

JK Public School Kunjwani bids adieu to outgoing students of Grade XII



Glimpses of function to accord farewell to the outgoing batch of Class XII students of the session 2024-25 at JK Public School Kunjwani on Saturday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JK Public School Kunjwani accorded farewell to the outgoing batch of Class XII students of the session 2024-25 in the Nelsum Millennium Hall of the school.

The students of Class XI had organized the programme to felicitate their seniors who would soon tread on the new path to pursue their dreams.

It was an emotional moment which filled everyone with nostalgia and grati-

tude. The long journey of sixteen years was drawing to a close and all had come together to cherish good memories, undying friendships and fond associations that would never fade.

It reminded everyone of the beautiful moments that they had developed in the school. The future that awaited them would surely be guided by their years in the school.

The function began with the warm welcome of the Chairman JK Educational Society Raj Daluja; Patron

Neelam Daluja; member of the management Sidharth Daluja by the Principal JKPS Kunjwani Rajesh Rathore; Vice Principal Roopinder Kaur; School Coordinator Inderjeet Kaur; Academic Coordinator Parvinder Kaur; Primary Wing Coordinator Anju Raj; Toddlers' World Coordinator Shivangani Pandotra, teachers and students of Class XII with the traditional Tilak ceremony and bouquet for the Chief Guest.

The function began with

the welcome speech, wherein the Principal JKPS Kunjwani Rajesh Rathore applauded the adorable persona exhibited by the students of the outgoing batch during the academic session.

He tried to instill the values of compassion and gratitude, two assets which would make them forge ahead in pursuit of their dreams.

He applauded all the students alongwith their mentors for the transformational journey. On this occasion, he

appreciated all the alumni members, who have been creating ripples across the seven seas and taking the name of their alma mater to greater heights.

He shared the message of Director, JK Educational Society Shashi Chaudhary, wherein she wished good luck to all the students of the passing out batch for the outstanding performance in the Board exams as well as an extremely delightful and fulfilling life ahead.

It was a momentous see-

nario, as one after the other; the students of Class XII took the podium and talked about the journey in the school. Going down the memory lane, they became nostalgic as they talked of their memories, on how teachers had motivated them and the emotional connect that they had developed with them.

The highlight of the day was the cultural extravaganza by the students of Class XI. The scintillating performances kept everyone

spellbound. The melodious songs and dances on foot tapping numbers and an array of presentations were appreciated by all present.

There after the selection of Mr and Ms JKPS. After the Ramp walk, there was the question answer session. Angad Singh and Savneet Kour won the coveted Mr and Ms JKPS titles.

Best attire male title was clinched by Avikam Sharma while best attire female title was won by Radhika Bhan. Ananya Sharma won the

award of the most beautiful smile and Karmanaya won the title of handsome hunk. It was followed by cake cutting ceremony.

At the culmination, the students danced to their hearts content which was followed by a sumptuous lunch.

The event was not just a goodbye, but also a celebration of the dreams that they would carry forward. The future that awaited them would surely be guided by the time spent in the school.

J&K industry bodies hail Union budget; seek focused attention on tourism promotion



President CCI Jammu Arun Gupta talking to reporters.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Several industry bodies, including Jammu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI), on Saturday hailed the Union budget as "well balanced" focussing on all major sectors and expressed hope that the government will announce development of a big tourism destination in the region. JCCI President Arun Gupta, however, said the government should have made certain provisions for setting up some public sector undertakings to boost industrial development for employment generation.

"The budget is well-balanced with focus on all major sectors like defence, health, agriculture, development, exports, women, youth, lower middle class people and Make in India

mission," he said. Gupta said they are hopeful that the government will develop a big tourism destination in Jammu to increase the footfall of tourists.

Chairman, Federation of Industries, Jammu, Lalit Mahajan described the budget as industrial-friendly, and said various proposals in the budget for the development of MSME and other related sectors are praiseworthy.

However, he expressed disappointment over non-extension of the central package of incentive for the existing as well as new units in J&K.

Chairman of Jammu-chapter of Indian Chamber of Commerce Rahul Sahai said the Budget is a well-balanced financial plan that aligns fiscal discipline with economic growth, ensuring sustainable development while boosting key sectors.

The budget emphasises skilling, education, training, agriculture, research, and small industry exports, backed by real schemes and financial support, he said.

While Jammu and Kashmir was not specifically addressed in detail, he said future announcements regarding the NCSS package and related schemes are anticipated.

"Overall, the budget is progressive and growth-oriented, providing a strong roadmap for India's sustainable economic development," he said.

President Traders Federation Ware House-Nehru Market Jammu Deepak Gupta said the budget reflects a strong commitment to fostering economic growth, empowering businesses, and supporting the middle class.

Little stars shine bright in 'Digital Maze' event

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Maple Bears (LKG) of Heritage School hosted a captivating event titled 'Digital Maze,' highlighting the effects of social media usage, on Saturday, 1st February 2025, in the school auditorium. The programme commenced with bouquet presentation, followed by welcome address by the Coordinator of Kindergarten wing, Kusum Abrol and welcome note by Mohd Adyan, a

student of Maple Bears-B. The young students of LKG took to the stage to showcase their talents through a skit and dance, conveying the importance of relationships, values and culture in this fast digital life.

The event aimed to educate everyone about the potential risks associated with excessive social media usage, such as

online addiction and decreased attention span. The highlight of the event was the energetic performance by the LKG students, who effortlessly conveyed the message of being connected to our loved ones.

The event was well-attended by parents, grandparents, coordinators and teachers, who appreciated the efforts of the students in highlighting this critical issue.

Sanya Gupta, a student of Maple Bears-B, presented the



Heritage School faculty and students at a programme.

student of Maple Bears-B.

The young students of LKG took to the stage to showcase their talents through a skit and dance, conveying the importance of relationships, values and culture in this fast digital life.

The event aimed to educate everyone about the potential risks associated with excessive social media usage, such as

thank you note.

In the vote of thanks, the Principal of the School, Akash Pradhan, expressed his gratitude to the invited guests for sparing their precious time and being a part of the day's event. The Chairman of the School, Sunil Gupta addressed the gathering with his kind words of appreciation and encouragement.

Nag devotees celebrates age-old Kanchouth festival known as Gauri Trithya across Chenab Valley



Women performing rituals during Kanchouth festival at Bhaderwah.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BHADERWAH: Celebrated to commemorate the marriage of Lord Shiva with goddess Parvati, ancient Kanchouth festival was observed across the hills and valleys of Chenab region. The festival is revered as one of the most religious and colorful events for the followers of Nag Culture.

The age-old festival is celebrated across the hilly Chenab valley as locals, mainly Nag followers believe that on this day of Gauri trithiya, Lord Shiva and goddess Parvati got married and the latter insisted on a throne made of snow as her wedding gift.

To observe age-old tradition and to take Blessings of Lord Shiva and Parvati while cele-

brating 'Kanchouth' festival, early morning women folk of Bhaderwah and it's adjoining areas were seen marching towards their respective Temples and water bodies to offer prayers and rituals.

The main programmes were reported from Nalthi, Kotli, Khakhhal, Gupt Ganga, Chinote, Saringal, Dhara, Hanga and other Temples of the area. Like Karwa Chouth that is celebrated in plains, Kanchouth is celebrated in this hilly Bhaderwah area. Both festivals are celebrated by women to pray for long-life of their husbands and in both, style is almost same.

According to a woman Nelaam Devi of Nalthi Bhaderwah, on Karwa Chouth women break their fast when

the moon appears, while as in case of Kanchouth the fast is broken after Gauri Pooja during the day. On the occasion, the ladies are supposed to take food in every house they visit. In some cases it so happens that they have to take their meals in scores of houses each day. In the night ladies gather, sing Ghurai (Bhajan) and dance at their tune. During these three days the kitchen is managed by husbands. Like Karwa chouth in other parts of the country, Kanchouth or Gauri-Trithya a local festival of Women is celebrated with enthusiasm and religious fervour in erstwhile hilly Chenab Valley every year during the Shukla Paksha of Magh month in January and February. Karwa Chouth is celebrated mostly in wider geographical area in plains, Kanchouth and Gauri Trithya is celebrated in hilly districts of Bhaderwah, Kishtwar, Ramban and Doda of Jammu Province.

Both the festival are celebrated by women to pray for long life of their husbands. The only difference is the timing. Where as Kanchouth falls in winters while Karwa Chouth is celebrated during summer season.

HPS celebrates Basant Panchami with devotion

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Humanity Public School Bassi Kalan, Bari Brahmana celebrated Basant Panchami with great fervor, marking the onset of spring and honoring Goddess Saraswati, the symbol of wisdom and learning. A special assembly was conducted to commemorate this auspicious

occasion. The celebration began with a divine Saraswati Aarti, invoking the blessings of the Goddess, followed by a mesmerizing Saraswati Vandana presented by Jeevika and Himanshi of Class 4th. Their performance set a spiritual tone for the event.

A special attraction was the depiction of Maa Saraswati,



with Prachi Bhagat and Namishka of Class 5th beauti-

fully dressed as the goddess, adding a divine aura to the

event. The highlight of the program

was the inspiring speeches delivered by students, including Navya (8th), Viralika (6th), Anshika (5th), Kanika (UKG), and Anshika (4th). Adding a poetic touch, Ananya of LKG, Gurkirat and Prisha of class 3rd recited heartfelt poems dedicated to Goddess Saraswati and the beauty of learning.

Sonali and Ritu, teachers of

the school, shared their thoughts, emphasizing the importance of education and culture in shaping young minds. The cultural program featured soulful singing and moving musical performances, filling the atmosphere with devotion and joy. The event concluded with an insightful speech by the Principal, Gaurav

Charak who encouraged students to seek knowledge, wisdom, and enlightenment in their academic and personal lives. He also accentuated on the importance of cultural celebrations in fostering unity and joy. Ankit Charak, the Vice-Principal wished all the staff and students wisdom and good fortune on Basant Panchami.