In life being challenged is inevitable. But being defeated is OPTIONAL.

"Motto of Class V G."

I think, the journey of class Vth G over the session 2012-13 embodies the above. We were the classic 'Underdogs' or 'Davids' who, through sheer determination, persistence and very strong self-belief, triumphed over 'Goliaths' in many forms and ended up near the top!

Shriya Rathi and Kritika Gill set the ball rolling when they were chosen as members of the Junior Wing students' council after facing a rigorous round of interview by an esteemed panel. The avalanche gained momentum when Khushi Singh, Deepanshu Sharma and Deva Gupta let loose their creativity and won prizes in the class V Collage Making Competition. Raghav Aggarwal displayed his mastery as a craftsman by getting the third prize in the Microframe Making Competition to honour Mother's Day. Devanshi's calligraphy skills put her amongst the top ten students in English Handwriting Competition.

As someone famously quoted—

"Your life is a stage and you are the poet. So, pour your heart out, let them listen and be heard. Let the real you shine!"

Deepanshu Sharma did just that. His serene countenance and flexible body gained him the coveted First position in the Yoga competition. His achievement did not stop at the school level. He brought laurels to his alma mater when he rose to glorious heights and achieved the first position at district level, going on to represent his home district in the Haryana state level Yoga competition in November. The rest of the class was not far behind. Deva, Abhishek Kumar and Aditya chowdary were part of the winning Boys' hockey team of Vashishth house. Reema Kumar, Devanshi, Pallavi and Prema propelled the Tagore house girls' hockey team to the victory stand. The Kabir house cricket team struck Gold with Nishant Bamel, Raghav Aggarwal and Kush Asija as its valuable members. In inter class skating competition, Utkarsha Jindal and Tannmay Kumar made the class proud by winning the second and third positions in their respective groups.

"Put your heart, mind and soul into even the smallest acts, this is the secret of success."

After proving their dominance in the sports arena, class Vth G took the bull by the horns in the Inter class spell Bee Competition. The winning combination of Devanshi, Kritika Gill, Utkarsha Jindal, Tanish Goyal, Amarya Banerjee and Kush Asija surpassed all expectations and predictions by achieving the second position. They gave a tough fight to the winning team and lost the first place by just ½ mark! As a class teacher, I thought I couldn't be more proud of them. They proved me wrong!

"Veni Vidi Vici"—Julius Caesar (I came, I saw, I conquered) [English translation]. I would translate it as—"They came, they saw, they conquered!"

Truer words were never spoken during the Annual Sports meet. Be it the individual or team events, to everyone's envy, admiration and finally resigned acceptance, class Vth G brought in an impressive haul of medals in both the Girls and Boys category. In 100 mts sprint, Prema and Akash Tyagi bagged the Gold medals while Utkarsh and Abhishek got the silver medals in their respective groups. In 200 mtrs (Girls) sprint, Devanshi ran like the wind to win the Gold. She proved her dominance on the track by winning the Gold medal in 400 mtrs (Girls) race too. Reema Kumar won the Bronze in Basketball throw. In 4x50 mtrs Relay race, the girls' team of Devanshi, Utkarsha, Prema and Khushi Singh again, literally flew on the track winning the silver medal in a photo finish. Her fabulous performance on the track led to Devanshi being declared the "Best Girl Athlete" of class V – truly, a formidable combination of cerebral and physical working in perfect tandem.

As I look back over the whole session, besides the above mentioned big achievements, there have been countless small moments everyday where each member of the class has fought to overcome shortcomings whether on academic, co-curricular or personal front and emerged stronger and better than before. They have squabbled and fought, but also worked diligently and cooperatively, to form a cohesive unit with firm foundations. They have won everyone's praise and admiration through the depth of their belief and the strength of their conviction which ultimately determine and mould the power of ones' personality.

The session, now in its final phase, leaves me with mixed feelings as the class gets ready to move on to the next stage of their life. The need to hold each hand for a smooth crossover constantly conflicts with the necessity to let them try their fledgling wings and be more independent in their endeavours ahead. But it's time to let them go with prayers and wishes for their future. The following lines from a poem best describe this juncture—

I hear the rustling of their wings
As my butterflies take flight
My heart is filled with
Pride and celebration.
But celebration time is short
For while memories of sad good byes
Hang heavy on my heart
I turn my tear filled eyes
To see more cautious caterpillars
Outside my door
Thank you and God Bless!

- Seema Goel
(Class Teacher V-G)