weeks before the final day, after all, it is our Founders' Day. Celebrating it from home is an active experience with a different vibe. It is the second virtual Founders' Day of MIS, and MIStars are all ready to slay. The tiny kids of the first three grades are preparing themselves with their instructor, Ms. Bhavna, for a dance showcase. Whereas, the she-panthers of grade 4 are going international by putting together a French play under the guidance of the French faculty, Ms. Reema and Mr. Deepender. Grade 5, the senior-most grade of the primary school, is learning and developing themselves for the Mock Parliament under the direction of Mr. Mayank Chaturvedi and Mr. Anil Mark. MIStars are not ready to stop here. Up next is grade 6 with their folk attires from different parts of the country, under the supervision of Mrs. Tulika and Mrs. Usha.

Be it online or offline, MIStars are staunch to their fitness. Be prepared to feel the energetic Zumba moves by Mrs. Swati and the she-panthers of Grade 7. Grade 8 has prepared for a recitation with the guidelines of Ma'am Dalia. Have you ever traveled to the western world? The 9th graders will take you there with their steps choreographed by Ms. Reema and Ms. Pooja. The batch of grade 10 is rolling with their speeches for the mock parliament, with the support of their director, Mrs. Kavita Sharma. Grade 11s will challenge you with their practices and rehearsals with Ms. Abhilasha and Ms. Archana. The senior-most grade of the institution, Grade 12s, are reviving the Indian history by recalling the story of Maharana Uday Singh from Deepdaan with the faculty of the Hindi department, Mrs. Indu Aswal and Mr. Raghuveer Singh Negi. Hopefully, this virtual Founder's Day will bring you the same excitement as the live version always did.

10 YEARS ARE A LONG TIME

~ Ananya Prasad

The best thing about memories is making them. Ten years ago, since the moment I set foot into the stately gates of Mussoorie International School, I have made countless memories, memories that I know I will treasure and cherish forever. MIS has been a generous bestower for many things that I am thankful for. It has made me the person I am today. Everything I am, I owe to this prestigious institution. This institution has made us incredible people with futuristic minds and has inculcated traditional values that define our culture. It has been one rollercoaster ride since I became a part of the MIS family, but the innumerable memories I made, the care I have got since day one, and most importantly the precious friends I made, always makes me remember the school with love and gratitude. It has been a long time since I joined the school and the homely feel I get at school is incomparable to any feeling in the world. MIS will always have a special place in my heart. I have been here for ten years now, and I owe immense gratitude to this school, that will always be my first home, away from home.

MY FIRST FOUNDER'S EXPERIENCE

~ Gauri Garg

The Founders' Day English play, performed by Grade is headed by Ms. Abhilasha, Ms. Madan, Mr. Shivam Sharma and the Grade 12 seniors. One of the most crucial parts of the task was to have teamwork and time management skills. as each person's part made a huge difference. There were major ideas and suggestions that were required for different parts of the play. Multiple meetings took place but soon, we were finally comfortable in our roles to play our part and the recording began. Everyone was tremendously happy, especially the Grade 12s, who helped and were encouraging us to do our best. Mr. Shivam was a crucial part of the play, he was there throughout to guide us and make this play happen. The costume ideas, I have to say, were so impressive! We had to include a pair of twins in the play, but we were sadly unable to arrange that; however, one of us managed to replace it with another idea. No doubt we had a short period of only 4-5 days to finish off with the casting, costumes and recording. Yet, we all still succeeded and the play turned out to be amazing. As a new student, I am excited to take part in many other activities and am grateful to have been given the opportunity to learn new skills. I loved working with everyone and hope to do this again.

10 YEARS, 1 SCHOOL AND INFINITE MEMORIES

~ Muskan Agrawal

When I first walked into MIS, I whined and cried every night as this place felt very far away from home. Today, ten years down the line, nothing feels more homely than MIS. This place, with the entirety of its educators and staff, has supported my development by allowing me to witness a kind viewpoint, one which I now associate the world with.

I have made the fondest memories here. I have learned basic things like tying my shoelace, to the biggest lessons of my life. I have grown out of my fears, and grown as an individual through all that I have acquired. Without MIS, I believe I would not be the well-rounded person I am today. The warmth I receive from friends I made here, the affection and love I receive from the teachers and staff around, this is not prevalent in most residential schools. I owe it all to this institution, for nurturing and polishing me into the girl I have turned out

MISTAR SPIRIT

~ Gayatri Mankani

On the 31st of July, the divine beings gifted children of what is now the greatest school, Mussoorie International School. Mussoorie International School holds various events throughout the academic year involving the students in several cocurricular activities. Founder's Day is one of the most thrilling student-organised events at MIS. All the MIStars join hands together and practice enthusiastically to make this event a success. An orchestra is conducted on the night of July 30th, each student plays an instrument of their choice along with the choir, who amaze the audience through their mesmerising voices. The practices begin almost a month prior to the event, and each class and department organises beautiful exhibitions for the guests. Every year, the music and dance department prepares selected students to perform musical dramas on different topics of historical, global, and social significance.

As a MIStar, I enjoy preparing for Founder's Day the most. From completing bulletin boards in the dorm, to running from the auditorium to the dining hall for snacks, everything during the preparation period is exhausting yet fun. Through Founder's Day, we experience a lot of emotions such as the feeling of compassion, togetherness, and success. We also get to learn several activities like new instruments, drawing, dancing, etc. Founder's Day is an amazing event with cherishable memories.

SIMON SAYS

If you don't speak, don't know. ~ Riddhima Agrawal

The both is correct ~ Vanshika Choudhary

You have something for eat ~ Tannu Kumari

Ego is very zyada ~ Ma'am Santoshi Mathema

Ma'am gun to me ~ Komal Patadia

She bhoolegi ~ Asmi Jain

Let the sir go ~ Shriya Jaiswal

She did not came ~ Anshika Patel

Riddhima don't knows nothing

~ Viva Davariya

I not see

~ Asmi Agarwal

INTEGRAL INCEPTION

~ Nirali Sawarthia

MIS was founded in the year 1984 by Dr H.K. Rawal, under the directions and blessings of Gurudev Pandit Shri Ram Acharyaji, the founder of "All World Gayatri Pariwar", headquartered in Haridwar, India, with the vision to impart an integral education that was global and all comprehensive based on a strong foundation of Indian tradition, culture and values by providing a platform to every girl to explore her hidden talent in the desired field. Gurudev Pandit Shri Ram Sharma Acharyaji was an eminent philosopher, a social reformer, a visionary of the New Golden Era. He translated the entire Vedic Vangmaya in lucid Hindi with eloquent comprehensive introductions, and accomplished a feat of writing more than 2400 enlightening books in Hindi on all aspects of life. His writings encompass enlightening, sagacious and feasible solutions to the innumerable problems of today. He lived a simple, disciplined life full of devout austerity, visited the Himalayas several times and attained spiritual eminence and foresight.

There is an interesting story behind the inception of MIS. Dr Rawal was associated with Gayatri Parivar of Shantikunj, Haridwar, and during one of his visits to Shantikunj, he took a detour to Mussoorie. Dr Rawal on his way to Kempty Fall, one of the most popular tourist attractions in Mussoorie, saw a piece

of land with a board - 'FOR SALE'. He fell in love with the serenity of the place and decided to buy the land. Dr Rawal went back to Shantikunj and made known of the land to honourable Gurudev Shri Ram Sharmaji Acharyaji. He wanted to build a holiday resort on this land and he discussed his idea with Gurudev. It was then Gurudevji that said, "Build not a holiday resort but an institution par excellence for Girls. A place which will give them wings to fly and would be proud of the heights they attain. This will be a 21st century school and would be a path settler for the generations to come". This was how MIS came into existence. It took only 11 months to build the institution. However, the Star Building, Guest House and Pragya Shikhar were built much later. Our library is the spiritual centre of the school. The building is built with pure "Gangajal", which was brought in tankers from river Ganga in Haridwar and the foundation is built on handwritten 1.15 Crore "Gayatri Mantras". MIS campus exhibits positivity by virtue of "Havan", a ritual performed on campus every Saturday throughout the year. Mussoorie International School is a unique institution - we are modern yet traditional. We are grounded to our roots and are proud of the cultural heritage of our country. We pledged to make a difference and the journey continues.

FAITH IN HER

~Amit Agrawal (MIS Parent)

My child has been a part of the MIS family for the quite some time. Over the years I have seen her develop into a stronger, opinionated girl rooted with values and respect. I have not only watched her grow but also seen MIS reach milestones with academics, sports, culture and hospitality. Every MIStar that I have interacted with holds a sense of dignity and a vessel of intelligence that MIS has been able to plant in them. The institution has not only evolved students holistically but has successfully worked upon bettering itself as a community year after year.

I have witnessed MIS celebrating the Founders' for a decade now and have continued to be amazed by the quality of shows that they put forward. The celebration of the 38th Founders' day is a special day for not only for the staff and students but also for us parents who have put utmost faith in MIS into the development of our darling daughters. After being associated with this institution for so long, I can say with confidence that my daughters are not just mine, they are the daughters of MIS.

The Diary of a Mistar

Dear Diary,

It's been a long time, hasn't it? But since it was the Founder's (and also after major demand from my Senior Editor), I thought this section should make a comeback. Anyways, now like I said, it is founder's, and this year too it hasn't been any less than exhausting. Now, now, obviously, since I'm not in any other grade other than the best, of course, I can't tell you much about other grades, but I will give you a *small* insight on what the grade 12s have gone through.

So to take it from the start, coordinators. We, for once, couldn't understand why the elevens weren't coordinators, but anyways, juggling through managing other events, and publications, we had to coordinate as well, so the frustration level was super high. And then came another source of annoyance, the senior school's incapability to send their videos in time. Some of us had to teach people basic manners too, while some suffered from nonsensical complaints. How fun. But this isn't the end, then came the endless changes that needed to be made, and all that in just a day, we somehow pulled through even after being 'ghosted' all the time. Well, at least we produced a good show, or that's what we hope. Anyways, we have just one piece of advice for our juniors, participate in all events if you want people to participate in the ones you host, after all, in MIS, we lead by example and not by force. Till' next time.

~ Samiksha Singh

TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

Jog your memory and match the cultural captains and that year's founder's day theme.

| Radha |
|------------|
| Durga |
| Online |
| Draupadi |
| Dashavtar |
| 5 Elements |
| Navras |
| |

ANSWER KEY: 2014: Tavishi Sharma - Durga, 2015: Sakshi Agarwal- Draupadi, 2016: Jahnvi Fauzdar- 5 elements, 2017: Himani Narula-Dashavatar, ,2018: Sanvi Singh- Navras, 2019: Fizah Ahmed- Radha, 2020: Snigdha Jain- Online



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