
Celebrating the Birth of the Wizard of Hockey

Pune, Maharashtra | August 29th, 2020



On August 29th, 2020, S.B. Patil School celebrated National Sports Day. The event is celebrated to commemorate the birthday of Major Dhyan Chand. Born in 1905, Major Dhyan Chand was a field hockey player who is widely considered as the greatest in the field in the history of the sport.

Known as *Hockey ka Jaadoogar*, or *The Wizard or Magician of Hockey*, he was known for his phenomenal goal-scoring feats, outstanding ball control, and earned three Olympic gold medals in 1928, 1932 and 1936, at a time when India dominated field hockey.



In 1956, Major Dhyan Chand was awarded the Padma Bhushan, India's third highest civilian honour. In trivia, it is also said [Adolf Hitler](#) was so awestruck with his skill as a player that he offered Major Chand German citizenship and the position of Colonel in the German Army which, of course, he refused.



As part of the celebration, an inauguration ceremony was held for which all the school staff heads including the principal, Dr. Bindu Saini; pre-primary coordinator, Ms. Shubhangi Kulkarni; secondary sub-coordinator, Ms. Nirupama Kale; the office superintendent, Mr. Nilesh; and the sports teachers: Mr. Dhanaji Patil, Mr. Chandrakant Thombre, Mr. Shrikant Deshpande, Mr. Sandeep Ghadge and Ms.

Sunita Vasudev attended and paid homage and respect to this national hero.

An online quiz was also organised by the class teachers aided by Ms. Richa Arora, the technical support; and Ms. Swaleha Mujawar, CCA in-charge for the students of grades V to X. A total of 783 students participated in the quiz that tested their knowledge of the occasion.