

RS NEWSLETTER

In our endeavour to uphold and follow the Round Square philosophy, it is the spirit of **Internationalism and Leadership** that has shone through this time – be it in sport, our interactions with expatriates or through the newly introduced DAIS student initiatives – TEDxYouth@DAIS and the DAIS Leadership Series.

DAIS sent a team of 15 students for the **Gothia Cup 2013** in Gothenburg, Sweden. Not only is Gothia Cup the world's biggest youth football tournament but it is also most international in spirit. Every year 1600 teams from 80 nations participate in this tournament. Our students played 4 matches:

Match 1: 1 - 1 against Mexico; Match 2: 5 - 0 against Sweden

Match 3: 5 - 1 against Norway; Match 4: 5 - 1 against USA

When the Gothia Cup Opening Ceremony takes place, it seems that everybody is there to watch it. More than 50000 players, coaches, supporters and locals create a magical atmosphere at Ullevi Stadium. We have an audience that actually takes part in our show, singing and dancing. The fact that the audience is part of the show makes the ceremony an experience of great joy and togetherness. When we see that young people from all over the world can have fun and cooperate together, we feel proud. Gothia Cup is much more than football.



A similar robust spirit of internationalism and cultural understanding were noted in the **ROUND SQUARE SESSION ON INTERNATIONALISM** organised on 24th May 2013 by students of Class 6. The session was both

planned and conducted by them. They had invited two expatriate teachers working in our school to interact with our middle school RS group. They were Mr. Nicholas Pillow, from the United Kingdom who teaches English and Drama in our school and Mr. David Ogaro from Kenya who teaches mathematics. Both of them shared their wonderful experiences in their own countries.

Mr. Pillow talked about his country which was followed by an interactive session on the government, culture, food, etc of his country. Mr. Pillow also showed us a video about the United Kingdom.

Then the students interviewed Mr. David Ogaro who gave a short introduction about himself and then his country to the class. Just like Mr. Nicholas, he too gave us information about his country and students had a plenary after that. Mr. Ogaro has a great sense of humour and wanted to shake a leg with the students.





The **TEDxYouth@DAIS** also introduced us to different perspectives as well as Leadership. It epitomizes the simple truism: “It’s never about the money, it’s about seeing your idea come to life that ultimately matters” What started off as a simple classroom discussion seven months ago materialized into an awe-inspiring event, here at DAIS on 4th of August 2013. Living up



to the TED motto, “Ideas Worth Spreading”, we saw speakers across genres and age boundaries, from a 16-year old roboticist to a 68-year old mountaineer. Our first speaker, Farrhad Acidwalla explained to us the importance of identifying our skill sets and meeting people who complement these skill sets. He was followed by our very own home grown economist, Mr. Yassir Choonawala, whose presentation on ‘India 2020 – Boom or Doom?’ realistically set out the problems faced by India, while offering out of the box solutions for the same. His advocacy of *jugaad*, roughly translating to ‘innovation’ summarized the inherent, Indian values that can be optimized to salvage our future.

Our next feature was a screened TED talk by Jinha Lee from MIT Media Labs, who mesmerized our audience with his cutting edge technology that aims to seamlessly amalgamate design and simplicity, his levitating tangible surface. Up next, Mr. Harish Kapadia, a mountaineer par excellence and an environmentalist, left the audience spell bound by his deep insight into his struggles on the Siachen Glacier and he reiterated the need to protect it. Mr. Devdutt Pattanaik, Mythologist and Chief Belief Officer of Future Group explained why he simply refused to believe that India was chaotic. Using references like *Rangolis* and multilingual street signs,



Mr. Pattanaik beautifully explored the difficult relationship between order and inclusion, leaving us with an insight to ponder on – if we see chaos, we will seek control, but if we see patterns, we begin to become inclusive.



Hemani Kalucha, budding roboticist and tech aficionado brought to life her innovative idea, a robot that helps the visually impaired play air hockey. Our next speaker for the day was Mr. Prasad Ankit, founder of TouchTalent.com which serves to combine social networking and art for a

noble cause. Mr. Ankit’s speech reminded us that limitations only exist in the mind and can be overcome if one decides to persevere endlessly towards one’s endeavours. We concluded the event on a light note, showcasing a screened TED talk by Maz Jobrani, an Irani-American comedian who humoured the audience with pre-conceived notions and stereotypes prevalent across the world. You can read more on their website – www.tedxouthdais.com



The vision, idea of innovation and creativity were further fostered by the **DAIS LEADERSHIP SERIES**. Students face many challenging questions concerning their future and this is supplemented by their desire to contribute meaningfully to society, lead by example and use their leadership qualities to spark regional, national and international dialogues. With this endeavour in mind, Ishaan Meswani, an enterprising Year 11 student, initiated DLS – The DAIS Leadership Series. It is a forum that provides his peers with fresh insights and life lessons from Leaders across the length and breadth of India. As life-long learners, students will benefit from case studies, practical lessons and inspiring anecdotes provided by some of today’s top leadership speakers from fields as diverse as Business, Science and Medicine, Arts, Culture and Sports