



# DELHI DISHA

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PROVINCE NEWS LETTER

March - May 2018

## From the Provincial's Desk...

### Request for Prayers

#### For those who are ill:

- Sr. Louisa who is recouping after the varicose veins surgery
- Sr. Rinalda who is undergoing radiation after the chemotherapy
- Sr. Shalini's nephew suffering from cancer

#### For those who have gone for their eternal reward:

- Sr. Pratima's cousin, Sr. Jacintha UFS, 82 on 9<sup>th</sup> May

## News and events From our communities

### JESU BHAWAN

We stepped into March hearing the sad news of the accident of Fr. Richard Lobo. Sr. Pratima went to Bareilly to attend the funeral of Fr. Richard who hailed from her home parish and was the classmate of her brother. Sister visited all our communities before she left for the PRSC.

When Sr. Pratima returned her visit to the communities she received the news that Sr. Rinalda is suffering from renal cancer. Sr. Pratima took her immediately Allahabad for a second opinion from a well known cancer specialist, Dr. Paul Thaliath. He started with

chemotherapy and Sr. Rinalda is responding to it and recuperating under the tender loving care of all our sisters at 21, Allahabad. Sister has already undergone two courses of chemotherapy and is waiting for the next step. Thank you dear sisters for all your prayers and please continue to pray for her complete recovery.

As usual Jesu Bhawan is a home for all our sisters. We had a number of ours for visa interview, visiting doctors, shopping etc. During the Holy week we spent quality time with the Lord and joined the Easter celebration with ours at Shahbad community. We were happy to have Sr. Sudeepti with us who returned from Goa having completed one year of theology, during the Holy week.

We extended a warm welcome to Sr. Kiran who joined our community on 7<sup>th</sup> April. Sr. Pratima attended the diamond and golden jubilees of Sr. Tarsicia and Sr. Nirmala respectively and returned to Delhi immediately to be with ours at Jhajjar at least a day in advance prior to the blessing of the newly constructed convent. We were blessed to have Good Shepherd prayer meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> April.

On 16<sup>th</sup> night all COIN provincials left for the PRSC in Rome. On 20<sup>th</sup> Sr.



Nibedita returned to the province from Patna after completing B.Sc. She is missioned to Nainital. May God bless you dear Sr.

Nibedita. On 29<sup>th</sup> we celebrated Sr. Marisha's silver jubilee in the parish, and this homely celebration was appreciated by one and all.

## St. Mary's Convent, JhaJJar

As the month of March dawned, we began to get many phone calls inquiring about Admissions to various classes in the new academic session. We fixed the date for 10<sup>th</sup> March for the admission tests, but people kept on coming till the end of April. We hoped and expected to get at least 30 children for the L.K.G but surprisingly the number went up to forty and then we had to stop at fifty and engaged another teacher to manage the little ones. People are coming to know about the existence of our School as we have also posted a sign board "St. Mary's Convent School, Aurangpur" on the main road.

The annual examination was conducted from 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> March. The committed and hard work of the sisters and teachers bore good fruit, all the children performed well to the satisfaction of their parents. The PTM was called on 27<sup>th</sup> March, the parents were content and the students were happy to get a few days break after their hard work.

On 24<sup>th</sup> March, Fr. John Ari S.J. celebrated his birthday with all the religious communities in Jhajjar and the Jesuit community from Shahbad. Our small community had the Holy Week celebration at the Jesuit Chapel. The SD sisters and a few catholic families from the Farm attended the service. We were about 25-30 everyday for prayer and worship. Frs. John Ari and Joe Kochupura made the services very meaningful and relevant.

On 2<sup>nd</sup> April, the teachers were called in for a half day interaction and motivation programme. Sr. Mary explained to the teachers the Charism of our Congregation and the mind of Mary Ward concerning the education of girls. Sr. Remya reminded them of their duties and commitment as she gave them the time table for the year ahead. On 3<sup>rd</sup> April, there was great excitement in the school. The children were transported to School in a new big bus. The older ones were happy to be back in school, but the new comers made such a cacophony with their screeching and yelling calling 'mummy... Papa.... Didi ... etc. that the teachers had all their energy strained out by the end of the day. A few smart ones (perhaps) captivated by Sr. Kanula's habit and veil took refuge in her office but would not go to the class. It took more than a week to settle these Hariyani 'kinder'.

On 11<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated Sr. Mary John's birthday. The children prepared a short and sweet programme to felicitate Sister.

13<sup>th</sup> was the long awaited day – The Blessing of our New Convent Building! We had about a hundred guests – priests, sisters





and well wishers. The Archbishop of Delhi, Most Rev. Anil J. Couto blessed the house and celebrated the FIRST Holy Eucharist in our Chapel, together with 24 priests. Sister Kanula led the beautiful Choir, Sr. Deepa's presence was conspicuous with her second Voice, and Sr. Pratima, Sr. Assunta and other C.J Sisters joined in with their melodious voices to make a perfect symphony of praise and thanksgiving fitting for the occasion. We were delighted to have the presence of the former Jesuit Provincials of Delhi, – Fr. John Ari, Fr. Varkey and the present Jesuit Provincial Fr. Sebastian Jeerakassery. Meeting each other, enjoying the fellowship meal and high spirited chit chats left us with unforgettable memories as we began our stay in the new house. The presence of the Blessed Sacrament is our greatest Blessing – our security and protection!

There are still a few works to be completed. At the same time the school building is also in progress. We hope to occupy a few new classrooms by the first week of July. On 16<sup>th</sup> April, Sr. Mary John went on home leave and on 26<sup>th</sup> Fr. John Ari also left for his well reserved holiday!

We are grateful to Fr. John Ari and Fr. Joe Kochupura for their generous support and sacrificing spirit which we experience daily. May God bless them abundantly!

On 29<sup>th</sup> April, we joined the Shahbad C.J. Community to celebrate the Silver Jubilee of Sr. Marisha! As the month of May knocks at our door, we wish all our sisters special blessings of our Mother Mary - Mother of the Church! Happy Feast on 21<sup>st</sup> May!!!

### Ramnee....

After the long winter holidays Ramnee was ready to welcome the students to the boarding /school on 27<sup>th</sup> February. A lot of repairs, painting, white-washing and cleaning were done during holidays. Teachers gathered to have their orientation, motivating and setting a goal for the new academic session.

Srs. Tarsicia and Nirmala were happy to be in Allahabad to join the diamond jubilee of Srs. Marietta and Alphonsa. They stayed on



to be with Sr. Juliana –our nursing student in Nazareth, on her capping ceremony. Sr. Tessa gave joy to

her brother by spending a few days with him in Aligarh. Sr. Deepa had a few quiet days in Puranpur encountering the Lord. Sr. Nirmala's sister Sabina and her friend spent two days with us. Sr. Nirmala accompanied them to Dehradun/Mussorie.

On 12<sup>th</sup> February our worker Vikram's wife, Shanti Bisht who was suffering from Cancer passed away. She was well cared for and looked after by her two young sons till she breathed her last. RIP. On 21<sup>st</sup> we were shocked to receive the sad news about the



demise of Palak Bisht, an ex-student of Ramnee. After battling with cancer for the past one year she crossed to eternity at the age of 19. In the evening the students organized a candle light procession from our chapel to the Lake Church. It was very prayerful and emotional. Many of her classmates, friends, teachers, parents and well-wishers joined the procession to pay their tribute to Palak which was very much appreciated by all.

The month of March accompanied us through Lent bringing us to the Holy Week. On 11<sup>th</sup> Sr. Deepa's brother, Roy visited us bringing joy to Sr. Deepa and all of us. Just a day and he returned to Delhi accompanied by Sr. Deepa. Srs. Tomsy and Sheryl came in to write their final exams. On Maundy Thursday Sr. Deepa was privileged to wash the feet of 12 apostles as Fr. Arnold was unable to do so due to ill health. The month of April dawned with Alleluia, for the Lord

is Risen. No one thought of playing the April fool for we all are fools for the Lord. On 3<sup>rd</sup> the Managing Committee met to discuss and plan for the new academic year. Sr. Adelaide went to Delhi for a check-up and returned hale and hearty with Sr. Pratima who came for the visitation. On 5<sup>th</sup> Mr. Kanti Ram and Mr. Umed Ram who worked for many years in the kitchen were given a fitting farewell by the students and staff. They expressed their gratitude through a meaningful assembly and gifted them with tokens of love, after which they had a



sumptuous lunch with all the co-workers and the sisters. They were very happy when the gift was given from the sisters expressing thanks for the long period of service in Ramnee. A surprise visit by 9 ladies from Kerala, relations of our chief justice brought much joy. They shared and had lots of fun over a cup of coffee and cookies. Srs. Sheryl and Tomsy who had come for their exam completed their M.A final and returned to their respective communities on 7<sup>th</sup> April. Fr. Vincent Basant Baba came from Allahabad to celebrate the Golden jubilee of Sr. Nirmala. CONGRATULATIONS DEAR SISTERS!! The long awaited day arrived and the jubilee bells rang on 11<sup>th</sup> April for Sr. Tarsicia, the Diamond Jubilarian and Sr. Nirmala, the golden Jubilarian. Sr.

Nirmala's sister and brother in law too arrived to add to our joy. The jubilee celebrations were awesome from morning to night. The children gave a colourful programme to honour the Jubilarians. The Archbishop Albert from Agra, Bishop Ignatius from Bareilly, Bishop Anthony, Bishop Emeritus and Bishop Isidore and



many priests from nearby parishes were the distinguished celebrants at the thanksgiving Eucharist. The choir was melodious and inspiring under the leadership of Sr. M. Coletta. It was a marvellous day indeed. It was a special day for Sr. Tarsicia as she professed the Fourth Vow. The finale of the jubilee was organised by the teachers on 18<sup>th</sup>. Once again it was a marvellous celebration.

Sr. Seema too had few visitors, her relations from Kerala visiting Nainital. Sr. Deepa represented our community at the blessing of our convent at Jhajjar. We were honoured by the chief Justice Mr. Joseph and his wife Ancy who invited us for lunch on 15<sup>th</sup> April at their residence. An organised recreation in honour of the Jubilarians was conducted as the closing ceremony of the Jubilee. Srs. Deepa and Tarsicia represented at the blessing and inauguration of the school and convent at Bageshwar. Sr. Adelaide was thrilled to welcome her niece and nephew with their spouses. They returned after three days and sister Adelaide accompanied them for a home holidays.

The monthly ration was distributed to the poor rag pickers. The new college cabinet members were installed solemnly in the presence of sisters, teachers, students and their parents. A book fair was held for three days by the Daughters of St. Paul and the children benefitted. The Hill School association met here in Ramnee to discuss various pressing issues of schools in Uttarakhand. A few sisters represented the silver jubilee celebration of Fr. Thomas Kokapally at Dhona. At present the whole school is on the field practicing, marching and competing with the houses in various athletic items. All are invited for the exciting P.T. Display on 18<sup>th</sup> May.

Mayur Vihar

### INVESTITURE CEREMONY

St. Mary's Sr. Sec. School, held the investiture ceremony for its primary wing on 11 April 2018 and for its senior wing on 21 April 2018. The newly elected council members received the badges and the sashes from the Manager, Rev. Fr. Paul Roy, Principal, Sr. Elsy and Headmistress, Sr. Manjusha. The new office bearers then took the oath of





service to the school. Speaking on the solemn occasion, Fr. Paul Roy motivated the students to do their duties rightfully and wished them the very best for the year ahead. On behalf of the new student council, the head boy thanked the management for at

### INTER- RELIGIOUS PRAYER MEETING



St. Mary's Sr. Sec School, Mayur Vihar



phase III organised an inter-religious prayer meeting on 23 April 2018, in memory of the departed soul of Asifa. The meet was addressed by the Headmistress, Sr. Manjusha and she highlighted the need to protect and work towards the safety of the girl child. Students and teachers from Somerville Sr. Sec. School and Salwan Public School and parent- representatives of St. Mary's School attended the prayer meeting. Black badges were distributed to everyone present as an expression of the sorrow and concern for those girls whose lives were cut short due to the inhuman acts meted out to them by the evil elements of the society.

A beautiful and meaningful song 'Oh Ri Chirahiya ' was played which evoked an emotional response from the gathering .The students lit candles to express their solidarity and concern for the main cause and purpose for the meeting . Readings from the holy books were read out invoking God's presence for a just cause. Around 300



participants attended the meet. It was indeed a peaceful moment wherein people of different religions prayed together for the safety and security of the kids.

### SILVER JUBILEE CELEBRATION OF REV. SR. MANJUSHA

The Silver Jubilee of Rev. Sr. Manjusha was celebrated with a lot of enthusiasm in St. Mary's Sr. Sec. School Mayur Vihar phase-III on 4 May, 2018. She completed 25 years



of her service to God and Church this year. On this special occasion, the students

showcased a series of mesmerising performances. A powerpoint presentation highlighting the achievements of Rev. Sr. Manjusha was also shown. Our Manager, Rev. Fr. Paul Roy graced the occasion. He shared his experiences and thoughts with the students. The programme was followed by a short get together by the staff. Sr. Manjusha was presented with a bouquet and a gift as a token of love.

Speaking on the occasion, Sr. Manjusha described her life as an ongoing journey where she still has to achieve many more milestones. She quoted her jubilee day as 'A Thanksgiving Day' and expressed her gratitude to God and everyone who has been an integral part of her life.

## Jeolikote

The month of March prepared us through prayer and mortification to unite ourselves with the suffering, passion, death and Resurrection of Christ our Saviour. We also prayed specially to guide the steps of all those who work for justice and peace.

4<sup>th</sup> March was a great day for the youth of the entire diocese of Bareilly as 200 youth and 80 adults joined the Way of the Cross and had a experience of Calvary, on the Mission Hill, formerly known as the Provincial Hill. It was a touching experience for all of us to walk up the hill. It was conducted by Fr. Francis Pinto, Fr. Ashok and Fr. Uday, the parish priest of Jeolikote. There were 12 young priests helping the youth and guiding them. Srs. Pratibha, Deepika and Damian prepared the School Hall very beautifully for the liturgy of day.

The Youth took active part in the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and the Holy Mass. At 3 O'clock the entire group was served lunch before they left the place with happy memories. Our Bareilly diocese has regular programmes for the youth to strengthen their Christian faith.

On 6<sup>th</sup> we were very happy to welcome Sister Pratima who stayed with us for a day. On the following day, Sr. Augustine and Sr. Pratibha accompanied her to Rudrapur. On 7<sup>th</sup> the English medium school had a special Easter Assembly for both the schools. It was well conducted by our English medium school teachers giving a touching message of Jesus' passion, death and resurrection. The assembly was followed by prize distribution and awards to our students for the whole year's activities.



8<sup>th</sup> was another special day for the women of Jeolikote. The celebration started at 11.00 a.m. with the arrival of the chief guest, Dr. Mrs. Sudha Jhukaria who encouraged the women to be good leaders in their respective families and encouraged them to be self-employed, especially to knit garments with wool. She would provide them a chance to

show-case their items and sell them during the Mela at Pantnagar.

On the same day we had holy Mass at Ragina Raju's house in her newly built room for her resident boarders.

On 11<sup>th</sup> our parish council women conducted the Holy hour and Sunday Liturgy very meaningfully, praying for the parish women and all the women in the World. In the evening Sr. Deepa visited us with her brother Mr. Roy.

We encourage our children to make paper



bags so that the use of plastic bags could be stopped completely.

On 12<sup>th</sup> we began our final exams in both the schools. The state board exams for classes 10 and 12 started in the 1<sup>st</sup> week of March and ended on 25<sup>th</sup> March. Please pray for the good results of our students.

On 18<sup>th</sup> Sr. Lucy, Fr. Uday, Mr. Munna Lal and Catechist Appu attended the diocesan level SCC work-shop at Kathgodam. On the following day our Parishioners honoured St. Joseph with a special Holy Mass and prayed devoutly. In the evening we were invited for supper at Sumedha by the SDB Fathers for the celebration of Father Jose's feast. On

28<sup>th</sup> we completed the home exams and our boarders went home in the afternoon. Classes 10 and 12 are happy with their papers, Dear God bless them with good results is our fervent prayer.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> Sr. Sunaina bid us farewell. We are very grateful for all the services she has rendered to the community, school and the mission here. We wish her God's blessings and guidance in her future undertakings. She has left behind happy and inspiring memories.

We are happy to begin the first group of Friends of Mary Ward with our teachers on



24<sup>th</sup>. We had a prayer service and explained to the group what it means to be the Friends of Mary Ward.

On 25<sup>th</sup> we celebrated the Palm Sunday very meaningfully. The prayer and procession started from the Parish house. We had 8 priests and Bishop Isidore to concelebrate the Holy Mass.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> week of March the entire Jeolikote was troubled by the frequent visits of a tiger and leopards in the evenings and during the nights. Some of us even saw 4 leopard cubs during the day! People and animals are attacked now and then. Fr. Uday

our Parish Priest lost his precious dog. So we are very careful when we go out.

On 28<sup>th</sup> the school children received their final results. There is great improvement among our students and most of them received good results.

The Holy Week services were well attended. We miss our boarders for the Church singing. During these 3 days we spent extra time in prayer and meditating on the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus our Saviour.

**Our Church is beautifully decorated for Easter!**



Congratulations to Srs. Pratibha, Damian, Deepika and the helpers!

All the teachers and seven sisters went to Punjab for a picnic on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Our train was late by seven hours. Sr. Damian's brother Fr. John had made all the arrangements for us.



We visited Wagha Boarder, the Golden Temple, Amritsar and some more historical places. It

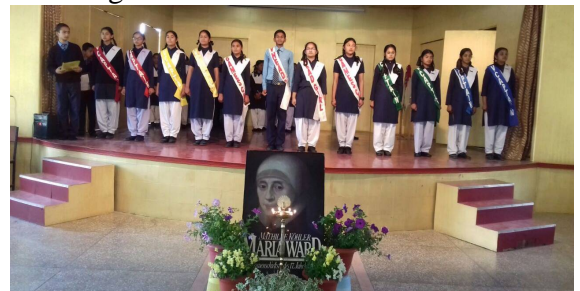
was a wonderful experience for all of us. We were tired but we enjoyed the trip with fun and laughter and we returned safely on 6<sup>th</sup> noon.

Our school was awarded the best achievement award among the best 50 schools in Uttarakhand, St Anthony's Inter College secured 9<sup>th</sup> position in the board exam 2016-17. On 7<sup>th</sup> we had the staff meeting for the new academic year. On 9<sup>th</sup>



school reopened. Our new boarders are getting familiar with the boarding life. The Jubilee celebrations at Nainital brought us a number of visitors - The Archbishop of Agra - Albert, Bishop Antony and Sr. Pratima. The Archbishop offered the Holy Mass for us on 11<sup>th</sup> April. Sr. Nirmala's sister and brother-in-law too visited us. On 11<sup>th</sup> we joined the jubilee celebration of Srs. Tarsicia and Nirmala at St. Mary's Convent Nainital.

The next day Sr. Lucy went to Jhajjar along with Sr. Deepa for the blessing of our new house. On 23<sup>rd</sup> morning the Hindi Medium School had the Mary Ward assembly and the installation ceremony of the new captains in the English Medium School. We have



decided to have Mary Ward assembly on

23<sup>rd</sup> of every month. We have started the student group of “Friends of Mary Ward”.

Fr. John Paul from Jhansi was with us from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> and he offered a thanksgiving Mass on the occasion of his ordination anniversary on 25<sup>th</sup> April.

On 25<sup>th</sup> morning we organized a rally to give awareness to our students on Swachha



Bharat (Clean India) in our township. The students and teachers of classes 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> participated in the rally enthusiastically.

Sr. Sherly went to Kiccha along with nine youth to participate in the Diocesan Youth



Festival on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Many children received prizes, certificates and medals. Our twins Sunita and Manisha were very happy with the certificates and medals in various races.

## PuranPur

On 3<sup>rd</sup> March all of us went to Bareilly to attend the funeral service of Fr. Richard Lobo who met with an accident and died on 28th Feb. Mass was in the Cathedral and he was laid to rest in the Seminary Cemetery. A great number of people, religious and priests gathered together to bid farewell to our dear Fr. Richard Lobo. His ailing mother, Bishops of Ajmer and Bijnor were also present.

We were happy to welcome Sr. Pratima who came for visitation accompanied by Sr. Assunta. They returned on the same day itself.

**The Women’s day** was celebrated in the Parish. Sr. Sanjita spoke about the importance of Women’s day which was highly appreciated by all present. After the Mass and adoration a few games were conducted for all the women and prizes were distributed to the winners. All went home happily after the refreshments.

On 14<sup>th</sup> March we were glad to welcome the Diocesan Lenten Cross which was brought from Pilibhit. It was taken to our church in procession with great devotion. The veneration of the cross and prayers were conducted throughout the whole day. The next day we along with the Parish priest and parishioners reached the Lenten cross to

Pipiriya. On 18<sup>th</sup> **the feast of St. Joseph**, the patron saint of our parish was celebrated in a fitting manner. Most Rev. Ignatius D'Souza was the main celebrant. After the Lunch Bishop came to our house and spent some time with us. We made use of the opportunity to request him to get a new bore well made for us. He readily agreed to do it as early as possible.

The Month of March really marched very fast with all our students busy in preparing for the annual exams and the teachers with their evaluations and preparation of the Annual reports. The customary thanksgiving assembly was held and the meritorious students were awarded Certificates and prizes. On 27<sup>th</sup> the report cards were given to the students and the school closed for **Easter Holidays**. The board exam continued in our campus as our school was one of the centres. The Holy Week celebration helped us and the faithful to go deeper into the spirit of the week, and celebrate Easter with newness of heart and mind. Several Khrist Bhaktas took part in the Easter service. The believers who came from far away villages were happy to stay overnight.

On 3<sup>rd</sup> April we **welcomed Sr. Sudepti** who joined our community for a short period. On the same day a staff meeting was



conducted in preparation for the new Academic session. The school re-opened

on 4<sup>th</sup> April. There was a great rush – parents coming for admissions, report cards

etc. on 14<sup>th</sup> April we joined the school **staff for a picnic** to the Fun City in Bareilly. It was indeed a wonderful and relaxed day for all of us. The school management has introduced uniform - dress code which is mandatory for the staff.

On 22<sup>nd</sup> April we went to Dhona for the Silver Jubilee celebration of Fr. Thomas Kokappilly. Many of our sisters had come from Nainital, Jeolikote and Rudrapur. We were very happy to meet them after a long time.

**Earth day** was celebrated in the school on 26<sup>th</sup> April to create awareness among the students a sense of responsibility and



urgency towards the environment so as to ensure appropriate actions to solve environmental problems. The student leaders took the initiative to bring awareness in students of global warming, climate change and green house gases, as well as awareness on saving energy, water and fuel and to stop the use of plastic.

We attended the **CRI meeting** which was held at St. Maria Goretti School in Bareilly on 30<sup>th</sup> April. On the same day our supportive staff went for a picnic along with Frs.

Chinnappan and Sabu who came from Banda.

**Labours' day** was celebrated as usual. The whole school assembled together to express



their gratitude to our supportive staff for all the support

they give to keep the school neat and clean. The students conducted a meaningful prayer service and put up a cultural programme to entertain them followed by a few games which they enjoyed well. They were given a small token of love and appreciation.

The **investiture ceremony** was held separately for both seniors and juniors. The



new student council for the year 2018 – 19 pledged themselves to help in the smooth running of the school.

**Mother's day** was celebrated as a day of honouring mothers. Students were overjoyed to celebrate it with full enthusiasm and love. They put up a beautiful assembly highlighting the qualities of a mother and reminded everyone to be grateful for all the sacrifices they make daily. Sr. Deepti requested all the students to make a greeting card to give it to their mothers.

**Fare well to Mrs. Rekha:-**The school bid farewell to Mrs. Rekha who served our Institution for the last 27 years. Students put up a variety entertainment programme to thank her for her dedicated service. The management, staff, students and the supportive staff presented her with gifts and bouquets. Mrs. Rekha was a very dedicated and committed teacher. Her presence will surely be missed.

**G.K Quiz:** The Press club conducted a GK quiz for the all the Schools in Puranpur and our students won a number of prizes.

A **seminar** was arranged for the senior girls of our school by our Social Cell members to make the students aware of the various techniques which they should use to defend themselves from sexual harassment. They were also taught a number of yoga exercises and were told



the importance of doing Yoga daily in the morning. Sr.

Digna took a session on friendship and enhancing relationships. The students were very grateful for organising this seminar.

The school closed for summer vacation on 15<sup>th</sup> May. Special classes are being conducted for the seniors for a week.

*Happy Holidays to all!!!*  
**AMDG**