



This news letter has been written,  
designed & compiled by our Students  
editorial committee



# Links Gazette Aug-Dec 2010

## Pakistan's Independence Day !

To commemorate Pakistan's 63<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day our school held an Independence Day Program on Saturday, 14<sup>th</sup> August 2010. The venue for the event was the Upper Primary and Secondary Campus. The two hour long program consisted of a number of presentations performed by students of both LPS and UPS.

Sir Afzal began the day by giving an introductory speech which was followed by the singing of the National Anthem and the hoisting of the flag. This was followed by a number of presentations which included poems by Allama Iqbal, the singing of Dil Dil Pakistan and an informative presentation about the key

members of Pakistan's Independence. The Class sevens and eights performed a skit. The message of this was to show how developed and beautiful Pakistan really is. Conclusion to the program was a debate held by students of class eight and nine. The topic was "Pakistan has given me everything but I have given it nothing!"

Throughout this time donations were handed in to give relief to the flood victims. In total the event was a huge success and was enjoyed by everyone.

**Heshang Kakalia, 8-P**



Pakistan Zindaabad!



Packing of flood relief goods

### Facts about LINKS:

- Links was established in 1997.
- Links' first O' levels batch will appear for the CIE Examination in 2011.
- Altogether Links has three premises.
- In 2010, Links won the gold medal for the under 8 Relay at the Sindh Open Championship.
- Links is the only affiliate of the Council of British International Schools in Pakistan.
- In 2010, Links School won an award of excellence from the education dept.

## Iftar Party

As we all know, Ramadan is the month of prayers and blessings; also the month of celebrations, so we thought that it should be celebrated at school. Therefore, for the first time, students of Links organized an Iftar Party for classes 8-10. The organizers of this party were: Sarah Mukaty, Alizeh Zubair,

Suhaiba Zindani and Anusha Aamir. As expected, the party turned out to be a huge success and a whole lot of fun!!! All the secondary school teachers were invited and they all enjoyed the function. Students had their Iftar and then Anas Saya, a student of Class 10 led the prayers for the boys. After that

students had a great time taking pictures and making their final trips to the refreshment tables while music played in the background. Overall, the Iftar party was a huge success and I eagerly look forward to the next one!!

**Suhaiba Zindani 8-L**



## Spelling Bee Competition

For the first time at Links we had an Inter-School Spelling Bee Competition. It was not between all the classes as the senior classes were busy with studies. The classes that were participating were from class 1 till 7. This Spelling Bee Competition lasted for 5 weeks.

Every week, each student had to learn the twenty-five spellings that were given to them. Then every Monday morning we took a spelling test. The same day teachers

would check it and grade us. This way one student from every section was chosen for the final spell off. In the final spell off, parents were invited. Each person had to spell five tough words. In the end, one person from every section won. They got certificates and badges. This was the best competition ever!!

**Ibrahim Mukatay 7-P**



Links Super Spellers

## Links Charity Drive

As we all know, the floods that recently occurred in Pakistan left behind millions of injured and homeless people. Therefore, students of our senior school Alizeh Zubair, Ayiza Rahman, Suhaiba Zindani, Sarah Mukaty, Anushay Wali, Neha Makhdoom, Humayon Sabzwari, Daniel Aquil, Saif Rizvi, Ammar Siddiqui, Minhaj Junaid and Kurush Kakalia went on a charity drive to collect money for the victims. Parents and teachers volunteered and led this drive to being a huge success. The students collected

The flooding in Pakistan started in July 2010. It continued for a very long time. It affected a large number of areas and destroyed millions of lives. The victims lost their homes and families, some died due to starvation and others died due to fatal diseases. There were relief camps set up to provide shelter and food.

a very good amount which was Rs. 36, 560. Along with this, the school also conducted a charity collection in which a different food item was collected each day from the students of Links and then sent to the flood victims. It made a huge difference in many people's lives. With this, LINKS did its bit, now it's time for the rest of the world to wake up and do theirs.

**Suhaiba Zindani 8-L**



## Cricket Club

Cricket is one of the most popular games in Pakistan. Links provides us with this platform. We play cricket at the P.A.D Park which is huge and the timings are from 4-6 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Our coach's name is Sir Abid. This ground has a pitch and nets. On Tuesdays we play

matches on the pitch and on Thursdays we do net practice. Overall, I love playing cricket with the students from our school at the P.A.D Park.

**Mohammad Ameer Hamza 7-P**



## Swimming Lessons

Splashing, splattering, and paddling — it must mean a great day in the water! Playing in a pool can be a real treat on a hot day. Swimming is a lot of fun. Our school has swimming lessons which are conducted by Sir Irfan.

Basically, in swimming lessons, children play but at the same time learn to swim. They have a chance to use their own school pool.

The pool is big enough for the children to swim in and they are quite satisfied with it. Children who have great love for swim-



ming also take part in swimming competitions and represent their school. They win many medals and make our school proud. Swimming is a great exercise. Children first do approximately four to five laps for warm up. The swimming lessons take place thrice a week and for one hour.

In my personal opinion, swimming is amazing. I take part in many competitions and represent my school.

**Ayesha Aamir 8-P**



## Teacher's Day

Teacher's Day is a day meant especially for teachers whereby students can appreciate them. In school, many students presented teachers with hand-made cards, which shows how much we respect our teachers and want to appreciate all they do for us; spending endless hours checking our notebooks and filling our brains with all kinds of knowledge. Since tests were going on, quite a lot of students did not have the opportunity to make cards so instead they all performed small acts such as carrying books and opening doors, giving smiles as they passed through the corridors. As most people say 'the thought is what actually counts.' Later that day, a celebration took

place for the teachers at the school premises. I suppose the teachers enjoyed their party and had a great day. Teacher's Day is meant to be celebrated all across the world on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October but there shouldn't be just one day to appreciate and pay tribute to our beloved teachers! We, being students, ought to be perfectly nice and perform kind deeds towards our teachers every single day of the year.

**HAPPY TEACHER'S DAY!**

**Mishaal Khan 8-L**

"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires." - William Arthur Ward



## Safety Awareness Week

Safety Awareness Week is a week in which we learn how to stay safe from everyday objects. Safety Awareness Week started on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of October 2010. We learnt about the pros and cons of media hazards. The prefects did a presentation on under-age driving. This presentation informed us about the merits and demerits of under-age driving. The Class 8's read a few poems related to this topic. Ms. Hufsa held an art competition and certificates were given to

the winners. There was also a quiz held about safety signs. A survey was conducted by Ms. Ambreen Ali along with Suhaiba Zindani, Anushay Wali, Saif Rizvi, Hoshang Kakalia, Hunaina Khan and Fatima Zahra of Class 8 related to personal safety. The response of the survey was a positive one and showed how caring students really are!

**Danial Tariq 7-P**



## Read For a Cause

Reading provides nourishment for the mind. That is why Links strongly believes in inculcating the habit of reading among its students. At the same time, it also encourages us to be more sensitive to the needs of those who are less fortunate. The task of cultivating reading, not just as a good

habit but also a noble act is accomplished by means of the 'Read for a Cause' program that takes place every year at Links. We find sponsors who contribute money for each book that we read and the money collected is then donated to a charitable organization.

This year it was decided that the money collected would be donated to the flood victims.

The "Read for a Cause" program lasted a month during which we read as many books as we possibly could and brought in money offered by our sponsors. Our effort and interest in the reading program was duly hailed each week in the assembly as the name of the house that read the most books was announced. At the end of the month, a generous amount of Rs. 193,813



was collected and donated to the Flood victims.

**Mohd Ameer Hamza 7-P**

## Friday Assemblies for Parents

Unlike normal school assemblies, our Links has organized special kinds of assemblies for the parents to view. These assemblies include exceptional presentations by the students. Each class performs a skit carrying a message, written by their teacher. So far, different presentations have been covered such as Festivals of the World, on the importance of Our National Anthem, Mughal History and Important Personalities of the World. It was a great learning experience and is something we will always remember.

**Hiba Odho Class 7-L**



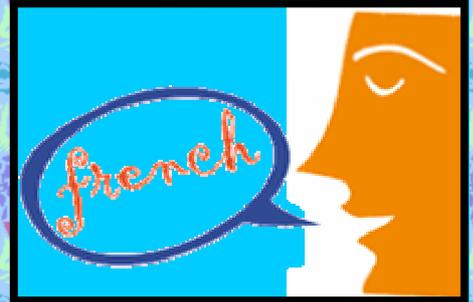
## French Classes at Links

Bonjour!!

French is spoken today by a vast Francophone population. The history of the French language begins with the colonisation of Gaul by the Romans. The Celts who inhabited Gaul when the Romans came were Indo-Europeans, related to the Greeks, Romans and Germanic people in both culture and language.

French is a very interesting language. At LPS it is part of the curriculum and at UPS it is an extra curricular activity. Our teacher Ms. Amena always provides us with fun activities and worksheets to do. Our French class is held every Tuesday after school until 3.00 p.m.

**Elsa Sajjad 7-L**



## Field Trips

Recently classes 9-L, 9-P and class 10 went for a field trip to the Dawn News Channel. The studio was in West Wharf Area not very far from Clifton. The students were shown many things at the studio, given a lot of information about this News Channel and were told how every thing was managed there during different emergencies.

The students also saw the equipment used there such as a monitor called teleprompter. At the studio they had lots of lights and cameras to grab attention of everyone who was



DAWN News

watching their news report. The news readers had earphones to hear the latest news and make changes immediately and the teleprompters displayed slides in front so that the news readers could read out the news report easily. The students were also shown the wardrobe of the studio and the atomic clock kept in the studio. They also demonstrated ways of creating animations for their news.

One of the students was allowed to sit on the news caster's seat and experience the feeling of being a Dawn news caster. Those who visited enjoyed and learnt a lot from this field trip. The

students had to leave after a fun time of 2 hours as there was emergency news to be broadcast.

**Ayat Aziz & Suhaila Zindani 8-P,8-L**



## Prefect Elections

*"Leadership is action not position"*

Links aims to build leadership and social skills in its students and provides us with opportunities to build values of fairness, justice and responsibility. For this purpose, each year the school holds prefectorial elections through which a group of students is chosen by means of voting. Those of us who are elected are given the task to set an example for all the rest to follow and to help assist our teachers in ensuring smooth operations during the school year. Prefect elections, this year, were once again met with a lot of fervour. After much consideration, class teachers of Classes 3-10 suggested names of potential prefect candidates. The candidates prepared for the upcoming elections with great enthusiasm and zest; putting up coloured charts around the

campus and handing out badges, headbands and wristbands to the rest of us. On the day of the elections, all contenders spoke to the entire school in the morning assembly and presented their reasons why they should be selected as prefects. Later in the day, each class was lined up and taken to the balloting area where we voted for the chosen prefects. By the end of the day, the votes had been counted and the results had come in. The names of the winners were announced in the following assembly in which the elected prefects were given their sashes and badges and were made to take an oath.

**Ayesha Aamir 8-P**



## Creative Writing Competition

The Creative Writing Competition was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2010. It was held between Class 5 to 9 in my campus. There were two competitions: Urdu & English. The Urdu writing competition was held in the 1<sup>st</sup> period and the English writing competition was held in the 7<sup>th</sup> period. From my point of view, it was knowledgeable and fun at the same time. There were two winners from each section and certificates were given out to them.

**Rohan Zeeshan 7-L**



## Halloween Masti Morning

Witches, zombies, skeletons, devils, bats, fairies and even Frankenstein were a part of the Halloween Masti Morning held at Links. The event was arranged by parents and stalls of food and games were set up in the assembly area transforming it into a spooky world of fun and excitement. We enjoyed a ghoulishly good Halloween as we ate scrumptious snacks, danced to Michael Jackson's Thriller and treated ourselves to a range of fun filled activities. At UPS, Jamming Session was the highlight of the day and entertained everyone im-

mensely.

One of the greatest attractions at LPS was the piñata. Children lined up excitedly to get a chance to strike a blow at it. After many attempts, the decorated box broke and children jumped to collect the most candies. We are thankful to the Parents Association who came in and organized everything. All in all, the Halloween Masti Morning was a huge success and a whole lot of fun for all.

**Hiba Odho 7-L**



## Global Hand Washing Day

Global Hand Washing Day was the centerpiece of a week of activities conducted at Links Lower Primary School to promote the habit of washing hands with soap. All teachers addressed students in their respective classes and spoke about the importance of washing hands with soap. My friends there were encouraged to maintain good hand hygiene and were explained how washing hands regularly with soap helps keep diseases at bay.

Global Hand Washing Day encourages good hand hygiene and promotes the importance of washing hands.

Furthermore, they were reminded to wash their hands before having their snacks. A special hand painting activity was also carried out through which my fellows there expressed their creative ideas using paints. Later on, a fun activity of cleaning hands with soap took place.

**Rohan Zeeshan 7-L**

## Art Competition

On 7<sup>th</sup> December 2010, Classes 5 to 10 had an art competition on a pleasant, but slightly windy morning. Each class was given a different, interesting topic. A topic says a few words but a detailed and colourful drawing explains more than a whole paragraph. Everywhere you could see, colour pencils, paints, paint-brushes and markers scattered all around. Students gave thought to what they would draw and what specific medium they would use, and then they let their imagination run loose. We were allotted two hours to complete our art-work so everyone was in a hurry to complete his or her painting. Even the most hesitant students ended up enjoying it. When twenty minutes were left, a professional photographer arrived to take pictures of all the wonderful artwork. Everyone cannot be a great artist but the most important thing is to let your imagination run loose and have as much fun as possible.

**Mishaal Khan 8-L**



## Sindh Open Swimming Championship

Sindh Open Swimming Championship was held on October 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> in which Links School's students took part. Maryam won one gold medal, two silver medals, one bronze medal. Links' under 8 free style relay team won gold! Swimmers were Kayan S, Mustafa S, Bilal S and Zaid Q.

Let's not forget to mention our senior classes who have won a lot of medals for Links in different competitions. Our pride

of the school include Ayesha Aamir, Anusha Aamir and Neha Makhdom.

**Mohd Ameer Hamza 7-L**



## Pet Day at the Pre-School

Pet day was held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October, at Links Pre School. Pet day is supposed to teach children about the responsibilities of handling pets and how to care for them in the best possible way. The deer, the most popular pet of the day attracted many students. The poodle brought by Hamza Minhaj was also very popular with the students. The most common pet was a tortoise. In order to avoid the pets from fighting with each other, they were kept in separate groups. It was a great learning experience for those at Links Pre School.

We thank Ms. Shireen Mana for all this fascinating, valuable and useful information.

**Ibrahim Mukaty 7-P, Danial Tariq 7-P & Elsa Sajjad 7-L**



## Links Joins Model United Nations

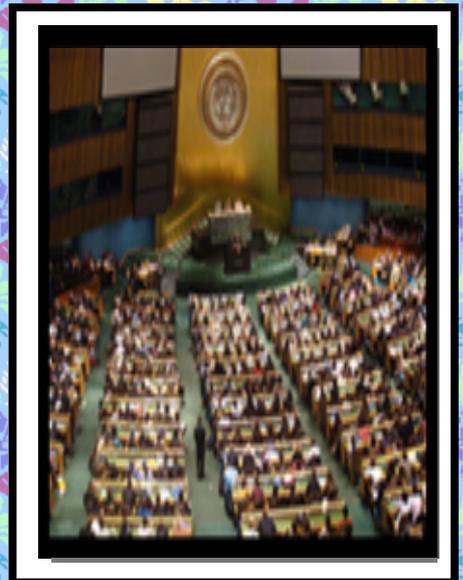
What is the MUN?

Model United Nations (MUN) is an academic simulation of the [United Nations](#) that aims to educate participants about civics, current events, effective communication, globalization and multilateral diplomacy. In standard Model UN, students take on roles as [diplomats](#) and participate in a simulated session of an [intergovernmental organization](#) (IGO). Participants research a country, take on roles as diplomats, investigate international issues, debate, deliberate, consult, and then develop solutions to world problems. More recently, simulation of other [deliberative bodies](#), such as the United States National Security Council, has been included in Model United Nations, even if they are completely unrelated to the UN or international affairs as a whole.

MUN at Links:

Links School decided to give their students an opportunity to take part in the international MUN taking place in Shanghai. A presentation was made and shown to the students of classes 8-10 by four students. Three representatives from the parents' association were there to help and to answer certain questions. Links School members also attended MUNs hosted by The International School from the 8<sup>th</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup> November. Links is taking part in the Harvard Model United Nations (HMUN); it is an excellent opportunity for students as it is considered to be very prestigious.

**Suhaiba Zindani 8-L**



## Geography & History Project Display

On Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> of October our school held a project display for Geography and History. Classes 5-7 did their Geography projects on the different types of environments. We had a choice to make our projects on agricultural, rural or urban environment. We also had to explain what we had displayed.

On the other hand, in History we had to make projects showing ancient newspapers. Likewise, the remaining classes had been given different topics and they man-

aged to put up excellent displays to impress everyone.

A large number of parents came to encourage us and appreciated our work. It was a tiring and informative day, but we all enjoyed immensely!

**Danial Tariq 7-P**



## Profession Parade held at Pre-School



A brilliant surgeon, a dedicated nurse, a hard working farmer and a skilled plumber were among the few present at our Pre-School Parade. November 5th was that time of the year again when my fellow tiny-tots there had a chance to parade their costumes & tools of the trade. With lots of apt songs & stories thrown in, they had an exciting day, giving free reign to their imagination. This eventful day concluded the month long topic of professions.

**Iona Murfitt 7-P**



## Elocution Contest

Every year at Links an elocution contest is held. It is an important event in all three campuses. Tents are put up, decorations are hung and parents are invited. From each grade there is one contestant from each house. In the UPS, classes from 5-7 are taking part in the elocution contest. The contestants have to recite a poem in front of the whole school. They are judged on expression and delivery by a panel of honorable judges. The importance of elocution contests is that they promote confidence and eloquence.

**Hoshang Kakalia 8-P**

## Debates held at UPS

Links Upper Primary School had a debating competition for Classes 8-10. The subject of the debate for class 8 was "Should homework be banned?" which had all the makings of an intense and passionate discussion by both sides. The topic for classes 9 and 10 was a bit more political i.e. "Does Democracy flourish in third world countries like Pakistan?" Although this topic seemed a bit dry for the younger members of the audience, majority of the students were on board and were keen to contribute to the insightful discussion that ensued.

Shanze Zarah from Class 10 was the winner for the democracy debate and the runner up was Ammar Siddiqui from Class 9 whose expressions really played a significant role in convincing the audience. The winner of the Class 8 debate was Raamish Amir and the runner up was Ayiza Rehman. I too enjoyed the part where students were allowed to voice their opinions whilst the judges were deliberating who the winners were. On the whole it was a knowledgeable and wonderful experience.

**Iona Murfitt 7-P**



## Sports Day



### Many Thanks to the Links Gazette

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On the 4<sup>th</sup> of December 2010, Links held their annual sports day for the students of nursery to class 6 at the Lower Primary section of the school. Due to security reasons the pre-school students had their sports day at the early time of 8:30 am whilst the students of grades 3 till 6 had theirs at 11:30 am.

All the six prefects of the UPS(7-9) helped all the teachers in the Sports Day by greeting parents at the gate, handing out pamphlets and escorting them to their seating area. They were at least 280 guests including children. The grade fours did an amazing dance performance and everybody sang the national anthem really well. The march past was also well performed. The races started with the class three students continued till the relay race, which took place after the class 6 events. Yellow and Red House tied for first place with Green House taking second place and Blue House finishing last. The day ended with a thrilling teacher's and parent's race. It was a tiring and fun day.

**Danial Tariq 7-P**

## An Interview with Mr. Afzal Leghari (Director-Links)

### Q1) Why did you decide to enter the education field?

Ans) It's in my blood. Not only is it a part of my family business, but I also have a genuine passion for the field. Continuously introducing new ideas, raising the bar and setting even higher standards each year is something that definitely excites me. There is a lot to be done!

### Q2) Have you always wanted to do what you are doing now, or did you want to be something different when you grew up?

Ans) I always knew this was something I would eventually do. From an early age I was exposed to the intricacies of running a school and thoroughly enjoyed it!

### Q3) Which college did you go to?

Ans) London School of Economics.

### Q4) What is most rewarding about being a school director?

Ans) a) Being in a position to make changes and introduce new and exciting things.  
 b) Making a difference to young lives and ensuring they grow up to be all rounded, hard working, well-mannered, independent human beings with a strong sense of

morals and values.

c) Also taking the school forward and making the most of its true potential.

### Q5) Do you plan on changing any policies within school to make it more enjoyable or safe for the students?

Ans) We are continuously evolving our policies and introducing new things to make school more enjoyable for our students. However, our first priority is education and of course our students' safety as well.

### Q6) Where do you see yourself in ten years?

Ans) Ten years is a long time! I see the Links Schooling System spread through many different levels of society in different cities and maybe even different countries. Ensuring we don't lose the basic vision and concept of Links is what I see myself busy doing!

### Q7) Do you have any long term plans for improvements within the school?

Ans) We are continuously improving and upgrading the school. It's always part of the plan— long term and short term!

### Q8) Who has been the most influential person in your life and why?

Ans) My parents. They have always been a huge source of inspiration for me. Their commitment, sane advice and values are something I have greatly benefited from.

### Q9) Are there any programs that you would like to implement in school?

Ans) There are many programs and new ideas we will be introducing. You'll have to wait and see!

### Q10) When you were a student, what was your thought about your principal?

Ans) My own principal was someone I always looked up to. He always had our welfare at heart and worked tirelessly to ensure the school's requirements were met.

### Q11) What message would you like to convey to the readers?

Ans) Remember the following:

- 1) Always do your best!
- 2) Never get derailed by short term fun— always try and think long term.
- 3) Work hard and rest assured, success will follow.

Interviewed by:-

**Ayesha Aamir and Aayat Aziz 8-P**

