



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL ESPECTRO



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL

Inspiring Spiritual
&
Academic Growth

Half Yearly Newsletter
Volume 5 | Issue 01

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Year 2020 is a very special year for all of us. Schools and other educational Institutions are compelled to hold all their activities online in light of the physical distancing recommendations and global restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, this pandemic could not deter the spirit of the teachers and students to celebrate the special occasions and organise Inter House Competitions.

Purnamrita Dey (XS1)

Celebration of Dr. B R Ambedkar's Birthday

14 th April St Francis Xavier School celebrated the birthday of "Father of the Indian Constitution" – Dr B. R. Ambedkar. On this occasion our school organized a special assembly to commemorate the national figure and to praise his contribution.

The virtual assembly started with the introductory speech by respective Class teachers. Students from all classes gave speeches on Ambedkar's early life, his career and his undisputed contribution in drafting the Indian Constitution. A PowerPoint presentation was shown to all the classes to facilitate the purpose.

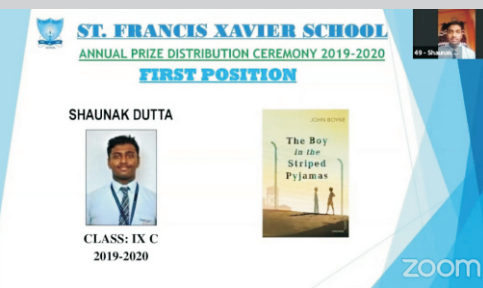
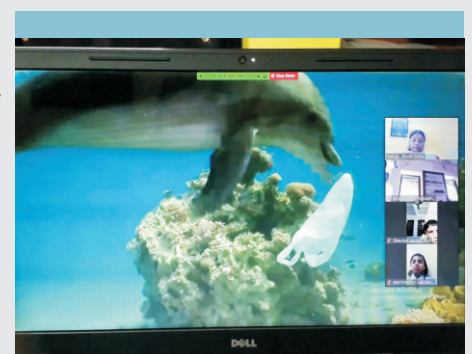
Papiya Ghosh Dutta (Assistant Teacher)

Mother Earth Day

Our renowned institution, St. Francis Xavier School, took the initiative to celebrate World Earth Day on 22nd April, 2020.

On this very occasion, the Teachers delivered speeches on the importance of the day using Zoom Meeting Platform and displayed before us an excellent Power Point Presentation that widened our views to the necessity of this day. Pupils showcased equal enthusiasm by preparing colourful charts and Presentation to mark the day. All were instructed to plant a sapling at home and to take care of the same.

Purnamrita Dey (XS1)





From the desk of Secretary and Administrator

Dear Readers,

The last time I communicated with you on these pages, our country was just about starting to feel the effects of the corona virus. Soon after the publication of our previous newsletter the country went into an extended and strict lockdown wherein we had to convert our own homes to something similar to a jail in order to protect us from the unseen enemy who has its own ways of sneaking into our bodies. From a few hundred odd new cases a day for India and double-digit new cases for our state, we have gone up to 96,000 odd new cases for our country as well as 4000 odd new cases for our state. As I pen this article, things have improved a lot for our country as a whole but our state is still near its peak. That notwithstanding, many countries like the USA, France, UK, Germany, Belgium, Italy, Spain etc. are now witnessing a strong second wave and are going into fresh lockdowns. India and Indians too must be alert in these circumstances and not become complacent, especially as we go through the festive season where chances of widespread infections become high.

Notwithstanding the COVID-19 pandemic, I am truly satisfied when I look back at the last seven months of this new academic session. With the tremendous dedication of my teachers, we started online classes right from the 1st of April and the same are going on till date in an exceptionally smooth manner. We could never have imagined conducting online examinations in the homes of the students but that too was achieved when we held both unit and half yearly examinations through the Zoom platform. Not only that, we also held our online prize distribution ceremony and Teacher's Day programs online. If somebody had given me these ideas last year, I would have laughed it off! Our parent/guardian community have also contributed greatly to this new concept of online education by making sure their children have all the amenities to attend the online classes. You have ensured access to good internet connections, smart phones and/or laptops for your children and thereby enabled them to continue with their studies in an unhindered and most convenient manner.

The pandemic has also disrupted the economic activities in

the society and we are all affected, some more and some less. The school realized this and rolled back the 6-7% fee increments for this session. Parents were given flexibility of payments and late fines were removed altogether. Soon thereafter, the courts have directed a further 20% reduction in fee, taking the total reductions to almost 26-27%. This has meant a big financial setback to the school. In fact, the finances of the school have been setback by almost four years. Despite these adverse circumstances, the school continues to employ all its staff and has been paying full salaries to them throughout. Moreover, we are doing what we can for those parents who have been severely affected. This has only been possible as large number of parents/guardians have been paying the school its' dues, maybe some within and some beyond the stated time. But I regret to say that there is also a substantial number of parents who have not even paid a single paisa to the school in all the seven months that the school has functioned, despite participating in all the classes and examinations. To those parents I make an earnest request to clear the payments immediately and allow the school to function normally and efficiently.

The story is not so rosy for the bus staff. Most regrettably, despite a reduction of 50% of the bus fees many parents have refused to pay and this has had a very adverse impact on the bus staff and they have had to endure salary cuts. Parents/Guardians must understand that despite buses not plying substantial costs are being incurred on account of staff salaries, insurance premiums, road tax, permit fees, certificate of fitness fees, AMC of GPS tracker and most importantly on the heavy EMIs. The saving on account of fuel costs is barely 25-30%. I therefore request all parents/guardians to please clear the bus fees urgently and help tide through this crisis. The fees is not more than a couple of cups of coffee a day. Please meet us halfway and allow the bus service to survive. When the school reopens, the school bus will be the safest mode of transport and will follow all the COVID-19 precautions and protocols.

In conclusion, I know most parents want to know when the school will reopen. Believe me none of us know the answer to this question. It all depends on the COVID-19 situation of our state and the opinion of the state government. The school will only reopen when the state government wants it to reopen. Of course, whenever schools restart, the opinion of the parents/guardians will be taken into account and their consent will be required. At school, we are trying to gear up as much as possible and awaiting the day when our corridors will again come to life with the mirth and laughter of our dear students, who we miss very much.

I extend my warm seasons greetings to all of you and pray to God for your good health and safety in these trying times. May God bless us all.

Ajay Chopra,
Secretary & Administrator

From the desk of Officiating Principal



Dear Readers,

This edition of 'Espectro' is unique in its own sense as it has all the features like its previous editions but the only point of difference is that it is testimony

to the resilience, adaptability and survivability of human race. It contains the vivid details of how our teachers and students, despite all the odds were able to carry out their activities adapting to the adverse conditions and learning to use the technology required for virtual schooling.

COVID-19 caused a sudden and rude halt to the normal life and threatened the existence of mankind. We witnessed the massive death and suffering of people who got affected by the deadly virus. It was an unforeseen and unprecedented catastrophe for which we were not ready. The announcement of lockdown from the last week of March'2020 did not let us realise about what was about to occur in the days to come. We realised the gravity of the situation by the end of March and then we started to join our heads together to find ways to ensure that the teaching & learning activities are not hampered. We were driven by the realisation of the fact that the students will suffer along with their parents if they are not kept engaged in constructive activities. We realised that the situation inside the homes where all the family members are suddenly made to stay indoors 24X7 will certainly have a negative impact on the minds of the young learners who are not used to remain confined with restrictions. Our teachers took up the task to plan out for holding

the classes online and we began our new academic session from 1stApril'2020. I can proudly say that we are one of the very few schools in India to have achieved this feat when the other institutions were still in a state of indecision. The credit goes to our Secretary & Administrator Mr. Ajay Chopra who led from the front and arranged for all the technical support required to hold online classes. Our teachers got trained within no time and they started to teach online. Then we raised the bar further and held special assemblies, Inter House events and conducted assessments viz Class Test, Unit Test and Half Yearly Examinations as well. We even had our Annual Prize Distribution Ceremony online.

We also saw how the parents, despite facing hardships supported their wards by providing them with all the equipments required to attend online classes. This Espectro carries all these success stories with pictures of teachers and students who stood together shoulder to shoulder to withstand the onslaught of the pandemic beside keeping the life near-normal and giving hope that we shall overcome all these very soon and regain what we have lost. My heart goes out to those who have lost their near and dear ones and also for those who suffered from the loss of their livelihood. I derive hope and courage from the fact that we are still surviving and engaged in meaningful activities which kindles the hope that all is not lost and the human race will rise again and attain greater heights surpassing all the adversities.

Wish you all a very happy Durga Puja and Dussehra and hope to see you all back to school at the earliest.

Anil Srivastava
Principal (Officiating)

From the desk of Headmistress



Dear Readers,

First of all, let me congratulate all of you on surviving this pandemic successfully, may God bless everyone and keep them safe and healthy. We are

back with our Half – Yearly edition of Espectro which covers all the reports of the activities that has been conducted during the last six months, I hope you will enjoy reading it.

The effect of this lockdown due to the Covid 19 outbreak is worst for the mental health and happiness of the students, they are unable to meet their friends and attend regular classes at school, no activity classes to be enjoyed as they were used to in the pre – COVID days. The enormous potential that they used in their daily life is now completely blocked, their energies and potential remain unutilized. Though life has regained normalcy, school gates still remain shut for the students.

Recent studies investigated that student's mental health before and after the pandemic situation has changed a lot. The study shows a change in multiple dimensions of social networks (interaction with peers, social support, co-studying) and mental health indicators (depression, anxiety, stress, loneliness). Children are experiencing fear and anxiety similar to those experienced by adults, such as fear of dying and losing their relatives and friends.

Fortunately, in St. Francis Xavier School the students were well taken care of with the timely introduction of Online Classes in the Month of April. They were kept

engaged by the teachers with classwork, homework, online projects, assignments and regular activities. Parents of STFX gave positive feedback during the Online Open House that the stress level in their wards is very less. We were well aware that students were likely to face a lot of mental health issues and teachers were instructed to counsel them whenever required. It really worked wonders and our students are in much better condition than that of many other institutions.

Wishing you all a wonderful festive season ahead!

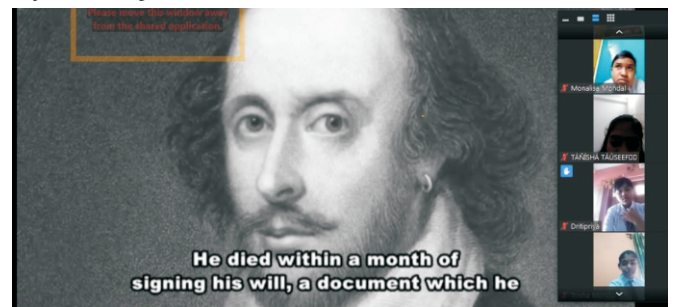
Bipasha Das

Shakespeare's Birthday Celebration



Many fans and enthusiasts of William Shakespeare, who was one of England's greatest poets and dramatists, celebrate National Shakespeare Day, also known as Shakespeare Day, on April 23 each year. Special pageants are held at Stratford-upon-Avon in Warwickshire, where Shakespeare was born. To commemorate the anniversary of the bard, St. Francis Xavier School arranged special assemblies, classwise. Students were shown a Power Point presentation on William Shakespeare's life and legacy.

By **Literary Club**



Founder's Remembrance Day



ST.FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL was founded by late Mrs. Sheela Chopra in the year 1983. The demise of our founder Principal on 5th May, 2017, left a void amongst us. Since then, we have been fondly paying special homage on this day. On this special day the entire school fraternity remembers our beloved Founder Principal Madam and her contribution towards this Institution. This year, in the wake of the ongoing pandemic, we remembered her on this day with our teachers, students and staff members by offering our heartfelt tribute, digitally. Nivedita Pattanayak of Class XII C gave an emotional tribute vide a speech about Madam where she said, while being overwhelmed with emotions that words would fall short to delineate the persona of Madam Sheela Chopra. Some even shared their experiences with Madam and delivered short and inspiring speeches. A special assembly from each class was organized to commemorate this occasion. Students displayed placards and posters depicting her contributions and achievements. Even Power Point presentations were created and shown by teachers followed by Raunak Saha's song- 'MOTHER OF MINE'. We all paid our tributes virtually in this critical situation and rued the fact that we are not in our school gathering near Ma'am's memorial like yester years.

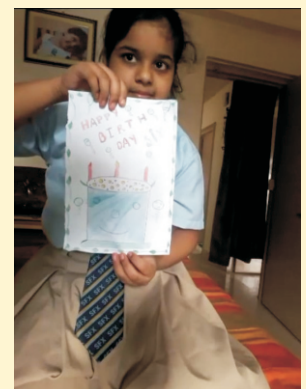
Disha Mukherjee
Class IX S

Birthday Celebration of our Secretary & Administrator Sir

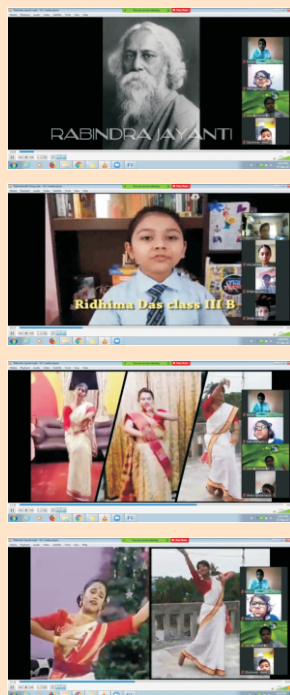


On 6th of May, St Francis Xavier fraternity assembled on Zoom platform to celebrate our beloved Secretary & Administrator Sir Mr Ajay Chopra's birthday. Teachers and students sent their greetings and wishes through cards, collages and pictures. Our senior teacher Mr Nikhil Biswas addressed the gathering and spoke about Sir - as he is an exemplary leader , an able administrator and a visionary in true sense. All the teachers and staff wished him long life and all the happiness.

By **Cultural Club**



Rabindra Jayanti



Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, apart from being a great Humanist, was a great poet, prolific writer, a columnist, editor, dramatist, novelist and a painter too. He was a true genius. He was born on May 7, 1861 in Kolkata's JorasankoThakurbari in a Pirali Brahmin family. This day marked the birth of the great genius who advocated the idea that "Knowledge is free" and "the head is held high", mark the true environment of freedom in a Nation. This year we celebrated Rabindra Jayanti virtually.

Riddhima Das of Class IIIB rendered a melodious song "Anando loke Mongolaloke". Students of classes XI & XII presented a dance video based on the song 'Esho he Boisakh EsoEso' which was choreographed by our dance teacher Mrs. Atrayee Sengupta.

Snigdha Bhattacharjee
Class XIIS

World Yoga Day

Due to the current pandemic situation in the world, our school celebrated World Yoga Day virtually. It has been celebrated annually on 21st of June since 2015, but as the date fell on a Sunday, our School had to celebrate it on 19th June, Friday. Students from every section of Middle and High school delivered a speech on the occasion. A Power Point presentation was shown on the importance of Yoga Day.

There were some marvellous displays of yogic postures by a group of students including Mahi Bhatia and Arshia Roy of class VIA, Ankana Saha and Ahana Basak of class classVIB, Sarmistha Pati and Rudra Roy of class VIIB, Pawanee Ghosh of Class VIIIA, Sanghamitra Sardar of class X Commerce, Arpita Sinha and Devansh Chaturvedi of class X Science, Rishav Gupta, Jyotiprabha Kundu of Class XII S1, Snigdhasmita Saha of Class XII C1, Angshuman Das, Sakshi Pandey, Srija Basu of Class XII C and Rishiraj Roy of Class XIIS. Each and Every Class had their charts on display which were very effortlessly made by the pupils.

Pranoy Ganguly
Class XS



Inter-House Debate Competition



Many readers of this report must be wondering while looking at the heading! How on earth can a debate competition be held in a school during this period of lockdown and social distancing! By now we are all familiar with online classes in schools, but how can the school organise a debate competition? Why, that too online?

Yes, the teachers and students have really done wonders this year. The administration conceived the plan to go ahead with online debate competition and it was super successful! The debate competition was held on 20th June 2020 with the teachers controlling the proceedings from the school online and the students logging into the teachers' ID's at the time allotted for them. The students were divided into three categories: Group A- Classes VII-VIII, Group B- Classes IX-X and Group C - Classes XI-XII.

The competition for classes VII-VIII was conducted by Ms. Joyita Acharya. She judged the event along with Ms. Rimzim Mukherjee. The topic was: 'Online learning is as good as face to face learning'. The participants from Netaji House were Pratyasha Majumder (for) and Nikhil Ray (against). From Gandhi House -Sanjibani Saha (for) and Ankit Jana (against) were the speakers. From Tagore House -Kathamrita Chatterjee (for) and Abdullah Ahmed (against) from Teresa House -Tanushree Kar (for) and Shreyansh Gupta (against) were the participants. Ankita Jana was adjudged the best speaker, Pratyasha Majumder was runner up. Gandhi House was the best house whereas Tagore House was considered as the runner-up. All participants were from class VIII.

The competition for classes IX-X was conducted by

Mr. Amartya Pathak. He was the one who judged the event. The topic for this category was: 'Normal Classes are far better than Online Classes'. The participants from Netaji House were Tanisha Dugar X, (for) and Nilesh Ranjan Saha IX (against). From Gandhi House Tania Sarkar IX, (for) and Purnamrita Dey X, (against) were the

speakers. From Tagore House Anjali Roy IX, (for) and Ruhit Banik X, (against) whereas from Teresa House Souvik Roy IX, (for) and Swastika Ghosh X,(against) were the participants. Ruhit Banik was adjudged the best speaker whereas, Purnamrita Dey was runner-up. Gandhi House was the best whereas Netaji was considered as the runner-up.

The competition for classes XI-XII was conducted by Mr. Amartya Pathak. The judges of the event were Mrs. Kshama Dam and Mrs. Papiya Ghosh Dutta. The topic for this category was: 'The development of Artificial Intelligence will help Humanity'. The participants from Netaji House were Nibedita Patnaik XII (for) and Snigdha Bhattacharya XII, (against). From Gandhi House - Ojas Vaidya XI (for) and Arisha Sarkar XII,(against) were the speakers. From Tagore House - D. Tanushree XI, (for) and Akhil Kumar Gope XII, (against) from Teresa House Sanjana Gupta XII, (for) and Rishiraj Roy (XII, against) were the participants. Rishiraj Roy was adjudged the best speaker, Akhil Kumar Gope was runner's up.

Mr. Amartya Pathak
Assistant Teacher

Lemonade day



Lemonade day was organised at St. Francis Xavier School in a unique way. It was done through virtual online classes. The entire Primary section celebrated this day on Wednesday June 24, 2020. The students were asked to keep the ingredients ready such as sugar, rock salt, lemon, paper glass, straw, etc. Class teachers took charge of the various classes and demonstrated to the students how to make lemon juice. Students enjoyed making lemonade at home and parents were extremely happy. The children were also asked to write about the benefits provided by lemon in our daily life. The programme would not have been a grand success without the cooperation of the parents.

Rahul C. Mojumder & Sanchaita Saha
Assistant Teachers



International Day Against Drug Abuse

International Day against Drug Abuse is observed on 26th June every year to strengthen global action and cooperation and it aims to achieve the goal of an international society free of drug abuse. Observance of this day aims to raise awareness to fight against the substance abuse as well as unlawful trade of drugs.

Marking this occasion on the virtual platform, the students from classes VI to X exhibited their charts and posters that highlighted the perils of drug addiction. Furthermore many students delivered speeches which helped us to know about the serious afflictions like TB, HIV, Hepatitis and many more caused due to drug addiction. The students were made aware that drugs not only affect the physical health of a person but also results in drastic economic loss and other antisocial behaviour. Videos on the abuse of drugs and effective steps taken by the various governments of the world were displayed to strengthen the cause. UNODC said "listening to children and youth is the first step to let them grow healthy and safe".

Ruhit Banik
Class XS1



Inter House Music Competition

The Cultural Club of St. Francis Xavier School conducted Inter House Music Competition over zoom platform on 10th July, 2020. The students of classes 1 to XII joined on Zoom meeting and rendered beautiful songs along with some instrumental performances. Our teachers like Mr. Niladri De, Mr Sunil Kumar Bhattacharya, Mr Suman Chatterjee and our respected Headmistress Madam Mrs. Bipasa Das, judged the performance of students. The

Group A (Classes I-III)

Singing	Instrumental
1st Position - Riddhima Das - Class III B	1st Position - Riddhima Das - Class III B
2nd Position - Rajveer Singh - Class III C	2nd Position - Riddhima Das - Class III B
3rd Position - Avani Roy - Class IB	

Group B (Classes IV- V)

Singing	Instrumental
1st Position - Angshuman Das - Class VB	1st Position - Sarthak Paul - Class IV A
2nd Position - Tanay Jaiswal - Class VB	2nd Position - Niladri Paul - Class V B
3rd Position - Rashika Dhar - Class V A	3rd Position - Afroja Das - Class VB

Group C (Classes IV to X)

Singing	Instrumental
1st Position - Raunak Saha - Class XS	1st Position - Archisman Ghosal - Class VI A
2nd Position - Debarchana Dutta - Class VI B	2nd Position - Anubhav Chakraborty - Class VII B
3rd Position - Sneha Das - Class VII B	3rd Position - Sounav Chakraborty - Class VI A

Group D (Classes XI-XII)

Singing	Instrumental
1st Position - Priyanshu Dutta - Class XII C	-----
2nd Position - Rachit Kumar Roy - Class XI C	-----
3rd Position - Arindam Das - Class XII S1	-----

Sarbani Sinha, Sanchaita Saha & Rahul C. Mojumder
 Assistant Teachers

Founder's Day



St Francis Xavier School celebrated its Founder's Day to commemorate the birthday of Late Founder Principal Madam Mrs Sheela Chopra on 14th July. The day was declared as a holiday. On this occasion on 13th of July, students and teachers held a Special Assembly through the Zoom platform. They spoke about the life, hardwork and dedication of Madam Chopra. She was undeniably an embodiment of love, passion and philanthropy. She was a visionary with far sightedness coupled with unflinching dedication. Prayers uttered by the class teachers invoked a sense of divinity. A heart warming Power Point presentation was shown to every class. Selected students presented eulogies and teachers offered tribute. We fondly remember her as a visionary who never took a 'no' for an answer. She always led from the front and inspired her students and staff members. She was a great intellectual and a teacher who loved her students like her own children.

By Cultural Club



Inter House Elocution Competition (I-V)

The Primary Section of St. Francis Xavier School conducted the Inter-House Elocution competition on 27th of July, 2020. It is held every year, in an attempt to promote English speaking skills, in terms of pronunciation, delivery and voice modulation. Four students from every House and from every section participated in the competition. The English teacher of each class judged the students on the basis of memorization, pronunciation and vocabulary. From class V, Tanay Jaiswal (Tagore House) and Anshuman Das (Teresa House) grabbed the first position. Tanay Jaiswal recited a lovely poem - 'The Teacher'. Adrija Das (Tagore House) came second and she recited 'A Funny School Poem' by 'Kenn Nesbit'. Saswat Mohan Rakhit (Netaji House) also won the second position. The third position was bagged by Shiney Dey and Anurag Jaiswal from Gandhi House. Anurag Jaiswal recited the poem - 'The Weather is perfect for Running' by 'Kenn Nesbit'. From Class IV, Ritoja Das (Tagore House) came first. The second position was bagged by Arshika Saha Roy (Netaji House) and Neha Gowda (Gandhi House) came third. From Class III, Rajnandini Dey (Teresa House) came first followed by Saptaparna Koner (Gandhi House) and Bibek Das (Netaji House) in the second position. Mudit Dugar (Tagore House) succeeded in grabbing the third position.

Sanchaita Saha & Rahul C. Mojumder
Assistant Teachers

Rakhi-Making Activity



Rakhi making activity was held on 30th July, 2020. It was held on virtual platform for the first time. Students were informed to keep the raw materials ready which they require to prepare rakhi. This activity was held in the first period. Class teachers guided the students by making a sample rakhi for them. The students prepared beautiful rakhis with enthusiasm for their siblings. The students enjoyed the rakhi making activity and this unique initiative was well appreciated by all the parents and teachers.

Sanchaita Saha

Assistant Teacher



Independence Day



St Francis Xavier School celebrated the auspicious 74th Independence Day with great enthusiasm and vigour. Special Assemblies were held online on the eve of the Independence Day. The day started off with the display of vibrant posters representing the various aspects of our multi ethnic country by the students in their respective Zoom classrooms. Power Point presentations were exhibited thereafter, which were saturated with patriotic spirit. Arjama Sanyal of X S recited a Bengali poem 'Swadhinotar Mane' by Bhavani Prasad Mojumdar. The patriotic poem 'Swadhinota' was recited by Tanisha Dutta (II), Mananya Chakraborty (IV) and Rajnandini Dey (III). Students from various classes like Adrija Das (VA), Anirudh Roy (VIA), Ruhit Banik (XS1), Tanisha Dugar (XS1), Snigdha Bhattacharjee (XIIS1), Snehasish Bar (XIIS1), D. Tanusree (XIS1), Tabassum Khatoon (XIIC), spoke about the importance of the Day. A skit, prepared by students of classes VI to X with their teachers' help, was presented as a tribute to our nation's great personalities and freedom-fighters like Netaji, Gandhiji, Nehruji, Bhagat Singh, Swami Vivekananda, Preetilata Waddedar, Rani Laxmi Bai, whose names, among others, are etched in golden letters in Indian history. Recorded dances performed by various students, and humming of patriotic numbers commemorated our much-celebrated freedom.

On 15th August, adhering to safety measures, the Indian National flag was hoisted by our respected Administrator Sir, Officiating Principal Sir and Headmistress Madam along with the staff in the school premises followed by the collective singing of 'Jana Gana Mana' with utmost respect and pride.

Arkadev Pandey

Class IX S

Inter House Extempore Competition



Having successfully conducted the Inter-House Debate Competition online, the teachers gained a lot of confidence and so they decided to conduct yet another competition, Inter-House Extempore Speech Competition online. This competition was held on 11th August, 2020 and was conducted class wise from classes VII to XII. From Class III Spandan Dey and Rajnandini Dey of Teresa House spoke very well on the topic- 'A day well spent during lockdown' and won the first position. Bibek Das (Netaji House) and Dhitipriya Burman (Tagore House) won the second prize and Suchandra Pal (Gandhi House) got the third prize. From Class IV Neha Gowda (Gandhi House) bagged the first position by speaking on - 'how they are missing the school during these days of lockdown', Priti Saha (Netaji House) and Kasvi Vaidya (Netaji House) got the second prize and Faizan Alam (Gandhi House) got the third prize. From Class V, the first position was won by Saswat Mohan Rakhit (Netaji House) who spoke on the topic - the advantages and disadvantages of online classes. Shobit Bothra (Gandhi House) won the second prize and Adrija Das (Gandhi House) won the third prize.

From Class VI Archishman Ghoshal of Gandhi House, Ahana Basak of Teresa House and Aneerudh Roy of Teresa House bagged the first, second and third positions respectively. From Class VII the best speaker was Mahiya Bagchi of Teresa House followed by Roodra Roy of the same House and Anu Pandey of Tagore House. From Class VIII Kathamrita Chatterjee of Tagore House was chosen the first, Nikhil Ray of Netaji House the second and Sanjibani Saha of Gandhi House the third.

They spoke on a variety of topics like - 'Saving the earth', 'Our responsibility', 'The smartest cartoon character', 'The best letter of the alphabet', 'My favourite day of the year', 'Why sports are important', 'Three things I would change if I ruled the world' and so on.

The competition for classes IX-X was conducted by Mr. Amartya Pathak, who judged the event as well. Some of the topics for this category were: 'The habit of reading', 'Global Village', 'You Laugh and the World Laughs with you, when you cry, you cry alone', 'Recycling helps', 'Schools should have longer recess time', 'Exam fever'. The participants from Netaji House were Tanisha Dugar (X) and Nilesh Ranjan Saha (IX). From Gandhi House Tania Sarkar (IX) and Pranoy Ganguly (X) were the speakers. From Tagore House Anjali Roy (IX) and Ruhit Banik (X) made their stance clear whereas from Teresa House Souvik Roy (IX) and Swastika Ghosh (X) were the participants. Ruhit Banik was adjudged the best speaker, Pranoy Ganguly was runners-up. Gandhi was the best house whereas Netaji was considered as the runners-up house.

Joyita Acharya, Amartya Pathak, Sanchaita Saha & Rahul Mojumder
Assistant Teachers

Special Assembly on Saint Mother Teresa's Birthday

Students paid tribute to Mother Teresa on the virtual platform. Special Assemblies were conducted classwise. The Class Teachers started the programme with a prayer. Students displayed the charts and Power Point presentation on Saint Teresa. Vaishnavi Srivastava of Class XI S and D. Tanusree of Class XI S1 spoke about the life of St Teresa.

D. Tanusree
Class XI S1



Teachers' Day

Every year in India, 5th September is celebrated as Teachers' Day to mark the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. During this challenging time also students truly recognised and appreciated their educators for playing a pivotal role in their lives. The Student Council of St Francis Xavier School hosted a special programme to observe the Day. This year students showed their love and respect for their beloved teachers on the virtual platform. Respective classes logged in with the ID's of their respective class teachers where they presented charts and spoke about the importance of the Day. The Student Council members of arranged a short programme over Zoom platform. Rishiraj Roy of Class XII S spoke about the significance of the Day and told how they all were missing the Blackboard. He quoted A. P. J Abdul Kalam - "Black colour is sentimentally bad but every blackboard makes the students' life bright." Snigdha Bhattacharjee of Class XII S paid tribute to all the teachers by saying that their passion to help the students learn and grow had spilled over into virtual classrooms. Our Secretary and Administrator Sir spoke about the challenges faced by the teachers through this pandemic and how efficiently all the teachers managed to conduct classes without having any prior training on online teaching methods. Priyanshu Dutta of Class XII C paid tribute by singing a melodious song. Ishita Anant of Class IX presented a power point presentation on Dr Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan. Students of the Senior Section presented a video showing various moments spent with their teachers. Our Officiating Principal Sir and Headmistress Madam thanked all the students for putting up such a wonderful programme on the virtual platform.

Indrani Banerjee
Assistant Teacher



Annual Prize Day

Like every year, our school organized the Annual Prize Distribution Ceremony on the virtual platform on 10th of September, 2020 and it was celebrated in a unique way. The programme started with the lighting of the Lamp followed by a dance performance based on Ganesh Vandana. The programme was graced by the presence of the Chief Guest - Mrs Rajashri Biswas, the Principal of Garden High School. In her perceptive speech she stated that real education is much more than knowledge of various subjects, much more than marks, She advised the students to be like the lighted lamp and shine with good attitude, kind words. The students must make the world around them brighter and happier, she advised. She also stated that students should be grateful towards the opportunities they are having and more over, towards their parents and teachers. Among the other dignitaries present were Mr. Rohit Handa, Mr. Pankaj Jhunjunwala - Managing Committee members, Mrs. Priyanka Chopra - Director of St. Francis International School, Mr. Ajay Chopra - Secretary & Administrator, Mr. Anil Srivastava - Officiating Principal and Mrs. Bipasha Das - Headmistress.

Our very own Secretary and Administrator Sir Mr. Ajay Chopra addressed the gathering and motivated the students by his words of wisdom. He stated that the pandemic had shaken the entire sector of education. The journey through this pandemic was adventurous and a continuous learning process for all of us. Most of the rural schools could not start the new academic session this year, but the story is different in St Francis Xavier School. We started online classes from 1st of April, held all the activities online and conducted online tests also. This had not been possible without the hard work and dedication of the teachers. It is important to continue adopting the new method of teaching and learning and he advised the students to ensure the fact that at no circumstances should this pandemic get better of them.

The programme was followed up by the presentation of the Annual Report highlighting the school's innumerable accomplishments in the past academic year. The report was presented by our Officiating Principal, Mr. Anil Srivastava. Thereafter the report of St. Francis International School was presented by The Director of St Francis International School and the President of St Francis Xavier Education Society,

Mrs Priyanka Chopra. A video of a melodious song - 'Here I am' sung by Riddhima Das of Class III, was played after that.

The students of St Francis Xavier School and ST Francis International School, who achieved excellence in academics in the past academic year, were honoured with certificates, books and gift hampers. Nikita Yadav of Class XII S1 (2019-20) received the prestigious Founder's Gold Medal for her outstanding achievement in academics and co-curricular activities.

Arjun Rai stood first by securing 97.25% in ISC 2020 Examinations (Science Stream). Aratrik Basak scored 96.75% in Science stream and bagged the second position, Tarannum Khatoon scored 94.75% in Science Stream of ISC 2020 Examinations and bagged the third position. Arjun, Aratrik and Deep secured 100% in Mathematics in ISC Examinations 2020. Yashi Sharma scored 94.75% in Commerce stream and was the stream topper for Commerce.

Souvik Sarkar (98.6%) bagged the first position, Zartasha Nasir (96.8%) secured the second position, Abhinav Raj (96.6%) secured the third position in ICSE Examinations 2020. Souvik, Zartasha and Abhinav also got 100% marks in Computer Applications, History- Civics, Geography. All these awardees received a Certificate of Honour, a hamper containing a bag pack, a pen set, power bank, a pen drive and a notebook. Our very own teacher Mrs Chaitali Ghosh, Mr Rahul Mojumder, Mrs Papiya Dutta and Mr. Nikhil Biswas conducted the entire show. The teachers of St Francis Xavier School, Mrs Sarbani Sinha, Mr. Amartya Pathak and Mr Rahul Mojumdar received the honour for being present on all days throughout the year. The Cultural Club of St Francis Xavier School received the Best Club prize for the session 2019-20. The momentous occasion was brought to a close with the brilliant and inspiring address of our Headmistress Madam Mrs Bipasha Das.

The programme etched eternal memories in our hearts, leaving us in a trance of inspiration. The entire show was live on 'Facebook' and 'YouTube'.

By Cultural Club

Special Assembly on Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar



Students of St. Francis Xavier School celebrated the birth anniversary of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar on 28th September 2020. All students of the primary Section entered through a common meeting ID for the Special Assembly. The opening Speech was delivered by Mr. Rahul Mojumder followed by Priti Saha of Class IV A and a short poem was recited by a student Rajnandini Dey of Class III A. A Power Point presentation was shown to the students on the life and work of Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar. Charts and posters were displayed by students from different classes. The Assembly ended with a closing speech by our very own beloved Headmistress Madam, Mrs. Bipasha Das. We are very thankful to our Officiating Principal Sir, Mr. Anil Srivastava and Mr. Ajay Chopra for giving us the opportunity to conduct this Virtual Special Assembly on the unlimited Zoom Platform.

Riti Prashanth Bhat and **Sanchaita Saha**
Assistant Teacher

Buddha Purnima

Buddha Purnima was celebrated on 7th May 2020. The students gave speeches in their respective class Assemblies which was accompanied by a Power Point Presentation sent by our Officiating Principal Sir, Mr. Anil Srivastava. The students watched the presentation with rapt attention and got inspired by the life story and teachings of Mahatma Buddha.

Purnamrita Dey

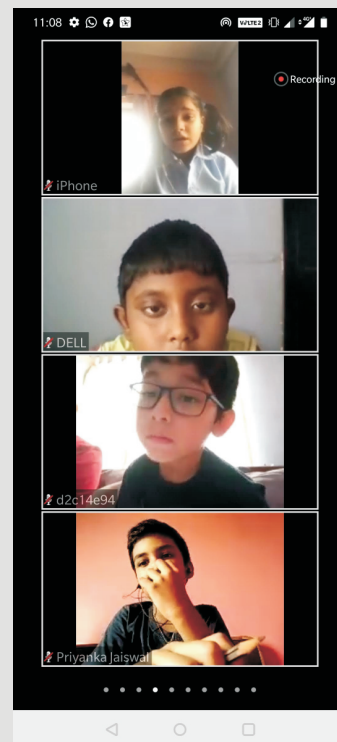
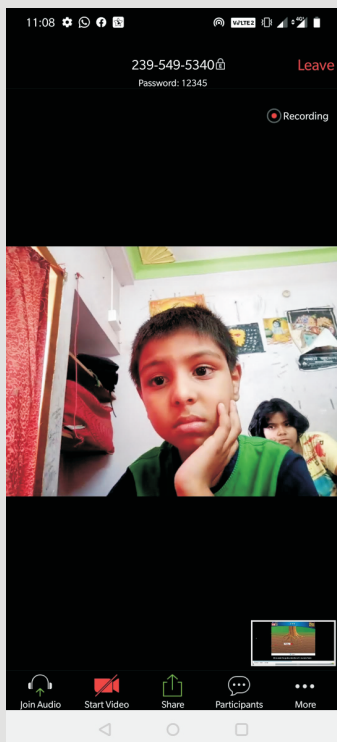
Class XS1

QUIZ TIME

1. Father Gaston Roberge, Who recently passed away, set up The Chitrabani Film Studies Institute with the help of which famous Indian personality?
2. Which West Indies All-rounder became The first bowler to take 500 wickets in T20 cricket?
3. Bengaluru's Bannerghatta Biological park named an elephant calf after which author and philanthropist?
4. Which country recently discovered a large natural gas reserve off the Black Sea coast?
5. Kevin Mayer stepped down from his position as the CEO of which social networking service owned by Byte Dance?
6. Which country has brothers serving as PM and President?
7. Who is the running mates for Vice President in the US Presidential election?
8. Pandit Jasraj, the legendary Indian vocalist, who passed away recently belonged to which Gharana?
9. Which Marvel superhero was played by Chadwick Boseman, who passed away recently?
10. National Sports Day commemorates the birth anniversary of an Indian captain in which sport?

Online Classes in STFX

“E-learning doesn't just happen, it requires careful planning and implementation”. While the entire country was in a state of shock with the announcement of a total lockdown due to the pandemic situation of the deadly corona virus and most schools were shut or closed, St. Francis Xavier School was one of the first to conduct online class under the guidance of Mr. Ajay Chopra - Secretary & Administrator, Officiating Principal Mr. Srivastava and Headmistress Mrs. Das who planned to have virtual classes for the students of STFX from 1st April. Virtual classes were started via Zoom Meeting app in 3 batches, first being for class XI and XII, second for Classes IV to X and the last for Classes I to III. Initially everyone including teachers and students were skeptical as to how this would be, but within a month the



response was exceptionally great. Everyone including parents and students loved and appreciated this new method of teaching via - online. Many positive responses and messages started pouring in. Teachers were overwhelmed with this response. Teachers started showing PPT presentation, recordings and screen sharing to ensure that every child would understand what was taught to them.

The best part of the online classes held at STFX was that it was just as normal as any school day with a morning assembly, First period, Second period, a break in between and tasks set out for students to do at home. Students really enjoyed even the activity classes like Art, Music, Dance and PT. While most schools after few months of lockdown were planning to have online classes, STFX had already gone to a different level of conducting online program and conducting online examinations. The various online programs which were held were - Rabindra Jayanti, Lemonade Day, Elocution Competition, Spelling Competition, Yoga Day, Music Competition, Founder's Day above all the Annual Prize distribution day which was telecasted via You Tube and Facebook live.

Parents and students were surprised and astonished when the school conducted written examination via Zoom App and corrections via Google Classroom were done by the teachers. Some parents gave their feedback that they were very lucky to be associated with St. Francis Xavier School where online classes never made students feel that they were missing normal classes. The school is already planning to upgrade many new systems. A big thank you to Mr. Ajay Chopra for giving the teachers this opportunity to conduct online classes and learn a new system altogether.

Rahul C Mojumder
Assistant Teacher

Santiniketan



Santiniketan, the abode of peace, is a small town near Bolpur in the Birbhum district of West Bengal. It is the birth place of literary classics of Rabindranath Tagore. Its Red soil, meandering Kopai river and lush greeneries speaks about the impeccable beauty of nature.

Santiniketan is about 164km from Kolkata. From Kolkata one can reach there by car, bus or train. The nearest railway station to Santiniketan is Bolpur which is 2km away. If you want to avail a train, the best option available for tourist are NJP Shatabdi, Ganadevta and Santiniketan Express. Apart from these two, there are many express trains. Santiniketan has good number of options for stay. One will get budget hotels, home stays, luxury cottages here. It's a small place so you don't have to think about the proximity of your stay from the tourist places.

If you search for places of interest in Santiniketan on the internet, you will get Visva Bharati University and Kopai River mainly. Apart from these there are many more to start with, you have Shilpa Gram, Amar Kutir, Khoai Kutir, Kankali Tala, Rabindra Bhavan Museum and Gitanjali museum.

"Gram Chara Oi Ranga Matir Poth.. "The red soul of khoai has inspired Tagore to pen down his famous song. This khoai Haat is a Market place where you will find some good local hand crafted showpieces, Jewelleries, bags, fabric, etc. Here you can even bargain for a better deal.

The banks of Kopai, a meandering river which has been an intricate part of Tagore's Writings. Bengali readers will be able to relate to "Amader Choto Nadi.. "after seeing it.

Interhouse Spelling Competition

An interhouse spelling competition was held online on the Zoom platform for the students on Monday 25 th September 2020. Though it was the first time when such a competition was held virtually, students participated with great enthusiasm. It helped the students to learn new words, increase their vocabulary and develop the use of correct English words. There were two participants from each House. Three groups were made where classes I and II were grouped under A, classes III and IV were grouped under B and class V under group C. The selection was done by The Respective English teacher of each section.

The students participated with enthusiasm and this was appreciated by all of us.

Sadaf Salim

Assistant teacher

World Malaria Day

Students of St Francis Xavier School observed World Malaria Day on 26th April, 2020, to raise the awareness among the students. The celebration started with an eloquent speech by our Officiating Principal Sir, Mr. Anil Srivastava on the virtual mode due to the ongoing pandemic. Charts and Posters were displayed by the students in the respective classes. PowerPoint presentations and videos were shown by the respective subject teachers to spread awareness.

Purnamrita Dey (XS1)

Answers to Quiz Time on page 15.
 1. Hockey
 2. Black Panther
 3. Mewati Gharana
 4. Kamla Harris
 5. Sri Lanka
 6. Tik Tok
 7. Turkey
 8. Sudha Murthy
 9. Wayne Bravo
 10. Satyajit Ray

Farewell Ceremony of Mr. Ashok Mukherjee



Mr. Ashok Kumar Mukherjee, our Art & Craft teacher, worked in the school since the early days of its establishment. Despite achieving the age of superannuation a few years back, the school continued to avail his indispensable services till the day of his volunteer retirement. The Management of St Francis Xavier School had organised a grand farewell ceremony on 4th of July in honour of Mr. Mukherjee, who served this Institution for more than 30 years. All staff members gathered in the School Hall by maintaining all Covid safety protocols. The Administrator Sir spoke about his relentless effort and dedication. He also spoke about the respect he used to show towards our beloved Founder Principal Madam Sheela Chopra. Mukherjee Sir was the man behind the scene to make any programme successful. At the end of the programme he was offered bouquet, memento and box of sweets.

Despite his age, he was probably the most hardworking staff of the school and had tremendous energy and sense of dedication towards his job. It can be confidently said that he has been one of the pillars of the school. Mr Mukherjee also received the Life Time Achievement award from TTIs in 2017 for his selfless contribution and dedication.

During the school functions, he meticulously helped in the decoration of the premises, in fact taking up the bulk of the job on his head. Whenever the events were planned outside school premises, he was the one who ensures that all school property is safely taken and brought back. All this hard work was done without any hunger for appreciation or accolades. He is a silent man, who speaks through his work.

His services were so sought after by the management, that he was offered service extensions without even asking for it. He regarded the school to be her home and the students being the family members. Later, teachers of different departments sportingly shared their views about Mr. Mukherjee. They considered his departure as an irreparable loss to the school. Mr. Mukherjee, in his farewell address, thanked all heartily.



INTERVIEW OF SANCHAITA SAHA

Q.1) How long are you associated with the school?

Ans:- Its been fourteen years of association with the school.

Q.2) What made you choose teaching as your profession?

Ans:-From my childhood I was very fond of kids so I wanted to choose a profession where I could get associated with kids and the best profession was to get associated with a school.

Q.3) According to you, what is unique about this school which is hard to find in other schools?

Ans:-The unique thing about this school is the bond we share with the students.

Q.4) Tell us about one of your moments which made you feel proud.

Ans:-When principal Madam gave me the appointment letter.

Q.5) How did the sad news about our beloved Principal Madam's loss affect you?

Ans:-It seemed that my second mother had passed away. It was heart breaking and it became difficult for me to take class for few days.

Q.6) Why did you choose primary session for teaching?

Ans:- I was more comfortable with little ones.

Q.7) How is your relationship with your students?

Ans:- I have a very cordial relation with my students and whenever they are sad or face problems I solve it

and feel happy doing it.

Q.8) Describe your first day experience in this school.

Ans:-Fantastic - the warmth I felt was unbelievable because the children and management showered lots of love on me

Q.9) How do you motivate your students?

Ans:-By engaging them in activity based teaching and storytelling.

Q.10) After working in this institution for so many years how do you feel about this institution?

Ans:- I feel as if I am in my second home.

Sudoku Sudoku
Sudoku **Sudoku** Sudoku

8		7			6	9		
6	9							
		2	8				3	
			7		4		2	
	6			3			5	
	5		1		2			
	2				7	8		
							4	7
		8	6			2		3

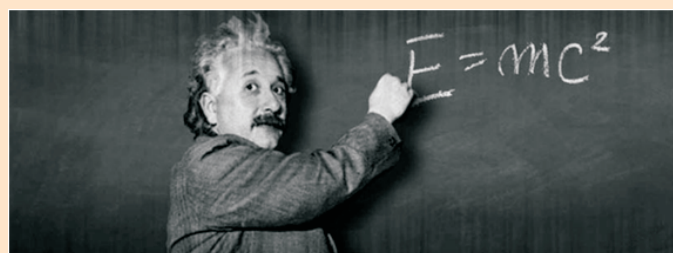
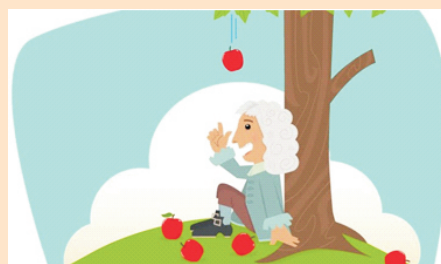
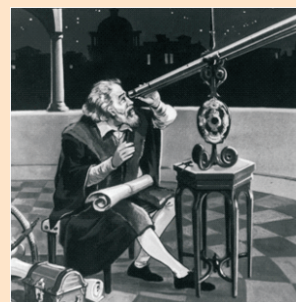
Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You can't change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

Quiz

1. Under the chairmanship of whom 'Committee for Evolution of the New Education Policy' submitted its report in May 2016?
2. Who produced and directed a TV series "Bharat Ek Khoj" that was based on Jawaharlal Nehru's famous book, Discovery of India?
3. Who wrote the famous book, "Who wants to be millionaire"?
4. Which monument was built by Mohammed Quli Qutab Shah in 1591 to commemorate the end of Plague.
5. Which plant hormone help in the cell division and development in the presence of auxins?
6. As per the data of 2015, India has positive Balance of Payment(BOP)situation with?
7. As per the data of financial year 2017, which Indian state has lowest State Gross Domestic Product?
8. Honey is sweeter than cane sugar or corn syrup. Which carbon sugar is responsible for this?
9. Which is the first Indian State in the world where successful breeding of Western Tragopan has taken place?
10. The Federal System in India is based on the model of which country?

Connect

Most Influential Physicist :



- Answers to Quiz on page 20:
1. Late Shri T.S.R. Subramanian
 2. Shyam Bengal
 3. Agatha Christie
 4. Charminar
 5. Cytokinins
 6. USA
 7. Lakshadweep
 8. Levulose
 9. Himachal Pradesh
 10. Canada.

4	7	8	6	1	5	2	9	3
9	1	6	2	8	3	5	4	7
5	3	2	4	9	7	8	6	1
7	5	4	1	6	2	3	8	9
2	6	1	9	3	8	7	5	4
3	8	9	7	5	4	1	2	6
1	4	2	8	7	9	6	3	5
6	9	5	3	2	1	4	7	8
8	3	7	5	4	6	9	1	2

Answers to Sudoku

- Answers to Connect on page 20:
1. Marie Curie
 2. Nikola Tesla
 3. Issac Newton
 4. Galileo Galilei
 5. Albert Einstein