

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2016 – 2017
(Released on Prize Day, Saturday, 29 April, 2017 in the presence of the Chief Guest,
Mr Justice Amreshwar Pratap Singh,
Senior Judge, Allahabad High Court of Judicature, Lucknow Bench and
Chairman, Local Committee of Governors)

This is the 170th annual report of La Martiniere College, for the session 2016 – 2017.

The Academic Session began on 4 April, 2016 and concluded on 31 March, 2017.

TRUSTEES AND GOVERNORS

Mr Alok Ranjan, Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh and alumnus of the College, demitted office and was replaced by Mr Deepak Singhal. He was succeeded by Mr Rahul Bhatnagar, who continues to serve as Senior Trustee.

Mr Abdul Shahid, Legal Remembrancer and Principal Secretary (Judicial) Government of U. P. was succeeded by Mr Rang Nath Pandey, who continues to serve in that capacity as the other Trustee of the Lucknow Martin Charities.

Among the members of the Local Committee of Governors, the following changes took place:

We were happy to welcome Maj. Gen. Vinod Sharma who took over as G-O-C, Lucknow Sub-Area, from Maj. Gen. R. S. Malave who took up another assignment. Mr Mahesh Kumar Gupta, Commissioner, Lucknow Division was replaced by Mr Venkatesh T. He was replaced by Mr Bhuvnesh Kumar who continues to serve on the Local Committee of Governors. Mr Raj Shekhar, District Magistrate was replaced by Mr Satyendra Singh and thereafter Mr G. S. Priyadarshi who continues to serve on the Local Committee of Governors.

While welcoming each new member from among the Trustees and the Local Committee of Governors our thanks are extended to the officers who served in those capacities, earlier for their contribution to the College.

BEREAVEMENT

The College lost four pupils this year. The circumstance of each death was tragic. Sympathies are extended to the bereaved families, the immediate classmates of the boys and the teachers who nurtured them.

Vardhan Saxena a pupil of Class 3 A, died due to dengue fever. Mohammad Sultan Khan, a pupil of Class 7 A and Kanav Arora a pupil of Preparatory A died in separate domestic accidents during the winter vacation.

Within the College community, the demise of parents of pupils and close relatives of members of Staff was announced and prayers were offered in Chapel. With the large College community, news of bereavement is frequent. The boys join in offering their condolences and prayers on each of these sad occasions.

COLLEGE STAFF

Retirement

Mr George Gregory Martin, Dormitory 4 Superintendent, retired on 30 June 2016. His services are greatly appreciated. He has been requested to continue in an ad hoc capacity after retirement.

Mr Colin Aitkins, Housekeeper retired on 31 March, 2017. His services are greatly appreciated. He has been requested to continue in an ad hoc capacity after retirement.

Mrs Afshan Khan sought for and was granted permission for premature retirement on medical grounds. She has served the College for 27 years and had been a pupil of La Martiniere Girls' College. Her contribution to the College and the boys is sincerely and gratefully recorded.

Appointments

The following appointments were made during the year:

Mr Michael John Albert
Mr Lester Phillip Collins
Mr Rino Mathews
Mr Manoj Pathak
Mr John Rodricks
Mr Amit Singh
Mrs Michelle Anand Srivastava

Each member of Staff is wished a long and happy tenure in the College.

Resignation

Mrs Rachna Tandon resigned on 14 May, 2016 to take up the post of Principal in a school in Sultanpur. Her service to the College is well-recognised. She was responsible for establishing a vibrant, formal, co-curricular activity programme for the College.

Mr Prosenjit Mandal relocated to Kolkata after his period of probation.

Mr Ashit Oscar Bosman resigned to continue higher studies in Music.

Extension of Service

Mr Austin Morris, was granted another extension of service as Co-ordinator, Council Matters.
Mr D. J. Thapa was granted another extension of service to supervise Security and Sanitation.
Mr V. K. Srivastava was granted an extension of service in the EDP Department.

Awards for Long and Meritorious Service

Dr Seema Khanna completed 25 years of meritorious service in September, 2016. While felicitating her for reaching this milestone, the Local Committee of Governors has placed on record its appreciation and has sanctioned two advance increments to her monthly salary. She shall also receive a purse of Rs 25,000/- each as a token of esteem on Prize Day, 2017.

Mr Mohd Zaki completed 25 years of meritorious service in February, 2017. The local Committee of Governors has approved two advance increments being added to his monthly salary and a token purse of Rs 10,000/- to be presented on Prize Day, 2017.

Mrs Kiran Singh and Ms Rita Kapoor are felicitated for having completed 20 years of service in the College.

New Arrivals

On 26 May, 2016, Devarshi was born to Mr & Mrs Rajesh Kumar.

On 11 August, 2016, Dishita was born to Mr & Mrs Atul Srivastava.
On 26 August, 2016, Sharon was born to Mr & Mrs Walter Joseph.
On 5 February, 2017, Elisha was born to Mr & Mrs Stanley Simon.

Each of these little girls is fondly welcomed into the Martiniere family.

Staff Emoluments

In view of rising costs and in keeping with the directives of State Government /Central Government, Dearness Allowance for all categories of Staff and pensioners was increased from 113% to 125% of the Basic Pay from 1 April, 2016. In addition, permission has been granted to examine the proposals of the 7th Pay Commission and its implications for the College.

ACADEMIC

Enrolment

As on 31 March, 2017 there were 4249 pupils on the roll of the College. This includes, 387 boys in the Preparatory Department. The day-scholar strength was marked at 3274. There were 378 Resident Scholars of whom there were 58 Foundation pupils. Children of Staff of both Lucknow La Martiniere Colleges totalled 152.

Awards

Once again, La Martiniere College has been recognized as the Best College in the State of Uttar Pradesh for Resident and Day Scholars, while being ranked 10th in the same category on the national scene.

The College was placed among the top 50 cleanest schools in the country and was awarded the Dabur India Ltd. and Max Hospital Dabur Chyawanprash Immune India School Challenge 2015.

The Dubai based *Bazm-e-Urdu* recognized the contribution of the College in promoting Urdu by introducing it as a subject in the Middle School. A presentation was made to the College in recognition of this.

SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATIONS

Indian School Certificate (ISC) Year 12

In March 2016, 241 candidates were registered for the ISC (Year 12) Examination conducted by the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations. 239 candidates wrote the examination and 238 were awarded Pass Certificates.

Vikramaditya Vir Singh of the Science stream stood First in overall order of merit, securing an aggregate of 98.5% in the four best subjects. He also shares with Kriti Srivastava of La Martiniere Girls' College, the Mr Justice Jagdish Sahai Memorial Medal for the pupil with the highest marks in both La Martiniere institutions in Lucknow.

Raghav Kohli placed First in the Humanities stream, with an aggregate of 95.5%
Karan Agarwal achieved the First position in the Commerce stream with an aggregate of 96.0%

Perfect scores of 100 marks each was achieved by three students in Chemistry, nine students in Computer Science and four students in Physical Education.

Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE) Year 10

268 candidates wrote the ICSE examination conducted by the Council for the India School Certificate Examinations in March 2016. All were awarded Pass Certificates.

Varenia Vir Singh stood First in overall order of merit, securing an aggregate of 96.2% in the five best subjects. Varenia Vir Singh has the honour of carrying the College Flag to lead the Academic Procession on Prize Day.

Garv Johar stood Second with an aggregate of 96.0%, while Sanwal Kumar Agarwal and Arindam Keswani were placed Third with 95.8% each.

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Commencement of New Courses of Study

(i) Urdu

After a gap of over 60 years, Urdu as a subject of study was introduced as an optional subject for pupils of Classes 5 – 8. The College is assisted in this by *Bazm-e-Urdu*, a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of the Urdu language. 40 students enrolled for the subject in Class 5. The first annual examination was conducted in March, 2017 with great success.

(ii) Mass Media and Communication

The College had proposed to the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations to begin a course of study and examination in Mass Media and Communication. The Council agreed to do so. The first batch of pupils shall have the option to choose this subject from the next academic session. The first batch of students for the ICSE shall write the examination in this subject in 2020. All arrangements for the conduct of the course are being made in the College and a recording studio-cum-radio room has been set up.

LEGAL MATTERS AND LA MARTINIERE ESTATE

The College studiously follows up with all legal matters and issues related to La Martiniere Estate:

1. Land Documents

All land documents related to possession of the land of La Martiniere Estate ('*Khasras*' and '*Khataunis*') have been obtained through due process from the Record Room of the Lucknow Collector's Office. The College is grateful for the assistance of Mr Raj Shekhar, former District Magistrate of Lucknow, in this regard. In addition, the College Bursar and Estate staff have ensured meticulous maintenance of these records for posterity. Following the procurement of these documents, it shall now be possible to follow up on cases pending for over three decades related to compensation for land acquired along the right bank of the Ghazi-ud-din-Haider Canal for construction of the *Lohia Path*.

2. Lucknow Golf Club

Despite attempts to resolve the impasse with the authorities of the Lucknow Golf Club, the matter is pending. Status quo had been ordered by the Courts, which had been violated. Consequently, a case for contempt of Court was filed. Continued litigation is the unfortunate outcome of this matter.

3. River Water Front

Due to encroachment of land for the River Water-Front project, the College moved the High Court. The Court intervened in the matter and ordered demarcation of La Martiniere estate, which is yet to be carried out.

4. Reaffirmation of College Minority Status

The Hon. Supreme Court of India had ruled in favour of the College in a matter related to the right of the College to deny admission to a pupil of Class 11, following the ICSE examination. The Court observed that La Martiniere College is “an unaided, minority, private institution”.

5. Establishment of a Complaint Mechanism against Sexual Harassment

Following the guidelines set in the Vishaka Case related to sexual harassment in the workplace, the College has set in place a mechanism to prevent or deter the commission of acts of sexual harassment. This also provides the procedures for the resolution, settlement or prosecution of acts of sexual harassment. This has since been put in place and information forwarded to all Staff.

SELECT COLLEGE CALENDAR

Prize Day

Prize Day 2016 was held on Saturday, 23 April, 2016. Mr George Baker, Alumnus, Member of Parliament and thespian was the Chief Guest. Mrs Arpita Baker distributed the prizes. It was a fond homecoming for Mr Baker, who now represents the Anglo-Indian community in the Lok Sabha. The newly instituted awards include The Bhuvnesh Chawla Memorial Trophy for the Best Cadet (Senior Division); The K. L. Mittal Trophy for the Best Debater in Hindi; The Dr Mirza Sogwar Hussain Trophy for Excellence in Science; The Bhukesh Dhawan Memorial Trophy for Journalistic Contribution and The Tej Prakash Khunkhunji Cup for Excellence in Group Activity.

Junior School Investiture

Pupil-authorities for the Junior School were selected for the year and a ceremony to mark this was held in the Junior School on 27 April, 2016. Adit Joshi was appointed as School Captain, while Aden McFarland assisted him as School Vice-Captain. Kushagra Kalsi, Shrey Singh, Leander Gomes and Saksham Khatri were elected Captains of the Houses – Cornwallis, Hodson, Lyon, Martin, respectively. They have the privilege of serving a second term as they are promoted to Class 5 which shall once again be accommodated in the Junior Campus.

PEGASUS - 2016

PEGASUS, an Annual event conducted by the pupils of the Middle School was held on 5 May, 2016. The variety of competitions provide the pupils of the Middle School with the opportunity to organize and co-ordinate events with minimum directions. La Martiniere College was declared the Winners, while Army Public School, Nehru Road was the Runners Up.

Evening Bazaar

The Evening Bazaar was held on 7 May, 2016 at *Fairydale*. The particularly cool evening was a pleasant event, used to raise funds for the Conservation of Constantia. Proceeds from the mini-raffle and the profit from the stalls totalled a net profit of Rs 10,45,864/-.

Summer Camps & Excursions

Summer Camps have become a popular part of the College calendar, with children and their parents joining in for morning fun and exercise. Camps in different disciplines were conducted for one month, which were supervised by Staff for a minimum of three days each, along with qualified coaches.

Pupils of the Middle and Senior School went on an excursion from 17 to 22 May, 2016 to Nainital and surrounding areas. Besides being a holiday, it was also an opportunity for Day Scholars to stay together, away from home.

NCC Camps

Air Wing cadets of the NCC attended the Combined Annual Training Camp at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya, Lucknow from 10 May, 2016 to 19 May, 2016. The cadets were declared Runners Up in the Drill Competition and the Line Area Competition.

A part of the College premises was used for the Combined Annual training Camp of organized by 67 UP Battalion, NCC from 17 June, 2016 to 26 June, 2016. 376 Cadets from 16 different schools participated. The cadets who visited the College were well-disciplined and looked after the property.

2nd Maj. Gen Claude Martin Football Tournament

The 2nd Maj. Gen. Claude Martin Football Tournament was organized by the District Football Association for schools in Lucknow district. This continued from 17 July to 12 August, 2016. It was interesting to watch two tournaments, with different sets of teams being played together. This was because of the multiple Football fields that the College is able to maintain. La Martiniere College won the championship with City Montessori School, Aliganj being declared the Runners Up.

Bastille Day

Bastille Day was commemorated on 14 July, 2017 with a special Assembly. The boys recited the *Lord's Prayer* in French. The Assembly was conducted bilingually and concluded with the singing of the National Anthems of France and India.

TECHTRIA – 2016

The Annual Inter-School event for Information Technology was held on 30 July, 2016. 12 Schools participated in these competitions. La Martiniere College was declared the Overall Champion.

Martin Memorial Inter-Martiniere Debate

The Martin Memorial Debate was held on Monday, 1 August, 2016. The motion proposed was “College admissions have become too competitive and have no place for the average student, thus defeating their purpose of educating the masses”. The College team opposed the motion and were declared winners, with Shikhar Tripathi being judged the Best Speaker.

3rd Claude Martin Debates & Boulone-Lise Quiz

The 3rd Claude Martin Debates and Boulone-Lise Quiz was held from 4 to 6 August, 2016. 10 select schools participated in these competitions. The College was happy to welcome three national teams. The series of debates culminated in the Finals between Vasant Valley School, New Delhi and La Martiniere Girls' College, Lucknow, where the former were declared the Winners. St Francis' College, Lucknow once again outshone all other schools to win the Quiz with St Agnes' Loreto Day School being declared the Runners Up.

3rd Martin Cup Football Tournament

The 3rd Martin Cup Invitational Football Tournament was held from 9 August to 9 September, 2017. The series of matches culminated in the Finals, where Sacred Heart School defeated La Martiniere College to be declared Champions and Runners Up respectively.

Independence Day Celebrations

On the 15 August, 2016, a special Assembly was held in the Junior School campus. At the traditional parade Lt Col (Retd) Anil Srivastava, alumnus and former Registrar of the IIT, Roorkee unfurled the National Flag.

Later that evening, the annual Entertainment Programme in Hindi was held. The play *Uski Maa* was well appreciated. Neelesh Ghosh was awarded the Prize for Histrionics in Hindi. Songs and dances added to the celebration with special effort by the pupils of the Preparatory Department.

Inter-Martiniere Meet

The Inter-Martiniere Meet was held in Lucknow in August from 21 to 25 August, 2016. The contingent was warmly welcomed to the College. The Kolkata pupils had the opportunity of visiting the home of the Founder. Lucknow won the Football match by 5:1, which delighted the home crowd. It is hoped that the friendships established during this time shall long continue.

SPIC-MACAY PROGRAMMES

Pandit Bhajan Sopori performed on the santoor for the resident scholars in the Spence Hall on 26 August, 2016. The scintillating performance received a grand ovation.

Career Orientation Programmes

In an on-going project hosted by old Martinians to expose the current generation to career options, an informal session with Mr Sanjeev Bikhchandani, Founder - Naukri.com was held at East Terrace on 27 August, 2016.

Teachers' Day

Teachers' Day on 5 September was commemorated with respect. Special Assemblies were held in both campuses, followed by entertainment provided by the boys.

Founder's Day Celebrations

The celebrations associated with Founder's Day began with the Staff playing a football match against the College Pupil Authorities. The boys won 2:1. The Kurt Mitson Memorial Past vs Present Football Match was played on 11 September. Despite the huge turnout of old boys, the Present won the match 3:1. Mrs B. Mitson was at the match to present the trophy.

The 171st Founder's Commemoration Service was addressed by Rev. Fr Vincnet D'Souza, Procurator of the Catholic Diocese of Lucknow.

Later that morning, the Inter-House and Individual Swimming Championships concluded with Nilansh Gupta, Adnan Ahmad and Anvay Misra being declared the Senior, Junior and Colt Champions respectively. Water Polo, and other fun related aquatic events added to the merriment of the swimming Gala.

The Founder's Day entertainment programme in English was made special by the presentation of the musical *Oliver!* Ably executed by the Staff controlling many departments for the production, this team-effort was well-coordinated. Jonathan Sahae and Anay Parth Verma were jointly awarded the Metro-Goldwyn Award for Histrionics.

The Founder's Feast was held on the Principal's lawn where, according to tradition, a silent toast was raised in memory of the Founder.

Vishwakarma Puja

The College Workers celebrated Vishwakarma Puja in the campus with prayers and a community meal on 17 September, 2016. The rituals were conducted in the Activity Hall followed by a community meal.

Rugby

Rugby as a sport in the College was re-introduced after 50 years. The game now has a stricter code for safety, making it possible for junior boys to play the game as a non-contact sport. The infrastructure as well as coaching was taken care of by a group of alumni from the Rugby team of the past. This included Mr Salauddin Ahmed, Col (Retd) Rajinder Singh, Lt Col (Retd) Anil Srivastava among others who provided the expensive equipment and went out of their way to arrange for an all expenses paid tenure of a coach from New Zealand – Mr Kane Touro to teach the game to the boys along with Mr Sendil Kumar of the Indian Army. Due to the massive interest of these persons, the boys were playing Rugby with fair ability within a month. The College has since appointed a full-time Rugby Coach.

Constantia Day

La Martiniere College celebrated 171 years of the commencement of classes on 1 October, 2016. A special Assembly was held two days later where the College Magazine – *Constantia*, was released.

Gandhi Jayanti

A Service of Peace, on Gandhi *Jayanti* was held in the College Chapel. The prayer service included songs and prayers for peace from different faiths.

Visit of French Ambassador

The College was proud to host His Excellency, Mon. Alexandre Ziegler, Ambassador of France to India on 9 October, 2016. Mon. Alexandre Ziegler was accompanied by a delegation from the Embassy of France. His visit was to personally award the *Medaille d'Honneur du Travail*, a civilian honour by the Government of France for the promotion of French Culture outside France to Mr Ansar-ud-Din, the Chief Conservator of *Constantia* for the outstanding conservation work carried out in *Constantia*. He also inaugurated the Lucknow Chapter of *Alliance Francaise de Lucknow* in the College premises. This shall provide opportunity for the pupils of the College as well as other aspirants to study French language and culture as well as seek opportunities for pursuing higher education in France.

Junior School Excursion

A professional tour operator, accompanied by Teacher Escorts led a group of boys from the Junior School for a diverse experience of history, culture and wildlife in visits to Varanasi, Sarnath and the Chandraprabha Wildlife Sanctuary. This was from 9-11 October, 2016. It gave the young students an opportunity to experience living away from home.

CONSTANTIA - 2016

For the 4th year Constantia-2016, a day long programme of literary events was organized by LEO, the umbrella co-curricular activity organization, on 22 October, 2016. Over 1000 participants drawn from 16 schools took part in the programme. It was possible to conduct multiple events on a single day due to the large number of venues available in the College. La Martiniere College, Lucknow was declared the Champions and Loreto Convent was declared the Runners Up.

Scouts Camp

The Scouts Camp was held at *Fairydale* from 23 – 25 October, 2016. This was attended by Scouts from classes 5 to 9. The boys received training in tracking, tent-pegging and other scouting activities.

Model United Nations (MUN)

The 3rd Model United Nations was held from 4 to 6 November, 2016. The Keynote Address was delivered by Mr Mani Shanker Aiyer, former Diplomat and Member of Parliament. Eight Committees were simulated with moderators drawn from different parts of the country. 450 delegates attended. The Executive Committee with Aditya Jalan as Secretary-General conducted the programme with distinction. La Martiniere for Boys, Kolkata were declared the Overall Winners and Bhawan's Vidyalaya, Panchkula was declared the Runners Up.

Children's Day

Children's Day was marked with festivity in both campuses. Every child received a treat specially prepared by the College Kitchens. Much to the delight of the children, the Principal and some members of staff donned their old College uniform for the day. The Pupil Authorities of the College took over the conduct of the Chapel Service and Assembly in the roles of the College Authorities.

3rd Invitational Athletics Meet

OXARO, one of the co-curricular activity organizations of the College, organized the 3rd Invitational Athletics Meet on 11 November, 2016. Mr Munawwar Anzar, President, Uttar Pradesh Judo Association was the Chief Guest. The College was delighted to receive an assurance of Judo being promoted at La Martiniere College under auspicious of the Federation. Mr Anzar pledged to provide equipment and resources for the College as well. Army Public School, Nehru Road was declared the Champions while La Martiniere College was declared the Runners Up.

Hodson's Run

On 19 November, 2016, *Hodson's Run*, was held in the early morning. The Senior Marathon distance included running through areas of the Cantonment for which the Military Authorities provided free passage and escort. *Hodson's Run* culminated at the tomb of Maj. Hodson. Mohammed Shadman came in 1st in the Senior category, while Azharul Haq Ansari came in 1st among the Juniors.

Sports Day

The 134th Annual Sports Meet was held on 26 November, 2016. The Junior School programme was witnessed by a large number of parents. Mrs Julie Singh, Chairperson, U.P. State Commission for Protection of Child Rights was the Chief Guest. She addressed the parents and children and appreciated their efforts.

The Constantia campus programme commenced with a grand fanfare to welcome the Chief Guest, Mr Noel Peters, alumnus 1964. Mr Peters was returning to the College more than 50 years after he graduated. He was the first recipient of College Colours in Athletics. He presented his College Colours for display in

the College Museum and was especially fortunate to present College Colours in Athletics to Adrian Aitkins, the Athletics Captain. The Physical Training displays were outstanding with the Robotic Drill being declared the best presentation. The March Past of Athletes, accompanied by the College Bagpiper Band was an impressive display. The Equestrian team added to the solemnity of the event.

Boxing

Boxing as a sport was re-introduced into the College after a hiatus of about 40 years. The Batch of 1998 provided the infrastructure including the construction of a Boxing Ring in the College. The members of the 1998 Batch were present at the Inaugural Exhibition event held on 30 November, 2016. Under the supervision of veteran Boxer and Coach, Mr Douglas Shepherd, the rudimentary skills displayed showed great potential. The Principal announced that boxing would contribute to Inter-House challenge and award of points for the current session. The finals for the first House Matches was held on 25 February, 2017 with Martin House winning the overall Championship. Jason D’Nacio was awarded the Desmond Shaw Trophy for the Best Boxer in the Senior Division while Aryan Singh received the Brig. Michigan Trophy for the Most Promising Boxer in the Colt Division.

5th La Martiniere Football Cup

The 5th Invitational Inter-School *La Martiniere Football Cup* tournament was held from 1 – 12 December, 2016. The tournament witnessed an increase in the number of teams. The arrangements made were particularly attractive. This year Shri Ram Swaroop School lifted the trophy with Montfort Intermediate College being declared the Runners Up.

1st Invitational Inter-School Basketball Tournament

The 1st Invitational Inter-School Basketball Tournament culminated on 5 December, 2016. Conducted with the assistance of the District Basketball Association, the matches were played on the College Basketball courts. The entire Senior School was present to watch the Final match between La Martiniere College and Lucknow Public Collegiate, Rajajipuram. The home team won the match convincingly and lifted the newly instituted trophy.

Cock House Celebrations

Hodson House had been declared Cock House in 2016. Due to the large number of boys who contributed to the victory of the house, separate celebrations were held, suitable to the age group. The Junior campus Hodsonites had a celebration at Memorial Park, where outdoor games, dancing, rides and party entertainment were provided. The Middle School pupils spent a day out at the Zoo, where refreshments and lunch were provided to them. The Senior School boys invited the girls of La Martiniere Girls’ College and of Loreto Convent for a social evening. This was followed by dinner on the Principal’s lawn.

This year Martin House has been awarded Cock House and shall receive the Lord Chelmsford Cup.

CASE (Coin and Stamp Exhibition)

Pupils of the Middle School showcased their hobbies with a coin and stamp exhibition in the College Library on 9 December, 2016.

College Gardens

The College Gardens have become the cynosure of all eyes, especially in the winter. With the large number of areas now being maintained, there is a sense of pride and intense competition between the gardeners themselves. Incentives for prizes won at City Flower shows are also keenly contested. At the

Chrysanthemum and Coleus show at the National Botanic Gardens, the College entries won a total of 48 prizes. At the State Annual Flower Show at Raj Bhawan, the College was awarded a total of 78 prizes. Every garden in the College was awarded a prize in its particular category, based on size. Incentives amounting to Rs 52,000/- were distributed during the year.

Annual Christmas/End of Term Programmes

The lights on the many Christmas Trees dotting the campus were switched on, on the night of 30 November, 2016. The trees were illuminated every evening till 06 January, 2017. Programmes were organized in the Junior school with a Christmas pageant and other festivities. The traditional Christmas evening programme was held in Spence Hall on 12 December, 2016. This included *Nine Lessons and Carols* presented, with explanations by the senior pupils and the Chapel Choir. The joint choir of La Martiniere Colleges, Lucknow presented the Christmas Cantata – *Sing We All Noel* under the direction of Mr Vincent Clifford.

The End of Term dinner and Christmas Entertainment was held on 14 December followed by celebrations around the bonfire.

The End of Term Chapel Service was held on 15 December, 2016, where special wishes were extended specially to the pupils of Class 12 at the end of the session. It was an emotional moment for many as the Choir and congregation sang *Auld Lang Syne* and wished each other goodbye.

This year, a life-size crèche was set up depicting the Nativity of Jesus on the lawns of Restoration Park. Christmas carols were played softly throughout the day during the season.

Annual NCC Competitions

The Annual N.C.C. Competitions were held on 15 December, 2016. The Naval Wing won the Hashman Memorial Shield for the Best N.C.C. Troop in the Junior Division. The Naval Wing was further awarded The Boardman Trophy for the Best N.C.C. Wing in the College. Platoon No. 1 made up of cadets of Class 12 was awarded the Intermediate Trophy for the Best N.C.C. Troop in the Senior Division. Cadet Adnan Ansari of the Naval Wing and SUO Utkarsh Singh, were adjudged the Best N.C.C. Cadets in the Junior and Senior Division respectively. The Bhuvnesh Chawla Memorial Trophy for the Best Cadet in the Senior Division was awarded to Utkarsh Singh. Arjun Mittal was adjudged the Best Scout.

College Calendar

The annual College calendar was released on 15 December, 2016. The members of the Photography Club chose a Black & White theme to create an elegant product which is proudly displayed in the home of every Martinian. Proceeds for the sale of the calendar, including advertisements is used for the conservation of *Constantia*.

Reunion of Old Boys

The Annual re-union of Old Martinians of both Colleges in Lucknow was held on 18 December, 2016 in the College. It was encouraging to note the increase in attendance. Past pupils had the opportunity to wonder around Constantia and re-live memories.

On 21 & 22 December, 2016, the Silver Jubilee Batch of 1991 gathered together for two days of continuous celebration. Past pupils came from different parts of the world to be a part of this re-union. The joy was palpable. The generosity of the Batch was expressed by providing the College with an Ambulance, provided with emergency equipment. This shall be a special boom for the large number of Resident Scholars who need this service from time to time.

In February, 2017, the Batch of 1996 came together for a re-union to commemorate twenty years of their passing out from the College. The Batch prepared souvenirs and tokens to commemorate the occasion. Recognizing the need of the College, they presented the College with a double-cylinder Tractor to be used exclusively for the maintenance of the grass on the playfields of the College. With this addition, the College now has three tractors which are in constant use.

Annual Conference of Heads of Anglo-Indian Schools in India

The College was proud to play host to nearly 100 heads of Anglo-Indian Schools from all over the country at their Annual Conference. The various sessions discussed issues related to Anglo-Indian education and its administration. Mr Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Former Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission delivered the keynote address. Arrangements for this three day event were carried out by a dedicated number of staff. The College has received thanks for this.

Birth Anniversary of the Founder

Generally, the Founder's Birth Anniversary is commemorated by a private service in the crypt on 05 January. This year, the Heads of Anglo-Indian Schools were present to lay wreaths on the tomb of the Founder and to receive information on the contribution of Claude Martin to the cause of education. The Founder's generosity and vision was appreciated by all.

Republic Day

The College gathered at East Terrace for the unfurling of the National Flag to commemorate Republic Day. Brig. H.S. Chatwal, Deputy Director General, N.C.C. U.P. Directorate and his wife were the Chief Guests. He exhorted the boys to consider national service while applauding all NCC Cadets for their smart turn-out and drill.

The staff gathered on the steps of East Terrace for the Annual Group Photograph. The images were captured by members of the Photography Club, whose contribution to every programme in the College is commendable. The photography enthusiasts, through the sale of photographs, presented Rs 1 lac towards the Conservation of *Constantia*.

Later that morning, the Archery Range was inaugurated. Constructed on ground re-claimed by the orders of the High Court, the event included national level archers exhibiting skills, while the College Archery enthusiasts aimed at twenty targets setup. The Chief Guest for the event was Olympian Mr Satyadev Prasad, Vice President, Indian Archery Association, who also guided the assembled audience through lessons in archery.

The Past vs Present Cricket match was concurrently held at the *Fairydale* pitch. The Past won the match scoring 135 runs. The Present lost the match by 20 runs. Arun Nainwal of the Present team was declared the Most Promising Player.

On the afternoon of Republic Day, the Boat House was inaugurated by veteran sculler and President of the Uttar Pradesh Rowing Association, Dr I. D. Sharma. Modern double-cox sculls have been provided by Mr Abdullah Khan, alumnus who had them specially transported from Hong Kong. Mr Abdullah Khan and Lt Col (Retd) Anil Srivastava have taken the initiative to provide for the key facilities required for the College Rowing team.

Inter-Martiniere Cricket fixtures

For the first time, pupils up to Class 8 from La Martiniere Kolkata and Lucknow met at *Fairydale* for a limited overs Cricket match. Besides the competition, the boys from Kolkata spent an entire day following

the normal school routine of the Resident Scholars. It was an experiment to bring the boys closer to each other. The combined entertainment and fellowship enhanced this. Lucknow won the match by 10 wickets in 16.3 overs, chasing a target of 71. Lucknow boys Siddhant Rai was declared the Best All-Rounder and Best Bowler while Yajat Deou was declared the Best Batsman.

All play ceased for two minutes at 11:00 a.m. when the entire College rose in silence to remember the Martyrs of the country.

Book Fair

The annual Scholastic Book Fair was held in the College Middle School Library from 2 - 4 February, 2017. All classes visited the exhibition and purchased books at subsidised rates. The College received a large selection of books for the Library as an incentive.

Investiture of Pupil Authorities (2017)

Pupil Authorities for the session 2017-18 were installed on 04 February, 2017. Commencing with a Chapel Service during which prayers for guidance in leadership were recited, the Pupil Authorities of 2016, demitting office, led the procession to East Terrace, where the Principal and Housemasters led the pledge of office for the newly appointed Authorities. Sarthak Kumar was elected as College Captain and Vedansh Tandon as College Vice-Captain. Jason D’Nacio, Zaid Khan, Tarandeep Singh and Devashish Anand were appointed as House Captains of Cornwallis, Hodson, Lyons and Martin House respectively. The former Pupil Authorities then received the good wishes of the school as they personally said Good bye to their friends.

Farewell to Class 12

Following the Rehearsal Examinations for school leaving pupils, a touching Farewell was held on 04 February, 2017. A group photograph of the Batch was followed by a significant Chapel Service which recorded the years in College of the boys. Every teacher who had taught the Batch through the years was present. The pupils of Class 11 provided a Guard of Honour and a Farewell party in Spence Hall was attended by all. Shamron Gabriel was selected as *Mr La Martiniere* following a series of elimination rounds in a Ramp Walk format. Aditya Jalan was declared *Gentleman of the Year*, while Revant Bhalla was selected as *Mr Suave*. Dinner on the Principal’s lawn and a fireworks display brought an end to the evening.

Junior School Art & Craft Exhibition

The Junior School Art and Craft Exhibition was held on 11 February, 2017. The Exhibition showcased the skill of the children with work done exclusively by them. The display of the Preparatory Department was considered outstanding with innovative ideas by the staff to help children use their skills in an attractive manner. The gradual increase in the level of difficulty of the tasks and the skills involved was evident through viewing the items presented by different age groups.

Junior School Sports

The eagerly awaited internal sports competitions in the Junior School were held on 14 February, 2017. The innovative competitions were enjoyed by the boys who enthusiastically cheered for their House or Class. Without the formality associated with a public event, the junior games permit children to compete at their best in the presence of their peers.

Picnics

Every section of the school enjoyed a day out at different venues in and around the city. Local resorts, the Zoo, entertainment clubs and places of historical interests were among the selected venues. The children, accompanied by their teachers, spent a day in an informal setting, creating greater bonding.

The staff spent a day together at Shivgarh Resort on 18 February, 2017. With quality arrangements made at the Resort, it was a day free from care and the concern of College life.

Art Exhibition

With Art as a compulsory subject up to Class 8 and an optional subject for examination thereafter, the Art Department is able to identify and promote the artistic ability of talented pupils. The annual Art Exhibition was held on 22 & 23 February, 2017 in Spence Hall. Renowned Artist and Educator, Dr Bhupesh Little was the Chief Guest. The exhibits were innovative and displayed tremendous talent. Outstanding pieces were immediately purchased at auction. The Art Club thereafter donated Rs 50, 310/- to the College for the conservation of *Constantia*.

INNOGEN – 2017

INNOGEN, the Science exhibition and model display was held on 24 February, 2017 in Spence Hall. The programme is devised to promote innovation. Pupils of the Middle School presented models which were personally built. The boys explained the manner in which their innovative creations could be adapted to different uses. Prizes were awarded for the most innovative ideas.

College Fete

The Annual College Fete was held on 25 February, 2017 at *Fairydale*. This was delayed by over two months due to the problems related to demonetization. The pleasant afternoon was enjoyed chiefly by the younger children present at the enclosure reserved for rides, which were set up in abundance. La Martiniere Alumni donated gifts to be raffled. The net proceeds from the Raffle and Stalls was Rs 24,35,805/-.

Interaction with Parents

Throughout the year there was opportunity for parents to meet with the Principal and Staff of the College. Orientation sessions for different classes, focussing on the special needs of children of that age were presented.

Scaling the *Lat*

A befitting culmination to the events of the year was the spectacular ascent to the summit of the Memorial Column to Maj. Gen. Claude Martin, or the *Lat*. With preparations conducted exclusively by the College Bursar, Mr Adrian Michael, the scaffolding and all safety equipment were in place by 22 March, 2017. Led by Mr Michael, a team of Martinian enthusiasts climbed to the top to help uncover any secrets that had remained hidden for more than two centuries. The damage to the monument due to time requires urgent repair, which has commenced. The *Lat* continues to fascinate all observers.

Conservation work in *Constantia* and the buildings of Claude Martin is an ongoing process, with new areas being restored and put to use immediately.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

The imparting and receiving of education at La Martiniere is not restricted to academics alone. In fact, it is often maintained that more time is spent in co-curricular activity than in the processing of knowledge. This observation is open to challenge. Nevertheless, the co-curricular activity of the College is a vibrant and

complete experience, providing opportunity to every child to examine, test, learn and excel in the particular areas of interests that a boy might have. This is a constant and ongoing process. Often, there are multiple events being conducted with different sets of boys of different age groups and interests on the same day. This is often a logistics challenge, which is effectively dealt with by Mrs Sheba Siddiqui, the Coordinator of Co-curricular Activities in the College. She is assisted by enthusiastic groups of boys who undertake the responsibility of organization with great interest and efficiency. It is impossible to record the voluminous activities conducted in the course of the year. From among the best representatives of the boys, teams are sent for various events to venues in different parts of the country, where on most occasions the boys return having been felicitated for excellence. The experience gained is far in excess of what traditional classroom teaching can add to a boy's confidence. A summary of achievements is provided in **Appendix-I**.

SPORTS

For the record, it is necessary to put down the number of sporting activities that are conducted on a regular basis at La Martiniere College with different degrees of excellence. These are: Aeronautics, Archery, Athletics, Basketball, Badminton, Boxing, Cricket, Equestrian Sports, Football, Frisbee, Hockey, Judo, Lawn Tennis, Muah Thai, Rowing, Rugby, Shooting, Skating, Swimming, Table-Tennis, Taekwondo, Volleyball, Yoga.

With over twenty sports activities played daily, there is a regular time-table that is co-ordinated in tandem with the academic programme. This is supervised by the Games' Secretary, Mr Alfred Gomes. The achievements of the boys in sports beyond the precincts of the College are summarized in **Appendix-II**.

The Scoreboard at the conclusion of the session reads as follows.

Overall Champions in Cricket	Hodson House
Overall Champions in Hockey	Hodson House
Overall Champions in Swimming	Martin House
Overall Champions in Football	Martin House
Overall Champions in Basketball	Hodson House
Overall Champions in Boxing	Martin House
Overall Champions in Athletics	Martin House
Overall Champions in English Debating	Cornwallis House
Overall Champions in Quizzing	Hodson House
Overall Achievement in Academics	Lyons House

Adrian Aitkins was declared the Best Sportsman for the year.

The most coveted award of the College, i.e. Cock House for the year 2016 – 2017 was awarded to Martin House. The Lord Chelmsford Cup is presented for this.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are extended to the Trustees of the Lucknow Martin Charities and the members of the Local Committee of Governors, La Martiniere College.

Mrs Aashrita Dass has extended all cooperation on behalf of La Martiniere Girls' College. She is warmly welcomed as Principal of the Girls' College and assured all cooperation.

Special thanks are extended to the alumni of the College for their material gifts, advice and assistance.

Thanks are extended to the Staff of La Martiniere College, Lucknow for their dedication and commitment to the areas of work which are defined for them. Invariably, most members of Staff go much beyond the call of duty. Special thanks are extended to the domestic Staff for whom their special care of the Resident Scholars is gratefully recorded.

The boys of La Martiniere provide each person working here the impetus to put in their best. The natural gratitude, goodwill and affection that is received from the boys makes the job that is done far worthier than a professional responsibility. It is a great privilege to have these boys in our care.

Vive La Martiniere!

Blowing in the Wind

Bob Dylan (1963)

The song is considered a protest song, which poses a series of rhetorical questions about peace, war and freedom. The refrain “The answer, my friend, is blowin’ in the wind” is ambiguous: either the answer is so obvious, it is right in your face; or the answer is as intangible as the wind.

How many roads must a man walk down
Before you call him a man?
How many seas must a white dove sail
Before she sleeps in the sand?
Yes, and how many times must the cannon balls fly
Before they’re forever banned?

The answer, my friend, is blowin’ in the wind
The answer is blowin’ in the wind.

Yes, and how many years can a mountain exist
Before it’s washed to the sea?
Yes, and how many years can some people exist
Before they’re allowed to be free?
Yes, and how many times can a man turn his head
And pretend that he just doesn’t see?

The answer, my friend, is blowin’ in the wind
The answer is blowin’ in the wind.

Yes, and how many times must a man look up
Before he can see the sky?
Yes, and how many ears must one man have
Before he can hear people cry?
Yes, and how many deaths will it take ’til he knows
That too many people have died?

The answer, my friend, is blowin’ in the wind
The answer is blowin’ in the wind.

Music & Words: Bob Dylan
(Winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, 2016)