

Sweden Exchange Program

The upper secondary students from the Cyber Gymnasiet, an Upper Secondary School, Stockholm, had visited the Orchid School from Nov 4th to Nov 12th as part of the on-going collaboration between The Orchid School, Pune and Cyber Gymnasiet, Sweden. The team comprised of 9 students pursuing education in various streams of specialization like Social Science, Technical Science and humanities and 2 teachers, Ms Annelie Rohlin, their Vice Principal and Mr Homar Kadir, their Principal.

They stayed with the host families of our 9th and 11th class students and teachers. In their two weeks of stay, they actively participated in the school assembly sessions, career camp sessions and science sessions apart from the classroom observations. With the objective of establishing a culture connect; they went on a Pune heritage walk in which they got a chance to visit a few old monuments in the city. They also visited museums like Aga Khan Palace and Tribal Museum. The CyberGymnasiet students were taken to the Kharavde village, with an intention to get an overview of the rural life apart from the city life in India. A walk through the village was encompassed with a quick meet with the village Sarpanch and a visit to the local school and temple.

In Pune, apart from the school, the individual host families gave them various insights to our rich culture and heritage and took them to different places which provided a holistic approach to understanding Indian lifestyle.

Further, adding to their pursuit of experiencing India, they travelled by train to Mumbai. In Mumbai, they went to Colaba, which is a diverse and dynamic area of the city, filled with bustling markets, colourful art galleries and historic monuments. Visit to Dharavi, the slum which is split up between the industrial part and the residential part was also part of the learning. Dharavi is by far, the most productive slum in the world, with the annual turnover of business valued at \$1 billion USD per year. The slum produces goods that are exported all around India and the world. Their trip culminated in Mumbai where they visited a couple of other places like the Hanging Garden, Gandhi museum, Jain temple and the Banganga tank.

As the second part of the exchange program, the Orchid School students will be visiting the Cyber Gymnasiet School, Stockholm, Sweden in April-May 2017.

[Click here to view pictures of their visit to 'The Orchid School'.](#)