



INTERCOM

LORETO CONVENT, DELHI - SCHOOL MAGAZINE - FEBRUARY 1998



THIS ISSUE IS DEDICATED TO OUR
BELOVED MOTHER TERESA ON THE
50TH YEAR OF OUR INDEPENDENCE

Editorial



- L to R Standing** : Yamini Singh, Bhavya Nandkishore, Ms. S. Sharan, Shivani Chandra, Priyanka Roy, Ms. M. Vaish
- Kneeling** : Rohini Gosain, Shreya Chand, Shweta Tomar, Bhavana Mallhatra
- Seated** : Yuthika Dagar, Kamakshi Thareja

Hello Readers,

"Intercom" is in its third year, a lively little toddler, full of bounce and energy, always in need of some friendly support which we must say has been forthcoming, else it would have been impossible for us to survive this far. 1997 has been a mixed bag, with more than its fair share of sad mo-

ments. We have lost our beloved Mother Teresa.

Mother, was a mother to all, but we at Loreto felt a special claim on her, she having started her missionary life at Loreto in Calcutta. The wise will say that it is only the tattered raiment of the flesh that has gone, that her imperishable soul is still with us, ever guiding and inspiring us to give a little more of ourselves, "till it hurts" in her words. But a toddler does not understand lofty words. We are inconsolable. We grieve for her, for her warm presence, for a hug from the much-loved gnarled hands. This issue off Intercom

is a humble dedication of Mother.

The beautiful cover page has been designed by Mrs. Karuna Sundri Chak, who had retired as Art teacher at Loreto Delhi in 1992 after serving the school for 19 years. Our heart felt thanks. May God grant her many years of golden peace and good health.

We bid farewell to Sister Sunanda, who had endeared herself to the students, for the multifarious co-curricular activities she had encouraged, for her guidance and support in all our reach-out programmes. "Gospel Expressions" - an elucidation of the numerous parables of Jesus was her brain-child and seems to have taken a firm foothold in the school. But if the clouds come, can the sun be far behind? We welcome Sister Anne Marie, our new principal, who has already charmed us with her graciousness, and promise to co-operate and give our very best. God willing, we shall make a great team and keep the Loreto banner flying high.

We also echo our fellowmen in their pride of having 50 years of independence behind us. But freedom always carries with it an awesome responsibility. It does not need much introspection to say that we still have miles to traverse before the Nation is truly free, where all people have at least the basics for a dignified human existence. As Gandhi ji so aptly put it: 'We can never truly consider ourselves free till the tear has been wiped from every eye'. May we always live up to the high ideals set by our foundress Mary Ward, ideals of service, of simplicity and of truth, that have become the hallmark of all Loreto girls. Happy reading and a wonderful 1998 to all of you!



Sister Asha, Mrs. M. Chandra Editors Junior School

From the Principal's Desk

Dear Girls

Ever so often in our lives we need to "be still" and look within.

It is these moments, that make us and keep us in touch with our true selves and alive to persons and things around us. These moments keep us attuned to the only moment that counts - The Present Moment..... and we hear then this echo

It's the hand we clasp with an honest grasp

that gives a hearty thrill :

It's the good we pour into other's lives

That comes back our own to fill

It's the dregs we drain another's cup

That make our own seem sweet;

And the hours we give to another's need

That make our life complete.

It's the burdens we help another bear

That make our own seem light;

It's the danger seen for another's feet

That show us the path to right.

It's the good we do each passing day

With a heart sincere and true;

In giving the world your very best,

Its best will return to you,

Be you best today, Live today, Live in the present.

Kahlil Gibran writes, "Yesterday is but today's memory and tomorrow is but today's dream".

The only moment we have in which and with which to work is this moment -Now.

To live fully this moment, is the secret of being fully alive.

May God bless all your moments with grace and sunshine.

Sister Anne Marie

Message from Sr. Asha Vice Principal Junior School



For yesterday is but a dream
And tomorrow is only a vision
But today well-lived makes
Yesterday a dream of happiness and every
tomorrow a vision of hope.

Sr. Asha



Kaleidoscope



APRIL

- 7th-Beginning of the new academic year.
- 22nd-Mass for the Holy Spirit was conducted.
- 23th-The class 8ths visited the Balwadi at Madangir
- 25th-A basketball match was conducted for classes 9 and 10.
- 29th-Class 5 visited the Blind School.



MAY

- 1st-Crowning of Our Lady at 7.30 a.m.
- 2nd-First Lady Mass was conducted. "Gospel Expression" by classes 4 to 8 started at 8.30 am.
- Each class depicted a parable. Prizes were given for originality, creativity, message, participation and the overall performance. The honourable judges were Father Ajay, Father Christopher and Mrs. Fernandez.
- 5th-Elections were held to choose the office bearers of the Senior Secondary School. The following girls were elected:-
 President - Aashima Gogia
 Secretary - Saumya Srivastava
 Games Captain - Ruchi Sharma
 Vice Games Captain - Jasmine Kaur
 Ball House Captain - Shikha Bajaj
 Vice Captain - Ratika Vaish
 Hart House Captain - Runjhun Chauhan
 Vice Captain - Usha Ramachandran



- Walsh House Captain - Shilpi Singh
- Vice Captain - Divya Madan
- Ward House Captain - Smriti Prabhakar
- Vice Captain - Neha Datta

9th - Investiture Ceremony of the Secondary and Middle School was held at 7.30 a.m. to formally appoint the newly elected office-bearers.

14th-Investiture Ceremony of the Senior Secondary School was held at 8.00 am. The M.S.M. School Council and Brother Christopher were invited.

16th-Sr. Sunanda was transferred to Asansol. A special assembly for Sr. Sunanda was held. Classes 5 to 12 bid her farewell. The staff bid her adieu during a lunch served in her honour.

17th, 18th-An L.T.S. camp was held at our school. M.S.M., Carmel Convent and Loreto Convent were the participating schools in the camp. M.S.M. was accompanied by Mrs. Lopez and Carmel Convent by Mrs. Menon. The camp was conducted by Mrs. Chatterjee and Miss Fernandez.

30th-Class 12 results were declared



JULY

- School reopened to greet our new Principal Sr. Anne Marie.
- 4th-The First Friday mass was held.
- 17th-A story-telling competition was organized by Ball House as the inter-house activity for the Secondary School. Hart House stood first followed by Ball, Walsh and Ward House.
- 23rd-A special assembly on Peace and Solidarity was organized. One minute silence was also observed.
- 25th-Sister Anne Marie's feast day was celebrated with a prayer

service and a special lunch served by the staff in her honour.

Ball house organized an Inter-house Western Music competition of the Senior Secondary School. Ball House was the proud winner of the competition followed by Walsh, Ward and Hart. A Mono-acting competition was organized for the Middle School by Ball House.

28th-The much awaited Indian Music 'Beats' singing competition was organized in Mater Dei. The participants from our school were accompanied by Mrs. Ghoshal.

29th-The Western Music 'Beats' competition was also held in Mater Dei. Mrs. Roy and Mrs. Armstrong accompanied the participants.

30th-AFGJI held various exciting competitions organized by The Ministry of Forestation and Environment. Mrs. Cleetus and Mrs. Shastri accompanied the participating girls. The various competitions included poster-making, exhibitions and street plays.



AUGUST

5th-Saumya Srivastava, Pragya Purohit and Christina Fernandez participated in a Science Quiz held at Mater Dei.

12th-Saplings were planted to commemorate our country's fiftieth year of Independence.

The first term examinations for classes 11 and 12 began.

13th-A prayer service was held in honour of India's 50 year of Independence. The entire freedom struggle was re-enacted in a magnificent extravaganza in which every class participated.

19th - The first term examination of classes 8 to 10 began.

26th - 28th - Our school girls participated in the Fr. Agnells Talent Competition. They took part in various exciting items like face-painting, dumb charades, on-the-spot essay competition, clay-modelling, singing, etc. Kamakshi Thareja of class 8 won the 2nd prize for the on-the-spot essay. Geetika Swaroop, Neha Anand and Smriti Prabhakar of class 12 won the 3rd prize for Dumb Charade.

28th, 29th - A book exhibition was held by St. Paul Publications.

AN APOSTLE OF LOVE AND COMPASSION



SEPTEMBER

4th - Junior School and classes 5 to 7 celebrated Teacher's Day in the zero period. Teachers were then entertained by their own classes.

5th - Classes 8 to 12 celebrated Teacher's Day while Prep to 7 stayed at home. There was a special mass for the teachers at St. Paul's Church which was followed up with a coffee and snack break. Entertainment programmes were held for the teachers in the hall where they were given gifts by the students. A sumptuous lunch was served in the hall.

10th - A special prayer service was held in honour of the revered Late Mother Teresa. Parents were also welcome to attend.

12th - The Parent-Teacher meeting for classes 5 to 12 was held. Reports were given out.

19th - Classes 11 and 12 participated in a debate at the British School.

20th - Classes 11 and 12 participated in a debate at Bal Bharati School and M.S.M. won. They also attended a Commerce Symposium at St. Columba's.

23rd - A debate at Presentation Convent was attended by students of classes 11 and 12.

24th - Class 5 went to Nehru Planetarium on an educational tour.

24th - Class 11 were taken for a fun filled day at Chanakya to watch the nail - biting movie. 'The Lost World' with their class teachers.



OCTOBER

8th - Mrs. U. Ahuja was accorded a warm farewell on her retirement. She had been a part of our school for the past 21 years.

14th-22nd - Our school girls participated in the Zonal Tournaments consisting of Basketball, Table Tennis, Badminton and Kho- Kho. They brought back the winning titles (Jr. and Sr.) in Basketball and Table Tennis.

22nd - The annual exhibition and sale of candles, dusters and maps by the Blind School was organised by the class 5's as part of their support.

23rd - An inter-house quiz competition was held in the Senior school. The winning house was Ball house

24th - Class 5 visited Jantar Mantar and the National Museum.

29th - Ward House stood first in the One Act Play organised by the Middle School.

The Secondary School organised a Western Music Competition. Walsh House walked away with the Over-All trophy as well as the first prize in the section comprising 'Hymns'. Ball House stood first in the Contemporary Western Music section.

by Ball, Walsh And Hart House.

13th - A Christmas Party was held in the school for the Christian children & their parents. The Nativity Play was performed in church this year. An ever popular Santa Claus regaled one and all with sweets & presents.

17th - A party for Class IV employees who serve us so diligently throughout the year was held. It was a rare occasion when the children got to interact with their families. The LC. children put up a short cultural programme & distributed sweets & gifts. They also served the tea themselves. This was greatly appreciated by the special guests.

19th On the last school day of 1997 there was a Christmas Party for the staff. And what a wonderful surprise! - We children were also allowed class parties! All the classes wore a festive look and cries of Merry Christmas & Happy New Year rent the air.



NOVEMBER

8th - 14 Catholic children from the Junior School along with six boys from Mt. St. Mary's made their Holy Communion at St. Paul's Church.

14th - Children's Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm by the whole school. The Junior school had an enjoyable day out with their teachers while the rest of the school took part in games organized by the teachers. Classes 9 to 12 participated in the Jam Session which was a huge success.



DECEMBER

5th - A fun-filled quiz was organized by Walsh House for classes 8 to 10. Ward House emerged the winners followed



JANUARY

Loreto hosted "Gospel Expressions," a contest in enacting the parables of the New Testament. Loreto put up a fantastic show but were not competing, being the hosts. M.S.M were the lucky winners

The Mary Ward Basketball Tournament was hosted in the school. Loreto beat Vasant Valley in the finals and bagged the trophy.



FEBRUARY

Class XII the were given a farewell. An emotional farewell was given to Durga Das, who had served the school with great devotion for 35 years.



The Glow That Is Me. Events '96-97

"My cry is for freedom, my tears are for space.

O give me the space where to grow and to be.

*For all I ask is to look in your face
And see there a glow of the flame
that is me!"*

Christopher Coelho OFM.

All the events in the Junior School were graced towards seeing and feeling the glow in each and every child. We began the Academic Year planning and organising ourselves for activities that would bring out this glow.

In May the angelic voices sang to their heart's content for the Inter-class English Singing Competition. On 2nd May the class IV tried to inculcate in us the values for every day life by performing 'Gospel Expression'. Their creativity reached par excellence.

Parents were invited to judge the Hindi and English Elocution. It was rather a tussle to decide the best, for all were equally good.

The 50th anniversary of Independence

brought out the best in our children. The Independence message of Peace, Brotherhood and Justice were very well portrayed.

'Open Days' were the focus of this academic year. Parents were invited to come and enjoy their children's performance. Different days were allotted to each class. The children were in their element as they recited, sang, danced and exercised their limbs. The parents too were very appreciative of the hard work put in by the staff and students.

The 9th of November '97 was a day to remember. About 14 Catholic children along with six boys from Mt. St. Mary's, made their First Holy Communion at St. Paul's Church Delhi 'Cantt. The mass was well attended by relatives and friends.

An educational tour was organised by the class teachers of classes Prep - IV. An awareness was created among the students of Prep - II to come to nature and see the wonder and beauty in

trees, insects, birds and flowers around them. The classes III and IV of course were serious about what they were going to see and experience. "Monument" being one of the topics in EVS the class III were off to visit a few monuments around Delhi. The class IV spent time with the less privileged - School for the Blind. They sure thanked God for the gift of eye sight and returned with a sense of purpose and joy.

In their own delightful way the Junior school children entertained their teacher in their class-rooms on the 3rd of September. There was no end to snacks and the cards made by them, which seems to be their favourite pastime.

The Childrens Day Celebrations highlighted the love and care the teachers have for the children. The air was filled with excitement as we went to Talkatora Garden for a picnic. A good number of games were organised and the winners were rewarded with surprise gifts. Besides, sweets were distributed to all. After much fun and frolic we returned to catch the next bus home.

Guess whose coming to school? None but Santa. Then of course there is the Christmas Play, the Craft Exhibition, Quiz on India and Hindi singing Competition. As we say goodbye to the Academic Year we do know another year will come along to say hello!



L.T.S. Report 1997-98

The L.T.S. meetings began this year with the new members joining in from class IX. The first few sessions were just an introductory period for them. The elections were held for the posts of General Secretary, Assistant General Secretary, Correspondent, Assistant Correspondent, Treasurer and Librarian. A 2 day camp was organized by us on the 17th and 18th of May, 1997. 35 students and 5 guides from 3 schools namely-Carmel Convent School, Mt. St. Mary's School and Loreto Convent School participated in this camp. The theme of the camp was 'Making A Difference'. To make a difference, not only in our own lives but in those of people around us.

My School

School is the temple where
I got took admission here ten years ago.
Ten years is a long time to start a trend,
Hence I've made hundreds of friends.
Teachers are friendly and always co-operate
Students think twice before they misbehave
Chances are given to build our personalities.
The only thing is to expose our abilities.
This is the only way we can learn,
Trust and faith of our elders we can earn.
School is the temple where I go.
I took admission here ten years ago.
Nandita Singh
VII A

During the course of the year, the L.T.S. cleaned up the VI C storeroom, held numerous canteens and hampers to help those in need. Before Diwali, a campaign against firecrackers was launched by JPIC (Justice, Peace And Integrity of Creations)

More than 800 students joined in the signature campaign against firecrackers undertaken by the L.T.S.

It was a year of UPS and DOWNS for the L.T.S. but the symbolic diya kept the L.T.S. spirit alive. We begin the new year with a hope that it will be a productive and satisfying year.

Geetika Swaroop
(LTS)

My Hair

My hair is straight
It makes me late
In the morning before school.
My hair will never obey the rule
I comb it right
I comb it left
My mother yells/Let it be
It's looking fine
To her you see
To me my hair so very straight
Is a sight I simply hate
I comb and twirl
And wish to God my hair would curl !

Tanvi Sharan
VI A

The Indian Shakespeare ???

It has been mentioned time and again, that the great writer Kalidasa is known as the 'Indian Shakespeare'. Many of us may think that it is great to be renowned and be compared to an Englishman. But, think again. Is it really something that we can feel proud of ? No ! By giving Kalidasa that honorary title, aren't we giving him less significance ? It is true beyond doubt that William Shakespeare was a great writer. But the writings of Kalidasa are no less. His poetry as well as his plays are realistic and beautifully written. His descriptions of emotions or nature can leave the reader truly fascinated. Even though Kalidasa has been acknowledged as one of the greatest writers, the world has ever produced, his works did not win as much fame as Shakespeare's. But that is not because his works were not as good but because of the fact that India fell victim to foreign rule. Our heritage was suppressed while the British forced their education almost all over the world. And then Kalidasa was born much before Shakespeare. So then, is it appropriate to say that his works are as good as Shakespeare ? For shouldn't it be the other way round ?

This whole nation may seem to be of very little importance. But, things like this can make a lot of difference. Our country is what we are and our own thinking matters a lot. For if we ourselves undermine the talents of our countrymen then in no sense are we proud of our country. So, what's wrong with Shakespeare being called 'the Kalidasa of England' !

Saurbhi Khurana
X A



Sister Pauline Remembers Mother Teresa

*An Apostle of Love, Compassion & Peace
The other day I dreamt that I was at the gates of heaven and St. Peter said, "Go back to earth. There are no slums up here."*

Mother Teresa

Agnes Bojaxhia was born on 27 August, 1910 in Albania. At the age of 12 she decided to become a nun and at 18 joined the congregation of the Loreto nuns in Ireland. She took her name from a 16th Century nun called St. Teresa and came to be known as Mother Teresa. She came to Calcutta in 1929 and set up Nirmal Hriday in 1952. She won many awards including the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979, the Leo Tolstoy International Award, the Bharat Ratna and many more. Those who met her were moved by her love and compassion for all.

Sister M. Pauline met Mother Teresa when she was in Calcutta more than 50 years back. We interviewed her to find out more about the young Mother Teresa.

Q: Where and when did you first meet Mother Teresa?

A: At Loreto Convent, Entally (Calcutta). In 1937 Mother Teresa was senior to me by 3 years and although she wasn't very fluent in English and did not know Bengali, she picked it up very fast and soon started teaching in a Bengali medium school. I was teaching in the English medium orphanage

which was for orphans and poor children only. We met at meals, prayers, recreation time. That is where I got to know her as a person.

Q: How was she when you first met her and for how long were you with her?

Sister: She must have been in her late twenties, around 26 or 27. We were together for 10 years. We weren't intimate friends but we did meet occasionally.

Q: What was the first impression that you got of her.

Sister: She was a very cheerful, understanding and interesting person to be with and we would sit together and share jokes that we had read in the newspapers or talk about anything funny that happened with the children. She struck me as a happy and joyful person.

Q: Did she face any resistance from her parents when she decided to become a nun or did they always support her?

Sister: Her parents did not stand in her way and especially since there were many nuns in Albania at that time, she didn't face much resistance from home.

Q: After becoming a nun why did she decide to come to India?

Sister: When Mother Teresa became a nun she met a priest who had been in the missions in Asia. He told her about the poverty here. Moreover, she wanted to follow Sister Magdalena's example who was in India at that time. Then, the priest who had advised her sent her to Ireland to the Loreto Sisters in Dublin, and from there she sailed along with 3 sisters and came to India.

Q: Way back then, did she have any idea of starting the Missionaries of Charity?

Sister: She had no intention of starting the Missionaries of Charity at that time, it was just God's calling. She never ever had spoken to anyone about this special calling; infact it came as a surprise to most of us. She herself wasn't sure whether she should go ahead with it, but with encouragement

from the priest, she did it. Inspite of this, it surely was a big surprise.

Q: What was the general reaction of the nuns when they learned about the Missionaries of Charity?

Sister: The general reaction was love and appreciation towards her work. There were some who said, "Oh, how would she manage this, its a very big step she's taken," etc. but no one went against her. They always supported her.

Q: Even after setting up the Missionaries of Charity did she keep in touch with Loreto?

Sister: After setting up of the Missionaries of Charity, the congregation supported her and Loreto financed her till she could continue on her own. She always kept in touch with Loreto and the superiors helped her. Infact, in 1984 when it was my golden jubilee, Mother Teresa came along with Sir. Bernard (now called St. Francis Xavier) who had joined the convent along with me. They attended the celebration and the mass but did not stay for lunch as her sisters had prepared to celebrate St. M. Bernard's golden jubilee.

Q: The people who have met Mother Teresa said that there was a kind of warmth that radiated from her. Is it true?

Sister: Yes, indeed it's very true. She had a very happy nature that everyone took to. She was very kind and understanding also.

Mother Teresa had once said in an interview, that leaving Loreto, where she was very happy, was even more difficult than leaving home. Inspite of all the problems and difficulties that came her way, her trust in God never wavered. She was 87 years old when she died after 50 years of service. We will always remember her and appreciate her work and the immense contribution that she has made towards helping the needy, the uncared for and the unwanted.

Sukhpreet Kahlon
XI A

Mother Teresa

So sharing so caring she was
I wonder why did God call her
She thought about the nation so much
She served and loved the poor as much.

She showed the people how to love
She showed the right way
She got love from everyone
She was more than words can say.

Her death was a shock to everyone
I will always try to follow her
It will be a way to begin
To love the poor and the sick.

She will always be in our heart
Her soul will always live with us
Her teachings will always be a help.
To me and you and everybody else.

Shruti Koley, VI C

Some Precious Moments Spent With The Queen Of Hearts - Princess Di

Princess Diana said that she wanted to be the Queen of Hearts and not of Buckingham Palace. I'd say she's the queen of my heart and I guess the world's too. Looking back at the precious moments spent with her when she visited India with Prince Charles in Feb. 1992. I'll never forget the overwhelming experience when I met her at the Tamanna Foundation where she came to visit the spastics and spent sometime watching a programme put up by them.

I was 7 years old then, studying in class II of this school, sitting on the carpet on the floor turning back time and again to take a good look at the very beautiful, unassuming, warm hearted Princess Diana. She at once picked me up and put me on her lap. Both of us enjoyed the programme for an hour, but then she took leave and left me startled at what had happened.

Even though she has left the world, the memory of Lady Diana still lingers in our hearts.

Priyanka Bhattacharya, VIII A

The Queen of Hearts - Lady Diana

Princess Diana, the world's most photographed woman, has been lending glamour and beauty to television screens around the world for about 17 years. With the week-long telecast of a world in mourning, culminating in the Princess' funeral and her last journey to the Spencer burial ground on the 6th of September, the face that brought grace and vulnerability to a stiff British royalty has slowly faded away forever. So let us remember her not just as a beautiful princess with a radiant smile but recognise her as loving, kind and above all a human being.

According to her she found herself being more and more involved with people who were rejected by society, like for example the drug addicts. No false sense of dignity stood in her way in helping the underprivileged and the poor. She always lent her helping hand to those who needed it. About her personal life : she was suffering from bulimia. It was actually a secret disease. She didn't like herself and was ashamed of herself. She compared her marriage to any soap opera which went on and on and on without the story changing. The press made it very difficult for the newly-wed couple; they struggled a bit but found it very difficult to manage. In the year 1986 in a biography written by Jonathan Dimbleby it says that her husband renewed his relationship with Mrs. Camilla Parker Bowles. This news was pretty devastating for her. She also felt that Mrs. Parker-Bowles was a factor in the break-down of her marriage. A

couple which was once thought to be 'Made For Each Other' had now separated. This happened in 1993. Princess Diana was now the separated wife of the Prince of Wales. But she had her sons - William and Harry. She took them around to see the homeless, she took them to see people dying of AIDS. She took them to all sorts of places because she wanted them to have an understanding of people's emotions, people's insecurities, people's distress, people's hopes, their dreams and the fact that life is much more than just enjoying being a prince.

And at the end she also says that she's not interested in being the Princess of Wales but the Queen of People's Hearts, Hats off to you Lady. You really are and will always remain 'The Queen Of Hearts'.

Shweta Tomar
VIII B

Mother Teresa Visits My Home

It was 20th November '96. It was a Friday evening. I did not know that Mother Teresa was coming neither did my family. My aunt, who is a nun, had gone somewhere. I was very excited because the next day was my birthday.

Suddenly I heard a horn several times. I went out to see what the commotion was about. I saw my aunt come out of a car and help Mother Teresa out too, I got the shock of my life. We went into my grandmother's room, where she blessed my family and me. There was a wonderful feeling in me which I cannot express in words. My dogs who normally keep barking were as quiet as mice. I was very lucky to meet Mother Teresa.

Shreya DeMonte., VIII A

The Mother Of All - Mother Teresa

We all have mothers and we know the value of a mother - the love and protection we get from them. In the Puranas it is said that there is a God in each mother and so it was with Mother Teresa. She was a God for the poor and lepers who had no one to look after them. From the cold bier, the unforgettable and dear mother continues to speak to us and seems to repeat the Lord's words, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." She understood this gospel of love with every fibre of her being. She practised it with all her heart and daily toil, crossing frontiers of religious differences. She has taught the world that the beggar and the leper and the AIDS victims need love not derision.

Mother received a state funeral. Armed personnel of the three forces were present in their ceremonial best to provide the Mother a funeral that would be the envy of any tinpot dictator. Mother's simple belongings - sarees, pens, diaries, rosary and the Bible - will be preserved in the museum at Calcutta in "Mother House". This museum will be located on the ground floor and necessary arrangements for the purpose are being undertaken.

**Ramona George
VIII C**

An Apostle of Love And Compassion



"The Queen of Hearts" - Lady Diana



Priyanka Bhattacharya now in Class VIII A with Lady Diana

Jeevan Rekha

Evening Coaching Classes begin in Jeevan Rekha at 3.30 P.M. and close at 5.00 P.M., 5 days a week. The children, mostly from the Jharera village closeby - are 86 in number, and are given a biscuit or Indian sweet daily, before they leave school. These are donated by Mr. Aggarwal, teachers and friends of Loreto Convent. Only 4 Teachers are employed at Jeevan Rekha. Classes 1 and 2 learn together, while classes 3 and 4 are taught as one class by Mrs. Violet Dixon, trained by Presentation Sisters and a committed teacher for many years. Class 5 is taught by Miss Haemwathi Singh, a past pupil of Jeevan Rekha, and now sitting for Class 10 exam in March. Sr-M. Pauline is responsible for Classes 6 and 7. Hindi is the medium of Instruction, and as the children attend Govt. Schools in the morning, the same text books are used for our classes. English as a subject, is begun in Class 5, Maths is taught through the same medium. Twice a week, Classes 5, 6, and 7, have coaching in Hindi.



Three sections of Class 6 of Loreto Convent finance Jeevan Rekha by selling old newspapers and holding food canteens occasionally. The proceeds are used to provide stationery, medical aid or medicines for those who need help. A deaf and dumb pupil, with us for three years, because no school would admit her, has lately been admitted to the Army School for the handicapped and continues to come to Jeevan Rekha at 3.30 P.M. She takes part in all the extra-curricular activities and is very happy always.

Two years ago, an association of 7 schools for the under-privileged was formed.

Mt. St. Mary's, Delhi Cantt. Prabhatora. Institute of Social Service.

Ujalla. St. Columba's School Ujalla Niketan. Maids of the Poor

Ujalla. Jesus And Mary's School Deepshika. Presentation Sisters.

Jeevan Rekha, Loreto Convent, Delhi Cantt. Once in 2 months, these schools meet at a different venue to give the village children the feeling of Unity and Togetherness. Competitions in Hindi- Singing Dancing and Drawing provide keen interest for all taking part. On Children's Day, St. Columba's School opens its gates to accommodate at least 700 children. The Fun- Fair or Mela goes on from 9.30 A.M. to around 3.30 P.M.

Stalls of Food, Ice Cream, Lucky- Dip, Old Clothes and Merry- Go- Round, also Games of Skill keep the children engrossed and delighted till lunch time. Each child is then given about 12 coupons to visit any stall and spend.

Lunch, appetising and in sufficient quantity is served to all with a banana and a mango fruity at the end. Delhi being a place of great distances, the children have to be transported in school buses. As most of the village children have never sat in a bus, this ride is a source of great pleasure, and for those responsible in the bus, the task of keeping the children seated is a difficult one.

We are truly grateful to all our benefactors, especially our Loreto Principal, teachers and students who take a keen interest in the welfare of these children. Many of our parents, doctors and friends have contributed in cash and kind towards the on-going effort of our work, for, and with the under-privileged.



Konish & Mrs. Robinson



Mrs. Mohindra with Anisha and Rhea



Mrs. Joshi with Rishikesh



Mrs. Vaish with Siddharth

GLAMOROUS GRANNIES !

Grandmother and glamorous? You must be kidding ! Why the very word conjures up images of wrinkled old women, spectacles firmly on nose, clicking away at their knitting or crochet. Not any more! Nani L.C. anyway. The L.C. granny is as glamorous and well turned-out as her daughter, often offering stiff competition. What they love most is playing with their grand children, those cute little bundles of joy. No teaching, no preaching, no disciplining, just pure unadulterated fun!



Mrs. Kumar and Johanna



Mrs. Khosla with Sonia



Mrs. Bedi with Pallavi & Raghav



Mrs. Sheshna & Stephan

I Got The National Bravery Award

It was a once in a lifetime experience.

The itinerary chalked out by the Indian Council For Child Welfare was no less than that of a V.I.P. In that one week we met all the important and famous people of Delhi.

On 20th January we were felicitated by Shri K.R Narayanan the President of India at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

Later that evening the Lt. Governor Shri Tejinder Khanna greeted and welcomed us at his house.

The next day on 21st January the Vice President of India, Shri Krishna Kant met us.

We were awarded the medal by Shri I.K. Gujral the Prime Minister of India at his residence on 24th of January.

On the 26th January we took part in the prestigious

Republic Day parade on elephants.

I also made a lot of new friends from different parts of the country.



Amrita Minhas of VIII B received the National Bravery Award from Prime Minister Shri I. K. Gujral

It was an experience I may never get to witness again.

Thus ended the one week of honour, glory and importance for us.



Champion of Champions - Priyanka Sethi



When The Going Gets Tough The Tough Get Going

A friendly match with Mount Carmel was a stepping stone for L.C. to enter into an eventful and successful year with many sports activities. Though the match ended in a draw it boosted our spirits and we won the first match against S.D. Public School by 5-6 baskets in the Meera Model School Basketball tournament. The Second Match proved to be an interesting one with St. Vivekananda School putting up a tough game and winning the match. The Father Agnel Open School Tournament left us disappointed as we lost to Carmel Convent in the first match itself.

The month of October proved to be a fruitful one as L.C. won most of the matches in the Zonal's. The Junior and Senior Basketball teams as usual made L.C. proud by winning the championship as they defeated TAFS in the finals. The Table Tennis Senior Team won the championship by beating A.F.G.J.I. in the finals. Also the Badminton Senior team made us proud by winning the championship. To mark the end of this wonderful tournament the sub-junior Kho-Kho team emerged as the runner up.

The much talked about J.F.K. tournament which was held in D.P.S. (R.K. Puram) was a very challenging one as there were 16 schools participating. In the first round, i.e. Flash Forward round, L.C. won against Amity International School by 68-0 baskets. In the 2nd round which was called the No Kid-ding Round we won against T.A.F.S. by 52-20. Further adding to our success, we defeated St. Vivekananda School in the Cross Fire round by 20-14. The finals took place between Carmel Convent and Loreto, but luck did not favour us this time and unfortunately we lost. L.C. was awarded the Runners Up Trophy and Priyanka Sethi was awarded the 'Champion of the Champions' Cup for making maximum baskets scored by an individual player in the whole tournament. She Scored 88 points for L.C.

On the whole 1997 was an eventful year for L.C. in the field of sports. Although L.C. lost a few matches, the

enthusiasm and sporting spirit shown by all our players is commendable. Hope the L.C. banner keeps on flying high for years to come.

Jasmine Sikand
Games Captain, X C



*We wish to give special thanks to
Mrs. Minhas, our Games Master
whose unflagging zeal has created a
first-class Basketball team.*

Champion of Champions - Priyanka Sethi

Priyanka Sethi of class IX C has won great laurels for Loreto Convent. She has shown outstanding achievement in Basketball. The Just Fokix (JFK) Basketball Tournament for girls was held on 29th Nov. 1997. Loreto was the first runner up. Priyanka was adjudged the 'Champion of Champions'. She scored 88 points and excelled among the other 16 schools participating. The Zonals were held in the month of October. Our school won the Basketball tournament at both Junior and Senior level. A good performance by Priyanka brought victory to our school. In the 1st Mary Ward Invitational Tournament held in Loreto Convent she played remarkably well. Priyanka has also been called for the trial of Nationals. Good Luck Priyanka!

Yuthika Dagar, VIII C

The Day Loreto won it all

The second Mary Ward Inter-School Basketball Tournament was held in Loreto from 27th to 31st Jan. Five schools participated in the tournament, namely, C.J.M. Vasant Valley, G.D. Goenka, Carmel Convent and Loreto Convent.

The tournament was inaugurated by the chief guest, Brother Bosco, the principal of M.S.M. The juniors performed an aerobic exercise to start off the tournament. The first match was played between L.C. and V.V. with Loreto emerging as winners.

Over the next few days, 9 league matches were played among the Participating teams. The joy and enthusiasm of the players after winning a match was unbelievable.

Finally, the day of the finals arrived. Due to unavoidable circumstances Carmel Convent could not participate in the finals, so Vasant Valley and Loreto clashed for the trophy.

The chief guest for the day was Mrs. Manorma Batra, a renowned environmentalist. The closing ceremony was marked by a fusion dance, symbolising the merging of cultures. This was followed by a song aptly titled "It's not if you win or lose, it's just how you play the game."

The game began with loud cheering and shouting, encouraging the players to give their best. In the end, Loreto won by a comfortable margin.

This was followed by a few words by the chief guest and the prize giving ceremony. Priyanka Sethi of Loreto Convent bagged the "best player of the tournament" trophy and it was a moment of great glory for the parents of the players who had been specially invited for the finals.

The day ended on a note of happiness of having successfully organized the tournament and with a hope that the tournament will be held next year.

Ruchi Sharma
IX A, Games Captain.

Five Days At The U.N.



The glitter of the city catches the eye well before one lands in John F Kennedy airport. The famous skyline of New York with skyscrapers dotting every available inch of space greets you as you prepare to land in the New World, quite literally - a world so far away. In a procession of cars, we entered the city. We saw The Empire State Building, once the tallest building in the world, now dwarfed by 'the shooting stars' all around it. We were staying in Hotel Beverly on the 50th Street and it was just walking distance from there to the UN at the 45th Street.

10th March 1997, 9 AM is an important moment in my life. I was standing in front of the UN complex marvelling at the UN Plaza on the 1st Avenue, New York City. It was an overwhelming feeling of exuberance to see the peacemaker of the world, about which I have heard a great deal, since my school days. Numerous flags of the member countries fluttered in the chilly wind of the winter morning, marred by the intermittent rain.

The imposing UN complex stands on the banks of the East River in Manhattan. Once you step onto the property of the UN, you are no longer in New York

or in the United States, but on international property. The American millionaire John Rockefeller Jr. donated this land in Manhattan to 'The UN' to locate its permanent headquarters. This is the domain of a truly world

body, the nearest humanity has reached to form a 'world parliament'. As one enters the threshold of this august building with its expansive lobbies and impressive conference halls, one meets people of different races and colours from all over the world. A delegate with his flowing robes from a tiny African republic can discuss issues with another from a powerful European country on an equal basis.

Entry to the building is easy for the official delegates as they are issued Identity Cards. One is free to roam around anywhere inside the building with the ID card. You can hop in the coffee shop for a cup of hot tea or coffee or walk into the UN Bookshop. It has an infinite variety of UN memorabilia ranging from UN posters and books to the UN flag, with its distinctive official emblem in white, centred on a light-blue background. There is a UN post office too, which issues its own stamps, inlands etc.

The UN canteen serves international food, the choicest fresh fruits and salads and a bewildering variety of ice creams and desserts too. Delegates from different countries exchange pleasantries and views, while devour-

ing chunks of food - truly international food, anything from Indian chicken curry and rice to the Italian spaghetti bolognese, from American hot-dog to the very British 'good old fish and chips'. The range is theirs but the choice is yours. The sight of people of different nationalities assembled in the eating hall is symbolic of the oneness of the human race.

It was my privilege to observe the proceedings of the meeting at the UN. The representatives of the member nations sit in the proper order alphabetically, with India sandwiched between Iceland and Indonesia.

Delegates who are not conversant in English can plug in their earphones and listen to the speeches in any of the official languages of the UN. The UN General Assembly hall, where all the 185 member nations meet once in a year, is an awe-inspiring one. Near this Assembly hall you can find a small statue of Osiris, the Egyptian God, a gift from the Government of Egypt to 'The UN'. Other things on display include the inscription of Hammurabi's Code of Laws and the first peace treaty of the world. On the same floor is the all-powerful Security Council hall and the halls of the Economic and Social Council and The Trusteeship Council. You can see a large painting of The Great Wall of China in the lobby leading to The Economic and Social Council.

As we bade farewell to the UN on the evening I thought pensively, The UN has stood the test of time of 50 years. The UN may be an "ineffectual angel" of world peace, but an angel all the same and our only hope for maintaining peace in this trouble-torn world.

Beena Sugathan

Teacher's Day

"Quick, go on to the stage, it is your turn to perform," I could hear the perfect whispering to us, instructing us to be as quiet as possible. For the next few moments I did not know what was going on and I drew a deep sigh of relief when it was over. We had made it without faltering. Well, it was Teacher's Day and we had to make sure that they have a good time.

In the morning there had been a mass in the church, after which, the teachers had a snack in the staff-room. It was after this, that the teachers, each looking their best, came down to watch the programme, put up by the students. It began with a game in which, all the teachers participated with zeal. This was followed by the plays, songs and dances presented by classes VIII to XII.

Though we faltered and fumbled, the teachers seemed to overlook our mistakes. For once, their faces reflecting only benevolent appreciation.

Meanwhile, some of the students were busy decorating the library, where the teachers were to have their lunch. I peeped in to see how things were going on there and saw the most sumptuous cake kept on the table. I couldn't help wondering when I could bite into it (which I managed to do after the party was over) and wishing that I was a teacher.

It was fun to see our sternfaced teachers turn into kids again and frolic about with us. But we were glad that they were going to take charge again, the next day.

Samiksha Joshi, IX B

My Teachers

When I am in the class,
My whole body trembles alas !
I listen with every intention,
To every word that is mentioned.
Mrs. Sharan is my History teacher,
Who talks and talks all about preachers.
She taught us Doctrine of Lapse and Akbar the Great

And how they stole the Golden Age.
Mrs. Vaish is our class teacher,
She teaches Geography and none can beat her.

Population, maps, rotation and revolution
Its enough to create the biggest confusion
Mrs. Kumar is my Hindi teacher,
Who always talks about Hindi Literature.
She teaches us through fun, laughter and joy
and makes us learn the lesson like playing with a toy.

Mrs. Sharma is my Chemistry teacher,
In which none can beat her
Air, water, experiments and chemicals
All this is enough to create a miracle
Mrs. Shastri is our best Mathematician,
And our thanks to her for her contribution.
Addition, multiplication and division,
All this is enough to make me lose my vision.

Mrs. Chopra is my biology teacher,
Plants, animals and creatures
Her exams are full of horrors,
With answer papers full of errors.

Priyamvada Dua, VIII A

Teacher's Interview

- Q. 1 Did you want to be a teacher when you were small ?
A. 1. No - 70%
Yes - 30%
Q.2. How are your feelings now ?
A. 2. Very Nice - 96%
All right, just O.K - 4%
Q. 3. Will you like to teach L.C girls in you next birth ?
A. 3. Yes - 97%
Not girls like you - 1%
Not particularly L.C. girls - 2%
Q. 4. Do you like this school
A. 4. Yes 100%

Meghna Singh, VIII C

Teachers

Teachers, teachers,
Knowledge preachers,
love and care,
too they share,
They are loyal and constructive.
removing ignorance is their perspective
They teach and we learn.
They spend and we earn.
The profit is ours
So I pray,
That their life should always
be happy and gay .

Shruti Sood, VIII A

An Ode To My Teachers

A teacher is a source of knowledge
which she spreads like rays of sunshine
She moulds us into the right shape with
the right amount of love and care
She is there to help you in times of need
And listens to you with patience.
A teacher makes us capable of facing
this demanding world.
I love my teachers and will always be
grateful to them for making me into a
responsible and sensible girl who was
once like a wild monkey.

Meghna Singh, VIII C

**Thank you girls for giving us such a wonderful
"Teacher's Day"**

**The Staff
Loreto Convent, Delhi Cantt.**

DEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

My best day of this year was Independence day. I liked this day because we did a programme in the school. We decorated the class and gave cards to mom. On this day we flew balloons and our teacher also liked the programme. We did not bring any books.

Apurva II B



Independence Day is celebrated on 15th August. This year we were celebrating our 50 years of Independence. Our school had a lovely function. It showed how our country's leaders sacrificed their lives and got us freedom. The juniors had an item, where all the children, dressed up as leaders, were looking down at the country and feeling sad at the mess we have made of our country, and then the children take a vow to remove poverty, corruption and bring in literacy and cleanliness. PRERITA CHUGH II-A



I Love my Papa,
I Love my Mummy,
I Love my bhaiya,
But above all --
I Love My India

Palak Behl
II-A

JPIC - Justice Peace & Integrity of Creations

On a note of hope, solemnity and an increasing desire to apprise you of the problems that plague our society today, we constituted the JPIC committee in Loreto, Delhi. Through this committee we endeavour to provide a forum for you, to reflect, to interact and probably find your own little ways of dealing with some insurpassable problems we face. Be it the problem of rising poverty, the mushrooming slums or spiralling, catastrophic environmental pollution, our lives remain untainted untouched. How long can this apathy go on? Isn't it time to stop, think, realise and contribute our wee bit.....?

Many a thanks for co-operating with us in our campaign of not bursting fire crackers this Diwali. Hope you continue to show the same zeal and enthusiasm in our future ventures. Never forget, the smallest act of kindness makes a difference.

Deepa Joshi
Shanta Sharan

Life

Life is like a fuse, short and burning fast, we must hurry or we could be lost. This is my motto of life and I would like to lead a successful life also filled with a lot of happiness. Since I do work hard at everything I do, I like to take on initiative, managing to bear the consequences side by side, and also have my goals set to a comfortable but challenging height. I feel I would manage to move along with this fast paced jet-set life, but would also like to enjoy life to its hilt and enjoy the aesthetic beauty of the finer things around me. Just to add to life that extra spice that keeps one going, I feel some fear would also not be harmful, but not too much of it as that would curb my freedom and my wanting to live life my way-and that would be a big dampner to my spirit. My spirit which is my life, and that is something I feel I would never be ready to give up.

Rhea Roy
VIII A

The Little Plant

In the heart of a seed
Buried deep, so deep, so deep,
Lay fast asleep.

"Wake," said the Sunshine,

"And creep to the light,"

"Wake," said the voice
of the raindrops bright.

Neha Suri
VI B

Life's First Battle

It's life's first battle,
Not fought on the field.
You are in a hall,
Don't fear to yield.

Take up the challenge
With a pen in your hand.
Give your best
And with the best you will stand.

Be calm and think clearly,
At any cost be neat.
Let thoughts flow smoothly,
There with success you'll meet.

Anubha Kumar, V A

Child Labour

Each one of us at one time or the other has come across a cute little kid on traffic signals asking for alms. We prefer to shun them. Have we ever taken time to ponder upon the growth in the number of child beggars and what are the circumstances which force them to beg?

Many kids are forced into their so called profession by gangsters who actually deform the child in some way or the other so people would take pity. Then their poor and helpless parents encourage and force little ones to beg.

The best way to stop this malpractice is to discourage them and instead educate or admit them in a good institution which would take care of a child's needs.

Jazryk Gill, VIII A

Child Labour - A Scourge

Childhood is one of the finest periods of life. It is a period which is meant to be enjoyed. Every child must be given an opportunity to enjoy his childhood. Parents who are well-off can afford to give their children everything. But, are we aware of the fact, that there are millions of children whose parents cannot even afford to give them, one single meal a day. Their parents are too poor to fulfil their basic needs. As a result these children either go out to work with their parents to take up petty jobs like shoe-polishing, working as domestic servants etc. to support their families. Their childhood is snatched away from them. These children suffer many setbacks in life and sometimes indulge in bad practices like stealing, violence, gambling, drug addiction and other such anti-social activities. We must show our concern for these children and try to do our best to help them.

Ankita Chaudhry, VIII A

The life of a leaf

How beautiful are the leaves
How short are their lives
So humble, so meek
When born, they start to wither away
Scarcely anyone ever noticing how in the wind they sway
They wither, they die and then
Wait for the time they'll fall,
In answer to God's call

Ratna Luke