

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2015 – 2016
(Released on Prize Day, Saturday, 23 April, 2016 in the presence of the Chief Guest,
Mr George Baker,
Alumnus (Lyons House) and Member of Parliament

It is my privilege to present the 169th annual report of La Martiniere College, for the session 2015 – 2016.

The Academic Session began on 10 April, 2015 and concluded on 31 March, 2016.

TRUSTEES AND GOVERNORS

Mr Alok Ranjan, Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh and alumnus of the College, continues to serve as the senior Trustee. Mr Aniruddha Singh, Legal Remembrancer and Principal Secretary (Judicial) Government of U. P. was succeeded by Mr Abdul Shahid 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:

The Senior Judge, Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court and Chairman, Mr (Justice) Dinesh Maheshwari was elevated to the post of Chief Justice of the Meghalaya High Court, succeeded by Mr (Justice) Amreshwar Pratap Sahi. While thanking the previous Chairman, we welcome Mr (Justice) Sahi to direct the Local Committee of Governors.

Mr Peter Fanthome, MLA and Mr (Justice) Alok Kumar Singh, (Retd) were re-nominated to serve on the Local Committee of Governors for another term.

Other Members of the Committee include Maj. Gen. R. S. Malave, G-O-C, Lucknow Sub-Area, Mr Mahesh Kumar Gupta, Commissioner, Lucknow Division and Mr Raj Shekhar, District Magistrate.

Thanks are extended to both Trustees and each member of the Local Committee of Governors.

BEREAVEMENT

The College faced an unprecedented tragedy on the morning of the commencement of the session when Rahul Sridhar, a pupil of Class 8, just promoted to Class 9, climbed to an upper floor of Constantia and jumped to his death on 10 April, 2015. Discovered moments later, he was rushed to hospital, where he succumbed to the injuries sustained. His death left the College community shocked. Police investigation confirmed the act of suicide. This is being further monitored by the Court. An Assembly of pupils to break this shocking news, followed by a prayer service that included all the boys of his class, helped to bring solace. A news conference later in the day presented the facts to the public through the media. Throughout the year, there have been references to the boy and occasions for further prayers to be offered for the repose of his soul.

On 12 February, 2016, the College was stunned to learn of the passing away of Mrs Farida Abraham, the Lady Principal of La Martiniere Girls' College. She passed away following a massive heart attack, shortly after having completed a morning session of work. Staff of the College, in large numbers, paid their respects and assisted in the funeral ceremonies. The boys of the College shouldered the coffin in a fitting tribute to a respected member of the Martiniere family.

Mr Jagdish Prasad, Library Assistant, passed away suddenly following a massive heart attack on 28 February, 2016. Cheerful and dependable, he is greatly missed and deeply mourned.

Mrs Kusum, a member of the sanitation staff, passed away following a painful struggle with cancer on 21 March, 2016. Her death was announced to the College on 22 March, 2016 – the last day of classes for the academic year. Ironically, the year began and ended with deaths of members of the Martiniere Community.

Mr Nawab Ali, a member of the fatigue squad, passed away on 24 March, 2016. This was following a long and painful struggle with oral cancer. Being one of the strongest among the porters, his suffering was enhanced due to his former strength. He was buried in his native village in Pratapgarh District.

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.

STAFF

COLLEGE STAFF

Retirement

Mr George Fredrick Gomes, permanently associated with Dormitory 3, as Superintendent, retired on 30 November, 2015. Generations of Resident Scholars have been taken care of by him. The tributes at his retirement were touching and genuine.

Appointments

The following appointments were made during the year:

Regular Appointments

1. Mr Darryl Bennett
2. Dr Amit Kr Mukherjee
3. Mr Wyeth Mitson
4. Mrs Ritu Sharma
5. Mr Amit J.N. Saxena
6. Mrs Diya Badgel
7. Mr Rohin John
8. Mr Joshua Howard
9. Mr Saleem Khan
10. Mr Mohit Bhagat
11. Mr Abhinav Tripathi
12. Mrs Sandra Martin
13. Mr George Gregory Martin
14. Mr Amar Nath
15. Mr Vikash Tomar
16. Mr Hari Singh
17. Mr Anurag Rastogi
18. Mr Kailash Dubey
19. Mr Stanley Simon
20. Mr Prosenjit Mandal
21. Mr Raju Tripathi
22. Mr Mohit Osmond
23. Dr Agam Mishra
24. Mr Wayne Godin
25. Mr Milan Mathews
26. Mr A.O. Bosman

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

Temporary Appointments

For minimum disruption to studies in the College, there has been need throughout the year to invite teachers in a temporary capacity to tide over absence due to ill health and other contingencies. The College gratefully acknowledges the contribution of the following persons who assisted during the year in temporary capacities:

Mrs M. Khan
Mrs N. Madhyan
Mr Sessa Kumar Nanda
Ms Anumeha Nigam
Mr Manoj Pathak
Mr John Rodricks
Mr Ram Sumer Yadav

Resignation

During the year, Mrs Ritu Vasishth resigned, relocating to New Delhi.

Mr Saurabh Dutt, Mr Mohit Jude Bhagat, Mr Rohin John and Mr William Balman resigned for personal reasons.

Mrs Sarah J. Mitchell and Mr Parag Wesley resigned on 31 March, 2016. Both these persons have chosen to follow a religious vocation. While thanking them for dedicated service, they are also wished all blessings as they continue in their chosen ministry.

Extension of Service

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

Awards for Long and Meritorious Service

This year marks the completion of 25 years of dedicated service to the College by Mrs Kishwar Raza and Mr S. I. Kidwai. While thanking both these persons for their contribution to the College, the College shall be recommending to the Local Committee of Governors, two advance increments to their monthly salary. They shall also receive a purse of Rs 25,000/- each as a token of esteem.

This year also marks the completion of 20 years of dedicated service to the College by Mr D. B. Tripathi, Mr Neeraj Srivastava, Mr Mohd. Aslam, Mrs Sandra Godin, Mr A. Seymour, Mr Raj Kumar Singh, Mr Jatin Kapoor and Mrs P. Cowasji

Among the College ancillary Staff, Mr Israr Ahmed, Mr Prem, Mr Sant Ram, Mr Harish Singh and Mr Trigut Narain have completed 25 years of service. While thanking each of these persons for their hard work, the College shall be recommending to the Local Committee of Governors, two advance increments to their monthly salary. They shall also receive a purse of Rs 10,000/- each as a token of esteem.

This year also marks the completion of 20 years of hard work in the College by Mr Mohd Zaki, Mr Ram Kumar, Mr Rajab Ali and Mr Mohd Naim. Each of these members of Staff shall be presented awards for long and meritorious service at Prize Day, 2016. Their contribution to La Martiniere is deeply respected.

New Arrivals

The Martiniere family was happy to welcome Abraham Phillips, the newborn son of Mr Allan Philips and his wife Ankita on 9 June, 2015.

On 8 July, 2015 Rishab was born to Mrs Reema Dhingra and her Amit.

Mr D. K. Srivastava and his wife Shikha were blessed with a baby girl on 1 August, 2015.

Vikhyat Raghav, was born to Dr Amit Awasthi and his wife Kirti on 18 December, 2015.

Each of these infants are welcomed into the Martiniere family.

ACADEMIC

ENROLMENT

As on 31 March, 2016 there were 4277 pupils on the roll of the College. This includes, 447 boys in the Preparatory Department. The day-scholar strength was marked at 3326. There were 359 Resident Scholars of whom there were 35 Foundationers. Children of Staff of both Lucknow La Martiniere Colleges totalled 110.

SCHOOL LEAVING EXAMINATIONS

Indian School Certificate (ISC) Year 12

In March 2015, 218 candidates were registered for the ISC (Year 12) Examination conducted by the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations. 217 candidates wrote the examination and 214 were awarded Pass Certificates.

Yasharth Shekhar of the Humanites stream stood First in overall order of merit, securing an aggregate of 99.50% in the four best subjects. He has also been awarded the Mr Justice Jagdish Sahai Memorial Medal for the pupil with the highest marks in both La Martiniere institutions in Lucknow.

Raza Abbas Mehdi placed First in the Science stream, with an aggregate of 99.25%

Suhard Srivastava achieved the First position in the Commerce stream with an aggregate of 99.00%

Perfect scores of 100 marks each was achieved by Yasharth Shekhar in Political Science, Mathematics and History and replicated by Raza Abbas Mehdi in Physics, Biology and Biotechnology.

Prateek Singh Bisht scored 100 marks in Biology and Biotechnology. Similarly other students who obtained perfect scores in individual subjects include: Mathematics – Rohan Garg, Anant Rastogi, Ishan Singhal, Pulkrit Bajpai, Pushkar Tandon, Shashank Agarwal and Saarthak Sharma; Political Science – Hanumant Singh; Bio-Technology – Anant Rastogi, Siddhant Pandey and Siddhant S J B Rana; Computer Science – A Aruvansh Nigam, Shubhankar Gupta and Rajat Gupta.

Indian Certificate of Secondary Education (ICSE) Year 10

For the ICSE examination conducted by the Council for the India School Certificate Examinations in March 2015. 263 candidates were registered of which 262 wrote the examination and 260 candidates were awarded Pass Certificates.

Yaza Ali Rizvi and Navodit Chandra stood First in overall order of merit, securing an aggregate of 97.8% in the five best subjects. Yaza Ali Rizvi has the honour of carrying the College Flag to lead the Academic Procession on Prize Day.

Rohan Gupta stood Second with an aggregate of 97.2%, while Jibreel Zubair was placed Third with 97%.

HEALTH & CATERING

Apart from seasonal illnesses, coughs, colds, cuts and bruises, the health of the students, particularly that of the resident-scholars was good. The hospital has an additional ward to cater to the increase in Resident Scholars. A special isolation ward has also been set up in case of need.

We are grateful to the visiting physician, Dr Mukesh Handa, and to the Hospital Matron, Mrs Shiny Oommen and Mr K. C. Dwivedi, the nursing orderly for supervising the health of the boys. Mrs Oommen takes particular care of the resident scholars and also advises on community health issues related to the ancillary Staff quartered on the estate.

The College is deeply grateful for the excellent service provided by the kitchen and dining hall staff, ably supervised by Mr Trevor Medley, Steward and Mr Collin Aitkins, Housekeeper. Senior boys Akhilesh Upadhaya and Utkarsh Pandey who served on the Food Committee provided a daily appraisal of meals and participated in the planning of menus along with members of Staff including Mrs Anupama Srivastava and Mrs A.M. Gomes.

EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The College is now affiliated to the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) and the first examination for the same was held in piano, vocal music, recorder and violin. A seminar on *Performance and Assessment* was also conducted for Staff parents and students regarding the requirements for these examinations.

Archery, as a sport was introduced with the College appointing a regular Archery Coach. The Old Boys of the College provided the basic equipment required for the sport at a great cost. Kabaddi has similarly been introduced to encourage more indigenous games.

SELECT COLLEGE CALENDAR

Earthquakes of 2015

On April 25, 2015 a devastating earthquake rocked North India. Prize Day was to be held that evening. The programme was cancelled and the dormitories were evacuated. Resident Scholars were sent home as the District Administration closed schools. As a precaution against further incidents, a mock drill was conducted on 1 May, when schools reopened. It was heartening to observe that the entire school, under supervision took 3 minutes to be evacuated.

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 30 April, 2015. Evan Mulcahy was appointed as School Captain, while Herchelle Lawrence assisted him as School Vice-Captain. Dev Chabbra, Hitesh Tiwari, Utkarsh Chabbra and Marib Irfan Beg were elected Captains of the Houses – Cornwallis, Hodson, Lyon, Martin, respectively.

Evening Bazaar

The Evening Bazaar was held on 2 May, 2015 at *Fairydale*. Following the tragic loss of a pupil in the College and the earthquake that followed, it helped alleviate some of the gloom that had descended upon the College. Proceeds from a raffle and the profit from the stalls were contributed towards the conservation of *Constantia*. The combined net contribution from the Evening Bazaar was Rs 10,08,883/-.

Prize Day

The Annual Prize Day was postponed by two weeks due to the earthquake that rocked North India. It was subsequently held on Saturday, 8 May, 2015. The Honourable Ram Naik, Governor of Uttar Pradesh and

Visitor to the College was the Chief Guest. He made an instant connect with the boys, offering words of wisdom in his inimitable style. Lyons House was awarded the Cock House Cup

Summer Camps

Camps for 17 different disciplines, which included swimming, football, cricket, basketball, badminton, gymnastics, personality development, dancing, taekwondo, writing and theatre were held in the months of May and June. The Staff contributed a minimum of three days each for the conduct of these Camps, assisting trained coaches or qualified Staff.

1st Maj. Gen Claude Martin Football Tournament

Through the summer, the 1st Maj. General Football Tournament was held with the final match being held on 8 June. The Winners were the Police Boys' Football Club while State United Football Club was Runners Up

PEGASUS - 2015

A day-long event called Pegasus was organized exclusively by the boys on 11 July, 2016. This included Exotech, a Robotics and Science Model Making event and Compuwiz.

Bastille Day

With the introduction of French as a part of the curriculum, the boys of the Class commemorated Bastille Day on 17 July 2015. Shaun Morrison and Saksham Tiwari made a bilingual presentation at Assembly with confidence.

2nd Claude Martin Debates & Boulone-Lise Quiz

The 2nd Claude Martin Debates and Boulone-Lise Quiz was held from 24 – 26 July, 2015. Nine teams, including five from beyond Lucknow participated. The Debate Championship was won by the Rashtriya Indian Military College, Dehradun while the Quiz was won by St. Francis' College, Lucknow.

Death of Dr A P J Abdul Kalam

Former President of India Dr APJ Abdul Kalam died on 27 July, 2016. Classes were suspended and the College flag was lowered to half-mast. A special Assembly to condole his passing away was also held.

Techtria – 2015

Techtria – 2015, an interschool event in Information Technology was held on 2 August, 2015. 16 schools participated in unique formats for competition. The Information Quiz was won by La Martiniere College, while the keenly contested gaming event, based on FIFA 15 was won by St Francis' College, which defeated the hosts 6-4. The Championship was won by the College.

Martin Memorial Inter- Martiniere Debate

The Lucknow Inter-Martiniere Debate for the Martin Memorial Trophy was held at La Martiniere Girls' College on 3 August, 2015. The topic for the debate was 'With Technology, Newspapers have Become a Thing of the Past' The Motion was proposed by the boys. The Motion was defeated. Tabinda Jafar was adjudged the Best Speaker.

3rd Martin Cup Football Tournament

The 3rd Martin Cup Football Tournament extended over the month of August. It culminated on 4 September with Sacred Heart School being declared the Champions and D.A.V. College placing second.

Independence Day Celebrations

On the 15 August, 2015, a special Assembly was held in the Junior School campus. In the Preparatory Department an Art Competition was held. The classrooms boards were decorated with the art work of the boys.

The traditional parade this year included a contingent of the new Rovers Crew. Dr Alok Dhawan, Alumnus and Director of the Indian Institute for Toxicology Research unfurled the national flag, delivered an inspiring message and reminisced about his days in the College.

Later that evening, the annual Entertainment Programme in Hindi included the play *Chief ki Dawat*, while songs and dances added to the celebration. The Preparatory Department performed to the song *It Happens Only in India*.

Inter-Martiniere Meet

The Inter-Martiniere Meet was held in Kolkata. The contingent was warmly welcomed by the boys of Kolkata. The Kolkata teams won the fixtures. The boys returned having made many friends.

Ceremony of Dedication of War Heroes

On 3 September, 2016 the College commemorated the valour of its alumni who served in the wars in Independent India. The day was chosen to mark 50 years of the shooting down of an enemy sabre fighter jet by Wing Commander Trevor Keelor. The dedication programme honoured (Late) Wing Commander Eric Pushong, (Late) Wing Commander Trevor Keelor, Flight Lieutenant Alfred Tyrone Cooke, Air Marshal Denzil Keelor, Air Vice Marshal Harbans Perminder Singh and IN Commodore Arvind Singh.

The grand event was graced by the Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha. Presentations of mementos accompanied by citations added to the solemnity. Each of the recipients addressed the boys. A Memorial Tablet was unveiled by Mrs Patricia Keelor followed by the dedication of the shell of a Gnat fighter jet in the newly established Memorial Park.

Later that evening, a Chapel Service was held to pray for the alumni felicitated. The veterans then proceeded to formally dedicate the new Fourth Dormitory in the College.

The city paid tribute to the alumni at a concert of music attended by the Chief Minister and his wife. The combined bands of the Air Force and the Army presented a special selection of music. This was followed by a '*Concert of Strings*' – a presentation by the Vienna University Orchestra, directed by Mr Vijay Upadhaya, alumnus.

La Martiniere Alumni hosted a dinner for all guests on the Principal's lawn.

Teachers' Day

Teachers' Day on 5 September was commemorated with respect. Special Assemblies were held in both campuses.

Founder's Day Celebrations

The celebrations associated with Founder's Day began with the Past vs Present Football match played on Polo Ground on 12 September, 2015. A large turnout of former pupils, dressed in special football kit, added to the excitement of the event. The Present won the match by 5-1. The Match has now been named in memory of Kurt Mitson, an outstanding footballer of the Past who was tragically killed in a road accident.

The Founder's Commemoration Service was addressed by Rev. Fr. Donald D'Souza, Chancellor of the Catholic Diocese of Lucknow. The moving service of prayers and music was a befitting tribute to the Founder.

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.

In the evening the Founder's Day Variety Entertainment programme in English was held. The main presentation was an Operetta *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*. Due to efficiency and interest of the Staff, the large choir and cast was perfectly coordinated. Jonathan Sahae was awarded the Metro Goldwyn Award for histrionics.

In accordance with the Founder's Will, the Founder's Feast was held on the Principal's lawn where, as per 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, 2015, the rituals were conducted in the College workshops followed by a community meal.

Constantia Day

La Martiniere College celebrated 170 years of the commencement of classes on 1 October, 2015. Ms Rana Safvi, an eminent blogger and historian addressed the boys at Assembly regarding the significance of conservation.

The annual College magazine *Constantia* was released on this day.

Gandhi Jayanti

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

SPIC-MACAY Programmes

SPIC-MACAY, organized a series of Lecture-Demonstrations and Recitals from 5 to 14 October, 2015. Famous danseuse Ms Rani Khanam of the Lucknow Gharana explained the nuances of dance during her interaction with the boys. Mr Gaurav Mazumdar the famous Sitar Artiste performed and interacted with the boys. Mr Partho Sarathy the well-known Sarod player of the Hindustani Raagdari style gave a spirited performance while Ms Saskia Rao de Hass introduced the original Indian Cello.

1st A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Lecture

To perpetuate the memory of former President, Dr A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, the first eponymous lecture and Group Discussion was held on 7 October, 2015 to coincide with his birth anniversary. This shall be held annually. The topic for deliberation was *Dr APJ Abdul Kalam: Today's Vision; Tomorrow's Reality*. The panellists included Mr Srijan Pal Singh, associate and co-author of three books with President Kalam; Prof. Abhishek Mishra, Minister of State for Science and Technology; Ms Madhvi Kukreja – A women's rights activist; and Mr Akash Banerjee, Alumnus and Media personality. The boys sat in perfect silence as the speakers deliberated. They also made meaningful interjections

2nd Anglo-Indian Football Tournament

The 2nd Anglo-Indian Football Tournament for such schools in the State was held from 15 – 17 October, 2015. St Francis' College won the Championship and La Martiniere College was the Runner Up.

Constantia - 2015

Now in its third year, Constantia – 2015, organized by the LEO Group of the College, was held on 17 October, 2015. The College welcomed more than 1000 participants from 18 schools to participate in a host

of events. The day-long programme, excellently executed by the boys culminated in La Martiniere College being declared the overall Champions with Loreto Convent as the Runners Up.

2nd Invitational Athletics Meet

The 2nd Invitational Athletics Meet was held on 31 October, 2015. A total of ten teams from different schools participated in the event conducted by the boys of OXARO. Mr Syed Ali, a former member of the Indian Hockey team at the Montreal Olympic Games was the Chief Guest. Army Public School, Nehru Road was declared the Champions while La Martiniere College was declared the Runners Up.

Children's Day

Children's Day in both campuses was marked by the Staff preparing special entertainment for the boys. The Staff Band performed for the boys along with dances and singing performances. A special treat prepared by the College kitchens was shared by all. For the boys of Class 12, it was a nostalgic moment as they autographed each others uniform as it was the last day that they would be wearing khaki, as students.

Hodson's Run

On 21 November, 2015, *Hodson's Run*, following the traditional marathon distances was won by Adrian Aitkins in the Senior category and Azarul Haq Ansari from among the Juniors.

Model United Nations (MUN)

The 2nd Model United Nations was held from 6 - 8 November, 2015. Organized exclusively by the boys, the programme was conducted with professionalism and efficiency. The event was inaugurated by Professor Douglas Gough, Professor Emeritus of Theoretical Astrophysics, University of Cambridge. Prominent Guest Speakers at the different sessions included Mr Ali Khan Mehmoodabad, Ambassador Deepak Bhojwani and Mr Saeed Naqvi. The different Committees, convened in suitable venues, deliberated in a mature manner, each evening culminating in entertainment that included a rock show.

Sports Day

The 133rd Annual Sports Meet was held on 28 November, 2015. The Junior School programme held in the morning was a pleasant display of competition, skill and coordination. Retiring Dormitory Superintendent Mr G. F. Gomes and his wife were Chief Guests.

The Constantia Campus programme in the afternoon was graced by Mr Rajendra Khanna, Alumnus and Director, Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) as the Chief Guest. The event was marked with ceremony. Athletics events were followed by the P. T. Displays. The Gymnastics team was applauded and the College marching Band presented a special performance. The smart turn out of athletes during the March Past was followed by the distribution of trophies and beating retreat. Hodson House was awarded the Central Command Trophy for Athletics. Martin House was judged the best squad in turnout and marching. Adrian Aitkins, Sarthak Kumar and Ankit Kumar were declared the Senior, Junior and Colt Champions respectively.

Adrian Aitkins was also declared the Best Sportsman of the year.

4th La Martiniere Football Cup

The Fourth Invitational Inter-School *La Martiniere Football Cup* tournament was held from 1 – 10 December, 2015. The League-cum-Knockout pattern is followed for this tournament. Surprisingly, La Martiniere A, B and F teams won the top three positions.

Cock House Celebrations

Lyons House was declared Cock House in 2015. Celebrations for all boys of Lyons House were held on different days. The Junior School pupils enjoyed a treat and outing with carnival swings, the Middle School

boys spent a day at the zoo, while the Senior School pupils invited the girls from La Martiniere Girls' College and Loreto Convent for an evening of entertainment and dancing in Spence Hall, followed by dinner on the Principal's lawn on 3 December, 2015.

This year, Hodson House has the honour of Cock House and shall receive the Lord Chelmsford Cup for this.

College Fete

The Annual College Fete was held on 5 December, 2015 at *Fairydale*. Prizes for a Bumper Raffle were presented by La Martiniere Alumni. The proceeds from the College fete including the Bumper Raffle provided a net contribution of Rs 28,30,736/-, which was donated towards the conservation of *Constantia*.

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.

Annual Christmas/End of Term Programmes

Christmas Programmes were organized in the Junior School Campus on 8 December, 2015, for the pupils of the Junior School campus. This included the traditional retelling of the Christmas story in a pageant, the dance of the Christmas trees and other items, accompanied by popular Christmas carols.

At the Christmas Programme organised on 12 December, 2015, the Chapel Choir presented the traditional *Nine Lessons and Carols* with appropriate music to accompany this. The joy of Christmas was presented through a dance performance related to the symbols of Christmas. The College choir presented *Come and Adore Him* a cantata based on popular carols. With professional recorded accompaniment, the boys sang in four-part harmony, trained by the Music Department of the College.

The end of term dinner with the Staff and resident scholars was held on 14 December, 2015. A laser show choreographed by the boys and different items related to Christmas were presented. The evening was used as an opportunity to thank the catering Staff for their service throughout the year. The celebrations continued around the bonfire on Sykes Hall lawn after dinner.

The traditional end of term Chapel Service was held on 15 December, 2015. The chapel was decorated by the Staff of the Preparatory Department, along with a tradition crèche in a niche in the Chapel. *Auld Lang Syne*, was sung at the conclusion of the service.

Annual NCC Competitions

The Annual N.C.C. Competitions were held on 15 December, 2015. 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. 2 made up of cadets of Class 11 was awarded the Intermediate Trophy for the Best N.C.C. Troop in the Senior Division. Cdt Sarthak Kumar of the Naval Wing and SUO Utkarsh Singh, were adjudged the Best N.C.C. Cadets in the Junior and Senior Division respectively. The newly instituted Bhuvnesh Chawla Memorial Trophy for the Best Cadet in the Senior Division was awarded to Utkarsh Singh. Aatmesh Bajpai was adjudged the Best Scout.

Reunions of Old Boys

Old boys of the College meet from time to time. On the last Sunday of every month, large numbers of boys visit the College for the informal *Sunday-Bunday* reunion at the College Canteen, often planning trips from outstation to coincide with this.

The Annual General Meeting of the LMA elected a new set of Office Bearers, of which Mr Jaideep Mathur was elected President.

A reunion of all Old Martinians of the Delhi Chapter was held on 21 November, 2015 at the CISF Mess in New Delhi. The joint reunion of former students of both Colleges in Lucknow was held on 18 December on the lawns of Kursheed Manzil. The batches of 1990 and 1995 celebrated 25 years and 20 years of reunion in the College. They erected tablets in the College to mark their presence, on 20 December, 2015. There were also sizable contributions presented by them for the development of the College. The Batch of 1974 returned to College on 28 December, 2015 to relive memories.

College Calendar

The annual College calendar, with images captured by the boys was released at a cost for all pupils and well-wishers of the College. The proceeds from the sale of the calendar were remitted for the restoration of *Constantia*.

Republic Day

Republic Day was marked by a parade where Chief Guest, Mr Ranjan Dwivedi, Alumnus and Director General of Uttar Pradesh Police, unfurled the National Flag. Addressing the boys Mr Dwivedi was reminded that he had been a cadet at four such parades when he was in the College.

Past vs Present Cricket Matches

The Past vs Present Cricket Match was played at *Fairydale* on 12 December, 2015. The match ended in a draw with 140 runs each. Mohd Lizan of the Present team was declared the Best Batsman while Hamza Razi of the Past team was declared *Man of the Match*. On 31 January, 2016, another match was played in which the Present won, scoring 130 runs. Path Nayyar was declared *Man of the Match*. Siddharth Rai of Class 6 B was identified as the *Most Promising Player*.

Art & Craft Exhibition

The Junior School Art and Craft Exhibition was organised on 6 February, 2015. Each class prepared items according to the level of ability and skill appropriate to the age. No items were duplicated. The skills included crushing, pasting, mashing, stitching, binding, painting, among others. Decoration, suitable to the item crafted was presented. Every item, without exception was constructed in the classroom itself.

Farewell to Class 12 & Investiture of Pupil Authorities (2016)

The investiture ceremony for the pupil authorities was held on the morning of 5 February, 2016. A Chapel Service, where those demitting office were present with those to be appointed, was held, during which prayers were said for both teams of boys. In a solemn ceremony, the oaths of office were administered in the presence of the entire Middle and Senior School.

Adrian Aitkins was elected to the post of College Captain, while Utkarsh Singh was appointed College Vice Captain. Eric Ellis, Sunal Chandra Gupta, Shemron Peter Gabriel and Anmol Gupta were appointed House Captains of Cornwallis, Hodson, Lyons and Martin House, respectively.

Later that evening, the pupils of Class 11 organised a Farewell Function. This included a group photograph on the steps leading to East Terrace, followed by a Farewell Chapel Service. At the celebration that followed, Raghav Kohli was adjudged *Mr La Martiniere* and was voted *Mr Popular* and *Gentleman of the Year*. The First Runner Up for the Mr La Martiniere title was Mohammad Kamran and the Second Runner Up was Udhav Arora. Abeer Rajpal was adjudged *Mr Suave*. A brilliant fireworks display and a tug-of-war brought an end to the evening.

INNOGEN – 2016

INNOGEN, the Science exhibition and model display was held on 11 February, 2016 in Spence Hall to promote innovative thinking in young minds. This was exclusively for the Middle School. The models were constructed from rudimentary materials and the event was organized by the students themselves.

Junior School Sports

In the Junior School, Sports competitions were held on 12 February, 2016 on Polo Ground. These competitions are eagerly awaited and fiercely contested in the Junior School.

Vintage Car Rally

The Annual Vintage Car Rally organized by INTACH culminated at East Terrace on 14 February, 2016. La Martiniere College was a most suitable backdrop for the showcasing of these models.

Class Picnics

In the first fortnight of February, every class in the Junior and Middle School enjoyed a picnic on separate days at *Lake View Forest*. With catering by the College kitchens ensured good food, the public utilities available at the site made it comfortable, convenient and safe for all. Music and trampolines provided additional entertainment. The Senior School pupils visited Shivgarh Resorts for a day out.

Art Exhibition

The annual Art Exhibition was held at the Teacher Centre on 18 and 19 February, 2016. The Senior and Middle School boys exhibited their creations and went further to auction their paintings to the highest bidder. More than Rs 50,000/- was presented by the sale for the conservation of *Constantia*.

Memorial Service for Mrs Farida Abraham

On 12 March, 2016, a Memorial Service was held in the College Chapel to mark one month of the sad passing away of Mrs Farida Abraham, Lady Principal of La Martiniere Girls' College. It was attended by the Staff of both Colleges, friends and representatives from among the pupils of both Colleges. Dr Amrita Dass, Founder-Director ICS International and a personal friend, delivered a eulogy.

College Gardens

Throughout the year, the College gardens have been well-maintained by the horticulture team. At the Chrysanthemum and Coleus show, the College won 21 prizes, including the *Queen of the Show*. At the State Annual Flower Show at Raj Bhawan, along with 18 prizes, Constantia Garden and the Junior School Garden were each declared the best garden in the city in the particular category based on size. Second Prizes were awarded for the Cemetery Garden and the Bachelors' Mess Garden.

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.

Camps

Camping grounds are now established at Lake View Forest. The two Scouts Camps were held there with all equipment provided by the College. The cadets enrolled with the NCC attended state sponsored camps in and around Lucknow. Despite the limited facilities available there, the boys conducted themselves with dignity and were awarded for their contribution.

Classroom Competitions

The Molly Daniell Trophy for the Best Classroom in the Preparatory Department was awarded to Nursery E. The Class Teacher of which is Mrs Mohsina Mirza.

The Molly Daniell Trophy for the Best Classroom in the Junior School was awarded to Class 4A. The Class Teacher of which is Mrs Uzma Khan.

In *Constantia* campus, Class 9B of which the Class Teacher is Dr Amit Awasthi, was judged as the Best Classroom.

Excursions and Educational Trips

In April 2015, a group of students toured Punjab, halting at Amritsar and visiting the Wagah international border. Another group toured Goa at the same time. In October, 2015 Junior School boys visited places of historical interest in Rajasthan.

Within the city, different groups of boys have visited centres for social service such as establishments for the visually challenged and the Cheshire Homes for the elderly. Academic interest has been generated by visits to Banks for project work, history walks, art and photography exhibitions.

CELEBRATION OF FESTIVALS

Throughout the year, festivals and holidays are celebrated with traditional gaiety, especially in the Boarding House. Every holiday is preceded by a brief talk at Assembly regarding the significance of the observance.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

The vast co-curricular programme of the College was co-ordinated by Mrs Rachna Tandon and Mrs Sheba Siddiqui. Thursday mornings are eagerly awaited for the number of events that the clubs organize for this. This forms an integral part of the boys' education. Their ability is invariably rewarded when they are felicitated for their ability in contests and programmes around the country.

The overall record of special achievement in co-curricular activities in which pupils of the College participated in events in the city and around the country is summarized in **Appendix I**

SPORTS

The College was represented at a number of fixtures outside the College where the boys proved their ability. While all gentlemen Staff supervise different games, the entire programme is coordinated by Mr Alfred Gomes, Games' Secretary. The achievements of the boys in sports activities is summarized in **Appendix II**

Within the College, inter-House competitions and activities were keenly contested. The Scoreboard at the conclusion of the session reads as follows.

Overall Champions in Cricket	Martin House
Overall Champions in Hockey	Hodson House
Overall Champions in Swimming	Cornwallis House
Overall Champions in Football	Martin House
Overall Champions in Basketball	Hodson House
Overall Champions in Athletics	Hodson House
Overall Champions in English Debating	Lyons 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 2015 – 2016 was awarded to Hodson. The Lord Chelmsford Cup is presented for this.

DEVELOPMENT

Conservation work on the estate continues with the restoration of the interiors of many parts of the monument *Constantia*. The ceilings and formal rooms are being restored and put to use immediately. More recently a warren of air-passages, sealed for over a century, has been located and cleaned, adding life to the building. A great honour was shared by the College when in March, 2016, the French Government, through its Ambassador to India announced the award of a national honour for the conservator of *Constantia*, Mr Ansar-ud-Din for the conservation of French heritage outside France. The Ambassador shall visit Lucknow to confer this honour.

The boundaries of the College have now been marked and ancient documents and maps collated for legal purposes. The produce of the land is now making a marked difference in supplies to the College kitchens, with food-grains, oil, poultry, milk, meat, fish, honey and fodder being supplied.

The Teacher Centre has been expanded to a full residential Hall named in honour of Mr James Stobart a respected former Principal who served the College from 1859 – 1879.

Dormitory 4 is now for the exclusive use of the most junior Resident Scholars. It is a self contained unit with facilities to accommodate 150 boys.

Gifts of horses have added numbers to the stables. There are now 12 horses for the boys to ride, with the addition of the first foal being born in the stables, significantly named *First Born*.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are extended to the Trustees of the Lucknow Martin Charities and the members of the Local Committee of Governors, La Martiniere College for their guidance in all issues related to La Martiniere.

The cooperation of (Late) Mrs Farida Abraham, Principal of La Martiniere Girls' College, in all matters that concerned the Colleges jointly, is recorded with sincerity and gratitude.

Special thanks are extended to the alumni of the College. Their material gifts, advice and assistance in the many areas of College life in which they now have expert knowledge is a store of goodwill which the College uses from time to time. Significantly, many prefer to function in complete anonymity, giving back to the College to the extent that they feel they have received. Their discretion in this matter is respected.

Individual contributors towards the development and progress of La Martiniere College and the estate have increased to the extent that it is now neither possible nor discreet to publically record. Nevertheless, the thanks of the College is personally forwarded to each contributor at the appropriate time.

I am especially grateful to the team of Staff that runs 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. Often areas of work overlap. They carry out every task with autonomy, accountability and efficiency.

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!