

Toppers 2016

ICSE

Medha Gangopadhyay



Medha Gangopadhyay busy with Class XI studies. (Mayukh Sengupta)

Aggregate: 98.6%. Ranked second in Bengal.

School: St Joan's School

Age: Will turn 17 on Saturday.

Stays in: Karunamoyee, A 7/3

Family: Parents, grandmother, younger brother. My brother studies in Class VIII in the same school and is confident of beating me in math in his Board exam.

Marksheet: Computer science 100, mathematics 99, English 99, history-civics-geography, science 97, Bengali 97

Preparation: I studied for seven-eight hours. In our school, we start the Class X syllabus mid-way through Class IX, so we have ample time to revise. I had tutors in physics, chemistry and math. My father is a scientist at Bose Institute and my mother teaches botany at a Baranagar college. They helped me a lot. The teachers in our school are also very sincere, right from our principal.

Moment of reckoning: I have topped in school all along from Class I and had expected around 95-96%. This was beyond my dreams. My dida was so tense that she came over from her BL Block home to see the results with us. But at 3pm, the net started hanging and it was my aunt from Cleveland who called and gave us the news. She had woken up at 5.30am US time to check my results. There was no celebration as the next day we had a class test. Yes, our classes have already started.

Future plans: I want to become a doctor or do research. I am studying bioscience. I prefer biology over computer science. And it keeps the option of taking the medical entrance tests open. I am so glad this scrapping of WBJEE at the last moment did not happen to us. At least we would have two years to prepare.

Hobbies/ interests: My biggest passion in Bharatanatyam. I attend a dance school near City Centre. I am learning how to play the sitar for 12 years now. I also attend drawing classes. I was once a student of Rekha Chitram too but I have continued with Rita Sinha, a dida from next door who has been coaching me since I was two and half.

Ansika Kundu



Ansika Kundu looks out from the verandah of her IA Block house facing the stadium. (Mayukh Sengupta)

Aggregate: 98%

School: St. Joan's School

Stays in: IA 262

Age: 16 years

Marksheet (Best five): Computer science 100, mathematics 99, science 98, history-civics-geography 97, English 96

Preparation: The regular tests helped in school. Even during the study leave, I never studied more than six-seven hours. I had tutors for English and physics. I appeared for some preparatory tests at a coaching institute to get an idea of where I stood. The school exams are too tough to compare with the Board exams. My favourite subject is math. I hate geography and history. National movements are so boring. The Mughal age was better but that period is not in our Class X syllabus.

Future plans: I am studying science in the same school with computer science as sixth subject. I want to study astro physics. My initial plan was aeronautical engineering but my spectacles got in the way.

Hobbies/ interests: I have a lot of interest in space. I like areas where there is a lot left to know. I used to watch National Geographic Channel which fuelled this interest. I also love ghost stories and films as anything can happen in them. Romances are slow. The only spooky film that scared me a bit was The Exorcist. I am on Whatsapp, not Facebook. Even for Whatsapp, I take internet data packs only during vacations. Social media is a distraction. Music is a part of my life. Currently I am loving some songs in Azhar and Airlift.

Sudeshna Banerjee

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