

## 'CULTURAL EXCHANGE'

After a super long eager wait, the beginning of the exchange programme finally arrived! In the month of October, about 10 students from class 11 had hosted students from Cyber Gymnasiet, Stockholm. This exchange was a knowledgeable and fun experience. Their stay with us was short but sweet. In that 1 week, we exchanged a large amount of opinions and thoughts and learned a lot more about each other's cultures. During their stay in Pune, we did various activities together that brought us closer, and became more comfortable with each other. We did things that commonly interested us. We went to many places of historical interest and various other popular structures of Pune. We showed them around the streets of Pune and ate various kinds of local food, including food from different parts of India. They attended various classes in the school and eagerly told us what they did after they were home. They even connected with our families very well! It felt really nice to exchange so much information about each other's countries with the other. We talked about all sorts of things: differences in our respective cultures, school life, upbringing, what is acceptable and what is not, clothing, food, careers etc. We would never go out of topics to talk on! We also told them a lot of stories of religion, which interested them the most. Other than that, we used to swim, go for long walks and meet different people. It was amazing to have made a new friend from a different country and culture. It broadened my perspective, changed my opinions about certain things and taught me to adjust and be open. I cannot wait to go to Stockholm and make more friends, for I know I will only learn more and connect better.



