

Expressions of Gratitude

(Letters received in Feb 2019)

My Second Home: Vidya Devi Jindal School

Uninterrupted giggles, excited chatter, gossipy exchanges, swarms of teenage girls, fun, freedom and feisty-ness, are the hallmarks of hostel life. I may probably sound biased when I say that every girl should experience hostel life at least once in her lifetime. After all, I am a product of this life at this place – which transforms a shy girl into a confident woman, ready to face the real world.

It is said that 'what doesn't kill you only makes you stronger'. Nowhere is this more evident than a hostel, where all your primal survival skills go through the crucible of real life, and you surprise yourself by discovering those aspects of your personality that you never knew existed. It may seem a bit hyperbolic but it is here that one learns to cope against all odds and emerge a survivor.

Living in a hostel is to leave behind the fussy, picky, spoilt brat that you were at home. Because this is a place where Darwin's law- the survival of the fittest, truly applies. Never mind if you have never stepped out of your comfort zone before, never mind if you have led a sheltered, protected life until now, never mind if you had an army of maids at home, who even made your bed; because it's time to let go of all that and learn to adapt quickly!

Being thrown in with hundreds of teenaged girls from various backgrounds, with different notions and varied temperaments, but all working with the same goal is an eye-opener. You realise that there are people in this world other than yourself, who have grown up differently, think differently, and live differently. You learn to accept, tolerate, ignore all that which used to be unacceptable to you before and take it all in your stride patiently.

Living without your family which cares and protects you is the toughest part of hostel living. Fending for yourself becomes the number one priority. In a very subtle way, you acquire the armour to protect your self. Invisible spikes grow on your persona, ready to attack if anyone threatens your existence. It's true; the hostel life instils in you a toughness to combat any situation that you come across, strength to get you through hard times, and a steely determination to survive against odds.

Living in a hostel surprises you each passing day. You get to know yourself way better discovering how much fun you can be, how tough you are when pushed to the corner, how angry you can get, how fierce you can be when the situation demands it, and just how competitive you can be when it comes to your GOALS and LIFE!!

And this is all that I have imbibed from the VDJS environs, and I am grateful to the entire VDJS fraternity for making these four years of my stay here as the best years of my life.

Navisha Chhaparia, Batch 2019

Dear Principal ma'am

How are you? I know it's not a long time since we left but I thought to thank you for always helping us, and guess what we just heard from CBSE about our results and our families are super happy. I hope our batch has set some very hard goals for our juniors and I'm sure after seeing our results you must be very proud of us!

We really miss the School and would love to visit it again and again. I just wanted to share one good news with you to double up your happiness. I got a mail from the School of Visual Arts, New York. They have increased my scholarship to 55 lakhs so thought to share this with you because you are the one, who not only administrated us but also allowed us to be a part of such a happy family and this will always remain with us forever.

Thank you for everything Ma'am!

By the way I got 87% in Boards and it's all because of you.

Heartiest congratulations to you again!



True Jindalite
Aansha Tandon
Batch of 2019
