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Modernites' Newsletter

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APRIL 2024



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President's Message

Dear Modernites,

We recently concluded the second edition of the MSOSA Health Conclave. After the unprecedented success of the first edition last year, this time again we had two panels that outlined the changing landscape of healthcare in India.

The conclave focused on urban lifestyle related topics, namely: 'Keeping Fit for a Better Tomorrow' and 'Waking Up to a Good Sleep'. 'Waking Up to a Good Sleep'. I would like to thank our illustrious panelists - Dr. S.J. Gupta, Dr. Anil Gupta, Dr. Rahul Gupta, Dr. Archana Dayal Arya, Dr. Rahul Manchanda, Dr. Sanjay Sachdev, Dr. Neena Moitra, Ms. Ishi Khosla, Dr Sameer Malhotra and Dr. Bharat Gopal. Most importantly, I would like to thank Dr. Vivek Nangia, the Convenor, for conceptualising and leading the conclave for the second year in a row. The Health Conclave is now one of MSOSA's flagship events.



Further, team MSOSA also organised a special lunch to felicitate Hon'ble Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul upon his retirement from the Supreme Court of India for his contributions to the legal profession as a distinguished jurist. I will also take this opportunity to thank Justice Kaul for his continuous and unwavering support and guidance to MSOSA. The lunch was extremely well organised by Mr. Vikas Mishra and his team, resulting in a memorable afternoon for all.

Further, the team led by Mr. Atul Marwah, organised the Senior Modernites Dinner. Many Modernites from across the globe attended the event and went down the memory lane as they visited school. Last, but not the least, under the guidance of Mr. Vineet Sarin, Mr. Manu Narang and their team, MSOSA held the 18th Golf for Charity Tournament at the DLF Golf & Country Club, Gurugram. The event witnessed 120 golf players from across Delhi-NCR region coming together for a noble cause. I wish to express my gratitude to Mr Rajiv Singh, Chairman, DLF Limited for sponsoring the event for years in a row and his team for working hard to ensure that it was again a roaring success.



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Unifying Efforts: Enhancing Classroom Air Quality at Raghubir Singh Junior Modern School

A joint effort of the RSJMS Management and PTA/parent community to install portable air purifiers in classrooms, has helped address the health challenges faced by children due to high levels of pollution. This initiative, supported by over 50% of the parents, should help improve the indoor air quality.

The overwhelming response from parents, with many contributing amounts exceeding the minimum requirement, led to the target amount for the purchase of 40 air purifiers being met within 72 hours. RSJMS Managing Committee approved the installation of the air purifiers as a pilot project. The results have been very encouraging. The initiative exemplifies the collective effort of various stakeholders to create a healthy, clean environment for the children and should act as a template for such collaboration in the future.



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Event Highlights

MODERNITES' HEALTH CONCLAVE | 18TH FEBRUARY, 2024



The Modernites' Health Conclave 2.0, conceptualized and led by the visionary Dr. Vivek Nangia (Class of 1987), took place at Modern School, Barakhamba Road. Under Dr. Nangia's expert guidance, this esteemed event brought together a panel of distinguished alumni to share their insights and expertise in the healthcare field. The conclave was moderated by Dr. Vivek Nangia, who skillfully steered the discussions and ensured a seamless flow of ideas.



After the unprecedented success of the first edition last year, this time again there were two panels that outlined the changing landscape of healthcare in India. The conclave focused on urban lifestyle related topics, namely: 'Keeping Fit for a Better Tomorrow' and 'Waking Up to a Good Sleep'. The conclave was live-streamed on YouTube, reaching Modernites worldwide. The Modernites' Health Conclave has now become one of MSOSA's flagship events, cementing its position as a premier platform for healthcare discussions and knowledge sharing.



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Event Highlights

MSOSA LUNCH TO FELICITATE HMJ SANJAY K KAUL | 25TH FEBRUARY, 2024



MSOSA hosted a felicitation lunch to celebrate the invaluable contributions and illustrious career of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay K Kaul, Supreme Court of India (retired). It was a memorable occasion filled with heartfelt tributes and inspiring anecdotes.





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Event Highlights

SENIOR MODERNITES' DINNER | 6TH APRIL 2024



A beautiful evening filled with nostalgia, laughter, dancing and singing, the Senior Modernites Dinner was a great trip down the memory lane. Together friends reminisced the good old school days. The 1974 batch celebrated 50 years of passing out from school.



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Event Highlights

18TH MODERNITES' GOLF FOR CHARITY – 19TH APRIL 2024



The 18th Modernites' Golf For Charity Tournament was held at the DLF Golf and Country Club in Gurugram, with over 114

Modernite golfers from the 1953 to 2018 batches participating. The event was possible again at the DLF Golf & Country Club due to the continuous magnanimous support and cooperation we have been receiving from Mr Rajiv Singh, Chairman, DLF Limited, who is himself a Modernite from the batch of 1976.



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WE GRIEVE THE DEMISE OF

- Mr. Gaurav Duggal (1987) - 12th January, 2024.

- Sqn Ldr Mahesh Subbiah (1962) - 18th January, 2024.

- Dr. Manu Shrimali (1980) - 19th January, 2024.

- Sh. Vikramjit (1950) - 21st January, 2024.

- Smt. Kamla Nigama (teacher at RSJMS from 1950 - 1983) - 23rd January, 2024.

- Dr. Ashwin Dewan (1976) - 7th February, 2024.

- Sh. Arun Khandelwal (1969) - 10th February, 2024.

- Mr. Rituraj Singh (1981) - 20th February, 2024.

- Sh. Sunil Vasudeva (1972) - 25th February, 2024.

- Sh. Somendra Lal Oberoi (1953) - 16th March 2024.

- Cdr. Dharmendra Kumar (1958) - 21st March, 2024.

- Dr. Vineeta Chaturvedi (teacher at RSJMS from 1966 - 67, 1971-73) - 30th April, 2024.



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In The News

- Retd. IFS Ajay Bisaria (1980) - launched his book 'Anger Management: The Troubled Diplomatic Relationship between India and Pakistan' highlighting the tumultuous relationship between the two countries, offering unprecedented insights into key diplomatic crises and interactions with top leaders.
- Senior Advocate Mr Chander M. Lall (1983) - launched his book 'AT THE PLEASURE OF HIS MAJESTY: I.M. Lall and the Case That Shook the Crown'. It provides a detailed overview of the landmark case of I.M. Lall versus the British Empire, a saga of courage and justice as well as the events that led up to it, including what his Hindu family based in Lahore went through during partition.
- Sh Amitabh Kant (1973) - was conferred with the prestigious Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star by the Government of Japan.



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From a Modernite's Desk

As Modern School recently celebrated its centenary year, my mother, Anusuya, who lives in Mumbai is about to celebrate her 100th birthday on 30th March, 2024. Anusuya Shankarlal was one of the few girls who began her education at the very start of Modern school. She recalls now, as much as her memory permits..



A few anecdotes –It was the early 1930's and Anusuya who was a favourite of Mrs. Raghubir Singh, would be picked up from school and taken to Mrs. Raghubir Singh's haveli for a treat from Mitthan Halwai's shop in the old city. Her classmates were Kanwal Kishan, PC Lal and Shanti Sethi, and they remained lifelong friends. Kanwal Kishan later became an income tax commissioner and PC Lal Air Chief Marshal of India but all of them had an easy camaraderie and remained in touch with each other for a long time.

At age 99, Anusuya recounts a memory of their school principal Mrs. Bose, digging her nails into the arms of her students when she wanted to punish them! But the students got even, as with a touch of her trademark humour Anusuya talks of an incident where the students poked a beehive around Mrs. Bose's office, and ran into a classroom and locked themselves in, while she contended with the bees! Anusuya's father, Sir Shankarlal was an eminent businessman in the city of Delhi and eventually a patron of the school. The Shankarlal Hall is named after him.



And then several years later, Anusuya's sister Savitri, married Lala Raghubir Singh's son, Pratap Singh.

I wanted to share my Mother's memories as a fitting tribute to the Modern Schools farsighted vision of creating a gender equal space for education, development and fun for all children, as far back as 1920, when girls in India were destined to stay within the confines of "purdah" and all that it entailed.

Aparna Gupta

(Daughter of Mrs Anusuya Gupta)



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Dear Modernite,
Greetings !

MSOSA would love to celebrate your personal achievements/milestones. Send us details of your special professional & personal achievements or information on marriage of Modernites, birth of children of Modernites and we shall try to feature them in the upcoming newsletters (subject to editorial discretion).

Also please share information, in case of passing away of any Modernite or Modern School teacher.

For all information please send name, batch and date of the event. Write to us at : modernites@msosa.com

MSOSA Office Bearers 2022-2024

Rohit Jain
(President)
(1987)

Vikas Mishra
(Vice President)
(1980)

Ashish Jain
(Secretary)
(2001)

Jahnvi Sharma
(Jt. Secretary)
(2011)

Piyush Jain
(Treasurer)
(1984)



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MSOSA Editorial Team

Senior Advisor : Vineet S. Sarin (1987), Former President, MSOSA

Editor : Arunima Malik (2010)

Editorial Team : Richa Jaipurkar (2021)

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