



# NAVA SPURTHI

**Bangalore Region**

" Be convinced that God will always give you what is best for you " - Ven. Mary Ward



**Vol. XV/ II**

**NEWSLETTER**

**JULY – SEPTEMBER 2024**

## MARIA SADAN REGIONAL HOUSE, BANGALORE

July was indeed a month of feasts and celebrations. We attended the congregation feast of our neighbours, CSST (Mount Carmel College) community on 16<sup>th</sup>, Sisters of St. Anne's of Bangalore on the 26<sup>th</sup> and joined Xavier Nilaya, the Patna Jesuit Formation House on 27<sup>th</sup> and the Indian Social Institute (ISI Bangalore) on the 31<sup>st</sup> to celebrate the Feast of St. Ignatius of Loyola.

We were indeed happy to welcome Sr. Anet IBVM to our community as a new member as she came to do her studies from Montfort College Bangalore. We also had the joy of having a surprise short visit from Fr. Robert Athickal SJ, the founder of TARUMITRA (Friends of Trees).

Sr. Susan prepared Shreedevi, for baptism as she was getting ready to marry a catholic boy Mr. Akhil, our ex-student from Mary Ward English Medim School, Puthenvelikara, Kerala.

In the month of August, we were blessed with short visits of Sr. Sunita from Allahabad province, Sr. Pratima from Rome, Fr. Sanal MCBS, Fr. Balraj from Rome, Sr. Susan's niece and Sr. Adrina IBVM who came to do her LLB from St. Joseph's College of Law, Bangalore.

All of us took part in the novena Mass in St. Mary's Basilica, Shivaji Nagar, our parish church, from 30<sup>th</sup> August to 7<sup>th</sup> September. We had a grand celebration of our Parish feast on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September. Sr. Susan rendered her services to the parish during the novena days.

Sr. Shradha along with Sr. Rose Mary attended the ELM (Extended Leadership Meeting) in Loyola, Spain. According to her it was indeed a time to discover our oneness and our roots in Mary Ward and the ways of working together. Both the leadership team interacted and reflected together and found a common ground with lots of hope and possibilities for future.

## LORETO CONVENT, TRICHY

The Patrician brothers from Alundur, visited us and invited us to three of their schools to speak to the catholic girls. We had the opportunity to meet the girls at Montfort brothers' schools and parish schools at Manaparai. We request your prayers as well, so that a few girls be inspired to join our congregation. We visited Asha Deepam at Crawford, a home for mentally challenged run by SCN sisters. We joined the





celebration on the feast of St. Ignatius at St. Joseph's College, Trichy and the blessing of OLPS grotto of CSsR fathers. Every week we go to the families of old parents and singles and pray with them.



We were blessed with the visit of Rev. Dr. S. Arokiaraj, Bishop of Tiruchirappalli and Rev. Arul Amalraj O. Pram Abbot of Norbertines, to our parish. In preparation for the feast of Mary Queen of all saints and the silver jubilee of our parish, we had the 9 days of novena, Holy Mass and a festive meal. Fr. Fr. Joseph Xavier S. J. offered the Holy Mass to celebrate the feast day of Sr. Smitha

We belong to the St. Cecilia Anbium of our Parish. We attend the SCC meeting regularly conducted every month in different families for Bible sharing and prayer.

The 75<sup>th</sup> gathering of our Anbium was held in our convent on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2024. The President of the SCC of Trichy diocese, 6 priests, leaders of parish SCC groups and organizations, and the families of our Anbium were present. It was a grace filled assembly.



### **MARY WARD ILLAM, MITTAPALLI**

Any celebration brings joy to all those around. It was a joy for our community to celebrate Sr. Mercy's Birthday on 3<sup>rd</sup> July and prayed for her intentions.



Sr. Rupal's Cousin Priest Rev. Fr. Rupak (PIME) paid a visit to us on 27<sup>th</sup> July. Father enjoyed his stay with us. On the same day in the evening, Sacred Heart administrator Rev. Fr. Sathiyathan and His priest friends from Tripattur visited us.





On 4<sup>th</sup> August along with our Parishners we wished our parish priest Rev. Fr. Dominic Raja on the feast of St. John- Maria Vanney. We prayed for him and for the well-being of our parish.

On 1<sup>st</sup> September our regional superior Rev. Sr. Shradha CJ paid the annual visit to our community.

On 17<sup>th</sup> our community had an outing to Yelagiri Hills. Fr. Charles (SDB), who is the son of Mr. Michael our parishner, arranged a guide for us to enjoy the beautiful Hills and the lush- green surrounding. All of us enjoyed the trip.



## Activities of the School



Our Scout students participated in the Pre –Raj Puraskar Camp conducted in Adiyaman B.Ed. College on 23<sup>rd</sup> July.

Independence Day was celebrated in the school on 15<sup>th</sup> August. Our parish priest Rev. Fr. Dominic

hoisted the National flag followed by various cultural competitions. The Regional Superior Sr. Shradha CJ Came to the school on her official visit on 4<sup>th</sup> September.

The Teachers' Day was celebrated with pomp and gaiety. The students expressed love, concern and gratitude for their mentors with an entertaining programme.

Sherwin from Class VII Participated in CM Trophy Chess Competition at Krishnagiri. They were 300 Participants, and he stood in 6<sup>th</sup> Position. Our students took part in the district level Football Tournament, Tennikot and bagged 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Positions respectively.



## MARY WARD CONVENT, PUTHENVELIKARA

We celebrated the feast of Sr. Esther and Sr. Rosalia. Our staff visited them and spent some time with them. Sr. Esther went home for two days, and Srs. Georgia and Amala accompanied her. She was happy to be with her family members.





Sr. Vidya, being the animator of the Kerala Catholic Youth Movement (**KCYM**) in our parish Krishinkal, attends the meetings held every month. She recently visited an orphanage in Elanthikara along with the parish priest and KCYM members.

### **ACTIVITIES OF THE SCHOOL:**

**Courses and competitions:** An awareness session on **anti-drug and narcotics** was conducted for classes 7 to 11 by K.G. Vijnath, Assistant Excise Officer. Additionally, a half-day orientation for classes 8 to 11 was led by Shine Sajive, a coach and counsellor. A two-day **cultural fest** was successfully conducted in the school, providing a platform for students to express themselves artistically and celebrate the rich diversity of cultures. The event featured a variety of performances. The **ASISC regional-level literary competition** was held at KE Mannanam, Kottayam, and a few of our students participated in it. Mrs. Mary Jasby accompanied them.



Our school actively participated in Kerala Students League (**KCSL**). Nashitha Jaison of Class VIII won the first prize for story writing. A few students participated in the camp, and Nashitha Jaison was elected as the secretary for the high school section in Kottapuram diocese.

**Celebrations:** As part of the **Independence Day** celebrations, a special prayer assembly was conducted, highlighting the theme. SI Gijish was the chief guest. We also had a fancy-dress competition for KG, Classes I & II. Competitions like patriotic songs, the national anthem, 'Bharathamba,' were held.



The Deepika Children's League (**DCL**) was inaugurated on 30th August.

**The Teachers' Day** celebration was made grand by wishing each teacher and presenting them with a handmade card and a flower by the students. A cultural program was also arranged to appreciate the hard

work of our teachers, and each teacher was given a gift and lunch.



We had an Onam celebration after the first-term exam, during which a few competitions like tug of war, kudam thallal (breaking of pots), musical chair and class wise competitions for primary students, were conducted. Payasam (a sweet dish) was distributed to all the students and staff.



### **JYOTHIRBHAVAN, THURUTHIPURAM.**

The 31<sup>st</sup> of July being the feast of St. Ignatius, we had a prayer service highlighting the charism of St. Ignatius. On 3rd August Sr. Bernie went home for her home leave. And on 13th August Sr. Imma was admitted in the hospital with high fever and breathing problem. Her sodium and potassium had gone down. Sr. Georgia took the initiative to admit her in the hospital. Meanwhile Sr. Bernie rushed from home to look after Sr. Imma.

We had novena, Holy Mass, adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, spiritual renewal retreat , in preparation for the feast of our patron saint Francis of Assisi. All three of us take an active part in these activities of the parish for nine days. We are also regular in attending other parish activities, visiting families and teaching catechumens. We also help in the neighbouring parishes for the catechism and distribution of Holy Communion.

### **NIRMALA PUBLIC SCHOOL, PIZHAKU**

July began on a sacred note with the commemoration of St. Thomas Day. The students led an uplifting prayer service, showcasing the exemplary qualities of St. Thomas through inspiring readings, reflections, and a captivating video presentation that vividly portrayed the saint's life. The prayer assembly was followed by an engaging quiz based on the presentation, testing the students' knowledge about St. Thomas. Spot prizes were

awarded to the winners, adding an element of excitement and motivation. The event served as a wonderful opportunity for our students to deepen their understanding of St. Thomas' legacy and embody his values of faith, courage, and perseverance.

On July 9th, Team Deepika inaugurated the *Deepika Bhasha Padhathi* initiative at our school. Fr. George, Diocesan President of Deepika, addressed our students, emphasizing the significance of reading newspapers daily. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our esteemed alumni, who generously sponsored Deepika newspapers for this academic year. Their kindness will foster a culture of reading and knowledge among our students. This initiative aims to cultivate critical thinking, language skills, and social awareness among our students, preparing them to become informed and engaged global citizens."

On the feast of Our lady of Mount Carmel all of us joined CMC sisters for the holy mass and breakfast. During rainy and Muharram holidays we kept ourselves busy setting flower plants received on birthdays and feast days, and fixing plastic shelters on the rubber tress so that tapping could be done.

We participated in St. Alphonsa's feast day celebrations at Bharanganam church. 3<sup>rd</sup> of August was allotted for our parish to organize and celebrate Holy Mass and Rosary procession at the shrine of St. Alphonsa. Almost the whole parish participated actively. All of us were very happy and enriched by that experience. We celebrated the feast of St. Ignatius with a holy hour reflecting upon MAGIS.

Our students excelled at the ASISC Kerala Region Sports and Cultural Fest, securing numerous prizes for our school. Notably, three talented students advanced to the national level in Athletics, Skating and Chess. Each of them delivered outstanding performances, proudly showcasing their skills and talent on the national stage. We congratulate our students on their impressive achievements!



We proudly announce that Miss Alphonse, a student of class 7 excelled in the prestigious Orma International Speech Contest. Among 1500 participants, she made it to the grand finale with the top 15. Crowning her remarkable journey, Miss Alphonse secured the 3rd prize. We witnessed this outstanding achievement with immense pride and enthusiasm, congratulating her on this stellar success.



On July 20th, our school resonated with harmony and inspiration as students from Classes 1 to 10 came together for a choral recitation. This year's theme, **'Education for Social Transformation,'** was beautifully brought to life through their



powerful performances with conviction and deep understanding of education's transformative power. Through their thoughtful renditions, they conveyed uplifting messages, encouraging one another to embrace lifelong learning, foster empathy and compassion and strive for social change. Their united voices echoed the importance of education in shaping a better world.

We warmly celebrated the birthdays of Sr. Deepti and Sr. Carina at school and community with Holy Mass. The students eagerly sang 'Happy Birthday' as they presented the sisters with lovely bouquets of flowers, wishing them a joy-filled day.



The month of August was also a time of home mission in our parish. 8 CMC sisters stayed with us for 5 days to conduct a home mission. They joined us for community prayer and supper and during the day visited families. All of us joined Sr. Reena's (Delhi province) golden jubilee celebration at her home parish. It was a good chance to meet many CJ sisters together.

Our school hosted a handwriting competition, engaging students from all classes in a fun and educational experience. This event emphasized the significance of developing neat and legible handwriting. Participating students gained valuable insights into the importance of good handwriting, while showcasing their skills. The competition yielded impressive results, with numerous students securing prizes and certificates of merit as recognition for their exceptional handwriting. Congratulations to all the winners!



Marvel Books organized a captivating book exhibition at our school, sparking a love for reading among our students. The event received overwhelming participation from both teachers and students. Our students enthusiastically

browsed through the diverse collection of books, selecting inspiring reading to nurture their minds. A significant number of students made purchases, fostering a culture of reading and learning.

Celebrating India's **78th Independence Day** with Patriotism and Pride was another joyful occasion. Our school commemorated this momentous occasion with a grand ceremony. Sr. Seema, the manager, and Sr. Suchita, the principal, proudly hoisted the national flag. A heartfelt





prayer service honored the selfless sacrifices of our Indian Armed Forces, led by our students. The event featured: House-wise and individual competitions, participation in Deepika Color India drawing competition, eminent judges from the external community, including PTA members and alumni, an inspiring speech by Sr. Deepti our Primary Head, emphasizing the significance of Independence and also students-led events showcasing patriotism. The program received widespread acclaim. As a token of appreciation, sweets were distributed to all students.



On August 21st, we celebrated **Manager's Day**, recognizing Sr. Seema's invaluable contributions. The main auditorium hosted a joyous gathering to wish her on her birthday. A thoughtful prayer service and lively performances showcased our appreciation. Sr. Seema thanked all of us for our thoughtful gestures to make her day truly special.

Sr. Gladys joined our community by the last week of August. Sr. Suchita attended a day's training program at Pala for Sunday school teachers and the principal's meet at Mannanam. Sr. Janet's (Allahabad province) priest brother

offered Hoy Mass in our chapel. Sr. Janet brought her aged mother along and after the Holy Mass, we had breakfast and an enjoyable time together.

**Teachers' Day** was a spectacular event on our campus, saluting the tireless efforts of our teaching fraternity. Students warmly escorted teachers to the auditorium. The prayer service beautifully highlighted the theme **"you are a super teacher"** emphasizing the superhero-like impact teachers have on the lives of the students. A custom-made badge with the theme quote was proudly pinned on each teacher. The inauguration featured a symbolic lamp-lighting ceremony, led by the entire school team. The grand celebration culminated in a sumptuous meal shared by teachers and all other staff, fostering fraternity and gratitude.



Our school community enthusiastically celebrated **Onam**, Kerala's iconic harvest festival. The festivities began with a vibrant flower carpet, beautifully crafted by Class IX students. The bulletin boards were adorned with thematic decorations, emphasizing 'Onam for All.' A heartfelt prayer service, prepared by students, captivantly retold the myths and stories surrounding Onam. The arrival of Mahabali (Maveli) brought immense joy and excitement to the campus. The traditional Ona Payasam was served to all, spreading sweetness and festive cheer.



the onam special items and enjoyed onam lunch in a traditional manner.

Following the successful completion of the first-term exams, the school closed for Onam vacation, allowing students and staff to indulge in the festivities with their loved ones. We in the community prepared



Srs. Georgia, Amala and Esther visited our community after a day's visit to Sr. Esther's home. While Sr. Esther rested here. Srs. Georgia and Amala along with Srs. Carina and Borgia attended the funeral of Mrs. Rosamma, Sr. Alma's sister at Ezacherry and stayed with us over night.

Our campus vibrated with energy and excitement as we hosted a spectacular 3-day **cultural fest**. This grand event was an unforgettable experience for students, teachers and staff alike. Students took center stage, showcasing their exceptional talents in various cultural events, including music, dance, drama and art. The fest provided a platform for self-expression, creativity and teamwork.



We were happy to renew old relationship and memories by the short visits of some of our friends and well-wishers including Sr. Carina's relatives, Sr. Regina from Nepal and Tharakunnel family from Alakode. As a good number of us will soon begin our annual retreat, let us pray for each other.

### **ST. MARY'S SCHOOL, ALAKODE**

On 3rd July, we celebrated the feast of Sr. Thomasina. We had a Holy Eucharist offered for all her intentions. The priests from the parish were part of the celebration.

In our parish, the ward prayer (BCC) is very regular. Every Saturday and Sunday, we conduct prayer in the allotted wards. Srs. Rosemary, Christine and Thomasina faithfully go for the ward prayers, meetings and other activities of the parish. Sr. Thomasina is regular in teaching catechism to the students on Sundays.

This year also Sr. Thomasina bagged the first position in the ASPCT Examination, 2024, conducted for Sunday school teachers. It is the third consecutive year that she has secured this merit. Hearty Congratulations dear Sr. Thomasina!



### **Activities of the school:**

On 6th July, St. Mary's Convent School hosted a **literary competition** where young Wordsmiths and poets showcased their writing, poetry, and storytelling skills. The event was a testament to the students' creativity and passion for literature. Many students participated in various competitions, such as essay writing, poetry, and story writing.





The school launched on 8<sup>th</sup> August, the ‘**Deepika Ente Bhasha Padathi**’ program. It was inaugurated by K. K. Saju, VC of Kannur University. Shree K. K. Saju highlighted the significance of reading in student development. The event was attended by many dignitaries. To support this initiative, he generously sponsored the Deepika newspaper for the school, providing students an access to a wealth of knowledge and information. On the same day the VC of Kannur University inaugurated the literary club of the school. He also released the cover page of the school’s handwritten magazine, ‘**Signature,**’ a unique initiative promoting sustainability and creativity. This aims to reduce the carbon footprint and foster a love for writing.



On 10th July, KG students and teachers celebrated **Red Day** with vibrant red costumes, filling the school environment with energy and enthusiasm. The event promoted a fun-filled experience among students and teachers, creating cherished memories for our young learners.

SMC started the new academic year activity periods on 11th July, offering students an array of exciting options like skating, keyboard, guitar, dance, Zumba, karate, yoga, and abacus. This diverse range of activities encourages students

to discover new passions and talents. Since 11th July is World Population Day, a collage-making competition was arranged. Four houses participated in the program, and the Tagore House won 1st prize.

SMC has formed **various clubs**, including science, literacy, IT, maths, and social clubs, on 13th July. These clubs provide students with opportunities to explore their interests, develop new skills, and build friendships and leadership qualities. On 20th July, the IT club was inaugurated by Shiju N, Havildar, and Thejas K. K. from the **Kannur Cyber Cell**. The event featured a cybersecurity awareness program, educating students on online safety, social media security, password management, and cyberbullying. The experts emphasized responsible digital citizenship and encouraged students to maintain a secure online environment.



We hosted **Nutri Fest**, a nutrition awareness program, on 26th July, inaugurated by Fr. Praveen from Heralds of Good News, focusing on healthy eating habits and wellness for students. He also inaugurated the **Kids’ Fest** on the same day. The two-day festival was a thrilling experience for students, featuring exciting programs and creating unforgettable memories.

Commerce students at our school organized a marketing game on 26th July, under the guidance of commerce faculty, applying theoretical concepts to real-world scenarios and promoting teamwork and strategic thinking.

Ethen Joseph and Roya Alphonsa Joshy, students of SMC, represented the Kannur team at the 49th Kerala State Sub Junior Championship held in Idukki from 27th to 30th July, competing against top teams from across the state and gaining valuable experience in the sporting arena.

The school celebrated **Independence Day** with great fervour. Manager Sr. Thomasina C.J. hoisted the national flag, followed by a series of patriotic events, including a fancy-dress competition for KG, a patriotic song, tableau, and quiz competitions for the other students. Winners were awarded, adding to the excitement and pride of the students. **Cultural Fest 2024** at SMC School was a spectacular event. Renowned actor and stage performer Mr. Prajith Kunhimangalam graced the occasion as chief guest. The event featured inter-house competitions in various categories, showcasing the students’ talents and skills. It was a vibrant and exciting celebration of culture and creativity. Our students made us proud at **the Manorama Vayanolsavam Mega Quiz** on 21st August, organized in collaboration with Malayala Manorama and Santa Monica. Albin Thomas, Avin Sebastian Chacko, and Jeswin Jose Sebastian clinched the top three prizes, showcasing their exceptional knowledge and skills. Kudos to our talented students.

The school news channel, **SMC News**, was officially inaugurated on 23rd August by renowned journalist Mr. Sreeni Alakode. This milestone marks the beginning of a new era in student journalism, providing a platform for our students to showcase their reporting skills and stay updated on current events.



Allen Jose, a student from our school made his mark in the 49th Kerala State Youth Championship, representing Kannur in the under-17 basketball tournament held in Ernakulam from 24th to 28th August. His participation and performance brought pride to the SMC community, showcasing his skills and dedication to the sports.

Primary students from classes 4 A, B, C and 3 A, B, C came together to lead inspiring prayer services, showcasing their spiritual growth and community spirit. With student-led prayers, hymns, and reflections, the prayer service created a peaceful and uplifting atmosphere, impressing teachers and parents with the young leaders' confidence and conviction.

St. Mary's School celebrated **World Music Day** by launching the **Kannur Akashavani telecast**, a new initiative to promote mental well-being and creativity. The telecast featured a diverse range of music, allowing students and teachers to unwind and de-stress. The launch was officiated by the principal and was met with enthusiasm from the SMC community.

We had our **Teacher's Day** celebration on 5th September. The students prepared a meaningful prayer service followed by an entertainment program. Teachers were honoured for their dedicated service to our institution.



### ST. MARY'S ICSE SCHOOL, MULUND

The new academic year July kicked off with exciting extra skill training in sports, dance, abacus, drawing, and chess. We hosted a variety of engaging activities and competitions, including drawing and colouring contests, a frosty creation showcase, a tell-a-tale show, storytelling sessions, newspaper art projects, and best out of waste creations. It was a fantastic way to encourage creativity and teamwork among our students.

The new **PTA** formation was a great success, with Sr. Lima introducing the 12 points of tradition that our school takes pride in. Each month, we will focus on one point, starting with **the importance of being friendly**, which was enthusiastically explained to the children.



Our K.G. department celebrated **Monsoon Day**, where children donned raincoats and enjoyed playing in the rain—a thrilling experience for all!

We also had a delightful **Parents' Day**, where each child created a lovely greeting card to present to their parents, making the day extra special. Students in Grades 2 and 3 visited St. Pius X School for an exotic pet exhibition, where they delighted in seeing various birds, reptiles, and domestic animals.

In an exciting highlight, our school hosted the **Golden Jubilee inter-school competition** organized by the state board for primary sections.





We are proud to announce that our ICSE students, Kiara Bokariya from Grade 2 and Riona Bosnia from Grade 3, won first prize in storytelling and speech. Congratulations to our talented students!

**Teachers' Day** was celebrated with great enthusiasm, featuring a vibrant cultural program, a special prayer service, engaging games, and a delicious lunch. Each teacher left with cherished memories of their time spent with students.



**St. Mary's Day** began with a heartfelt prayer service that highlighted

the significance of Mother Mary in our lives. To enhance the celebration, each class enjoyed a delightful hour of fun activities. The kindergarten department organized a **Healthy Food Week**, with daily menus thoughtfully prepared by the teachers, promoting nutritious eating habits among the children. Additionally, a training program for teachers titled "**Bridging the Gap Between Parents and Students**" was conducted by

Ms. Sara Elizabeth, a clinical psychologist. She addressed contemporary issues facing children and offered effective solutions. Our school also emphasized the importance of the tradition of **avoiding vulgarity in speech and behaviour**, ensuring that students understand the value of respectful communication.

On 10<sup>th</sup> July KG students and teachers celebrated **Red day** with vibrant red costumes, filling the school environment with energy and enthusiasm. The event promoted a fun-filled experience among students and teachers, creating cherished memories for our young learners.

### ST. MARY'S CONVENT HIGH SCHOOL, MULUND

**Shikshan Saptah** (Education Week) was celebrated by the whole school from 22<sup>nd</sup> July to 28<sup>th</sup> July.

Each day had a specific theme such as Teaching -Learning Materials Day, Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Day, Sports Day, Cultural Day, Skilling Day, Technology in Education Day, Eco clubs for Mission Life Day, School Nutrition Day and Community Involvement Day.



As part of the **Community Involvement Day**, our secondary students collected food stuff, toiletry articles, clothes, stationary etc. which were distributed to the inmates of 'Robin Hood' and 'Caring Hands' orphanages. Flameless cooking competition was held while observing **Nutritional day**. Students prepared vegetable & fruit salad, snacks, and desserts on the occasion. These events aimed at creating a holistic and engaging learning environment for students.

Mrs. Manorama Palay, one of the supportive staff retired after serving the school for 34 long years. Primary Students conducted a prayer service and an entertainment programme which was a heartfelt gesture by the students to show their appreciation. The management



also gave her send off and served a high tea party for the entire staff.



**Independence Day** was celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm by the students of both primary and secondary sections. The programme began with hoisting of National Flag followed by patriotic song competitions, dances, and skits highlighting the struggle for freedom and the importance of unity in diversity.



certificates.

**Teacher's day** was celebrated by both the primary and the secondary to honour and appreciate their teachers. Each teacher was presented with beautiful flowers and heartfelt handmade cards as tokens of appreciation. A meaningful prayer service was conducted which was followed by a cultural programme that included dances, skits and songs, all dedicated to the theme of appreciating the teachers.



To mark the **Golden Jubilee year of the school**, our school hosted an exciting inter-school competition featuring three categories: storytelling, mono-acting, and elocution. The event saw enthusiastic participation from fifty-five students from fourteen schools, and the venue was filled with excitement as students showcased their talents. The winners were awarded with trophy and

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of September we celebrated **St. Mary's Day**. Primary section had prayer service depicting all the apparitions of Mother Mary. Secondary section marked the feast day with a meaningful prayer service followed by contemporary dance competitions on social issues. Through their dance performance they brought out the themes like women empowerment, save the environment and social inequality.

The students of the Primary Section won 1st prize

in the **Inter-School Recitation Competition** organized by Seven Isles School, Mulund and our secondary girls under 13 bagged 2nd prize in the District level Badminton Tournament. Secondary students went for their **Annual Picnic** to Wet N Joy to Lonavala and had an enjoyable day. Joyful Saturdays are observed every Saturday by incorporating recreational activities such as dance, music, skits, role plays, Art & Craft, drawing etc. into teaching - learning process. Sale of Rakhi was organised on **Raksha Bandhan** by the students of class 8 which they had made during the Work experience period. Various activities are organized throughout the year as part of 'My School, Beautiful School,' a special initiative taken up by the Chief Minister of the State to improve the quality of education. **Team "Prafula"**, a Centre for Psychological Wellness conducted a career guidance session and





Testing Process for the students of classes 9&10. The Report session with the parents also was held. Personal session and guidance were given to both parents and students.



Our Nursery and KG students showcased their talents by participating in competitions such as Fancy Dress, Storytelling etc.

Our students of classes 3 to 8 visited the **Annual City Pet Show** held at St. Pius School, Mulund. The visit was organized by the school to provide students with an educational and enjoyable experience, learning about different types of pets and how to care for them.



### **SHANTI SADAN CONVENT, BEGUR**

**Celebrations:** We joined the Jesuits of Mount St. Joseph, Bannerghatta, for the Diamond Jubilee and Silver Jubilee celebrations of three of the priests on 11<sup>th</sup> July. Attended a prayer service, a hilarious cultural programme and dinner thereafter at Mt. St. Joseph on St. Ignatius' Feast. Srs. Japa and Sanjana attended the festal celebrations at Carmel Academy.



On 14<sup>th</sup> August, fifty children of our Parish received the Sacrament of Confirmation by Archbishop Peter Machado. We participated in the solemn Eucharistic celebration. The following day, 15<sup>th</sup> August, our Parish celebrated the solemnity of Our Blessed Mother's Assumption. We celebrated the Holy Mass and thereafter enjoyed lunch in the presbytery with the sisters of the other two congregations and the parish fathers.

Srs. Edwina and Feby attended the Episcopal Ordination of Bishop Joseph Susainathan and Bishop Arokiaraj Satish Kumar, newly appointed Auxiliary Bishops of Bangalore at St. Francis Xavier Cathedral on 24<sup>th</sup> August. It was a very solemn event.

On 15<sup>th</sup> September we enjoyed the Onam Sadhya at St. John the Baptist Seminary, along with the fathers, brothers, Presentation Sisters, along with their hostel children and a few friends and benefactors.

**Visitors:** Our sisters from Nepal, Mariette, Marissa, Pratibha, Neena and her brother from Kerala visited us on 1<sup>st</sup> July. Srs. Rosy and Pushpa (St. Anne's Sisters from Akshay Nagar) visited us, inviting us for their feast day celebration.





Sr. Shradha came on her annual official visit on 19<sup>th</sup> July, unfortunately she was diagnosed with dengue and was hospitalized at Ekana hospital, Begur. By God's grace, sister recovered and continued with her visitation. We were happy to have a short visit from Sr. Pratima, who was on her home leave, accompanied by Sr. Susan on 10<sup>th</sup> August. Sr. Biyona visited us to participate in the Independence Day Celebration in the School, as she had to write a report for her journalism project. Dr. Sr. Teresita (Patna Province) paid us a short visit. Sr. Sunita (Allahabad Province) visited us along with Sr. Susan on 29<sup>th</sup> September. On 10<sup>th</sup> September, Sr. Alma left for Kerala to visit her ailing sister. On 18<sup>th</sup> September, we received sad news of the demise of her sister, Rosamma. Sr. Alma returned to the community on 28<sup>th</sup> September.

Sr. Sanjana attended the **Tanmaya Sadhana program** at Jharna Spirituality Centre, Namkum, Ranchi from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024. Sr. Sanjana about her experience: The "resource persons were Fr. Joseph Parakad, SJ and Fr. Edwin Dang, SJ. There were 19 Participants, 10 sisters and 9 priests. I am grateful to Sr. Shradha, the Regional Superior, for sending me for the renewal program. I express my gratitude to my community in Shanti Sadan, Begur, for their prayerful support. Special thanks to Sr. Edwina and Sr. Japa for seeing to my work in my absence.

### **St. Mary's Convent School Activities:**

**Celebrations:** On the 15<sup>th</sup> of August, Independence Day began with the school band and followed by a prayer service. House-wise competitions were conducted for the primary section. The primary section had a **Musical Drill**, while the high school section performed a contemporary dance drama based on the theme of a **corruption-free India**.



The students showed their appreciation for their teachers on **September 5th** with heartfelt prayer service and a vibrant program focused on values. The teachers were delighted and moved by the students' demonstration of love and talent.

The event concluded with a delightful lunch.

The school marked **St. Mary's Day** on September 6<sup>th</sup> with a meaningful prayer service and a program that emphasized the significance of Mother Mary in Jesus' life, from his birth to his crucifixion.

**Competitions:** On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, a **Poem Recitation** was conducted for classes 1 to 10 on the theme of '**Community Engagement & Participatory Action**' for the year. The students were educated and raised awareness about the individual responsibility of getting involved in community service to help each other. The students participated in a range of competitions to uncover their skills. For instance, in the All-India Inter-school Handwriting Competition, students from classes 1 to 5 engaged in the KISA Drawing and





Handwriting contests within the school. Two students from classes 9 and 10 took part in the **Quiz competition at the Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technology Museum** in Bangalore. Moreover, four students from class 9 competed in the online Inter-school Robotics Championship 2024 organized by CISCE. Six of our students also joined the **Athletics** events at the Inter-school Karnataka Sports Fest in Jayanagar and emerged victorious, earning trophies and medals.



**Talent Fest:** A two-day talent fest was conducted at the school for classes 1 to 10. The events focused on various theme-based competitions, such as solo dancing, glass painting, pick & act, cartoon drawing, one-minute RJ station, one-minute cooking, leaf image, and Rubik's cube.

**Club Activity:** Various activities were held on **July 6th** for middle and high school students, designed to improve their connection with nature and self-awareness. Students in grades 6 and 7 participated in a nature-based activity day, while students in grades 8, 9, and 10 attended **an orientation session on Addiction Prevention and Mental Health organized by the Rotaract club** of Koramangala. The students were highly engaged and gained valuable insights from the activities.



On 11<sup>th</sup> July **World population day** and 30<sup>th</sup> July **World Day Against Trafficking** in persons were observed in school by putting up a street play in the school ground during lunch break. The students were given awareness through mime, songs, and slogans.

On 24<sup>th</sup> August, classes 6 to 10 had **orientation on dengue awareness** in their

respective classes. The students were guided by their club teachers to give orientation to their peer group through PowerPoint presentations and poster making. Classes 4 & 5 had a day with nature by planting saplings.



**Scouts & Guides:** As part of the activity and giving importance to health on 1st August, Hindustan Scouts and Guides organized a free eye check-up camp in association with Vasan Eye Care Hospital for classes 5 to 10, staff, and supportive staff. For the first time the students of scouts and guides exhibited their talents through parade on Independence Day in school.

**Picnic:** On August 19th, KG kids went on a day trip to Lulu Mall in Rajajinagar. Classes 1 to 9

enjoyed and refreshed themselves for one day at Jollywood Amusement Park. They were accompanied by teachers and Sr. Japa. On 14<sup>th</sup> September the Hulimavu Police conducted an awareness program on safeguarding and traffic rules for classes 8, 9 & 10 in school.

**KG Corner:** On August 24th, the KG students had a **fancy-dress competition** with the topic "Healthy & Unhealthy Food, Community Helpers" as well as a **fashion show competition** with the theme "Traditional Dress." The parents were ecstatic to see their children perform on stage. It was an unforgettable and innovative event. The teachers also kept the little dots occupied with a variety of imaginative learning activities, such as Colours Day, EVS, and Literacy Activity. The teachers attended a training session on subject upgrading and teaching strategies on July 20.



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