



MARIAN

E-NEWSLETTER

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EDITORIAL



Dear Readers

Warm greetings to all!

As we round off the academic session 2020-21, all of us wonder at the year gone by. The dark clouds that had enveloped life during 2020 have now passed. As it is rightly said- 'No dark cloud can forever prevent the sun from shining!' Hence, at the onset of the year 2021, we have started witnessing the return of the bright, blue, clear sky. Let us bow our heads and thank God for His abundant blessings. May His Grace continue to shine upon us and may life return to normalcy. May the students safely return to school for the next academic session and brighten up the temple of learning with their vibrant and energetic faces.

This edition of Marian E-Newsletter encapsulates the achievements, activities and creative talent of the young children. We hope that you will appreciate their progress, zeal and determination to cope up with the challenges of the virtual classrooms and successful completion of the academic year.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to our dear Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J and our Headmistress, Rev. Sr. Poonam C J for their constant support and able guidance. I also thank the members of the editorial board for their contribution in bringing out this souvenir.

As I take leave, I wish all our well wishers a happy, fruitful and healthy year ahead. Happy reading!

Arrivederci!

Sumedha Ailawadi
Editor

MESSAGE



Dear Readers

The present situation reminds me of a poem by Lord Alfred Tennyson which starts with the lines, **"The old order changeth yielding place to new..... And God fulfills himself in many ways"**. COVID - 19 has really changed the world order... changed the way we live now and perhaps forever. In the beginning of this academic year, the order of things indeed had a change. The unprecedented, shocking and mysterious corona virus pandemic, a once- in- a -100 years event weaved the pattern of replacing the older things with new. Thus, the order of things had to change by building up our coping mechanism. We could rise above our personal debacle, deal with anxieties and become pillar of strength for our students in very many ways. A transformational experience in the entire school set up happened, as the classroom learning moved to the flip side of home schooling. Parents have worked from home, making their homes, as their children's classroom. Teachers have emerged with upgraded skills in technology, learnt new ways of teaching and improved vastly in digital literacy. Lessons of resilience and courage were taught to the young ones by the elders. Considering COVID-19 an opportunity to grow, how could we bring about a paradigm shift and keep up the objectives of learning consistent for our students? Like the quote says, "Teamwork makes the dream work!" It's the result of a combined effort by the school management and the dedicated staff, both teaching and non- teaching. We have successfully handled the hardships by motivating our students to strengthen their character, preparing them for future challenges.

As we come to the end of this academic year 2020-21, I appreciate and acknowledge the accomplishments of everyone through this pandemic. For I believe that Sprouted in the fire, does not wither away in the Sun! A stronger, brighter, healthier and prosperous future is waiting for everyone who stood powerfully before this pandemic. I am ever grateful to God, the Almighty, for instilling in us the spirit of optimism to bounce back at the challenges of COVID -19. There are still many unknowns about the future around us, but in my opinion, when we look at things optimistically, we have to see that things are getting brighter and more hope is around the corner! It gives me great joy to meet you all through the second edition of our E-Newsletter, a great way to communicate and be creative. It keeps you updated with the news, events and activities of the school in the new normal. I congratulate the editorial board for their valuable contribution in bringing out this edition.

'Keep your face to the sunshine and you cannot see a shadow. Stay positive and stay safe for God is making everything NEW.' (Helen Keller)

With warm wishes

Sr. Merlin C J
Principal

MESSAGE

Dear students, parents and guardians, greetings of peace, joy and love! The catastrophic scene of the pandemic is seen and felt all over the world. COVID 19 has rapidly affected our life, businesses, disrupted the world trade movements and social life. Its impact in daily life is extensive and has far reaching consequences. The financial strains faced by our countrymen due to the drooping economy is indescribable. The lockdowns have disbalanced our daily labourers and brought out our sad picture.



"A man can be defeated but not destroyed." Earnest Hemmingway's philosophy of writing seems true today when we witness unbeaten human race despite the increasing 24 hours spike of COVID 19, the examples of COVID warriors of the various hospitals and also you and me, who have fought the battle of combating and defeating the virus from our body. Behind the struggle of people, God's ever-growing compassionate love is unveiled. **"We are hard pressed on every side, but not crushed, perplexed, but not in despair, persecuted, but not abandoned, struck down, but not destroyed."** (2 Cor: 4:8-9)

Life has become tough for most but we have become tougher. With the sudden arrival of this pandemic, our dreams for the new session 2020-2021 could not be materialized and overnight we had to shift towards online teaching in order to reach out to the students. We have fought the fight of conducting not only online classes but also assemblies, programmes, PTMs, parents' orientations, staff meetings, class tests and even exams. Teachers have learnt to be techno-experts and teach online. Parents have found ways and means to live and survive through supplement jobs and businesses. And the students too have matured, progressed and grown more than ever before with the harmony of faith, love and hope. It's today that our children are learning truly life's lessons beyond their text books, although through hard and tough experience of life.

We stand on the verge of a big change. **People have taken a paradigm shift from taste to health, privacy to family (togetherness), classroom teaching to online learning and above all materialism to spiritualism.** Change inevitably has become part and parcel of our life and we are left with no choice except to lift our eyes towards God, our Creator, and mend our ways. It's by His aid that the humanity is able to come off the desert in which it finds itself trapped and lost. With a firm faith and belief in God and His providence, we need to move forward. It's time to share our resources with the deprived and not to dream alone for ourself, but to think as a whole. In other words, to dream together to create the future with new eyes. In this context my dear students, you need to equip yourself against all odds, grabbing each opportunity to learn. The future looks up to you to nurture and preserve the human race. Be life givers and promoters who will sustain God's creation with wisdom and transcending experience. I conclude with the words of Mr. Jane Perry,

**"The tools for creating a masterpiece of life are here
You are the artist: success will depend on your faith.
Your masterpiece has feeling, a soul that radiates
And harmonizes with the exterior, greater self.
For it is that strength which moves other men,
That is success, that is yours ,That is what you are about.
The Kingdom of God is within you; know it; affirm it; live with it"**

God bless you all
Sr. Poonam C J
Headmistress

LAURELS TO THE SCHOOL



Tuddybuddy Online Inter School Maths Olympiad for class VII was conducted on 17 September 2020 in which students from our school secured the top two ranks from among 28 participants. **Swastika Dash of VII- D** won the first position and received a cash prize of Rs. 2,000/-. **Anika Kotnala of VII- B** secured the second position and won a cash prize of Rs. 1,500/-. Both the students also won e-certificates.



The All India Inter School Don Bosco Bible Quiz 2020 was organised by Don Bosco School, Alaknanda, in collaboration with the Salesian Cooperators. It was an online quiz with the purpose to spread knowledge and love for the word of God among the students. The quiz had around 225 students participating from about 50 schools across India. Our students won laurels and made the school proud.

Jasmine Shijo of VIII- B and **Abin P Binoy of XII- B** won the second position in their respective categories.



Presentation Convent, Delhi organised various inter school competitions during their fest- 'Eco Fiesta' in August 2020 and our students performed wonderfully well in them. The winners were-

- **Evana Jose of V- B** won the second position in sing-a-song category.
- **Varsha PV of VIII-A** won the first position in the solo dance competition.
- **Kriti Gupta of XII-A** secured the second position in e-poster making competition.



Aishwarya of X-A and **Shreya Rautary of VII- B** won recognition in the poster making competition organised by the Petroleum Conservation Research Association. Both the students won a cash prize of Rs. 5,000 each.



Our students shone bright in the inter school competitions organised by Gyan Mandir Public School, Delhi in December 2020. **Mayla Namal Khan of VII- C** bagged the first position in soliloquy competition. **Daniel Prakash of XII- C** secured the first position in the Rap Roadies event. **Tanuja Pandey of XII-D** won the second position in the 'poster with slogan' competition.



Ms. Algy Sebastian, a senior Science teacher of our school, successfully completed an intensive 5-week workshop on Environmental Sustainability with 100/100 points and secured an 'outstanding score' among the 500 participants. Ms. Algy won a certificate for her accomplishment.

Ms. Sonu Borges, another of our senior Science teacher, won the 'SOF Best District Teacher' award for the year 2019-20. She won a citation, a trophy and a cash award of Rs. 1,000/-. Kudos to all the winners!

...d here to commemorate the 75
...ED NATIONS, and on this
...ul occasion, we have decided to release
...dbook on the UN today, which is also
...brated as the International Day of Literacy.



UN 75
2020 AND BEYOND

SHAPING
OUR
FUTURE
TOGETHER



UN Handbook: 75 Years of being United

Our school had the proud privilege to participate in a webinar that was organized to commemorate the 75 years of the United Nations. Our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, a few teachers and students from class XII attended this online event on 8 September 2020 along with over three hundred delegates, including Sisters from various religious institutions from around the globe, principals, teachers and students of various schools.

A student oriented booklet was released on this auspicious occasion by Rev. Sr. Sabrina Edwards, the Provincial Leader of South Asia IBVM. In her address, Rev. Sr. Sabrina emphasised on the impact of the COVID pandemic in our lives, the importance of the SDGs in today's world and the work of the UN to improve the living condition of people.

She said that the main aim of the handbook is to bridge the gap between the UN and young readers, to encourage them to know more about the UN and motivate the youth to help in bringing around peace, security and equity in the world.



Expressing Gratitude to the Guru



'Great teachers have the ability to change lives for the better.'

A teacher not only motivates the students towards their goals, but gets involved in developing their underlying aims and aspirations through their academic journey.

With lockdown restrictions and social distancing norms put in place, we, at St. Mary's, celebrated Teachers' Day on the virtual platform. It was a great experience for all. Enthusiasm and festivity did not lose its charm despite the new normal. Through a beautiful array of programmes, the children showed their gratitude and love to the teachers.



Speaking on the occasion, our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, appreciated the dedication and hard work of all the teachers. She said that despite the pandemic and its limitations, the teachers have shown their resoluteness to tackle this problem with their expert skills and successfully adapted to technology to impart knowledge to the students. As a token of gratitude and recognition, Rev. Sr. Merlin awarded an e-certificate to all the teachers. This thoughtful gesture on the part of our dear Principal, touched the hearts of the teachers, who thanked the school management, the Principal and the students for making their day so special.



MARIANS

SHINE AT INTERNATIONAL DAY OF GIRL SUMMIT

Girl Child

I am the princess of my father
when I was born
my father was so delighted
my house was lighted.
But, I wonder
Why can't we let all the girls live
Why can't we let all the girls bloom
Let all the girls shine with all beautiful birds.

I need no help
I want to fly with my own feathers
my feathers are so strong.
So please don't be so cruel or selfish
let the girls swim like colourful fish.
I want to say something to all
parents, please love the girls.
Let them see the beautiful earth
Don't kill them in mother's womb
listen to their cries, listen to their screams
My father fulfills all my wishes and dreams.

Please give them equal opportunity like their brother
both boys and girls are the same
don't discriminate them for their gender.

I am strong from mind
I want to build up my strength
without facing any gazing eyes and
bad intentions of someone
my good and bad I can decide
when there will be no discrimination
among boys and girls
when I will not be treated as a toy
that is when equality will prevail.
You pray to Lakshmi
I am Lakshmi too for my parents.

Simran Kaur, IX- A



The United Nations organised a poem writing and drawing competition on the topic- International Day Of Girl on Equity and Being Bold, in the month of September, where many students from our school participated.

The poems written by two of our students got selected, which were showcased as a part of International Day of the Girl Summit 2020 on 9 October 2020. The poems written by Efia Cecil of class XI- B and Simran Kaur of IX- A got selected for the event.

Equality

A boy is born, he becomes
The reason of happiness in his family
A girl is born, she becomes
The reason for their worry
Not allowed to study
No right to dream
She becomes a burden,
because she is a girl
The only one to blame
Such is the mentality of people.

Why can't we teach the children
equality from the very beginning?
Why can't people understand,
Why can't people's thinking change?
If a girl becomes a wife,
A son also becomes a husband.
If a girl becomes a mother,
A son becomes a father.

Why can't they be equally treated?
Why can't there be happiness
When a child is born, despite their gender?

Efia Cecil, XI- B



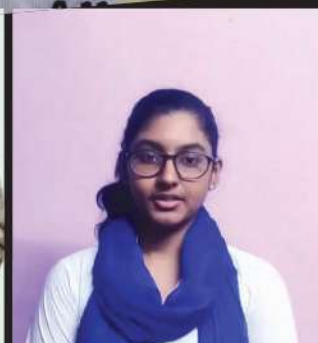
International Day of Non Violence

Our school celebrated the International Day of Non Violence on 2 October 2020, which is also the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of our Nation. To revere this special day, the young Marians prepared a virtual assembly to spread the message of peace and brotherhood.

The programme started with the readings from various Holy scriptures, followed by a short reflection on peace by class XII students. The Special Guest for the day was Rev. Fr. Dr. Sabu Joseph, the Director of Education, Archdiocese of Delhi. In his address, Rev. Fr. Sabu Joseph emphasised on the fact that non- violence is crucial for the betterment of the world. He further advised everyone to practise peace and solidarity in their lives.

The choir sang - "We shall overcome" to spread the hope of overcoming war, sickness, unemployment and misery that envelopes the world.

Our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, reflected upon the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi. She also explained the importance of peace, justice and non-violence and asked the viewers to follow the teachings of the Mahatma.



STAYING CONNECTED WITH GOD...

A spiritual retreat was held in our school for classes VI-XII on 9 and 10 October 2020. The resource persons, Mr. Mathew Anthony, Secretary of Commission for Evangelization, Ms. Bernadette Morris, Programme Manager and Mr. Ashish, music teacher of Loretto School, took the initiative to inspire our Christian students with their spiritual guidance.

The retreat began with invoking God's blessings on all the participants through a melodious prayer song. This was followed by an address by Mr Mathew, who informed the students about the different ways of experiencing God's love and to never lose hope even during tough situations in life. He shared different experiences of people during his mission of evangelization and told how God touched those people in different ways.

He also made the students aware of the importance of prayer in their daily lives and how one should dedicate himself to God's care and protection. His thought provoking ideas made the Marians realise that staying connected with God will enable them to live a happy and meaningful life.

The young Marians thanked the school management, very specially the Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J for organizing such a meaningful session of spiritual enrichment and encouraging all the students to get spiritually nourished.



GLIMPSES OF OUR WEBINARS.....

" You can't go back and change the beginning, but you can start where you are and change the ending."

A series of webinars was conducted in our school for equipping the parents and children with 'the new normal' routine to achieve a successful academic year despite the challenges of a virtual classroom. Many parents had expressed their concern about the efficacy and success of online classes in the beginning of the session. Hence, our school management, specially our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, decided to conduct these webinars. Let us take a glimpse of them.....

- A webinar on 'Home Schooling- the New Normal' was organised for the parents of classes X - XII from 21- 23 August 2020. The guest speaker was Ms Nitika Dutta Gupta, a teacher and freelance writer closely associated with Scholastic publications. Ms. Gupta focused on the difficulties faced by students in understanding concepts and concentrating during online classes. She advised the parents to be a strong emotional support to their children and suggested several ways to build a healthy relationship with them in these difficult times.
- A webinar was also organized for classes VI- IX from 13 – 16 September 2020 on 'Positive Pandemic Parenting'. The resource person for this webinar was Mr. Vivek Kumar. Mr. Kumar focused on the importance of parent - child bonding. He asked the parents to keep a track of the online activities of their children as unknowingly digital footprints are created which become difficult to erase.
- A motivational and enhancement session was held on 20 November 2020 for the students of class X and XII and their parents. It was organised to enhance the academic performance of the students. Our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J addressed the parents and the students. She highlighted the importance of hard work and perseverance. She also showed a very informative video featuring examination tips for the students. The importance of time management, discipline and dedication were the key features of her address. A few teachers also shared their concern with the parents and the students.
- An orientation programme was organized for the parents of classes III to V from 12 – 14 October 2020. The theme for the webinar was 'Aahvaan – Positive Powerful Parenting'. The webinar was conducted by Ms. Reena Charles, an educationist and social entrepreneur. She has worked as a CEO and Principal in various reputed schools of Delhi. The main focus of the orientation was to provide effective approaches to parenting. Ms. Charles asked the parents to be role models to their children. She said that in the present world scenario, it is essential to bring up kids who are happy and responsible human beings.

All the webinars were highly appreciated by the parents and the students. They thanked the management, very specially our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, for providing a platform for such enriching interactions with well learned and experienced resource persons.



CALLING Mother Mary THE ROSARY MONTH

To conquer the wide spreading corona pandemic over the world, St. Mary's prayer warriors joined the mission to evade this virus by calling out to Mother Mary through rosary.

As in the previous years, this year too, the October month of the Holy Rosary was observed by the Marians. Our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, who strongly believes in the power of the rosary, initiated a month long rosary recitation which began on 1 October and concluded on 31 October 2020. Rev. Sr. Merlin wanted to continue this Marian tradition of praying the rosary even when we were away from school.

“Give me an army saying the Rosary and I will conquer the world.”

Pope Blessed Pius IX.

Each class from VI-XII said the rosary for four days each, where different time slots were given. Students, teachers and our Sisters joined the time slots to continue the chain of rosary, meditating on the intention for the quick control of the corona virus currently ravaging the world.

The closing ceremony of the rosary month was done virtually with great solemnity, devotion and dedication towards Mother Mary on 31 October 2020. It began with an introductory hymn and prayer by Headmistress, Rev. Sr. Poonam C J. The joyful mysteries were announced and the intentions were prayed by different teachers, ending with the litany by Rev. Sr. Rose and a concluding hymn to our lady.

Our Principal Rev. Sr. Merlin encouraged everyone, especially the children, for reciting the rosary and asked us to continue to be the prayer warriors for our Lord and to strengthen our belief in Mother Mary and the power of the rosary.





It was a double bonanza of celebration this festival season with Diwali and Children's Day falling on the same day. To mark these joyous occasions, a special online assembly, prepared by the students of class IX, was aired on our YouTube channel on 14 November 2020.



The assembly began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by our Manager, Rev. Fr. Jose TJ, Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J and Headmistress, Rev. Sr. Poonam C J. Speaking on the occasion, Rev. Sr. Merlin urged the students to celebrate a 'Diya Diwali'

and spread the light of happiness. It was followed by a prayer dance and a movie made by the students to spread awareness on how to celebrate a pollution and cracker free Diwali.

This year's Children's Day was also celebrated with a difference. There was no deficiency of zeal, enthusiasm and creativity. The teachers expressed their love and affection for the children through a song and a dance. They wished the children and gave inspiring messages. Rev. Sr. Merlin also blessed the students.



CONSTITUTION DAY

26 November has been declared by the Indian government as the National Constitution Day. It was on this day in 1949 that our Constitution was adopted, exactly two months before it came into force on 26 January 1950. The Constitution is important because it protects individual freedom and its fundamental principles govern our country.

To mark the significance of this day, a special virtual assembly was conducted in our school on 26 November 2020 by the students of class XII. The Chief Guest for the occasion was Rev. Sr. Cynthia CJ, a social worker and lawyer. Students were made aware of the Preamble of the Constitution and the significance of celebrating the day. A pledge was taken by the students to protect and secure the democracy of the nation. The Preamble was also recited by them. It was followed by a patriotic song and dance performance. In her address, our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, delved upon the thoughts of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, the father of the Indian Constitution, and said that it is the duty of every citizen to preserve the Constitution as daughters and sons of Mother India.



“Constitution is not a mere lawyers document, it is a vehicle of Life, and its spirit is always the spirit of Age.”
- B R Ambedkar



A birthday is the first day of another lovely year, a year of new tomorrows, a year of newer possibilities, a year to meet the challenges in everything we try.

On 1 December 2020, we celebrated the birthday of our honourable Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J. It was truly a day everyone at St. Mary's looked forward to as Sister holds a very special place in everyone's heart. She, with her ever so dynamic persona, highly progressive vision and her efforts of working tirelessly in order to take St. Mary's to newer heights, has definitely left an indelible mark on everyone in some way or the other.

On this special occasion, a short but meaningful celebration was held in the school as well as on the virtual platform. Our Manager, Rev. Fr. Jose T J, Headmistress, Rev. Sr. Poonam C J, Rev. Sr. Rose C J were present for the occasion. On behalf of the entire Marian family, co-ordinators of the senior and the primary wing presented a bouquet of flowers, a card and a gift to Rev. Sr. Merlin.

Later in the afternoon, there was a virtual celebration with the entire staff. Rev. Sr. Poonam presented a beautiful and meaningful video comparing Rev. Sr. Merlin to a vibrant sunflower. She also appreciated her "never give up" attitude and her round the clock working abilities to bring perfection in whatever she does.

In her message, dear Rev. Sr. Merlin thanked everyone for their prayers and effort in making her day special and memorable. She said that she missed the presence of children in the school, but was hopeful that things will return to normal and the school will once again bustle with all its activities and fun.

Principal's Day



Marian Day Celebration

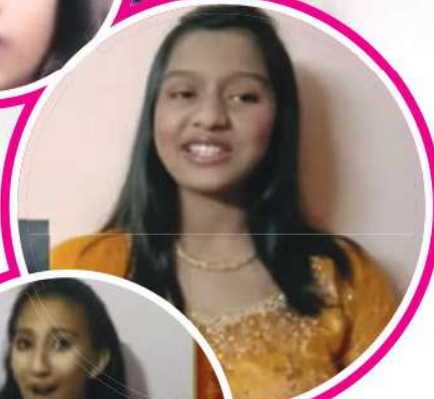
We, the Marian family, celebrated the Feast Day of our school on 8 December 2020. This auspicious day is the Feast Day of our patron saint blessed Virgin Mary and is celebrated annually as the Feast of Immaculate Conception of Mother Mary. On this day, special prayers are held to invoke Mary's motherly patronage, guidance and protection.

Students of class VII conducted a beautiful virtual assembly to commemorate the importance of this remarkable day. The digital presentation included mesmerising prayer songs, a short skit and a prayer dance. The choir, which comprised of the students of class XII and few ex-Marians, sang the school anthem and created the feeling of 'once a Marian, always a Marian'.

Rev. Fr. Vincent D'Souza, the Principal of Rosary Sr. Sec. School and the Chancellor of Archdiocese of Delhi, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He encouraged the students to have the spirit of care and goodness in them. He motivated the young Marians to live according to the motto of our school- 'Competence for Commitment'.

Addressing the viewers, our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, shared her thoughts on the importance of this day and asked the students to be prayerful and humble in life. Rev. Sr. Merlin wished everyone a happy feast and sought divine blessings of Mother Mary on each one of us.

On this special occasion, our school magazine 'Marianette 2019-20' was released by our Manager, Rev. Fr. Jose T J. This annual almanac showcases the achievements, creativity and skills of our students. The e-edition of the magazine was also released on our school website.





FIT INDIA SCHOOL WEEK

In response to the 'Fit India Movement' launched nationwide by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in 2019 and further initiative by the CBSE board to celebrate 'Fit India School Week,' our school celebrated the Fit India School Week under the guidance of our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J from 14-18 December 2020. The aim of the programme was to inculcate more physical activity and sports in people's everyday lives.

A plethora of activities like Surya Namaskar, poster making, aerobics and online quizzes / lectures were conducted on the online platform. The response from the students was overwhelming

as they participated in all the activities with great enthusiasm.

Our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin congratulated the sports teachers and the students at the success of the programme. She emphasised on the need for physical activity, especially during the pandemic time, when the students are all confined to their homes and missing out on outdoor sports and exercise. She also encouraged the students to exercise daily and abide by the famous proverb- a healthy mind lives in a healthy body.

Christmas

The Season of Faith and Hope

The much awaited festival of Christmas was celebrated by everyone at St. Mary's in the most unique way- it was a virtual celebration due to the ongoing Corona pandemic restrictions. Special assemblies prepared by the students of the primary and the senior wing were streamed on our YouTube channel, E - Marians.His Grace, the most Rev. Archbishop Anil J T Couto was welcomed as the Chief Guest. He gave his special blessings and good wishes to everyone.

The students not only prayed to Lord Almighty to keep their faith and hope intact but also presented a skit depicting that Jesus, the Saviour, is still the hope for mankind. They gave the message of generosity, resilience and existence of humanity. Melodious carols were sung and well synchronized dances were presented to add to the celebration. Santa Claus visiting the school and wishing everyone a happy Christmas was delightfully presented.

This special programme was prepared under the able guidance of our dear Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J. Sister encouraged everyone through her powerful Christmas message. She highlighted the need to be optimistic and believe that humankind is not lost.



MARIAN CAROLERS ROCK AT NISCORT

Christmas is a wonderful and holy festival that helps in spreading bliss and happiness all over the world. Christmas gives us a chance to think about our existence and purpose in life. Christmas also reminds us of Jesus' message of love and peace.

To begin the Christmas festivities in this unprecedented time of pandemic, our Principal Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, Headmistress. Rev. Sr. Poonam C J, and a group of teachers were invited to NISCORT Media College, Vaishali to sing carols in order to bring a festive spirit and to share the joy of Christmas with the world.

It was indeed a great opportunity for them. This celebration and the belief of the Principal in her teachers brought them together after a long time to put up a fulfilling performance to welcome baby Jesus. The English carol-MISTLETOE AND WINE and the Hindi carol-KHUL GAYA AASMAN HAI were sung by the choir.

NISCORT Media Production thanked our school for participating wholeheartedly. The carols sung by the teachers of our school are now streaming on the NISCORT Production channel on YouTube. This experience will always be cherished. All thanks to our dear Principal and NISCORT Media College.



THE JOY OF GIVING

"Generosity is the most natural outward expression of an inner attitude of compassion and loving kindness."- Dalai Lama

The Marians expressed their compassion and kindness for the poor and the needy during the Christmas season-the season of sharing and caring. Students as well as teachers of the senior and the primary wing collected provisions like pulses, rice, cooking oil etc to be distributed among the underprivileged.

Under the guidance of the Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, the Sisters of our school carried out this noble deed of providing the ration to several families in a slum area. Their kind gesture filled those people with hope and brought a smile on many hungry faces.



MANAGER'S DAY

Birthday is about a new chapter of life, it's about saying goodbye to the past and paving new ways for the future. A birthday is about new beginnings. So, here in St. Mary's, on 11 January 2021, at the onset of the new year, we celebrated the birthday of our Manager, Rev. Fr. Jose T J.

Unlike every year, when all such occasions were celebrated with great joy and fervour in the school hall, packed with smartly dressed young Marians, this year Rev. Father was wished by the Rev. Sisters, co-ordinators from the senior and the junior wing and the office staff in the school. They presented Rev. Father with a bouquet and a gift as a token of love from the staff. A beautiful compilation of videos, sent by the students from different classes, was played.

Speaking on the occasion, Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin called Rev. Fr. Jose the 'Star of St. Mary's', who is always there to brighten and shine upon the lives of all who come in contact with him.

Rev. Fr. Jose thanked everyone for making his day special.

May the lord continue to bless our Manager with good health, happiness and success in all his endeavours. We appreciate God's presence in his life, his faithfulness and righteousness.



ROOTED, RESPONSIVE, RELEVANT

The first Mary Ward JPIC South Asia General Meet was conducted from 15 -17 January 2021. The three days monumental conclave promoted and restored Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) by being Rooted, Responsive and Relevant. During the webinar, Sangat, Nine is Mine and TERI School of Advanced Studies extended their support by sharing their knowledge and expertise to enlighten and inspire the young minds to overcome the challenges and find solutions to achieve SDG goals 5 and 6, i.e, Gender Equality and Clean Water and Sanitation respectively.

The event began by reflecting on the sacred books of diverse faith traditions, reminding us of our relationship with God, each other and with His creation. It taught us to be rooted in the values taught by Mary Ward, be responsive to issues we face in the present world, to have the courage to take relevant steps and to be the change for a better existence.

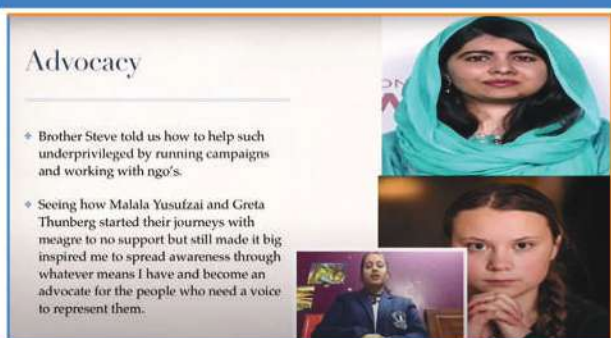
Eminent feminist, Kamala Bhasin said that over 400 years ago, Mary Ward had challenged the unjust patriarchal structure and that even we have the power to transform this unequal world. Ms. Bhasin told that each one has a

sense of justice prevalent in their very being. She further emphasised that Nature creates diversity and not inequality. Hence, we should work towards removing all forms of biasness from the society.

Br. Steve spoke on the importance of advocacy - not only for ourselves but also for the most marginalised. He demonstrated the nine steps of advocacy and showed the importance of listening to facts and data, of working together and of having a good communication for a more effective advocacy.

Dr Fauzia Tarannum emphasised the fact that without gender equality it's impossible to achieve the SDG goals by 2030. The 2019 Global Sustainable Report found that gender equality has been persistent and prevalent in both developed and developing countries, but not even one country in the world has achieved it.

The annual summit gave the realisation that if we want a just and equitable world, we need to be aware of our own biases. We should work collaboratively for equity, liberation and inclusion.



SHOWERS OF BLESSINGS



"My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour." (Luke 1:46, 47)

On 20 February 2021, the Marian family celebrated the 25th jubilee of the religious life of their Headmistress, Rev. Sr. Poonam C J. The celebration began with a warm welcome speech that reflected on the significance of the occasion. This was followed by a brief history of Rev. Sr. Poonam's life that was shared by Rev. Sr. Rose C J. God's blessings were then invoked through a beautiful prayer song and prayer intentions by the teachers. A mellifluous jubilee song was also sung to mark the happy occasion. Our Manager, Rev. Fr. Jose T J and Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J presented Rev. Sr. Poonam with a bouquet and a gift as a token of our love.

In her address, Rev. Sr. Merlin spoke about the joys as well as the challenges encountered while leading a religious life. She expressed her happiness and congratulated Rev. Sr. Poonam on achieving this

incredible milestone. Rev. Sr. Poonam thanked everyone for making her day memorable. She expressed her heartfelt emotions by reciting an inspiring poem composed by her.

On 21 January 2021, Rev. Sr. Poonam celebrated her Feast Day. A small get together was held on the joyful occasion. It was attended by the Sisters, the coordinators of the primary and the senior wing and the members of the office staff. Rev. Sr. Poonam was presented a bouquet and a gift. This was followed by the cake-cutting ceremony. A powerpoint presentation highlighting the happy and memorable moments of Rev. Sr. Poonam in St. Mary's school was also shown.

Our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin congratulated Rev. Sr. Poonam on her Feast Day. In her message, Rev. Sr. Poonam spoke about St. Agnes of Rome, her patron saint. She expressed her gratitude for making her Feast Day wonderful and special.



72nd REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATION

The spirit of patriotism was high in the air on 26 January 2021, when our school celebrated India's 72nd Republic Day on a virtual platform with the same vigour and enthusiasm as we celebrate every year. The programme was aired live on 'E-Marians', our school's YouTube channel.

The colourful cultural fiesta was organized by the students and the teachers of class VI. The programme began with an enactment of Rabindranath Tagore's poem, 'Where the mind is without fear...into that heaven of freedom, my father, let my country awake.' The importance of the Constitution, Purna Swaraj Diwas and Republic Day were highlighted through an informative presentation and the recital of a beautiful poem. The message of hope and courage for our young/ future generation was delivered through a virtual skit called 'Visionaries- Then and Now', which showcased the hopes and aspirations of our founding fathers from the present generation. The fervor of patriotism persisted with the melodious songs and colourful dances performed by the students.

On this auspicious occasion, our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J gave an inspirational message to rededicate ourselves to build a greater and stronger India, where everyone lives a life of dignity, brotherhood and oneness. Rev. Sr. Merlin motivated the students to be the flag bearers of a cleaner, healthier, peaceful and developed India.



MARY WARD WEEK



A Woman beyond Compare: 'A beacon of light in difficult times': Mother Mary Ward. Venerable Mother Mary Ward, the Foundress of the Congregation of Jesus, was a valiant English lady, who worked for the education of youth and laid special emphasis on moral and spiritual formation, in response to the needs of the time.

In reverence of the great woman, Mary Ward Week is celebrated in our school from 23 to 30 January every year. These two dates commemorate her birth anniversary and her death anniversary respectively. Due to the pandemic limitations this year, all celebrations were done virtually.

Mary Ward Week was inaugurated on 23 January 2021 by our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, Headmistress, Rev. Sr. Poonam C J and Rev. Sr. Rose C J by lighting the ceremonial lamp as a symbol of the three virtues- Freedom, Justice and Sincerity- on which the entire spirituality of the C J

congregation stands.

A special assembly was conducted by the students of class VIII. They beautifully depicted the life of Mary Ward and highlighted her message of living a good value based life for the welfare of the society. The students gifted saplings to the Sisters and wished them a happy and wonderful feast.

Our Manager, Rev. Fr. Jose T J extended his festal greetings and blessings to the C J sisters and appreciated them for their tireless and selfless service to the society.

During the week, one maxim of Mary Ward was sent to the students every day in their class groups to reflect upon her ideals and imbibe those virtues in their life. Mary Ward Week celebrations concluded on 30 January 2021 with a calligraphy competition on Mary Ward maxims for the students of classes VI- VIII.



"RAINBOW" WISHES FOR CLASS XII

'Some people come into our lives and quickly go. Some stay for a while, leave footprints on our hearts, and we are never, ever the same.'

The epic batch of class XII (2020-21) was given a befitting fond farewell on 27 February 2021 in the school hall. Keeping in mind the pandemic protocol, the solemn ceremony was conducted in two separate shifts. It was a kind gesture on the part of the school management, very specially our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, to organise this unique farewell programme so that the students do not miss out carrying special memories when they step out of the portals of St. Mary's. The theme of the day was- 'Rainbow- A Ray of Hope'- an affirmation to the students that a vibrant colourful rainbow in the sky is one of God's wonders on earth and is meant to bring good fortune and happiness after a dark time. The auditorium was beautifully decorated with all the hues and colours of a vibrant rainbow.

The programme started with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp. It was followed by a short prayer service and a wonderful entertainment programme that was prepared by students of class XI and showed on the virtual platform. The day became nostalgic when the outgoing batch was presented with mementoes as a remembrance and blessing from the school management.

Speaking on the occasion, our Manager, Rev. Fr. Jose T J advised the students to follow the "Toolkit of Success", which includes passion, hard work and aim. He asked them to be like a rainbow and work for the betterment of the society. Our dear Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J motivated the children to work hard and strive towards their goal by incorporating passion and dedication in their approach.

The management and the staff of St. Mary's Sr. Sec. School wish the class XII batch of 2020-21 boundless success wherever they go. May they become good human beings and make their alma mater proud. Amen!



FAREWELL, DEAR ALMA MATER!

Endings are inevitable. No matter how good a book is or how beautiful a tree is, everything eventually comes to an end. We close books, trees shed their leaves and everything moves on.

I remember looking at the farewell photos of previous batches and imagining how amazing and fun it would be to pass out of school, to finally leave this place forever. But now that I have reached that point myself, I feel quite the contrary. How I wish to attend school for just one more day!

But well, part of the journey is the end. And, as I have come to the end of my 13-year journey, I am filled with gratitude for my school. My batch mates also join me in penning down their feelings and best wishes for our alma mater.

- With immense gratitude and delight, I would like to thank our school for ingraining the best of education, values and confidence in each student. All these qualities will enable us to lead a 'good' life. Reminiscing about the time here as a student makes me feel nostalgic. These sweet memories will be etched forever in our hearts. **Christeena Issac, XII-C**

- It's time to bid adieu to my alma mater and step out into the world, carrying the ethos and values of St. Mary's, to explore and reach great heights; to bring change; to follow passion; to reach out to a wide range of opportunities. The values I gained in school will surely be a guiding factor while taking decisions in the future. I am indebted to my school for giving me ample opportunities. I hope and pray that the school continues to prosper. May God bless each and every member of the Marian family..... Ending my words with gratitude.....**Elisha Thomas, XII- D**

- Thankyou seems too small a word to acknowledge my Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J, my teachers and the entire school management, whose full fledged support, love, guidance and encouragement has made me what I am today. I am really grateful and always will be. Bidding adieu to my alma mater with a bag full of memories and love!!! I wish St Mary's success and glory in the years to come. **Anupama Nair, XII - C**

- The final year of my school life was unlike any challenge I had ever faced. The past year taught me many valuable lessons. It taught me that future is always uncertain and one can never know when life throws a curveball at you. But my school has given me the strength and wisdom to overcome such challenges headfirst and emerge victorious. I will always remember my time at my alma mater as a defining moment in my life. **Joel Stephen, XII- A**

- The mentoring I received in St. Mary's has greatly influenced my personality. Since day one, the corrections I needed, the motivation I needed and basically everything that could turn me from a boy to a gentleman, was provided here. I only wish that these school days weren't over, but 'c'est la vie.' Looking back, I remember the good times I had and the great people I met, be it my mentors or my friends, and I am thankful to each one for being a part of my journey in school. **Raj Tiwari, XII- A**

As I conclude this memoir, I can proudly say that we, the Marians of Class XII (batch 2020-21), rose to the challenge of studying and preparing for arguably the most important examination of our school days, sitting in our homes, through a devastating pandemic.

Cheers to the most versatile and resilient batch - our batch of 2020-21! I wish our school, its management, the teachers and the support staff all the very best for their future endeavours.

**Daniel Prakash
XII C**

WELCOME BACK, DEAR MARIANS!



'Life is about accepting the challenges along the way, choosing to keep moving forward, and savouring the journey'

The year 2020 will be remembered as one of the most challenging years in the history of mankind. After eleven months of lockdown, being confined to homes and struggling to update learning through online classes, the government allowed students of classes X and XII to go to school for practicals and doubt clearing sessions.

We, at St. Mary's, welcomed the first batch of class XII students on 4 February 2021 for Maths practicals. They were welcomed whole heartedly by our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J and the teachers. A beautifully decorated board with a welcome message was kept for them at the entrance. The temperature of each student was checked and their hands were sanitised as they entered the school gate. Students' excitement was visible even though their faces were covered by masks. Strict COVID protocol was followed in the school. Many teachers were on duty to ensure that social distancing norms and other safety rules are followed by everyone. Sanitisers and gloves were provided to the students in the lab.

A comprehensive schedule with different timings and small groups was prepared to help the students

perform practicals of all the subjects. The doubt clearing sessions for classes X and XII were also held in small groups and at different timings to help the students. The students and the parents expressed their appreciation and gratitude towards our dear Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin for paving the way for the return of the students to school amidst full precautions and warmth.



'TWINNING' RENDEZVOUS

It was a thrilling experience for our young students of class VI when they eagerly participated in the virtual twinning programme with our twin school- Government Boys' Secondary School, Mayur Vihar Phase III, Delhi.

The Directorate of Education recently introduced a 'Twinning of Schools Programme' with an aim to share learning related activities by the students of government and private schools.

The topic for the event was 'Gender and Equity.' The programme started with a formal introduction of the heads of both the institutions. It was followed by a video presentation by the students.

Children, along with teachers, were divided into three breakout rooms. The students spoke about their school, sports, online/offline classes, lockdown, etc. Later they all shared their experiences in the main room. At the end of the session, a competition was held where the students were asked to express their feelings of lockdown through poems and drawings. Our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J expressed her joy at the success of such an innovative programme. She said that such interactions develop humanitarian values of sharing, caring and guidance among students and prepare them to become good citizens of tomorrow.



LET'S SALUTE THE WOMEN

'No country can ever truly flourish if it stifles the potential of its women and deprives itself of the contributions of half of its citizens.' Michelle Obama

The NCC cadets of our school celebrated International Women's Day by conducting a special virtual assembly. The theme was, 'Choose to Challenge.' Through their powerful performances, the cadets conveyed the message that women are stronger and more capable than they are given credit for.

A power point presentation, focusing on the achievements of internationally acclaimed women and the pivotal role they have played in bringing around a difference in the society, was shown. This was followed by a wonderful dance performance highlighting the power of women. The students emphasised the fact that a woman can be affectionate, loving, caring, and at the same time be a dynamic personality, ready to take on the world.

A candle, as a symbol of power and courage, was lit at the feet of our patroness, Mother Mary. Our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J passed on the flame to the young girls so that they can light the world with their glory, getting the inspiration from Mother Mary.

Our Manager, Rev. Fr. Jose T J, our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J and our Headmistress, Rev. Sr. Poonam C J felicitated the cadets with an 'A' certificate for their achievements.

Speaking on the occasion, Rev. Sr. Merlin emphasised that gender equality and safety of women is the need of the hour. She congratulated the 22 young NCC cadets for successfully completing their training and receiving 'A' certificates. She wished them to be wonderful women leaders of tomorrow.





SAILING THROUGH THE PANDEMIC



The dizzying, rapidly escalating viral crisis that was closing schools all across the country about a year ago, made every teacher vex into silence by the sheer size of the problem and made them realise the chasm they were all about to face. However, we at St. Mary's, acknowledged the extraordinary. We rapidly reset our baseline and made sure that even without the traditional teaching methods, our students still get a rich learning experience.

The diligent management team of our school immediately shifted to the digital platform of MS TEAMS. We were provided with separate mail ids followed by training sessions after which students were given access to their ids to start this journey of online classes on MS TEAMS.

WE EXPECTED TRIAL... AND PLENTY OF ERRORS

Still we planned for it, and did our best to make peace with it.

We knew our work will be hard, but there were students facing more severe challenges. Students with no internet or no computer and mobiles needed our support. It was especially hard for those with learning differences and other circumstances. Supporting these students was on almost everyone's mind and the panic was all perfectly understandable.

At the highest level, a shift in mindset was required. It was hard and exhausting, But the students were doing their best and giving us the strength everyday to go on.

From our side, we provided meaningful activities to keep everyone engaged but soon understood that not everyone is in the same condition to do those. Everyone's parents were working from home and those who had siblings were vying for separate laptops and needed extra data on a daily basis. So, to ease their difficulties, we gave different class

timings to senior and junior students. Teachers went one step further for those who were in dire need and provided them with digital aid so that they can learn in peace.

But time and distance were also playing their part well in the crisis. "What would normally take us one period to teach in the classroom took twice as long." Thankfully, CBSE understood it timely and decreased the syllabus for class X and XII students. Humans are social animals. Working from home, or worse, from quarantine, is isolating and often depressing for both teachers and students.

We made a concentrated effort to speak to our students to provide emotional and psychological context to our work. School gave opportunity to students to participate in online competitions. They were given various chances to showcase their talent through different activities. We told the students as well as ourselves:

"Just take it day by day. It gets less overwhelming and more routine".

Being open-minded and flexible is the key. "Everyone thinks you can't until you pause, talk it out with folks who are doing it, and know that you'll get through it." EVERYONE THINKS THEY CAN'T—BEFORE THEY CAN.

Though we sailed through the storm, we are still waiting for the shore. Our students are now appearing for board exams. Hopefully, they will shine and make us proud! As I am writing this, the second wave is already on the rise, but this time we are all stronger and more prepared to face the challenges that come upfront. Let's have trust in God and His miracles.

- Ms. Nandita Sarup
PGT Chemistry

Joy of Online Classes



‘Technology is just a tool. In terms of getting the kids working together and motivating them, the teacher is the most important.’ Bill Gates

As COVID 19 outbreak spread worldwide, schools, colleges, offices and educational institutions were shutdown. Everything came to a standstill. The world experienced a complete lockdown due to the corona virus threat.

The pandemic led teachers and educators to an unpredictable scenario, where the lockdown shifted our traditional school learning to online educational methods. In a flash, we teachers moved from the real world to the virtual. This reminds us of a famous quote by Henry Ford- ‘Anyone who stops learning is old- whether at twenty or eighty. Anyone who keeps learning stays young’. Teachers across the globe adapted to the new technology and evolved themselves according to the sudden changes brought up by the situation. They transformed themselves by exploring new methods of teaching, of conducting assessments and engaging students effectively.

The online teaching experience has been a memorable one as we could successfully connect with the students. The bright smiles of the tiny tots on the screens cheered our hearts. We could conduct online tests, projects, storytelling sessions and various other activities with ease. It was heartening to note that everybody got accustomed to the new normal despite its challenges. The parents also participated wholeheartedly and were appreciative of the efforts made by the schools.

Our school management was a great help and support at every stage. We are grateful to our Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J and our Headmistress, Rev. Sr. Poonam C J for motivating us at all times. Under their able guidance, we could overcome all hurdles and obstacles. It has altogether been an enriching experience, full of joy and learning.

Ms. Hashnu Nautiyal (PRT)

Ms. Reena Lobo (PRT)



'THANKYOU, LORD ALMIGHTY!'

"The struggle ends when gratitude begins."

The wheel of time moved on and the academic session 2020-21 came to an end. The much awaited 'Thanksgiving' assembly was live streamed on YouTube to develop a sound consciousness of the incredible contribution of each and everyone in overcoming the challenges faced by the students during the pandemic year 2020.

Through this assembly, the students paid rich tribute to the school management for their relentless and tireless effort to provide them with the best educational study platform. A special thanks was conveyed to the Principal, Rev. Sr. Merlin C J for her support, guidance and motivation which helped the students and the teachers alike to continue their journey without any major hindrance throughout the year.

The students thanked God for keeping them and their near and dear ones safe and healthy. A paradigm shift in the methodology of teaching from offline to online by the teachers was also appreciated and acknowledged. The students also thanked their parents for their inspiration, drive and support.

Rev. Sr. Merlin conveyed her wishes to the students and gave a powerful message for their bright and happy future. She urged the young Marians to have a grateful heart and to practice kindness.

The students conveyed their gratitude through song and dance performances.

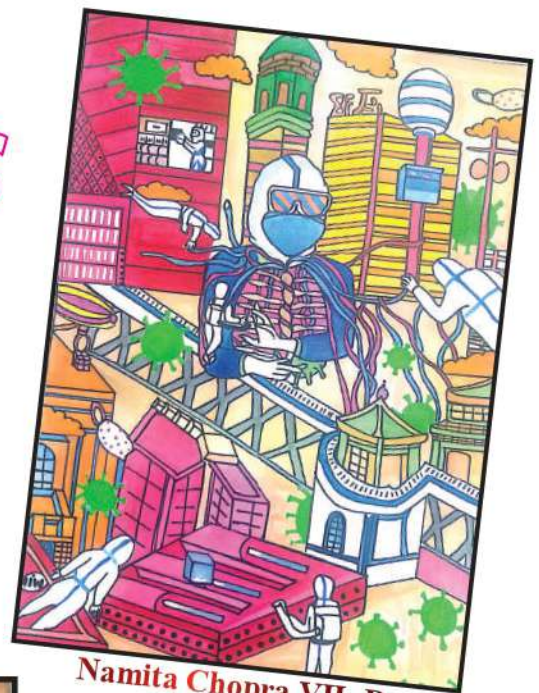
The assembly concluded with the students promising to make their alma mater proud of them. They also assured to imbibe the vision statement of the school and pledged to remain committed to the cause of humans and environment through justice, peace, love and integrity of creation.



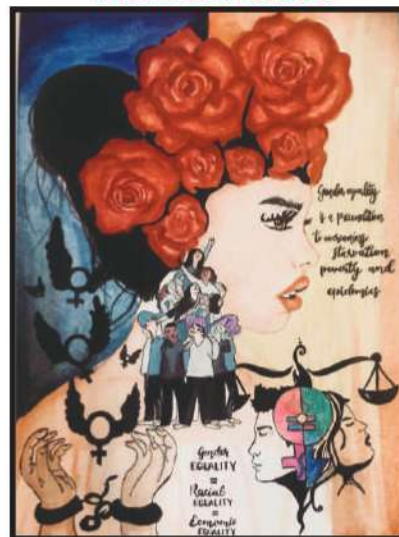
BRUSH STROKES



Sandra Rosa Prince IX- A



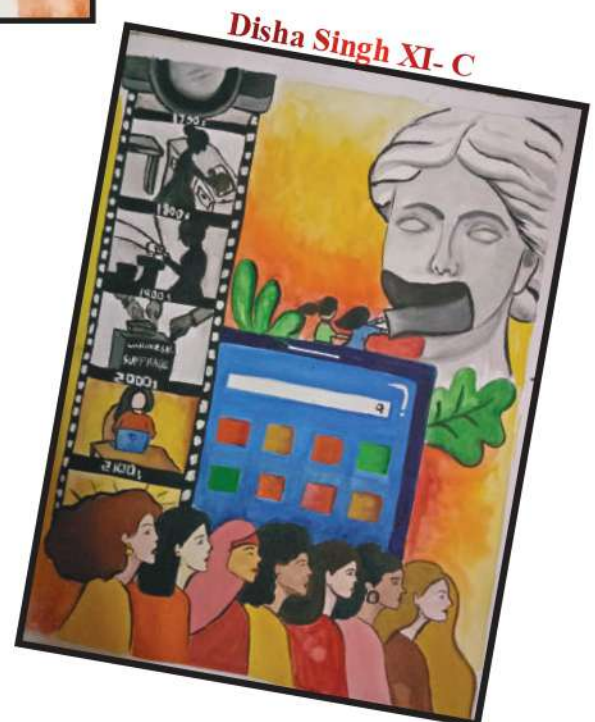
Namita Chopra VII- D



Vritika Bhati IX-B



Dhanshee Gautam VII- A



Disha Singh XI- C



Sreya P P VIII- B



Medhansh II- C



Ayan Halder II- C



Jayakrishnan II- B



Advika Thapliyal KG- D



Harshali Rawat KG- A

हिंदी लेख



ऑनलाइन कक्षाएँ और हम

इस कोरोना महामारी ने सब कुछ अस्त-व्यस्त कर दिया है। जिसमें शिक्षा भी प्रभावित हुई है क्योंकि लॉकडाउन में सब कुछ बंद हो गया था। बच्चे और बड़े सभी के काम प्रभावित हुए। इस महामारी के समय में हाई टेक (अत्याधुनिक सुविधाओं से लैस) ने हम सब की सहायता की। जिससे बच्चों की ऑनलाइन कक्षाओं से पढ़ाई शुरू हुई। इन ऑनलाइन कक्षाओं से अच्छे परिणाम आए। हम अपने अध्यापकों और सहपाठियों को देख सके। जो अध्यापक हमें समझाते थे। वह हमें समझने में आसानी हुई। हम विद्यालय जाए बिना ज्ञान प्राप्त कर सके। इसमें शिक्षकों की अहम भूमिका थी। शुरू में कुछ कठिनाई का सामना करना पड़ा। हमारी परीक्षाएँ, अभिभावक-शिक्षक-सभा, कक्षा-सभा आदि ऑनलाइन हुई। इसका यह लाभ हुआ कि अभिभावक भी इन कार्यक्रमों को देख सके। बच्चों व बड़ों ने कंप्यूटर व मोबाइल को चलाने का ज्ञान प्राप्त किया। अभिभावकों ने अपने बच्चों की कक्षाओं के प्रति दिलचस्पी दिखाई और हम भी अपनी पढ़ाई में व्यस्त हो गए। ऑनलाइन कक्षाएँ होने से हमारा साल भी व्यर्थ होने से बच गया। जो मज़ा पढ़ने का कक्षा में आता है, वह ऑनलाइन कक्षा में नहीं आ सकता किंतु समय की माँग के अनुसार ऑनलाइन कक्षाएँ भी हमारे जीवन का महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सा बन गई हैं। ऑनलाइन कक्षाएँ विद्यार्थियों और अध्यापकों के बीच में एक मज़बूत कड़ी बन कर उभरी है।

प्रांजना सारस्वत

4 डी

मनुष्य का प्रकृति से खिलवाड़

प्राणियों में मनुष्य ही एक ऐसा प्राणी है यदि वह चाहे तो प्रकृति का संरक्षण कर सकता है। वास्तव में इसके विपरीत हो रहा है। प्रकृति को बर्बाद किया जा रहा है। विकास के लालच में मनुष्य प्रकृति से जगह-जगह खिलवाड़ कर रहा है। सड़कें बनाने के लिए पेड़ काट रहा है। हवाई अड्डे बनाने के लिए खेत-खलियान उजाड़ रहा है। बड़े-बड़े पहाड़ों को विस्फोट कर गिरा रहा है। अधिक उपज प्राप्त करने के लालच में मिट्टी में रसायन डालकर उसे बर्बाद कर रहा है। पहाड़ों से बहने वाली नदियों का रास्ता रोककर उन पर बाँध बना रहा है। अभी कुछ दिन पहले प्रकृति ने अपना क्रोध दिखाते हुए उत्तराखंड में दो जल परियोजनाओं के बाँधों को नष्ट कर दिया। जिससे जान-माल की भारी हानि हुई। अभी भी समय है कि मानव अपनी भूल को सुधारें और प्रकृति से खिलवाड़ करना बंद करें। कहीं ऐसा न हो कि एक दिन प्रकृति रौद्र रूप धारण करके मनुष्य का नामो-निशान मिटा दें।

तन्मय गुलाटी

5 सी

विडंबना

आँगन में किलकारी गूँजी
माँ ने पुत्र रत्न पाया
बंधु-बंधवों का ताँता लगा है
स्वजनों ने मंगल गाया ।

खिल-खिला कर माँ की गोद में
नन्हे शब्द दोहराता
पिता के कंधों पर चढ़कर
सम्राटों की भाँति इतराता ।
मंजुल काया प्रखर बुद्धि
विद्या पाने की जिज्ञासा थी
गुरुदेव के प्रिय शिष्य ने
कुछ करने की ठानी
स्वर्ण पदक ले उत्तीर्ण हुआ
माता-पिता दोनों हर्षाएँ
शिक्षा पूर्ण हुई बेटे की
सुनहरे भविष्य की आशाएँ ।
धन उपार्जन हेतु किया
सात समंदर पार
मातृभूमि से विमुख
हाय ! प्रगति की धार ।
जिस धरती पर जन्म लिया
जिसका अन्न था खाया
उसी राष्ट्र का त्याग किया
और गैरों को अपनाया ।
बिना राष्ट्र का ऋण चुकाए
सम्मान कहाँ से पाओगे
अपनों के जो हो न सके
तो औरों के क्या हो पाओगे?
देश-प्रेम को ग्रहण लगा है, धन-लोलुपता का प्रभाव
क्या यही है उन्नति ?
क्या यही है प्रगति ?
क्या यही है सेवाभाव ?
क्षणभर ठहरो, देखो विचारों
इस भूमि में रत्न छिपे हैं
करना होगा अथक परिश्रम
कण-कण में स्वर्ण कणिकाएँ बिखरी हैं ।
निज सभ्यता व संस्कृति को पहचानो
यों कायरों की भाँति मत भागो
यही देवभूमि, यही स्वर्ग है
उठो, उठो हे पुत्र ! अब जागो ।

रिद्धि जेना
आठवीं 'ए'

कोरोना काल का प्रभाव

17 दिसंबर को वुहान से निकला
और पूरे संसार का माहौल बिगाड़ा ।
कोई नहीं जान पाया कैसे यह आया
इसने तो अपनों को बना दिया पराया ।
अपनों को कई लोगों ने खोया
इसे देख हर मनुष्य का दिल रोया ।
इस साल ने हमें बहुत कुछ दिखाया
पर परिस्थितियों से लड़ना भी सिखलाया ।
एकल परिवार में खेल रहे थे जो खेल
संयुक्त परिवार के रूप में हुआ सबका मेल ।
बेशक रुक गया हमारा बाहर जाना
पर बहुत लोगों ने सीखा घर में खाना बनाना ।
फिर कुछ ख्याल आया क्यों न करें
कुछ नया इस साल में ।
जब मैंने बहुत चीजों को टटोला
और अपने ख्यालों का पिटारा खोला ।
थोड़े सपने देखे और थोड़ी मेहनत करी
बनी कई चीजें मुझसे, उम्मीदों भरी ।
क्यों सोचे इस काल को बुरा
क्यों ना करें कुछ नया ।

धनश्री गौतम
सातवीं 'ए'

जल ही जीवन है

सोचो, अगर जल न हो तो
कहाँ से हमारी प्यास बुझेगी
कहाँ से खाने की आस बनेगी ।।
सोचो, अगर जल न हो तो
कहाँ से नभ पर बादल होंगे
कहाँ से वर्षा की बात बनेगी ।।
वर्षा न हो तो फसलों की, कभी नहीं फिर बात बनेगी
कहाँ से खाना, कहाँ से पीना
जीवन की न बात बनेगी
सोचो, अगर जल न हो तो
कैसे सबकी बात बनेगी ।।
इसलिए ...इसलिए
मेरी बात ये मानो
संरक्षण इसका है जरूरी
तभी हमारी बात बनेगी
सोचो, अगर जल न हो तो
कहाँ से हमारी प्यास बुझेगी ।।
आओ, आओ
शपथ हम ले लें कि
पानी दूषित नहीं करेंगे

बहुत जरूरत पड़ने पर ही
इसका इस्तेमाल करेंगे ।।
इसके संरक्षण से ही अब तो
हम सबकी एक आस बनेगी
जल ही जीवन है हम सबका, संरक्षण से बात बनेगी
संरक्षण से बात बनेगी ।।

रिद्धिमा
सातवीं 'ए'

जीवन एक संघर्ष

जीवन एक संघर्ष है,
कभी दुख कभी हर्ष है ।
इसका हर रूप विविध है,
इसलिए तो यह एक आदर्श है ।
जीवन एक संघर्ष है, कभी दुख कभी हर्ष है ।
कठिनाइयों ने परखा हमको जीवन के हर मोड़ पर,
डरे नहीं और डटे रहे हम,
तभी तो जीवन में उत्कर्ष है ।
जीवन एक संघर्ष है, कभी दुख कभी हर्ष है ।
सफलता और संघर्ष एक दूसरे के पूरक हैं,
जो इसे समझ ले वह ज्ञान की गुल्लक है ।
मुसीबतों के साथ जीना सीख लिया जिसने,
उसी का जीवन संघर्ष है ।
जीवन एक संघर्ष है, कभी दुख कभी हर्ष है ।

लावण्या
आठवीं 'बी'



तुम चलो तो सही

राह में मुश्किल होगी हज़ार
तुम दो कदम बढ़ाओ तो सही
हो जाएगा हर सपना साकार
तुम चलो तो सही, तुम चलो तो सही ।
मुश्किल है पर इतनी भी नहीं
कि तू कर न सके
दूर है मंजिल लेकिन इतनी भी नहीं
कि तू पा न सके
तुम चलो तो सही, तुम चलो तो सही ।
एक दिन तुम्हारा भी नाम होगा
तुम्हारा भी सत्कार होगा
तुम कुछ लिखो तो सही
तुम कुछ आगे पढ़ो तो सही
तुम चलो तो सही, तुम चलो तो सही ।
सपनों को साकार करने में कब तक गोते लगाते रहोगे
तुम एक राह है चुनो तो सही
तुम उठो तो सही, तुम कुछ करो तो सही
कुछ न मिले तो कुछ सीख जाओगे
जिंदगी का अनुभव साथ ले जाओगे
तुम फिर एक बार जीत जाओगे
तुम चलो तो सही, तुम चलो तो सही ।
माविया प्रवीण
सातवीं 'ए'



ENGLISH CREATIVE WRITING

INNER BEAUTY

You cannot hope that beauty is all,
that it will read what lies within.
Just know this what you see is a wall,
Just an illusion is that grace and skin.

Dreams I have, a passionate soul,
Looks and charm and grace alone
Won't speak for me, on the whole
From inside, I am a real gemstone.

Maybe flawless I am not,
But pure is my heart, I say for sure.
Look inside me, you'll find not a spot,
I am a human, maybe with no allure.

I'm not perfect nor will I ever be
A heart I have that's willing to give
For I'm just a human, look at me
I have flaws and a will to live!

Swastika Dash
VII- D

EMPATHY

Let's see the world, with the eyes of the other,
The differences and the divergences;
Step up to meet each other halfway,
Let's put ourselves in someone's shoes,
And sneak a peek into their field of view.

Like a firefly that looms out of the darkness of the night
Empathy is the ray of hope that enlightens the dark mind,
And wipes away every inch of darkness and fears within;
Surely and steadily, like a lighthouse that signals the lost ship,

Empathy reaches out to our soul in this lost world.

An open mind, a reassuring touch of kindness,
Makes the world a better place, doesn't it?

Aparna Sashi
XI-C

HOPE

Hope may dwindle
Darkness may consume you
Even if it hurts
Hold up
'Cause I will come to you.

I will loosen your burden
And bind your bruise
And we'll together make it through.

Let all your emotions come out
And make your heart feel light,
It's okay if some days are dark
It's just a phase of our life.
Move on, and let it be thy past,
Because I believe this too shall pass.

Ananya Antony
XI-B

School Life

Life is all about learning from experiences. School life is a preparation to face the challenges that the biggest school called life or world will offer us. Every student should make best use of school life because it teaches us discipline, punctuality and comes once in a lifetime. We not only learn the basic skills to read and write but also get to learn about people, places and life skills necessary for our proper all round development. School life shapes our

character, moulds our mental attitude and for many of us the days spent in school are the happiest and the best days of our life.

Ishika Verma
V- A

Lessons learnt from Corona Times

Over the last few months, life has changed around the world. Corona has brought terrible illness and death, but it has also highlighted some important life lessons. We have learnt the importance of hygiene during this pandemic. We have all been taught to wash our hands every time with soap when we return home from outside. It really is the best way to keep safe. We have learnt the value of sharing, caring and supporting each other. The availability of food, water, shelter, communication, medicines, online education, entertainment on television and the internet has kept us going. We have found the ways to learn new skills. Communities are connected, COVID-19 pandemic situation has shown us that we are truly connected with the help of technology. Be it Zoom, Microsoft team or Google meet, COVID has taught us the virtues of virtual space. During these dark days, technology has proved to be the light of hope for all of us. It has kept us connected, informed and educated. COVID has made us realise our responsibility and role in contributing in our way to find a solution.

Jennifer Sanil
IV- C

Life after Corona Pandemic

Life after the COVID-19 outbreak will never be the same. The fear of getting caught by the deadly virus may not go away even though an effective COVID-19 vaccine has been invented. What will be life after that is still uncertain. The virus will still be out there, but there won't be as many susceptible people. When people do get sick, it will be treatable. People will still take precautions to make sure a pandemic like this will not occur again. Online classes will continue for some time but sooner or later the schools will reopen. The students will be asked to take precautions till the vaccine is distributed across the country. I pray to God that after sometime this virus goes and never comes back. The parks and playgrounds will be filled with children. Businesses will flourish again. Malls will be opened for public again. After some time, life will become normal. But the definition of this normal will be different. The mask is the new normal and so is the hand sanitizer. I hope life after COVID-19 will become better than what it was before.

Lakshit Sharma
IV- D