

THE BISHOP'S SCHOOL, CAMP

REPUBLIC DAY 2012

The watchwords of the mid 1930's and 1940's were 'Do or Die'. Indeed our forefathers did do what they set out to achieve. They were adamant to establish a government of the people, for the people and by the people. However, this required careful planning which came by means of the Constitution of India which was enforced on 26th January, 1950. The Bishop's School Camp assembled at 8:00am to commemorate this stupendous event, sixty-two years from that memorable day.

The event began with the beating of the drum and the inaugural March by the Student Council. This was followed by the rendition of the soul-stirring poem, 'Where The Mind Is Without Fear' by the Head Girl. The hymn 'I Vow To Thee My Country' was belted out with patriotic fervor by one and all present there. The Headmaster put in a word of prayer for all our present-day politicians. He asked the Almighty to grant these leaders 'wisdom and mercy'. Mrs. Kale then led the congregation in the School Prayer followed by the Head Boy, Viraj Shelatkar proudly leading the School in The Pledge. The unfurling of the Tricolour was carried out with military precision by the Scout Troop as everyone sang the National Anthem to honour our wonderful country.

Our Principal, Mr. Freese addressed the gathering by recounting the trials and tribulations our forefather's went through in order to draft one of the world's best constitutions. He commented on Nehru's famous speech which spoke about 'India's tryst with destiny'. He applauded the efforts of the earliest Drafting Committee headed by Dr. B. R. Ambedkar which was the prime factor responsible for making India a Democratic Republic. Mr. Freese inspired every single individual present to throw corruption out of the country. The students were inspired to wipe the slate of the country clean so that India can rise and shine high above all nations in the world.

The highlight of the morning was when Aishwarya Hoonur, a student of the Junior College stood in front of the entire gathering and sang 'Ma Tujhe Salaam' in true acapella style. Her powerful and melodious voice left the students dumbfounded and the adults with tears in their eyes as her voice touched each one deeply. This was followed by a short prayer in memory of those who lost their lives on 25th January, 2012 due to the recklessness of a single bus driver. The morning ended with all the parents and ex-students being invited for a hot inviting cup of tea and biscuits while each student from Class I to Class XII were given a fruit drink with a packet of biscuits.