

OF MUSIC AND LYRICS

Students of The Newtown School celebrated their annual day with songs, dance and mythology...

The Newtown School celebrated the beauty and glory of nature and mythology on one of the most special days of the institution, the founder's day and annual day. Held at Science City auditorium, the myriad colours of the school's journey over the past year blended into a gala celebration.

The chief guest for the day was Arunima Sinha, the first female amputee to climb Mount Everest. A former national-level volleyball player, Arunima works for social welfare and is planning to open a free sports academy for the poor and differently-abled.

The felicitation of the chief guest was followed by an insightful and thought-provoking address by her. Next came the principal's report that summed up the glorious achievements of the school.

Children of the pre-primary section brought alive *Ramayana* on stage with colour and grandeur.

The prize distribution ceremony felicitated students in different categories and was followed by yet another inspirational song *Aashayein* by the choir.

The programme ended with a breathtaking rhythmic performance aptly titled *Prakriti* — A Beckoning Call, themed on environmental consciousness.



Arunima Sinha, the first female Indian amputee to climb Mount Everest, enlightened the audience with the struggles she had undergone just to reach her goal. She was also a national-level volleyball player who was pushed from a running train by assailants in 2011 while she was resisting them. As a result, one of her legs had to be amputated below the knee. Apart from climbing Everest, she has also scaled the peaks of Kilimanjaro (Africa), Eibrus (Europe), Kosciuszko (Australia) and more. A proud recipient of Padma Shri, her stories of struggle and endeavour were heart-warming and inspiring at the same time. She also talked about how Bachendri Pal had supported her spirit and ambition and how Swami Vivekananda had a soothing impact on her life whenever she felt low. "My achievements are a tribute to Swami Vivekananda who has been an inspiration throughout my life."



Pre-primary students beautifully portrayed the special bond between nature and mythology through an interpretation and adaptation of *Ramayana*, stressing the values of honesty, integrity, responsibility, courage, sacrifice and valour as well as the vindication of good over evil. The audience was treated to a resplendent and visually stunning show. The immaculate presentation, the arrangement of lights and the soulful background score added to the grandeur.



Environment consciousness and the motto of go-green, which The Newtown School proudly believes in and promotes, were presented in a rhythmic presentation titled *Prakriti*. Middle and senior section students of the school highlighted the pristine beauty and bounties of nature that are under persistent threat from developmental projects. The thunderous applause of the audience bore testimony to the stupendous performances.



Students of Class V, members of the school choir, sang a medley of songs.

I was really excited about my performance and could not wait to perform. My parents came to watch my performance and they liked it. Overall, I am really satisfied with my acting and I hope to continue doing it better.



— Aryaman Halli
Class IV, played Ram

I was satisfied with my performance because I put my full effort in it. I have performed several times on stage and this was one of my better performances. I was really overwhelmed because I also received the Achiever's Award. I am happy that I could make my parents proud.



— Nishika Baid
Class IV, played Sita

I was really glad that I got the opportunity to be Ravana. I had the blessings of my family and I am happy the way my performance went. I hope to get more opportunities like this and perform better in future.



— Anant Sonthalia
Class V, played Ravana

It was our school's annual day and being the principal of such a big institution, it was an honour celebrating this special day along with the children. We also ensured that all the children participated so that they could feel proud and happy about themselves.



— Satabdi G. Bhattacharjee
Principal