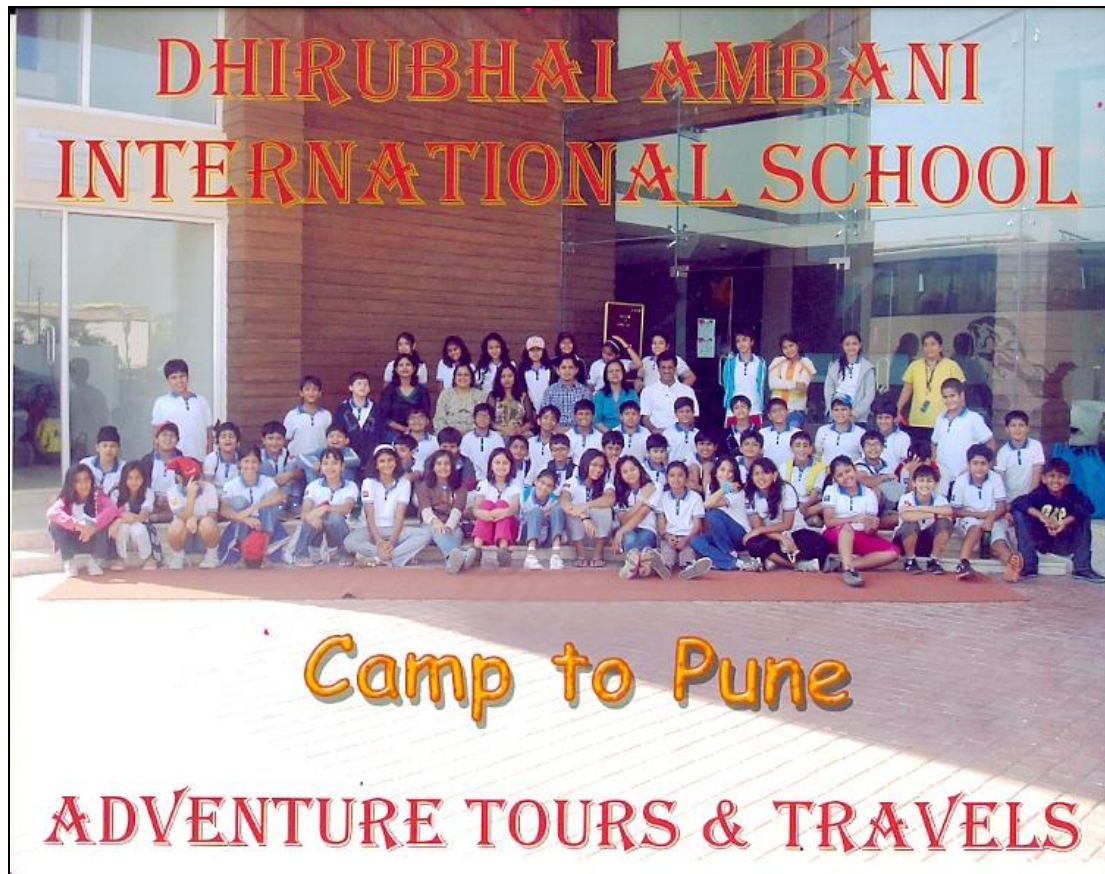


Pune Trip by 5 A and B

AN AMAZING LEARNING EXPERIENCE

(In the words of YASHWINI SODHANI)



Everyone expected the 22nd January to be a typical Saturday, until that one December day. Registration period, the 15 minutes before our hectic school day starts, the fun 15 minutes of joking, news sharing, and in some cases, homework finishing. This registration was the same until there was a knock on the class door and we got our first class trip circular. The days passed, and we were just waiting for this trip. Every phone call to a friend started with, "Aren't you just waiting for Pune?" or, "Pune is going to be so amazing!" As soon as the week before the trip started, "Have you started packing? I'm starting now as I don't want to leave it for the last day!" And

finally the last day, we couldn't help but just scream, "EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!!!"

Finally, the sun dawned on the most awaited morning of the month. The alarm went off and I sprang up and was ready in a matter of minutes. All packed and dressed with a camera lazily slung across the shoulder. I looked very different than I would on a normal school day.

We assembled in the auditorium at 7 A.M, tons of suitcases and bags being lugged around lazily, but everyone was brimming with excitement and very hyperactive. We got into the bus, and chants of "Pune trip!" began almost immediately after we had settled down. The bus ride was the bomb! Singing, eating, even more eating and more singing! We had the time of our lives.

We reached the Maple Hotel at 11 A.M, and were warmly welcomed with drinks, breakfast and keys to our rooms. I just

ran up and dropped on the bed. A magic show was organized for the bunch of sleepy and easily bored children that had just walked into the hotel, and after a lot of tricks we got up, and went to our buses to go to Chokhi Dhani, also known as Mini-Rajasthan. We shopped till we dropped, watched some dances and sang. We also saw an acrobat and



puppetry. We got back to our hotel after 120 minutes of intense fun. We had a disco night, and we danced till our legs hurt and sang our lungs out.

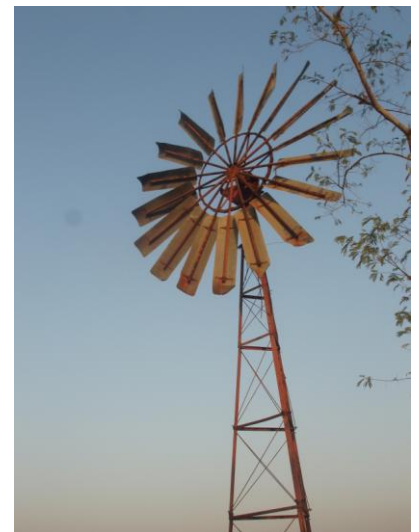


The next morning we all discovered we had



lost our voices, but I pulled myself up and got dressed quickly to go to The Snake Park and Zoo. After a long bus ride we reached the Snake Park. It was huge, and had thousand species of animals, reptiles and birds. We saw the Russell's viper and the reticulated Python. We also saw the white tiger, the sambhar and the huge sloth bear. In the evening we went for adventure activities like rifle shooting, darts and tree climbing etc. It was a lot of fun and we all enjoyed every moment of it. In the evening after a scrumptious dinner we went for a campfire and we were all asked to perform plays. The plays had very different topics, from the Greeks to hairdressers to kidnappers! We had an amazing time, we sang and danced, and the flames rose to the sound of our voices.

The next morning we went for a hike on some hills behind Chokhi Dhani and we saw many different things like a windmill and shades of Pune's countryside. After we came back, we had a group picture taken, and we will treasure this picture for our lives. We also had a treasure hunt before we left, and we all thanked our camp volunteers for such an amazing time.



This amazing learning experience will be etched in our minds for our lifetimes, and I think this was our first and best class trip ever. But, next year will have another class trip. I am eagerly waiting for it and wondering where we will go.