



SNOW MY GOSH

Spring session 1+2, 2017





EDITORIAL

AMAZING is the first word that comes to my mind, when I look back to last two weeks at Les Elfes camp in Verbier and Zermatt. And its because of all of you guys - Session 1+2 campers, Jamnabai school and HFS students! Thank you!

You have mastered your skiing in two of the most famous and beautiful ski resorts in Switzerland, participated in different clubs like mountain biking, photography, leadership and others, made new friendships and **HAD FUN** every day!

Snowstorm, rain or pain have never stopped you and that is quality you all should be very proud of!

Special thanks to very talented journalism club students who have designed and written this magazine to capture some of the amazing memories and experiences made.

EXPLORE, EXPERIENCE AND ENJOY!!!

IEVA

Your Typical Day at Les Elfes

- 7:30- Wake up. No need for an alarm because the instructors will wake you.
- 8:00- The most important meal of the day-breakfast. If you are not a breakfast person then good luck.
- 8:20- Go back to your room and wear your warm ski jacket and rush right back down. Don't forget to get your helmet, goggles and gloves. You are now ready like a pro skier.
- 8:30- Leave camp for the amazing slopes.
- 9:00-30 Depending in Zermatt or Verbier - You reach the fun slopes and put on your skis. You ski and have a ton of fun. You make amazing turns or sometimes speed down a slope. You learn to jump and use ski lift and more and more!!!
- 12:00- Its time for some delicious lunch. Eat well you'll need the energy. Also drink loads of water.
- 1:00 - Down the slopes yet again. Whooooo!
- 3:45-4:00 - Back to the camp
- 4:30- Shower (Please do or else you'll stink), There are some snacks and amazing hot chocolate too. But best of all yo get back your phone. Yayay!
- 5:30- You do your fun afternoon activities - journalism, leadership or mountain biking and more
- 7:00- Some delicious dinner
- 8:00- Fun evening activities giving from torchlight walk to clubs and prize giving on the last night

" WAKE UP WITH DETERMINATION AND GO TO BED WITH SATISFACTION"



The Japanese Celebrity

Tensho is a Japanese boy who doesn't even live in Japan. He studies in a boarding school in Switzerland, Geneva - College Du Lemman. His main motive to come to Les Elfes was not to ski, surprisingly, but to improve his English!

Why did you come to Les Elfes to learn English?

Because I cant go back to Japan to learn English.

What was your best experience in Switzerland?

I really liked the slopes and skiing. I loved speeding up and turning on the steep slopes.

How did others approach you while you were in Les Elfes?

All the individuals made friends with me, which made me feel very happy.

What are the difference between here and Japan?

Japan is very hot but here its nice and cold. I love the snow here and the natural beauty but in Japan it's very crowded. I dont like the food in Switzerland, I miss my sushis and ramen.

How did you come across Les Elfes?

My mums friend told me about it and I came.

What was experience in Les Elfes and would you come here again?

I really loved it here and made a lot of new friends. I felt really happy coming here but i probably would not come back here because I want to go back home to Japan so I wont have much time.



The Loyal Camper

Pritika has been coming to Les Elfes to ski for five years straight. The first time she came she was only 11 years old but had some ski skills in her pocket already!

What was your first experience of skiing in Switzerland?

It wasn't that great the first day because I was put in a group where no one knew how to ski and I had already learnt how to in Kashmir.

What do you like most about Les Elfes?

I got to say, definitely the hospitality of the people. Everyone here is really sweet and helpful.

Do you prefer Zermatt or Verbier? Why?

Zermatt! I like Zermatt more because you don't have to carry your skis all the way up to the slopes every single day and you don't have to walk so much and you can directly start skiing instead of climbing many stairs. Other than skiing, Zermatt is generally a pretty town and it's not CONFUSING! It also has nice little shops.

Who is your favorite instructor? Why?

Adam is my favourite instructor out of them all, he taught me during the first two years I came to Switzerland.

What did you enjoy doing the most in Les Elfes, other than skiing?

Bridge swinging! I love the feeling of the wind blowing against my face and I've already done it five times.

What is something you would like to change in camp?

I think the food could be much better....



Many more photos in
Les Elfes Facebook pages...





Stories Keep the Mind Fresh

TOOTHLESS

Tanishk is now deathly afraid of ice skating. On Monday the 24th, the group had gone ice skating. The first timer had a bit of trouble. While trying to skate, he had a small fall. You would have thought that he would have bruised his face but no, somehow he broke his middle tooth in half! He didn't even notice until one of his friends pointed it out to him. Its safe to say that he was a bit shocked. The next day he got it filled in. That was no use though. While he was eating lunch after a day of skiing he swallowed his tooth!!!

THE FLYING EAGLE

The first thing we learned on the slopes was to never go straight, but to always turn across the slope, but Krrish Gupta obviously didn't listen to his instructor. Mr.Gupta went down the steepest part of the slope with his feet parallel at nearly 100km/h but he didn't fall!!! Even better he showed us some cool freestyle moves - backwards skiing halfway down and 360 turn to stop!

OLAF `S NOSE

One day small group of skiers were anxious to make a snowman. So Anannya Shah summoned the courage to waltz inside a mountain cafe and ask the chef for a spare carrot! The chef gave it to her alright, but he had a bizarre condition. He asked another child from the group, Krrish Gupta to become his waiter for the minute and serve a cup of coffee to one of his customers. Krrish gladly accepted and didn't drop a single drop, he even asked the customer if he wanted something else. Unfortunately he didn't get a tip..... though he did get a nose for a snowman!



Switzerland VS India



POPULATION IN **INDIA** IS MUCH MORE THAN **SWITZERLAND**

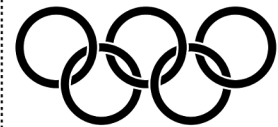
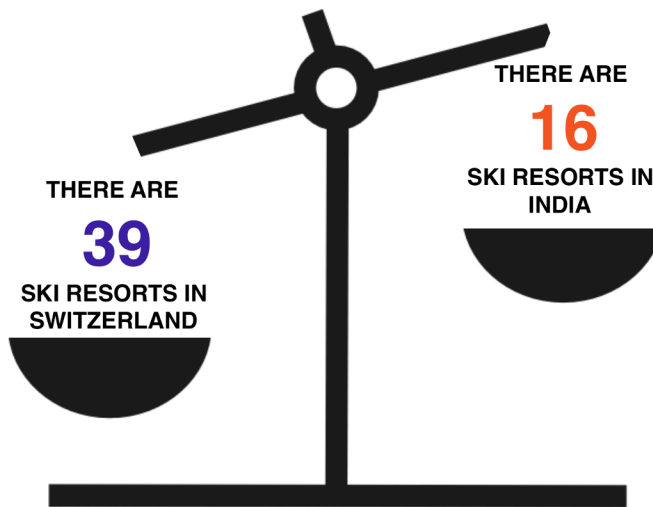
1.31 BILLION
8.3 MILLION

THE **SWISS** EAT SEVENTY TIMES MORE CHOCOLATE THAN **INDIANS**

11.3 KILOGRAMS
165 GRAMS



MOST PLAYED SPORT IN **INDIA** IS CRICKET & FOOTBALL IN **SWITZERLAND**.



INDIA HAS WON 28 MEDALS IN THE OLYMPICS AND **SWITZERLAND** HAS WON 330 MEDALS!



HIGHEST MOUNTAIN IN INDIA IS **KANGCHENJUNGA** (8586 METERS) & **MONTE ROSA** (4634 METERS)



MOST FAMOUS SPORTS PLAYER: **INDIA** - SACHIN TENDULKAR (CRICKETER) **SWITZERLAND** - ROGER FEDERER (TENNIS PLAYER)

AVERAGE AGE OF **INDIANS**: 27 YEARS OLD & AVERAGE AGE OF THE **SWISS**: 42 YEARS



THERE ARE 4 OFFICIAL LANGUAGES IN **SWITZERLAND** & 23 **INDIA**.

The Queen of the Camp - Bibi

Bibi Rani is a beloved chaperon who binds the whole camp together and over years have brought to Les Elfes thousands of campers from India.

Why did you join Les Elfes?

I joined Les Elfes because of what this place did to my son. He had come here when he was about eight years old. I was very impressed with the change in him after the two weeks he spent here. This change encouraged me to join Les Elfes and make that same difference in other people's lives.

How has this job changed you as a person?

I've become more tolerant. As people grow older they become more self obsessive, but with Les Elfes, the opposite had happened to me. I have also become more open.

How do you think you have helped Les Elfes?

I have just structured what I want for the Indian kids as they are the majority of the people in the spring camp. I introduced the leadership program. I also introduced the journalism and mountain biking clubs. For me what is important is that every child who comes to the Spring camp should receive back the maximum of every minute of their time here.

What is your favourite/ funniest memory at Les Elfes?

I have so many memories at Les Elfes I can't choose. I'm still in contact with the people who came for the first camp. We were just a batch of ten in 1998 and I've been to everybody's wedding.

What was the first camp like?

It was a really small organization, kitchen used to be open all the time, I remember taking the raclette machine at 2 o'clock in the night.

What did you do before joining Les Elfes?

Before joining Les Elfes I was a chartered accountant. I don't think that it was my calling because I quit as soon as I had my first child.

The Youngest Instructor - Ben

Les Elfes is Ben's first job. He's only 19 and just got out of school. He loved working all winter season and also joined Spring camp this year in Verbier!

Why did you join Les Elfes?

I thought it would be a nice stepping stone into ski instructing, coming to a camp first. When I was on my skiing course Adam (result manager) came and gave a speech and i was interested

When did you start skiing?

I started skiing when I was 12. I went on a family holiday to Austria. I have been skiing since then but only for a week each year until last September, I went on a ski instructing course for ten weeks and then I came to Les Elfes.

Have you ever snowboarded?

No, never.



Who is your favourite instructor and why?

I would say Elliot, because he's nice and he's funny he has introduced me to a lot of new people and I have made new friends by/through him.

What do you like the most about the job at Les Elfes?

Probably having a group for the whole week, you really get to know the people that you're teaching.

What do you like other than skiing?

I like football, cricket I also like the play station.

Cure your Curiosity about the Clubs



Mountain biking is a fun, sporty activity in which our campers push their limits and bike up hills and mountains, while enjoying the beautiful scenery all around. However it requires a lot of energy and is quite exerting.

Leadership teaches children how to be independent and confident. Campers play games and do exciting activities to boost their self-esteem and become a good leader.



Journalism is an interesting activity which makes us put our mind to work. Campers write a magazine about our time and experiences here at Les Elfes so that all the precious memories we make here stay unforgettable.

**POEM CONTEST
WINNER...**

AND

A Snowy Surprise

All the campers of Les Elfes woke up to see the blinding, white blanket of snow. It ran like a carpet on a long flight of stairs making it look as if there was no end. Tiny drops of ice fell from the sky adding onto the soft, powdery layer of snow.

On opening the window one feels the sudden gush of icy wind blowing across their face. The cool wind filled the room with a chilly breeze causing the temperature to drop.

The sun was hidden behind the thick pillow of clouds. The pale gray skies created a gloomy atmosphere but nothing could stop us, skiers! The once lush green trees were now coated under a glistening layer of snow.

A Wonderful Place

Les Elfes, Les Elfes,
Such a pristine place,
As the Snowy world
Looks us in the face.

Ranging from the apex of the mountain,
To the tip of the ground
The balmy breeze swoops,
Making a wonderful sound

As the memories of this place,
Resonate in our ears,
Wherever we are .
It vanquishes our fears.

Qualities we unleash,
Excellence we exceed,
As we learn,
Taking every turn.

A week of fun,
Where we learn a ton,
Work is done,
As our skies run.

Les Elfes, Les Elfes,
Such a pristine place,
As the snowy world,
Puts a smile on our face!

By Mahir, Anya and Dev



ANNUAL AWARDS BY "SNOW MY GOSH" MAGAZINE

It's time for the annual awards presented by Les Elfes Journalism Club! We have carefully selected many awards and the perfect winner for them. Every single camper from Session 1 and 2 was taken into account and here are the winners.

Best hair- Disha

Best eyes- Pritika

Best Jawline- Chinmay

Funniest Instructor- Sergio

Weirdest Hair- Ved

The Cute One- Shaurya

The Funniest Camper- Aarya

secret genius- Navya

The Goody-Goody- Mallika

The Best Skier- Nuno

The One with the Attitude- Shloka

The Glam Squad- Amaya, Hiya, Diya

AND PHOTO REPORT OF AN ACTUAL PRIZE GIVING IN ZERMATT

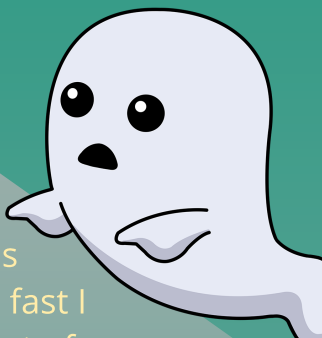



WHO GOT GOLD MEDAL?




The Cheese Ghost of Zermatt

by Navya Banga



Arriving in Zermatt I felt someone following me when I turned there was no one there yet I couldn't shake the feeling. As I entered the hotel I felt a sudden chill. The hotel manager came to greet me he had brown eyes that was clear. For a second they turned white but back to brown so fast I thought it was my imagination. He seemed to grow older in front of my eyes. My room was small but cosy I still felt someone was watching. Out on the slopes there was a breathless hush. I thought I heard someone but no one was there. I usually am a great skier but I repeatedly fell it was almost as someone was tripping me. Frustrated I took off my skis and went back. I took a short nap in which I was haunted by frightening nightmares of banshees screaming, vampires sucking my blood and a werewolf howling at the moon looking at me with a hungry look in their eyes. As I tried to open my door I found I was locked inside my room disappeared and in its place was a graveyard the hotel manager was there with those milky white eyes I felt as if he was looking right into my soul. Suddenly a ghost came out of him the manager fell to the ground. The ghost morphed into a more humanoid form and I couldn't help laughing though I tried to stifle my laughter. The ghost had pink hair styled in a 1960's style. He wore a pinkish suit. He had a cruel sneer on his face. He looked funny yet evil. The ghost looking highly offended spoke in a posh English accent saying "what's so funny I could smite you puny man". I checked in my bag to see if there was anything that could protect me reaching for my laptop I accidentally grabbed some stinky cheese which was my snack. The ghost cried "ahhhhhh my worst enemy STINKY CHEESE". I threw it at him and he disappeared leaving only stinky vapors behind. I never heard from him again. So remember if battling a ghost always carry stinky cheese.



Don't get too scared!

Feel free to use this page to share your story or keep contacts from your new friends or write tips for yourself to get ready for the next trip to Les Elfes!



SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!



Credits:

Pritika Shah

Mallika Prasad

Saachi Wadhwa

Sidheash Agrawal

Amey Gupta

Aryaman Lakshman

Navya Banga

