Since when I was very young, mathematics was a subject that used to always interest me. My mathematics teacher in my third grade was the one who taught me how to love numbers and hence, invoked this passion for mathematics in me. All this interest in the subject led me to participate for the International Mathematics Olympiad for the past few consecutive years.

I enjoy solving puzzles, sudokus, the Rubik’s cube and logical reasoning questions. What do they have in common? They all have endless methods but only one final solution. Everyone thinks differently resulting in every individual having different answers and different reasons for going about their method. In any other subject, this is what results in each person reaching different conclusions, while in mathematics, no matter which method is used, if followed correctly, one will reach the same result. It fascinates me, the concept of how mathematics is bound by rules, but one has the liberty of choosing which path to follow to reach the ultimate destination, the solution. Of course, there will be an efficient method which helps you reach the result within minutes, but there is also the long, complicated, slightly confusing method which might take a while longer but will still lead you to the same result. Same goes for programming. A programmer can write hundreds of different codes that will finally do the same thing.

The idea of creating something new, always intrigued me. It can be anything, from coding a simple program to building a fully working robot. The satisfaction when something you created works well, even if it is very minor, is irreplaceable. My first few encounters with that heart-filling feeling would have been while working with science fair projects for school. The reason those projects from four years back are still so clear in my memory is because of how astonished my parents, sister and I, were about the amount of interest and patience that was put into it, by me, every single time. Eventually, I experienced that emotion, in more detail, when I went for a robotics course during my summer vacation last year where I created a small four-wheeled robot that would avoid obstacles. With a small change in the code, it could follow a line on the ground. This is when I realised how significant each line in a program is and how a small change can invert the job it does completely. I even did a course for Android mobile application designing. My interest while doing these courses led me to take up another course the following year regarding embedded systems.

I did my Cambridge IGCSE examinations on the subjects: Biology (A\*), Chemistry (A\*), Mathematics (A), French (A), English (A), Geography (A), ICT (A), and Physics (B). Then, I did AS & A levels on the subjects: English, Mathematics, Information Technology, Physics and Chemistry.

In my school years, my school principal and teachers entrusted me with different positions in the Student Council. After being chosen as class representative in multiple years, in 11th grade, I was elected as house captain. The following year, I was appointed Charity Drive in-charge where I handled all my school’s charitable contributions. Our team, under the charity wing, organised multiple carnivals and encouraged all our school mates to donate charitable items to our collection points which we then handed over to orphanages and the underprivileged. This position evoked in me a sense of responsibility towards helping the deprived thus encouraging me to take part in volunteering work. These opportunities helped me improve my leadership qualities and reduce my stage fright to a large extent.

Other than these activities, I took part in my Annual Sports Meets, where I won awards in most events in my category. I enjoy sports and have trained in badminton for over three years.