

REPORT- THE SAGA OF INDEPENDENCE

The secret to happiness is freedom and the secret to freedom is courage.

On the occasion of our 73rd Independence Day, students of class IV put up a spectacular show 'The Saga of Independence' on 13th August 2019. The event commenced with the lighting of the lamp by the Chief Guest, Ms. Mallika Ahluwalia, CEO and Curator of the Partition Museum in Amritsar. The Director Principal, Ms. Aditi Misra extended a warm welcome to all the esteemed dignitaries present. The school choir presented a melodious recital of the inspirational poem 'Mann Ho Nirbhaya Jahan' composed by Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore which set the tempo for the day.

The Director Principal, in her address, spoke about how the Saga of Independence began in the year 2003 and has developed over the years, with the hard work put in by all the students and teachers alike. She expressed her heartfelt thanks to the parents for being a strong support system of the school and how each one of us can contribute towards Shiksha Kendra. She also urged that we must not take our freedom for granted and respect it to its very core. She appealed to the parents to spread the message of the 'Power of One' and how each individual can make a difference in their own way to the world around us. She also added that it is the joint responsibility of the parents and school to nurture children to become brave, sensitive and compassionate individuals leading to a resurgent India.

The event also marked an opportunity to recognize and reward the stupendous performance of the all-rounders and community service awardees of class III, session 2018-19. It was a moment of pride for the students and parents alike.

The Saga of the struggle for independence from the British rule unfolded as the students enacted as valiant freedom fighters and portrayed the history of the struggle for independence from the onset of the first struggle for freedom in 1857 to the attainment of freedom on 15th August, 1947. The courage of Mangal Pandey spearheading the Sepoy Mutiny and the valour of Rani Lakshmibai fighting the Britishers were depicted with such pride that the audience could not stop lauding the performances. The realistic depiction of the legacy of revolutionaries like Bhagat Singh, Rajguru, Bhatukeshwar Dutt was indeed poignant. The drama picked up the pulse when the enthusiastic actors played the role of Mahatma Gandhi, Subhash Chandra Bose, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to perfection. It was a pleasure to see the young actors on stage delivering some of the most moving moments of history. The audience was awestruck to see how every child fit so seamlessly into every role they performed.

The well-coordinated dance performances interspersed in the show left the audience spellbound. The portrayal of emerging India showcasing the progress and growth in various fields of education and armed forces since independence, was remarkable. The Grand Finale was a fitting conclusion to the grand event. The show culminated with the young citizens saluting the brave hearts of our country

who had laid down their lives for their motherland. They pledged to be responsible citizens of their free and secular country. The show evoked an overwhelming feeling of patriotism in the audience present.

The Chief Guest, Ms. Mallika Ahluwalia praised the students for their breathtaking performances. She said that the truly spectacular show gave the message of honouring the legacy and value the sacrifices made by both known and millions of unknown freedom fighter. The show made her feel proud and happy to see the seeds of patriotism being sown in the future citizens of our country. She shared few incidents and personal experiences of people who witnessed the partition of India. She spoke about the Partition Museum, a people's museum which focusses on the largest human history of mass migration. She encouraged all to reflect what freedom means to us and remember the sacrifices made by many.

The show culminated with Ms. Laveena Hemrajani, the Headmistress, Junior School, proposing the vote of thanks.

