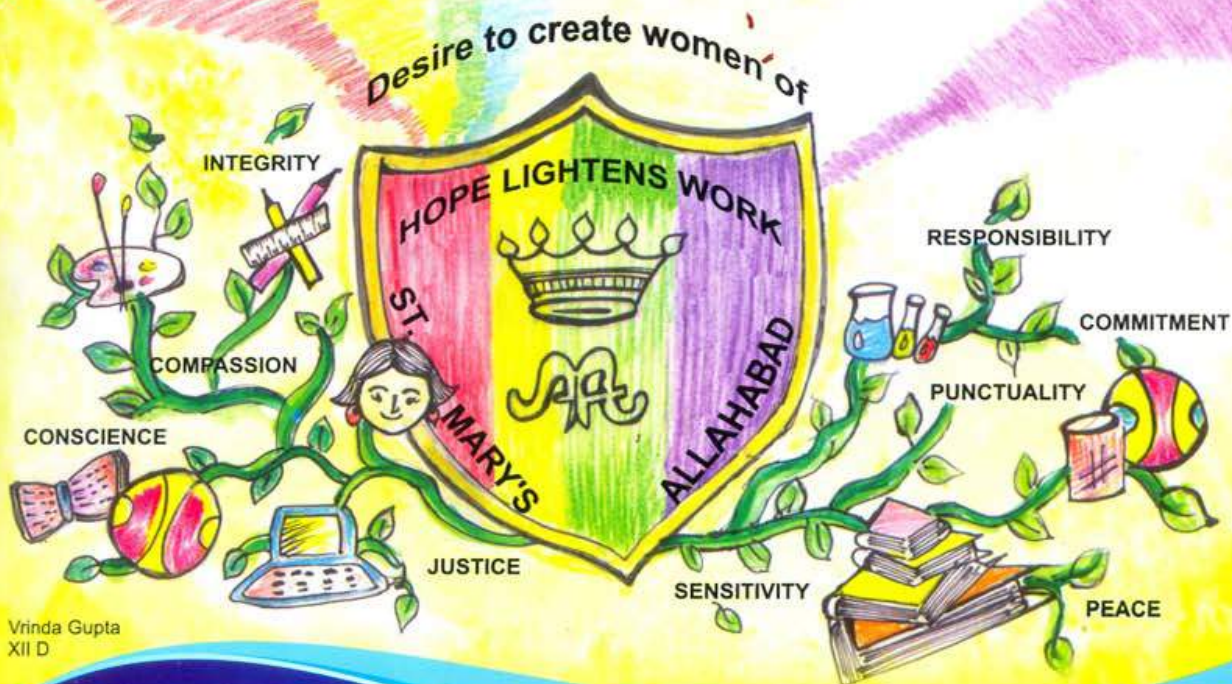




St. Mary's Convent Inter College

ALLAHABAD

SMC Spectrum



Vrinda Gupta
XII D

2014

April - September

www.smccjallahabad.org

*...celebrating 148 years
of vibrant Presence*

Vision of the Just Soul 1615

Freedom, Justice, Sincerity

'That we be such as we appear, and appear such as we are'
Mary Ward



Since 1866

HOPE LIGHTENS ROADS

ST. MARY'S

St. Mary's Convent Inter College



Message





Principal's
Message

The true Purpose of Education is the Transformation of the Child into the image of God

Every child born into this world is a child of God created in His own image and likeness. The true purpose of education is the transformation of the child into the image of God as designed from the beginning. This transformation happens through the collaborative effort of the entire educational community-the management, parents, teachers and students in a conducive atmosphere created at home and in school.

Founded on the values of dignity and sacredness of human life, our Venerable Foundress Mary Ward designed an educational programme in her time, to nurture every child spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, physically and socially. This rich legacy of Mary Ward Education aimed at developing the whole person towards fullness of life is the source from which we draw inspiration in our mission of education.

With the glorious legacy of 148 years in education guiding us, we are journeying into the academic year 2014-2015 focusing on two key themes-**Deepening our Roots and the Power of Youth to Transform the World**. For Deepening our Roots in preparation for our 150th anniversary in 2016, we have taken up an in-depth study of the life of Mary Ward. The keen interest shown by the entire SMC family in this enterprise is very encouraging.

The vision of the Just Soul (1615), one of the three key 'graces' of Mary Ward, depicted in the front inner cover of this edition of the Spectrum urges us to be in right relationship with God, others, nature and ourselves through the virtues of **Freedom, Justice and Sincerity**. May the inspiring life of our great foundress enlighten us to understand that the quality of our lives is directly related to and dependent on the quality of our relationships.

It is rightly said that the formation of the youth is a work of art. Believing that values add beauty to the soul and excellence to the character, we give topmost priority to inculcating values in our students. Through a series of well planned activities to empower the youth, we instill in their minds a dream, a vision and a burning desire to achieve a lofty goal. Our aim is to enable the youth to become **socially sensitive citizens of character and integrity** and lead a meaningful and fulfilling life.

The editorial team led by the chief editor Mrs. Namita Varma has done a commendable job for the release of this issue of the Spectrum. The idea of creating a section for Parents, Teachers and Ex-Students is highly appreciated. Hearty Congratulations.

Better Youth, Better India, Better World is our slogan for the year. Transformation of our world can truly happen by harnessing the power of youth in the right direction. Dear SMCites, in a world that is changing at an unimaginable speed, take time daily to come home to yourself, listen to your conscience, reason reflectively and grow in the **art of discernment**. Think freely, fearlessly and creatively to lay the foundation of a **new, compassionate and peaceful world**. Own your responsibility to transform the world and face the future with **courage, determination and hope**.

All the best.



M. Mariette



SMC SPECTRUM

Celebrating 148 Years of Vibrant Presence





Editorial

*"Reading maketh
a full man,
conference a
ready man,
and writing an
exact man".*

-Francis Bacon

Message

As our institution marches towards its sesqui-centenary year, we are humbled by the rich legacy of a remarkable woman who has left an indelible mark in the arena of value-based education. In today's world where strife among people is rampant let us transcend the bounds of our individual concerns and open the path of excellence through tireless efforts and complete sincerity. This was the lesson taught to us by Mary Ward, the foundress of our institution.

A single individual possesses incalculable strength and a single life is an invaluable treasure, therefore let us appreciate the vibrant creativity and spontaneous originality which is reflected in its various shades and hues through the pen and the paint-brush of our dear students.

I would like to extend my heart-felt gratitude to our Principal, Sr. Mariette, Vice- Principal, Sr. Marina, Sr. Sagaya, Mrs. Rama Tripathi, Mrs. Shashi Tressler and Ms. Varsha Mary for their unconditional co-operation and encouragement. A special word of appreciation for the diligent and prompt members of Editorial Board who delivered the goods in the nick of time.

The co-operation of my colleagues, students and the E-Care team was commendable and praise-worthy. I sincerely believe that this magazine would be instrumental in motivating many of our students to pen down their thoughts.

Differences among individuals are inevitable. But instead of causing division they should pave the way for a richer life filled with variety. Team-work is the key word which leads to successful

completion of any task. Dear Children, take heart from the legacy of our foundress to realize your mission as students of SMC so that you can reveal the brilliance of your lives to illuminate your classrooms, communities and society at large.

Mrs. Namita Varma



Left to Right

First Row: Sr. Marina, Mrs. S. Tressler, Mrs. R. Tripathi, Mrs. N. Varma, Ms. V. Mary, Sr. Sagaya

Second Row: Sanjana Chauhan, Ayushi Singh, Shreeya Basu, Kishwar Jamal.



St. Mary's Convent Inter College

Message

Student Editor's MESSAGE

With the divine blessings of the almighty we have embraced the successful completion of the first issue of the SMC Spectrum. I would like to extend my sincere thanks to our Principal Sr. Mariette, Sr. Marina, Sr. Sagaya, Staff editors Mrs. Namita Varma, Ms. Varsha Mary, Mrs. Shashi Tressler and Mrs. Rama Tripathi for their effective mentoring and constant support, bereft of which this magazine would not have been a perfect one. I would also like to acknowledge the efforts of my sub editor Ayushi Singh, Hindi chief editor Shreya Basu and Hindi sub-editor Kishwar Jamal for rendering their valuable assistance towards the making of this magazine.

"You have a choice, you are master of your attitude. Choose the positive, the constructive. Optimism is a faith that leads to success". - Bruce Lee

Relentlessly marching ahead in the capricious world of today, we have lost ourselves to negativity as a result of which everything seems irretrievable. But with a positive frame of mind everything can be achieved. So have a positive outlook in life. Believe in yourself. Seek perfection in everything that you undertake and success will automatically follow suit.

Feel grateful for every good thing your life is endowed with and celebrate each and every moment of life gracefully.

With love, warmth and light

2

Sanjana Chauhan
Student Chief Editor

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SMC SPECTRUM
Celebrating 148 Years of Vibrant Presence

03





CHRONICLES

April

- April 7 Teachers' Orientation Programme
- 9 The New Academic Session Begins
- 11 Alumnae Meet
- 22 Orientation Programme organised for Class 11
- 26 Farewell of Ms. Kaushik and Ms. Kumar
- 28 Talent Search- Word Power (Classes 1-5)
- 29 Talent Search- Word Power (Classes 6-8)
- 29 Leadership Training Programme of USM at Indore
- 30 Talent Search- JAM (Classes 9-12)

May

- May 2 Labour Day celebrated at SMC - Class 10 C conducts a short prayer service to honour our Supportive Staff
- 5 Talent Search - Choral Recitation (Classes 1-5)
- 6 Talent Search - Sand Art (Classes 6-8)
- 9 Talent Search - Artificial Flower making (Classes 9-12)
- 10 SMC bids adieu to Sr. Delphine, Sr. Prabha, Sr. Janette, Sr. Arpita, Sr. Ruby and welcome Sr. Rosily, Sr. Sagaya and Sr. Deeksha
- 12 Summer camp begins
- 24-30 Logophilia Workshop
- 31 Summer Camp ends

June

- June 23 School reopens for Classes 10 and 12

July

- July 1 School reopens for Classes 1-9 and 11
- 8 Talent Search - Spelling Quiz (Classes 1-5)
- 9 Talent Search-Making Paper Bags (Classes 6-8)
- 10 Talent Search- Face Painting (Classes 9-12)



CHRONICLES

- 12 Investiture Ceremony held at SMC
- 16 Talent Search- Declamation (Classes 9-12)
- 22 Unit-I Assessment Begins
- 23 Sr. Sagaya's Birthday celebrated
- 31 Sr. Benita's Birthday celebrated

August

- August 1 Talent Search - English Debate (Classes 9-12)
- 9 Rainbow Day organised at SMC by the Alumni Association
- 9 Felicitation of students for excellence in ICSE and ISC examination 2014
- 11 ASISC Allahabad Zonal level debate held at SMC
- 14 Talent Search- Group Song (Classes 1-5)
- 15 Independence Day celebrated at SMC
- 16 A Visit to Leprosy Ashram by Students of Class 10
- 23 Manager's Day Celebrated - SMC honours Our Manager Sr. Rosily and Sr. Sybil - Incharge Ashadeep
- 19 ASISC Allahabad Zonal Level Declamation held at BHS
- 28 Rainbow Day Prize Distribution
- 29 Talent Search- Teacher's Day Greeting Card Making (Classes 1-12)

September

- September 5 Teachers' Day celebrated at SMC
- 8 Feast Day of our Principal Sr. Mariette and Sr. Preeti, Girl Child Day and Mother Mary's Birthday celebrated at SMC
- 11 Basketball final match between Mary Ward House and Tagore House
- 15-30 Hindi Fortnight conducted at SMC
- 15 First Terminal Examination begins
- 30 First Terminal Examination ends

Farewell Dear Teachers Reports



"Happy times and by-gone days are never lost. In truth, they only grow more wonderful within the hearts that keep them."

On 26th April, 2014, our beloved teachers, Mrs. S. Kumar and Mrs. A. Kaushik, were given a fitting farewell as they completed their years of service in SMC. The programme commenced with a meaningful prayer service invoking God's blessings on them. Some of the students of Mrs. Kaushik and Mrs. Kumar expressed their affection and acknowledged their meaningful and interesting classes which they will miss. The children expressed their gratitude, love and respect through a well prepared cultural programme. The mesmerizing dance performances, the melodious songs and the beautiful role-plays left the audience astonished.

In gratitude for all the care and nourishment received from the teachers, the students presented them with gifts, bouquets and cards. The management and the staff expressed their love and appreciation towards each of the two teachers who were leaving the institution after years of dedicated service.

The outgoing mentors took the opportunity to recall the by-gone days filled with laughter, fun and various experiences and raised their hearts in thanksgiving to everyone. Our Principal, Sr. Mariette, gave the message that Mrs. Kumar and Mrs. Kaushik will remain a part of the SMC family and the school will always cherish their memories. The programme ended by singing the school anthem after which the staff enjoyed a delicious lunch served in their honour.

Shreeya Basu
Student Chief Editor
12-B



Since 1866

St. Mary's Convent Inter College

Reports



Learning through Fun and Frolic

The summer camp commenced on 12th May 2014, igniting the spark of enthusiasm among the children. Under the able guidance of Mrs. Madhu Sharma, Mr. Anurag Sharma and Mr. Kulbhaskar, the spirited players were trained in games like badminton, basket ball and athletics. Our little dancers tapped their feet to classical melodies, as instructed by Ms. Shruti and Ms. Aiman. Mr. Alvin Dutt guided our budding musicians to play various musical instruments skilfully. Mrs. Kaveri Vij taught the students to wield their paint brushes to create magic on paper.

The camp ended on 31st May with the enthralling performances by our talented students.

An art exhibition was organised and certificates were distributed to the participants.

I express my heartfelt gratitude towards our Manager Sr. Rosily, our Principal Sr. Mariette, Sr. Marina and Sr. Prabha for their constant support and encouragement.

Vaishnavi Srivastava
Games Vice Captain



SMC SPECTRUM
Celebrating 148 Years of Vibrant Presence

Reports

"Transform the world by Self-Transformation"

On the breezy morning of 29th April, we a group of 12 students accompanied by Sr. Prabha and Sir Anurag Sharma, with our baggage left for Indore for the much awaited leadership training programme of Universal Solidarity Movement. Excitement was mounting in our hearts. Before becoming a part of this prestigious movement we had our apprehensions. However all of them miraculously transformed into a vision the moment we entered the corridors of USM. The serene aura of the place initiated the process of our growth into rational individuals.

This seven day programme comprised of a multitude of thought-provoking sessions about the prevalent and perpetuating odds in our society. We were shown inspiring movies revolving around the life of the undaunting leaders of today which instilled in us a sense of selfless duty towards our nation. The various tasks and projects assigned to us proved beneficial in honing our oratory and writing skills besides making us aware of the happenings around us. Not to mention in the least, the amiable staff and the palatable food made us feel at home. Father Varghese and Ma'am Neetu Joshi effectively mentored us and compelled us to live up to the theme of "struggle, smile, stay" along with the five paths for personal transformation. It has definitely helped in bringing about a positive change in our perspective about things. As a result of which we have developed a sense of responsibility, especially towards conserving our resources and having respect for our parents.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Principal Sr. Mariette for providing us with this wonderful opportunity to be a part of USM.

Aishwarya Gupta
11-A

श्रमिक दिवस

सम्पूर्ण विश्व में 1 मई श्रमिक दिवस के रूप में मनाया जाता है। परम्परानुसार, एस.एम.सी. इण्टर कालेज में इस वर्ष भी श्रमिक दिवस के अवसर पर कर्मयोगियों, को सम्मानित किया गया। इस अवसर पर कक्षा 10 'सी' की छात्राओं द्वारा एक विशेष प्रार्थना सभा का आयोजन किया गया। इस कार्यक्रम के माध्यम से छात्राओं ने सभी को हमारे कर्मचारियों का महत्त्व समझाया। 'साहेब नजर रखना' गीत द्वारा छात्राओं ने सभी का मन मोह लिया। 'हर तरफ हर जगह' गीत पर एक भावपूर्ण नृत्य की प्रस्तुति की गई।

इसके पश्चात् दैनिक जीवन में कर्मचारियों के महत्त्व पर प्रकाश डालते हुए एक एंकाकी का मंचन किया गया। छात्राओं ने कठपुतली नृत्य भी प्रस्तुत किया।

अंत में हमारे कर्मचारी भाई मुन्नु भईया द्वारा एक मनमोहक गीत प्रस्तुत किया गया। मिस रिनी ने अपने शब्दों द्वारा बच्चों का उत्साहवर्द्धन किया। इस प्रकार श्रमिक दिवस समारोह सफलता पूर्वक सम्पन्न हुआ।

सिमरन यादव
10 सी





THE BEAUTIFUL DUSK *And a New Dawn at SMC*

*As the handkerchief dabs the pure overflow of parting emotions,
the little teardrop says, "you need more hellos than goodbyes."*

On 10th May SMC experienced a mixed feeling as five jewels of SMC Sr. Delphine, Sr. Prabha, Sr. Janet, Sr. Arpita, Sr. Ruby left the hallowed portals of the institute handing over the legacy to Sr. Rosily, Sr. Sagaya, Sr. Deeksha. The farewell programme began with a prayer service conducted by class 11 which placed a river's tranquility and the sisters' virtuous deeds on equal footing. Sisters have led us to the threshold of God's love through their catechism classes. A soulful song invoked his blessings on them. Our sisters are special found better manifestation in a coordinated choral recitation by class 10. Through a humurously rejuvenating play "Planet Grammar" the students of class 7, reimbursed the importance of the guidance of sisters-as essential as parts of speech.



Grace emanated from the trickle of music as the students of class 12 danced to the expressive beats of "bhare naina". Faith can move mountains, a duet song "that's what faith can do", reinstilled the same faith. The audience was transported to a transcendental paradise through the soul-stirring beats of the instruments of the SMC band.

Finishing on the notes of innocence the tiny tots implored the departers "Kabhi Alvida Na Kehna" through their scintillating dance performance. Goodbyes are not forever dear sisters, but welcomes are eternal in life. The SMC family wishes you success in all your endeavours. May you be in his grace and continue to elucidate the path of youth wherever you go.

Anam Tanveer

12-B



STUDENT COUNCIL 2014-2015



CHIEF EDITOR ENGLISH

Sanjana Chauhan



HEAD GIRL

Purvangi Ranjan



VICE HEAD GIRL

Shivani Pandey



SUB-EDITOR ENGLISH

Ayushi Singh



CHIEF EDITOR HINDI

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GAMES VICE CAPTAIN

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USM VICE PRESIDENT

Shaurya Dubey



HOPE LIGHTENS WORK
ST. MARY'S
ALLAHABAD



St. Mary's Convent Inter College



STUDENT COUNCIL 2014-2015

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Anamika Pathak

YELLOW HOUSE VICE CAPTAIN



Surya Pradhan

RED HOUSE CAPTAIN



Ananya Jaiswal

RED HOUSE VICE CAPTAIN



Manya Shiksharhi

The Torch Bearers of S.M.C. 2014-15



*"Do not follow where the path may lead.
Go instead where there is no path, and leave a trail."*

These inspiring words of Ralph Waldo Emerson summed up the bountiful amount of expectations that everyone carried in their hearts, as St. Mary's Convent Inter College, organized the Investiture Ceremony of its newly elected cabinet for the year 2014-15 on 12th of July. The much awaited event began with the prayer service themed "Service Before Self", highlighting the importance of the constructive efforts that the leaders selflessly make to accomplish their tasks.

The ceremony was graced by the presence of our Manager Sr. Rosily, Principal Sr. Mariette, Sisters, teachers and the proud parents of the council members, the audience being the students of class XI and XII.

After the lightening of the holy lamp by Sr. Rosily, Sr. Mariette and Mrs. Aparna Ranjan, mother of the head girl Purvangi Ranjan, the programme commenced with a prayer dance. The students of

class IX gracefully conveyed the message of keeping faith in oneself in trying times. It was followed by the inspiring notes of the song 'Hey Jawano', which instilled a sense of responsibility in the Student Council to give their fullest effort in every endeavour.

The Investiture Ceremony began as the elected members were called upon by Sr. Mariette to pledge their faith for the betterment of the school. The leaders were invested by the moderators with badges and sashes. Sr. Rosily, then invoked God's blessings on the badge-holders and the entire school and wished them luck for the future. The entire audience paid keen attention as the Head girl Purvangi Ranjan delivered her maiden speech, giving the students, the message of optimism and to love oneself whole heartedly.

On behalf of the parents, Major Ranjan Srivastava, father of the Head girl enlightened the students on a practical and sincere approach to life. Our Principal Sr. Mariette then congratulated the leaders and gave them the message to be an example to be followed by each SMCite. The ceremony came to an end with the singing of the school Anthem, as SMC looked forward to another promising year.

Vandita Singh
XII-B





Head Girl's Maiden Speech

*"For in dreams we enter a world entirely of our own.
Let them swim in the deepest
ocean or glide over the highest cloud."
-Albus Dumbledore*

It certainly was a dream, not very long ago, to actually stand up one day and represent my alma-mater. Well, as I stand here living my dream, I feel humbled and blessed. The journey from a shy child to a loud girl has been quite interesting. That would not have been possible without the most influencing people of my life.

On this special day, I would like to thank my parents for everything. My father, for always being my support system and also for always listening to all that I have to say. My mother, for always checking me, for being my pillar and for being my secret Santa Claus! You both are and will always be the most important for me.

I thank the spirit of SMC which has guided me always. My principals, all the dear sisters and the entire SMC family- THANK YOU! My amazing teachers- right from my teacher of nursery to the present teachers- I can't thank you enough. All of you, in your own special way, have taught me something. Spellings or values, text or morals... You have been the catalyst to my achievements. I thank you from the core of my heart. I've learnt so much from my Head Girl, Shreya Pandey- my sister, my friend, my guide- thank you for all your belief and love. And now my friends- all of you out there- thank you! Thank you for being my companions in greys and partners in joys.

As the Head Girl, neither will I talk of any extra-ordinary value- we have Value Education for that nor will I ask anything which is unattainable, like, completing the projects on time! My message to all of you my fellow SMCites is- BREATHE! Yes, that's how you live, right? As practical as it sounds- LIVE! All the time buried under the pressure of various things is like a living skeleton- no life- just a walking white skeleton. Do not equate living with success, instead, equate living with satisfaction and trust me, the day you are satisfied, you'll be the most successful and happiest person. And that will come only if you believe in yourself- only when you love yourself, the way you are.

Don't be someone else by trying to look different in each party, by not repeating clothes, by crying over a pimple, by sulking over bad marks or by making a mountain on your head for that matter. You are beautiful the way you are! All of you! Each one of you deserves to live knowing that you are special. Make your life brighter. Respect your inner self and not that fake mountain head. Self- respect will lead to dignity and dignity to self love, that's when you'll find a spring in your step, a straight shoulder and a head held high.

"A bird sitting on a tree is never afraid of the branch breaking, because her trust is not on the branch but on its own wings."

So believe in yourself and don't lose the person that you are because that is the biggest loss- loss of life when we are alive. So forget about that favourite actor or singer of yours and fall in love with yourself. It is as easy as L-I-V-E! Harry Potter said, "Working hard is important, but there is something that matters more: believing in yourself." So, be confident the way you are and as the famous tagline goes, "Love the skin you're in." Don't worry and don't pressurise yourself because the atmospheric pressure is enough on your shoulders. SO LIVE! SMCites LIVE!

Thank you!

Purvangi Ranjan
12 B



Happy Birthday

Sr. Sagaya & Sr. Benita

"The more you praise
and celebrate your life,
the more there is in
life to celebrate."
– Oprah Winfrey



23rd July



31st July

ASISC ALLAHABAD ZONAL

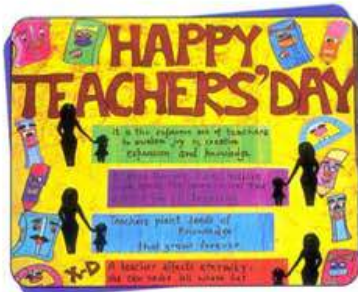
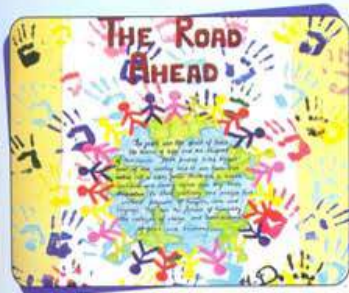
Debate Competition

ASISC Allahabad Zonal Debate Competition was held on 11th August, 2014 hosted by St. Mary's Convent Inter College, Allahabad. The event was chaired by Professor Dr. Manas Mukul Das, an eminent retired Professor of English Department of Allahabad University. The judges were Professor Sanjay Dutta Roy, a remarkable Professor of English Department at Allahabad University, Dr. Jaya Kapoor, an Assistant Professor of English Department at Allahabad University and Mrs. Sharmila Deb a Ph.d. in Psychology and teaching Educational Psychology at St. Mary's Convent Teachers Training College, Allahabad.

Eight schools participated in the event which was divided into two categories – Senior and junior categories. The topic for senior category was "Discrimination against gender highlights a patriarchal mindset" and the topic for the junior category was "A technologically advanced society lowers quality of human life". All the students debated on the topics with enthusiasm and confidence. It was indeed a lively debate especially the rebuttal. The winners of the senior category were:

First- Sanskriti Shankar from Bishop Johnson School, Second- Rajat Srivastava from St. Joseph's College, Third- Ananya Singh from St. Mary's Convent Inter College, Allahabad. The winning team was FOR the motion. The winners of the junior category were: First- Anahad Narain from St. Joseph's College, Second- Shreyas Srivastava from Boys High School, Third- Kritika Saraswat from Girls High School. The winning team was FOR the motion.

Beautiful Bulletin Boards





CHAIRPERSON SPEAKS

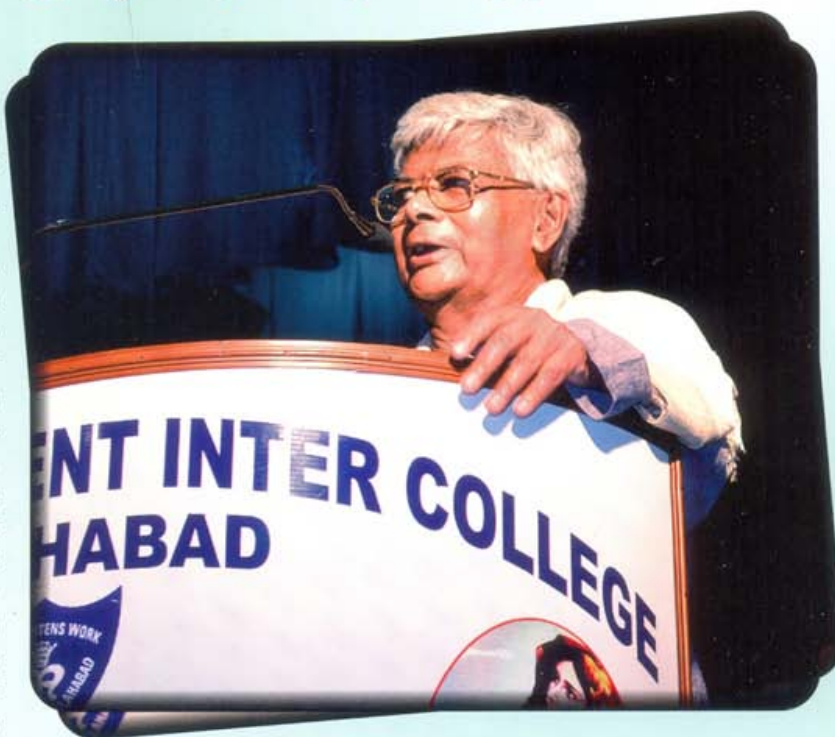
Dr. Manas Mukul Das is a retired Professor of eminence who has left an indelible mark on the history of English Department of University of Allahabad.

It was wonderful listening to young minds debating this morning. First, the gender issue and then the impact of technology on the quality of human life. There are many things involved in both these issues and it is not easy to take a stand either for or against on the two motions moved before the House earlier today. Children and teachers from many of the best schools in Allahabad are assembled here. Education should help us deliberate over the various problems that life brings before the individual and society. I

should like to share some of my thoughts and concerns with all of you present here.

There are three words in the English Language: debate, discussion and dialogue. Etymologically, the three words are different. 'Debate' derives from 'batter': to batter apart with a clash of ideas. 'Discussion' has its origin in 'quash'/'crush': to crush apart the conflict of views. 'debate' and 'discussion' both indicate a situation of conflict, 'dialogue', however, derives from 'logos', the universal moral order- order that holds the universe together into a cosmic whole. It is also the fountainhead of order, justice, and balance in society. 'Dia' means 'through'. 'Dialogue', therefore means 'through the logos': together trying to explore what is right, what is in accordance with the moral order. In a dialogue there is no opposite side. Everyone, together with everyone else, is trying to understand, through an understanding of the logos, what is the right way of thinking and acting/doing. It is a situation of togetherness, of harmony, not of conflict. How do we need to confront the problems facing society- gender discrimination, perils of advanced technology?

The problems are not easy to solve. They have many dimensions, many faces. From the flint knife and





the potter's wheel to the most advanced computer and space satellites- all is technology. Technology could perhaps be seen as the extension of human organs. The axe, the spade and the crane are extensions of the human hand; the bicycle, the car, the locomotive, of the feet; the microscope, the telescope, of the eye, and so on. For the first time in the twentieth century, technology invented a device that was an extension of the human brain. The computer can perform many functions of the brain faster than the brain itself. What will be the impact of such inventions on the future of mankind?

More than sixty years ago I was a student of the adjoining school across the wall- your brother school. We looked upon this school as our sister school. I have very fond, unforgettable memories of my school, the Cathedral, the teachers and my friends.

Education is not merely the filling of the brain with information and skills prescribed in the syllabus. A far more significant part of education is that which a child imbibes from the ethical, aesthetic, creative, emotional and intellectual atmosphere of the place where he/she is educated. These two schools have existed for 150 years educating many generations of students. We remember the wonderful teachers by the beauty of their lives. I also loved the austere beauty of the stone and exposed brick buildings. During the lunch recess, I often walked across to the cathedral. Sometimes I sat under the arches of the portico looking at the elegant Latin inscription above the huge front doors: Hic Domus Dei Et Porta Celli. Domus Dei, the House of God, the domain of the divine. Those days one could enter the Cathedral anytime through a side door always kept half open. I loved the silent beauty of the place. Every little detail remains etched in my mind: the play of light and darkness on the faces, garments and surroundings of the mute Biblical figures painted by nineteenth century Italian painters following in the tradition of earlier masters; the statues of the Madonna and Saint Joseph on the side altars; the lines and patterns showing on the polished stone surface of the pillars supporting the arches holding the vaulted roof; the workmanship on the ceiling; the candle stand holding tall candles; the altar railing; the oyster shells fixed in walls for holding holy water; the grains showing through the dark polish of the wooden pulpit, the benches and the pews; the organ pipes rising tall above the railing of the choir stand on the mezzanine floor at the back of the church; the echoes of the smallest sounds, even of the human breath, reverberating and filling the entire space within the Cathedral. I loved the silence of the place and that silence not only pervaded the space of the Cathedral but also the whole mind and therefore, all space. I attended many church services and masses but I related most profoundly with the Cathedral when I was absolutely alone there. Then its space became the space of my mind and its silence, a living silence within. In the stillness of those moments there was great beauty. Later in life, that stillness, that silence opened the gateways to many other silences.

Just before I retired from the University in 2002, a deeply questioning and authentically searching student asked me whether the education that was being given by our Universities, schools and colleges were helping students understand relationship with all things and whether or not it nurtured the creative faculty of the brain. Twelve years have passed and we are still exploring the process which can give birth to a mind that knows relationship and is creative. The key perhaps lies in the experience of silence. The silence of the mind is the field of dialogue, understanding and creativity.

Can we have an education to nurture such silent, dialoguing, creative minds?

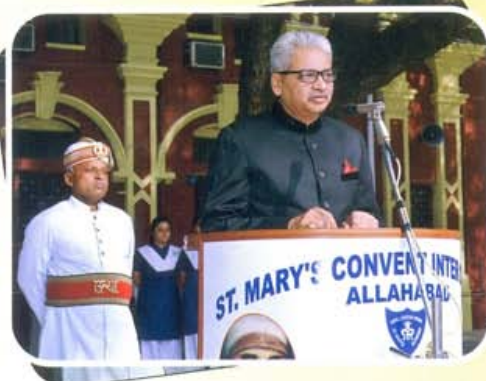
Dr. Manas Mukul Das



Reports

Colours of Freedom

Our school commemorated the 68th Independence Day on 15th August with patriotic ardour.



The programme commenced with the welcoming of the Chief Guest Honourable Justice AP Sahi by our head girl Purvangi Ranjan followed by the unfurling of the Tricolour, amidst the thundering applause of the uncountable students and the singing of the National Anthem. The school prayed for the progress and the prosperity of the nation. Stressing on the need of a disciplined freedom, the chief guest exhorted the gathering to understand that "freedom is not what you want to do but what you ought to do. Freedom has its own responsibilities and commitments". He emphasised that "Without Discipline Freedom would be Anarchy". The assembly culminated with the gusty notes of "Taqat Watan Ki Hamse Hai" which instilled a sense of patriotism among all present for the occasion.

From Kashmir to Kanyakumari, every bird has been a witness to Mother India's glorious past and a hopeful future. This was vividly epitomised by a rejuvenating and colourful performance of the exuberant folk dances by the four houses which was a feast for the eyes of the audience. The participants with their invigorated spirits, enraptured the audience, glorifying the vibrant diversity of India's rich heritage and impressed upon the creation of a united and a magnificent nation.

The Florence Nightingale house was declared the winner. Our Principal Sr. Mariette urged the students to be cooperative and be noble in the process of an effective nation building. Continuing the tradition of our school, saplings were gifted to the chief guest and the judges as a token of peace and harmony. The programme concluded with a note of thanksgiving by the vice head girl Shivani Pandey.

Kishwar Jamal
Student Sub-editor
11-B



A Visit to the Leprosy Ashram

On 16th August, St. Mary's Convent Inter College organized a visit to the Leprosy Ashram in Kareli. Eight of us students of class 10 along with Ms. Vandana Sharma, our teacher and sisters started on the journey under the able guidance of Sr. Sybil CJ, Sr. Annies CJ and Sr. Benita CJ. As soon as we reached the Ashram, many enthusiastic members greeted us. There was a beautiful temple in the campus and the ground was resplendent with greenery. An interactive session with the inmates was an eye-opener for us. Our hearts were filled with grief and sorrow after realizing their pain and difficulties. We prayed for them and sang songs to bring a little sunshine in their lives. Later pulses and sweets were distributed among the inmates. There was a person, who was called Panditji by everyone, who took us around to show us various plantations. A girl named Rani recited a wonderful poem. We appreciated the construction of a 'Madarsa' there. The dedication of our sisters towards the well being of the inmates of the Ashram is commendable. We felt proud of the fact that we belonged to an institution which gives utmost importance to the upliftment of the under-privileged sections of our society. We thank our Principal Sr. Mariette for giving us an opportunity to visit the Leprosy Ashram. It has made us conscious of the realities around us and instilled in us the determination to play a wider role in the society.

Ananya Malviya
Class 10-D





In Service, There is Meaning to Life

*"If I can stop one heart from breaking, I shall not live in vain;
If I can ease one life from aching, or cool one pain,
Or help a fainting robin unto his nest again,
I shall not live in vain."*

What Emily Dickinson carves out in these lines of hers is beauty and serenity of a life devoted to service. 23rd August, 2014, SMC celebrated the feast day of two of our devoted sisters, Sr. Rosily, manager and Sr. Sybil, in-charge, Ashadeep, who provide direction to the institute both in ritual and routine matters through their grace and prayers.

The sisters were greeted by the entire school the morning assembly. The programme in the auditorium conducted by class 12-D, flanked the theme, 'Praise to the women on our journey of life.' While the skit elucidated the innate power of a woman's heart, the lively dance, celebrating nature and its bliss, regaled the audience. The hall was left abuzz with the classical melodies, emanating the spirit of life.

In the message, Sr. Rosily threw light on the life of the luminaries of church Mother Mary and St. Rose of Lima, who left a great legacy of simplicity and humility. She enlightened the students on living every day, akin a saint meaningfully and joyfully in a sense of charity.

The programme concluded on a grateful note with the vote of thanks to the conveners, participants and helping staff.

Refreshments were arranged for the management and staff; and as a gesture of gratitude, the workers were presented with a token of love.



Shreeya Basu
Student Chief Editor
12-B





Rainbow Day Felicitations

"To excel the past we must not allow ourselves to lose contact with it; on the contrary, we must feel it under our feet because we raised ourselves upon it."

St. Mary's Convent Inter College, on 28th August initiated a new trend of building a bridge between the past and present students through the Alumnae Association of SMC. Earlier a vibrant Rainbow-Day was organised on 9th of August where contests in Drawing, Painting and Logo-making were held for the whole school. Now the prizes and certificates were awarded in each category. It was indeed one of the most promising and positive steps towards a better communication and understanding among the SMCites, so that together they may be enthused with the zest to bring about a desirable change in their lives, their city, their country and the world at large.



The function began with a welcome extended to the guests by the college head girl Purvangi Ranjan followed by a prayer song. One of the ex-SMCites Ms. Neeta Sarkar addressed the school reminiscing her past and expressing her desire to strengthen the bond. The prizes were given away by Ms. Ruchi Mittal in the midst of loud applause.

Ms. Ruchi Mittal addressed the students saying that creativity leads to positivity and positivity is essential to move ahead in spite of challenging situations. The Principal, Sr. Mariette then thanked and congratulated the core team of Alumnae for giving quality time in organizing the competitions for the

forthcoming 150th celebrations in 2016. She said, when the past and the present come together with a creative mind and generous heart, growth takes place and together we can and together we will make this 150th celebration a precious and memorable event. The vote of thanks was proposed after which the programme was concluded with the National Anthem.

Shatakshi Shukla

11-A





A REVERENTIAL SOJOURN

Teachers' Day Celebration

"There is no craft more privileged than the calling of a teacher. To awaken in another human being powers, dreams beyond one's own, to induce in others a love for which one loves, to make ones inward present their future, that is a threefold adventure like no other."

- George Steiner

On 5th September 2014, the students of SMC took it to be their honour to make Teachers' Day a memorable occasion for the artists of our lives.

The programme in the assembly ground commenced by the head girl Purvangi Ranjan welcoming all the mentors in her speech. A short skit tersely outlining the indispensability of teachers was presented by class 12A. The school Council 2014-15 serenaded to the teachers as they were greeted with cards and presents. In the auditorium the programme began with the solo song performance by Nondini Banerjee and Shivani Tiwari crooning to the glory of their mentors. Catching pace, the celebrative milieu changed tracks with entry of the little train bound to land of reverence down the memory lanes. The event hereafter was knit together through its rattling compartments, where in one the little school children with their inquisitive recitation confirmed their steadfast faith in the teachers' wisdom, a band travelling in the next, enthralled the audience with the rejuvenating recital of the golden songs from the archives. The retro aura cast its net wider with the dances on the evergreen beats.

At the close of the programme Mr. Vivek Tiwari let the spirit of the participants soar high by appreciating their efforts. The Principal Sr. Mariette placed her trust in us SMCites and left our hearts brimming with pride. Following the vote of thanks, the curtains came down with school anthem.

Vandita Singh
12-B



"A Person Fully Alive is the Glory of God"



The SMC family celebrated the Feast Day of the Principal Sr. Mariette and Sr. Preeti on 8th September, 2014. This day is also the birthday of Mother Mary, the mother of Jesus Christ and the patroness of our School. It is also celebrated as the Day of the Girl Child. The entire school wished the Sisters on the Open Stage with flowers, cards, songs and prayers. The staff and the college section then proceeded to the auditorium where Sr. Mariette was honoured.



The programme commenced with the introduction of the theme 'A Person Fully Alive is the Glory of God'. This was brought out very creatively by the staff members by comparing the lives of Mother Mary, Sister Mariette and the Girl Child to a pearl. This was followed by a prayer dance and a prayer for Sister and for all girl-children.

Just as a pearl is born after the experiences of pain and struggle and later acceptance and self-realization by an oyster, so also Sister Mariette has gone through the hardships of life, accepted them and covered them with iridescent layers of richness, wisdom and love. Then the qualities of a pearl were compared with the virtues of Sister. Her courage, resolve, hope, love and faith have made her like a pearl, firm yet soft. Thereafter, a greeting song was sung by the staff.



Sister Mariette, in her message, said that each of us must be like the pearl, embrace our difficulties with courage, learn to accept them, become fully alive and thus bring glory to God. She asserted that a life lived fully and vibrantly becomes a source of inspiration. The works of love and beauty that we create must continue to resonate even when we are gone and thus leave behind a legacy of love for the future generations to come. The programme concluded with the School Anthem.

Anukriti Joshi

12-A



Reports

Amazing Talent

Siddhi Agarwal is a brilliant art student of class eleven. God has given her an amazing talent. Carving is an art which can be done on different materials like wood, stone etc. but Siddhi uses pencil leads for Carving Models. She carves out pencil leads very finely. She has mastered the carving of letters. Carving is her passion and she comes out with innovative ideas. She started carving since class eight and wants to take this art to a higher level. She has carved more than 40 pencil leads and will continue this art in the future also. Our best wishes are with her for a bright future.

Mrs. Kaveri Vij
Art Teacher



Drawing Out the Best

"All of us are not equally talented, but all of us should have an equal opportunity to develop our talents"
- John Kennedy

Education is of paramount importance for us. However, the blooming success of a child is also judged on the basis of his/ her success in co-curricular activities as well.

Our school provides limitless opportunities for us to express our originality and creativity. Multifarious competitions such as group songs, choral recitation, card making, flower making, face painting etc. are organised during the year for the holistic progress of the students. Children having a flair for one or the other activity, enthusiastically participate in them. Not only do these help us in honing our skills but also instill in us a sense of time-management, cooperation and discipline. Winning or losing does not determine our potential and future. It is the spirit of participation that surpasses everything. Excellence and perfection should be strived for and in the long run success will be ours.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our Principal Sr. Mariette for providing the students with a platform to bring forth their talents which will ultimately polish their personalities and enhance their capability to broaden their horizon.

Sanjana Chauhan
Student Chief Editor
12-D



Mary Ward House bags the Basketball Trophy

The Inter-house basketball final match was played on 11th September in St. Mary's Convent Inter College. The Manager Sister Rosily, graced the occasion as the chief guest. The match was played between the Mary Ward House and the Tagore House. The Tagore House put up a tough competition, but the Mary Ward House emerged victorious; the scores being 19-16. Devika Misra of Mary Ward House scored 6 points, Shreya Pandey scored 5 points, Shruti Sharma scored 4 points, Vanshika Gupta and Ishita Verma scored 2 points each. Ananya Bist of Tagore House scored the maximum points.

Sister Rosily addressed the gathering with an inspiring message. She gave away the prizes to the winning team. The games Vice-Captain, Vaishnavi Srivastava, proposed the vote of thanks. The Principal, Sister Mariette C.J., Sister Marina, C.J. the Vice Principal and many teachers were present for the event. In the end, the Principal congratulated all the participants.

Devika Misra
Games Captain





St. Mary's Convent Inter College

Parents' Corner

Award Ceremony Address

Navinanshu Rai was a student of our school, who met with a car accident and left this world for her final abode. In memory of his daughter her father Dr. B. Rai, of the Department of Mathematics Allahabad University has instituted this Award.



Sister Mariette, the dynamic principal of this college, senior sisters, teachers, invited guests and dear students,
A very good morning to all of you!

I am grateful to the college, especially to Sr. Mariette, for inviting me to attend, 'Navinanshu Rai Memorial Award Ceremony', this morning. I am really touched and feel honoured, as the award concerns my beloved daughter Navinanshu, who left us sixteen years ago, but remains always close to my heart. At this moment I would also like to remember, with gratitude, Sr. Christina, the then principal of St. Mary's Convent Inter College, who was kind enough to visit our family in 1998, along with her colleagues, to console us and also offered to create an award in the name of our daughter.

Let me congratulate Anindita Gujarati for having excelled in high school mathematics, in her college, and pray to God that she continues to get success in whatever she chooses to do in her life. She secured 99% marks in mathematics. I also take this opportunity to congratulate all the girls, of all the classes, who have received awards and excelled in other subjects and events organized by the college.

As the Navinanshu Memorial Award concerns the excellence in Mathematics. I wish to make the budding mathematicians of this college, aware of the highest award in Mathematics, given to any individual in the world. This award is popularly known as the 'Fields Medal' and is given every four years in the 'Biggest International Meet in Mathematics, called 'International Congress of Mathematicians-ICM'.

Dear Students, I wish to draw your attention to the important fact that our country has no Fields Medalist in 78 years of its history. Born in Canada, American Professor at Princeton University Manjul Bhargava of Indian Origin, is one of four recipients of the 'Field Medals', awarded in Seoul, South Korea, this year. Thus he has become the first person of the Indian origin to get this honour in 78 years of its history.

Every discipline is equally important, equally challenging and equally rewarding. What you need to do is to listen to your conscience and try to explore, within yourself, the discipline you are most comfortable with and which you wish to study and pursue. God has gifted each child with some talent or the other, you have to just find it out during your school days. But for this you will have to work hard on each and every subject, without ignoring or discriminating any one. Sincere advice from your teachers and parents, must be kept in mind.

Lastly I wish to bring to your notice that you are all very privileged to be here, in this wonderful environment and thus you have great opportunity to prepare and equip yourself for the challenges in life, under the able guidance of your teachers. You should keep in mind that there are thousands of children, who don't get into schools like yours, and even millions who don't afford to go to schools at all. Therefore you have also a great responsibility towards your those brothers and sisters, who are deprived of proper education and consequently deprived of all the opportunities, you may have. You should have sympathetic attitude towards them and earnest desire to do something for their betterment in life.

May God bless all of you!

Prof. B. Rai
(Parent)

SMC SPECTRUM
Celebrating 148 Years of Vibrant Presence



Award Ceremony Address

The award is instituted by Mr. Anupam Dayal in the memory of his wife Dr. Abhilasha Srivastava Dayal who passed away on 24th August, 2012 after a prolonged battle against cancer.



'Awards' and 'Memorial Scholarships' are quite different from 'Rewards'. Awards mean the awardees have inherent abilities or have cultivated them over a period of time. Those achievements thereof have been noticed and recognized by the institution.

It also means that institution as a facilitator brings supporters of the cause and deserving person together. Institutions through Memorial Awards/ Scholarship functions assist in bringing together the promoters and deserving achievers to carry the legacies of excellence as envisioned. It also encourages others in having faith in performance as achievements are appreciated.

Today I am reminded of an interesting incident which happened on the 24th March this year. A candidate from St. Mary's Convent Intermediate College Allahabad appearing in this year's ISC Board exam had accompanied my daughters and me to Varanasi. This girl had not yet finished her board exams.

Still she travelled, to join her mother who assisted a foundation there as a counselor. Her mother and my wife Late Abhilasha were great friends.

Upon arrival in Varanasi my daughters unfortunately fell sick in the evening. The girl also had picked up allergens on the way and did not feel well by the time we all arrived in Varanasi. Late in the evening both mother and daughter nursed my daughters. This young ISC candidate was with us throughout ignoring her health. With my daughters I travelled back to Allahabad while this girl came a day or two later. She had that poise and composure in her personality which was difficult to ignore, although I had seen her growing up before me. She did not feel the HEAT OF EXAMS at all. She was interacting playfully like a kid spending time with my daughters who are 10 and 8 years old respectively.

After her exams were over, I learnt from someone that this girl had scored the highest in board exams and stood first in her school. This achiever is none other than Suroor Seher Gandhi. For her, academics and humanity go together.

I request all the girls to realise that education is a necessity which very few are privileged with. You are the chosen few and should therefore use the opportunity to be responsible citizens who are alive and sensitive to the surroundings.

It would be quite in order to remind ourselves about the greater role you have to play because "Women in time to come will do great things!".

I would like to close with a very pertinent quote from Adelaide Hoodless which sums up adequately the need of the day, that "Educate a boy, and you educate an individual. Educate a girl, and you educate a community".

Mr. Anupam Dayal
(Parent)

गुरु एवं शिष्य - एक अनोखा बंधन

जब हम मिट्टी के खूबसूरत बर्तनों या खेल-खिलौनों को देखते हैं, तो बरबस हमारी आँखों और मन में प्रशंसा के भाव आ जाते हैं क्योंकि उन मिट्टी के बर्तनों में हमें कुम्हार की कई घंटों की कड़ी मेहनत दिखाई देती है, उसका प्यार और अपनापन दिखाई देता है, जो वो अपने हाथों से उन मिट्टी के निर्जीव घड़ों और खेल खिलौनों में जान देता है जो कि कभी मिट्टी के रूप में कहीं किसी कोने में पड़े हुए थे। जैसे माटी और कुम्हार का रिश्ता होता है, उसी प्रकार का अटूट रिश्ता गुरु और शिष्य का होता है। शिष्य भी एक प्रकार का मिट्टी का लौंदा होता है जिसे कुम्हार रूपी गुरु अपने अथक प्रयास और प्रेम से सँवारता है और इस योग्य बनाता है कि वह शिष्य समाज में अपना स्थान एक जिम्मेदार और कर्तव्य-परायण नागरिक के रूप में बना सके। पर केवल गुरु सदमार्ग दिखा ही सकता है किसी को जबरदस्ती उस पर हाथ पकड़कर नहीं चला सकता।

विद्यार्थी जीवन की सबसे महत्वपूर्ण और अमूल्य वस्तु है समय, जो बाद में सारे संसार की पूँजी देने पर भी वापस नहीं आ सकता है इसलिए विद्यार्थी को समय का सदुपयोग करना चाहिए।

छात्रों का अधिकांश समय भविष्य का ताना-बाना बुनने में ही खर्च हो जाता है और वो वर्तमान में अपना ध्यान नहीं लगा पाते।

भूत और भविष्य की कल्पना बुनना और उसके बारे में सोचना निरर्थक है बल्कि उन्हें यह समझना चाहिए कि उनके आज के कड़े परिश्रम और अथक प्रयासों में ही उनके सुनहरे संसार के सपनों की चाभी छुपी है जो उन्हें सिर्फ अपनी शिक्षा और समय पर ध्यान केन्द्रित करने से ही मिलेगी।

इस उम्र में बाहरी चमक दमक बहुत प्रभावित करती है और विद्यार्थी अपने दोस्तों की महँगी घड़ी या फिर उसकी लम्बी कार देखकर उनकी ओर आकर्षित हो जाते हैं और खुद में ग्रंथि पाल लेते हैं पर ये बात उन बच्चों को समझनी चाहिए कि दोस्ती अमीरी या गरीबी से बहुत ऊपर होती है। सच्ची दोस्ती तो निस्वार्थ होती है पैसा देकर कोई भी सेवक खरीद सकता है पर दोस्त कभी बिकाऊ नहीं होते। हमेशा अपने दोस्तों के चरित्रिक गुण देखकर ही दोस्ती करनी चाहिए जो उनके अंदर के सद्गुणों को



बाहर निकाल कर उन्हें हर क्षेत्र में आगे बढ़ने के लिए प्रेरित करे। लापरवाही की आदत एक ऐसी आदत है जो विद्यार्थी जीवन का सबसे बड़ा अभिशाप है जो विद्यार्थी के आंतरिक गुणों को समाप्त कर उसका जीवन अस्त-व्यस्त बना देता है इसीलिए जितनी जल्दी हो सके उसे अपनी दिनचर्या को व्यवस्थित करने की आदत डालनी चाहिए। सबसे जरूरी और महत्वपूर्ण बात यह है कि कभी भी अपने सपनों को पूरा करने के लिए विद्यार्थी शार्टकट रास्ता न अपनाये और वह ये हमेशा याद रखे कि मेहनत और ईमानदारी थोड़ा समय जरूर लेती है पर वो उसके सुनहरे सपनों को पूरा करके उसके चेहरे पर सदा के लिए मुस्कान ला देती है।

मंजरी शुक्ला
अभिभावक



Pencil - Pictures



Ayushee Yadav (5-C)



Unnati Gupta (8-A)



Vrinda Gupta (12-D)



Garima Sonkar (8-A)



Shambhavi Srivastava (9-A)



Aditi Srivastava (4-G)



Stuti Jain (6-A)



Khusi Dwivedi (8-C)



A Mesmerizing Walk



Walking into St. Mary's Convent after a gap of almost 20 years has been nostalgic, refreshing and joyous. I failed to make out why sentiments started flowing like a young river which could not control its own course. It took some time for me to settle down and figure out..... what... I had been missing in all these years undefined yet systematic.

The sight of the school gave me a feeling of warmth. The palatial old red brick building, the vast play ground, the formal concert halls, the lush green garden, the evergreen and erect neem and mango trees that stood majestically looking forward to welcoming us alongside sheltering us. They held my childhood in their hands.....memories which were still close to them when I played amidst them, the record of which was maintained by them in a journal chronologically which unfolded as I entered step by step proceeding towards them, glancing at them one by one. They had all seen me entering the portals of this Institution as a child thereafter growing into a personality nourished by the utmost care of the loving sisters in the convent, intellectual, vibrant and dedicated teachers and of course the invisible workers, the most important being 'Late Shri Babu Lal' who all kept the Institution intact with an eye for perfection and security.

Looking back reminded me of the classes we had as students..... the subjects like history, geography, science etc., the English singing with our beloved sister Elizabeth on the grand piano who would dance a little so that we could smile and Hindi singing with Ms. Neogi on the harmonium with patriotic songs. Our uniforms neat and tidy gave us a feeling of pride and grandeur. The greatest excitement would be our participation in elections for Captains and Vice-Captains for our houses when we could vote as a matter of right at the age of 11 years (i.e. class 6) and of course the entire exercise used to be preceded by a disciplined canvassing with announcement of nominations as well. We used to be enthusiastic about the P.T. Display balanced by a concert every alternate year. Today I miss the enthusiasm attached to innocence in participating and organizing fete, farewell functions, various competitions and the list is endless.

Knowingly or unknowingly we were taught to have a sense of perfection and whole heartedness in whatever we did. So pragmatic were the values that we developed into polished individuals ready to face the world with a sense of being simple yet well defined. Today as I stand with everything woven so neatly by this Institution in my memories, I take this opportunity to thank each and every person associated with St. Mary's Convent Inter College for carving out thousands of students into individuals having a common bonding i.e. having a single string in our lives i.e. St. Mary's Convent Inter College which breathes and retains its freshness no matter how old its students become..... This Institution deserves more than we can offer. Well said - "Your sacred space is where you can find yourself over and over again".

Ms. Sumati Rani Gupta
1993 Batch

THE RAINBOW DAY

"The Past and the Present Come Together to build a Brighter Future".

We the core group of the alumnae organized "The Rainbow Day" in Small and Big SMC which consisted of Drawing /Painting and Logo Making Competitions. The aim was to start a series of activities which would serve as a platform for alumnae to unite with the present students. Though value education is an essential part of the curriculum in SMC, we also intended to spread social awareness on topics like "Save the Ganga" and "Saving the Girl Child". The students were divided into 3 categories i.e. Junior (Classes 1-5), Middle (Classes 6-8) and Senior (Classes 9-12). The first two groups were given the topic "Save the Ganga" and "Saving the Girl Child" for their Drawing /Painting competition while the latter were to participate in the Logo competition with the theme, "150 glorious years of SMC".

As the core committee members Neeta Sarkar, Saumya Pandey, Pallavi Chandel, Sumati Rani Gupta and myself moved through the corridors of SMC on the 8th and 9th of August, we witnessed the rainbow descending on the grounds of SMC. The event was marked with the past and present cohorts linked together in Action, Creativity, Vibrant enthusiasm, Colourful brushes and beautiful canvasses taking the rich legacy of SMC forward. It was encouraging to see former students and mentors Ms. Ruchi Mittal, Ms. Jaya Lahiri along with Ms Kaveri Vij volunteering to judge the competition. The prize distribution function was a gala event on 28th August held in front of the school assembly where medals and certificates were given to the meritorious students by the alumnae. Ms. Neeta Sarkar, conducted the proceedings while the prizes were given away by Ms. Ruchi Mittal.

As we posed for photographs with the winners, it was nostalgia once again. We were reminded once again that this is the place which taught us more than getting a good ranking for the school; where winning for the school and bringing glory to the school is more than winning a medal for oneself.

On behalf of all the alumnae I must thank the school authorities for lending us full support, guidance and infrastructure to conduct this event. A special word for Sr. Rosily, Sr. Mariette, Sr. Shweta, Sr. Marina, Sr. Sagaya and all the teachers whose love and affection made us realize that still we are a part of the "Team SMC".

Dr. Kachnar Varma
1993 Batch





St. Mary's Convent Inter College

Long Assembly - Lesson for Life





The Legacy of Mary Ward

Teachers' Corner

Lest We Forget



She came to this world with a vision
To empower women with confidence and grace
Visualizing a world where Freedom and Justice reign
Where every individual is respected as a child of God

Ever since her childhood, she wished to become a religious
As she grew up, her conviction strengthened
Then she embarked on her journey to embrace the continent
The Glory Vision marked the beginning of her mission

Education of women was the purpose of her life
The Vision of Just Soul granted her freedom
Freedom from attachment to worldly values
Freedom for all works of Justice, freedom to refer all to God

And thus was born an Institute
To materialise her purpose on this earth
Heavens and earth were instrumental
In bringing forth The Congregation of Jesus.

The Fire that burned within her For God's service
Had become a guiding lamp for many,
"To love the poor, persevere in the same,
Live, die and rise with them was all her aim".

Mary Ward's legacy of grace, vision and excellence
Is carried forward by Self-Sacrificing women.
Women of Spiritual Awakening and Compassion
Keeping the flame alive in their hearts and actions.

Showing a blazing path to humankind
Guiding millions of children in their life
Inspiring scores of dedicated and like minded people
Healing several in pain and poverty

Spanning World Wide in forty-four countries across five continents
Like the Morning Star that lights up the darkest corners
Thus raising the banner higher and higher
Harbinger of hope, peace and love for the whole humanity.

Mrs. Namita Varma
(Teacher)



Till We Meet Again

*"Goodbyes are not forever good byes are not the end.
They simply mean we'll miss you until we meet again"*

Good morning respected Sr. Delphine, Sr. Mariette, Sr. Prabha, Sr. Marina, sisters, teachers and my dear students. The countless services rendered by five of our dear sisters, Sr. Delphine, Sr. Prabha, Sr. Janet, Sr. Arpita and Sr. Ruby cannot be summarized within this write-up of mine. Their administrative skills have been par excellence. Their unabated perseverance, hard work, sacrifices, courage to face challenges and taking up of responsibilities with perfection and a sense of commitment has been commendable. Dear sisters, your gracious stay in SMC 32 has ended because you have a call of service at some other place.



Sr. Delphine, the manager of our school gave us the impetus to work hard with her encouraging words. Sister is kind, benevolent and affectionate in her dealings with all of us. She provided us with a conducive work environment by trusting and relying on us. Sister's special prayers and blessings were like a protective armour for each one present in this institution, all of us were connected to the Almighty and were in his safe hands via Sr. Delphine. Sister's each gesture emanates love and a feeling of togetherness, her smile, holding our hands in times of distress, consoling us when we had problems, her loving embraces in times of happiness, everything is etched in our memories. Sister has dealt in her office as a sagacious manager who could overcome all the obstacles in her own special ways. We can never forget her meaningful messages given to the students, so that they never go astray in life. Dear sister, you have been a great source of inspiration and we are grateful for your selfless and dedicated services.

Our Vice Principal Sr. Prabha's name is synonymous with light. Sister could illuminate the lives of numerous students with her personal counseling and stern messages. She worked relentlessly for this institution. She pepped up the morale of not very outstanding children. The class 12 batch of 2013 bears testimony to this fact.

Sister was the class teacher of students belonging to Commerce stream. The pupils were average both in academics and co-curricular activities. But their class teacher Sr. Prabha never lost hope, she nurtured them like a mother, encouraged them and prayed for them earnestly. When the ISC results were declared the 'so called weakest lot' did wonders. More than half the class scored 85% and above in all the subjects and the first two toppers of SMC from Commerce section were also from



the same class. The children performed exceedingly well in co-curricular activities and at present they are confident ladies and still in touch with their class teacher Sr. Prabha. Sister cared for every child who was depressed or suffering with mental agony. With her motivating words, she made a number of students discover their hidden talents and made them soar high in life. Being the Vice Principal, she has never been authoritative, she is respectful to all the teachers, always called us ma'am which is a

great quality of hers. Dear sister, we pray that the Lord may help you to radiate light wherever you go and dispel darkness.

Sister Janet cared for and helped children, sisters and staff members in their toughest times, without caring about odd hours or working conditions, she was always available when a child was hurt or fainted. She provided every sufferer with first aid, nursed them gently and affectionately. As a mentor she also counseled the girls in times of despair, we thank you sister for your wonderful services.



Teaching Christian children to learn that they are made for God's own glory and to apply 'His' purpose to their life through catechism classes Sr. Arpita and Sr. Ruby have systematically taught the little pupils of primary section the basics of knowing and serving God. Sr. Arpita has been an expert in food and nutrition. She is an excellent dietician and has always advised people to take nutritious meals to lead a healthy lifestyle.

Sr. Ruby has tirelessly involved herself in Ashadeep School as a teacher and groomed the children in her own gentle and loving ways. Dear Sister Arpita and Sister Ruby, we are indebted to you for being so dutiful and honest in your office.

In the end, I would like to say that sisters although your destination will change but you have made a special place in our hearts forever. Dear sisters, on behalf of the entire SMC family I wish you good luck. May the Almighty keep you in his safe hands and give you success in your noble mission of serving humanity.

Ms. Monica Mohla
(Teacher)





Spirituality

An Effective Tool To Deal With Academic Stress



Spirituality" as a concept evolved over many years of my experience of managing life. It is spreading its reach in everyone's life and has become a necessity to get rid of day to day problems, stress, tension and depression. Anything that disturbs our normal well-being can be termed as stress. Academic stress is confined to reasons which affect the students. It is a result of academic desires which are not fulfilled. The stress may arise due to overburden of assignments, hectic time schedules, examination and the evaluation system.

The academic performance of a student depends upon the positive academic environment of the institute. Institutions try to make academic environment comfortable and pleasant so that the student's morale and intellectual productivity remain high. When sincerity and pure motives are combined with highly developed and ethical leadership and consistent decision making skills, the outcome is a powerful and highly motivated institution.

Scientifically, it is a proven fact that there exists a strong bond between mind and soul. Modern science shows that a positive attitude can improve health which in turn increases longevity. Spirituality is an inner path enabling a person to discover the essence of happiness; or the "deepest values and meanings by which people live". Spiritual practices, including meditation, prayer and contemplation, are intended to develop an individual's inner life. "Spiritual Awakening" among today's students is more than just a concept; it is a practical method for preparing value-based leaders and entrepreneurs that may not only lead a successful organisation but at the same time develop a nation with high values and dignity. Spirituality as such includes positive energy, that provides higher energy to fuel our positive mind, soul and spirit.

The exceptional feature of our Indian Culture and Civilization is that it is blessed with a rich spiritual heritage. This spiritual legacy in our students play a pivotal role in maintaining the value system to serve humanity.

Mr. Nitin Bhargava
(Teacher)

Friends Of Mary Ward Teachers' Corner

The first international meeting of 'Friends of Mary Ward' was organized at Loyola - Azpeitia in Spain. It was a three day programme i.e. from 7th to 9th of August 2014. Seventy six member from all over the world attended the conference. The General Superior of the Congregation of Jesus - Sr. Jane, explained to us how Mary Ward was not very sure of what was God's will for her. Later on, with the help of the three key 'Graces' Mary Ward knew exactly what she had to do. She understood absolutely clearly and without any doubt that her group of companions and she must form an institute based on the constitutions of the Society of Jesus.



Sr. Jane highlighted three key phrases in the Just soul, each associated with a particular virtue-First- the virtue of freedom -that of referring all to God, being in right relationship with him. Second-the virtue of justice - being in right relationship with other people, whether near or far, and of being in right relationship with our world and with creation. Third - the virtue of sincerity - being in right relationship with oneself, being such as we appear and appearing such as we are, which means transparency. Mother General also spoke about 'love' - firstly love for God and stemming from that, the importance of our relationships with each other. She mentioned that the quality of our lives is directly related to, and dependent on, the quality of our relationships because, in the end, those are the things that endure in our lives and give them value.

On the second day we were asked to prepare and present - Power Point Presentations. The members of our group from India, through our presentation, explained how the CJ schools in India aim at forming students of character, competence, compassion, conscience and commitment. On the last day of our stay in Spain, a lady named Patricia Schweier from Germany, spoke about today's world and Mary Ward's world. She said that we live in a world which is not at all unlike that of Mary Ward. There were wars and persecutions at that time and we have wars and persecutions in our time too.....but of a different nature.

She highlighted the important values that are revealed in Mary Ward's life, and for us are important as the source of many other values- they are sincerity, freedom, justice and courage. In our society much is talked about the loss of values and changing values. Survey over many years show that what matters most to young people is friendship, family, success and earning money. The last thing to appear in any such a list of value is religion. Human beings today need, perhaps more than ever, the experience of the healing effect of faith. God will not ask us if we have lived as Mary Ward lived: God will ask us if we have lived out our own vocation, in our own time, in the midst of our contemporaries, men and women, seeking solution for the challenges of the world in which we live.

In this regard Mary Ward has changed the world: she lived out her vocation, she is our best model. One may say that she contributed to the transformation of the world simply by her life and witness. Transformation consists in giving us strength, and the hope that being rooted in God gives meaning to our life and that it is possible to do something to improve our world. She sets the example that it is worth keeping up the struggle for the equality of women, even if it seems almost impossible.

Mary Ward invites us to be alongside our contemporaries, especially the poor, the lonely and those who need our help, wherever they may be, according to Mary Ward's saying: "Do good, and do it well".

Mary Ward succeeded in transforming the world in her day. Following her example, can we also transform our world? Aren't we incomparably blessed to have her as our inspiration and our role model?

Perhaps we have also to recall each day what we might call Mary Ward's motto: Divine love is like fire, and cannot be enclosed: it is impossible to love God and not work to extend God's glory.

In the end I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the CJ family that gave me the opportunity of attending this enriching and fruitful conference held in Spain. Thank you so much.

I also thank all my well-wishers and friends who prayed for my safety and good health.

Mrs. Mary Samuel
(Teacher)



SMC Felicitates and Honours the Deserving

It was indeed a momentous occasion in St. Mary's Convent Inter College as the prestigious prodigies were felicitated for their outstanding performance in academics as well as co-curricular activities. SMC reaped its golden harvest through the board examinees of the years 2013-14 as meritorious students scored 90% and above marks with their perseverance and dedication.

The ceremony commenced with Mrs. Joshi's address to the gathering.

"A Symphony is being created here today at SMC Every note is pure, every tune perfect, the rhythm encircling every pulse, every heart, is in sync with harmony.

In 148 years of its existence, St. Mary's Convent Inter College has set standards of excellence and you, dear achievers, have kept our banner flying high by establishing bench marks with your scholastic achievements.

This is the rainy season, the month of Sharvan. All around us there is revival and rejuvenation. Dear students, this is the time to sow seeds for a better tomorrow Be open;; To receive the blessings of this abundant Universe, with a song in your heart and a prayer on your lips. Ignite your soul, glow and grow".

The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential, these are the keys, that unlock the door of personal excellence were the inspiring words of Mrs. Tressler. Ma'am boosted the morale of young girls by acknowledging and applauding their hardwork, and made them aware that they are the ones who will make a difference to the world.

Mrs. Tressler and Mrs. Sajan invited the budding stars who had secured 90% and above in the ICSE& ISC examination held in 2014 to collect their prizes from our honourable Manager Sr. Rosily and our Principal Sr. Mariette.



Ayushi Agrahari an ex-SMCite was lauded for her performance in class 12, as she was awarded with a scholarship for higher education 'An Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research' for being in the top one percent rankers of the ISC Board Examinations - 2014 with a percentage of 95.3%. The amount for the scholarship is Rs 80,000 for five years, for education in Basic and National Science Courses at B.Sc. / Integrated M.Sc. or M.S. levels.



Aayushi Agrahari

Awards were also given to the students who had laboured throughout in the academic year 2013-14 and with their indomitable spirit gave their best and have left a mark in every sphere.

ISC Students - 1. Aqsa Kafeel 2. Namya Shiksharathi 3. Khansa Ali

ICSE Students - 1. Aroma grace Amue 2. Samriddhi Srijan .

Pranshi Patel, a student of class XI-C, who is physically challenged, with the strong support of her parents and her will power fared well in her ICSE Board Examination. Her previous years class teacher Mrs. Latha Abu apprised the gathering of Pranshi's achievements.



Anindita Gujrati

Mrs. Abu's said :

"A living example of patience and perseverance is before our eyes within the campus of this institution.

Pranshi Patel of class XIC and her parents have proved that nothing is impossible if one has the will and determination to achieve it. We would like to honour the parents of Pranshi Patel for their remarkable dedication towards their daughter. We specially acknowledge the loving concern of Pranshi's mother Mrs. Patel who sits in the school campus during the school hours to take care of her loving daughter. This dedication for her daughter deserves to be applauded.

Pranshi's tireless effort to keep pace with her classmates, in her studies, despite all difficulties is an eye-opener for those who do not value what they have.

On behalf of the entire SMC family I salute the courage and commitment of the parents and their child. Now I call upon Pranshi along with her parents Mrs. & Mr. Patel to please come up and accept our token of appreciation for their hardwork and dedication".



Suroor Seher Gandhi

There were two very special awards to honour the students. Navinanshu Rai Memorial Award, which is given every year to a girl of class 10 who excel in Mathematics. Navinanshu Rai was a student of our school, who met with a car accident and left this world for her final abode. Her dear father Dr. B. Rai has instituted this award. Anindita Gujrati of Class 10 got the privilege of receiving this Award, as she scored 99% marks in Mathematics.

The second distinguished award is "Dr. Abhilasha Srivastava Dayal Memorial Scholarship" which is given to a student of class 12 who has excelled in academics, extra curricular activities including sports. The award is instituted by Mr. Anupam Dayal, Dr. Abhilasha's husband. Their two daughters are presently studying in our school. Dr. Abhilasha Srivastava Dayal passed away on 24th August, 2012 after a prolonged battle against cancer. Suroor Seher Gandhi was honoured with this award, she scored 97.25% marks in Class 12 and performed brilliantly in every field.

The ceremony was concluded by our Principal's address to the congregation followed by the Lord's Prayer and National Anthem.

Mrs. Monica Mohla
(Teacher)



Our Achievers 2013-2014

CLASS-X

CLASS-XII

NAME	%	NAME	%
Anindita Gujrati	95.8	Suroor Seher Gandhi	97.25
Anushka Jaiswal	95.8	Aayushi Agrahari	96.75
Rushali Garg	95.6	Vidisha Misra	95.75
Sanvi Bhutani	95.4	Antra Sharma	95.75
Prashasti Dwivedi	95.4	Kajal Tiwari	94.75
Urja Raheja	95.2	Diksha Bijlani	94.5
Astha Kushwaha	95.2	Shreya Pandey	94.25
Anshika Agarwal	94.6	Zainab Habib	93.5
Bhavika Arora	94.6	Zainab Tufail	93.5
Priyanka Nagar	94.4	Sarah Ahmad	93.25
Shatakshi Shukla	94.4	Lipi Srivastava	93.0
Ayushi Singh	94.4	Anshika Sabhani	92.75
Mudra Singh	93.8	Shubhangi Chowdhury	92.25
Divyanshi Agarwal	93.0	Ira Tandon	92.25
Jigyasa Sharma	92.8	Srishti Agarwal	92.0
Akriti Shukla	92.8	Ayushi Jain	92.0
Eepsita Tripathi	92.8	Pragya Tripathi	92.0
Shivani Pandey	92.6	Bhavya Malviya	91.5
Tanushri Agarwal	92.4	Astha Mishra	91.0
Arti Gupta	92.4	Asra Khan	91.0
Shubham Srivastava	92.4	Anushka Kapoor	91.0
Vasudha Upadhyay	92.4	Alisha Khan	90.75
Medha Misra	92.2	Sonali Juneja	90.0
Sidra Ahmad	92.0	Shambhavi Srivastava	90.0
Shaniza Kazmi	92.0		
Anupriya Singh Adaval	91.4		
Shatakshi Mishra	91.4		
Shivali Prasad	91.2		
Anumeha Srivastava	91.2		
Shaurya Dubey	91.0		
Simran Tiwari	91.0		
Sumaira Kazmi	90.6		
Ishita Srivastava	90.6		
Warisha Aman	90.4		
Tarishi Srivastava	90.4		
Shubhanjali Srivastava	90.2		





Creative Writing

Discrimination against gender highlights a patriarchal mindset

In the words of Charles Dickens, "I want to be so much worthier than a doll in the doll house. The fallacies of gender equality lie shattered as reality stares at us in the eye. The recent incidents of atrocities against women have startled India from the slumber of complacency. Proved time and again, the fact lies bare, crystal clear and irrefutable that gender equality is a myth, an inconceivable reality.

Equality is the soul of liberty; there is, in fact, no liberty without it - Frances Wright.

The imps of discrimination breed in the cradle of the girl-child. From foeticide to infanticide to dowry deaths, her birth is greeted with laments, her evanescence tainted with frivolous restrictions. Prejudice mars her fate, scars her journey from the womb to the grave. We live in a country where a seven-year old is brutalised within the premises of a school, where every twenty-six minutes a woman is molested, where every forty-two minutes an assault occurs.

Blistering debates may have thronged the august citadels of power, but ultimately we reach the dead end of introspection. All this stems from a deep, underlying patriarchal mindset: that conception that a man rules and a woman follows. It's time we penetrate through the seemingly impervious crust of pseudo idealism and descend into the realms of realism. The stereotype of a cowering woman, an overpowering man has stayed unchanged through the business of law-making and law-breaking. All of us have been subject to heavy stereotyping throughout our lives. Blue for boys, pink for girls; superheroes for them, dolls for us. Can something be left to our individual discretion?

A secondary position in the society entails this deep-seated patriarchal mindset. Ordered subjugation has become an unwritten code, unflinching obedience- a recognized principle.

It is time we come out of our cocoons of passivity to take charge of the situation. The moment we vanquish our reluctance to initiate change, the moment we win the battle against our inherent insecurities, a new India is born. The moment we consider our mother no less than our father, the moment we refuse to succumb to any sort of injustice meted out to us, a new India is born.

The tide of change awaits our shores. If we embrace it, we shall have laid the foundation of a changed world. It is rightly said, a woman is like a tea bag. It's only in hot water that you realise how strong she is.

The waters are hot, the time is right. Let us show them our real strength.

Ananya Singh
12 D

संघर्ष और सफलता



हमारा इम्तहान लेने के लिए जिंदगी में कभी जीत की खुशियाँ आती हैं, तो कभी गम मिलते हैं। यह हम पर निर्भर है कि उनका सामना कैसे करें। जीत कोशिश किये बिना नहीं मिलती।

जीव विज्ञान के एक अध्यापक अपने छात्रों को पढ़ा रहे थे कि सूँड़ी (Caterpillar) तितली में कैसे बदल जाती है। उन्होंने छात्रों को बताया कि कुछ ही घंटों में तितली अपने खोल से बाहर निकलने की कोशिश करेगी। उन्होंने छात्रों को आगाह किया कि वे खोल से बाहर निकलने में तितली की मदद न करें। इतना

कहकर वह कक्षा से बाहर चले गए।

छात्र इंतजार करते रहे। तितली खोल से बाहर निकलने के लिए संघर्ष करने लगी। छात्र को उस पर दया आ गई। अपने अध्यापक की सलाह न मानकर उसने खोल से बाहर निकलने की कोशिश कर रही तितली की मदद करने का फैसला किया। उसने खोल को तोड़ दिया। जिसकी वजह से तितली को बाहर निकलने के लिए और मेहनत नहीं करनी पड़ी। लेकिन वह थोड़ी ही देर में मर गई।

वापस लौटने पर शिक्षक को सारी घटना मालूम हुई। तब उन्होंने छात्रों को बताया कि खोल से बाहर आने के लिए तितली को जो संघर्ष करना पड़ता है उसी की वजह से उसके पंखों को मजबूती और शक्ति मिलती है। यही प्रकृति का नियम है। तितली की मदद करके छात्र ने उसे संघर्ष करने का मौका नहीं दिया। नतीजा यह हुआ कि वह मर गई।

अपनी जिंदगी पर भी यही नियम लागू कीजिए। जिंदगी में कोई भी कीमती चीज संघर्ष के बिना नहीं मिलती। हम सभी को कभी न कभी दिक्कतों का सामना करना ही पड़ता है। उनकी वजह से कई बार हम मायूस हो जाते हैं। निराशाओं का सामना सबको करना पड़ता है, पर जीतने वाले हताश नहीं होते।

एक अंग्रेजी कहावत है, “शांत समुद्र में नाविक कुशल नहीं बन पाते।” बाद में आसान लगने वाली सारी चीजें शुरू में मुश्किल लगती हैं। हम अपनी समस्याओं से मुँह नहीं चुरा सकते। केवल हारने वाले ही कोशिश छोड़कर मैदान से हट जाते हैं और सफलता हासिल करने वाले निरन्तर कोशिश करते हुए सफलता प्राप्त कर ही लेते हैं।

वर्षा मेरी इलियाजर
संपादिका (अध्यापिका)



Creative Writing

My Mother

My First And My Last Love

Do you have someone who is great, spends time with you, cares for you and is an important person too? Well, I do, and she has black hair, brown eyes and a caring touch. That's my MOM.

She was the first person whom I saw. She was the first person to cry when I got hurt; she was the one to sit by my cradle the whole night and was the person who stitched my doll's clothes.

She loves me more than she loves herself. Her love for me is great like the ocean and nothing can replace her in my heart. I always share my problems and stories with her. When I am sad, happy or stressed, she is always by my side to comfort me.

My mom and I spend a lot of time together. We play games, bake cookies, make necklaces and doodle. But our favourite thing is to watch television, especially the comedy shows. Mom takes me for shopping at the mall. We buy toys and clothes and we eat at the cafe.

My mom is neither a God nor an extraordinary woman. But for me, she is everything, my God, my strength and my best friend. She is my first word, my first world and my first love. She gave me everything and never asked for anything in return. No one can love me like her, no one can sacrifice everything for me like her. I am happy when I have her by my side to take care of me, to protect me and to give me her love. In future, when I will be a successful adult, able to take care of myself, I know, in my mother's eyes, I'll always be her little daughter and I can say that-

"MY MOM IS MY FIRST AND MY LAST LOVE"

Chetali Sachan
7 A



My World of Fantasy

My world of fantasy,
I love you truly.
Sometimes Nobita looks very nasty.
Sometimes it takes me to Disneyland,
And sometimes to Wonderland.
Sometimes I fly with Superman,
And sometimes I climb walls with Spiderman.
Sometimes I ask questions to Akbar,
And sometimes I solve cases with Birbal.
Sometimes I eat with Motu,
And sometimes I play with Patlu.
Sometimes I sing with Shizuka,
And sometimes I dance with Dora.
Sometimes I laugh with Doraemon,
And sometimes I joke with Shinchan.
Sometimes I make new invention with Kiteretsu,
And sometimes I'm not able to control Hagemaru.
Sometimes I talk to Mickey Mouse,
And sometimes I smell beautiful flowers with Minnie Mouse.
Oh! My dear world of fantasy,
I love you truly.

Akshita Joshi
6-C

एक संदेश.....

यदि संसार में व्याप्त इस अद्वितीय अराजकता का कारण मैं मानवीय मूल्यों का पतन कहूँ तो शायद ही कोई अस्वीकृत करेगा। पारम्परिक उपायों-समाज में नैतिकता का प्रचार, शिक्षा का विस्तार आदि तो अपनी भूमिका निभा ही रहे हैं, परन्तु इस क्षण जिस अति महत्वपूर्ण गुण की रिक्ती है वह है नेतृत्व।

नेतृत्व से मेरा यह आशय नहीं है कि कोई व्यक्ति कठोरता की सीमाओं को लांघता रहे या जनसमूह को प्रलोभन से पतन की ओर ले जाए बल्कि नेतृत्व भावना से परिपूर्ण होने से मेरा अभिप्राय है, उस समूह में से कोई, जो सबको प्रभावित कर अधोपतन से रोक पाए।

हमारे रूढ़िबद्ध कल्पना से पृथक, नेता कोई अलंकृत शासक नहीं जिनके राहों पर पग-पग फूले बिछे हो। नेता तो वह मार्गदर्शक है जो जरूरतमंदों के कीचड़ लिप्त पैर धोने में भी संकोच न करे।

पथ प्रदर्शक को उत्तरदायित्व परिभाषित करता है। जो हर परिस्थिति में स्वयं स्वीकृत कार्यों की जिम्मेदारी उठाए वह नेता है। गुणगान-प्रशंसा में सकारात्मक अभिक्रिया उत्पन्न करना तो सामान्य है, जो निंदा सुनकर भी यही प्रतिक्रिया दे। उसी का अनुसरण जनहित में होगा।

कार्यों की पहल करना - इंसान में निहित नेतृत्व का प्रतिबिम्ब प्रस्तुत करता है। साहस- जो व्यक्ति बाल्टी को ताकता रहे और ठंडा पानी सर पर डालने का साहस ही न करे, उसके नेतृत्व के सामर्थ्य पर प्रश्नचिन्ह तो विद्यमान होगा ही!

विनोद से परे, अगर देखा जाए तो एक सफल नेता में, परिपक्व दृष्टिकोण, दूरदर्शिता, नैतिकता आदि का प्राचुर्य निसंदेह आवश्यक है। परन्तु उसका सबसे महत्वपूर्ण लक्षण है पराजय से भयमुक्त होना। यदि परिणाम की चिंता किसी व्यक्ति विशेष को अपना शत-प्रतिशत देने से बाधित कर रही है तो यह उसके विवेकहीनता की पराकाष्ठा होगी। जरूरी यह नहीं कोई हर कार्य में निपुण हो, जरूरी यह है कि वह उस कार्य को पूर्ण निष्ठा से करें।

अंत में, नेता वही है जो स्वयं को संतुलित रख बाह्य संसार का समता की दृष्टि से आंकलन कर सके और व्यक्तिगत तौर पर मैं यह मानती हूँ एक ऐसी ज्योति जो सब में अंतर्निहित है, आवश्यकता है तो केवल उसे उजागर करने की।

मित्रो! अपने हृदय में छिपी उस चिंगारी को शोला बनने दीजिए। दुनिया को आपका ही इंतजार है।

श्रीया बसु
मुख्य संपादिका

घड़ी

टिक-टिक करती घड़ी हमेशा
ठीक समय बतलाती है।

सुबह बजाकर घंटी टन-टन,
मुझको रोज जगाती है।

कब खाना है, कब पढ़ना है,
हर दिन याद दिलाती है।

जो करना है, करो समय पर,
घड़ी यही सिखलाती है।



समृद्धि काला
4 एच

सीख

ऊँगली पकड़कर चलना सिखाया,

विद्या देकर ज्ञान बढ़ाया,

प्यार से हमको जग दिखलाया,

गुरु ने हमको सब सिखलाया।

दुनिया भर का ज्ञान दिया,

दुनिया भर का मान दिया

न दिखलाया अभिमान तनिक सा।

सुख-दुख में है साथ निभाया,

पल-पल हमें हँसना सिखलाया।

हाथ पकड़कर रास्ता दिखलाया,

हमने जीवन से सीखा हमेशा है

करो अपनों का मान,

भगवान माता-पिता को मानो

और गुरु को दो सम्मान।

भूमि त्रिपाठी
3 ई

Empowered Women

An Asset To Society

Gone are the days when women were walled in their household. The women of today have stepped out of the boundaries of their homes, into public places, enjoying the refreshing air of freedom and self-reliance.

The woman of today is no longer weak or hesitant to voice her opinion. She is empowered and is making good use of her calibre. Empowerment of women is a concept that has been stressed upon since the independence of our country but it has gained momentum only recently. It constitutes an important role in social development that encompasses political, economic and spiritual growth of a semi modern society like ours.



It is essential to develop the potential of women as productive, generative, creative and refining agents in this society, so that their power may be utilised for the growth and upliftment of others. Empowered women have free and fair access to available and potential services and opportunities. Hence, they are likely to be good teachers, effective trainers, able civil administrators, capable micro-credit technicians, smart IT professionals and act as functionaries in other development sectors.

Women like Kiran Bedi, Sushma Swaraj, PT Usha, Kalpana Chawla and many others have contributed generously to the development of our society in various arenas. An empowered woman, with her healthy mindset and sound guidance is able to help her children to be morally aware, free from social stigma and other menace. She can promote democratic awareness and help in spreading democratic principles leading to a less corrupt system at the centre.

An empowered woman must acquire special skills and practise them at household, community and national levels. If the world is to progress, we need to dismantle the structure of inequality and provide the opportunity to the female population to break through the barriers and march ahead.

In schools, the trend has already begun. Girls are office bearers and have equal participation in academics and co-curricular activities. This mindset needs to prevail in all homes, offices and societies too. The only superpower that has never had a female president is the USA while Latvia, a very small country, not only has a woman as the president but also cannot visualise the future without her.

Successful women keep advancing forward. They make mistakes, but never quit.

Niharika Tiwari

9 D



CAN WE REALLY Change It?

We talk of topics related to the habits of teenagers- fashion, late night outings, mobile phones, social networking sites, cheating, laxity in studies etc. Some of our daring friends criticize the abject condition of our country such as poverty, unemployment, corruption, politics, illiteracy and other such problems. We profess that it is our responsibility to change the system as we are the 'future nation builders'. Some of us volunteer to join the army, politics, police and other important professions and work with determination and commitment to cleanse the present system and lead the country on the path of progress.

But do we actually realise the truth and urgency of the matter? Do we actually reflect on our responsibilities to make this world a better place? Do we actually cooperate with our leaders in our class, school and government at large?

The answer of the majority of teenagers would be 'no'. I want to remind my young friends that this task of bringing about changes in the present day system is no cake walk. It will bring us face to face with harsh realities which require us to raise our voice against the policies and practices in not only the administrative setup but in all areas including schools and colleges.

Let me start with a real life example, at our school, when a well-intentioned group of laborious students launch a programme on the campus, say 'Cleanliness Drive' or 'Discipline Check', what do they receive in return? 'Arrogant', 'domineering', 'mean' are epithets thrown at them. Seniors and school captains have to face negative comments, harsh backbiting and raised eyebrows of their own classmates as well as those of juniors. Instead of reacting in such a foolish manner we must learn to appreciate the efforts of the Principal, teachers and captains. If your finger nails are long, admit it. If you are checked for not wearing the badge or not making plaits, wouldn't it be much simpler to apologize and correct your mistakes the next time? This is how we can change the indiscipline in the school.

Little drops of water
Little grains of sand
Make the mighty ocean
And the pleasant land.

If each one of us is conscious of our duties, we can surely look forward to a better future- for a small step in school life leads to the broader canvas i.e, a good nation, a better world. So friends, it is time to walk your talk.

change is the
essence of life.
be willing
to surrender
what you are
for what you
could become.

Shatakshi Mishra

11 B



Creative Writing

बाग लगाओ

वाणी बोलो मीठी बोलो,
कड़वी बोली मत सीखो।
बिछा सको तो सुमन बिछाओ,
शूल बिछाना मत सीखो।
बता सको तो राह बताओ,
पथ भटकाना मत सीखो।
जला सको तो दीप जलाओ,
हृदय जलाना मत सीखो।
मिटा सको तो द्वेष मिटाओ,
प्रेम मिटाना मत सीखो।
लगा सको तो बाग लगाओ
आग लगाना मत सीखो।

तरूनशिखा अग्रवाल

3 'ए'

Nature

—A Wonderful Teacher

Trees teach you to rise high and high,
And mountains tell you to touch the sky.
Rivers give you the message to move on and on,
And to start everything with a new song.
This is what the scene tells you every morn.
The moon teaches you to spread peace and love.
The stars tell you to shine, and shine above.
From flowers, you learn to smile, whatever are the conditions;
And always be ready to change, tell you the changing seasons.
You get to learn something from every aspect of Nature.
All you need is the power to feel.
And then you will find Nature as a wonderful teacher.

Stuti Jain

7-A

The Butterfly

I know a little butterfly
With tiny golden wings,
It plays among the summer flowers
And up and down it swings.

It dances on their honey cups
So happy all the day,
And then it spreads its tiny wings
And softly flies away.

Tejaswini Soni

5-C



पानी

पानी तो अनमोल है,
उसको बचा के रखिये।
मत कीजिये बर्बाद इसे,
जीने का सलीका सीखिए।
पानी को तरसते हैं,
धरती पर काफी लोग यहाँ।
पानी ही दौलत है,
पानी सा धन भला कहाँ।
पानी की है मात्रा सीमित,
पीने का पानी और भी सीमित।
तो पानी को बचाइए,
इसी में है समृद्धि निहित।
हो जब घर में साफ-सफाई,
या जब करते हो स्नान।
पानी की जरूर बचत कीजिए,
पानी से ही धरती महान।

रिद्धिमा सिंह

6 अ



Since 1866

St. Mary's Convent Inter College

Creative Writing

Are teenagers today more worldly-wise than their parents?

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "The years teach much which the days never know."

The teenage phase is the twilight period between childhood and youth, for childhood is receding and youth is far approaching. It is a period of great psychological turmoil for them. It is a time when a teenager's personality is struggling to be born. It is also a time to lay the foundation for their later life.

Virtual world, a world of simulation! Far away from reality. Cut off from real human contact. Are today's teenagers so engrossed in the virtual world that they have lost touch with reality? A moot question indeed!

The virtual world has taken such a mammoth proportion in the young minds that they seem to have jumped the banks of reality. They tend to fantasize on what they get to see in the virtual world.

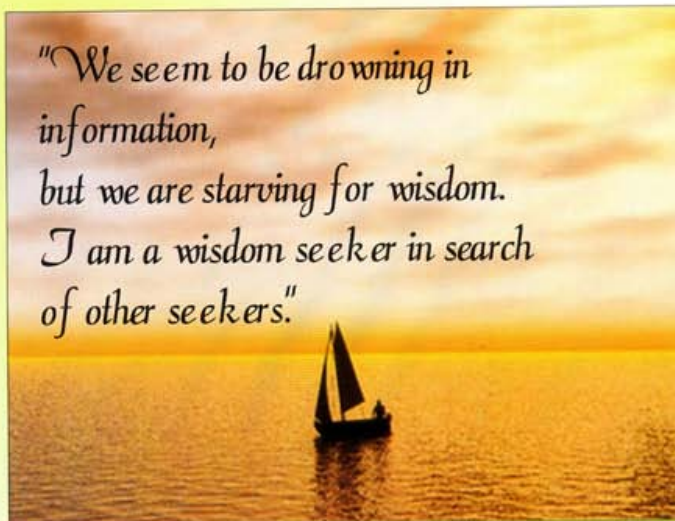
In theory, everything looks hunky-dory but true knowledge can only come when the teenagers face real life situations. The trial and error method of learning is the surest form of learning and that is what's missing in the virtual world. The compounded shortcoming is that if the teenager attempts something adventurous based on the half-baked knowledge that he/she gets from this remote learning, it may bring about unpleasant consequences.

This is where the parents play a major role in the lives of their children. The parents very carefully knit the personality of their children. The phase that the teenagers are going through has already been witnessed by their parents. Therefore, they are very much experienced and know exactly the complications that their children are going to face.

Parents have an in depth experience of life. They are the best teachers. They teach their children how to tackle situations. They teach their children how to take decisions based on rational thinking and facts and not to get carried away by superficial factors. Parents have knowledge blended with years of experience. Teenagers lack experience and wisdom, which come with age. Hence, I conclude that even today, teenagers are not more worldly-wise than their parents because they still lack the one most important thing required to face the world, called 'EXPERIENCE'.

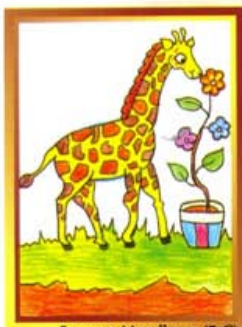
Shreya Sachan

10 C

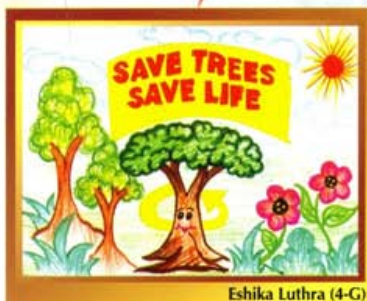




A Symphony of Colours



Saumya Mandhyan (5-C)



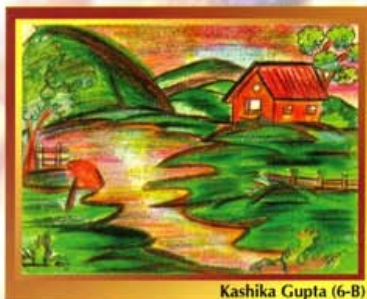
Eshika Luthra (4-G)



Manjishtha Mishra (2-A)



Zahra Fatima Khan (8-C)



Kashika Gupta (6-B)



Rhythm Pandey (7-D)



Shili Goel (2-A)



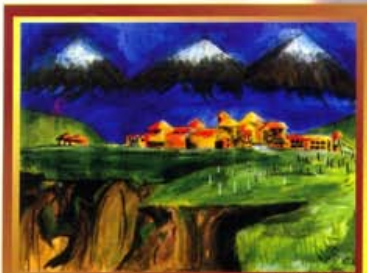
Devanshi Agarwal (6-A)



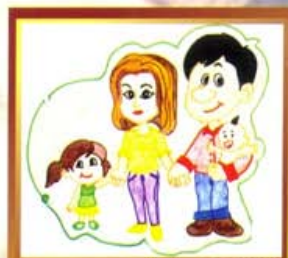
Alima Hasan Rizvi (4-E)



Saumya Mandhyan (5-C)



Ishika (10-C)



Pratima Singh (6-C)



Since 1866

St. Mary's Convent Inter College

Creative Writing

All Hail SMC Field

That morning was indeed pleasant! It had rained heavily the previous night and the air felt so pure and cool. But I was in haste because my auto wouldn't be picking me up and I had to take a lift from my brother whose school timings were much earlier than mine.

I reached school well before time. I could only see three other students roaming about on the campus in uniforms. I went and sat on the open stage of our field and my eyes beheld our SMC field in a new light altogether.

The steps of our field were all wet and glittering. Each drop from the trees shading them divided into millions of uneven droplets as it struck against the ground. The grass was dewy and appeared as if diamonds were sprinkled recklessly and there was complete silence.... echoing loud. The aura was just ethereal.

Not only this, I realized how much more it is. As an athlete, there is a splash of encouragement as I run with all my strength on the track. I have felt the sacredness in the atmosphere while singing the National Anthem in unison when assembled for hoisting our National flag. I have seen it transforming into a fairground when a fete is organised. Whether it is about roaming there during the break or using it as a playground, what I'll always treasure is the sight of our field in winter when the misty fog covers the stairs on a dewy morning.

It is a witness of our joys and sorrows. It is the lifeline of each and every SMCite. So here again,
ALL
HAIL SMC FIELD!

Shruti Sharma
9 C

Mirror, Mirror on The Wall

The queen, poised gracefully, stood before the mirror and asked, "Mirror, mirror on the wall, who's the fairest of us all?" The mirror, resplendent with her reflection, answered, "You, my queen!"

That is the kind of assurance we all need sometimes as we traverse the uneven paths of life. A caterpillar is resented and branded 'an ugly creature' by many who fail to realize that one day it will metamorphose into a vivid butterfly, symbolic of beauty itself. Similarly, in the judgmental world of today, we often receive flak in a way that barricades our progress and personal growth. We ourselves, often unmindfully, label our mates as 'good for nothing', 'too shy to even speak' and so on.

In these circumstances, what we need to remember is not to keep running to others for inspiration and encouragement. Take a look in the mirror instead. Can you see beyond the abrasions and blemishes, the SPF 15 sunscreen, the waterproof mascara and all the clothing? Do you recognize that person behind the façade who has taught someone to smile even amidst tears and heartbreaks, the one who didn't lose hope when everyone around was crestfallen?

Life is less about seeking satisfaction outside and more about finding the strength within you that you didn't even know was there. It's imperative to become your own fountain of inspiration. Be the beacon that shows you the right path. Once you have learned the art of peeling off the layers and letting your inner light shine, every ordinary mirror in your room will transmogrify into a magical mirror, like the one in the fairytale and you will be the beauty queen.

Ayushi Singh
Student Sub-editor
11 A



Creative Writing

“हम मनाते हैं १५ अगस्त”

हर आदमी परेशान है, हर आदमी पस्त, हम मनाते हैं 15 अगस्त।
गाँधी, जवाहर, इन्दिरा, राजीव का सूरज हुआ अस्त,
पैंसठ साल की आजादी में हिन्दुस्तान हुआ पस्त,
हर आदमी परेशान है, हर आदमी पस्त, हम मनाते हैं 15 अगस्त।
अंग्रेज गये अंग्रेजी दे गये, हिन्दी हुआ पस्त,
साँरी, थैक्यू, एक्सक्यूज को प्रणाम करते हम सब,
हर आदमी परेशान है, हर आदमी पस्त, हम मनाते हैं 15 अगस्त।
हिन्दुस्तान की कसम फिर न गुलाम होंगे हम,
आतंकवाद होगा खत्म कश्मीर लेंगे हम,
नेता बोल के हैं मस्त,
हर आदमी परेशान है, हर आदमी पस्त, हम मनाते हैं 15 अगस्त।
पैंसठ साल की प्रगति ने छीना रोटी, कपड़ा, मकान,
पैंसठ साल की प्रगति ने छीना खेत और खलिहान,
पैंसठ साल ने छीन ली सोने की चिड़ियाँ,
कबूतर सा डाकिया, मुर्गे की बाग,
बरगद की छाँव, बुजुर्गों की खड़ाऊँ,
माँ की चटपटी, पायलों की छमछम,
चूँड़ियों का खनखन, घूँघट की दुल्हन,
बहन की डोली, शहनाई की बोली,
बड़ों का सम्मान, छोटों का प्यार,
राम सी मर्यादा, यह सब देख भारत माता हैं पस्त,
हर आदमी परेशान है, हर आदमी पस्त, हम मनाते हैं 15 अगस्त।

दिव्या त्रिपाठी
10 'बी'

Life Without Education

Life without education
Is like a garden without flowers,
And a temple without God

Life without education
Is like a fish without water,
And a man without personality

Life without education
Is like a life without joy,
And like the sky without stars

Life without education
Is like a boat without a sailor,
And an ocean without depth.

Rachel Jacob
9-B

Say No To Junk Food

Junk food, Junk food
Go away, Go away
Junk food, Junk food
Be never seen in my tray
Junk food, Junk food
You are so unhealthy
And please in this age
I want to stay healthy
Junk food, Junk food
You will make me sick
Junk food listen
You are not my pick
Junk food, Junk food
You are not for me
And that is why
I hate thee, I hate thee and
I really hate thee.

Shambhavi Tiwari
5-B



To Achieve Your Dreams Remember Your ABC



- A: Avoid negative sources, people, things and habits.
- B: Believe in yourself.
- C: Consider things from every angle.
- D: Don't give up.
- E: Enjoy your world today, yesterday is gone.
- F: Family and friends are hidden treasures.
- G: Give more than you plan to give.
- H: Hang on to your dreams.
- I: Ignore them who try to spoil your dreams.
- J: Just do it.
- K: Keep on trying, no matter how hard it seems.
- L: Love everyone.
- M: Make it happen.
- N: Never lie, cheat or steal.
- O: Open your eyes and see things as they really are.
- P: Practice makes a man perfect.
- Q: Quitters never win and winners never quit.
- R: Ready steady and go for your goals.
- S: Stop procrastinating.
- T: Take control of your own destiny.
- U: Understand others.
- V: Visualize your dreams.
- W: Want your dreams more than anything.
- X: Xcelerate your efforts.
- Y: You are unique.
- Z: zero in on your target and go for it.

Zikra Batool Alvi
10-B

New Life

I emerged as a sapling
From a lovely little seed
Sunlight, soil and water
Were my only need
My green tender leaves
Swayed in the breeze
But I was always firm
Even when the storm refused to cease

Later as a plant
I was adorned with flowers
And would look up in the sky
Waiting for the first showers

Little children played around me
As I stood there all the time
To grow up into a tree
Shady, huge and mighty
With a strong woody bark
Unshaken I would stand
In the eerie scary dark

Those were such lovely days
That gradually passed away
I still remember the time
I bathed in the sun's rays

But now I am old
No leaves reside on me
It's so hard to believe
I am the same young tree
I have lost my youth
From this world I will soon be free
But I wish that in my place
Flourishes a new young tree

Zikra Batool Alvi
10-B



Creative Writing

My Mother

You are the sunlight in my day
You are the moon I see far away
You are the tree I lean upon
You are the one that makes troubles be gone
You are the one who taught me life
How not to fight, and what is right
You are the words of my song
You are my love, my life, my mom
You are the one who cares for me
You are the eyes that help me see
You are the one who knows me best
When it's time to have fun and when to rest
You are the one who has helped me to dream
You hear my heart and you hear my screams
Afraid of life but looking for love
I am blessed for god sent you from above
You are my friend, my heart and my soul
You are the greatest friend I know
You are the words of my song
You are my love, my life, my song

Charvi Shubhangana
5-D

Family Reunion

A Family Reunion
Is a time to remember
A time to laugh
A time to celebrate
A time to share old stories
And make new memories

A time to see each other
In the faces all around us
And find reflection of ourselves
In hearts both young and old

A reunion is coming together
That strenghtens the bond of family
And reminds us of the gifts of belonging
A chance to share our history
A reason to celebrate our past
A time to welcome our future as a family

Khyati Srivastava
4-C

She

Seldom she smiles-once with bright eyes
Now only has tears of pain intense
Looked down by the callous society
Curses her fate always

When her life was full of light
She entered a world full of delight
Welcomed with affection and smiles
She saw the celebration of her life
Exchanging rings and taking vows
Her smile did not stay for long
Bondages of pain opened her eyes to
Miserable life she had to lead on

Often she wondered-"what has changed
In me after that night"
The culprits who robbed her of dignity
Were never tried and the
World blamed her for returning home
Late at night;

Instead of love and compassion
She received only rejection
Her marriage was a dream to her
As a society never accepts a raped girl
She wept in a corner each dark night
Hoping that she will be liberated by
Someone with divine light

I wish the world accepts her someday with
Open arms-wiping away the tears she
Had for so long
Give her the courage to fight instead of
Making her believe that this plight was her destiny

Only if society would have discerned her
Perfectly wiped tears behind her struggled
Smiles-today she would not have
Been living with murdered dreams

Akarshita Mishra
11-C



Dream of a Missing Father

The silence of this night cripples my hope
It's a melancholy day of distress
But still I feel there is someone
for whom I can hope
And a voice comes to my mind
There is someone who will see

People say there is no one for me
And I will always be alone
There is no one who can hear me
And to whom I could snuggle down
And sleep silently

Every morning I get up in a hope
That this dark dream will end
And I will see that someone
But again the sour truth
Fills my eyes in tears

Every time I turn back in a hope
That he will be by my side
But the vision kills my glow
Seeing others of my age with dear ones along
I feel like crying
But it will never change and always go on
My dear father where have you gone
Leaving me in the darkness all alone by myself
I pray you come back to me
As I am not that strong to bear this
All by myself
A punishment so harsh
To a child so small
I will do everything you'll say
But just be back and
End this dark night

Namra Usmani
10-A

Today is The Beginning

I've learned that
No matter what has happened or hasn't happened
No matter how heart-breaking
No matter what you lost
No matter who deceived you
No matter whether dreams were broken
No matter what wrong decisions you made
What opportunities you passed by
What regrets you may have
No matter how devastating the circumstances
No matter how long you have suffered
No matter how old you are
Today is the beginning
Today is the day to finally change it all
Life has only one direction
Who you are is worth it all
So what are you going to do with today
"What has been in your life up till now has
nothing to do with what still can be"

Shambhavi Dubey
9-D

क्यों हम इतने बड़े हो गए

वो भी क्या दिन थे
मम्मी की गोद
और पापा के कंधे
ना पढ़ाई की सोच
ना जिंदगी के फन्डे
ना कल की चिंता
ना भविष्य के सपने
अब कल की है फिक्र
और अधूरे हैं सपने।
मुड़कर देखो तो बहुत दूर हैं
अपने मंजिलों को दूँढते हम कहाँ खो गए ?
क्यों हम इतने बड़े हो गए ?
क्यों हम इतने बड़े हो गए ?

दिव्या त्रिपाठी
10 'बी'



Creative Writing

God Knows

When you're tired and discouraged from
fruitless efforts,
God knows how hard you have tried.
When you've cried so long and your heart
is in anguish,
God has counted your tears.
If you feel that your life is on hold and time
has passed you by,
God is waiting with you.
When you're lonely and your friends are
too busy even for a phone call,
God is by your side.
When you think you've tried everything
and don't know where to turn,
God has a solution.
When nothing makes sense and you are
confused or frustrated,
God has the answer.
If suddenly your outlook is brighter and
you find traces of hope,
God has whispered to you.
When things are going well and you have
much to be thankful for,
God has blessed you.
When something joyful happens and you
are filled with awe,
God has smiled upon you.
When you have a purpose to fulfill and a
dream to follow,
God has opened your eyes and called you
by name.
Remember that wherever you are or
whatever you are facing,
GOD KNOWS.

Varija Shukla
9-B

SMC Song

Our love will never grow less
For our well known SMC.
Through the storms, through the night,
SMC is leading us like a light.

We proclaim with exclamation,
Our belief 'Growth and Perfection.'
We strive for all-round excellence
To face the challenges with confidence.

SMC has earned a good name,
In academics as well as in games.
SMCites are truly its pride,
Moving towards their goal with firm strides.

SMC ushers in complete growth
And we are here to take this oath,
To follow the virtues of courage and duty
And to glorify the name of SMC in the city.

With talented teachers, SMC is crowned,
Giving their best to keep the school renowned.
May the God always guide and bless.
Our love for SMC will never grow less.

Jahnvi Pandey
9-B

Believe in fairies

Believe in the fairies
who make dreams come true,
Believe in the wonder
of the stars and the moon,
Believe in the magic from the fairies above,
And if you just believe
And always stay true,
The fairies will be there
To watch over you!

Siddhika Rastogi
2-B

A Tribute to all Parents

You are special in every way,
 Encouraging me more and more each
 passing day.
 You are the reason why I'm strong,
 With you two at the helm, not a thing could
 go wrong.
 You've helped me through many trials and
 tribulations,
 You've made things better in every
 situation.
 Thank you for always being there,
 And showing me that you truly care.
 Words could never explain how I feel about
 you,
 But I hope you know that I truly love you.

Arsiya Farheen
 6-A

नन्हीं सीख

सोनल एक मासूम और भोली-भाली लड़की है।
 अभी इसकी उम्र 5-6 साल होगी, लेकिन बातें बहुत
 समझदारी की करती है।

अभी वह प्रेप से पास होकर पहली कक्षा में आई
 है। उसकी कक्षा के अच्छे बच्चों में उसका नाम सम्मिलित
 है। लेकिन उसकी माँ हमेशा यही कहती हैं कि सोनल
 पढ़ती कम है और बातें अधिक बनाती है। होमवर्क भी
 ठीक से नहीं करती, परन्तु उसके पिताजी इसके विपरीत,
 ऐसे नहीं हैं। वे उसकी हर बात को गंभीरता से लेते हैं।
 कभी डाँटते नहीं, कुछ समझाना हो तो प्यार से समझाते हैं।
 वह अपने पिताजी से बिना संकोच के बातें करती है।

एक दिन जब पड़ोस के कुछ लोग सोनल के
 पिताजी से मिलने आए तो, उन्होंने सोनल के भाई, रवि से

कहा - "बेटा जाकर कह दो पिताजी घर पर नहीं
 है।" रवि ने बाहर जाकर यही कह दिया और वे
 लोग चले गए। सोनल को यह बात अजीब लगी।

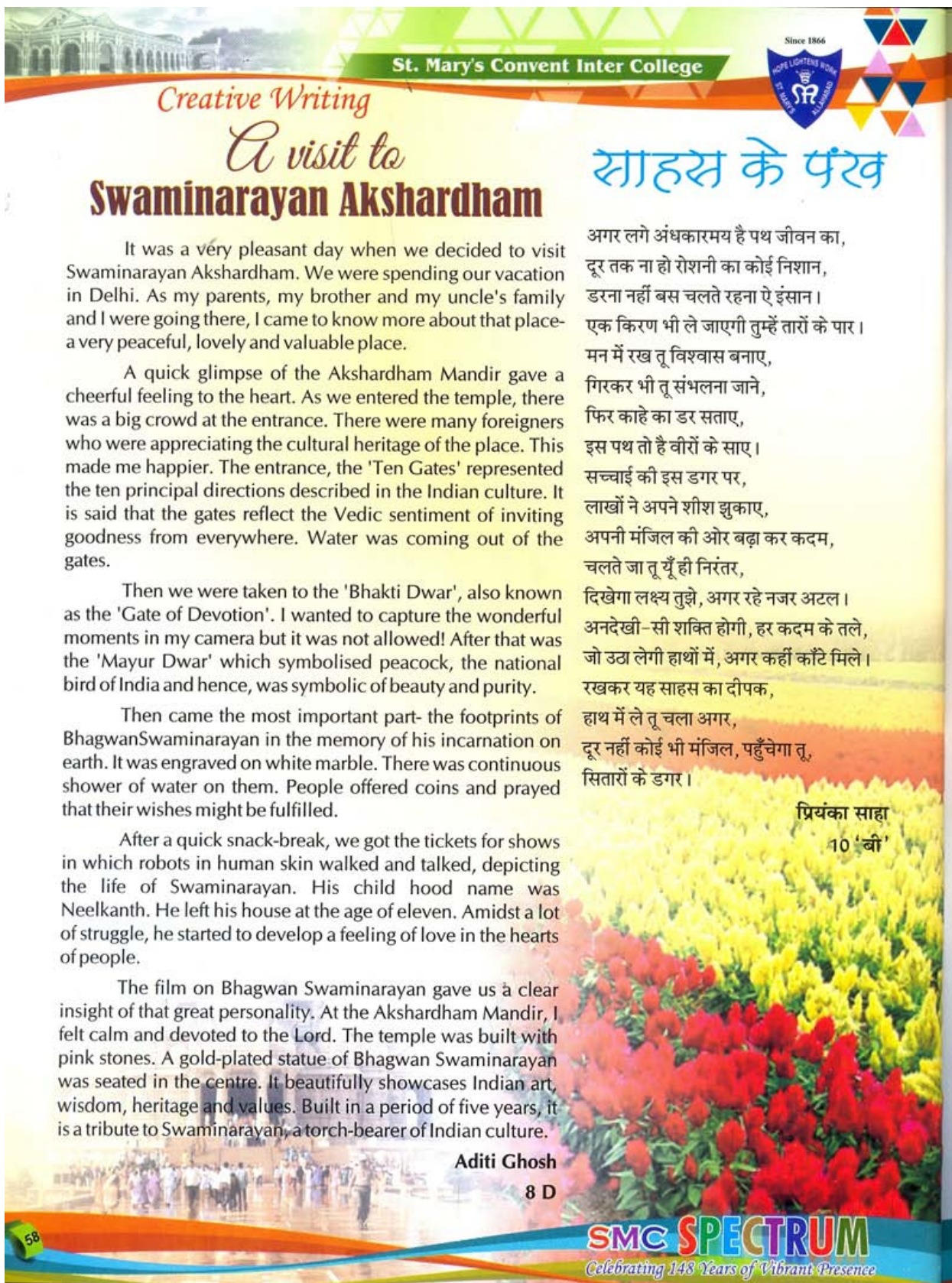
एक दिन विद्यालय में सोनल की
 अध्यापिका ने पाठ में पढ़ाया कि 'झूठ बोलना पाप
 है।' इस वाक्य पर सोनल को पिताजी की कही बात
 याद आ गई। वह सोच में पड़ गई कि पिताजी ने भी
 झूठ बोला और रवि को भी झूठ बोलने को कहा!
 शाम को सोनल ने पिताजी से कहा - "पिताजी,
 क्या झूठ बोलना पाप है?" पिताजी ने मधुर वाणी में
 उत्तर दिया - हाँ बेटा! पाप है परन्तु तुमसे यह
 किसने कहा?"

"पिताजी, मेरी अध्यापिका ने मुझे बताया
 है, मगर मैं सोच रही हूँ, कि आपने रवि से क्यों कहा
 था कि जाकर कह दे, पिताजी घर पर नहीं हैं, क्या
 यह झूठ नहीं है? सोनल ने कहा। यह सुनकर
 पिताजी को कुछ दिनों पहले की बात याद आ गई।
 सोनल ने पिताजी का हाथ अपनी ओर करते हुए
 कहा "बताइए ना!" "हाँ बेटे, गलती हो गई। अब
 नहीं करेंगे ऐसा।" सोनल के पिताजी ने उसे छाती से
 लगाते हुए अपनी गलती स्वीकार कर ली।

"यह हुई न बात!" वह खुश होकर
 बोली- "पापा आप कितने अच्छे हैं। मेरी
 अध्यापिका भी कहती हैं कि अगर कभी गलती हो
 जाए तो उसे मान लेना चाहिए, उस पर अड़ना नहीं
 चाहिए। अगर गलती का एहसास स्वयं हो जाए तो
 तुरन्त माफी माँगनी चाहिए।

उम्मे अम्मारह

8 सी



Creative Writing

A visit to Swaminarayan Akshardham

It was a very pleasant day when we decided to visit Swaminarayan Akshardham. We were spending our vacation in Delhi. As my parents, my brother and my uncle's family and I were going there, I came to know more about that place—a very peaceful, lovely and valuable place.

A quick glimpse of the Akshardham Mandir gave a cheerful feeling to the heart. As we entered the temple, there was a big crowd at the entrance. There were many foreigners who were appreciating the cultural heritage of the place. This made me happier. The entrance, the 'Ten Gates' represented the ten principal directions described in the Indian culture. It is said that the gates reflect the Vedic sentiment of inviting goodness from everywhere. Water was coming out of the gates.

Then we were taken to the 'Bhakti Dwar', also known as the 'Gate of Devotion'. I wanted to capture the wonderful moments in my camera but it was not allowed! After that was the 'Mayur Dwar' which symbolised peacock, the national bird of India and hence, was symbolic of beauty and purity.

Then came the most important part—the footprints of Bhagwan Swaminarayan in the memory of his incarnation on earth. It was engraved on white marble. There was continuous shower of water on them. People offered coins and prayed that their wishes might be fulfilled.

After a quick snack-break, we got the tickets for shows in which robots in human skin walked and talked, depicting the life of Swaminarayan. His childhood name was Neelkanth. He left his house at the age of eleven. Amidst a lot of struggle, he started to develop a feeling of love in the hearts of people.

The film on Bhagwan Swaminarayan gave us a clear insight of that great personality. At the Akshardham Mandir, I felt calm and devoted to the Lord. The temple was built with pink stones. A gold-plated statue of Bhagwan Swaminarayan was seated in the centre. It beautifully showcases Indian art, wisdom, heritage and values. Built in a period of five years, it is a tribute to Swaminarayan, a torch-bearer of Indian culture.

Aditi Ghosh

8 D

साहस के पंख

अगर लगे अंधकारमय है पथ जीवन का,
दूर तक ना हो रोशनी का कोई निशान,
डरना नहीं बस चलते रहना ऐ इंसान।
एक किरण भी ले जाएगी तुम्हें तारों के पार।
मन में रख तू विश्वास बनाए,
गिरकर भी तू संभलना जाने,
फिर काहे का डर सताए,
इस पथ तो है वीरों के साए।
सच्चाई की इस डगर पर,
लाखों ने अपने शीश झुकाए,
अपनी मंजिल की ओर बढ़ा कर कदम,
चलते जा तू यूँ ही निरंतर,
दिखेगा लक्ष्य तुझे, अगर रहे नजर अटल।
अनदेखी—सी शक्ति होगी, हर कदम के तले,
जो उठा लेगी हाथों में, अगर कहीं काँटे मिले।
रखकर यह साहस का दीपक,
हाथ में ले तू चला अगर,
दूर नहीं कोई भी मंजिल, पहुँचेगा तू,
सितारों के डगर।

प्रियंका साहा

10 'बी'

The Realm of Fear

मे
क्या
हूँ

निर्झर देते शीतल जल और
तरुवर देते शुद्ध हवा,
सूरज दूर करे अंधियारा
अन्न उगाए धरती माँ।
चन्द्रमा दे हमें चांदनी
मधुबन से महकी ये हवा।
प्यास बुझाए नम के बादल,
सागर दे मणिक मुक्त।।
माँ से पाया ममता का साया,
ये जीवन भी सांस से पाया।
बिन माँगे बापू ने सदा ही।
अपना सब कुछ हमें दिया।।
माँ मैं भी कुछ देना चाहूँ,
पर क्या दूँ माँ, मुझे बता।
तुझको पाकर सब कुछ पाया,
तुझसे मुझको क्या लेना।
फिर भी अगर तू देना चाहे,
एक वचन मुझको देना।
आदर्शों के पथ पर चलकर
मंजिल अपनी पाना।
देश की खातिर मर मिटना,
और देश की खातिर जीना।।

अदिति सचान

6 सी

Light strays into the realm of fear; stumbles,
Wanders where darkness illumines the depth
Of the heart and the breadth of woe;
Where oblivion stares into the unfeeling eyes
Seized by a decimated, uncertain tomorrow.

Here, the rain never pours, the sun never shines,
A cloak of animosity pervades the land,
And every bud is trampled before it can bloom.
But light, feeble with fatigue, wends its way,
Where every step is one step closer to doom.

Life drips through the veins and slips,
Like grains of sand devoured by a conflagration
That rekindles like a phoenix reincarnated from clinker.
Traversing the outlandish tracks, light passes
Through the hole that mends no tinker.

A cut-throat battle between hope and circumstances
From which emerges no loser or victor,
Instead, ravages that bespeak the baleful tale.
But ah! Light, bereft of half its brightness,
Has breached the tainted walls of the realm so frail.

[Dedicated to those who died in the recent terrorist activities in Palestine, Gaza, Iraq and Afghanistan]

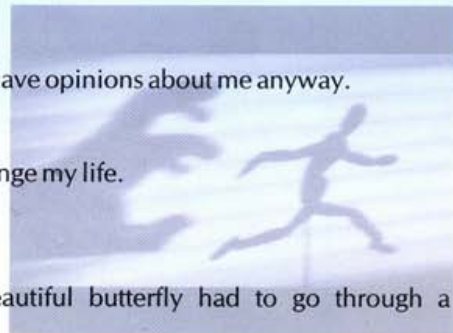
Ayushi Singh

11 A

Student Sub-editor (English)

I FEARED

I feared being alone until I learned to like myself.
I feared failure until I learned that I fail only when I don't try.
I feared people's opinions until I learned that people would have opinions about me anyway.
I feared rejection until I learned to have faith in myself.
I feared pain until I learned it's necessary for growth.
I feared my destiny until I realized that I had the power to change my life.
I feared ridicule until I learned how to laugh at myself.
I feared future until I realized that life just kept getting better.
I feared past until I realized it could no longer hurt me.
I feared 'CHANGE' until I saw that even the most beautiful butterfly had to go through a metamorphosis before it could fly.



Maitreyi Pathak

9-C



Creative Writing

**live life
with no
regrets.**

"I never regret anything because every little detail of your life is what made you into who you are in the end"
- Drew Barrymore

We often blame God for whatever happens in our lives but we fail to understand that at the end it is we who are responsible for our life. We often make wrong decisions and at the end all we do is regret.

We should not regret over wrong decisions taken by us, instead we should learn from our mistakes and try our level best to transform ourselves. Neither should we blame God for whatever happens with us because we don't know what the Almighty has planned for us in the future.

"Our life is like a book, it has pages which we have already read but it has those pages too which we will be reading as days pass by." We know about our past but we are still unaware of our future.

So let us not regret over the past, considering our lives to be ruined. Rather, we should put our best foot forward and try to make our lives worthy of all the happiness that is in store for us.

"What's done cannot be undone."
So we should learn from our mistakes instead of regretting them and live a life without regret.

LAIBA QAMAR

10 D

It is All in Our Hands

Our world is in our hands
It is in great danger these days,
Because of our strange ways.
Plastic bags are one of the causes,
For the destruction here.
The ozone layer is getting thinner,
This is our main fear.

Pollution of water,
Is very harmful for fish.
Drinking clean and pure water,
Isn't this our wish?

Smoke, smoke and smoke all around
This is what pollutes the air.
It gives rise to different diseases
Do we really care?

Let's make our world
A pollution free land.
And I just want to remind you,
That the world is in our hands.

Shreya Srivastava
6-D

‘यादें’

कभी हैसाती हैं तो कभी रूलाती हैं यादें,
कभी होठों पे खूबसूरत मुस्कान बनकर फैल जाती हैं
तो कभी आँखों में नमी बनकर उतर जाती हैं यादें
कभी किसी के दूर होने पर
उसके पास होने का अहसास दिलाती हैं यादें
तो कभी, किसी के पास होते हुए भी
दूर कर देती हैं यादें
कभी दिल के किसी कोने में
नन्हीं कली की तरह खिल उठती हैं यादें,
किसी के बिछुड़ने के बाद
कभी कड़वा तो कभी मीठा अहसास बनकर
रह जाती हैं तो बस.....यादें ।।

इफराह जावेद

10 'बी'



St. Mary's Convent Inter College

आशादीप जूनियर हाई स्कूल



तमसो माँ ज्योतिर्गमय

SMC SPECTRUM
Celebrating 148 Years of Vibrant Presence



आशा के इन्द्रधनुष

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Class 8

Ms. Shruti Kujur

आशादीप स्कूल

इलाहाबाद शहर में संत मेरीज कान्वेंट इन्टर कालेज के प्रांगण में पल रहा आशादीप स्कूल पिछले कई वर्षों से सैकड़ों बच्चों को शिक्षा देता आ रहा है। यहाँ कक्षा के 0जी0 से लेकर कक्षा आठ तक की कक्षाएँ हिन्दी माध्यम में चल रही हैं।

आशादीप स्कूल में पढ़ने वाले बच्चों को संजीवनी की भाँति जीवनदायी संदेश के साथ-साथ निःस्वार्थ सेवा से सींच कर पोषित करने का प्रयास करते हैं जो कालान्तर में नीर-क्षीर विवेकी बन कर समाज में नव जीवन का संचार करेंगे।

हमारे विद्यालय का उद्देश्य है ऐसी युवा पीढ़ियों को तैयार करना जो बौद्धिक रूप से दक्ष नैतिक रूप से ईमानदार, मानसिक रूप से सुदृढ़ और सामाजिक परिवर्तन के माध्यम बनें अर्थात् देश के एक अच्छे नागरिक बनें। हमारे शिक्षकगण बच्चों के सर्वांगीण विकास के लिए हमेशा समर्पित रहते हैं।

बच्चों की उन्नति और उनके उद्देश्य की पूर्ति के लिए हमारा स्कूल अमूल्य योगदान दे रहा है। 'एन0आई0ओ0एस0' द्वारा हाईस्कूल और इन्टर की परीक्षाओं को भी मान्यता प्राप्त है। आगामी सत्र से आशादीप स्कूल सुबह की पाली में करने के प्रयास में नई कक्षाओं का निर्माण भी जारी है।

मैं कामना करती हूँ और ईश्वर से प्रार्थना करती हूँ कि आशादीप उच्च शिखर तक पहुँच जाये।



सिस्टर सिबिल सी0जे0
आशादीप इंचार्ज

आशा के दीप

हर व्यक्ति को अपने जीवन में आशा और निराशा नामक दो शब्दों का सामना करना पड़ता है। कभी उसके सपने आशाओं के अनुरूप सच साबित होते हैं तो कभी निराशा उसके हाथ लगती है। यह शब्दयुग्म जीवन में रोमांच भरता है और नीरसता से इसे बचाये रखता है।

परमेश्वर द्वारा मानवता को विश्वास, आशा और प्रेम नामक तीन अनमोल उपहार प्रदान किए गये हैं। आशा इनमें से एक महत्वपूर्ण तोहफा है जो इंसान में यह खुशफहमी बनाए रखता है कि उसके जीवन में कुछ अच्छा घटित होने वाला है। जीवन के प्रति उत्साह भरता है। अतः इंसान का अपने जीवन में कभी निराशा को नहीं आने देना चाहिए और हमेशा आशावान रहना चाहिए।

शिक्षा भी हमारे जीवन को अनन्त आशाओं से भरती है और आत्मनिर्भर होने के असीमित अवसर प्रदान करती है। शिक्षा नर्सरी, प्राइमरी, माध्यमिक, उच्च एवं विशिष्ट आदि चरणों में चलने वाली एक लम्बी प्रक्रिया है प्रत्येक परिवार की बालिकाओं में यही आशा का दीप प्रज्वलित करना चाहिए कि शिक्षा की लम्बी प्रक्रिया से गुजरने के उपरान्त वह बहन, पत्नी एवं माँ के अतिरिक्त कर्मचारी, अधिकारी, अध्यापिका, वैज्ञानिक, चिकित्सक, प्रशासक आदि के रूप में समाज एवं देश के लिए उपयोगी बनकर उसके विकास में बड़ा योगदान कर सकती है।



रानी कौर
अध्यापिका



धूप

बीती रात, हुआ उजियारा
घर आंगन में उतरी धूप
कण-कण में, पत्ते-पत्ते पर
हंसती-गाती बिखरी धूप ।
पर्वत की चोटी पर उछली
झरनों के संग खेली धूप,
सागर की लहरों पर नाची
सबकी बनी सहेली धूप ।।
पंक्षी के पंखों पर चमकी
फूलों पर लहरायी धूप,
धरती के कोने-कोने में
नई चेतना लायी धूप ।
गर्मी में आंखें दिखलायी
सर्दी में मन भायी धूप,
छम-छम करती बरखा के संग
सतरंगी बन आयी धूप ।।

गुलप्सा बानो
कक्षा-7

माँ

माँ न होती, तो ये संसार न होता ।
फिर किसी को, किसी से प्यार न होता ।।
माँ के आंचल में जीवन गुजर जाता है ।
उसके सहारे हर रास्ता कट जाता है ।।
वो बहुत ही बदनसीब होते हैं ।
जिनके पास माँ नहीं होती ।।
हो सके तो कभी भी अपनी माँ का
दिल न दुखाओ ।
जीवन में ढेर सारी खुशियाँ पाओ ।।



वीणू हेनरी
अध्यापिका

गुरु का महत्व

गुरु का महत्व कभी होगा न कम
भले कर लें कितनी भी उन्नति हम,
वैसे अच्छे-बुरे की नहीं है हमें पहचान
नहीं है शब्द कैसे करूं धन्यवाद,
बस चाहिए हर पल आप सबका आशीर्वाद
आप सबका जिन्होंने दिया मुझे इतना ज्ञान,
आपने बनाया है मुझे इस काबिल
कि प्राप्त करूं मैं अपना हर लक्ष्य,
पर मैं हूँ कितनी मतलबी
याद किया न आपको कभी,
आज करती हूँ दिल से आप सबका सम्मान
आप सब को है मेरा शत्-शत् प्रणाम ।

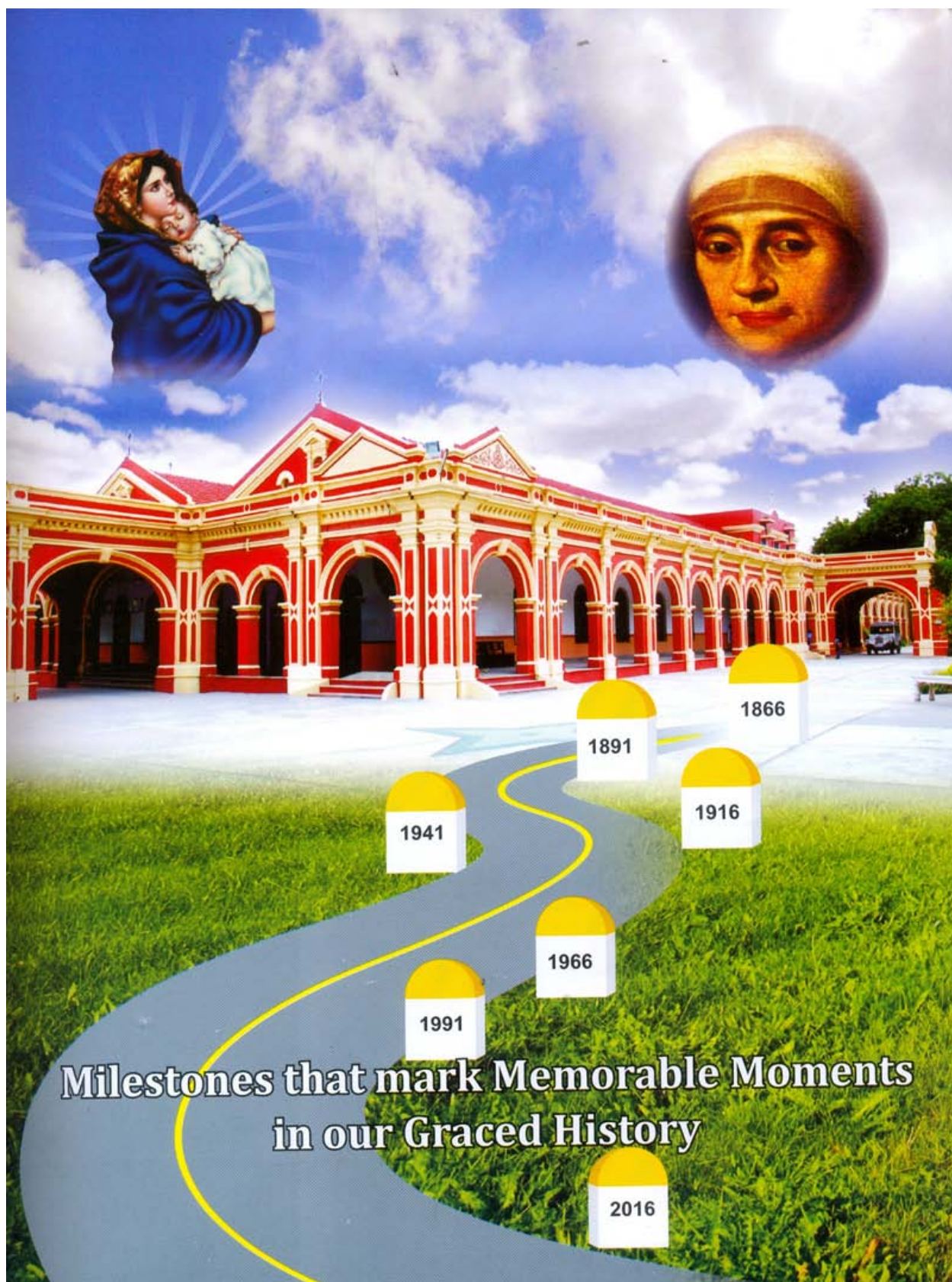
तशमीन खान
कक्षा-4

जिन्दगी का सच

क्यों अजीब सी पहेली है ये जिन्दगी,
जिसको कोई सुलझा पाता नहीं ।
जीवन में कभी समझौता करना पड़े,
तो कोई बड़ी बात नहीं,
क्योंकि झुकता वही है जिसमें जान होती है,
अकड़ तो मुर्दे की पहचान होती है ।
जिन्दगी जीने के दो तरीके होते हैं,
पहला जो पसंद हैं उसे हासिल करना सीख लो ।
दूसरा जो हासिल है उसे पसंद करना सीख लो ।।
जिन्दगी जीना आसान नहीं होता,
बिना संघर्ष कोई महान नहीं होता ।
जिन्दगी बहुत कुछ सिखाती है,
कभी हँसाती है कभी रूलाती है ।
पर जो हर हाल में खुश रहता है,
जिन्दगी उनके आगे सिर झुकाती है ।
खुद न रूठें कभी, पर सब को मनाओ ।
राज है जिन्दगी का बस जीते-चले जाओ ।
यही है जिन्दगी का सच ।



सविता
अध्यापिका



**Milestones that mark Memorable Moments
in our Graced History**



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Siddhi Agarwal
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