

WITH LOVE FROM THE  THE  ALPS

Hello and welcome to the special holiday edition of 'The IndoSwiss Kid's' Chronicle'. In this edition, we bring you an issue that is brimful of reflections of the month gone by as well as plenty of ideas to keep you busy over the winter break.

I hope you enjoy the articles by all our wonderful contributors. In the right-hand column, we have a little introduction to some of the different festivals, in addition to Christmas, that are celebrated in winter and in January, we will return with our regular features on history, geography, popular culture and all the wonderful things that make both India and Switzerland wonderful places to grow up in.

But we also have a little special treat up our sleeves, over the course of the winter break, we will bring you a special collection of autumn and winter stories, 'Firelight Fables' which you can cosy up with as the days get colder still. If you would like to send in a winter story, there's still time! Please send it to: [theindoswisskidschronicle@gmail.com](mailto:theindoswisskidschronicle@gmail.com) by the 23rd of December. In the meantime, I hope you like our special holiday look! We will return to our usual look in January. Thank you for supporting our first four issues. We look forward to coming back in 2020, brighter and better than ever before!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2020

Nayana



"And so here it is Merry Christmas, everybody's having fun, Look to the future, it's only just begun" -Slade, 1973



### Karthikai Deepam



In Tamil Nadu and Kerala, Karthikai Deepam - a festival of lights - is celebrated in the Tamil month of Karthikai which runs approximately from mid-November to mid-December. It is celebrated on the full moon. In Kerala, lamps are lit to welcome Goddess Shakti. In Tamil Nadu, it is in fact one of the oldest known festivals to be celebrated in the state. It is also one of the many festivals around the world that try to explain the existence of the Pleiades, a six-star cluster that is very visible in the night sky. In Tamil Nadu, the six stars are believed to be the celestial versions of the six nymphs who raised Lord Murugan, an incarnation of Lord Shiva (Lord Murugan, or Lord Kartik is also Lord Shiva's second son, after Ganesha).



### Hannukah

The Jewish festival of Hannukah will begin, in 2019, on Sunday the 22nd of December and will finish on the 30th of December. It is an eight-day celebration and it is also a festival of lights. It commemorates the rededication of the Holy Temple which the Jewish people protected from a Greek attack in the second century BC. When they went to light the sacred lamp, the Menorah, they found that it miraculously remained lit for eight days. This is commemorated to this day by a nightly ritual of lighting the Menorah.



## Future Day at Purple Peepal

*Kanhai Vaidya, 12 years old Aargau*

Every year in Switzerland, there is an annual “Zukunftstag” literally meaning “Future Day”. It lets students see the wide variety of jobs that exist in this world. It is a great opportunity for children to discover jobs they would love to do when they would grow up. Jobs that they might enjoy doing. It also helps them see what they might not be interested in.

Last year I had the chance to visit the Zukunftstag organized by ABB. It was quite fun, and also more technical. This year I chose to visit an architecture firm called Purple Peepal. I enjoyed the day very much, and I realized that architects have made our lives so much easier! If we designed our homes on our own, we would understand how much must be considered. I had the chance to work with the CEO of the company for the whole day. She guided and helped me to create plans for my dream home. I learnt many techniques for drawing plans and what a big role directions and the sun play in architecture.

I loved the day there. The CEO was very friendly, helpful and supportive, and it was amazing to learn everything. At their website (link down below), they have displayed a few of their projects.

Link: <https://purplepeepal.com/>

