



THIS MUCH I KNOW OF JOHNSONITES

DIWALI CELEBRATION

This year's Diwali celebration in school was small but genuinely fun. During the advisory period, all four houses were given rangoli materials by the school and were asked to work as teams to complete the rangoli smoothly, with each of us handling a part. Since it was an inter-house activity, everyone had to participate and the whole room instantly became busy, with colour powder everywhere and everyone trying to figure out what design to make.

None of us were experts, which made the activity even more fun. All of us spent the first few minutes trying to decide what to do and how to use everything that was provided to us. Slowly, people started suggesting ideas, and everyone started working on the rangoli by sketching outlines, filling in the colours, decorating diyas, making origami for extra decoration, and making sure the rangoli didn't get smudged. By the end of the advisory, each house had created colourful rangolis thanks to everyone contributing something.

It was a short activity but it brought a nice festive feeling to all and gave us students a break from our usual routine. Even though we weren't masters at making rangolis, the whole process helped us learn a lot. Seeing all the houses put in effort and work together to make beautiful rangolis made the celebration feel meaningful and memorable.

JIB Grade 11 : Lokeswari Imandhi

Our recent Mock Model United Nations session, representing the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and discussing the Tigray and Myanmar crisis was an engaging and enriching experience for everyone to be involved.

Delegates presented well-researched arguments, engaged actively. From GSL's to debating human rights violations at international cooperation and accountability, the committee displayed impressive teamwork and leadership.

Even those experiencing MUN for the first time showed enthusiasm and initiative.

Throughout the session, delegates showcased impressive research, diplomacy, and public-speaking skills. Every participant contributed, dived deep into global issues, presenting well-researched viewpoints.

The Mock MUN wasn't just about debate; it gave everyone a chance to explore global issues, step outside their comfort zones, and grow as communicators.

Overall, it was a successful and memorable experience that inspired leadership.











The CAS Trip: A Journey of Learning, Service, and Memories

The CAS trip was from the 30th of October to the 2nd of November, taking us on an enriching journey to Mysore and Coorg. What began as a simple school CAS trip soon transformed into an unforgettable experience that blended adventure and learning. The trip made us create many memories, the ones that will stay with us long after the journey ended.

From the moment we boarded the bus, the excitement was undeniable. Laughter, conversations, and music filled the air as we made our way to our first destination, Coorg . This phase of the trip brought us to the serene hills of Coorg, often called the “Scotland of India.” The fresh air, lush greenery, and calm surroundings created the perfect environment for reflection. Whether it was trekking through the forests, visiting local plantations and animal reserve, or sitting quietly by the hillsides, the natural beauty of Coorg encouraged us to pause and connect with ourselves.

Then was the grandeur of the Mysore Palace, with its intricate carvings and royal architecture, left us all in awe. Our visit was to explore the city’s cultural and historical landmarks. Learning about the palace’s history gave us a new appreciation for India’s rich heritage.

One of the most impactful aspects of the trip was the service component, where we engaged in serving food to the elderly in an Old Age Home. From interacting with them to serving them, we learned the true meaning of empathy, and responsibility. These experiences reminded us that even small contributions can make a significant difference.

Apart from learning and service, the trip also strengthened our bonds with classmates and teachers. Late-night conversations, shared meals, long bus rides, and group tasks brought us closer than ever. We laughed endlessly, supported each other, and created stories we’ll cherish for years.

As we returned home on the 2nd of November, our hearts were full. The CAS trip was more than a school requirement, it was a journey of growth. It helped us discover new perspectives, appreciate nature and value the friendships we’ve built.

In the end, the trip to Mysore and Coorg gave us something that cannot be taught in classrooms: real experiences, real connections, and real memories. These are the moments that truly shape who we are.

Tibetan Monastery

The Tibetan monastery in Coorg was a delightful sight. As someone whose parents are followers of spirituality, particularly Buddhism and the related texts, I had a sense of belonging and familiarity when I saw the Golden Buddha and his disciples. Though I am not well versed with Buddhist texts or beliefs, as an art student and being passionate about various cultures, my eye always caught the thanka paintings.

The thanka translates to "Scroll". It is believed that the thanka is given out to the disciplined and pure intentioned minds of the Buddhist practitioners. It was given to my father when he visited the spite valley for a meditation retreat and this sparked my interest in the same. The Thangka originates from Indo-tibetan Buddhists monks who first made the thanka to impart the knowledge of Mandala- The circle of life, through the different avatars of Buddha, each one symbolising a phase of life and also human exertions. Despite the limited time we spent at the monastery personally it was a nostalgic moment, I was able to recollect all the knowledge my parents passed onto me about the Thankas. Another cultural practice of the Indo-Tibetans is the "Om Mani Padme Hum" on the mini flags in colours red, blue, white and yellow. It symbolises the primary aspects that make up a human - knowledge, compassion, love and wisdom. These were seen on most of the houses in the Indo-Tibetan colony in Coorg.

Overall it was a wonderful experience and one of the enriching sights we have had during the trip.





River Rafting

During the third day of our CAS trip in Mysore, both grades 11 and 12 decided to indulge in the watersport - river rafting. It was an adventurous and life-changing experience as we got ready to raft along the river Barapole. This was a voluntary CAS activity and involved the students splitting into groups of six before rafting.

Each raft had an experienced handler who ensured that all six participants were well fitted with life jackets before getting into the raft. We were then given double-edged oars and instructed on how to use them. Once everyone got into their respective rafts, we were instructed to sit in three rows in pairs, facing each other with our oars in the water.

Pretty soon, the raft was put in the river, and we were off ! The raft sailed in the water along with the current, as the team rowed with consistent synchronization. The bank of the river was filled with mango and teak trees; there was pleasant weather with a cold breeze as we drifted further and further away from the bank.

After a short while, the raft handler anchored the raft to the riverbank and encouraged us to get into the water. One by one, each of us slowly got into the cold river and swam around. The life jackets ensured that everyone stayed afloat, and hence all of us could enjoy swimming around without worrying about each other's safety. Both the grade 11 and 12 students clicked a lot of pictures, and we proceeded to spend a good 30 minutes playing in the cold, clear water of the Barapole River.

We then got into the raft and proceeded to head back to the raft station. It was a wonderful experience as we all raced against each other to head back to the raft station and made a lot of memories swimming and goofing around in the river. These are moments I will not forget and will cherish for a long time. This activity not only taught us how to raft but also played a pivotal role in forming an inseparable bond between the seniors and juniors.

JIB Grade 12 : Advait Juluri



Old-age Home

On our CAS trip to Coorg and Mysore , we visited an old age home in Mysore.

The old age home reminded me of visiting my differently abled grandfather every day at home. This was the Service component of our CAS trip where we met different elderly people who live there and receive good care from dedicated nurses and staff. The elderly people there were very kind and affectionate. They enjoyed and appreciated our presence. Our visit resulted in lively interactions with the residents which in turn spread positivity in their lives as well as made our trip more meaningful. We heard stories of their lives and their background, we learned about the different circumstances due to which they were living in the old age home. This visit has benefitted me personally. It taught me core values like kindness , empathy and compassion towards the elderly who have gone through vast experiences in life. This gave the elders a moment of joy. Finally, we bid farewell and left with our hearts full.



Mysore Palace

Mysore Palace has this amazing way of grabbing your attention the moment you see it! On our CAS trip, the excitement kicked off early, especially since we were all dressed in traditional clothes, which made the place feel even more special. Walking through the gates felt like stepping into a storybook. The arches, the paintings, and all the tiny details, they all told us about the culture and history that shaped the city. It was a hot day, and the sun was blazing, but it didn't take us away from the experience. In fact, the bright light made the palace shine even more, showing off its size and beauty. We snapped tons of pictures, mostly to capture the beauty and because every spot felt so striking that we just had to take a picture. By the time we left, the heat was gone, but the grandeur stayed with us. It wasn't just a visit; it felt like really understanding history in a more real way.



Car Museum

We had an informative as well as fun time at the Payana Automobile Museum in Mysore. Upon entering, we immediately saw a welcome sight of an incredible array of classic and modern vehicles. We appreciated the boards placed with detailed descriptions for each vehicle, as they provided an in-depth explanation of how each car was created, and made viewing each car in the exhibit much more enjoyable.

We saw many cars that we had only heard of or read about before, but now we were actually able to see some extremely rare models, such as the classic ambassador vehicles, old jeep-type models and amazing sports cars in front of us.

While touring the museum, we got to learn about the history of automotive technology. We understood a lot about how automotive design has evolved through time and how automotive technology has also changed through time. The staff members were very helpful and provided informative insights about many of the unique vehicle.

As students, we enjoyed the opportunity to have our pictures taken next to our favourite vehicles and to envision what it would be like to own and operate one. All in all, we had a great, educational and motivating experience and every future student group should include the Payana Car Museum as a must-see stop





Mandalpatti Jeep Ride and Trekking

The trip our school took to Coorg was an awesome Jeep tour through the hills of Coorg, which was such a great experience I will never forget. The rides had so many bumps and excitement, as we all huddled together in the jeeps as it carefully moved on the rocks and followed the narrow roads under a thick blanket of trees filled with bright green leaves and cold fresh mountain air.

When we reached the top of the mountain, the view was breathtaking; it looked like you could stick your hand through the clouds below! This Jeep trip has allowed me to be more confident in trying new things and facing my fears of going to places outside my comfort zone. It has also made me realise how much people in our group depend on each other for support and success when working together as a team. The experience of this trip has helped me to have more courage, the ability to work together and have fun going to places that are outside of our everyday environment instead of just being confined to our classrooms.



Tour Overview

Our school trip to Coorg and Mysore was packed with activities – long bus rides where we chatted and had snacks, but totally worth it for all the cool spots we visited. The Tibetan Monastery in Coorg was incredibly peaceful – the colorful flags and monk chants made me think about life away from all the chaos, which was super calming after the bumpy ride. Then, river rafting on the Barapole was insane! We were yelling the whole time, holding on tight with friends, showcasing the best teamwork. Mysore Palace was ‘lit’; it felt like a movie set with all that history. Visiting Mysore Palace was like stepping into a storybook—it was stunning to see the rich history and architectural brilliance of the Wodeyar dynasty come alive. The highlight for me was the Dubare Elephant Camp, where we interacted closely with elephants, feeding and watching them enjoy the river. It was a unique chance to understand animal behavior and the importance of wildlife conservation firsthand. The Car Museum next door had these old royal cars that were amazing, it gave us the sense of seeing how the royalty rolled back in the day. And the old-age home visit hit a different cord; talking to the residents there, hearing their stories, made us appreciate family time more. This trip had adventure, history, and some real ‘feels’ – it made us feel closer to each other and way more curious about places around us.



JIB Grade 12 : Mythreyi P



CAS (Sadhana)

I visited Sadhana Institute of Intellectually challenged four times, and each visit taught us something new. On our first visit, we helped them learn how to draw simple pictures. After that, we all played musical chairs together, which made everyone smile and laugh. Our second visit was during Diwali. This time, we helped them paint diyas. They planned to sell these diyas to earn profits, in which it will help to cover their expenses, so we made sure to guide them and encourage their creativity. It was lovely to see how happy they felt while painting.

When we went for the third time, we focused on physical activities. We taught them easy exercises and movements to help them stay active. They enjoyed trying new things and participating with full energy. On our fourth visit, we taught them basic yoga, which helped them relax and learn balance. We also practiced drawing again, helping them improve step by step.

Each visit was special because we were able to spend time with them, help them learn, and share enjoyable moments. These experiences taught us the importance of kindness, patience, and working together.



JIB Grade 11 : Gowtham Naidu Gurugubelli



CAS (SMMS)

SMMS (Sri Mudiraj Memorial School), was established for students to provide quality education at free cost for the underprivileged. We visited SMMS twice. They were 4th and 5th class students in school when we visited for the first time, so we planned the procedure and activities to be conducted in advance. Our plan was to teach and conduct physical activities for both classes, so we divided the work and assigned it to two groups: one group to teach and another group to conduct physical activities and we were successful in implementing it.

On our first visit we saw this plan work as we managed to teach and conduct activities simultaneously for the two classes. On our second visit, for a change, we thought of teaching full time, we planned to teach logical problem solving and English literature for both the classes.

We tried our best to help them with logical problems and finally made them understand each and every problem in the list we had prepared. Finally it was a great experience to visit SMMS.





Halloween

On November 10th, our IB department was buzzing with Halloween spirit, thanks to the hard work of our Halloween committee. The event was a memorable break from academics, filled with fun activities that brought everyone together.

The celebration kicked off with the morning as creatively dressed students instantly filled the halls. This excitement further continued with a trip to the Johnson Grammar School ICSE and ISC campus for a lively Halloween walk. This visit was a highlight, filled with positive energy as we interacted with ICSE students, sharing laughs and taking photos.

Back in our own halls, the fun continued with a collaborative murder mystery activity which required all of us working in teams. We solved a mystery while scavenging for hidden chocolates. The event was a hit and everyone loved it. The spooky atmosphere was completed by the committee's fantastic decorations, which transformed our space and made the entire celebration an unforgettable success. Then to end the day off, everyone voted best dressed and the winners were announced the next day.

Overall, the entire day was filled with fun activities and happy moments that'll be core memories of our time here in JIB



JIB Grade 11 : Amulya Kara



