

## JOLLIFI-VACATION!

Dear Parent

The school breaks up for winter vacation on 31<sup>th</sup> December 2016 and reopens on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017 for all classes. Vacations are a wonderful time for exploring and discovering oneself anew and Delhi lends itself beautifully to self-learning.

A very important part of parenting is involving oneself in helping your kids discover themselves and also learn in the process. It's said that travelling and exploring are the best History, Geography and language teachers. So, dear parents, this winter, take your kids to museums, theatres, picnics, heritage walks. Get them and yourself out and visit lesser known monuments, encourage them and join them as they research on the monuments you plan to explore. Join them on the various walks organized by various people and organizations and while learning about the heritage, enjoy your time with them which will never return. Let's join our children and do something off-beat and rediscover our childhood as well our kids!

Let's read together. This winter, Pragati Maidan will be host to the World Book Fair from 7<sup>th</sup> January to 14<sup>th</sup> January. Do take your kids along to visit and explore the mysterious, majestic world of make-belief, history, fantasy, biographies and so much more and discover the joys of reading in the beautiful, balmy winter mornings with a cup of coffee. There are multiple spin-offs of reading: strengthening of language skills, therefore, improvement in other subjects, sparking of imagination and ideas, calming influence in these times of constant agitation and distraction, improvement in general knowledge, and above all, a subtle refining of character.

Some suggested books are--- *Mahabharata* by Devdutt Patnaik and Namita Gokhale, *Feluda Novels* by Satyajit Ray, *Novels* by Ruskin Bond, *Roald Dahl*, *Enid Blyton*, *Nancy Drew and Hardy Boys Novels*, *Novels* by R K Narayan, *Treasure Island* by R L Stevenson, *We the Children of India* by Laila Seth, *Chicken Soup* series, various wonderful books by Amar Chitra Katha, *Tintin*, *Asterix* and many more. **Hindi**---Short stories by Premchand, Short stories by Mahadevi Verma, Amar Chitra Katha, Champak, Nandan...yes, they are still there and still wonderful!

Netflix is here in India! Use it to your advantage. Visual medium is the best medium to impart effective learning. Let your kids watch some wonderful movies like...

***Pay it Forward, Life of Pi, An Inconvenient Truth, The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas, The Bicycle Thief, Born Free, Sound of Music, How Green was my Valley, It's a Wonderful life, If You Love This Planet***

Watching a play is an experience in itself. There is nothing like watching the story unfold before your eyes as the characters unfold a magical world before them. We are lucky to be in Delhi where the theatre scene is vibrant. Do take your child to watch a play to any of the numerous theatres in Delhi. Open the newspapers and decide which play it is going to be this winter.

And yes! Studies should not be put on the backburner while enjoying vacation. Regular hours of studies during vacation would ensure their perfect attendance after break and ensure no tensions and anxiety before exams.

We look forward to having them back with us in January. In the meantime, take good care of them.

A Very Happy New Year to You from the Modern School fraternity!

Dr V. Datta

Principal