

THE HINDU

Thursday, September 24, 2009

It fuels the passion of excellence

JIRS strikes a balance between sports and curriculum

Transforming potentialities into reality" greets a signboard at the entrance of the Jain International Residential School (JIRS) on Kanakapura Road. Spread over 300 acres of land, the school has ultra-modern buildings and world-class facilities.

"JIRS visualises an enhanced consciousness programme in every child, experiencing how special that unique spark really makes him and helps him retain that quality when the pressure is on to follow the pack," says Wg. Cdr. Ganesh Sharma, chief executive officer of the school.

The school offers CBSE and Cambridge international curricula "enriched with best practices around the world," he says. The class size is small to ensure adequate personal attention at all learning levels. About 85 per cent of JIRS facilitators hold advanced degrees and the school of-



FESTIVAL SPIRIT: Children taking part in a cultural programme to mark Sri Krishna Janmashtami at Jain International Residential School.

fers over 160 co-curricular and community service activities.

The school resource centre has over one lakh books and media items to fuel the passion of excellence

among its learners. "At a time, when these budding minds are confronted with a vast often bewildering array of choices, we equip students with values and provide opportunities to de-

velop sound judgment while preparing them for the changing demands of life in the 21st Century. The academic programme is designed to foster students' independence and responsibility and to encourage creativity, cooperation, and compassion," says Wg. Cdr. Sharma.

JIRS imparts professional sports training to all its students from grades IV to XII under the guidance of qualified and experienced coaches and trainers.

Monthly cross country competitions and regular trekking expeditions on Sundays and holidays keep the children motivated. Besides, swimming is compulsory and karate and chess are part of the sports curriculum.

Wg. Cdr. Sharma says the school reflects the vision of its chairman R. Chandra Jain, who perceived an institution that constantly strove to codify a more powerful packaged all-round development in a child.

"At JIRS, we strive to groom our students, hone their skills and provide platform to excel with unbelievable ease," Wg. Cdr. Sharma adds.

SUDHINDR A.B.

Neighbourhood Tabloid

Sport is a way of life at JIRS

The school has many who excel in several areas

This "mermaid" aspires to represent India in cricket. Ishani Pandya, a student of Jain International Residential School (JIRS), is an ace swimmer yet her eyes are set on cricket.

She has represented Kenya at various swimming events and won many medals. Two years ago she joined JIRS and has brought laurels to the institution in sports.

Her forte is backstroke and freestyle and she has clocked 32.99 seconds, a record in freestyle swimming at inter-school meets. The lanky 11th grader feels she is a good cricketer. "I am confident of excelling in any sports I take up. I know it is easy to get to the top but very difficult to stay there," she says.

Ishani says she wants to consistently win medals for her school in swimming and cricket by staying focused. "I put in four hours of practice everyday. Two hours in the pool and two hours for cricket," she says. JIRS has many students who excel in multi disciplines. Nishith Kedia, a 12th grader, is cricketer and a 10-pin bowling champion too, while Dev Lodhia, a 11th grader, is footballer and basketball player.



Ishani Pandya

"Sport is a way of life here and we encourage students to take part in many disciplines. We spot a student's talent and counsel him or her at a later stage. The student is better informed to know in which sport he is good at," says Mathapati, chief coach at the school. "Our aim is to produce talents who can match with world standards," he adds.

S. A.B.