

ARUNA BALASUBRAMANIAN (2018)

1 GRADUATING CLASS/CURRENT POSITION AND LOCATION

I graduated from EFIP with the class of 2018. Now, I am a sophomore at Harriton High School in Rosemont, PA.

2 WHAT DID YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR TIME AT EFIP AND WHY?

I enjoyed elementary school the most, because I liked learning French and feeling connected to French culture, even though my family doesn't have a French background. This was especially true when I left EFIP after second grade to move to Paris for a year, and came back to EFIP the year after when I moved back to the US. It was fun keeping up the French language, and making friends with whom I could chat and play in bilingual conversations (or "Frenglish", as I like to call it - a mixture of French and English).

3 PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR CURRENT STUDIES/WORK.

Right now I am a 10th grader at Harriton High School. In school, my electives involve computer science and visual arts. Outside of school, I play violin and sitar, and perform in the Philadelphia Sinfonia youth orchestra. On Thursday nights, I come to the EFIP Upper School for a French philosophy reading group with Mr. Paradis. In addition, I participate in many clubs at Harriton. I am a witness in Mock Trial, I am a coder for the VEX Robotics team, I write for the Harriton Banner (the school newspaper), and I am the head site designer of Zenith (the club that organizes the art department's website).



ARUNA AND HER BROTHER RAVI

4 WHAT IS YOUR BEST MEMORY OF YOUR STUDENT LIFE AT EFIP?

My best memory of my student life at EFIP is when I walked into the playground at the Lower School, the morning of my first day of fourth grade. That was the first time that I had been back at EFIP since I moved to France the year before, and I was really excited. The whole year that I was living in Paris, I assumed that when I would go back to EFIP, I would have to re-introduce myself to everybody, because people would have forgotten me a little. But when I stepped out into the playground, a horde of my old friends ran towards me and started yelling and hugging me. It felt great.