



# The Edmundian

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## From The Principal's Desk

The Academic Year 2020 has been derailed and our lives gone off course. The pandemic hit us hard and threw us off guard. We are still left without answers and the future is uncertain. Hope is the ability to see that there is light despite everything in the dark. 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020, heralded a 'new normal' for all of us. The fear of the Corona Virus confined us within the walls of our secure homes. We switched on our TV news channels to follow how the pandemic gripped the entire world in a panic that paralyzed lives and relationships. We had to school from home relying on remote teaching. We could not meet our friends; could not play; could not sing and dance; could not study in groups in classrooms; could not perform on stage; could not fight; could not laugh; could not celebrate among friends; could not ask questions; could not have fun when learning; could not enjoy coming to school. BUT, we prevailed! Hope is the ability to see that there is light despite everything in the dark. Our teachers adapted to the new normal. They learned quickly. They befriended technology.



Our boys adjusted to the different methods used by the teachers. They accommodated the faux pas, lapses and technical glitches. Parents were patient and understanding. Little children struggled to get their assignments and homework completed. The hours of screen time took their toll on them. Children grew impatient, cranky and at times belligerent. BUT, through it all they were resilient and tolerant. I would like to thank and applaud all our boys and parents for their valiant efforts in keeping their spirits alive. I want to express my gratitude for

cooperating with the teachers and management. Parents and children had to adjust in many areas. Some had network issues, some location issues, some financial issues and some domestic issues. Quite a number of our children faced problems with sleep patterns. Lives were turned upside down. Night became day and days were turned into nights! The internet usage took its toll too. Children faced mobile addiction. Psychological problems abounded. Mental hygiene suffered. Families started getting dysfunctional. The pandemic left its mark. BUT, Hope is the ability to see that there is light despite everything in the dark. And it is this HOPE that gives us the strength to carry on and face 2021. May the HOPE of CHRISTMAS, the Blessings of the NEW BORN stay with you and remain with you forever. Amen. A Blessed Christmas to all of you dear PARENTS, TEACHERS and BOYS. God bless all.



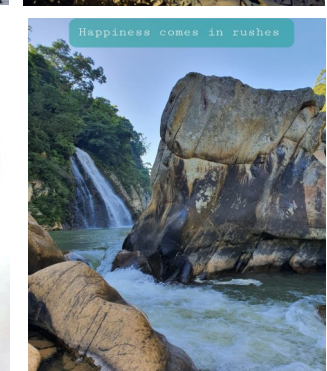
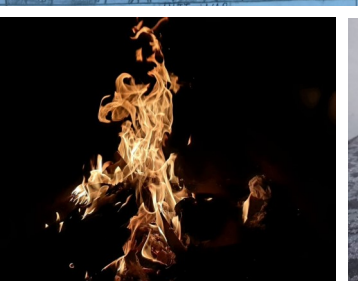
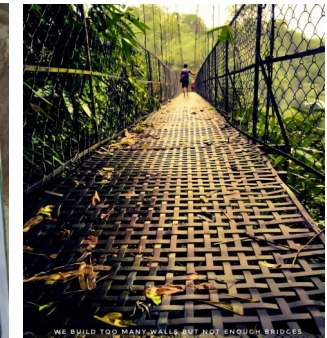
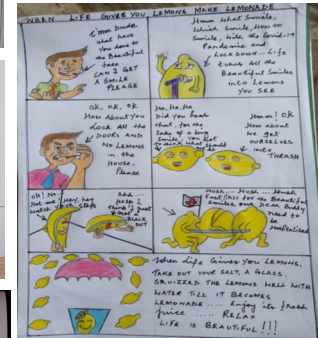
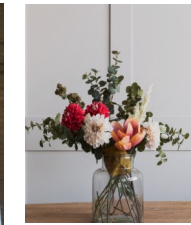
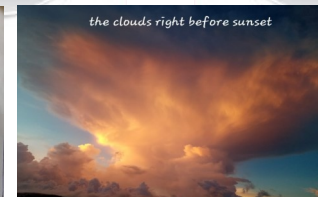
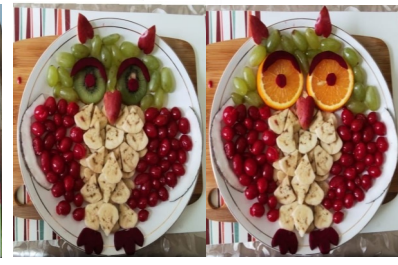
## From The Editorial 2020



2020 an eventful year in true sense, we have come to the last month of this remarkable year where we stepped out of our comfort zones and ventured into a new world where all normalities were illusionary. Had we ever imagined that we would be attending our regular classes with a screen and a camera? Or treat the humble face mask as a necessity? Who knows what the future awaits, because as disappointing as it may sound we can neither change the past nor predict the future. One thing we can

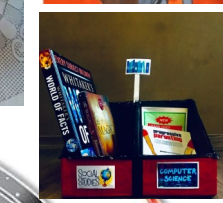
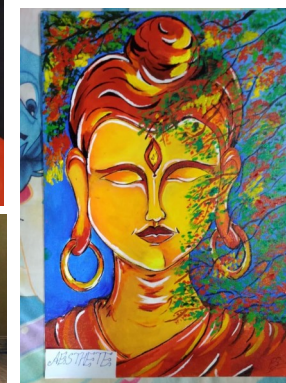
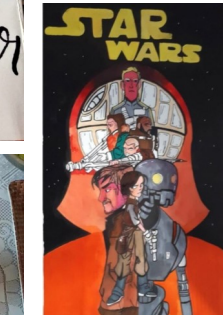
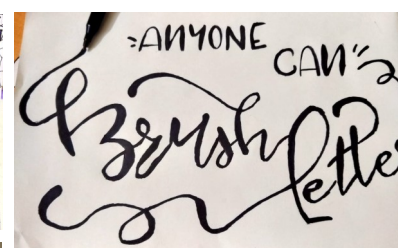
do for sure is live our present to the fullest because who knows what the next year has in store for us. Our school has done its best to give us what we are missing out on, but let us agree that the essence of school cannot be replaced by a mere device. The jokes in class, the lunch breaks, our beloved friends and teachers and most importantly the PT periods. As we spend our days in fear of this malice that we are dealing with, day by day thousands of people are dying and medical professionals and frontline workers risk their lives each day to ensure that others are well and healthy. Let us acknowledge this fact with gratitude. When will the vaccine be developed and when can we live our normal lives? is a question whose answer is not known by even a single soul. But what we can say is that we can strive to make each day of our lives better and help others who are in need of help and attention, take care of our elderly and live each day with a sigh of gratitude for our lives. Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.





# SES ONLINE PANDEMIC

# CREATION WEEK 2020



## 2020 !! What a year it has been?

Just like every other person in the world, 2020 has been year of uncertainty. On a usual normal day which seems like once upon a time now, I would wake up early and quickly finish my morning chores before coming to school. Meeting and talking to students, teaching different classes and talking to my colleagues was something I did everyday. But one day everything changed in the blink of an eye. The lockdown started and we were all sitting at home not realizing it would be this long.

It was sooner rather than later, when we all teachers realized a great challenge was awaiting us. The challenge to be able to continue with the teaching-learning process amidst the pandemic. A few days of lockdown had passed and teachers were confronted with the need to adapt to online teaching. Personally, I wasn't sure how to make it possible. A lot of questions kept repeating my mind - How will I teach from home? Which app or software am I supposed to use? Will it be possible for every student to connect virtually? Will I be able to communicate with my students effectively? . . . . . I didn't get any absolute answer for any of those questions but I realized, we all have to find our way through these obstacles. Initially we all struggled to master the virtual tools to our functioning. We did get a lot of suggestions from our Principal on how to go about online teaching and the different software's which would be helpful.

Soon online classes began and also the experience of trying and testing all the different software's which we could use to make online teaching worthwhile and effective. The different platforms that we have used till date are WhatsApp, Snap homework, Google Classroom, Google Meet and many more to make and edit audios, videos and other study material for students. Certainly, this pandemic has made almost every teacher more tech savvy.

Apart from teaching-learning we all managed to conduct a few extra-curricular events online. Online creation week was something out of the box. Online Teachers day was full of surprises for all teachers. And then we teachers made sure we surprised the children on children's day.

## Teaching In The Time Of COVID-19

All in all, this year has been a challenging

one for all of us. But the desire to return back to what was normal still remains unfulfilled. Being in the last month of 2020, I only wish that 2021 brings new hope and light in our lives and COVID-19 becomes a chapter in our history book.



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CHRISTMAS  
DECOR



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**Symbolic representation of different aspects of Christmas...**

**Star:** The star represents the new star that appeared on the night of Christ's birth.



**Candy Cane:** It represents the Shepard's staff

**Evergreen trees (Christmas Trees):** Represent eternal life



**Bells:** A call on mankind to worship the Lord

**Wreath:** The crown of thorns that Christ wore during his crucifixion



**Holly berries:** The blood that Christ shed for the people

**Christmas Carols:** Represent the multitude of angels that sang when Jesus was born

**2020-Student's Perspectives**

"Though this year was challenging and enduring, we have learnt to appreciate the little things in life more. We have also learnt to overcome obstacles by looking at the situation from another angle. overall this year was a silver lining disguised as a bad year"

"I missed coming to school early in the morning, talking to friends and sitting on the wooden benches."

"It was absolute chaos, and I LOVED EVERY SINGLE MOMENT OF IT."

"This year has been really iconic. We did have a lot of problems but I think the teachers and students coped well."

"Our studies were not compromised all because of our teachers. They took efforts and helped us study in these tough times."

"A year we can never forget, NO MATTER HOW HARD WE TRY"

"This yr was gd because we didn't have to wake up early morning to go to school but that was also the bad because we weren't able to see our friends and that made us lonely"

"Unprecedented"  
"Unique and Unexpected"

"A year of change, a year of adaptations"

"The year was filled with ups and downs. Our chapters got reduced twice which made it easier for us but we also lost the most precious school year."

I Love the smell of Christmas  
Along with all the lights  
Log fires in the fire place  
On those cold winter nights

The smell of Christmas goodies  
That are baked with tender care  
The smell is just the greatest  
There's nothing to compare

The evergreen's so fragrant  
The smell of Christmas season  
Like the hanging of mistletoe  
That's done for a good

**THE SMILES OF CHRISTMAS** ~ By Bernard Howe

Those pies that make me drool  
Just sitting there on that shelf  
Is as if they were made special  
For that jolly old Christmas elf.

Cinnamon and Peppermint  
Fills the air that's in our house  
And what is stirring in the night,  
Is not the Christmas mouse

Poinsettia's all around  
To balance off the Garland  
Music boxes everyplace  
Bought by my sweet darlin'

