

# A rendezvous with Principal JK Public School Kunjwani

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: JK Public School (JKPS), Kunjwani is a CBSE affiliated, child-centric, value-driven, co-educational, Senior Secondary school, which enjoys the privilege of being the FIRST private CBSE school (direct affiliation) of Jammu. Stretched over a period of three decades, JKPS Kunjwani has emerged as a trendsetter; a model of excellence imparting 21st century holistic education to children on its rolls.

JKPS Kunjwani introduced 18 Clubs to groom students in variety Co-scholastic domains. Members of one of the Clubs, namely, Rajat Sharma Club of Jr. Journalists, interviewed the Principal Rajesh Rathore. Here are the excerpts of the meaningful transaction between the Jr. Journalists (JJ) and the Principal Rajesh Rathore (RR):

JJ: What is your concept of an ideal JKian?

RR: An ideal JKian is the one, who can always be spotted in a group, who has a distinctive flavour to his/her personality; has a lively interest in topical events and the world around; speaks and writes fluently in English and in at least one Indian language; has sufficient mastery over Mathematics and Science to understand and appreciate the scientific basis of modern civilization; is well informed and forms his/her own judgement; knows that

being educated means abiding by certain standards of social behaviour; consistently makes efforts to master the use of his/her hands in some form of creative activity; has developed a love of reading for its own sake; plays games and has learnt that sportsmanship is a quality that must be cherished in day-to-day life; is not afraid to speak the truth without being offensive and has greatest regard for the rule of law and justice; is well mannered, sensitive and smart in his/her dress and deportment; cherishes the freedom of the mind, the humanity of the heart and the integrity of the individual; loves truth, beauty and goodness. In short, he/she is the epitome of what a cultured person aspires to be!

JJ: Which features of the Institution do you admire the most?

RR: JK Public School, Kunjwani is one of the finest Institutions in the UT of J&K. Its infrastructure is an architectural marvel. Classrooms are quite spacious, well lit, & it's equipped with well-designed smart boards & soft boards. Since JKPS emphasizes on the holistic grooming of every child, so we have hand-picked, talented teachers in our Art, craft, Music, Dance & Sports faculties.

Here merely being a scholar is not eye-catching but when a scholar plays guitar/drum/keyboards or



shakes legs on a dance style, like, contemporary/hiphop/break/ bhangra or sings a western song or presents a soulful rendition of a classical number or refutes the ideas of an opponent on a debating platform or makes the audience burst into peals of laughter during a comic skit or makes the audience sob during a poignant scene of a tragic play, that catches the fancy of the gallery of spectators. We keep raising the bar.

Though it's a day school, yet it is spread over a vast expanse giving ample space for all the sports activities, like, Football, Cricket, Volleyball, Basketball, Mini Olympic-size Swimming pool, Skating rink, Cricket practice nets, Badminton court, Squash courts, Tennis court, Golf and indoor games, like, Judo, Karate, Taekwondo,

Gymnastics, Table Tennis (6 Nos.), Yoga, Carom, Chess etc. JKPS is a wonderful school, wherein students are very decent, respectful and adorable. Teachers are quite knowledgeable, dedicated and committed. Their communication skills are very strong: whether it be written or verbal expression. Board results of Grade X & XII are excellent.

JJ: How do you define an ideal teacher? RR: An ideal teacher has to be very knowledgeable, as it establishes the credentials of a teacher in the classroom. Without a profound knowledge, no teacher can stand firmly on his/her feet. Strong communication skills are always a crucial hallmark for a teacher. Explanation of a theoretical concept stays with a child forever; if it is articulated well by

a teacher irrespective of the subject or the class.

A teacher, being a classroom leader, has to be a practitioner, not merely a preacher. It's truly stated that values are to be caught, not to be taught. A teacher has to be competent, responsible, punctual, regular, well-organized, value-driven, well-attired, compassionate, forgiving and generous, if he/she wishes to see these qualities in his/her students. We can never expect students to exhibit those qualities or skills, which are found missing in their teachers.

JJ: How do you encourage and motivate the staff?

RR: I encourage my staff members by citing examples from my 29-year long gratifying teaching career. Words of appreciation and motivation fill the members of my staff with renewed vigour; passion and determination. When Titans clash on a common platform, then clinching one of the coveted top three positions brings laurels to the institution. Addition of every accomplishment makes our hearts heave high with pride and admiration. We felicitate the members of the staff on special occasions for their meritorious services and outstanding contributions. We organize capacity building programmes to empower our teachers on a regular basis.

JJ: How do you recruit and maintain quality teachers?

RR: The selection procedure for the recruitment of

teachers has been quite stringent at JKPS Kunjwani. First of all, we shortlist candidates with brilliant academic background, schooling, strong communication skills in English alongwith suitable experience from renowned CBSE schools. Then we conduct a written test to evaluate the subject knowledge, written expression, relevance, reflection, hand writing and the presentation of the candidates. It is followed by a live demo, wherein a subject expert thoroughly discusses the subject-related, class-specific concepts with the candidates. Then, we conduct an interview, wherein we discuss about the areas of interest of a candidate in Co-curricular and sports activities, teaching experience, professional training programmes, capacity building workshops and overall personality. Finally the short-listed candidates get the privilege of having an Interaction with the Chairman & the Director.

JJ: What would be your ideal school environment and how would you encourage that kind of culture?

RR: An ideal school environment ensures a holistic growth profile to every student. School should not merely focus on a sound knowledge base, language acquisition, personality development and fitness & stamina, whereas it should also focus on developing finer sensibilities in every child. Today the hallmarks of our Institution are

the development of environmental awareness, community outreach programmes, creative thinking, critical thinking, decision making and problem solving skills among students. JKPS Kunjwani has designed 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which will act as a lighthouse to set the direction of grooming from the entry stage to the passing out stage.

JJ: Outline the role that parents should play in the school?

RR: Parents' community is a great asset and one of the most important stakeholders for any institution. Parents must feel connected to the Institution and teachers. Parents and teachers together can ensure holistic grooming of students. They must be constantly in touch with the subject teachers, Class Teacher, Coordinator and the Principal. A regular feedback rather a 360 degree feedback is the need of the hour. Decency, dignity and mutual respect can always nourish the bonding between parents and teachers. Good parent-teacher bonding always fetches desired results and forms life-long relationship.

Parents need to be very rational in today's world. They should not be credulous to whatever their wards narrate at home. They must clarify on certain inputs from their wards. Even school staff feels very happy and satisfied, when they receive a call from parents. Believe me,

whenever I speak to parents over phone, it cements the bonding between us. They appreciate teachers for their meaningful contributions and share their observations/suggestions on how to take the Institution to greater heights.

JJ: How do you visualize the future of your school?

RR: With the strong backing of an enlightened Management team, educational think-tanks, extremely talented Staff, superbly supportive parents & immeasurably talented & promising students, JK Public School Kunjwani enjoys the reputation of being one of the finest institutions in the entire North India. It's committed to ensure that a competent, compassionate, creative, responsible global citizenry passes out from its magnificent portals every year. AMEN!

JJ: Thanks a lot sir for sparing your valuable time and for reflecting your vision and strategies to help students design their roadmaps to reach their dream destination. Your unique vision and passionate endeavours will certainly put the JKPS Kunjwani on a new trajectory. Wishing you the best of luck!

RR: Thanks a ton, my beloved students. This institution is reaching its pinnacle of glory due to your sincerity, dedication, commitment & focussed approach. I wish you a very bright future. Good luck!

## HPS boys bring laurels by winning inter school zonal level kho kho tournament

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Humanity Public School (HPS) Bassi Kalan Bari Brahmana emerged winner in recently concluded Inter School Zonal Level Kho Kho Tournament in U-14 and U-17 boys category held at Smailpur Stadium.

Teams from different schools participated in this mega event. Girls have shown a unique display of team's spirit and sportsmanship against ten (U-14) and nine (U-17) opponent teams respectively.

The performance of all participants was appreciable. But it is pertinent to mention here that the both Under 14 and Under 17 boys team bagged first



Humanity Public School faculty felicitating winner students on Friday.

position in this Kho Kho tournament. U-14 Winner Kho Kho team of the school comprised Gourav Kumar (8th), Manav Singh (8th), Paras (8th), Radesh Kumar (7th), Arpit Sharma (8th), Abid Malik (7th), Sameer Vishvkarma (7th), Ansh (7th), Aslan Malik (7th),

Gouresh (7th), Shivam (7th) and Raghav (7th).

Whereas in the Under 17 boys Kho Kho winning team includes Aryan (8th), Muzammil (10th), Krish (9th), Arun Kumar (9th), Piyush (9th B), Ankit (10th), Anshpreet (10th), Vansh Kumar (9th), Mohd. Ishan (10th), Puneet

(10th), Hafeez (10th), Soham (8th), Sahil (8th), Piyush (9th A) and Aditya (10th).

The team's success was propelled by the exceptional skills and coordination of its talented players. Each member contributed to the collective victory, manifesting the strength of the team's

unity on the ground.

All the winning participants were felicitated in a special assembly by Principal, Gaurav Charak and Vice Principal Anku Charak in the presence of students and the whole fraternity of the institution. The duo congratulated the winners and appreciated their gaming skills and also acknowledged the hard work of coaches Ajay Sharma and Surjeet.

Principal, Gaurav Charak also said that the school management is paying focused attention to promote physical education in school and emphasizing the significance of promoting indigenous sports at all levels.

## 5 KCEANS shine at U-14 zonal cricket tournament

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Five students from KC Public School, namely Vikram Aditya Singh of class 8D, Hariaksh Chib of class 8A, Hardik Bhasin of class 8C, Shaashvat Jamwal of class 7E, and Samanyu Sharma of class 6F, showcased exceptional talent at the under 14 inter-zonal cricket tournament, securing a convincing victory against the Satwari zone.

Their outstanding cricketing skills led the team to a well-deserved triumph in the finals, emerging as zonal champions and bringing great pride to KC Public School.

The boys participated in the selection trials held under the auspices of the District Youth Sports and



KC Public School students after receiving trophy

Services, UT of J&K, on May 14, 2024.

They will now represent the state at the inter-state cricket tournament.

Chairman Raju Choudhary, Vice Chairman Arjun Choudhary, MD Arti Choudhary, Principal A K

Mishra, and Vice Principal Sanjay Pandey extended their heartfelt congratulations to the students and their coach Saish Gunjika; on their remarkable achievement and wished them success in the upcoming tournament.

## DC felicitates Udhampur girls' volleyball team

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

UDHAMPUR: Deputy Commissioner Udhampur, Saloni Rai, on Friday felicitated the girls' volleyball team of District Udhampur here in her office chamber.

The team recently lifted the final trophy of the 35th JK UT Volleyball Championship for boys and girls held at MA Stadium, Jammu. This is the first time in 19 years that the Udhampur girls' team has won the Volleyball championship. The DC congratulated the Volleyball Association of District Udhampur for the victory and praised its efforts towards promoting volleyball in the district. She presented a cheque of Rs. 10,000 to the winning girls' team. Additionally, the



DC Udhampur, Saloni Rai felicitating girls' volleyball team of District Udhampur.

Volleyball Association awarded Rs. 11,000 to the team. The Volleyball Association of District Udhampur appreciated the DC for her support for VADU and all sports activities in the district. Among others present were Ashok Padha, President of VADU;

Sunil Sharma, Senior Vice President; Amit Chander, Secretary of VADU; Vinod Kumar Sharma, coach of the volleyball team; and Amit Sharma, an ex-national volleyball player, along with the victorious girls' volleyball team.

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SRINAGAR: Continuing its endeavour to organize sports activities to emphasize the importance of sports, the departmental cricket tournament by J&K Sports Council (JKSC) keeps on drawing crowds each passing game.

Amid ongoing cricket tournament, two matches were played between the Secretary Eleven Vs Exen Eleven and Labour Department Vs. Secretariat Titans.

The first match was played between Secretary Eleven and Exen Eleven. After winning the toss Secretary Eleven decided to bat first and managed to



A cricket match in progress at Srinagar on Friday.

score 144 runs. Chasing the target of 145 runs Exen Eleven managed to score only 108 runs

and lost the match by 36 runs. Waris, Naseer, Arvind, Owais, Nusrat, Anjum Shafi were the top performers with bat.

In bowling Sheeraz, Tariq, Sartaj were the top performers. Later Tariq Sofi was declared Man of the Match for his bowl-

ing performance.

The second match was played between the team of the Labour Department and Secretariat Titans. The Labour department after winning the toss elected to bat first and managed to score 118 runs only.

While chasing the target of 119 runs, Secretariat Titans scored the target in 15 overs.

The top performers with the bat were Danish, Adil, Maqsood and in bowling Tahir, Ajaz and Asif. Later Danish was declared Man of the Match for his brilliant performance with the bat scoring 63 runs in 40 balls. The tournament is being organized under the banner of #HAR DIN KHEL #HAR EK KE LIYE KH EL.

In Gymnastics, summer coaching camp is being organised by J&K Sports Council at SKISC Srinagar for the age group 05 to 13 years.

The selection trials were conducted in a fair and transparent manner and the camp will be held from Friday at SKISC Srinagar.

## Vijay Kumar clinches Gold in 10m Air Rifle Master's Category at India Open Competition



Gold medal winner shooter Vijay Kumar with officials.

## ■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Vijay Kumar of Jammu and Kashmir showcased his exceptional skills by winning the gold medal in the 10m Air Rifle Master's (NR) Category at the 07324 India Open Competition (Air Weapons R/P) held in 2024 at The Infantry School, Mhow.

The event, organized by the

National Rifle Association of India, highlighted Kumar's top-notch performance.

As a registered shooter with the Jammu Kashmir Rifle Association (JKRA), Vijay Kumar has honed his skills under the guidance of his coach at the Sri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Shooting Club in Katra. The achievement was

celebrated by JKRA members, including Patron Dibag Singh, Chairman Kuldeep Singh Jamwal, President S.S. Sodhi, and CEO Sharat Chander Singh, who all extended their heartfelt congratulations to Kumar.

Additionally, the President of JKRA acknowledged the support from the Reasi District Rifle Association, the administration of the SMVD Shrine Board, and Vijay Kumar's coach for their role in providing excellent facilities and support.

Mam Wazir, President of the Reasi District Rifle Association, and Rahul Bakshi, General Secretary of the Reasi District Rifle Association, also congratulated Vijay Kumar and the SMVD Shrine Board administration for their contributions to the success of shooters from the Reasi District.



Participants posing with officials.

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DODA: A training/refresher course for field staff of Youth Services and Sports Department Bhallessa zone concluded on Friday at Helipad Gandoh.

The event was a sequel to the inter-school zonal level tournament for U14 and U17 boys and girls which concluded on May 22. The competitions in different sports disciplines were organised across various zones and venues in the district. The sports event, which continued for three days, was part of the approved annual activity calendar for 2024-

25.

The events were held under the aegis of Director YSS J&K UT, Subash Chander Chibber and District Development Commissioner, Harvinder Singh. The guidance of Joint Director YSS Jammu, Ved Prakash and the overall supervision of Sunil Kumar, DYSSO Doda ensured smooth execution of the activities.

The activity section visited all the zones and venues as per the tournament schedule, ensuring everything was on track and maintaining the standards set for the event.

## Jammu District Chess Championship begins

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JAMMU: Jammu District Chess Championship began here at Nek Hotel, here in which 47 players are participating. Players ranging from 6 year of age to 70 years old are enjoying in this event.

The event is organised with time schedule which is used by FIDE in world level events (90 minutes for first 40 moves + 30 minutes more are added after 40 moves with 30 seconds increment from move 1).

The event is being organised by Jammu District Chess Association under the aegis of All J and K Chess Association under the banner of J&K Sports Council.

The event was inaugurated by veteran player and 7 times State champion S.P Sharma. Baldev Raj presi-



Chess matches in progress at Jammu on Friday.

dent AJKCA and Atul Kumar Gupta working as per latest FIDE laws of chess.

Arvind Sharma is organising secretary of this event while Bindu pathania is chief Arbiter and Ravi Kumar Sharma is Arbiter of this event.

Total 5 matches will be played in this tournament as per latest FIDE laws of chess.

Cash prizes of more than Rs 20000 will be distributed among the winners. Certificates and Medals will be given to all the participants.