

The Swaminarayan

Education is that which liberates

Dear Parents, Guardians, Pupils and Friends,

May I welcome everyone back from the half-term break with the hope that you have all had a relaxing break. As the GCSE and A Level examinations draw near, time is increasingly becoming a precious commodity as teachers try to snatch every opportunity possible to finish the syllabus. I hope parents and pupils have sat down and reflected on the external examination timetable and organised how to approach them. I will write to everyone individually to help you with that before too long. My hope, of course, is to minimise the stress on the students. While we will do everything possible to help them, parents should endeavor to make the home environment as stress free as possible during this already difficult time for students.

Theme for next week

The theme for the next week is “**Celebrating Women.**” There have been some incredible girls in the Swaminarayan School who have gone on to carve out superb careers in a diverse range of professions from Engineering to medicine, as Barristers, lawyers, in politics and banking. I will devote next week’s Swaminarayan to celebrating these outstanding girls, now women making their mark in the world.

Rotary Club Youths Speaks Competition 2019 District Final Winners - Ms Ramphal writes...



Last Saturday, The Swaminarayan School took part in the Rotary Club Youth Speaks Competition 2019. Presenting on the topic of 'The Art of being Annoying', Ridhi had audience members in fits of

laughter as she effortlessly regaled them with her entertaining anecdotes. Her speech was beautifully critiqued by Parth's humorous vote of thanks as he empathised with some of Ridhi's antics. Priyesh, as chairperson, was brilliant, conducting proceedings with calm authority and grace as he 'held court' with the audience, judges and his team. He truly deserved the award of Best Chairperson for the Intermediate category.

Jyothi, as chairperson for the senior team, began proceedings by posing a question to the audience, masterfully engaging their interest. As our 'blurb', she cleverly guided her team, the judges and the audience through the intricate narrative that unfolded before us. Then Manan launched into a passionate and thought-provoking debate on 'Books versus Movies'. His outstanding performance won him the award of Best Speaker. Janvi's vote of thanks was charmingly delivered with sensitivity and poise as she offered heartfelt praise for the message of the speech and for Manan's performance.

Despite being pitted against teams of the highest calibre from competing schools, both our teams were declared Winners for the Intermediate and Senior Categories for the Rotary Club Youth Speaks Competition 2019. Both teams go through to the next round of the competition at the Regional Final in early March.

Congratulations to them and to their incredibly supportive parents! Best of luck for the next round....

WRITER'S CORNER **Life in 2050**

The world is changing fast. The rise of Artificial Intelligence is growing exponentially. As part of our Critical thinking lessons, a former pupil, Anushka Patel gives her analysis of what she thinks her life in 2050 will be like...

My life in 2015 was much better than my life now 2050. I am 44 years old and have one child because adults are not allowed to have more than one child as the population of the world is 9 billion. I live in a small pod in London as people can't buy big houses because there isn't enough room. This is my life in 2050.

This morning I was woken up by the sound of plates being rattled and to my surprise it was just my robot Darcy making breakfast. Darcy is an intelligent house robot which almost everyone in London owns. She does all of the chores around the house and even cooks for us. After I was done in the kitchen I went into the other room to check on Emily my 12 year old daughter. She was, already awake, getting her things ready for school. Once she was finished we went to eat breakfast which had already been prepared by Darcy.

A few minutes later the doorbell rang; it was School, a programmed android, here to teach Emily all her school subjects. We don't have school buildings any more as there are too many children and too few human teachers, androids have replaced teaching and schools for the better! Now a day's most human jobs have been taken over by androids as they are cheaper and more efficient than humans. While Emily was being taught I was busy discussing with Darcy my holiday plans to go to the planet Mars with Emily. I also told her to order me some new solar panels for our pod as there is lots of sunlight available we won't need to pay for electricity. It only takes a few weeks to get there as our spaceships can travel very fast. Soon we will be able to travel to the next Galaxy, so times are exciting as earth is so full, soon our planet will end up dying due to the huge population.

We hardly have to go out for shopping these days as everything is delivered by drones in the sky. Once School had left, Emily and I decide to go out to my local park for a walk. We had to put on lots of sun cream and take our sun protecting umbrella as the ozone layer and climate change can be dangerous and cause skin cancers.

Before we left we gathered a bunch of unused batteries we found in the loft for recycling and set off to the park. After visiting the park we headed for the hover train station. This train is not like a regular train with wheels it hovers over the tracks at over 700mph getting you to places very quick. We have travelled to see my friends in Scotland which takes just 25 minutes. After our walk to the park Emily and I began to get hungry but luckily Darcy had already started making us dinner. Over dinner we watched the latest news which isn't always doom and gloom although there were more severe weather warnings of storms coming our way. There was a documentary on how the marine life has

recovered over the last twenty years, since large fishing trawlers were banned. Although we don't have some food luxuries that were present thirty years ago such as oranges, bananas, meats and vegetable which Emily hasn't tried before we are pretty well off and try not to waste food. Ten years ago it was very bad with food shortages and many people had to ration their food.

Darcy washes up and ensures any waste goes to the pod recycling, not that there's much waste these days as plastic packaging has been banned. After dinner we went and had a bit of fun by taking the electric bikes out and wearing our special light goggles to avoid smashing into walls. We enjoyed riding on the road which is lit up by solar storage lights. We rode and performed great stunts with our bikes until the battery ran out and then headed back to the pod.

Once we got back to the pod we burned some wood and sat around melting marshmallows around the fire. We are only allowed to burn a certain amount of fire as there is a shortage of trees.

After we had finished eating the marshmallows it was time for the two of us to go to sleep. So Darcy put out the fire and we both went to brush our teeth and take a shower. The showers here are touch screen so to increase or decrease the temperature. After we had finished washing up I told Emily to get into bed. I put on a recorded bedtime story to help her sleep. Once she had fallen asleep I went and put Darcy on her charging unit, then I got in to bed.

Life in 2050 is much more relaxing and easier than life in 2015. People are so laid back now but back then we used to work hard and do every day simple things by ourselves instead of making others do things for us.

Yours sincerely,

Nilesh Manani