

Reflections on vision, mission & social commitment at JKPS Kunjwani

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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 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.

With the start of the session 2022-23, 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 atleast 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-today 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/keyboard 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, Volley-ball, Basketball, Mini Olympic-size Swimming pool, Skating rink, Cricket practice nets, Badminton court, Squash courts, Tennis court, 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

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 moti-

vate the staff?

RR: I encourage my staff members by citing examples from my 27-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 along-with 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 presen-

tation 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!

Groundsmen facilitate players to cherish cricketing conditions

Dikshant, Junaid slam big tons: Vanshaj, Vishal spin web

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Talented wicket-keeper/ batsman Dikshant Kundal and promising Junaid Qazi slammed brilliant centuries, while left-arm spinners Vanshaj and Vishal spun web around the rival batters as the groundsmen of Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association (JKCA) facilitated the players with beautiful cricketing conditions which they cherished today after heavy rains that lashed both the regions of the Union Territory yesterday.

The groundsmen alongwith the curators did a fabulous job at all the four venues of JKCA's Under-23 Men's One-Day Tournament in preparing the wickets and making the outfield perfectly dry and playable despite inclement weather conditions.



Players posing alongwith officials in Srinagar on Sunday.

"The secret of success of Talent Hunt 2022 and the Tournaments is the sheer dint of hardwork by the umpires, the groundsmen, the organisers and the entire team of selectors and other officials. To work in scorching heat and humid conditions is always an uphill task," said JKCA Sub Committee

Members.

Meanwhile, showing grit, guts and promise in the matches today, Dikshant Kundal and Junaid Qazi scored big centuries, while Vanshaj captured 6 wickets and Vishal scalped 5 wickets. Hurrari, Waheed, Javid, Abid and Shahid were other performers of the day.

At GGM Science College Hostel Ground Jammu, JKCA Team A1 defeated A3 by a huge margin of 220 runs.

Batting first, JKCA A1 scored a massive total of 309 runs in 50 overs. Skipper Dikshant Kundal played a splendid innings of 195 runs off 140 deliveries, topped with 15 fours and 7 sixes, while Rhytham Mahajan contributed 52 runs. Dikshant showed elegance, grace, fluidity, brilliance and what and what not, to send the bowlers on a leather-hunt. For team A3, Jaipal took 4 wickets, while Sampark Gupta claimed 1 wicket.

In reply, A3 bundled out for 89 runs. Vinayak top scored with 43 runs, while Aryan Koul and Sampark contributed 19 runs each. For A1,

Vanshaj was the wrecker-in-chief, who bagged 6 wickets by conceding 10 runs in his 6.2 overs.

At Country Cricket Stadium Gharota, put into bat, JKCA A4 scored a modest total of 125 runs. Anuj Kumar (31), Sumit Kumar (29) and Praful Dhar (18*) were the main contributors. For A3, Snoop Bhagat took 3 wickets, while Sarveshish and Basharat claimed 2 wickets each.

In reply, A2 chased the target by losing 7 wickets to win the match by 3 wickets.

At Sher-e-Kashmir Cricket Stadium Srinagar Ground-A, put into bat, JKCA B1 resumed from overnight total of 115/3 scored 226 in 40 overs. Jiyaad Magrey (50) and Gulzar (29) were the main scorers.

For B3, Zaid Bin Khalid,

Faizullah Dar and Shah Nawaz took 2 wickets each.

In reply, JKCA B3 bundled out for 184 runs. Abid Syed (58) and Qamran Iqbal (31) were the main scorers. Shahid Bashir and Yasir Gulzar took 4 and 3 wickets respectively.

At Sher-e-Kashmir Stadium-B, put into bat, JKCA B2 defeated B4 by 74 runs.

Resuming from overnight 154/3, B2 scored a massive total of 313 runs. Junaid Qazi top scored with 282 runs, while Suhaib Bashir contributed 32 runs. For bowling side, Zahid Nabi and Shahid Bashir claimed 2 wicket each.

In reply, B4 scored 239 runs. Hurrari (92) and Waheed Teli (53). For bowling side, Javid Ganie and Govhar Reshi claimed 4 and 3 wickets respectively.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu and Kashmir Olympic Association (JKOA) shall hold Olympic Day Run at Jammu to commemorate the World Olympic Day on June 23.

This was decided in a meeting of the Association held here on Sunday under the chairmanship of Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, president JKOA. Representatives of 20 J&K UT Sports Associations attended the meeting.

It was decided unanimously to hold Olympic Day Run on June 23 starting from Manda to MA Stadium via B.C Road. The participants have

been advised to assemble at the starting point i.e Manda Chowk 05.30 AM with the Olympic T-Shirts and Caps. The run shall start at 06.00 AM, a handout issued by the JKOA mentioned.

Meanwhile, the meeting also decided to initiate process of annual Rangil Singh Award for Sports Excellence for the year 2020-21 in near future.

It has also been decided by the members of the JKOA in the same meeting to organise UT Olympic Games in the disciplines likely to qualify for the National Games.

A committee of five members shall be constituted to select the disciplines for UT Olympic Games.

Arun Sports Trust holds Yoga session, workshop



Arun Sports Trust members along with other dignitaries and participants of Yoga session.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: On the eve of Yoga International Day, Arun Sharma Sports and Social Welfare Trust on Sunday organised a Yoga session-cum-workshop at Sanatam Dharam Sabha School, Old Rehari, here.

The event was joined by Corporator, Dr Akshay Sharma as Special Guest. Member of the Management

Committee of the SD Sabha School, Om Prakash Kesar; Principal of the School, Ajay Khajuria; member trustee of Arun Sharma Sports and Social Welfare Trust, Ashutosh Sharma and Madhu Sharma were among others present.

Earlier, the participants, including young trainees of the Handball Centre at the School and those senior

players and parents of the players were made aware of the benefits of Yoga in once daily life.

Both the Yoga Instructors, Brij Bhushan Sharma and Umesh demonstrated the exceptional Yoga skills which enthralled the young participants, who got motivated with the flexibility and skills.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Akshay Sharma told those young participants about the importance of Yoga International Day and termed it as spread of India's rich culture and values around the world.

Later, Ashutosh Sharma expressed his thanks to the special guest, Dr Akshay Sharma and school management as also those senior players for making the event a success.

Tawi Trekkers flags-off 5th group to Dharamshala

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Chairman Team Jammu, Zorawar Singh Jamwal on Sunday flagged off the 5th group of 92 college girls for the Dharamshala Himalayan Programme being organized by Tawi Trekkers J&K in the Dauladhar of Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh. With this, the total participation in this programme has gone upto 330, including 15 teachers.

The group is being led by Sonam Sidharth, a seasoned trekker and Shilpa Charak, an international sport climber and a trained mountaineer. Two more group lead-



Trekkers posing for a group photo with Chief Guest Zorawar Singh Jamwal, Chairman Team Jammu before their departure for Dharamshala.

ers, Vishali Sharma, a trained mountaineer and Suksham Verma, an experienced group leader also accompanied the group.

Prominent among others present on the flagged off occasion included President of Tawi Trekkers J&K Ram Khajuria, members of the

club and parents of the students.

Addressing the budding female trekkers, Zorawar Singh Jamwal, who is also president of Mountaineering Association of J&K, expressed serious concern over drug menace in J&K and called for societal response alongside the efforts of the Government as well as Non Government Organisations (NGOs) to wean away the youth from drugs by persuasion and motivation and bring them back to mainstream life without shame and sorrow. He urged the youth to get united and be a

part of the campaign against drug abuse.

He advised the students to participate more and more in adventure activities and wished them all the best for their present trekking venture.

It may be mentioned that Tawi Trekkers J&K is a voluntary, non-profit making, social service & sports organisation run by a group of highly dedicated young boys and girls whose only motive is to spread spirit of adventure and love of nature among all strata of society without distinction of colour, caste or creed.

Amit slams unbeaten 104 as Media-XI flattens BCC

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A blistering unbeaten 104 (4x15, 6x2) by Amit guided Media XI Cricket Club Jammu register a clinical 27 runs win over Bhaarat Cricket Club (BCC) in a friendly T20 cricket match being played at Forest Ground, Sidhra. In an increasingly brutal exhibition of hitting Media XI top order cruised from start to finish as Amit (104 runs off 64 balls) and Anshu 65 runs off 45 balls

Winner Media-XI team posing for a photograph.

rode roughshod over the BCC bowlers to rack up a mammoth 209/2 runs on the scoreboard in the stipulated 20 overs. For BCC, Mohil Bhat and Kuldeep Bhat claimed one wicket each. In reply, BCC had a sluggish start after opener Nittu was sent packing on an individual score of 8. Vishnu (78), Kuldeep Bhat (24) and Rajesh Dutt (31) tried to put up some fight only to delay the inevitable. Media XI bowlers produced some tidy bowling performances and kept taking wickets and the BCC were restricted to 182/6 in the stipulated 20 overs. For Media XI, Yash Khajuria and Yasser were the best bowlers as they took 2 wickets each while Sachin & Raghav grabbed one wicket each. Later, Amit from Media XI was declared as Player of the Match for hitting an unbeaten 104.

J&K Junior Women's Football team leaves for nationals



Women Football team posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The J&K U-17 Junior Women's football team left for participation in the upcoming National Football Championship scheduled to be held at Guwahati, Assam from June 15 to 27, 2022.

The contingent of 20 players and three Officials of J&K UT was flagged off by Narinder Gupta, former Member Sports Council & Chairman Adhoc Committee DFA Jammu in presence of Yusuf Don Secretary DFA Jammu, David Masih, Direct Member JKFA, Rakesh Kumar, International Football player, Kamal Jeet Kumar Football coach, Peter Sandhu, National player and others.

Narinder Gupta said that JKFA is concerned about providing better facilities to the players enabling them bring laurels for J&K UT.

"The team of 24 players underwent 21 days coaching at Synthetic Turf TRC Srinagar and selectors picked up best 20 players from both the provinces for the Hero Women's U-17 Junior National Football Championship 2022," JKFA official said.

Placed in Pool H, J&K will take on West Bengal, Tamil Nadu & Rajasthan on June 22, 24 and 26, 2022 respectively. Nadiya Night will accompany the team as Coach, Masood Maqbool as Manager and Dr. Ritasha Bharti as Physio.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POUNI: In addition to the successful organisation of summer Yoga Camps on the special occasion of 8th international Yog Diwas in district Reasi as per the orders of DSEJ Fit India under the guidelines of Chief Education Officer Reasi and Zonal Education Officer

Pouni various yog awareness campaigns are being organised in the remotest peripheries of zone Pouni viz Ikhan, Fargal (winter zone Pouni), Gungus, Roulkian, Sujanpur under the volunteer stewardship of Sanjeev Kumar Sharma, Teacher.

Govind Sharma Nodal officer Fit India DSEJ appreci-

ated the initiative of Sanjeev Sharma in creating awareness among students of remotest hamlets beside organising mega camps at zonal levels regarding International Yog Diwas 2022.

The main motive of organising such campaigns is to benefit the rural masses especially students of that area, Sanjeev said and added, "My priority is to reach the students residing in inaccessible areas who also feel encouraged and happy to experience such programmes of fitness and every student will be given chance to actively participate in international Yog Diwas celebrations."